

Borough of Lansdowne
12 East Baltimore Avenue
Lansdowne, PA 19050

Resolution 2021-06

Resolution Honoring Irish American Contributions to Lansdowne

WHEREAS, St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland, known for bringing Christianity to Ireland and, it is said, for instilling a sense of literacy and learning that allowed Ireland to become the "isle of saints and scholars" when the rest of Europe was in the Dark Ages; and

WHEREAS, the feast day of St. Patrick is the only Irish national holiday that is given recognition outside its native land, which indicates the Irish influence throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, the modern secular holiday of St. Patrick's Day was first celebrated in America in the first St. Patrick's Day Parade in the United States occurred in New York City in 1762, in Philadelphia in 1771, and now all Americans celebrate St. Patrick's Day with pride; and

WHEREAS, millions of Irish people emigrated from Ireland in the 1800s to escape brutal poverty and starvation due to the Irish potato famine, and most of those people came to America to start new lives and to embrace and contribute to a new land; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of Irish immigrants arrived in Philadelphia, the largest immigrant group in Philadelphia with a population of approximately 100,000, only to face Anti-Catholic and Anti-Irish prejudice including attacks by Nativists, and the Irish have been an important part of the Greater Philadelphia's culture, history and society ever since; and

WHEREAS, 4 signers of the Declaration of Independence were Irish-born and 9 signers were of Irish ancestry and 20 Presidents of the United States have proudly claimed Irish heritage, including George Washington, the father of our country; John Fitzgerald Kennedy; Ronald Reagan; and our current President, Joseph Biden; and

WHEREAS, Delaware County contains the highest density of Americans of Irish ancestry in Pennsylvania with 26%, especially in Havertown, Upper Darby, and Lansdowne, who have contributed to the culture of Delaware County and creating vibrant cultural institutions; and,

WHEREAS, the 44,000,000 Americans of Irish ancestry, like their forebears, continue to enrich all aspects of life in the United States, in science, education, art, agriculture, business, industry, literature, music, athletics, entertainment and military and government service; and,

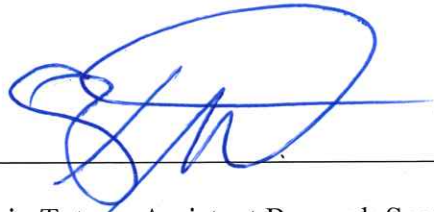
WHEREAS, St. Patrick's Day is an opportunity to educate the community about the contributions of Irish-Americans to the building the community of Lansdowne, the Greater Philadelphia community, and the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Lansdowne seeks to recognizes the cultures of the many cultural groups and inhabitants of Lansdowne and Irish-Americans have been an integral part of the history and culture of Lansdowne since its incorporation; and,

WHEREAS, the Borough of Lansdowne respects and preserves the history of all of the many contributors to the preservation of Lansdowne and the United States; and,

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved by Lansdowne Borough Council, on behalf of the people we represent, that Lansdowne Borough takes this opportunity to encourage the celebration of St. Patrick's Day, and, recognizing the valuable contribution to our Nation and to our State and to the Greater Lansdowne Community of all Irish-American citizens.

Adopted by the Borough of Lansdowne, County of Delaware, Pennsylvania, this 17th day of February, 2021.



ATTEST: _____

Craig Totaro, Assistant Borough Secretary



Benjamin D. Hover, Council President