

# Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

**Whereas** Community newspapers have played an important role in Commonwealth's history by providing residents with a reliable source of relevant information and by helping them stay connected with the events and occurrences that affect their lives and those of their neighbors; and

**Whereas** Freedom of the Press, guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, is a cornerstone of our democracy; and

**Whereas** Community newspapers promote government transparency and provide residents with important information related to the business of their local governments; and

**Whereas** The printed word unites the common man in pursuit of education and information and allows us all to recognize a stake in the community; and

**Whereas** These newspapers encourage civic engagement and serve as a forum for dialogue on issues important to local cities and towns by covering topics of interest to the community as a whole; and

**Whereas** Community newspapers help build stronger communities by recognizing residents' achievements, celebrating the births and weddings of loved ones and neighbors, and showcasing local cultural and social events; and

**Whereas** Massachusetts is home to some of the longest circulating newspapers in the country, including the Patriot Ledger which celebrates 175 years of service to the City of Quincy and the communities of the south shore; and

**Whereas** On this day we recognize community newspapers and their many contributions to the rich fabric of the Commonwealth,

**Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick,** Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012 to be,

## COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER DAY

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this twenty-fifth day of June, in the year two thousand and twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-fifth.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH



God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts