

RESOLUTION NO. 3 OF 2024

**BUFFALO TOWNSHIP
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF BUFFALO TOWNSHIP, WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA ENDORSING AMERICA250PA AND CELEBRATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SETTLER OF BUFFALO TOWNSHIP IN 1776, THE CREATION OF THE FIRST CONGREGATION OF THE NORTH BUFFALO UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WOLFF'S FORT AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FIRST SCHOOL IN 1803 NEAR THE SITE OF THE NORTH BUFFALO CHURCH AND OTHER HISTORICAL EVENTS.

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania General Assemble and Governor Wolf created the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (America250PA) in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026 and Pennsylvania's integral role in that event, and the impact of its people on the nation's past, present and future; and

WHEREAS, America250PA hopes to engage all citizens of the Commonwealth, bring the Commonwealth's history into the conversation so Pennsylvanians can better understand the origins and multiple perspectives of issues facing our Commonwealth and nation today, and use history to encourage and inspire future leaders, celebrate the contributions of Pennsylvania to not only the Commonwealth's history, but also to our Nation's history; and

WHEREAS, America250PA wishes to leave a lasting impact on the next generation of Pennsylvanians and to spark an interest which will ignite the drive for them to appreciate all of the triumphs, trials and tribulations which contributed to the Commonwealth for which they are now writing their own history; and

WHEREAS, America250PA will have numerous officially recognized programs, projects and events over the next five years to inspire future leaders and celebrate all Pennsylvanians' contributions to the United States over the past 250 years; and

WHEREAS, Ezekiel Boggs and his family became one of the first settlers of Buffalo Township in 1774 for a tract which was named "Jealousy"; and

WHEREAS, Jacob Wolff came from Germany and acquired two hundred (200) acres of land which he called "Wolff's Grove" and constructed a large fort with a stockade fence and was well known and well utilized as a place of refuge when large bands of Indians from the Ohio Country threatened the safety of the settlers of the immediate area; and

WHEREAS, one of the first church congregations was established by Reverend Matthew Henderson in the year 1775, and in 1778, was then organized and eventually became known as the "North Buffalo United Presbyterian Church"; and

WHEREAS, one of the first schoolhouses in Buffalo Township was built in 1803 near the site of the North Buffalo Church and was a primitive log structure chinked with clay and without a floor and the first teacher was Mr. Anderson; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Township Supervisors wishes to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the United States and Buffalo Township in 2026 since both the history of our Country and our Township are both the same and unique in the creation of their community, churches, schools and public safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Buffalo Township, as follows:

1. Buffalo Township hereby endorses America250PA and its mission to Educate, Preserve, Innovate and Celebrate the rich history and diversity of the State.

2. Buffalo Township hereby acknowledges and celebrates the settlement of Buffalo Township in 1774 by Ezekiel Boggs who took up land on Buffalo Creek. James Allison and his family purchased a tract of land in 1776 containing 369 acres and located on Buffalo Creek. This tract of land was called “Complaint.” Buffalo Township also celebrates other earlier settlers such as Walter Summers, Basil Lee Williams, Nathaniel McDowell and other numerous individuals who had the courage to leave their homes and the strength to create their farms, their families and their homes. These individuals created our Township now known as “Buffalo Township.”
3. Buffalo Township hereby acknowledges and celebrates the establishment of numerous houses of Worship. South Buffalo United Presbyterian Church was organized in 1811 by Reverend David French. The North Buffalo Buffalo United Presbyterian Church began as the Buffalo Associate Presbyterian Church and was established in 1775. The East Buffalo Church was established in 1818. These congregations are responsible for the civic mindset of the current Township residents and their strong religious beliefs that can still be found throughout the Township.
4. Buffalo Township hereby acknowledges and celebrates one of the first Settlers’ Forts of Western Pennsylvania that was constructed by Jacob Wolff on his property of nearly two hundred (200) acres in 1780. This fort was constructed by Jacob Wolff in the wilderness of an uncertain time. The Buffalo Township area was actually the frontier of the United States. There were numerous instances where the settlers used Wolff’s fort as a refuge from the attacks of

Indians often lead by British Officers. There are numerous stories of heroism of local residents who used the fort. Lawrence Stricker built two houses on a tract of land which was one mile South of the property owned by Jacob Wolff. The main block house stood on a point formed by the junction of two small streams, and it was two stories high. It should be noted that neither Wolff's fort nor the Stricker block houses were ever attacked by any of the Indian Tribe's from the Ohio.

5. Buffalo Township therefore acknowledges and celebrates the continuity of its current residents going back in history to 1776 when the United States was created on July 4, 1776.
6. The Township has also been the site of a number of Taverns. The most well-known Tavern was called Coulson's Tavern on Nation Pike. Other Taverns established in Buffalo Township were Smith's Tavern which was located on West Chestnut Hill. Another, well known Tavern was the Bedillion Tavern.
7. The first oil and gas discovery occurred in July of 1885 and the well was drilled on the John McMannus Farm #1. From 1885 through the early 1900's oil and gas wells continued to be drilled making Washinton County at that time one of the largest producers of oil.
8. Buffalo Township also celebrates its namesake the "Buffalo" also known as Bison. In the early days of Buffalo Township, the Eastern Buffalo inhabited the forest of Buffalo Township. The Eastern Buffalo was bigger in size than its relative the "Plains Buffalo." The Eastern Buffalo was hunted and became extinct in the early 1800's.

9. Buffalo Township has also been the home of a number of well-known residents. Col. David Williamson is well known for conducting a raid of militia into the Ohio Country which lead to the massacre of Moravian Christian Delaware Indians in Gnadenhutzen. The Township also was the home of Joseph Ritner, the first of two governors from Pennsylvania. Mr. Ritner also served the United States in the War of 1812.
10. Buffalo Township also celebrates its residents who have served it's Country in the Military Service from 1776 until now. The Township also celebrates its Preachers, School Teachers and Farmers who have provided substance to its residents in terms of religion, education and food.

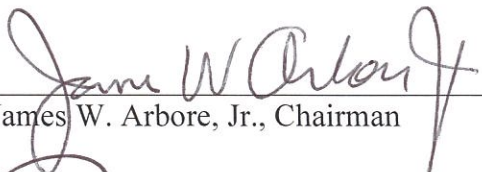
RESOLVED this 2nd day of October ,2024 by the Board of Supervisors of Buffalo Township.

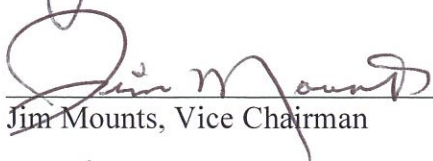
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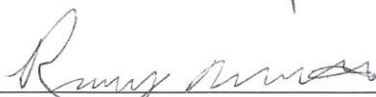
**BUFFALO TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**


Michelle L. Markley, Secretary/Treasurer

(SEAL)


James W. Arbore, Jr., Chairman


Jim Mounts, Vice Chairman


Randall Mounts, Supervisor