

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 46 children in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer each day, and 1 out of 5 children diagnosed will not survive the disease; and

WHEREAS, the types of cancers that affect children are most often very different from those that affect adults, and not just one disease but is made up of a dozen types and countless subtypes of cancer; and

WHEREAS, childhood cancer spares no socioeconomic, ethnic, racial or geographic class; and

WHEREAS, pediatric cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in US children under 19 years of age and the causes of most pediatric cancers are largely unknown; and

WHEREAS, two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will develop long-lasting chronic conditions as a result from treatment that prevent them from fully participating in school, social activities and work; and

WHEREAS, childhood cancer rates have been rising for the past few decades, and approximately 15,780 children were diagnosed in 2014, and the incidence of invasive pediatric cancer is up to 29% in the past 20 years; and

WHEREAS, cancer kills more children than AIDS, asthma, cystic fibrosis, diabetes, and muscular dystrophy combined; and

WHEREAS, in the last 25 years, only two drugs have been specifically developed for children's cancer and in the last 20 years the FDA initially approved only one drug for any childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, less than 5 percent of the federal government's total funding for cancer research is dedicated to childhood cancers, and only about 3 percent of funds raised for the National Cancer Institute go directly to pediatric cancer research; and

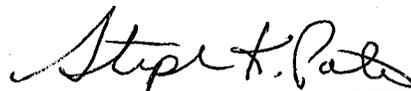
WHEREAS, the funding for pediatric cancer research has gone down steadily since 2003 and despite the facts, childhood cancer research is vastly and consistently underfunded; and,

WHEREAS, despite the major advances in treatment, it is still critically important to conduct research and increase awareness regarding pediatric cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Stephen K. Pote, do hereby proclaim September 2015 as:

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in the Borough of Watchung in order to help raise awareness of pediatric cancer and its victims.



Stephen K. Pote, Mayor

Date: September 17, 2015