

# Proclamation



CITY OF NORTHAMPTON  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## Veterans' Day November 11, 2020

**WHEREAS,** from 1776 to present, the citizens of Northampton have served and continue to proudly serve in our Nation's armed forces; and

**WHEREAS,** It is the duty of all civilians to respect and honor those who have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life by making selfless sacrifices on our behalf during peace and war; and

**WHEREAS,** These brave men and women who have served and protected the U.S. come from all walks of life and we know them as family members, friends, neighbors and coworkers playing an important role in our community; and


**WHEREAS,** During these days of increased need due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our Department of Veteran Services continues to serve more veterans and their dependents per capita than any other city or town in the Commonwealth. This includes combatting veteran homelessness by supporting or rehousing over 500 housing insecure veterans; and

**WHEREAS,** The City of Northampton joined other area communities in adopting a resolution in memory of the 76 veterans – including five Northampton residents – who tragically died at the Holyoke Soldiers' Home after contracting COVID-19 due to lack of sufficient space and staff and calling upon state leaders to expedite increased funding and the construction of a new, modern facility to ensure such a tragedy is never repeated; and so

**NOW,  
THEREFORE,** I, Mayor David J. Narkewicz, do hereby proclaim Veterans' Day, November 11, 2020, to be a day for the citizens of Northampton, Florence, and Leeds to pay tribute and remember the service and sacrifice of our community's veterans and military personnel.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and imprinted the Seal of the City of Northampton.*



  
Mayor David J. Narkewicz