

BY: M. of A. Gandolfo

PAYING tribute to John Cronin, creator of John's Crazy Socks, for special recognition for remaining true to his mission of spreading happiness to others

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to pay tribute to those individuals whose extraordinary spirit and determination are an inspiration to others; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to pay tribute to John Cronin, creator of John's Crazy Socks, for special recognition for remaining true to his mission of spreading happiness to others; and

WHEREAS, A graduate of Huntington High School and Wilson Tech, John Cronin, a young man with Down Syndrome, and his father Mark, created John's Crazy Socks to make people smile; and

WHEREAS, Today, John Cronin serves as the Chief Happiness Officer of the business he helped create from his love of crazy and unique socks; through his great work ethic, he has truly demonstrated the exceptional work people with differing abilities can produce; and

WHEREAS, Through this 26-year-old entrepreneur's tireless efforts and the dedication of his employees, a majority of which have a differing ability, John's Crazy Socks has grown from its humble beginnings to the largest sock store in the world; and

WHEREAS, John Cronin has also taken his goal of spreading happiness on the road, testifying twice before the United States Congress and speaking to members of the United Nations; he became "sock buddies" with President George H. W. Bush and was named an EY Entrepreneur of the Year; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his valuable work with John's Crazy Socks, John Cronin is a Special Olympic athlete competing in soccer, track and field, basketball and snowshoe; with a philanthropic spirit, John's Crazy Socks pledges five percent of its earnings to this exceptional organization and has donated over \$100,000 to assist the Special Olympics with its goal of helping athletes with intellectual disabilities find the joy in sports; and

WHEREAS, John Cronin is also a member of the Boards of both the National Down Syndrome Society and the Athlete's Congress for the New York Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, When he is not helping someone, John Cronin enjoys watching movies and spending time with his family and friends; each week, he hosts an online Dance Party, which is viewed by people from all around the globe who love to dance as much as he does; and

WHEREAS, John Cronin is a role model for many who face similar obstacles which he has faced and overcome; holding steadfast to his vision of founding his own company, he accomplished his goals and made his dream a reality; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to pay tribute to John Cronin, creator of John's Crazy Socks, for special recognition for remaining true to his mission of spreading happiness to others; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to John Cronin.