



PROCLAMATION



Northern Illinois University 125th Anniversary

WHEREAS, on the 15th day of July, 1895, DeKalb, Illinois was chosen as the site for the state's new Normal School in northern Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the City's founding fathers were largely responsible, in their relentless lobbying and personal investment, for making it so; and

WHEREAS, the City and NIU have grown and developed together in the 125 years since; and

WHEREAS, NIU is the area's largest employer and an influential producer of economic development and intellectual capital; and

WHEREAS, the university is a major provider of entertainment, cultural activities and educational events, including the high-quality programming enjoyed by more than 100,000 people per week via Northern Public Radio; and

WHEREAS, it is also a provider of its own athletic events as well as serving as host for local and statewide competitions; and

WHEREAS, NIU has brought high-speed fiber optic networks to the area and helped recruit new businesses with that valuable infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, NIU collaborates with organizations to extend their services, as in the partnership between the university and DeKalb Community Gardens; and

WHEREAS, NIU's partnership with the City of DeKalb has created mutually beneficial service agreements and greatly improved both the functioning and cost of services, such as the area's public transit system; and

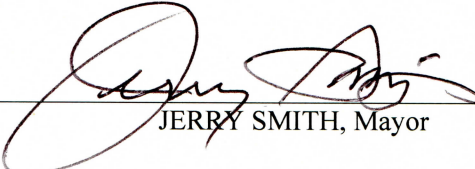
WHEREAS, NIU produces through its graduates a large proportion of the community's leaders as well as volunteers who serve on countless boards and commissions; and

WHEREAS, the many thousands of students, faculty and staff who have attended and worked at Northern Illinois University have enlivened our community for over a century;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the City Council of DeKalb, Illinois, do hereby join with Northern Illinois University in celebration of its founding and the observance this year of its 125th anniversary.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of DeKalb to be affixed this 13th day of July 2020.




JERRY SMITH, Mayor