

## 2011-J2033

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION honoring Rick Sheppard upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by All Event Travel Now, Inc. on June 10, 2011

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and commend those individuals that have brought entertainment and cultural enrichment to the citizens of the great State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to honor Rick Sheppard upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition at the All White Extravaganza Celebrating Family Event to be held at the Marriott Hotel in Uniondale, Long Island, New York, on Friday, June 10, 2011; and

WHEREAS, Rick Sheppard was born to entertain; he began performing as a nine year old and by his teenaged years had a number of local television appearances on his resume; his first real professional engagement occurred in Miami, Florida, opening for Sammy Davis, Jr., and from then on show business and entertaining would define his life; and

WHEREAS, The first several years would see Rick Sheppard on the road in a seemingly endless stream of one-night club performances, until the legendary manager George Treadwell, of The Drifters, was looking for someone to join the band; he called Rick who lived in St. Albans, Queens, New York, at the time, to see if he would be interested in joining The Drifters, and the rest is history; and

WHEREAS, Rick Sheppard joined The Drifters in 1966, and recorded with the group for Atlantic Records through the end of the '60s; for years, he toured with the band throughout the world and shared stages with the greatest names in show business; and

WHEREAS, Songs like "On Broadway," "Under The Boardwalk," "Save The

Last Dance For Me," "Up On The Roof," "This Magic Moment," "There Goes My Baby," and many more are etched into the memories of music fans worldwide and have helped form part of the foundation of contemporary popular music; Rick Sheppard has been an integral part of The Drifters success for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, It is most fitting that we take time to celebrate the music of our Nation, to honor our artists and musicians, and to express our appreciation to everyone who patronizes the arts; and as we celebrate the music, we celebrate and give thanks to our American freedom, the only atmosphere in which artists can truly create and in which music is truly the expression of the soul; and

WHEREAS, The arts, in whatever form depicted, are central to human expression; they are truly a universal language and their contribution to the development of friendship and understanding among all peoples cannot be underestimated; individuals who provide a means of preserving a part of our rich American past and who contribute to the community in such noble endeavors as aforementioned, are held in the highest regard by this Legislative Body; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to honor Rick Sheppard upon the occasion of his designation for special recognition by All Event Travel Now, Inc. on June 10, 2011; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to Rick Sheppard.