



# PROCLAMATION *of the* TOWN OF KNIGHTDALE

## MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE DAY

**WHEREAS**, the monarch butterfly is an iconic North American species whose multigenerational migration and metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly has captured the imagination of millions of Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, both the western and eastern monarch populations have seen significant declines with less than one percent of the western monarch population remaining, while the eastern population has fallen by as much as ninety percent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Knightdale recognizes that human health ultimately depends on well-functioning ecosystems and that biodiverse regions can better support food production, healthy soil and air quality and can foster healthy connections between humans and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS**, cities, towns and counties have a critical role to play to help save the monarch butterfly, and the Town of Knightdale is striving to become a leader; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 15th, I, Mayor Jessica Day, signed the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge and have officially committed to taking meaningful action to protect the monarch butterfly; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Knightdale is committed to raising awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat by displaying educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitats; by maintaining recognition as a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts; and by supporting a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap; and

**WHEREAS**, every resident of the Town of Knightdale can make a difference for the monarch by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide habitat for the monarch and pollinators in locations where people live, work, learn, play and worship.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jessica Day, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of Town of Knightdale, do hereby proclaim April 19th, 2023 as Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day in the Town of Knightdale and encourage all residents to participate in community activities that support and celebrate monarch conservation.

This the 19<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2023.

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Jessica Day, Mayor

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Heather M. Smith, Town Clerk