

Proclamation

Whereas, lung cancer is the leading cancer killer in the United States for both men and women accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined; and

Whereas, cigarette smoking causes 80 to 90 percent of lung cancer deaths in the United States. However, regular exposure to secondhand smoke from other people's cigarettes, pipes, or cigars at home or work increases the individual's chance of getting lung cancer by 20 to 30 percent. Radon, a gas found in many homes, is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking; and

Whereas, screening for lung cancer for high-risk individuals using low dose computed tomography can lead to the earlier detection of lung cancer and save lives, reducing the mortality by 20% when compared to screening by chest x-ray in the National Lung Screening Trial; and

Whereas, lung cancer is difficult to detect because symptoms often are not felt until the cancer has reached an advanced age, and yearly lung cancer screenings are recommended to those with a history of smoking or who have quit smoking within the last 15 years; and

Whereas, funding for lung cancer research trails far behind funding for research of many other cancers, and additional research is needed in early diagnosis, screening, and treatment; and

Whereas, organizations such as the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative and Women's Lung Cancer Forum are committed to educating about lung cancer and working to increase lung cancer screening rates; and

Whereas, educating people who are at risk for lung cancer due to their smoking history and age, as well as educating providers about the importance of annual lung cancer screening may reduce deaths from lung cancer; and

Now, Therefore, I, Owen Henry, Mayor of Old Bridge Township, the Township Council, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim November 2023 as Lung Cancer Awareness Month in Old Bridge, and encourage all residents to become educated about lung cancer, take preventative measures, and raise awareness.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of Old Bridge Township to be affixed on this 1st day of November, in the year Two Thousand & Twenty-Three.



Owen Henry, Mayor