



Proclamation

Whereas, Voss Pattern Works Inc. has thrived for 100 years due to the efforts of three generations of the Voss family, their employees, and the support of the community it serves; and

Whereas, in 1921, Edward and Lena Voss opened Voss Pattern Works at 1116 East 'A' Street; and

Whereas, from 1946 to 1947, their eldest son, Ed Voss, worked at Voss Pattern Works before relocating as a patternmaker to San Francisco, California; and

Whereas, in 1946, their son, Virgil Voss, and in 1948, their son, Leo Voss, started their pattern making careers; and

Whereas, in January 1958, upon Edward's death, Virgil Voss and Leo Voss formed a partnership to continue the business and joined the Pattern Makers League of North America; and

Whereas, in 1966, the family moved the business into the present location at 123 Iowa Avenue; and

Whereas, in 1978, Lena Voss retired and Leo's wife, Mina Voss, became the office manager; and

Whereas, from 1980 to 1982, Virgil's son, Tim Voss, worked as an apprentice patternmaker; and

Whereas, in June 1980, the business became incorporated; and

Whereas, in June 1981, Leo's son, Joe Voss, started as an apprentice; and

Whereas, Leo's son, Frank Voss, has operated the shell core machine since 1987; and

Whereas, in August 2002, upon Virgil's death, Joe Voss became shop manager; and

Whereas, over the years, the City of Belleville has received numerous Voss Pattern Works products, including the Belleville Sister Cities sign, plaques in the new Firehouse #4, Police Department, and the renovated City Hall, just to name a few; and

Whereas, Leo and Mina Voss, both 92 years old, continue to go to the shop almost every day.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mark W. Eckert, Mayor of the City of Belleville, IL, do recognize and congratulate Voss Pattern Works Inc. for 100 years of uninterrupted service to Belleville, through three generations of continuous family leadership, providing quality and value combined with conscientious service to their customers.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the corporate seal of the City of Belleville to be affixed this 19th day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one.

Mark W. Eckert, Mayor

Dated this 19th day of April, 2021