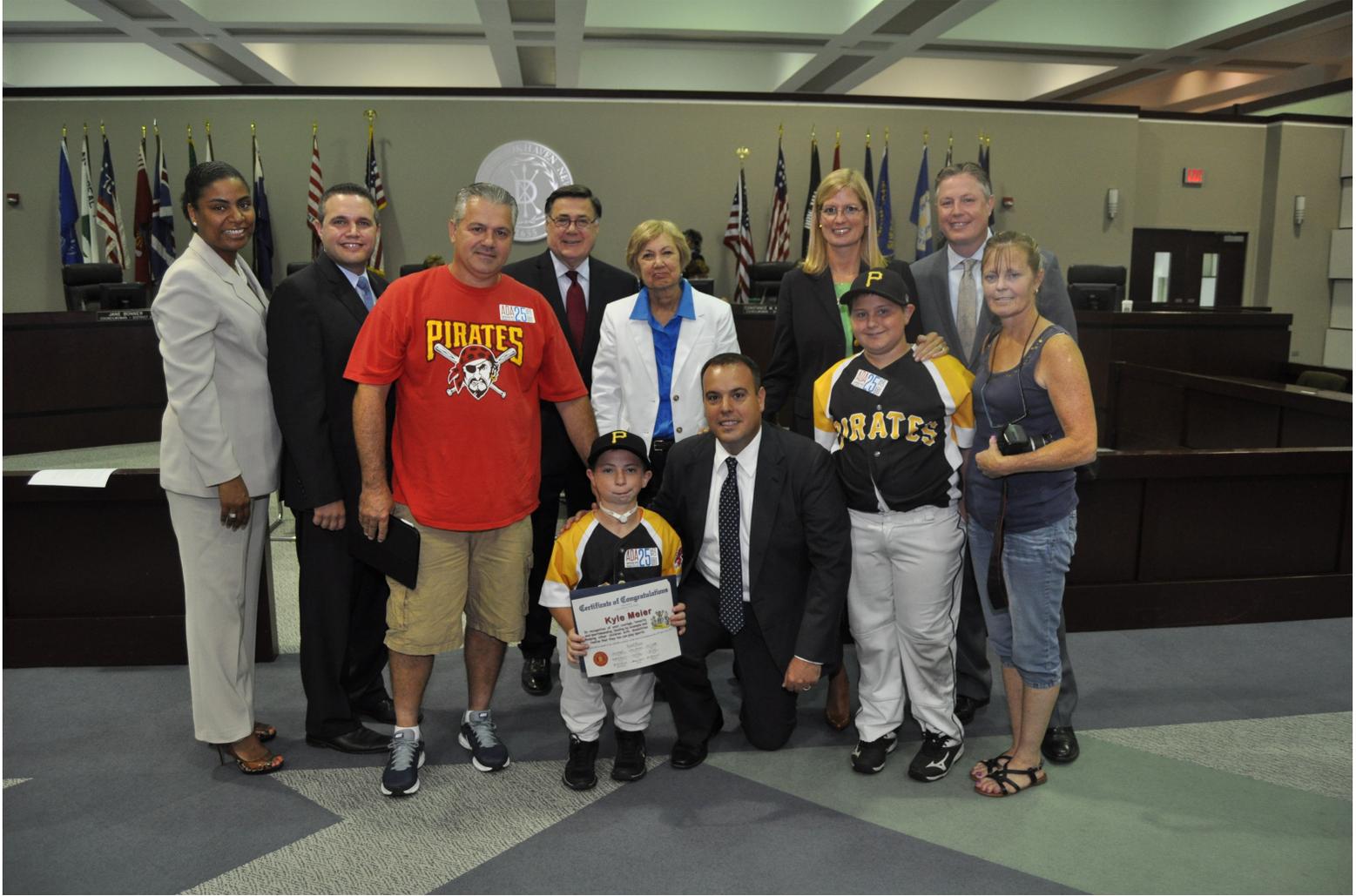


# Councilman Panico and Town Board Honors Special Needs Athlete from Mastic Beach

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**Farmingville, NY** - At the July 16 Town Board meeting, Councilman Dan Panico (kneeling) and fellow Town Board members honored Mastic Beach resident Kyle Meier (center) during the Town's celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the American's with Disabilities Act. The Councilman presented the youngster with a proclamation recognizing him as a role model for children with disabilities. Kyle, a middle school student in the William Floyd School District, was born with multiple physical disabilities which have impacted his ability to grow at a typical rate. Despite his disabilities and the numerous surgeries he underwent, Kyle was determined to compete in organized sports. With support from family and friends, he established Kyle Sports for Children with Special Needs, a program that enables all children the opportunity to participate in inclusion sports and programs. Kyle plays a variety of sports, including baseball and hockey.

"Kyle is truly an inspiration to his peers and helps them to realize that they do not have limitations, but rather the ability to do anything they set their minds to," said Councilman Panico during the celebration. "We should all possess the positive outlook and perspective that Kyle exudes."

**Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor**

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