



Text File

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Bill No: 2015-2005, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, those of German descent began emigrating to Pennsylvania in 1683, and many settled in what is now known as Pittsburgh's **Deutschtown**, where the influence of German culture is still visible today; and,

WHEREAS, in recognition of these immigrants and their offspring, the **Alliance of Germanic Societies of Pittsburgh** (German, Austrian, and Swiss) will host their annual **German Heritage Recognition Luncheon** at the Historic **Teutonia Männerchor** on Saturday, September 12, 2015; and,

WHEREAS, the usual parade cannot be held because of the level of street reconstruction and new development construction that will benefit Historic Deutschtown and Spring Garden as well as the Teutonia Männerchor itself; and,

WHEREAS, instead, a luncheon will be held with dignitaries from various German, Austrian and Swiss organizations, German Folk Dance groups, and singing societies, and two individuals will be honored for their significant impact on the Pittsburgh area; and,

WHEREAS, honoree **Henry Buhl Jr.** was a second generation American, born to a Bavarian family in Zelienople. He and his partner Russell Boggs founded a small dry goods store in 1869 that catered to the "carriage trade" of wealthy industrialists. At its peak, Boggs and Buhl had several locations around the area and was considered one of Pittsburgh's finest stores; and,

WHEREAS, after his death in 1927, his will established the Buhl Foundation in honor of his wife Louise, which at the time was one of the largest multi-purpose foundations in the country; and,

WHEREAS, in 1939, the Buhl Planetarium was completed and gifted to the City and since then, the Buhl Foundation has supported and assisted many significant Northside endeavors including the Children's Museum and the Carnegie Science Center, as well as numerous scientific, cultural and educational projects; and,

WHEREAS, honoree **Alice Weinbrenner's** mother emigrated from The Black Forest in 1923 aboard the George Washington, and her father emigrated from Ilvesheim/Mannheim in 1924 aboard the Pittsburgh. They raised their children to love their Germanic heritage by taking them to the Teutonia Männerchor and club picnics, exposing them to the music and dance of Germany; and,

WHEREAS, she dedicated her life to the Teutonia Männerchor, serving as secretary for the 100th, 125th, and 150th anniversaries of the German club, waitressing the Sunday Schlachtfests for decades, serving as the President of the Damenchor, and designing the Damenchor Flag that hangs in the Sängershalle of the Teutonia Männerchor; and,

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize and honor **Henry Buhl Jr.** and **Alice Weinbrenner**, and commends all of the 2015 sponsors and participants in the annual **German Heritage Recognition Luncheon**; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Saturday, September 12, 2015, to be “**German Day**” in the City of Pittsburgh. **Glück Auf!**