

*P*ROCLAMATION

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, which is an annual campaign to increase awareness of this disease and while we have seen an increase in mammography rates and a decline in deaths there is more we can do; and

WHEREAS, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month remains dedicated to increasing public knowledge about the importance of early detection of breast cancer diagnosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS, too many women do not utilize mammography at regular intervals even though research indicates it is the best available method of detection to decrease death rates; and

WHEREAS, the awareness campaign is sending out several key messages, most notably, the American Cancer Society continues to advise women to get an annual mammogram screening once they reach age 40; and

WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute estimates in the United States, more than 231,000 (female) and 2,000 (male) new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed this year and over 40,000 people will die; and


WHEREAS, in Somerset County, female breast cancer increased slightly and accounts for 16.3% of all cancer cases and 8.7% of all cancer deaths and are slightly higher than the average in New Jersey for incidence; and in Morris County, female breast cancer accounts for 15.8 % of all cancers and 9% of all cancer deaths; and

WHEREAS, there are many organizations that continue to search for a cure through vital research, they also work with the Office of Cancer Control and Prevention in New Jersey and support the Morris ~ Somerset County Regional Chronic Disease Coalition and its partners to educate our community about the importance of early detection our best protection and the risks of breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, this October marks the 13th anniversary of declaring the importance of Breast Cancer Awareness month and this month, with bold pink ribbons displayed across America and in Watchung, we stand in solidarity with breast cancer survivors and reaffirm our commitment to raising awareness and to advancing research efforts. Let us thank the countless advocates, medical professionals, researchers, and caregivers who dedicate their lives to fighting for a world without breast cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Keith S. Balla, Mayor of Watchung, along with Members of the Council do hereby recognize all of the above and declare October, 2022 as **Breast Cancer Awareness Month** and urge all women and their families to increase their knowledge about breast cancer and join us to celebrate successes and memorialize lost battles.

DATED: OCTOBER 6, 2022


Keith S. Balla, Mayor