

PROCLAMATION

Declaring May as Poppy Month and May 27, 2026 as National Poppy Day

WHEREAS, poppies are worn and displayed as a symbolic tribute to our fallen and the future of living veterans and servicemembers; and

WHEREAS, at the end of World War I, the American Legion Family adopted the poppy as a symbol of freedom and the blood sacrificed by troops in wartimes; and

WHEREAS, the use of the poppy symbolically comes from the poem In Flanders Fields, which movingly begins, "In Flanders Fields the poppies blow, between the crosses, row on row," referring to the poppies that sprang up in the churned earth of battlefields across Belgium and France where soldiers died fighting; and

WHEREAS, a nation at peace must be reminded of the price of war and the debt owed to those who have died in war; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion Auxiliary has pledged to remind America annually of this debt through the distribution of the memorial flower.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Roxanne Stephens, Mayor of Hollister, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim May 27, 2026, as National Poppy Day and ask that all citizens pay tribute to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom by wearing the Memorial Poppy on this day.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the seal of the City of Hollister this 4th day of May 2026.

Roxanne Stephens, Mayor

ATTEST:

Angie Gonzalez, MMC Acting City Clerk