

# STATE OF NEW YORK

## LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., JULY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2012 A.D. ECLEEG JUL03'12 PM 1:45

I HEREBY CERTIFY, That at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy: ECLEEG JUL03'12 PM 1:45

*WHEREAS, the Tonawanda Little League was first chartered in 1952, and became the Tonawanda National Little League in 1959, along with the Tonawanda American Little League; and*

*WHEREAS, Tonawanda National Little League's first Officials were President Barney Stryker, Vice President William Koepsell, Secretary Malcolm Fuller and Treasurer Delbert Lawrence; and*

*WHEREAS, Tonawanda National Little League's first Team Managers were Delbert Lawrence, Robert Bates, Dr. Dan Bellinger and LeRoy Townsend; and*

*WHEREAS, Tonawanda National Little League officially named their field Burton Dalke Memorial Park on July 11, 1971, in honor of their former player who was killed in the Vietnam War; and*

*WHEREAS, Tonawanda National Little League was fortunate to have Chuck Bihari, Don Failing, Bill Bearfield, Tom Burdo and Tom Kelly as key volunteers along with all the other volunteers who gave many years of service; and*

*WHEREAS, Tonawanda National Little League had three players who pitched for the Major Leagues; Jim Britton, who pitched for the Atlanta Braves from 1967 through 1969 and the Montreal Expos in 1971; Dave Geisel, who pitched for the Chicago Cubs from 1978 through 1981, the Toronto Blue Jays from 1982 to 1983 and the Seattle Mariners from 1984 to 1985; and Glen Cook, which pitched in 1985 for the Texas Rangers, including a start at Yankee Stadium; and*

*WHEREAS, Tonawanda National Little League's diamonds fell silent in 2000 when the drop in population could not support two leagues in the city, and the American League became the only Little League in Tonawanda.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature pauses in its deliberations to recognize and honor the Tonawanda National Little League, proclaiming July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012, Tonawanda National Little League Day.**

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**Kevin R. Hardwick**  
**Erie County Legislator – 4<sup>th</sup> District**

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**Robert M. Graber**  
**Clerk of the Legislature**

