

# RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 351

Approved October 22, 2020

WHEREAS, U.S. Presidential Proclamation 6045 of October 1989 established October as Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month to be celebrated every year to honor and recognize the centuries of achievements, successes and valuable contributions of Italian immigrants and Italian Americans; and

WHEREAS, Between 1820 and 2000, over 5 million Italians immigrated to the United States; and

WHEREAS, Currently, there are over 26 million Americans of Italian descent residing in the United States which makes Italian-Americans the fifth largest ethnic group in our nation; and

WHEREAS, Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month is an appropriate time to recognize the enormous contributions the Italian-American people have made to this country, including generals, admirals, doctors, philosophers, statesmen, musicians, athletes, and Nobel laureates; and

WHEREAS, Notable Providence natives of Italian descent who have contributed greatly to the City's rich heritage include 2017 U.S. national silver medalist Marissa Castelli, 1997 Verrazano Award recipient Evelyn V. (Verdi) Fagnoli, six-time novelist Peter Pezzelli, and World War II casualty US Army First Lieutenant Albert Russo; and

WHEREAS, Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month is held to salute the Italian-American community and to exhibit appreciation for their heritage and culture that have immeasurably enriched the lives of the people of this city, the State of Rhode Island, and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, The strength and success of the City of Providence, the vitality of our neighborhoods, and the effectiveness of our American society depend, in great measure, upon the distinctive and sterling qualities demonstrated and exemplified by members of the Italian and Italian-American community, who share with us their rich and unique heritage.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council acknowledges October as Italian-American Heritage and Culture Month in perpetuity in order to recognize the enormous contributions that the Italian-American people have made to the City of Providence and the State of Rhode Island throughout our history.

IN CITY COUNCIL

OCT 7 5 2020

READ AND PASSED

PRES.

CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.

Mayor  
Date: 10/02/20