



PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

National Wear Red Day for Women February 6, 2009

- WHEREAS:** Diseases of the heart are the nation's leading cause of death and stroke is the third leading cause of death; and
- WHEREAS:** Cardiovascular disease (CVD) claims the lives of more than 460,000 American females (about one death per minute) each year. Each year, 53 percent of all cardiovascular disease deaths occur in females, as compared to 47 percent in men, and about 29,500 more females than males die from stroke; and
- WHEREAS:** In 2008 the estimated direct and indirect cost of cardiovascular diseases and stroke in the U.S. was estimated at \$431.8 billion; and
- WHEREAS:** More women die of cardiovascular disease than the next five leading causes of death combined, including all cancers. However, only 13 percent of women consider cardiovascular disease their greatest health risk; and
- WHEREAS:** February is designated as American Heart Month; and
- WHEREAS:** Go Red For Women is the American Heart Association's national movement and call to increase awareness about heart disease and empower women to take action to reduce that risk; and
- WHEREAS:** All women should learn their own personal risk for heart disease, using tools such as the American Heart Association's Go Red For Women Heart Check up and by talking to their healthcare provider.

NOW

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Pamela M. Brightbill, and the Middletown Township Committee in recognition of the importance of the ongoing fight against heart disease and stroke, do hereby proclaim **Friday February 6, 2009 as Wear National Red Day for Women** in the Township of Middletown. We urge all citizens to "Go Red" for the day, and to call attention to the magnitude of cardiovascular disease in women, and as a show of support to fight it, as well as in recognition of family, friends, and neighbors who have suffered from cardiovascular disease. By increasing awareness of the risk factors for this devastating disease and taking actions to reduce them, we can save thousands of lives each year.

Mayor Pamela M. Brightbill