



**BOROUGH OF MEDIA
PROCLAMATION # 2015-09**

80th Anniversary of Glen Providence Park

WHEREAS, in 1935, prominent Media Borough residents George T. and Eleanor Reed Butler signed a deed donating the majority of the land for Glen Providence Park to Delaware County to establish its first park, located in Media Borough and Upper Providence, Pennsylvania;

WHEREAS, from the beginning, the focus was on preserving the natural beauty and habitat of the valley. The deed dated July 24, 1935 states *"That the property shall be used only as a Park and Kept in as natural a condition as possible save only for the construction of paths or trails for the use of pedestrians."* Glen Providence Park was established as a Bird Sanctuary and Arboretum, and Eleanor Reed Butler herself named it *"because of its glen-like formation and as it is located in the heart of the Providence townships"*;

WHEREAS, there are hundreds of articles over the ensuing decades in the Chester Times recounting events and activities in Glen Providence Park. Generations of nature lovers, hikers, families, school children, and scout groups have enjoyed Glen Providence Park, which has also hosted a wonderful array of activities and events in its 80 years, from Easter sunrise services and Haunted woods to decades of summer concert series, fireworks, and the still-running Great Media Easter Egg Hunt;

WHEREAS, that tradition of community events, and the elegance of the park's design and structures built by the Works Progress Administration, are why Glen Providence Park was determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in 2002. Today the Friends of Glen Providence Park works to preserve and enhance the historical park through volunteer days, citizen science, research, nature walks, and reviving the summer concert series;

WHEREAS, all of this was made possible through one generous act of George T. and Eleanor Reed Butler on July 24, 1935. The dedication at the park's main entrance states, *"A gift of land is a gift eternal."* On the 80th anniversary weekend of the park deed being signed, through their grandchildren Clifford Butler Lewis and Eleanor Reed Lewis, we thank the Butlers for this wonderful gift!

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Borough of Media hereby celebrates the 80th Anniversary of Glen Providence Park.



PROCLAIMED:

Robert McMahon, Mayor
Borough of Media