

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** thousands of women and men immigrated from Italy to Seattle's southeast neighborhoods, contributing and shaping the foundation of Seattle – from helping new immigrants settle in Seattle from around the world, to laying the foundation of our most iconic buildings, like the work of Josie Razore; and

**WHEREAS,** Governor Albert D. Rosellini, Washington State's 15<sup>th</sup> governor, was the first Italian-American Catholic governor to be elected west of the Mississippi River; and

**WHEREAS,** Italian-Americans like Joe Desimone helped keep Seattle a desirable place to do business, from shaping the Pike Place Market to selling a 28 acre tract of land to Boeing for \$1 to build what is now the King County International Airport/Boeing Field;

**WHEREAS,** the entrepreneurial spirit of Italian-Americans such as Victor Rosellini, Gill Centioli, Dorene Centioli-McTigue, Gerard Centioli, Joe Fugere, the Gai Family, Mike Rosella, Art "Oh Boy" Oberto, John Croce, and Frank Isernio make up Seattle's rich food culture; and

**WHEREAS,** the contributions by Italian-Americans to the region's agriculture helped shape this city, including UW professor Angelo Pellegrini, the father of sustainability; and

**WHEREAS,** countless Italian-Americans in Seattle bravely stepped up to fight for the United States in World War II, despite being subjected to an "enemy alien" designation by the government;

*NOW, THEREFORE I, EDWARD B. MURRAY, MAYOR OF SEATTLE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM, ON OCTOBER 13, 2014, RECOGNITION OF*

## Italian-American Heritage



Mayor Edward B. Murray  
City of Seattle



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2015 FEB 24 PM 2:48

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