

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Gardeners work to preserve our country's traditional spirit of independence and initiative through innovation and hard work; and

WHEREAS, Gardening furnishes a challenging and productive activity for our citizens, for those just learning, as well as those having years of experience; and

WHEREAS, Gardening is a universal activity that bridges social, ethnic, cultural and economic boundaries and which promotes a healthy lifestyle, helps reduce stress from other areas of our life, teaches that rewards are often not instant and can come from diligent efforts and, is an activity that can last a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Gardening has a long and rich heritage in Downers Grove, as demonstrated by the Garden Club of Downers Grove being founded in 1927, when Mrs. M.L. Puffer was elected President, and Mrs. H.M. Lyman was elected Wildflower and Conservation Chairwoman; and

WHEREAS, the objectives of the Club remain the same today as they were 98 years ago; namely - the advancement interest in gardening, support of conservation efforts, furthering city beautification and funding scholarships; and

WHEREAS, over these years the Garden Club has planted flowers, bulbs, trees and bushes at nearly every park and school in the Village, as well as at the Library, the Main Street Cemetery, the Maple Grove Forest Preserve, and the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, the Garden Club of Downers Grove is a charter member of the Garden Clubs of Illinois and the National Garden Clubs; and

WHEREAS, Scholarship awards are given each year to horticulture students at the University of Illinois;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert T. Barnett, Mayor of the Village of Downers Grove, do hereby proclaim the week of June 7-13, 2026, as **NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK** in the Village of Downers Grove and recognize and thank the Garden Club of Downers Grove for their accomplishments and contributions to our Community and encourage all residents to set aside time to recognize the work that gardeners – hobbyists and professionals alike – do to keep Downers Grove beautiful and seek opportunities to support the Garden Club, and to garden wherever we have the chance.

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June 2026, at Downers Grove, Illinois.



Mayor