

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF KLINGSHIRN
WINERY AND HONORING THE KLINGSHIRN FAMILY FOR THEIR GENERATIONAL
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY OF AVON LAKE.

WHEREAS, in 1845, Johann Michael Klingshirn and his wife emigrated from Bavaria, Germany, settling in old Avon, Ohio, where, as Michael, he purchased his first 40-acre parcel of farmland on Moore Road, later expanding his landholdings, and with his wife, Maria, raised eleven children, four of whom survived into adulthood, thereby establishing the family's enduring roots in the community; and

WHEREAS, Michael's son, Anton Joseph Klingshirn, born in 1858, worked his father's land and, after marrying Anna in 1889, established a homestead and family farm on Walker Road, where he and Anna raised ten children, seven of whom survived to adulthood, and expanded the family's agricultural presence to over 248 acres, including vineyards and the establishment of the Avon Lake Feed Mill in 1926; and

WHEREAS, Anton's son, Albert Klingshirn, educated in a one-room schoolhouse at Walker Road and State Route 83, married Theresa Conrad in 1922 and began farming the family's Webber Road land, where, in 1935, he founded Klingshirn Winery, transforming his grape juice business into a full winery following the repeal of Prohibition; and

WHEREAS, Albert not only expanded the winery and vineyards but also gave back to his community through public service as a member of Avon Lake City Council from 1937 to 1946, advocating for industrial development that brought lasting benefits to the City's financial stability and growth; and

WHEREAS, Albert's youngest son, Allan Klingshirn, salutatorian of the Avon Lake High School Class of 1946, married Barbara Ann Jones in 1955, and carried forward the family's legacy by dedicating himself to the winery and becoming a leader in Ohio's wine industry, co-founding the Ohio Wine Producers Association, which helped grow the number of Ohio wineries from 27 in the 1970s to over 400 today; and

WHEREAS, Allan's youngest son, Lee Klingshirn, joined the family business in 1986, married Nancy Jeanine Autullo in 1994, and co-managed the winery alongside Allan, continuing the family tradition as the next wine master; and

WHEREAS, Allan expanded the vineyards from 8 acres to 20 acres and invested in the facilities and equipment in support of Lee's efforts to integrate the latest research and innovation, including sustainable practices, hybrid and vinifera grape varieties, and pioneering vineyard technology in collaboration with The Ohio State University and the United States Department of Agriculture, ensuring the continued success of Klingshirn Winery in the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, Allan and Barbara demonstrated their steadfast support and encouragement, modeled by generations of Klingshirns before them, and, with wise counsel, steady guidance, and quiet dignity, empowered Lee to pursue innovations and changes that would strengthen and sustain the family's winemaking legacy; and

WHEREAS, for generations, the Klingshirn Family has exemplified faith, hard work, innovation, and community spirit, contributing not only to the establishment of St. Mary's Parish in Avon and St. Joseph Parish in Avon Lake but also to the prosperity of the local economy and the broader Ohio wine industry; and

WHEREAS, the 90th Anniversary of Klingshirn Winery stands as a monument to the enduring legacy of family enterprise, agricultural excellence, civic service, and community pride, recognized both throughout Ohio and internationally.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF AVON LAKE, STATE OF OHIO:

Section No. 1: That Council hereby recognizes and congratulates Klingshirn Winery on the occasion of its 90th Anniversary and honors the Klingshirn Family for their remarkable contributions across generations to the growth, identity, and vitality of the community.

Section No. 2: That the Clerk of Council shall include this Resolution in the minutes of this meeting, and she is hereby requested to transmit a copy of this Resolution to the Klingshirn Family as a symbol of the City's deepest appreciation and respect.

PASSED: 9/08/2025

/s/ Jennifer J. Fenderbosch
Council President

POSTED: 9/12/2025

APPROVED: 9/10/2025

ATTEST: */s/ Valerie E. Rosmarin*
Clerk of Council

/s/ Mark A. Spatzel
Mayor