

Proclamation

MARLBORO TOWNSHIP

175 Years

WHEREAS, on February 17, 1848, the hamlets of Morganville, Robertsville, Wickatunk, Bradevelt, and Topanemus, were brought together by the New Jersey State Legislature as one political entity through “An Act to set off from the Township of Freehold in the County of Monmouth a new township to be called the ‘Township of Marlborough’ ”; and

WHEREAS, the pre-colonial history of Marlboro is rich – from the prehistoric oceans and animal inhabitants that enhanced the soil with marl, for which our Township is named, to the native Lenni-Lenape tribe who settled this land; and

WHEREAS, in the seventeenth century Dutch, Scottish, and English settlers are known to have inhabited the land that is now Marlboro, with surveyor John Reid and Dr. John Johnstone, some of the first recorded settlers of the Wickatunk region; and

WHEREAS, marl beds were discovered on the Koert Schenck Farm in 1768, by an Irish worker whose name has been lost to history, and when it was understood that marl could be used as a fertilizer, the Smock and Herbert farms began exporting marl near and far, becoming the area’s first major industry; and

WHEREAS, our Township bears the names of many great families who contributed to Marlboro’s origins, from early settlers building up the community, starting farms, and generating industry, to those that fought to emancipate the United States of America during the Revolutionary war, and later fought to preserve our Nation during the Civil war; and

WHEREAS, historical figures Judge and first Freeholder John W. Herbert, who is buried in the cemetery at the Old Brick Reformed Church, and Vice President Garret Hobart made their impressions on the Township of Marlboro, leaving behind buildings and roads that bear their names to this day; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Marlboro grew from a small farm town of 1,500 residents whose lives were structured around Presbyterian and Dutch Reform churches, into a diverse and thriving suburban community of over 40,000 residents that offers opportunities for exceptional education and recreation, a wide variety of cultural, social, and religious organizations, all while having preserved hundreds of acres of open space within the thirty-two square miles of our borders.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jonathan L. Hornik, Mayor of Marlboro Township am pleased to recognize the Marlboro Township Historic Commission who has helped us to learn more about our esteemed history as we celebrate the Demisemiseptcentennial Anniversary of our great Township’s origin and give thanks for the success of our Township, for the diversity and quality of life that we enjoy, and for our rich history and bright future.



Jonathan L. Hornik
Jonathan L. Hornik, Mayor
February 2023