



PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Gavin Kasaba Day

March 6, 2010

- WHEREAS:** Gavin Kasaba had to prove he was a fighter from the moment he was born on June 24, 2004. His parents were told minutes after his birth that he may have Down Syndrome. Tests quickly confirmed Gavin did indeed have a type of Down Syndrome known as Translocation, and
- WHEREAS:** Shortly after his parents saw him, Gavin was whisked off to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit for a lack of oxygen and other medical issues. He was then sedated and hooked to a ventilator for the first four days of his life. Thanks to everyone's help, thoughts and prayers Gavin made strong and steady progress. Amazingly, he was released from the NICU after only two weeks, and
- WHEREAS:** Gavin started receiving weekly physical and developmental therapy at three months of age. By age three he was attending the Pre-School Disability Program at New Monmouth Elementary. Gavin worked hard with specialty teachers and therapists over the next two years, and
- WHEREAS:** Gavin is now an adorable five-year-old boy. He attends Special Education Kindergarten at Bayview Elementary School, adores his older brothers, Colby and Ethan, and loves to play outside, and
- WHEREAS:** His family celebrates every milestone Gavin reaches with a smile on their faces and tears in their eyes. Gavin will continue to face many obstacles in his life because of his disability, but it is only a small portion of who he really is. He has a smile that can light up the world and teaches those around him to appreciate the little things in life and to take nothing for granted, and
- WHEREAS:** Middletown Elks No. 2179 is holding their annual charity ball on March 6, 2010 to enable the Handicapped Committee to continue their vital work assisting and supporting special children like Gavin Kasaba, and
- WHEREAS:** The Middletown Township Committee wishes to join the members of Middletown Elks Lodge No. 2179, in honoring Gavin Kasaba for his strength and bravery. Now
- THEREFORE:** I, Mayor Gerard P. Scharfenberger, and the Middletown Township Committee do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 6, 2010 as Gavin Kasaba Day in the Township of Middletown. We are very proud of you!

Mayor Gerard P. Scharfenberger, Ph. D.