

City of Laguna Niguel



Proclamation

Celebrating *National Poppy Day* *May 27, 2022*

WHEREAS, May 27, 2022, is designated as National Poppy Day, recognizing the importance of honoring those who have worn our nation's uniform; and commending American Legion Auxiliary Unit 281 for their work in support of Veterans and active duty military servicemembers

WHEREAS, Poppy Days have become a familiar tradition in almost every American community. This distribution of the bright red memorial flower to the public is one of the oldest and most widely recognized programs of the American Legion Auxiliary; and

WHEREAS, Connecting the visual image of the poppy with the sacrifice of service made by our veterans has been an important goal of the American Legion Auxiliary Poppy Program since its inception in 1921; and

WHEREAS, poppies are worn and displayed as a symbolic future 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. The symbolic use of the poppy 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-up earth of newly dug soldiers' graves over parts of Belgium and France; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Family has long utilized the red poppy as its official flower, symbolizing the blood shed by those who have served in our U.S. military, and the meaning and symbolism of the poppy, mirroring the manner in which the poppy is symbolically showcased in England and Canada in celebratory fashion on their Remembrance Day, also known as Armistice Day and Poppy Day; and

WHEREAS, wearing a poppy will unite citizens from across the country who decide to show their patriotism; and

WHEREAS, May 27, 2022, would be an appropriate date to designate as National Poppy Day®.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I Mayor Elaine Gennawey, on behalf of the Laguna Niguel City Council, do hereby (1) support the designation of May 27, 2022 as National Poppy day; (2) commends American Legion Auxiliary Unit 281 in their support of veterans and active duty servicemembers, and (3) encourages all citizens, residents and visitors in Laguna Niguel to join in observing this day to honor every servicemember who has died in the name of liberty, freedom and democracy while also showing their support for living veterans, servicemembers and their families.

Elaine Gennawey, Mayor

Office of the Mayor