

**SUGARCREEK TOWNSHIP
RESOLUTION NO. 2024.02.28.02**

IN RE: Authorizing the Assistant Township Administrator to Prepare
an Application for a Buckeye Impact Grant from America 250-Ohio.

WHEREAS, America 250-Ohio provides an ideal opportunity to amplify the stories of Ohio's contribution to the U.S. for the past 250+ years; and

WHEREAS, WWII was a defining moment in our country's history and in the history of our world; and

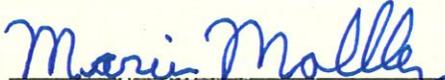
WHEREAS Jim "Pee Wee" Martin, was a member of the 101st Airborne Division, known as the "Screaming Eagles," and parachuted into Normandy on June 5, 1944, one of the first American forces to land. Four months later, he and his unit were part of the British-led Operation Market Garden in the Netherlands and Germany and was part of the 101st-led defense of Bastogne, Belgium, stopping the German army's last-ditch attempt to split Allied forces in the Battle of the Bulge; and

WHEREAS, Jim "Pee Wee" Martin was an active and engaged resident of Sugarcreek Township for almost his entire adult life frequently providing input on issues that would impact our community; and

WHEREAS, Jim "Pee Wee" Martin continued meetings with the public to carry forward an eyewitness account of his unit's experiences in WWII until his death on Patriot Day in 2022 at the age of 101; and

WHEREAS, Jim "Pee Wee" Martin wrote in a social media message in March of 2019, "The level of interest shown by younger generations in our wartime service has gladdened the heart of my WWII generation. So many of you have worked in a variety of ways to ensure that the legacy and lessons of World War II will not be forgotten. We old veterans are aware of it and we appreciate it."; and

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of Sugarcreek Township, Greene County, State of Ohio, does authorize Cara Tilford, Assistant Township Administrator, to prepare and execute an application for a Buckeye Impact Grant in the amount of \$50,000 for a statue of Jim "Pee Wee" Martin to be commissioned and placed in our Veterans Memorial so that future generations will continue to understand the impact of the wartime service of Jim "Pee Wee" Martin and the role he and his fellow veterans played in the shaping our of world.


Marvin Moeller, Chairperson


Fred Cramer, Vice Chairperson


Carolyn Destefani, Trustee



Richard Demko, Fiscal Officer