PROCLAMATION

PROCLAIMING APRIL THROUGH OCTOBER 2018 AS
MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE DAYS

WHEREAS, the City of Joplin has been inspired by a butterfly effect in its recovery, rebirth and transformation after the May 2011 tornado; and

WHEREAS, the monarch butterfly is the iconic North American butterfly species whose migration and metamorphosis has captured the imagination of millions of Americans as a symbol of hope, change, and transformation; and

WHEREAS, the monarch butterfly population has plummeted 90 percent in the past 20 years due to widespread destruction of breeding habitat and environmental stress; and

WHEREAS, the Midwest, including Joplin, is a vital breeding ground for the monarch butterfly generation traveling to Mexico; and

WHEREAS, cities, towns, and counties have a critical role to play in helping to save the monarch butterfly; and

WHEREAS, Joplin has already succeeded in creating healthy monarch habitats in several parks, and previously signed the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge; and

WHEREAS, every citizen of Joplin can make a difference for the monarch by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide habitat for both the monarch and other pollinators in locations where people live, work, learn, play, and worship.

NOW THEREFORE, on behalf of the Joplin City Council, I do hereby proclaim the months of April through October 2018, as

MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE DAYS

and urge all citizens to work together with the City to create additional healthy habitats for the monarch butterfly in order to sustain and strengthen their presence and a continuing safe migration through our city.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Joplin to be affixed this 2rd day of April 2018.

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Michael L. Seibert, Mayor