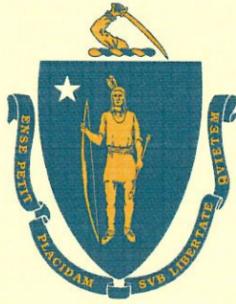


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas, This is the 25th Anniversary of the Observance of October as Italian American Heritage Month under legislation signed in 1999 by Governor Argeo Paul Cellucci; and

Whereas, Giovanni da Verrazzano, 1485-1528, was an Italian explorer of North America, he was commissioned by the King of France to lead a voyage to North America. His voyage is the earliest documented European exploration of this part of the Atlantic Coast. He is renowned as the first European to explore the Atlantic coast of North America between Florida and New Brunswick in 1524, including New York Bay and Narragansett Bay. This year marks the 500th Anniversary of Verrazzano's exploration of North America; and

Whereas, Frances Xavier Cabrini, 1850-1917, also known as Mother Cabrini, was an Italian-American, Roman Catholic, religious sister. She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a religious institute that was a major support to her fellow Italian immigrants in the United States. Her congregation provided education, healthcare and other services to the poor. Mother Cabrini became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1909. On July 7, 1946, Mother Cabrini became the first U.S. citizen to be canonized a saint by the Catholic Church and is now the patron saint of immigrants; and

Whereas, Elsa Morante, 1912-1985, was an Italian novelist, poet, translator and children's books author. Her novel *La Storia* (History) is included in the Bokklubben World Library List of 100 Best Books of All Time. She received two prestigious literary awards; the Viareggio Prize in 1948 for her first novel *Menzogna e Sortilegio* (House of Liars) and the Strega Prize in 1957 for the novel *L'isola di Arturo*; and

Whereas, Lawrence "Larry" Lucchino, 1945-2024, was an American Lawyer and a Major League Baseball executive. He served as president of the Baltimore Orioles, president and chief executive officer (CEO) of the San Diego Padres, and president and CEO of the Boston Red Sox. He was also chairman and co-owner of the Worcester Red Sox, the Triple-A affiliate of the Boston Red Sox. He was chairman of The Jimmy Fund, the philanthropic arm of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. He played college basketball for the Princeton Tigers. Larry Lucchino was inducted into the Boston Red Sox Hall of Fame in 2016, the San Diego Padres Hall of Fame in 2022 and the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame,

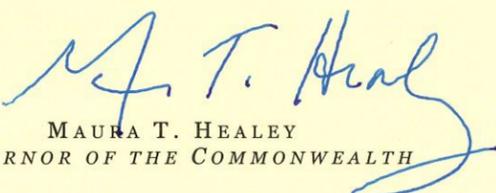
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 2024, to be,

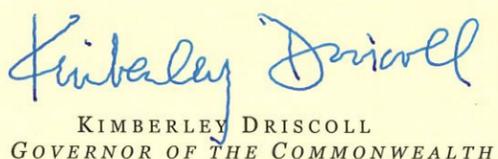
ITALIAN HERITAGE MONTH

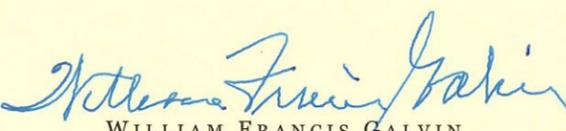
And urge all residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of October, in the year two thousand and twenty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-eighth.

BY HER EXCELLENCY


MAURA T. HEALEY
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH


WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts