

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *December 3, 2018 will mark the 200th anniversary of the admission of Illinois to the Union as a state; and*

WHEREAS, *Illinois Bicentennial will remind us all that, everyday in Illinois, amazing things are BORN, BUILT & GROWN; and*

WHEREAS, *the bicentennial of our statehood is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the many cultural, economic, academic and political contributions that Illinois and its residents have made to the nation and the world; and*

WHEREAS, *commemorations and celebrations will enable and encourage Illinoisans of all ages and backgrounds, together with visitors, to experience Illinois' 1,298 cities, villages, and towns, thereby stimulating the Illinois economy; and*

WHEREAS, *our community recognizes the importance of the bicentennial celebration as a way to honor the citizens and the history of our great state, and set a course for success over our next 200 years; and*

WHEREAS, *our community, through its various councils, committees and congregations, should work together with the Illinois Bicentennial Commission and the state's citizens, businesses, and cultural and educational institutions to share our vision and projects to mark our state's 200th birthday; and*

WHEREAS, *participation in Illinois' Bicentennial Celebration is a unique opportunity to honor and showcase the state during this historic time.*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, Mark W. Eckert, Mayor of the City of Belleville, Illinois do hereby proclaim December 4, 2017 as **Illinois Bicentennial Flag Raising Day** in the City of Belleville in recognition of the beginning of the yearlong celebration for the State of Illinois' 200th Birthday and endorse the efforts of Illinois Bicentennial Commission in promoting, planning and executing historic, educational, celebratory and cultural initiatives and further resolves to recognize and celebrate the bicentennial of the State of Illinois.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Belleville to be affixed, this 4th day of December, 2017.*

Mark W. Eckert

Mark W. Eckert, Mayor

Dated this 4th day of December, 2017