

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** In the 1800's, the trip from Phoenix to Payson took eight to twelve hours using old military and tribal roads; and
- WHEREAS,** In the early 1900's, construction of the Roosevelt Dam began and called out for better roads to accommodate the workers; and,
- WHEREAS,** On March, 1933, Harvey Bush began a new roadway utilizing the CCC construction crew. In 1934, the road was completed and cut the traveling time to nine hours; and,
- WHEREAS,** A petition by local citizens to Senator Carl Hayden caused the road to be graded and shortened, allowing the trip to take only three to four hours, and due to the straightening of the road caused it to be called the Beeline Highway; and,
- WHEREAS,** On July 19, 1958, a ribbon cutting heralded the opening of the two-lane paved Beeline Highway to Payson and opened up the Rim Country to tourism and growth.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, F. Robert Edwards, Mayor of the Town of Payson, Arizona, join with the Northern Gila County Historical Society, and call upon the citizens of Payson to recognize the

50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BEELINE HIGHWAY

With appropriate ceremonies and observances during the year 2008.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the Town of Payson, Arizona, to be affixed this 7th day of February, 2008.

F. Robert Edwards, Mayor

ATTEST:

Silvia Smith, Town Clerk

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