

# THE CITY OF ERIE



## A PROCLAMATION BY MAYOR JOSEPH V. SCHEMBER

### RECOGNIZING BELLS ACROSS PENNSYLVANIA DAY

**WHEREAS**, on March 6, 2020 Gov. Tom Wolf proclaimed the existence of a disaster emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ultimately requiring all Pennsylvanians to shelter in place;

**WHEREAS**, since the 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;

**WHEREAS**, in every municipality, there have been emergency medical personnel, firefighters, police officers, public works, 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 the recognition as "hometown heroes";

**WHEREAS**, elected officials across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have joined together to promote a statewide expression of gratitude to our hometown heroes, to show solidarity with other Pennsylvanians on the frontlines of the COVID-19 battlefield preparing for civic-life to thrive once again;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Joseph V. Schember, Mayor of the City of Erie, hereby proclaim Sunday, May 3, 2020 as Bells Across Pennsylvania Day in the City of Erie. I call upon all residents and churches at 7 p.m. for three minutes to honor our hometown heroes, ally with other Pennsylvanians on the frontline of the COVID-19 battlefield and show resolve to restore their local businesses and civic life to Erie's former prominence.



**JOSEPH V. SCHEMBER**  
Mayor  
City of Erie