

PROCLAMATION

FIBRODYSPLASIA OSSIFICANS PROGRESSIVE AWARENESS

WHEREAS, Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressive is a rare genetic incurable condition in which the body makes additional bone where bone should not form, such as within muscle, tendons, ligaments and other connective tissues, with symptoms of FOP including excruciating pain and distortion of the existing skeletal frame; and

WHEREAS, a gene has been identified after 15 years of hard research by the University of Pennsylvania, the only known research facility currently investigating a cure for this; and

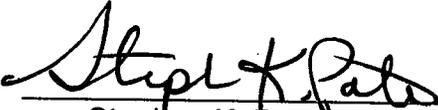
WHEREAS, discoveries made in the FOP lab by scientists and researchers may aid in the treatment or cure for other genetic diseases such as osteoporosis, arthritis, and spinal cord injuries; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of FOP usually begin in the first or second decade of life, with the majority of patients diagnosed by age 10, depriving children of normal development, with FOP affecting approximately 2,500 people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Gary W. Whyte of Mountainside, New Jersey and his family have made it their mission to raise awareness of this debilitating disease by asking the Mayors of all 565 New Jersey municipalities and all 21 New Jersey Counties pass a proclamation urging FOP awareness to be placed in a FOP Awareness Campaign Book to hopefully one day display in Washington, D.C. on behalf and in support of the children/young adults in the state of New Jersey afflicted with FOP and equally show concern for all other children afflicted with FOP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Stephen K. Pote, Mayor of the Borough of Watchung hereby proclaims to acknowledge and help raise awareness of Fibrodysplasia Ossificans Progressive and commends the Whyte family for their dedication in making others aware of this affliction and for their work and support for the benefit of FOP.

Dated: July 17, 2014


Stephen K. Pote, Mayor