PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, a century ago, 4.7 million American families sent their sons and daughters to serve in World War I. This November 11th will mark the centennial of the Armistice, which ended hostilities in World War I; and

WHEREAS, more than 26,000 men and women from the State of Connecticut served selflessly and honorably in World War I; and

WHEREAS, 116,516 Americans gave their lives in the war, and over 1,900 of those who left Connecticut to serve would never return; and

WHEREAS, November 11th is an occasion to both remember and commemorate the service and sacrifice of those who fought, but also to renew the hopes of the day for a just and lasting peace; and

WHEREAS, the tolling of bells has been a traditional expression of honor and remembrance in our Nation's history; and

WHEREAS, in November 2018, the world will commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice that ended World War I at 11:00 am, November 11, 1918 – the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month; and

WHEREAS, the Essex Veterans Memorial honors the memory of 174 residents who served in World War I, ten of whom did not return. Two servicemen were Killed in Action: Parker VANAMEE, First Lieutenant, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd "Indianhead" Division, Died of Wounds received during the Saint-Mihiel Offensive, October 2, 1918, and Charles E. CLARK, Private First Class, 102nd Infantry Regiment, 26th "Yankee" Division, Killed in Action during the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, October 22, 1918.

THEREFORE, I, Norman M. Needleman, First Selectman of the Town of Essex, do hereby call upon the people of Essex, Connecticut to join in a National Tolling of Bells of Peace in the Town of Essex in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice, and those who served in World War I, at 11:00 am on November 11, 2018.

Signed,

Norman M. Needleman
First Selectman

Stacia R. Libby
Selectman

Bruce M. Glowac
Selectman