

**RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF BORDERLAND HARDWARE
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS IN BUSINESS**

WHEREAS, Borderland Hardware is the oldest hardware store in Mercedes, celebrating its 100th year in business; and

WHEREAS, in 1908, traveling salesman E.E. “Jack” Johnson first visited Mercedes and later opened Borderland Hardware with an associate on January 1, 1919. Together they maintained and operated the store on Texas and Second Street with a complete line of hardware and implements; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Robert Eilers moved to Mercedes after serving in the U.S. Army during WWII, beginning his employment at Borderland Hardware on October 1, 1949 and worked his way up to manager in 1955; and

WHEREAS, when the store and business was dissolved on October 1, 1969, the Eilers family purchased Borderland Hardware of Mercedes having family members Loretta, Robert’s wife, join the business in 1966; Kenneth, their son, join in 1977, and Debbie, Kenneth’s wife, join in 1992; and

WHEREAS, after eighty years at the location Texas and Business 83, the Borderland Hardware inventory and store was moved to the new location at Ohio and Business 83. The additional space allowed the business to broaden many lines of merchandise and provide room for expansion and hardware services; and

WHEREAS, Robert Eilers received the prestigious “Gold Hammer” award from Estwing Co. in 1999 for his 50 years of dedicated service to the hardware industry. Kenneth Eilers was elected president of the National Retail Hardware Association in 2009. After all this time, there are some things that remain the same: Being a locally-owned and operated business, and staying true to the commitment of providing the very best in merchandise and service to the many good people who visit the store.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby congratulate and honors Borderland Hardware on its 100th year anniversary.

Approved this 26th day of November 2019.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO “EDDIE” CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

JOE M. FLORES
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk