

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS,** Sheila MacDonald Stearns stands in the highest echelon of Montana women who broke glass ceilings, becoming the first female Montana Rotarian, the first female president of a Montana University System campus, and the first female Commissioner of Higher Education; and

**WHEREAS,** Sheila MacDonald Stearns elevated the accountability, affordability, and sustainability of the Montana University System for students, legislators and all Montanans through nearly a decade of service as Montana Commissioner of Higher Education; and

**WHEREAS,** Sheila MacDonald Stearns dedicated her toil and talent specifically to Missoula's University of Montana for many years, as Director of Alumni Relations, Vice-President for University Relations, and, post-retirement, as President; and

**WHEREAS,** throughout her life Sheila MacDonald Stearns served not only as a role model for women, but also as a friend and mentor to women, young leaders, and those battling illness throughout Missoula and Montana; and

**WHEREAS,** Sheila MacDonald Stearns maintained a special place in her expansive heart for Missoula, the place where she met her husband; raised her children; doted on her grandchildren; sang and laughed and mourned with friends; and gloried in all the joys of nature and community that are distinctly her hometown's.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Jordan Hess, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, hereby recognize the 2nd day of June, 2023 as:

## SHEILA MACDONALD STEARNS DAY

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 2nd day of June, in the year two thousand twenty-three.



Jordan Hess  
Mayor