

**CITY OF LACEY**  
***Official Proclamation***

**WHEREAS**, Harvey Drahos, born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on January 5, 1923, was witness to the two defining moments of his generation, the Great Depression as a child, and the start of World War II when he was 18 years old; and

**WHEREAS**, Harvey Drahos served his country from 1943 through 1946 as part of the 96<sup>th</sup> Infantry and fought on the front lines during the invasion of Okinawa, Japan in April 1945, a battle that claimed the lives of 7,294 soldiers in his Division and wounded Harvey in combat; and

**WHEREAS**, Harvey Drahos' bravery and valor during the Battle of Okinawa in World War II earned him a collection of medals and commendations, including the Bronze Star Medal; and

**WHEREAS**, Harvey Drahos celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday on January 5, and is the last living member of his military unit; and


**WHEREAS**, Harvey Drahos has filled many roles in his lifetime, including soldier, scholar, philanthropist, motorcycle police officer, pilot, trusted chiropractor, proud father, Rotarian and Kiwanian, and a beloved friend; and

**WHEREAS**, Harvey Drehos remains an active and cherished member of the Kiwanis Club of Thurston County after 53 years, and continues to support community service, student leadership, and making our world a better place; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Andy Ryder, Mayor of the City of Lacey, on behalf of the Lacey City Council, do hereby proclaim, February 16, 2023 as

***Harvey Drahos Month***

in the City of Lacey and encourage community members, local veterans, and local veteran organizations to celebrate Harvey Drahos' 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday and learn more about the history of World War II, and the service of men and women who were at Harvey's side throughout those years.

  
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Mayor Andy Ryder  
February 16, 2023