



# TOWN OF HAMDEN

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Curt Balzano Leng  
*Mayor*

### *Media Release*

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### HAMDEN SETS THE STAGE FOR “FESTA ITALIANA”

**HAMDEN** – Hamden’s second Heritage Festival will have an Italian flavor! Fresh off the success of Hamden’s inaugural “Barbecue & Bluegrass” Heritage Festival, Mayor Curt Balzano Leng has announced that the 2016 theme will be “Festa Italiana”.

“As we welcome the Columbus Day Parade to Hamden this year, it seemed like a perfect fit to match some great traditions of Hamden with some of the new and exciting programming in Town Center Park”, Mayor Leng explained. The Mayor added “This event will have a real community and bi-partisan feel to it, as our event Chairs are former Hamden Mayors of Italian descent Lucien DiMeo, Peter Villano, John Carusone, Barbara DeNicola, and Carl Amento. We asked these servants of Hamden to help us out one more time, and all responded graciously and enthusiastically.”

Recently, Citizens Television (Channel 27) conducted a 30 minute interview with a few members of the 2016 Festa Italiana planning committee. Details about the event were discussed by the planning committee, which included former Mayors John Carusone and Barbara DeNicola, Town Center Park Chairman, Matthew Fitch, and committee chairperson Gerry Tobin. The panel interview will be shown every Thursday at 5PM until the event kicks off on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

“Festa Italiana” is scheduled for Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016, and will anchor a series of events, culminating with the Columbus Day parade itself, on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016.

Additional details will be announced in the coming weeks, but the event is expected to include music, a great selection of food vendors (many of whom will feature an Italian theme), games, activities, and an educational/cultural tent.

For further information, please contact Information & Research Officer, Patrick J.

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