

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, independent retailers serve as the backbone of our local economy, contributing to the vitality, diversity, and resilience of North Port's commercial landscape; and

WHEREAS, National Independent Retailer Month is observed each July to recognize and celebrate the entrepreneurial spirit, innovation, and community-building power of small and independently owned businesses across the United States; and

WHEREAS, local independent retailers create jobs, reinvest significantly more revenue into the local economy compared to national chains, and offer unique goods and personalized services that help define the character and charm of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of North Port recognizes that supporting independent retailers enhances economic self-sufficiency, fosters regional economic growth, and builds a more connected, prosperous, and resilient city; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Economic Development actively works to promote, support, and empower independent businesses through small business initiatives, technical assistance, and public-private partnerships that reinforce the city's commitment to entrepreneurship and innovation.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim July 2025 as

“National Independent Retailer Month”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and Seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 3rd day of July 2025.

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

Phil Stokes, Mayor

Pete Emrich, Vice-Mayor

David Duval, Commissioner



Barbara Langdon, Commissioner

Demetrius Petrow, Commissioner

ATTEST

Heather Faust, City Clerk