

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

RICH FITZGERALD
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Penn Hills High School football team defeated Manheim Central, 36-31, in the PIAA Class 5A championship game on December 7, 2018 at Hersheypark Stadium; the victory completed the Indians' undefeated season and gave the school its second state title and its first in 23 years; and

WHEREAS, Penn Hills receiver and cornerback Daequan Hardy produced one of the most extraordinary performances in PIAA championship game history by scoring four touchdowns, intercepting three passes, and accounting for 340 all-purpose yards; the Indians' defense was also extremely impressive, shutting down the state's top-ranked quarterback recruit who completed just 12 of 27 passes, was intercepted four times, and was sacked four times; and

WHEREAS, Penn Hills added to its already storied football history with this year's remarkable season; the team won its fifth WPIAL title and beat two-time defending state champion Archbishop Wood in the PIAA semifinals; it had a prolific offense led by quarterback Hollis Mathis, running back Terry "Tank" Smith, and receivers Daequan Hardy and Dante Cephas; and its defense, led by linebackers Jordy Boswell and Devyn Best as well as linemen Armand Gustave and George Freeman, was one of, if not the best, in the state, limiting opponents to only 11.9 points per game; and

WHEREAS, *Penn Hills' championship season would not have been possible without the exceptional leadership of coach Jon LeDonne, who excels on and off the field; a PhD in engineering, the coach works for a secured nuclear power laboratory that supports the Navy, and is one of the all-time tacklers in Robert Morris University football history; after he was hired as the Penn Hills football coach, he encouraged the team to become a family, and his message to his players to "be who you are" quickly resonated; the Indians have gone 24-4 during his two successful seasons guiding the program; and*

WHEREAS, *we congratulate the Penn Hills football team on this tremendous achievement; we also thank the players, coaches, students, administrators, parents, and all others involved with the program for representing this region well, making Allegheny County proud, and for bringing the Penn Hills community together during this incredibly exciting season.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED *that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim December 15, 2018 as "Penn Hills High School Football Day" in Allegheny County and encourage residents to congratulate the team during today's celebratory parade.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 15th day of December, 2018.*

Rich Fitzgerald

RICH FITZGERALD