

BY: Senator GRIFFO

CONGRATULATING the 2017 inductees of the Rome Sports Hall of Fame and Museum

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to honor those individuals whose exceptional athletic prowess leaves an enduring legacy in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to congratulate the 2017 inductees of the Rome Sports Hall of Fame and Museum to be celebrated at its 41st Annual Induction and Awards Dinner on Sunday, July 30, 2017, at the Beeches Inn and Conference Center, Rome, New York; and

WHEREAS, The six distinguished 2017 inductees include: Shannon McPheron, Robert M. Carrier, Robert C. Dixon, John Michael (Moe) Herbst, Steve Telander, and the late George W. Flood; and

WHEREAS, Shannon McPheron was a three-sport standout at Rome Free Academy (RFA) as a member of the school's field hockey, basketball and softball teams; she was a key player for the 1994 state champion field hockey squad which finished with an outstanding overall record of 23-0; and

WHEREAS, A four-year varsity player, Shannon McPheron was named an all-state player three times and finished her high school career with 59 goals and 20 assists; she was also honored as RFA's Athlete of the Year in her senior year; and

WHEREAS, Shannon McPheron continued her success at Central Michigan University, where she was a four-year starter who compiled a record of 28 goals and 14 assists, and was named an Academic All-Metro Atlantic Conference player in 1999; and

WHEREAS, After one season as the junior varsity field hockey coach at her alma mater, Shannon McPheron has served as the varsity field hockey coach at Camden High School for the last 16 years; under her luminous leadership, the Blue Devils have won seven Section III championships, and Shannon has posted a record of 193-86-16; and

WHEREAS, An outstanding high school and college hockey player, Robert M. Carrier grew up near Franklyn's Field, where he worked on his game on the outdoor skating rink; he was an all-star hockey player for RFA, and was chosen as team captain his senior year; and

WHEREAS, After high school, Robert M. Carrier continued his stellar hockey career at Clarkson University; he later returned to Rome, and was instrumental in building the Kennedy Arena; and

WHEREAS, Robert M. Carrier served as a certified hockey referee and

was also active in other sports, including sailing and golf; he held several leadership roles at the Lake Delta Yacht Club and Teugega Country Club; and

WHEREAS, An all-star athlete at RFA in basketball and track and field, Robert C. Dixon went on to become a successful coach in both sports in Syracuse, where he was a physical education teacher for almost 40 years; he was also a certified basketball referee; and

WHEREAS, Robert C. Dixon served as a coach at several colleges including SUNY Cortland, SUNY Brockport, Dutchess County Community College, Hamilton College and Syracuse University, where he earned his master's degree and was a graduate assistant under longtime coach Jim Boeheim; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his esteemed coaching career, Robert C. Dixon was a professional basketball coach and player in England and Scotland; in recent years, he has been involved in the First Tee program designed to bring the game of golf to inner city youngsters while teaching them core values; and

WHEREAS, The late George W. Flood was a native of Peekskill, where he was an all-star high school athlete who was the captain of his football, basketball and baseball teams; he also played football and baseball at Springfield College; and

WHEREAS, George W. Flood proudly served his country as a member of the United States Marine Corps for two years; after his discharge, he was hired as RFA's football coach in 1957; and

WHEREAS, During his seven years as the head football coach, George W. Flood led the Black Knights to two undefeated seasons, four Central Oneida League championships and a 34-16-4 record; his 1961 team was ranked No. 1 in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, From 1964-1971, George W. Flood held the position of head football coach at Union College; his 1967 team finished with an excellent 7-1 overall record; throughout the rest of his distinguished career, he served as the offensive football coordinator at UMass-Amherst, the athletic director at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and the associate athletic director at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, John Michael "Moe" Herbst is being inducted as a contributor for his devotion to Rome sports over the years; known by many as "Stadium Moe" for his work at RFA Stadium, he has been a fixture in Rome athletics for decades; and

WHEREAS, Moe Herbst served as supervisor of grounds for Rome public schools for more than 40 years and continues to be active in a part-time role and as a volunteer; and

WHEREAS, Moe Herbst's work at the Stadium extends beyond sports; he was always available to help prepare for other events such as the

popular Drums Along the Mohawk show; and

WHEREAS, Part of a military family, Steve Telander moved to Rome at the age of 13 when his father was stationed at Griffiss Air Force Base; he quickly established a name for himself, going on to become a four-sport athlete for RFA; and

WHEREAS, Steve Telander played baseball, and participated in track and field, however, his best sports were football and basketball; he was an all-star linebacker and team captain for the football team, and he was a member of the champion basketball team; and

WHEREAS, Steve Telander earned a football scholarship to Division I University of Massachusetts, where he was a four-year starter who played on three Yankee Conference championship teams; and

WHEREAS, After a knee injury in his senior year at UMass ended his playing career, Steve Telander embarked on a long coaching career at several colleges such as UMass, the University of Texas-El Paso, the University of Missouri and Bowling Green; today, he is a successful businessman; and

WHEREAS, Sports competition instills the values of teamwork, pride and accomplishment, and the 2017 inductees of the Rome Sports Hall of Fame have clearly made a contribution to the spirit of excellence which is a tradition of the Rome community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to congratulate the 2017 inductees of the Rome Sports Hall of Fame and Museum; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Shannon McPheron, Robert M. Carrier, Robert C. Dixon, John Michael (Moe) Herbst, Steve Telander, and to the family of George W. Flood.