

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** OVER 5.5 MILLION ITALIANS IMMIGRATED TO THE UNITED STATES BETWEEN 1820 AND 2000 AND TODAY THERE ARE OVER 17.8 MILLION AMERICANS OF ITALIAN DESCENT IN THE UNITED STATES MAKING THEM THE FOURTH LARGEST ETHNIC GROUP AND THE COUNTRY WAS EVEN NAMED AFTER ITALIAN EXPLORER AND GEOGRAPHER AMERIGO VESPUCCI, AND

**WHEREAS,** WITHOUT THE ITALIANS, AMERICA WOULD BE A VERY DIFFERENT PLACE TODAY AS SO MANY OF AMERICA'S DISCOVERERS, EXPLORERS, AND COLONIZERS WERE OF ITALIAN DESCENT AND NEW JERSEY REMAINS HEAVILY ITALIAN, IN TERMS OF REPORTED ANCESTRY WITH THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU REPORTING THAT MORE THAN 1.45 MILLION NEW JERSEYANS REPORTED HAVING AN ITALIAN HERITAGE, AND

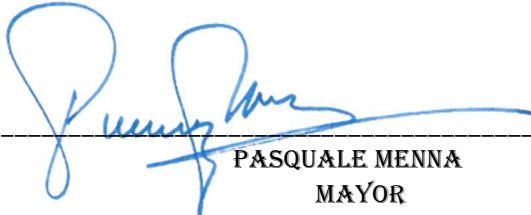
**WHEREAS,** ITALIAN AMERICANS HAVE INFLUENCED THE AMERICAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY IN A VARIETY OF WAYS, SUCH AS FOODS, COFFEES AND DESSERTS; WINE PRODUCTION; POPULAR MUSIC, OPERATIC, CLASSICAL, INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC AND JAZZ; FASHION AND DESIGN; SPORTS; CINEMA; LITERATURE; AND ITALIANATE ARCHITECTURE, AND

**WHEREAS,** ITALIAN AMERICANS HAVE PLAYED A PROMINENT ROLE IN THE ECONOMY OF THE UNITED STATES, AND HAVE FOUNDED COMPANIES OF GREAT NATIONAL IMPORTANCE AND ITALIAN AMERICANS HAVE ALSO MADE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GROWTH OF THE U.S. ECONOMY THROUGH THEIR BUSINESS EXPERTISE WITH MANY HAVING SERVED AS CEO'S OF NUMEROUS MAJOR CORPORATIONS, AND

**WHEREAS,** ITALIAN AMERICAN ECONOMIST FRANCO MODIGLIANI WAS AWARDED THE NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS IN 1985 AND ITALIAN AMERICAN ECONOMIST EUGENE FAMA WAS AWARDED THE NOBEL MEMORIAL PRIZE IN ECONOMIC SCIENCES IN 2013, AND

**WHEREAS,** MANY ITALIAN AMERICANS HAVE ALSO BEEN PROMINENT IN U.S. POLITICS INCLUDING GERALDINE FERRARO WHO WAS THE FIRST WOMAN ON A MAJOR PARTY TICKET, RUNNING FOR VICE PRESIDENT AS A DEMOCRAT IN 1984, AND ANTONIN SCALIA AND SAMUEL ALITO SERVING AS JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, PASQUALE MENNA, MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM OCTOBER 2021 TO BE ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH IN THE BOROUGH OF RED BANK AND JOIN ITALIAN AMERICANS THROUGHOUT OUR NATION AS THEY CELEBRATE THEIR HERITAGE AND ENCOURAGE ALL RESIDENTS TO CELEBRATE THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF ITALIAN AMERICANS.



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PASQUALE MENNA  
MAYOR