

**PROCLAMATION
CELEBRATING 85 YEARS
THE AMERICAN LEGION CHARLES EDWARDS POST 14 – BIRMINGHAM/TROY**

WHEREAS, A group of veterans serving in France conceived the idea to form a national organization of all veterans who served their country during periods of war or conflict, and in 1919, the American Legion was chartered by Congress; and

WHEREAS, **The American Legion–Charles Edwards Post 14** was chartered on August 10, 1920, with the signatures of 21 World War I Veterans. Named in honor of Charles Edwards, the first Birmingham resident killed in action in World War I, Post 14 includes the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 14 (chartered September 1962); the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 14 (chartered April 1978); and the American Legion Riders Chapter 14 (chartered February 2005); and

WHEREAS, The Charles Edwards Post 14 sparked national debate in the 1960s on the practice of segregation in cemeteries, and eventually, laws were passed to end discrimination in public cemeteries; and

WHEREAS, Members continue to support efforts for GI bills; benefits for Agent Orange casualties; rescue of MIAs; WW II, Korean and Viet Nam memorials; gifts to servicemen in Iraq, Selfridge Reservist families and the Troy Veterans Memorial Fund; and many other projects that benefit both veterans and the civilian community; and

WHEREAS, The Legion's motto "For God and Country" reflects a national heritage and an individual dedication to all veterans. In the spirit of comradeship, they pledge their assistance, and even their lives, to their fellow veterans; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Troy City Council does hereby congratulate **The American Legion CHARLES EDWARDS POST 14 – Birmingham/Troy** as it celebrates its **85th Anniversary** on August 6, 2005 and recognizes the tremendous activities of its dedicated members who assist fellow veterans and people in the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council join the citizens of this community in appreciation and celebration of **The American Legion CHARLES EDWARDS POST 14 — Birmingham/Troy 85th Anniversary**.

Presented this 6th day of August 2005.