

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

HONORING THE BENEVOLENT AND PROTECTIVE ORDER OF ELKS

WHEREAS, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks is a fraternal order with nearly a million members and a 150-year history; and

WHEREAS, this Order was founded "to promote and practice the four cardinal virtues of charity, justice, brotherly love and fidelity, to promote the welfare and enhance the happiness of its members, to quicken the spirit of American Patriotism and cultivate good fellowship;" and

WHEREAS, the Elks organization was founded in New York City on February 16, 1868 under the name "Jolly Corks" by 15 actors, entertainers and others associated with the theater and, in ensuing years, membership expanded to other professions; and

WHEREAS, the Order is a non-political, non-sectarian and strictly American fraternity; and

WHEREAS, the Elks Order spends more than \$80 million every year for benevolent, educational and patriotic community-minded programs in such fields as benefitting special needs children, sponsoring Elks National Foundation scholarships, scouting, athletic teams, veterans' works, a national "Hoop Shoot" free-throw contest; and

WHEREAS, their activities involve more than three million children, physical and occupational therapy programs and patriotic programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, Ryan Coonerty, Third District Supervisor of Santa Cruz County, and Bruce McPherson, Fifth District Supervisor of Santa Cruz County, hereby join members of the Santa Cruz Lodge #0824 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks in celebrating the 150th anniversary of providing charitable service.



Handwritten signature of Ryan Coonerty in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Handwritten signature of Bruce McPherson in black ink, written over a horizontal line.

Member, Board of Supervisors

February 17, 2018

Date