

Office of the Mayor



Proclamation

**Om Parikh Day
May 19, 2024**

- Whereas,** Childhood cancer is #1 cause of death by disease for children in America. One in 285 children in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer by the time they are 20 years old. Despite advances in medicine, some types of cancer remain incurable; and
- Whereas,** brain tumors are the second most common cancers in children and account for about 1 in 4 pediatric cancers; and
- Whereas,** conventional treatment options can help slow the progression of cancer, primary brain tumors such as glioblastoma have a poor prognosis and are statistically more frequent in children than adults. Glioblastoma is fatal within two years with treatment, and fatal within weeks without treatment; and
- Whereas,** childhood cancer survivors must be closely monitored throughout their lifetimes. Treatment options for pediatric brain tumors such as surgery, radiation, and chemotherapy can lead to late effects of treatment.
- Whereas,** because of the poor prognosis of the disease post-diagnosis, our main goals in the fight against pediatric cancer are to raise awareness and promote preventive measures such as a healthy lifestyle in children; and
- Whereas,** the Om Memorial 5K Run and Walk on Sunday, May 19th, 2024, will raise funds for the Om Foundation through the support and participation of Monroe residents and the surrounding communities; and
- Whereas,** The Om Foundation strives to encourage the prevention of pediatric cancer along with its cure and promote positivity in the community in honor of Om Parikh, a Monroe teen who passed away on February 7, 2018 from a brain tumor. Om brought a message of strength and optimism in the face of adversity to his peers. The Om Foundation has aided children facing adversity, as well as created a movement in the Monroe Township school system focused on making children more positive and helpful to others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, STEPHEN DALINA, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, do hereby proclaim **May 19th, 2024,** as **Om Parikh Day** in the Township of Monroe. Om's legacy of optimism continues to inspire his loved ones and every resident of The Township of Monroe, we honor him on this day.

Dated: May 1, 2024


Stephen Dalina, Mayor