

Proclamation



**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MEMORIAL DAY
May 28, 2017**

WHEREAS, Memorial Day each year serves as a solemn reminder of the scourge of war and its bitter aftermath of sorrow; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 100th Anniversary of World War I “The Great War” we remember the men and women who so honorably served during the war to end all wars; and

WHEREAS, More than four million American families sent their sons and daughters to serve in uniform during the Great War, and the over 189,000 Massachusetts men and women served in the U.S. military during the war. Massachusetts paid a very steep price with the death of 5,775 of its sons and daughters who died in service, including the 31 from Northampton; and

WHEREAS, After the war, hundreds of Veterans died from their wounds or from tuberculosis and exposure to gas. Many treated right here in Leeds at the medical center campus, which was created in 1922 just after Congress had created the nation’s Veterans Bureau – and which would later become today’s VA; and

WHEREAS, We honor Renée “Mac” LeVay an Army Veteran of World War II who fought in many battles while assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, including “The Battle of the Bulge”, a lifetime resident of Leeds and the founder of the Leeds and in Veterans Memorial Park

WHEREAS, the freedoms and liberties we enjoy are a direct result of the courage, devotion, and sacrifice of the members of our Armed Forces; and so

**NOW,
THEREFORE,** I, Mayor David J. Narkewicz, do hereby declare Memorial Day a special day of remembrance on which we, the citizens, rededicate ourselves to the task of honoring all Veterans who have passed, and the families who loved and supported them.



In Witness whereof, I have set my hand and imprinted the seal of the City of Northampton this 28th day of May, 2017.

Mayor David J. Narkewicz