

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Charles R. Elmore upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Donald Schields Award by the Town of Deerpark Police Benevolent Association on March 19, 2016

WHEREAS, The firefighters of New York State are renowned throughout the Nation; their reputation is synonymous with excellence in the arduous field of fire protection and prevention; and

WHEREAS, Since the early days of "teapot steamers," the volunteer firefighter has been the cornerstone of our great Nation's efforts to spare us from the ravages of fire; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to honor Charles R. Elmore upon the occasion of his designation as recipient of the Donald Schields Award by the Town of Deerpark Police Benevolent Association celebrated at its Annual Banquet on Saturday, March 19, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Charles R. Elmore received this auspicious award for his many years of exceptional service to the community of Sparrowbush, New York; and

WHEREAS, Charles R. Elmore was born on October 19, 1923, to Floyd and Aleta Elmore in their home on Main Street in Sparrowbush, New York; currently, he continues to live in the house next door to his late parents' home; and

WHEREAS, As a young man, Charles R. Elmore worked in his father's coal and lumber business; at the young age of 18, he was drafted into the United States Army where he proudly served his country on the islands of both New Caledonia and Guam during World War II before returning home as a Corporal in 1946; and

WHEREAS, After his discharge, Charles R. Elmore returned to Sparrowbush and went back to working for his father during the day, and wheeling in coal, firing boilers, and hanging molds at Gillinder Glass at night; and

WHEREAS, It was during this time that Charles R. Elmore met the former Vera May Batchler; the couple married, and happily raised a son and a daughter in Sparrowbush; and

WHEREAS, Until about a year ago, Charles R. Elmore could be spotted directing traffic regularly at any number of emergency scenes in the Town of Deerpark; as he approaches the age of 93, the lifelong Sparrowbush volunteer has given up on-scene fire police duties, but remains active as a 56-year member who has held every position in the Sparrowbush Engine Company; and

WHEREAS, Today, this dedicated public servant continues to drive daily to the Main Street firehouse to keep it tidied up, and serves alongside his fellow volunteers at the department's monthly fundraising breakfast; and

WHEREAS, With him throughout have been his son, Roland, and his late wife, Vera and daughter, Patricia; all of whom feel privileged to be a part of his life and rejoice in his accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer firefighters and fire departments not only provide the critical service of fire protection but also engage in other activities of great benefit and importance to the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, It takes a special dedication, a strong desire to help others and a tireless sense of community to forsake precious time with family and friends to respond to the signal that a neighbor is in need; Charles R. Elmore is such a firefighter; throughout more than 50 years of devoted service, this volunteer heroically performed, above and beyond the call of duty, those responsibilities which define the task of fire protection; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Charles R. Elmore upon the occasion of his designation as recipi-

ent of the Donald Schields Award by the Town of Deerpark Police Benevolent Association on March 19, 2016; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Charles R. Elmore.