

STATE OF NEW YORK

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY

BUFFALO, N.Y., JUNE 18, 2020 A.D.

Celebrating Greg Spoth as the Erie County Legislature's 2020 Citizen of the Month for the 6th Legislative District

WE 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 18th day of June, 2020 A.D., a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature seeks to honor individuals and institutions of Erie County who enhance the quality of life in the community through their efforts; and

WHEREAS, Greg Spoth founded Greg's U-Pick Farm in 1987, and it has been family owned and operated at 9270 Lapp Road in Clarence Center, New York, with his son Ryan Spoth carrying it into the next generation of farming; and

WHEREAS, Greg's U-Pick Farm's mission is to combine organic practices with conventional agriculture to produce healthy soil, plants, animals, and fruits and vegetables for all to enjoy; and

WHEREAS, Greg's U-Pick Farm grows over 25 acres of crops for people to come and pick throughout the local harvest seasons, providing hours of fun for the community to enjoy, starting with strawberries from mid-June to mid-July; blueberries from mid-July to mid-August; raspberries from mid-August to early October; and pumpkins in October; and

WHEREAS, Greg's U-Pick Farm started a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program in 2015, which is a farm membership that allows people to have direct access to high quality, fresh and healthy produce that is locally grown with clients receiving either fruits or vegetables, sometimes both, on a weekly basis from early July through mid-November; and

WHEREAS, Greg's U-Pick Farm's CSA program creates and promotes healthy eating amongst its members, increasing the health of the community of Clarence and the greater area, and where if a member cannot pickup their weeks order, Greg's U-Pick Farm makes donations to FeedMore WNY through St. Paul's Church in Eggertsville, which provides the fresh fruits and vegetables directly to a family in need, further promoting health and wellness in our community; and

WHEREAS, Greg's U-Pick Farm continues to grow, offering Kids Workshops, a hands-on, in-the-dirt, farm fresh experience, promoting fun and educational knowledge for children of all ages to explore the farm, and where most workshops include an interactive book, wagon ride, fruit picking, the opportunity to meet other participants, and a lesson on the topic of the month; and

WHEREAS, Greg's U-Pick Farm offers schools and groups field trips that include educational discussions and walks through the farm, an opportunity to visit with the chickens, donkeys, goats, pigs, and other animals on the farm, and a hayride around the farm, teaching the youth about the importance of agriculture; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, **Greg's U-Pick Farm** moved their Produce Market from the building now known as the Farm Store & Bakery to across the parking lot into the "Big Barn," selling fresh vegetables and fruit from early June until Halloween to the general public; and

WHEREAS, **Greg's U-Pick Farm's** Farm Store & Bakery sells ice cream, honey, jams and jellies, a wide variety of canned goods, and they have expanded into raising calves on the farm, which began in the Spring of 2018, selling beef in Farm Store & Bakery in June of 2019, offering individual frozen cuts, along with the option to buy quarters, sides, and whole beef cows; and

WHEREAS, it is suitable of this representative body to recognize the importance of our farmers like **Greg Spoth**, who work tirelessly to provide the food we eat, and to highlight those farms such as **Greg's U-Pick Farm** that operate with a community centric focus promoting healthy eating, educational programming for our youth, and that gives back to the community at large whenever and wherever possible, because such actions strengthen our farms and community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body pauses in its deliberations on June 18, 2020, to recognize **Greg Spoth**, founder of **Greg's U-Pick Farm**, as the Erie County Legislature's 2020 Citizen of the Month for the 6th Legislative District, and thank him for all that the farm does to promote agriculture in our community.

Edward A. Rath, III
Erie County Legislator, 6th District