



TOWN OF HAMDEN

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Curt Balzano Leng
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Media Release

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MAYOR LENG PROCLAIMS **“THERESA BUONTEMPO-VALENTI DAY”**

HAMDEN – Mayor Curt Balzano Leng is honored to proclaim Saturday, August 1st 2015 “Theresa Buontempo-Valenti Day” in the Town of Hamden. Theresa Valenti is a recovering breast cancer survivor who recently celebrated her One Year Anniversary of being declared free of cancer on July 27th. Mayor Leng is privileged to honor Valenti, a lifelong resident of Hamden, and he urges all citizens to join in this joyous celebration of life.

Theresa is a mother, daughter, wife, and a survivor. She has endured the challenge of cancer treatments and surgeries, and she remembers the trials of what she endured throughout her battle. Theresa wants to give back to help those who are going through the same fight! As of her One Year Anniversary, she has launched efforts to inspire others with her courage and tenacity. This weekend she will be celebrating with family and friends at her first Pink Party, a celebration of life and triumph. Mayor Leng will be in attendance at Mrs. Valenti’s first Pink Party to extend his congratulations to

Theresa and his offer of support in her efforts to organize her own Hamden Cancer Survivors Foundation. Quoting the unknown author of a poem which she feels is the essence of her accomplishment; she says “Count your smiles instead of your tears, Count your courage instead of your fears”, a sentiment which she will make a major theme of her new foundation’s ideology. It is Theresa’s goal to bring Hamden Cancer Survivors together for the benefit of those, especially children, going through the challenges of diagnosis, treatment, surgeries and moving forward as a survivor.

Theresa’s first action towards the creation of the Hamden Cancer Survivors Foundation is to enlist the services and donations of fellow Hamden cancer survivors and supporters. It is Mrs. Valenti’s ambition to collect donations from sponsors to support children undergoing cancer treatment at the Smilow Cancer Hospital in New Haven. Currently Theresa has placed a donation box in the mayor’s office at Hamden Government Center, located at 2750 Dixwell Ave. (at the Corner of Dixwell and Evergreen Avenues). Suggested donations include gifts such as: infant toys, new release DVDs for all ages, teen items such as nail polish and jewelry, board and card games, and small denomination gas cards and gift cards!

This year over 1.6 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed in the United States. Recognizing the stark reality of these statistics and of the immense pain and suffering that cancer patients experience; Mayor Leng sincerely believes increased access to quality cancer care, screening, and prevention – especially among minorities and the medically underserved – must be a top priority in our community. Hamden has an active, productive cancer survivor population working every day to raise awareness and contributions for continuing research to fight the disease.

It is with genuine honor that Mayor Leng proclaims Saturday, August 1st 2015
“Theresa Buontempo-Valenti Day” and it is his hope that doing so will bring light to the
many ways in which Hamden residents can positively contribute to the fight against
cancer and the efforts to ensure that survivors are supported to the full extent of their
needs.

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