



Town of Lake Park Town Commission

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date: September 16, 2026

Originating Department: Town Clerk

Agenda Title: Proclamation - Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day - September 27, 2026

Agenda Category (i.e., Consent, New Business, etc.): Special Presentation

Approved by Town Manager: _____ **Date:** _____

Cost of Item: \$0.00 **Funding Source:** _____

Account Number: _____ **Finance Signature:** _____

Advertised: _____

Date: _____ **Newspaper:** _____

Attachments: Proclamation

Please initial one:

VM _____ Yes I have notified everyone

_____ Not applicable in this case

Summary Explanation/Background:

Honoring Gold Star families has been very important within the Town of Lake Park and has been an

ongoing activity since the 1970's, when the Garden Club of Lake Park had maintained a Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker in Kelsey Park. Later, in 2018, the Town installed a Gold Star Family Memorial Marker in Kelsey Park, where it remains to this day.

Note: Town staff is working with VFW Post 9610 to replace the current Veterans Memorial located in Kelsey Park and update the names with additional Lake Park residents that were killed in action. Once the names are updated, a new plaque and refurbished stone will be installed.

The term Gold Star family is a reference that comes from the Service Flag/Banners, which were first flown by families during World War I. The flag included a blue star for every immediate family member serving in the armed forces of the United States, during any period of war or hostilities in which the armed forces of the United States were engaged. In the event of a death, the blue star was replaced with a gold variant — the highest honor.

In 1936, President Franklin D. Roosevelt began honoring the mothers of deceased service members and designated the last Sunday of September as National Gold Star Mother's Day and in 2011, President Barack Obama amended this memorial to include families and designated this important day of remembrance as "Gold Star Mother's and Family's Day."

As a result, the Town Commission wishes to honor Gold Star Mother's and Families on Sunday, September 27, 2026 and approve the proposed proclamation.

Ms. Lauren Berkson, who led the charge in helping the Town of Lake Park place a Gold Star Memorial Marker in Kelsey Park, will be in attendance to accept the proclamation on behalf of Gold Star Mother's and Families.

Recommended Motion:

I move to approve the proclamation honoring Gold Star Mother's and Families on Sunday, September 27, 2026 in the Town of Lake Park, Florida.