

Resolution 2020 - 19
Recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month

Whereas, Spanish colonization of Central America, South America, North America and the Caribbean Islands begun with the arrival of Christopher Columbus spread Spanish culture, language, and customs throughout the Americas; and,

Whereas, the oldest European settlement in the United States, St. Augustine in Florida, was established as a settlement in in 1565 establishing Spanish language and customs as an integral part of the United States; and,

Whereas, the oldest state Capital in the United States, Santa Fe in New Mexico, was first inhabited in 1609 and created as the capital city for the Spanish Province of New Mexico and continues to maintain Hispanic traditions and culture ; and,

Whereas, the United States is home to more than 41 million native Spanish speakers and over 12 million bilingual Spanish speakers, making the United States second only to Spain in the number of Spanish speakers in the world; and,

Whereas, from the settlement of North America, growth of the United States, including Pennsylvania, members of the Hispanic and Latino communities have contributed to the culture, history and heritage of Pennsylvania; and,

Whereas, the Greater Philadelphia region has the second largest Hispanic population in the Northeast and according to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce have purchasing power of approximately \$4.2 billion in the region; and,

Whereas, the Greater Philadelphia Hispanic Chamber of Commerce found that the Hispanic population in the Greater Philadelphia Region grew by 58.3% from 2000 to 2010.

Whereas, the Hispanic and Latino communities comprise an important part of the Greater Lansdowne community as neighbors, business owners, and members of our civic organizations; and,

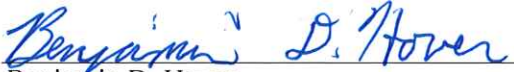
Whereas, Hispanic Heritage Month is traditionally observed in September to honor the Independence Days of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua on September 15th and Mexico on September 16th and Chile on September 18th; and,

Whereas, the United States first recognized National Hispanic Heritage Week in 1968, which was expanded to commemorate Hispanic Heritage Month by President Ronald Reagan in 1988; and,

Whereas, the Borough Council of Lansdowne wishes to celebrate the rich history, culture and legacy of the Hispanic and Latino members of our community, and honor the influence of members or our community of Hispanic and Latino descent in our community;

Therefore be it resolved, the Borough of Council declares the dates from September 15th to October 15th to be Hispanic Heritage Month and join with our fellow neighbors of Hispanic and Latino Heritage in celebration of the rich history, valued contributions and cultural influences in Lansdowne, Pennsylvania, and the United States of America.

Adopted by the Borough of Lansdowne, County of Delaware Pennsylvania, this 19th day of August, 2020.


Benjamin D. Hover
Council President

ATTEST:



Craig Fotaro
Assistant Borough Secretary