



# PROCLAMATION

## Wreaths Across America Day - December 13, 2025

**WHEREAS**, we know that **Wreaths Across America** is a national nonprofit organization founded in 2007 as an expansion of the Worcester [woo stir] Wreaths annual wreath-laying program started by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester at Arlington National Cemetery in 1992. Spearheaded by Linda and Terry Mooney, a **Christmas Veteran Wreath Laying** program was started at the Roseburg National Cemetery in 1996; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that the mission of **Wreaths Across America** is to Remember, Honor, Teach. **"REMEMBER** the fallen. **HONOR** those who serve. **TEACH** the next generation the value of freedom". The 2025 Wreaths Across America theme is **LIVE WITH PURPOSE**. This year's local ceremony honors the legacy of United States Air Force Veteran, John Pierson, whose passion project to ensure every veteran's grave at our Roseburg National Cemetery receives a wreath every December ignited a local movement. In his memory, the 2025 local event has been officially named the **John Pierson Memorial Wreaths Across America Event**; and

**WHEREAS**, on **Wreaths Across America Day** in 2024, more than 2.5 million volunteers laid over 3 million wreaths on the headstones of fallen service members at 4,900 participating locations across the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, this year the **John Pierson Memorial Wreaths Across America** event will take place at 1:00pm on **Saturday, December 13, 2025**, at the Roseburg National Cemetery; and

**WHEREAS**, in December 2023, John Pierson inspired Douglas County Commissioners with his dream of laying a wreath on all 7,000 veteran graves at the Roseburg National Cemetery. A feat that had never been accomplished before. John's story would not only inspire our commissioners, but our entire community; and

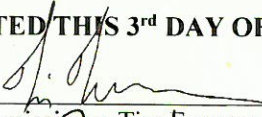
**WHEREAS**, the local Wreaths campaign is spearheaded by location coordinators Commissioner Chris Boice and Shelley Johnson, Roseburg Sea Cadets Commander. Because of their efforts and the generous support of our community, **HISTORY** was made in Douglas County in 2024 when John's **DREAM** was realized for the first time with a wreath on every veteran's grave at the Roseburg National Cemetery; and

**WHEREAS**, on Wreaths Day 2025, John's legacy will once again be honored when the local Wreaths committee, our veteran community, generous local sponsors, and hundreds of volunteers will honor Veterans by laying all 7,000 remembrance wreaths on the graves of our fallen heroes as a tribute to their bravery, service and sacrifice. Along with the laying, volunteers will speak each veteran name out loud, so they will never be forgotten; and

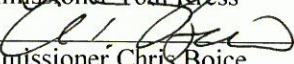
**WHEREAS**, the **Wreaths Across America** program in Douglas County is an outstanding example of how we continue to honor the memory of the sacrifices made by veterans, while also bringing our military heroes and youth together to engage, educate, and create connections that will connect them to the future; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we, the **Douglas County Board of Commissioners Tim Freeman, Tom Kress, and Chris Boice**, do hereby recognize Saturday, December 13, 2025, as **Wreaths Across American Day** in Douglas County, and ask our citizens to thank and support the local Wreaths Across America effort honoring our veterans.

**DATED THIS 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2025**

  
Commissioner Tim Freeman, Chair

  
Commissioner Tom Kress

  
Commissioner Chris Boice

