

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The monarch butterfly (*Danaus Plexippus*) is one of the most iconic and beloved pollinators in North America, recognized for its extraordinary migration spanning thousands of miles; and

WHEREAS, Monarch populations have declined precipitously in recent decades due to habitat loss, climate change, and the widespread use of pesticides that reduce milkweed and nectar sources essential to their survival; and

WHEREAS, The monarch butterfly serves as a vital indicator species, reflecting the health of our ecosystems and the balance of our natural environment; and

WHEREAS, Protecting monarchs requires safeguarding and restoring native habitats, particularly milkweed and wildflower corridors, which provide food and shelter throughout their life cycle; and

WHEREAS, Southwest Ranches recognizes the monarch butterfly as a species of ecological, cultural, and educational importance; and

WHEREAS, Southwest Ranches Community and individuals have the power to contribute to monarch conservation through planting native species, reducing chemical use, and supporting pollinator-friendly practices; and

WHEREAS, Southwest Ranches encourages the creation and preservation of pollinator gardens, native plant landscapes, and migratory corridors to sustain monarch populations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches that this proclamation shall serve as a reminder of our shared responsibility to protect biodiversity and to act as stewards of the natural world. Further the Council urges all citizens, organizations, and institutions to join in collective action to restore habitat, reduce harmful practices, and ensure the survival of monarch butterflies for future generations.

Dated this 22nd day of January, 2026


STEVE BREITKREUZ, MAYOR