

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, The Casements was built in 1913 by the Reverend Harwood Huntington and his wife, Grace Beecher Goodhue. It was named for the many casement windows adorning the building; and

**WHEREAS**, its most famous resident, John D. Rockefeller, purchased the home as his winter residence in 1918. He had many famous guests at The Casements, such as Henry Ford, Will Rogers, and Sir Malcolm Campbell. He became known in the area as Neighbor John for his elaborate Christmas parties, his love of golf, and for handing out dimes to his neighbors and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1937, Mr. Rockefeller passed away at The Casements. The Rockefeller family sold the home in 1940. Over the next 20 years, it would serve as a girls' preparatory school and then a home for the elderly, but gradually fell into great disrepair. In 1959, the dilapidated property was purchased by the Ormond Hotel Corporation with plans for development, but several concerned citizens started a campaign to *Save The Casements*. In 1972, The Casements was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The next year, it was purchased by the City of Ormond Beach and restored to serve as a cultural and civic center with creative experiences for all ages, including classes, exhibits, events, a gift shop, and meeting spaces. We believe John D. would be proud of the recent Rockefeller Gardens renovation to enhance the community experience of The Casements and the park; and

**WHEREAS**, The Casements, now known as the "*Jewel of Ormond Beach*," is a thriving civic and cultural center for the whole community to enjoy, celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the unveiling and dedication of The Casements Centennial Gazebo and 100 Year Historical Timeline;

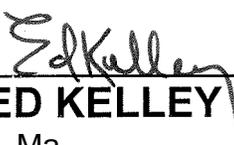
**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Ed Kelley, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim October 19, 2013, as a day for

## THE CASEMENTS CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

in the City of Ormond Beach and urge all citizens to join with me in celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of The Casements.

**IN WITNESS-WHEREOF**, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, to be affixed this 19th day of October in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen.



  
ED KELLEY  
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