



TOWN OF HAMDEN

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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Media Release

For Immediate Release
June 10th, 2016

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Hamden Announces Columbus Day Parade Marshals

HAMDEN – Mayor Curt Balzano Leng, Chairman of the 2016 Greater New Haven Columbus Day Parade, is very pleased to announce this year’s Parade Marshals. This year, Hamden has the distinct honor of hosting the annual Columbus Day Parade and Mr. Lew Panzo, Mrs. Rose Mentone, Mr. Mike Iezzi, Mrs. Laura Luzzi, and former Mayor John Carusone have been chosen to represent Hamden and the Greater New Haven communities as Parade Marshals.

Mr. Panzo has served as Hamden’s Democratic Town Committee Chairman for many years, Mrs. Mentone currently serves as the Democratic Registrar in the Hamden Registrar’s Office, Mr. Iezzi currently serves as Chair of Hamden’s Police Commission and Traffic Authority, Mrs. Laura Luzzi currently serves in Hamden’s Recreation Department and is the current Chairwoman of the Columbus Day Committee of Greater New Haven, and former Mayor John Carusone served as the Mayor of Hamden from 1987 to 1991 and has continued to be active in Hamden civic life ever since.

Commenting on his selections for the 2016 Greater New Haven Columbus Day Parade Marshals, Mayor Leng said, “I am incredibly pleased to announce my selections for the 2016 Columbus Day Parade marshals. After much consideration, I could think of few folks who embody the values of public service and community activism more profoundly than these individuals. Each one of the five marshals I have selected has served the Greater New Haven community for many years, and each is deserving of this unique honor.”

Additionally, this year’s **Columbus Day Parade Kickoff Party** will be held on **Tuesday, June 21st**. The party will be hosted by Cascade Fine Catering located at 480 Sherman

Ave. in Hamden. The event will feature food, drinks, entertainment & prizes which will run from 6-9 pm. Tickets may be purchased in advance from co-chairman's Lewis Panzo at 203-287-1272, x 102, Art Giuliatti at 203-287-7008, any Committee member, or at the Hamden Mayor's Office, located in Town Hall at 2750 Dixwell Ave. Tickets are \$25.00 in advance or \$30.00 at the door.

Since 2003, the parade has become a regional event hosted on a rotating basis among six area communities, which include Branford, New Haven, East Haven, West Haven, North Haven and Hamden. The Greater New Haven Columbus Day Parade Committee remains the organizer of the program, with the annual assistance from each hosting community. This year's Parade will be held on October 9th and will step off at 1:00 pm from Hamden High School, 2040 Dixwell Avenue. The parade will travel northbound and conclude at Miller Memorial Library. The parade will cover approximately 1.5 miles.

Volunteers are also still needed for planning and the coordinating of the parade. To march in the parade any group or organization must complete the parade application which can be obtained on the web: www.columbusdaynewhaven.org or by emailing: Patrick Donnelly at pdonnelly@hamden.com, or by calling Mayor Leng's office, at 203-287-7100.