

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the Whaling Museum & Education Center upon the occasion of hosting its Summer Luau, and paying tribute to this year's honorees, James V. Kelly and Helen Crosson

WHEREAS, It is incumbent upon the people of the State of New York to recognize and acknowledge those within our midst who have made significant contributions to the quality of life therein; and

WHEREAS, From time to time this Legislative Body takes note of certain extraordinary individuals it wishes to recognize for their valued contributions to the success and progress of society and publicly acknowledge their endeavors which have enhanced the basic humanity among us all; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the Whaling Museum & Education Center upon the occasion of hosting its Summer Luau, and to pay tribute to this year's honorees, James V. Kelly and Helen Crosson; this auspicious occasion will be celebrated on Thursday, July 23, 2015, at the Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury, New York; and

WHEREAS, The mission of the Whaling Museum & Education Center is to display the whaling history of Cold Spring Harbor and Long Island, while exploring the ever-changing relationship between humans and whales through inquiry-based education and interpretation of artifacts; its exhibits emphasize the cultural, scientific and environmental significance of Long Island and the Sea; and

WHEREAS, James V. Kelly is receiving the Improving Long Island's Future Award in recognition of his distinguished career and exceptional service to the community; and

WHEREAS, An integral part of the Town of Huntington, New York, James V. Kelly's commitment to serving the public led to him being elected Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Huntington Township Chamber of Commerce in 2005, where he ably served for four years; and

WHEREAS, In addition, James V. Kelly is a member on the Town of Huntington Financial Review Committee, and has served on the Board of Directors for the Huntington Arts Council; he is also the CEO of JVKelly-Group, a firm he founded in 2002, which advises Fortune 500 companies on cost and supply chain risk reductions; and

WHEREAS, An active voice in local media, this remarkable man publishes Long Islander News, a group of community newspapers which include LONG ISLANDER NEWS, NORTHPORT RECORD, HALF HOLLOW HILLS and SUFFOLK LAWYER; he has also hosted a business talk radio show and has made appearances on FIOS 1 "Ask the Experts."; and

WHEREAS, The recipient of numerous awards and accolades, James V. Kelly has been named one of SUPPLY AND DEMAND CHAIN EXECUTIVE magazine's Pros to Know from 2007 to 2015, and has been listed in Long Island's Top 50 most influential people for three years in a row; and

WHEREAS, Helen Crosson is receiving the Changes in Our Community Award in recognition of her tireless efforts to serve and promote the informational, cultural, educational and recreational needs of the public; and

WHEREAS, A leader in showcasing the extensive impact libraries have on the community, Helen Crosson earned her Master's degree in Library & Information Science from SUNY Albany, and holds a Master's degree in Public Administration from LIU Post; and

WHEREAS, This esteemed woman was instrumental in the creation of the Cold Spring Harbor Library and Environmental Center, the first and only library on Long Island dedicated to the environment; and

WHEREAS, Following her debut as Library Director in 1999, Helen Crosson led the relocation of the library from a 7,000 square foot school building into a five-acre institution which has become vital to the Cold

Spring Harbor community; currently, it welcomes up to 8,000 visitors a

month at its mansion-like location in the Cold Spring Harbor State Park; and

WHEREAS, In January of 2015, Helen Crosson became the Director at the Half Hollow Hills Community Library, where she is leading the exciting process of reimagining and rebuilding the Dix Hills location; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the entire period of their community service, a period of constructive involvement, James V. Kelly and Helen Crosson have stood constant in dignity, good grace and humor; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Whaling Museum & Education Center remains steadfast in its commitment to educating the public about the marine environment and the rich history of the Cold Spring Harbor area; and

WHEREAS, The success of the Whaling Museum & Education Center is in direct correlation to the efforts of its staff, whose involvement is, and always has been, characterized by an impressive commitment, an unbridled enthusiasm, and an uncompromising standard of excellence in all endeavors on behalf of this institution and the community it serves; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body that those who enhance the well-being and vitality of their community and have shown a long and sustained commitment to excellence certainly have earned the recognition and applause of all the citizens of this great Empire State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the Whaling Museum & Education Center upon the occasion of hosting its Summer Luau, and to pay tribute to this year's honorees, James V. Kelly and Helen Crosson; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Whaling Museum & Education Center, James V. Kelly and Helen Crosson.