

## *A Proclamation by the Governor*

**WHEREAS**, on January 9, 1941, Dr. Leedell W. Neyland joined the U.S. Navy as a Third Class Mess Attendant, completing his service six years later as a First Class Steward with an honorable discharge; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1942 Leedell was assigned to Mine Squadron 7 where he served for three years, going on to Cooks and Bakers School and finishing top in his class; and

**WHEREAS**, after serving in North Africa, his squadron was listed as the major minesweeping battalion and asked to sweep the many magnetic mines planted by the Germans; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 6, 1944, Leedell participated in the largest amphibious invasion in U.S. history, as an intrepid member of the D-Day invasion force that helped pave the way to victory for the Allied Forces during World War II. His squadron began working on Utah Beach which cleared the landing of soldiers and opened the path to Cherbourg, France; and

**WHEREAS**, after Cherbourg, France he began sweeping for mines in the five other beaches, with Omaha Beach being the largest and most important; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning on D-Day, Leedell spent a total of 20 days sweeping mines, neutralizing fatally dangerous fields and helping to save countless American lives; and

**WHEREAS**, shortly after returning to the United States, Leedell retired and attended school. Leedell finished his education with an Applied Baccalaureate, a Master of Arts, and a Doctor of Philosophy. In addition, he has authored or co-authored seven books; and

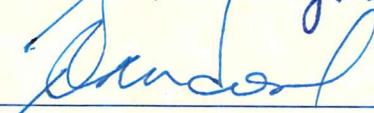
**WHEREAS**, Leedell's honorable and heroic service during World War II, as well as his many accomplishments and successes as a private civilian, distinguish him as a truly great Nevadan who has left a permanent and profound impact on our state and our nation; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA**, do hereby proclaim May 19, 2015, as a day in honor of

**LEEDELL W. NEYLAND, PhD.**



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 13<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015.

  
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By the Governor: Governor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy