



Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks
of the



United States of America, Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474

Whereas, Today representing one of the nation's most esteemed fraternal organizations, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, (B.P.O.E.) of the United States of America will celebrate 100 years of committed and honorable service to veterans, youth, and communities nationwide, and it is appropriate at this time to reflect on the B.P.O.E.'s long history of service and to acknowledge with special honors and commendations the many consequential contributions made by dedicated Elks in California, including the members of Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474; and

Whereas, Founded in New York City on February 16, 1868, the B.P.O.E. owes its genesis to Charles Vivian, who joined with a handful of friends to found the remarkable organization that has since spread throughout the U.S. as one of its largest nonprofit philanthropic organizations, whose focus on instilling core values of charity, justice, patriotism, and brotherly love is today embraced by nearly one million Elks, who belong to almost 1,900 lodges that annually donate over \$300 million in the form of cash, gifts and time to the betterment of communities across the country and efforts to improve the quality of life for children, youth, and veterans; and

Whereas, With 171 lodges in 19 districts inclusive of the islands of Guam and Hawaii, the California-Hawaii Elks Association (CHEA) has brought particular credit and distinction to itself and its member Elks through its long-standing efforts to address the unmet needs of children with disabilities, for whom it has raised over \$116.2 million since 1950; and

Whereas, Beyond their laudable charitable activities on behalf of disabled children, CHEA's members also engage in efforts to support veterans through the enduring expression of patriotism that has animated Elks for over a century to perform good works by providing year-round assistance and myriad services for the benefit of veterans in times of both peace and conflict, in addition to which, CHEA focuses on young men and young women by means of a broad array of youth activities, contests, scholarships, and programs that together help to develop the leadership skills, patriotism, compassion, and mental and physical well-being that will contribute to ensuring the youth of today become the nation's best leaders in the future; and

Whereas, Within CHEA, California holds pride of place for having 18 Districts that make up 166 Elks lodges—the nation's largest number of lodges in a single state, and CHEA's Central District encompasses 11 lodges serving over a dozen cities, including the distinguished Pittsburg Elks No. 1474, which will host a much-anticipated celebration of the B.P.O.E.'s 100th anniversary on October 21, 2023; and

Whereas, During their commemoration of 100 years of service, the Elks of Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474 will acknowledge the many esteemed and historically significant Pittsburg community leaders who have been members and officers of their Lodge, while also reaffirming their abiding commitment to always put the needs of others before themselves, impart to the members of their community the lessons of hard work, dedication, and faith-imbued service, and be in a state of continual readiness to provide support whenever and wherever it is needed, whether in the form of immediate material assistance following a calamitous natural disaster or simply as a hand to hold; and

Whereas, Through their dedication to charity, justice, and patriotism, indefatigable service to others, and ceaseless generosity, the Elks of Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474, and many thousands of their fellow Elks who belong to lodges in California and nationwide, have made invaluable contributions to the communities of which they are an integral part and to the nation as a whole, for which they deserve to be held in the highest regard within the State of California and throughout the land; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by Pittsburg Unified School District, That they congratulate the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the United States of America on the occasion of its 100th anniversary, commend the organization for the vital role it has played in improving the quality of life for millions of Americans, and extend their best wishes for the success of its indomitable efforts in the future.



BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS



PITTSBURG LODGE NO. 1474

WHEREAS, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474 is celebrating one hundredth anniversary in 2023, and in recognition of such as auspicious occasion, it is appropriate to extend to the organization and its membership highest honors and commendations for the positive impact it has made in the local community; and

WHEREAS, The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks instituted Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474 into its order on October 23, 1923, and for 100 years, it has formed an integral part of the community of Pittsburg; and

WHEREAS, With great pride many leaders of the community have sat in the historic chairs of Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474, principal influential individuals in the history of the State of California, the County of Contra Costa, and the surrounding community, including representatives to the California State Legislature and to the United States Congress, as well as Superior Court Judges, City Council members and mayors.

WHEREAS, The first Exalted Ruler of Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 was among these influential individuals; he envisioned great progress for the community and played a fundamental role.

WHEREAS, Providing a solid foundation, Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 has instilled upon its membership the principles of charity, justice, brotherly love, and fidelity, and a commitment to pursue spiritual faith, promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members, quicken the spirit of American patriotism, cultivate good fellowship, and perpetuate itself as a fraternal organization and provide for its government; and

WHEREAS, Demonstrating that *Elks Care and Elks Share*, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474 has served people and communities through beneficial programs and services; and

WHEREAS, During its 100 years or service to the community, the thousands of members of Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 have become renowned as the catalyst behind many charitable efforts in Contra Costa County, including provided hundreds of thousands of dollars toward educational and patriotic community-minded programs that benefit physically and mentally challenged individuals and by sponsoring Elks scholarships, athletic teams and scouting, physical and occupational therapy, and patriotic programs; and

WHEREAS, With selfless dedication, the many members of Pittsburg Elks Lodge No. 1474 have invested in their communities through programs that help children grow up healthy and drug-free, by undertaking projections that address unmet needs, and by honoring the service and sacrifice of our armed services personnel and veterans; and

WHEREAS, The contributions Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Pittsburg Lodge No. 1474 has made to the local area are invaluable, and reflect an organization devoted to the ideals of community service; now, therefore, be it.

RESOLVED by Pittsburg Unified School District, That Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Pittsburg, Lodge No. 1474 be commended on the celebration of its one Hundredth anniversary and on the vital role it has played in improving the quality of life in the local community, and extended best wishes for continued success in the future.

Members Resolution No. 23-09
Dated this 13 day of Sept. 2023


Taylor Sims, Board President