

Proclamation

Whereas, in 1811, Friedrich Franz Karl Hecker was born in Angelbachtal, Baden-Württemberg Germany; and

Whereas, Friedrich Franz Karl Hecker studied law at the University of Heidelberg; and

Whereas, Friedrich Franz Karl Hecker was one of the leaders who championed democratic reforms in the 1848 uprisings in Germany; and

Whereas, like many other "Forty-Eighters", Friedrich Franz Karl Hecker eventually immigrated to the United States. In the fall of 1848, he settled on a farm near Summerfield, Illinois; and

Whereas Friedrich Franz Karl Hecker, a strong abolitionist, helped found and organize the Illinois Republican Party in 1858. He was a political ally of Belleville's Gustave Koerner; and

Whereas, during the Civil War, Friedrich Franz Karl Hecker commanded the 24th and 82nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiments. The 24th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment was based in Belleville, Illinois; and

Whereas, Friedrich Franz Karl Hecker died on March 24, 1881, and was buried in the Summerfield Cemetery.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jenny Gain Meyer, Mayor of the City of Belleville, Illinois, hereby recognize the life of Friedrich Franz Karl Hecker and the rich history of his life in America.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the corporate seal of the City of Belleville to be affixed this 8th day of September, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and twenty-five.

Pride in the Past... Promise for the Future



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JG Meyer", is written over a horizontal line.

Jenny Gain Meyer, Mayor
Dated this 8th day of September, 2025