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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, JoAnn DiNello of Darien, the 2005 Darien Citizen of the Year, has served the citizens of Darien for the 35 years she has lived there; she takes people to doctor appointments, visits shut-ins and nursing home residents, provides clothing and furniture to needy families, and finds sitters for children and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. DiNello organizes the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Kerry Piper in Willowbrook, which serves about 120 needy and lonely people each year; she helped establish the Darien (Medical) Lending Closet, which supplies wheelchairs and walkers; she was the Coordinator of Family Ministry at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church and was involved with the Girl Scouts for 15 years as a leader, cookie chair, and as community director; she volunteered at Lace School as a teacher assistant, library aide, and in the literary/art awareness program while her children attended there and has hosted the homeless and lonely at her home for Christmas dinner; and

WHEREAS, In 2003, she and her husband, Carl, created a program called We Care to send packages to troops serving in Iraq; they pack share and care boxes with donations from the community, their own purchases, and even homemade cookies; so far, they have sent more than 240 boxes, and the 2005 Citizen of the Year dinner-dance will target that effort; and

WHEREAS, In 2000, Mrs. DiNello earned the Gold Leaf Award from Metropolitan Family Services of DuPage for her leadership and excellence in advocating for families in her community; and

WHEREAS, She is known to be a humble woman who truly makes a difference in her community and never refuses to help those in need; and

- 1 WHEREAS, On Saturday, March 5, 2005, Mrs. DiNello will be
- 2 honored at the Citizen of the Year dinner-dance; therefore, be
- 3 it
- 4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
- 5 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
- 6 we congratulate JoAnn DiNello on being named the 2005 Citizen
- of the Year for the City of Darien, an honor she has earned
- 8 with her many hours of selfless community service, and we thank
- 9 her for her devotion to helping others; and be it further
- 10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
- 11 presented to Mrs. DiNello as an expression of our deep respect
- 12 and esteem.