

# PROCLAMATION

## MISSOULA COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, Klaus von Stutterheim has been instrumental in revitalizing the Seeley Lake Community Council in a manner that helps residents successfully and enthusiastically address important issues such as transportation, public safety, human health, economic development and environmental quality; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus leads by example in bringing together diverse community viewpoints in a friendly way that allows everyone to be heard, understood, appreciated and welcomed, through his personal life, though his work with nonprofits and through his work with his "We're on Facebook!" beloved community council; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus recognizes the difficulties facing local landowners relative to the multitude of public and private agencies managing land in the Clearwater and Blackfoot watersheds; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus continues to successfully bring diverse land managers together in a collaborative manner to help Missoula County residents find solutions to complex bureaucratic issues; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus quietly played a significant role in the acquisition of more than 310,000 acres of Plum Creek land by national land trusts in western Montana; and,

**WHEREAS**, those Montana Legacy lands are now in the capable hands of the public, and the resources they house will benefit generations of residents and visitors to Missoula County and Montana well into the future; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus is one of the first local residents to bring Missoula County to the table with a group of landowners to outline a years-long plan to protect the lands, waters, agriculture, wildlife and the way of life of those fortunate enough to live in and around The Meadow at Woodworth; and,

**WHEREAS**, by helping initiate the process to protect The Meadow, Klaus introduced community conservation to private sector land trusts that now work countywide on land conservation for all interested landowners; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus is a devoted fundraiser for the community who never fails to generate dollars for worthy causes, going so far as to proudly auction off pieces of the Berlin Wall alongside his personal stories of how he acquired those items of worldwide significance; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus is a compelling and persistent motivator who takes down any wall that hinders all humans rights to democracy, equity, inclusion and justice; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus helps people laugh, often uproariously, during difficult times while never underplaying the seriousness of the issues facing individuals in the community of Seeley Lake or Missoula County; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus derives a great deal of his strength and wisdom from his partner Beate, a woman who in her own right has made Montana a better, more welcoming place to live and visit; and,

**WHEREAS**, while you may have disagreed with Klaus on matters of importance, you can never, ever, fault him for providing free pizza and drinks at community council meetings (pre-COVID of course); and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus knows and loves Montana because of Popcorn, a horse of many hands belonging to Jack Rich, a horse who brought Klaus into and out of the Bob Marshall Wilderness and introduced him to the land of awe that Klaus has only enriched with his love of life, people and the wild; and,

**WHEREAS**, Klaus and Beate value their treasured sense of peace found on top of their well-loved horses, riding remote trails in the shadows of Montana's majestic mountains.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Missoula Board of County Commissioners hereby declares February 16, 2021, as

## **KLAUS VON STUTTERHEIM DAY**

in Missoula County. We urge all Missoula County residents to emulate the example of Klaus, and give back to their friends, neighbors and community in a way that leaves this place better than we found it.

### **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MISSOULA COUNTY**

DocuSigned by:  
*David Strohmaier*  
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David Strohmaier, Chair

*Josh Slotnick*  
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Josh Slotnick, Commissioner

DocuSigned by:  
*Juanita Vero*  
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Juanita Vero, Commissioner

