

A PROCLAMATION

BELLS ACROSS PENNSYLVANIA DAY MAY 3, 2020

Whereas, on March 6, 2020, Governor Tom Wolf proclaimed the existence of a disaster emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ultimately requiring all Pennsylvania residents to shelter in place; and

Whereas, despite all of the efforts of state, county, and municipal governments to mitigate the effects of this pandemic, to date, over 37,053 Pennsylvanians have been afflicted with COVID-19 and 1,394 Pennsylvanians have died from it; and

Whereas, in every municipality, there have been emergency medical personnel, firefighters, police officers, and employees of grocery stores, pharmacies and other life-sustaining businesses who have braved the viral elements, at the expense of themselves and their families, to maintain essential services to the general public sheltering in place and are deserving of recognition as "hometown heroes"; and

Whereas, elected officials across the Commonwealth have joined together to promote a statewide expression of *gratitude* to these hometown heroes, *solidarity* with other Pennsylvanians on the frontlines of the COVID-19 battlefield and *determination* that their municipal businesses and civic-life will thrive once again; and


Whereas, since days of the American Revolution, the bell has served as an instrument for expressing communal gratitude, camaraderie and resolve, and is a means well-suited for Pennsylvanians sheltering in place to demonstrate such values.

Now, therefore, the Mayor, in concert with the Council of the Borough of Whitehall, hereby proclaims:

Sunday, May 3, 2020 as

Bells Across Pennsylvania Day

and calls upon all residents and churches at 7:00 p.m. to ring bells for three minutes to honor their hometown heroes, rally with other Pennsylvanians on the frontlines of the COVID-19 battlefield and show resolve to restore their local businesses and civic life to their former prominence.


James F. Nowalk, Mayor
Borough of Whitehall

