

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 070517)

RESOLUTION

Proclaiming June 21-24, 2007 as *Newspaper Columnist Days* in Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, The National Society of Newspaper Columnists was founded in 1977 in Virginia Beach by Richard Des Ruisseaux, Big Bob Hill and Lawrence Maddy; and

WHEREAS, The society began as an annual convention to socialize and share stories with columnists throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, The National Society of Newspaper Columnists has developed into an organization dedicated to helping columnists become better at their jobs; and

WHEREAS, The Society developed a code of conduct to promote ethical professionalism. The Code of Conduct states, "As a newspaper columnist, I will strive to inform, educate and entertain my readers. I will work hard to provoke them to think whether they agree or disagree with my efforts to depict truth as I see it," and goes on to state, "I will always remember that my job is a privilege and honor because being a columnist represents the basic American rights of free speech and open discussion"; and

WHEREAS, In 1993, the Society began issuing the Ernie Pyle Lifetime Achievement Award to those who uphold the finest traditions of newspaper column writing; and

WHEREAS, To encourage future columnists, The National Society of Newspaper Columnists sponsors a national writing contest for collegiate columnists. The winners each receive a scholarship stipend; and

WHEREAS, Each year, The National Society of Newspaper Columnists holds a Conference for members and guests to improve their skills by attending panels, programs and lectures; and

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WHEREAS, This year, the 31st Annual Conference is being held in Philadelphia and will include tours of the Liberty Bell, Independence Mall, The Philadelphia Museum of Art and Citizens Bank Park; now therefore

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, That Council does hereby proclaim June 21-24, 2007 as *Newspaper Columnist Days* in Philadelphia.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Stu Bykofsky on behalf of The National Society of Newspaper Columnists as evidence of the sincere sentiments and recognition of this legislative body.

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CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the thirty-first of May, 2007.

Anna C. Verna
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Patricia Rafferty
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Kenney

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Kenney, Rizzo, Greenlee, Krajewski, Goode, DiCicco, Reynolds Brown, Miller, Clarke, Savage and Campbell