

Proclamation



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COUNTY OF HORRY
CITY OF NORTH MYRTLE BEACH

HONORING POLLY LOWMAN AND THE NORTH MYRTLE BEACH TIMES FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the distinguishing characteristic of a weekly or community newspaper is its commitment to serve the information needs of a particular community; and

WHEREAS, America's community newspapers began in Boston on September 25, 1690, with the publication of *Publick Occurrences: Both Foreign and Domestic* by Benjamin Harris; and

WHEREAS, since those early days, there have been thousands of community newspapers published throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, despite the emergence of new information technologies such as the internet, community newspapers continue to thrive and play an important role in society; and

WHEREAS, it is currently estimated that over 150 million people are informed, educated and entertained by a community newspaper each week; and

WHEREAS, during the week of February 22, 1971, Polly Lowman launched the *North Myrtle Beach Times*, a weekly community newspaper intended to help encourage cohesiveness and unity by providing a singular source of factual information to a city made up of four towns incorporated in 1968; and

WHEREAS, the *North Myrtle Beach Times* has consistently provided information of value on everything from the impacts of devastating hurricanes and recovery efforts, to a local take on national social and political issues, the impacts of pandemics, the good deeds of civic clubs, the noteworthy achievements of individual residents, and much more; and

WHEREAS, the *North Myrtle Beach Times* founder and publisher Polly Lowman has for a half-century successfully guided her community newspaper through times of plenty and scarcity, and times of peace and upheaval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City of North Myrtle Beach honors Polly Lowman and the North Myrtle Beach Times for having achieved 50 years of uninterrupted service to the North Myrtle Beach community, and the City encourages its citizens and visitors to reach out to Polly Lowman to acknowledge this singular achievement.

Dated this 1st day of March 2021.

City Clerk

Marilyn Hatley, Mayor