

**BY:** Senator MARTINS

**HONORING** Matt Kepke upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Port Jewish Center on June 14, 2025

**WHEREAS,** It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend individuals of exceptional character and commitment whose purposeful endeavors serve to enhance the quality of life in their communities and across the great State of New York; and

**WHEREAS,** Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Matt Kepke upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Port Jewish Center at its Annual Gala, "Fueling Our Future," on Saturday, June 14, 2025, at Harbor Links in Port Washington, New York; and

**WHEREAS,** The Port Jewish Center is recognizing the dedicated leaders of its committees whose tireless efforts ensure the Center's spiritual, financial, and physical vitality; through their work, these committed congregants uphold the core tenets of Reform Judaism—pursuing justice, fostering community, caring for others, and repairing the world—thus safeguarding the Center's mission and lasting presence for generations to come; and

**WHEREAS,** Matt Kepke has been an active and devoted member of the Port Jewish Center for nine years, during which time he has played a key role in its growth, resilience, and continued success; and

**WHEREAS,** As a former Co-President and Trustee, Matt Kepke provided steadfast leadership during some of the most challenging times in the Center's history, helping shepherd the congregation through the uncertainties and difficulties of the pandemic; his calm and effective guidance was invaluable during this unprecedented period; and

**WHEREAS,** Matt Kepke continues his exceptional service as co-chair of the Budget/Finance Committee, where his expertise and leadership are vital to the financial health and sustainability of the Port Jewish Center; his careful stewardship ensures that the Center's resources are used wisely and effectively to support its mission; and

**WHEREAS,** In addition to his work with the Budget/Finance Committee, Matt Kepke is a dedicated member of the Port Jewish Center Leadership Council and serves on the Worship Committee, where his contributions support the spiritual life of the congregation and the meaningful engagement of its members; and

**WHEREAS,** Through his unwavering commitment and leadership, Matt Kepke has made an indelible impact on the Port Jewish Center, strengthening both its operations and its community; his legacy of service continues to inspire and guide the congregation forward; and

**WHEREAS,** Rare indeed is the occurrence of such a thoughtful and devoted individual, whose tireless work and leadership have shaped the future of the Port Jewish Center for the better; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Matt Kepke upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by the Port Jewish Center, and to extend its sincere appreciation for his outstanding service and enduring contributions; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Matt Kepke.