

Proclamation

By Mayor and Council - Township of North Brunswick

WHEREAS, the Township of North Brunswick's **Veteran Street Sign Program** allows Township residents who were Wartime Veterans to be recognized by adding their name on a secondary street sign to an existing Municipal Road; and

WHEREAS, by adding names of local Wartime Veterans to public street signs, we hope to promote public awareness of these individuals and show our appreciation for their outstanding contributions and service to our country as a member of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, eligible military candidates for this honor include honorably discharged Veterans having served in Military Departments as defined under Department of Defense which include Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Forces, as well as the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard; and

WHEREAS Wartime Veterans are individuals who served in the active military forces, during a period of armed conflict or who received the armed forces expeditionary or other campaign service medal during an emergency condition, including those who died in the line of duty in the active military forces; and

WHEREAS, **Anthony Arico** has been selected to be recognized in the Veteran Street Sign Program; and

WHEREAS, **Anthony** entered the US Navy on August 26, 1943 and attended boot camp at NTS Sampson, New York. Upon completion of boot camp he began three months training as a Gunners Mate at Norfolk, VA and then transferred to Portland ME. At the conclusion of training, he received orders to report to Pier 92 Brooklyn Navy Yard. He boarded the destroyer USS Jeffers DD621. They soon found they were off the coast of Normandy, France for the upcoming invasion. As the invasion began, they were given orders to sail close to the shore line and provide a smoke screen to cover the landing crafts. When the invasion was over they set sail for the Mediterranean and participated in several missions before sailing back to Brooklyn Navy Yard for repairs. Their ship was converted into DMS Destroyer by removing rear gun mounts and installing mine sweeping gear on board. They set sail again, this time sailing south and through the Panama Canal into the Pacific Ocean. After a brief stop in Hawaii they found themselves sweeping mines of the coast of Okinawa preparing for the invasion of the island. On April 24th they came under attack by Kamikaze planes. They sailed to Guam for several weeks of repairs. They were then ordered north off the coast of several islands off Japan and were given orders to sweep for mines. After several days of sweeping, they sailed in Tokoyo Bay as one of the first American warships to enter the harbor and started sweeping for mines. After this was completed, they sailed out to wait for the USS Missouri and escorted her in for the signing of the Peace Treaty. They remained in Japan for three months. Anthony was transferred to the USS Cowie DD 39 and sailed back to the US and was discharged on March 27, 1946; and

WHEREAS, **Anthony** earned medals including, WWII medal, European African & Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, Asia Occupation Service Medal, American Campaign Medal, D Day Participation Medal and Honorable Discharge Medal; and

WHEREAS, **Anthony**, after the war, married Carmella Arno. They have lived in North Brunswick ever since. Together they raised nine children and have twenty-two grandchildren and fourteen great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, **Anthony** was a committee man for fifty years, was in charge of the Shade Tree Commission and was a member of the Mount Caramel Society, Italian American Club and The American Legion;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Mayor and Council of the Township of North Brunswick, **DO HEREBY PROCLAIM**, distinguished recognition to **Anthony Arico** for his service to our country ensuring freedom for all.

Francis M. Womack III
Mayor

Bob Davis
Councilman

Lisa Russo, Township Clerk
September 29, 2014

Catherine Nicola
Council President


Lou Ann Benson
Director of DPRCS