HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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THOMAS H. THOMPSON Chairman CHARLES D. MESSER Vice-Chairman J. MICHAEL EDNEY GRADY H. HAWKINS WILLIAM G. LAPSLEY

PROCLAMATION

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY

- **WHEREAS**, World War II began in Europe on September 1, 1939, with the invasion of Poland by the forces of the Nazi Reich; and
- WHEREAS, in time the nations of the world were engaged in a great and titanic struggle to preserve civilization; and
- WHEREAS, World War II became a global war, involving millions of people from throughout the world; and
- WHEREAS, at 3:00 p.m. on May 8, 1945, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill broadcast to the world that the war in Europe had been won, victory over the brutal oppressor had been achieved; and
- WHEREAS, at 9:00 a.m. Washington, D.C. time, then President Harry S. Truman announced,

"This is a solemn but a glorious hour. I only wish that Franklin D. Roosevelt had lived to witness this day. General Eisenhower informs me that the forces of Germany have surrendered to the United Nations. The flags of freedom fly all over Europe.

For this victory we join in offering our thanks to the Providence which has guided and sustained us through the dark days of adversity.

Our rejoicing is sobered and subdued by a supreme consciousness of the terrible price we have paid to rid the world of Hitler and his evil band. Let us not forget, my fellow Americans, the sorrow and the heartache which today abide in the homes of so many of our neighbors - neighbors whose most priceless possession has been rendered as a sacrifice to redeem our liberty.

We can repay the debt which we owe to our God, to our dead and to our children only by work - by ceaseless devotion to the responsibilities which lie ahead of us." and

WHEREAS, Friday, May 8, 2015 is the anniversary of VE Day (Victory in Europe Day), marking 70 years since the end of the Second World War in Europe;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, do hereby adopt this Proclamation, in commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of VE Day, with the deepest, heart-felt gratitude to the "Greatest Generation" whose toil and sacrifice allow and provide for us this privilege. May God bless America and those who serve and protect our God-given freedom.

This the 4th day of May, 2015.

Thomas Thompson, Chairman Henderson County Board of Commissioners

Attest:

Teresa L. Wilson, Clerk to the Board