

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *Flag Day, a day commemorating the adoption of the flag of the United States, was first suggested by William T. Kerr, a Pittsburgh native, to coincide with the date in 1777 when the Stars & Stripes became our national flag; and*

WHEREAS, *Flag Day was officially established by proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30, 1916 and formalized in the Flag Act of Congress, signed into law by President Harry S. Truman, on August 3, 1949; and*

WHEREAS, *the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks (BPOE) was the first organization to honor our nation's flag with a Flag Day celebration; in 1907, the BPOE Grand Lodge designated, by resolution, June 14 as Flag Day; the Grand Lodge of the Order adopted mandatory observances of the occasion by every Lodge in 1911, and that requirement continues today; and*

WHEREAS, *the Elks group has a mission to include the principles of charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity; to recognize a belief in God; to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members; to quicken the spirit of American patriotism; to cultivate good fellowship; to perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization; and to serve the people and communities through benevolent programs, demonstrating that Elks care and Elks share; we are thankful for the presence of the Elks in our community and commitment displayed by members in celebrating Flag Day; and*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby commend the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks for this annual recognition and celebration and proclaim June 14, 2015 as "Flag Day" in Allegheny County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 14th day of June, 2015.

Rich Fitzgerald

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