

Proclamation

WHEREAS, for more than 230 years, individuals from all walks of life have taken up arms and sworn an oath to support and defend the principles upon which our country was founded; and

WHEREAS, whether serving at home or abroad, Florida's active duty reserve and National Guard military and civil servants, protect our homeland, respond to national disasters, assist humanitarian emergencies and protect against all threats foreign and domestic; and

WHEREAS, created in 2008, the United States Army Community Covenant program was designed to foster and sustain effective state and community partnerships with all of the armed services, improving the quality of life for service men and women and their families; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has conducted a state-wide community covenant signing ceremony; and

WHEREAS, community support is essential to the readiness of the military and contributes to strengthening the resilience of U. S. military personnel; and

WHEREAS, Americans recognize that military personnel and their families make considerable sacrifices as they defend the Nation, as multiple long deployments, frequent moves, and visible/invisible wounds of war are a few of the unique stresses military families face; and

WHEREAS, today, Floridians support service members, veterans, and their families by stepping forward to help mitigate stresses associated with military life while also striving to inspire their fellow Americans to continue to recognize and support military and veteran families in their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, April 17, 2013 is hereby proclaimed by the Town of Fort Myers Beach as

MILITARY FAMILY AND COMMUNITY COVENANT DAY

and hereby express their unwavering support and admiration to all current and former military personnel for their true and faithful service and further recognize the tremendous sacrifices of their families. The Town of Fort Myers Beach, through the Florida Military Family and Community Covenant and Operation Strong Families, accepts the call to action to support and honor all service members, veterans and their families, past and present.

Given under my hand and the seal of the office of the Mayor this 1st day of April, 2013.

Alan Mandel, Mayor