

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, the old cliché “no news is good news” is not always true, such was the case when Denis J. Kelly, long time editor and reporter for the Echoes-Sentinel, notified the folks at Watchung Borough Hall of his upcoming retirement; and

**WHEREAS**, a respected reporter is a journalist who researches, writes, and reports information with objectivity and without bias, and while Denis is all that, he is much more; and

**WHEREAS**, there was never a Borough event, an issue, or an incident that went unreported, unattended, or editorialized without the facts, as Denis was at every Council meeting, every picnic, grand opening, and tree lighting; every fishing derby, regatta, and triathlon; every “meet & greet,” every retirement dinner, and every unfortunate memorial service; gatherings that are ever so meaningful in this tight-knit community; and

**WHEREAS**, Denis often reported much more than “just the facts” – Denis gathered, researched, synthesized, and reported from the “heart” and with the best interests of Watchung in mind, which was always obvious after the Governing Body would hold one of their many respectful yet emotional ceremonies remembering our veterans, our war heroes, and those lost on September 11<sup>th</sup>, when his articles and photographs always managed to capture the feelings and compassion that resonated from these events; and

**WHEREAS**, Denis was the “Fourth Estate” of our local municipal government hierarchy and very much a part of the Borough’s “family.”

**NOW, THEREFORE I, STEPHEN K. POTE**, Mayor of the Borough of Watchung, on behalf of the Governing Body, the Borough’s employees, and our residents, hereby thank Denis J. Kelly for his years of honest, ethical and diligent reporting of the Borough’s news and events, and want him to know that he will be missed, and wish him the best of luck and much success in his future endeavors.

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Stephen K. Pote, Mayor

Dated: March 6, 2014