

Mayor Christian Price

Whereas, poppies are worn and displayed as a symbolic tribute to our fallen and the future of living veterans and service members; and

Whereas, at the end of World War I, the American Legion 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, 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 it is fitting that as The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary approach their 100th anniversaries, they expand 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christian Price, Mayor of the City of Maricopa, do hereby proclaim May 26, 2018 as “**National Poppy Day**” in the City of Maricopa and encourage all citizens to join in observing this day to honor every service member who has died in the name of liberty, freedom and democracy while also showing their support for living veterans, service members and their families.

Dated this 15th day of May, 2018

Christian Price, Mayor