

**Village of Arlington Heights Proclamation**  
**Recognizing**  
**Arlington International Racecourse**  
**“Miracle Million”**  
**30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**WHEREAS**, Arlington International Racecourse opened in 1927 as “Arlington Park” at its current location in the Village of Arlington Heights. The Racecourse has been an icon in the Village and has provided tax revenue to the Village and employment for members of the community for the past 85 years and;

**WHEREAS**, August 15, 2015 marks the 33rd running of Illinois’ most prestigious thoroughbred horse race, the Arlington Million, and contributes to Illinois Tourism by drawing horses, owners, trainers and fans from all over the world to the Arlington Heights area and;

**WHEREAS**, on July 31, 1985, a catastrophic fire broke out at Arlington’s Post and Paddock Club. First responders from the Arlington Heights Fire Department were called to this fire and later joined by firefighters from 24 other local communities, and although the efforts of the firefighters could not save the destruction of the Grandstand and Clubhouse, these heroic efforts prevented the loss of any lives and;

**WHEREAS**, during the next 25 days after the fire, Arlington Park’s owners, led by Richard L. Duchossois, worked twenty hours per day to clean away the 7,000 tons of steel and 14,000 tons of other debris and created a tent village along with bleachers to enable the running of the Arlington Million on August 25, 1985 and;

**WHEREAS**, the Million is known as the “Miracle Million”, which was won by a horse from Great Britain named Teleprompter, owned by Lord Derby whose family’s name is used for the Kentucky Derby and derbies throughout the world and;

**WHEREAS**, Arlington Park received the highest honor in racing - the Eclipse Award - in 1985 “in recognition of the indomitable spirit of the officers and staff for a ‘Miracle’ well done.” August 15, 2015 marks the 30th Anniversary of the “Miracle Million, a significant day in the history of Arlington International Racecourse and the Village of Arlington Heights.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Thomas W. Hayes**, along with the Arlington Heights Village Board, do hereby recognize and congratulate Arlington International Racecourse on its 33rd running of the Arlington Million and the 30th anniversary of the “Miracle Million.”



**Thomas W. Hayes, Mayor**

**Trustee Carol Blackwood**  
**Trustee Joseph Farwell**  
**Trustee Thomas Glasgow**  
**Trustee Robin LaBedz**

**Trustee Bert Rosenberg**  
**Trustee John Scaletta**  
**Trustee Michael J. Sidor**  
**Trustee Jim Tinaglia**



*Presented August 3, 2015*