

# PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and since the program began in 1985 mammography rates have more than doubled for women age 50 and older and breast cancer deaths have declined; and

WHEREAS, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month remains dedicated to increasing public knowledge about the importance of early detection of breast cancer diagnosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS, many women still do not utilize mammography at regular intervals even though research indicates it is the best available method of detection; and

WHEREAS, the awareness campaign is sending out several key messages, most notably the importance of early detection through annual mammography screening for women over 40; and

WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute estimates in the United States, more than 180,000 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed this year and over 42,000 people will die; and

WHEREAS, taking advantage of early detection methods such as mammography and clinical breast exams could help the breast cancer death rate drop by approximately 30%; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society has searched endlessly for a cure through vital research, and has the mammoth task of educating our community and all Americans of the risks of breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Watchung recognizes the importance of a healthy community and how good health impacts the quality of life for all residents and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, *Mayor Albert S. Ellis*, do hereby proclaim the month of October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the Borough of Watchung and urge all women and their families to get the facts about breast cancer and join us to celebrate successes and memorialize lost battles.

Date: September 27, 2007 \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor