

# Proclamation

*City of Oneida, County of Madison, State of New York*

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida in the State of New York has always supported its military veteran population, and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782, and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who have been wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America, and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly... make sure we never forget, and

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida has a well decorated veteran population, including many Purple Heart recipients, and

WHEREAS, the City of Oneida appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the honor and support they have earned; **now therefore**

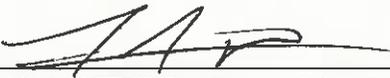
I, Leo N. Matzke, Mayor of the City of Oneida, do hereby proclaim the City of Oneida as

## A PURPLE HEART CITY

and encourage the citizens of the City of Oneida to show their appreciation for the sacrifices of the Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedoms, to acknowledge their courage, and to show them the honor and support they have earned.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Oneida to be imprinted on this 28th day of October, 2016.

  
LEO N. MATZKE, Mayor of the City of Oneida