



Proclamation

By the Mayor of Prattville, Alabama

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington on August 7, 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 any member of the United States Armed Services wounded or killed in combat with a declared enemy of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Military Order of Purple Heart, Chartered by an act of Congress, 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 Tri-County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1349 and the American Legion Post 122 are both located here in Prattville and have granted their full support to this initiative; and

WHEREAS, Highway 31, a Blue Star Highway runs through the City of Prattville, and our city is adjacent to I-65, which is part of the National Purple Heart Trail; and

WHEREAS, the City of Prattville was the founder and home to River Region Honor Flight, which honored all World War II veterans and encompassed many Purple Heart medal recipients; and

WHEREAS, the City of Prattville has had several residents make the ultimate sacrifice in all of the world wars since 1898 and has a number of residents that have been awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat. We appreciate the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients have made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage and show them the support they have earned.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Gillespie Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville, Alabama, do hereby recognize the 231st anniversary of the medal's creation by General George Washington and declare August 7, 2013 to be

National Purple Heart Day

in the City of Prattville, Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Seal of the City of
Prattville on the 6th day of August 2013.

Bill Gillespie Jr.
Mayor Bill Gillespie Jr.