

**VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO  
RESOLUTION 2025-55**

**HONORING THE LEGACY OF WHEELING GAUNT AND APPROVING THE ANNUAL  
DISTRIBUTION OF FLOUR AND SUGAR TO VILLAGE WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS**

**WHEREAS**, Wheeling Gaunt, who was born into slavery in about 1815 did, through his own wit and will purchase his own freedom as well as that of his wife and a friend and did thereafter make his way to Yellow Springs, Ohio in the early 1860's, where he became a successful and respected member of the Village, and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Gaunt, at his passing in 1894, left in his will a bequest that the "poor, worthy widows" of Yellow Springs "regardless of their race" be given "25 pounds of flour" during the Christmas season, this purchase to be made from the sale of crops grown on what is now Gaunt Park, and

**WHEREAS**, residents of Yellow Springs to this day enjoy the benefits of Gaunt Park as a result of the generosity of Wheeling Gaunt, and

**WHEREAS**, as a nod to the changing times, Mr. Gaunt's bequest has, over the years been amended to offer 5 pounds of flour and 5 pounds of sugar to both widows and widowers, all of whom are considered worthy, and

**WHEREAS**, as the holiday season approaches and we think of ways we can share our love and concern for all members of this community, it is fitting that we honor the memory of Wheeling Gaunt and the spirit of his gift in the manner he intended,

**NOW, THEREFORE, COUNCIL FOR THE VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO  
HEREBY RESOLVES THAT:**

**Section 1.** The Village Manager is hereby authorized and directed to procure the traditional supplies and distribute them as stipulated in the deed for Gaunt Park and as expanded by Council in 2012.

**Section 2.** The expenditure of up to \$1,000.00 from the Widows Fund #902-1703-54102 is hereby authorized, as provided in the Village's annual appropriations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Stokes, President of Council

Passed: 10-20-2025

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council

Roll Call:

Stokes\_Y\_\_

DeVore Leonard\_Y\_\_

Housh\_Y\_\_

Brown\_\_Y\_\_

Gustafson\_\_ABSENT\_\_