



*Township of Washington, Warren County,*

*State of New Jersey      Established 1849*

**PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE MATTHEW SELLA  
FOR HIS EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT**

**WHEREAS, Matthew Sella, Boy Scouts of America Troop 175, attained the designation of "Eagle Scout", Scouting's highest award; and**

**WHEREAS, Matthew is a Washington Township resident who has been an active scout for 10 years, starting as a Cub Scout in Pack 145 and then a Boy Scout in Troop 175 in Port Murray, under the leadership of Scoutmaster Mrs. Linda Hughes, and has contributed over three hundred service hours to complete his project; and**

**WHEREAS, Antler Ridge Wildlife Sanctuary, a 120-acre preserved farm located in Warren County, New Jersey, is a wildlife rehabilitation center that provides vital care and treatment to sick, injured or orphaned wildlife.**

**WHEREAS, Matthew's Eagle Scout project involved partnering with the Site Director, Kelly Simonetti, of Antler Ridge Wildlife Sanctuary and involved the planning, organization, solicitation of materials, and donations to create an eight foot by four foot ground hog habitat. The enclosure includes two removable release boxes, allowing not only a shelter but also a safe means to transport the animals upon release back into the wild. Within the habitat itself, the Sanctuary staff will be able to place items that will "rehab" the ground hogs, teaching them how to climb, burrow, travel through tunnels and other life skills needed to survive. Furthermore, the enclosure is designed for the safety of the animals with means to keep them from burrowing out and keep predators from getting into the habitat. The staff and public will be able to observe the ground hogs from outside the habitat as it is surrounded by half-inch mesh wire. There are two access doors with automatic closures that prevent an animal from slipping out and ensure the safety of the staff when entering the enclosure. The main access is lockable in order to protect unauthorized entry. The habitat is modular in design so that it can be easily taken apart and moved to an alternate location, if required. Plan designs were provided, which provides steps to create other structures in the future and \$130.00 of extra funds earned were donated to the Sanctuary.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Township Committee of the Township of Washington extends to Matthew Sella individually, collectively, and with great pride, their sincere congratulations for completing his Eagle Scout Project and achieving this highest of scouting awards which symbolizes the American Ideal of good citizenship; and**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Township Committee wishes Matthew the best as he gathers together with his family, friends and troop to conduct his Eagle Scout Court of Honor on August the 22<sup>nd</sup> at Meadow Breeze Park and much success in all his future endeavors.**

**Proclaimed this 22nd day of August, 2015**

ATTEST

*Anna C. Godfrey*  
Township Clerk

*Robert J. Klingel*  
Mayor Robert J. Klingel, Washington Township