



Allegheny County Council

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Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 11171-19 **Version:** 1 **Name:**

Type: Proclamation **Status:** Read & Filed

File created: 8/16/2019 **In control:** County Council

On agenda: 8/20/2019 **Final action:** 8/20/2019

Title: Proclamation recognizing the 60th anniversary of the International Village Festival.

Sponsors: Bob Macey, All Members of Council

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Code sections:

Attachments:

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
8/20/2019	1	County Council	Read	

Proclamation recognizing the 60th anniversary of the International Village Festival.

WHEREAS, a celebration recognizing the *60 years of the International Village Festival* in Allegheny County will be held on August 13-15, 2019 in the historic Renziehausen Park; and

WHEREAS, founded in July 1960 by the then McKeesport Mayor Andrew Jakomas, *International Village* has brought together residents in sharing their ethnic backgrounds and cultures. Beginning as a 10-day celebration of McKeesport history, this event was initially titled "Old Home Week" to remind people of their heritage; and

WHEREAS, *International Village* annually entertains people of all age-groups, with activities including fireworks, dancing, crafts, community information, games, and entertainment on the main stage. For decades, this festival has allowed people to set up a booth representing a nationality, in which they can display and share their native foods and original handicraft work. Additionally, participants can conduct short educational sessions about world cultures musical and dance performances; and

WHEREAS, *International Village* is entirely run by volunteers, including those from local social organizations and ethnic places of worship. It has grown in attendance, with over 20,000 people attending in recent years. The event has received national notoriety and has inspired similar ethnic festivals across the country;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Allegheny County Council Member Bob Macey and All Members of Council, do hereby join in celebration with *International Village*, as it celebrates 60 years since its foundation. On behalf of Allegheny County Council, we look forward to seeing the growth of the *International Village Festival* in years to come.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 13th day of August 2019.