

**PROCLAMATION**

**DECLARING LANCASTER COUNTY AS A PURPLE HEART COUNTY**

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

**WHEREAS**, in 1932, the 200<sup>TH</sup> anniversary of President Washington's birth, the Purple Heart was revived as a medal recognizing American soldiers wounded or killed in the line of duty; and

**WHEREAS**, the Military Order of the Purple Heart has been chartered by an act of Congress; and

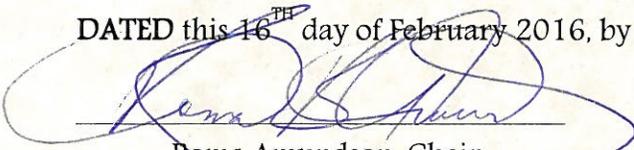
**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly, make sure we never forget those so decorated; and

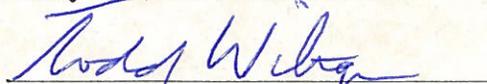
**WHEREAS**, there are many Lancaster County residents who made the ultimate sacrifice for the cause of freedom, and many combat wounded veterans and Purple Heart recipients who live in the County; and

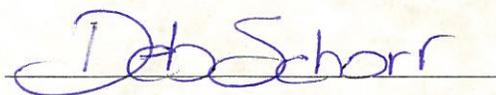
**WHEREAS**, the Military Order of the Purple Heart has respectfully requested the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners to designate Lancaster County as a Purple Heart County.

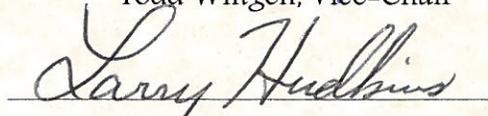
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners does hereby proudly proclaim Lancaster County, Nebraska as a **PURPLE HEART COUNTY**, and all residents of Lancaster County are encouraged to recognize and honor the sacrifice and bravery of all veterans who have been wounded or killed serving their country.

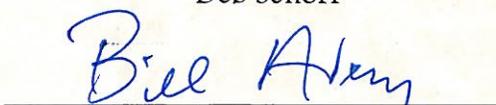
DATED this 16<sup>TH</sup> day of February 2016, by the Lancaster County Board of Commissioners.

  
Roma Amundson, Chair

  
Todd Wiltgen, Vice-Chair

  
Deb Schorr

  
Larry Hudkins

  
Bill Avery

