

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Corporal Leonard Antoine Lord was born August 20, 1897 in Saint-Sebastien, Quebec, Canada, and spent much of his early life growing up in Swanton, Vermont, where he worked as a laborer on his father's farm; and

WHEREAS, before serving in the U.S. Army, Leonard enjoyed an exciting childhood, including racing around Swanton Park in his 1916 Harley Davidson Motorcycle, joining a men's social club in Montreal where he acted and performed in plays, and eventually joined the Canadian Army; and

WHEREAS, Leonard enlisted for service in the U.S. Army on May 14, 1917 at Camp Ethan Allen, where he was assigned to Company B of the 103rd Machine Gun Battalion, 26th Infantry "Yankee" Division, for service in France, and departed for duty October 3, 1917; and

WHEREAS, Leonard was promoted to Private First Class on January 1, 1918, and again to Corporal on February 3, 1918; and

WHEREAS, Leonard and the 26th division spent the late winter and early spring traveling all over the northeastern region of France near the German border, to various rest areas and posts, ultimately returning to hold the line in Bois Brule from April 10 – 13; and

WHEREAS, during heavy artillery bombardment from the enemy on April 12, 1918, Corporal Lord was killed in action at 20 years old while going to his machine gun emplacement, and became the first Vermonter killed during the Great War; and

WHEREAS, in the words of Corporal Lord's Platoon Commander, 2nd Lieutenant Robert Edwin Walbridge, Corporal Lord "was a brave soldier and died in action doing his duty to his country."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 12, 2018 as

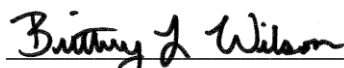
CORPORAL LEONARD A. LORD DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 12th day of April, A.D. 2018



Philip B. Scott
Governor



Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs