



Tompkins County Legislature

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building | 121 E. Court Street, 2nd Floor | Ithaca, N.Y. 14850
Phone: (607) 274-5434 | Fax: (607) 274-5430 | tompkinscountyny.gov

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Memorial Day stands as a beacon of remembrance, calling us to honor the courageous men and women of the United States Armed Forces who gave their last full measure of devotion so that we might live in freedom, and

WHEREAS, since its humble beginnings in our neighboring Seneca County's Village of Waterloo after the Civil War, this day has grown into a national tradition of unity and gratitude, reminding us that the liberties we cherish were secured at great cost, and

WHEREAS, the valor, dedication, and unwavering spirit of our fallen heroes continue to inspire us to live with purpose, to serve with integrity, and to safeguard the ideals of democracy, justice, and peace, and

WHEREAS, the families of these heroes — our Gold Star families, which include 12 sons of Tompkins County lost during the Vietnam War and five more local sons lost during military hostilities since the turn of this century — carry a legacy of sacrifice that is etched into the heart of our county and nation, and their strength and resilience remind us of the enduring power of love and honor, and

WHEREAS, Memorial Day 2026 is not only a time to remember the past, but also a call to action for the present — to serve our communities, to support those who served and are serving in our nation's military forces, and to live lives worthy of the sacrifices made on our behalf, and

WHEREAS, by gathering together in ceremonies, decorating the resting places of our heroes with U.S. flags, raising our flags high, and pausing in reflection, we renew our promise to never forget, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Tompkins County Legislature hereby proclaims May 25th, 2026, as

MEMORIAL DAY

in Tompkins County.

RESOLVED, further, That the Tompkins County Legislature encourages all residents to pause or join in local ceremonies at 11:00 a.m. on May 25th and to carry forward the legacy of courage, service, and sacrifice that defines our great nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Shawna M. Black, on behalf of the Tompkins County Legislature, have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of Tompkins County, State of New York, on this the 19th day of May 2026.

Shawna M. Black, Chairwoman
Tompkins County Legislature