

Proclamation



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech

June 22-25, 2017

WHEREAS, Founded in 1867 in Northampton, MA, Clarke became the first school in the country to teach deaf students using the oral method and the first to recognize the importance of successfully mainstreaming deaf students into their neighborhood schools; and

WHEREAS, Through its partnership with Smith College, Clarke was also the first to train teachers in auditory/oral education; and

WHEREAS, Over the last two decades, universal newborn hearing screening and advanced technology like cochlear implants have made it possible for deaf and hard of hearing children to learn to listen and talk at earlier ages than ever before; and

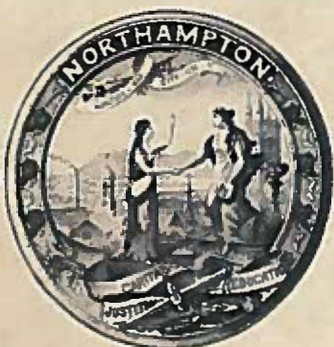
WHEREAS, On July 22nd-25th of this year, Clarke Alumni will gather together to celebrate Clarke's 150 year history at the Northampton campus and to honor the accomplishments of students, educators, and health professionals. Their dedication and innovation have been an integral part of achieving its mission of providing children who are deaf and hard of hearing with the listening, learning and spoken language skills they need to succeed.

**NOW,
THEREFORE,** I, David J. Narkewicz, Mayor of the City of Northampton, do hereby proclaim June 22nd-25th as

CLARKE SCHOOLS FOR HEARING AND SPEECH DAYS

throughout Northampton. I encourage all residents to recognize the valuable contributions made by the Clarke Schools in our city, nationally and across the world. We celebrate their important work and look forward to their next century and a half of impressive achievements.

In Witness Whereof, I have set my hand and imprinted the seal of the City of Northampton, this 23rd day of June, in the year 2017.



Mayor David J. Narkewicz