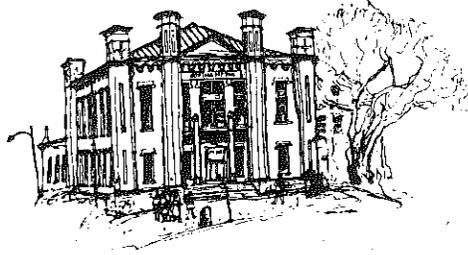


Proclamation



**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Medicare's 50th Birthday July 30, 2015

- WHEREAS, On July 30th, 1965 President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed Medicare into law as a federal health insurance program; and
- WHEREAS, In the past 50 years Medicare has provided access to health care and increased economic security for some of the most vulnerable Americans including seniors, low-income parents and children, and people with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS, Today about 55 million Americans depend on Medicare for quality and affordable health care; and
- WHEREAS, Over the course of 5 decades, Medicare has become one of the most efficient and well-managed health insurance programs in the world spending only 2% of its fees on administrative overhead; and
- WHEREAS, Medicare is a comprehensive, accessible program that must be protected as it has improved the lives of our neediest populations and their families for the past fifty years; and so now
- THEREFORE, I, Mayor David J. Narkewicz, do hereby recognize and celebrate July 30, 2015 as the 50th Birthday of Medicare, asking the citizens of Northampton to recognize that Medicare is on track to improve access to higher quality health care for Americans as a basic human right for the next 50 years and beyond.



In Witness whereof, I have set my hand and imprinted the seal of the City of Northampton on this 9th day of July, 2015.

Mayor David J. Narkewicz