

## Office of the Mayor



# Proclamation

### The Round-About Book Club 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**WHEREAS,** the Round-About Book Club was founded on December 3, 1900 and is celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of continuous membership; and

**WHEREAS,** the Club was formed by Miss Alice Magee and the Reverend Joseph Lyons Ewing, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church, as a way of encouraging a social and literary group in the area of Jamesburg and Monroe. Members and their families met in each other's homes in an atmosphere of camaraderie and elegance, balanced by friendship and development of culture and literacy; and

**WHEREAS,** central to the Club's unique history is the practice of purchasing one single copy of each title to be read throughout the course of the year with members passing the books on a set schedule and sequence; and

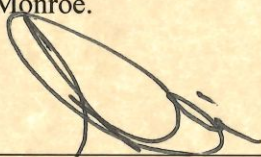
**WHEREAS,** the genius of the original founders to begin with 26 members who passed books every two weeks resulted in the potential to read 26 new books every year. Sometimes seen as an oddity and other times as a great freedom, the group does not regularly discuss the books since each person has a different book to read at a given time, taking a full year to complete circulation; and

**WHEREAS,** one of the most endearing meeting features is sharing "News Flashes". Anyone having something noteworthy to share can briefly tell of the news, often creating the most entertaining stories to rival our favorite authors' skills; and

**WHEREAS,** the RABC, as it is fondly referred to, has lasted since the Presidency of Grover Cleveland, throughout countless advances in science, through medical emergencies, weather catastrophes, financial disasters, wars, depressions and space exploration. Some of our existing members have belonged to the Club for over 25 years, with the longest current record being 43 years. Even though we are now able to buy books online, borrow them electronically from libraries, read them on personal devices and even have them read to us while we drive or take walks, the RABC is like a good book: You just can't put it down!

**NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that I, Stephen Dalina, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, December 3, 2025, as the day to celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Round-About Book Club in the Township of Monroe.**

Dated: December 1, 2025

  
STEPHEN DALINA, MAYOR