

WHEREAS it is one of the responsibilities of the Mayor of the City of Westerville to recognize occasions of outstanding significance;

WHEREAS, Memorial Day weekend contains many events that will honor our military heroes past, present and future; and

WHEREAS, the Westerville Sunrise Rotary Club will host one of the most patriotic events of the year: the fifth-annual Field of Heroes at the Westerville Sports Park, 325 North Cleveland Avenue (across from the Westerville Community Center); the Field will officially open at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 25, 2013 with a ceremony featuring Major General Deborah Ashenurst, Ohio's Adjutant General, and throughout the weekend will feature a concert with the 122nd Army Band from Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, a 5K Run/Walk sponsored by OhioHealth, patriotic bus tours, a Flag Retirement Ceremony, and will close with ceremony on Monday at 12:30 p.m.

WHEREAS, the fifth-annual Field of Heroes will offer a special tribute, presented by the Westerville For Honor Flight Committee, to the men and women who served our country in the Korean War, in recognition of the 60th anniversary of the Armistice for this, the "Forgotten War," and,

WHEREAS, the Eyes of Freedom, a traveling memorial depicting the fallen of Lima Company 3/25, will be on display Saturday, Sunday, and Monday from noon to 5p.m. over the Memorial Day Weekend in City Council Chambers; the Eyes of Freedom illustrates one of the hardest hit units in Operation Iraqi Freedom; the life size portraits reflect the thousands of men and women in every branch of armed forces who have served, fought and paid the ultimate sacrifice defending Freedom; and

WHEREAS, the Westerville Patriots Tour will be given on May 26, 2013 by the Westerville Division of Police/Explorers with stops at Otterbein Cemetery, National Guard Armory and Veterans Memorial, Lima Company Memorial and First Responders Park; and

WHEREAS, the American Legion Young-Budd Post 171 will lead the Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 27, 2013 at 9:45 a.m. forming at the intersection of College Avenue and State Street, laying a wreath at the Veteran's Memorial and ending at Otterbein Cemetery.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Cocuzzi, Mayor of the City of Westerville, Ohio, do hereby proclaim May 25, 2013 through May 27, 2013 as

"HONORING OUR HEROES WEEKEND"

in Westerville and recognize this weekend as an opportunity for us all to come together as a community to remember, to honor, and to heal.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused my seal to be affixed this 21st day of May, in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen.

Kathleen Cocuzzi, Mayor