

County of Santa Rosa

PROCLAMATION

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; 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, 2006 marks the 75th Anniversary of the Purple Heart, with over 800,000 Purple Heart medals awarded to the brave men and women of our county wounded or killed in military action, and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Santa Rosa County wish to specifically honor Purple Heart recipients and their families for their heroism and self-sacrifice, and the inclusion of the Purple Heart Monument as a permanent fixture within the Santa Rosa County Veterans Memorial Park seemed a fitting tribute to these brave men and women who sacrificed so much in service of freedom and our Country.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, the Santa Rosa County Board of County Commissioners hereby declares Saturday, November 11, 2006

PURPLE HEART MONUMENT DAY

in Santa Rosa County in honor of the Purple Heart, its recipients, and the dedication of the Monument within the Veterans Memorial Park.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a vote of 5 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 absent this 9th day of November, 2006.



**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SANTA ROSA COUNTY, FLORIDA**

BY _____
Tom Stewart, Chairman