

City of New Braunfels



Proclamation

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF COMAL §
CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS §

WHEREAS, 335 years ago, on October 6, 1683, the first German immigrants, a group of 13 families from Krefeld, Germany, came to America and founded Germantown, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, in 1883, "German Day" was first celebrated in Philadelphia for the 200th anniversary of the first immigration of German families to America, spreading to New Braunfels and other German communities in the United States and celebrated for decades afterwards; and

WHEREAS, President Reagan issued a proclamation on October 6, 1983, honoring the tricentennial of the arrival of the first German immigrants, and in 1987, Public Law 100-104 designated October 6, 1987, as "German-American Day"; and

WHEREAS, October 6 has been proclaimed by the President every year since 1987 to be "German-American Day" in honor of the contributions made by German immigrants to the life and culture of the United States, including models derived from Germany such as America's kindergartens, graduate schools, the social security system, and labor unions; and

WHEREAS, outstanding patriots such as General Pershing, Admiral Nimitz, President Eisenhower, and Molly Pitcher are of German descent, and Christmas celebrations invariably include the German tradition of Christmas trees and songs first sung in German, "O Christmas Tree" and "Silent Night"; and

WHEREAS, as we near the 175th anniversary of New Braunfels' founding in 2020 by German Prince Carl zu Solms-Braunfels for German immigrants seeking a better life for themselves and their children despite overwhelming hardships, we recognize their successes in farming, business and industry, making New Braunfels one of the most beautiful areas in Texas.

NOW, THEREFORE I, BARRON CASTEEL, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of New Braunfels, Texas, do hereby proclaim the 6th day of October 2018 as

GERMAN-AMERICAN DAY

and call upon all citizens to recognize the contributions that German-Americans have made, not only to the founding and development of New Braunfels, but also the contributions made throughout the history of this great nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of New Braunfels to be affixed this the 24th day of September 2018.

CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS

BARRON CASTEEL, Mayor