



From the Governing Body Of The Borough of Lebanon



Proclamation



WHEREAS, Mark Saharic was born on July 15th, 1958 and went on to attend Shore Regional and North Hunterdon High School where he was a Wrestler at Shore Regional and at North Hunterdon High School, never touching the football field as a youth; and

WHEREAS, Mark Saharic started his football coaching career in 1999. Mark recognized the need for a feeder team for his alumna North Hunterdon High, where weight class would not be a factor. Mark Saharic, North Hunterdon Head Football Coach Dennis Haughey, Clinton Township Mayor Mike VanTassel, North Hunterdon Athletic Director Robert Hopek and Coach Mike Moreland joined forces and the North Hunterdon Junior Lions were born; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saharic began with 45 kids on two teams, Mark has lead the expansion of the Junior Lions to more than 100 kids creating two divisions, the Skylands League and the Patriot League, each league has a Varsity league for 7th and 8th graders, a Junior Varsity league for 5th and 6th grades as well as a Novice league for 3rd and 4th graders; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saharic provides a positive football learning experience for all kids, while focusing on sportsmanship and technique, competitive and non-competitive, at all levels. The Junior Lions program prepares the players for their football career at North Hunterdon High School; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saharic strongly believes in character, education and has developed hundreds of fine young men with many of his players being in the National Honor Society, going on to play at the college level, Mark Saharic Jr. at Kings College, Ted Delia at Gettysburg, Brian Thorne at Kenyon, Kevin Haplea at Penn State and Clem Udovich at Rutgers.; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saharic has gained the trust and respect of previous players, as well as current Junior Lions and North Hunterdon Lions players, who volunteer their time as Assistant Coaches and Managers, Equipment Manager Brain Eick, Assistant Coaches Bob Barnett, Jody Serra, Michael Haughey, Dustin Schneider, Ricky Platt, Mike McKeever, Mark Saharic Jr., and Shawn Grinshaw, Also recruiting his Dad, Alex Saharic known as Coach Pop; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of Coach Saharic the Junior Lions football team in 1999 were Heavy Weight Runners Up in Mercer County, in 2002 Heavy Weight Runners Up in Mercer County, in 2004 Heavy Weight Champions in Mercer County, in 2007 Jr. Skylands Champions, in 2007 NJUWYFL NJ State Runners Up, in 2007 Patriot League Champions and in **2010 NJUWYFL State Champions**; and

WHEREAS, Coach Saharic has completed his 12th year in coaching as a STATE CHAMPION;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor Michael F. Reino and the entire Lebanon Borough Council do hereby express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to Coach Mark Saharic, known as GM, for his hours of community service for our children, leadership and dedication to bringing high honor and recognition to the North Hunterdon Junior Lions and the Borough of Lebanon for his outstanding football coaching career.

Michael F. Reino
Mayor, Borough of Lebanon

16th day of March 2011