Office of the Mayor Township of Bordentown Proclamation

WHEREAS, Pride Day is celebrated on June 28 which marks the date in history when the first Pride March was held in New York City in 1970 and Pride Month is celebrated annually in June to honor the Stonewall Riots and to recognize all the work that has been accomplished to achieve equal justice and equal opportunity for everyone; and

WHEREAS, Pride is the promotion of self-affirmation, dignity, equality and increased visibility; and

WHEREAS, Pride is opposed to shame and the social stigma that ultimately decreases the right's movement of dignity and equality; and

WHEREAS, many Pride Month celebrations include, parades, picnics, parties, workshops, concerts and festivals that attract millions of participants world-wide and many memorials are often held this month for those in the community who have lost their lives from HIV/AIDS or from hate crimes; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month also commemorates the impact that these individuals have had historically both nationally and internationally; and

WHEREAS, Pride is represented by the colors of the rainbow where each color is symbolic: red represents life, orange for healing, yellow for the sun and green for nature; and

WHEREAS, Pride Month is both a joyful community celebration of visibility and a personal celebration of self-worth and dignity; and

I, THEREFORE, Mayor, of the Township of Bordentown, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim June as Pride Month to recognize those who have been faced with discrimination and oppression and to embrace and support the dignity of all people, encouraging others to protect and eliminate the current challenges that so many still face unnecessarily in our society and to be inspired to live up to our Nation's promise of equality, liberty and justice for all.

STEVE BENOWITZ MAYOR