

# PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, Oregon City's natural geography consists of a "first level" along the Willamette River and a sheer bluff rising approximately 90 feet above Railroad Avenue necessitating the need for a 215 step stairway up the side of the bluff; and

**Whereas**, the bluff stairway became cumbersome for pedestrians and resulted in the construction of the first Oregon City Municipal Elevator which went into service in 1915 and was subsequently replaced in 1955 with its current structure; and

**Whereas**, the Oregon City Municipal Elevator is a regional landmark and is one of only four municipal elevators in the world. Additionally, its vertical route is identified as "Elevator Street" making it the only vertical street in North America; and

**Whereas**, since the first elevator opened in 1915, the elevator has been staffed by an elevator operator and rides have remained free of charge; and

**Whereas**, the elevator was staffed by City employees until 1991; and

**Whereas**, in 1991 Five Stars International (Five Stars) submitted its first bid to staff the elevator and have provided staffing services for the Oregon City Municipal Elevator seven days a week since 1991; and

**Whereas**, since Five Stars began staffing the elevator, ridership totals were 150,385 riders in 1992, went to a low of 84,034 riders in 2001 and served a high of 227,762 riders in 2015; and

**Whereas**, the Five Stars' team has been led by Lynn Frank, Five Stars' president; Sandy Lewallen, Staffing Services Manager (and City employee from 1985 through 1991); fifteen-year guide Carol Pimentel; nine-year guides Lori Adkins and Steve Brenner along with many other professional elevator guides throughout the years; and

**Whereas**, the elevator guides at Five Stars have provided invaluable services including providing over 25 years of service to 3,921,610 riders, personal greetings with a smile, ensuring the safety of the elevator's riders, elevator "concierge" services, social service assistance, general care and cleaning and providing a presence which has deterred vandalism; and

**Whereas**, after 25 years of service, Five Stars is stepping away as the City's contract operator of the elevator, providing the opportunity for a new staffing service to take over the operation of the elevator.

**Now, Therefore**, I, Dan Holladay, Mayor of the City of Oregon City, do proclaim

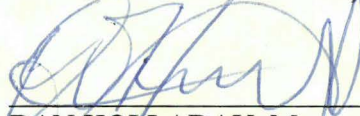
**January 18, 2017**

**as**

**Oregon City Municipal Elevator Operator Extraordinaire Day**

**And**, urge all citizens to visit the Oregon City Municipal Elevator and acquaint themselves with the elevator operators and to continue supporting the full-time staffing of the Oregon City Municipal Elevator.

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of January, 2017.

  
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DAN HOLLADAY, Mayor

