



City of St. Charles
I L L I N O I S

Proclamation

CITY OF ST. CHARLES 180th ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, 180 years ago this month, in 1834, Evan Shelby, Ira Minard and Read Ferson founded the town and named it Charleston after a town in Mr. Ferson's home state of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, In 1839, the name of St. Charles was adopted because *Charleston* was already in use by a city downstate; and

WHEREAS, In 1854, St. Charles built the first public school, name West Side School; and In 1874, St. Charles became incorporated with Dr. James K. Lewis as its first mayor; and

WHEREAS, Lester Norris invested \$500,000 to build the Arcada Theatre which opened on Labor Day in 1926 and The Hotel Baker, built by Colonel Edward J. Baker, opened its doors on June 2, 1928; and

WHEREAS, On May 20, 1912, Pottawatomie Park was established as the first public park in Illinois; and in 1940, the Municipal Building was completed and entered the National Register of Historic Places in 1991; and

WHEREAS, In 1972, Dellora and Lester Norris donated land where St. Charles East High School was built, along with additional land grants for the Dellora Norris Cultural Arts Center, the Lester Norris Sports Complex and the John B. Norris Recreation Center.

WHEREAS, In 2011, St. Charles was named #1 for families by *Family Circle* magazine.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, along with past Mayor Fred Norris, Mayor Sue Klinkhamer, and Mayor Donald P. DeWitte, together with the City Council, do hereby proclaim the May 2014, the 180th ANNIVERSARY OF ST. CHARLES and wish the City and community a very **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

SEAL

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Raymond P. Rogina". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor