



Proclamation

In Recognition of Shady Oaks 50th Anniversary

- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks was established by Vernon, Kay and Vera Belanger in 1976, with a mission to provide great senior care in a cozy and loyal home; and
- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks first earned its Assisted Living Service Agency license in 1995 and became the second licensed assisted living home in all of CT; and
- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks employed many hundreds of Bristol residents as staff, with staff survey's granting it "Great Place to Work Certification" in November 2025; and
- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks faithfully served many hundreds of disabled and end of life seniors of whom over half were residents of Bristol or had Bristol family members; and
- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks consistently upheld exemplary nursing standards, and has not had a family-filed Department of Public Health complaint in over 30 years; and
- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks, led by Vernon & Kay's son Tyson, saved seniors from COVID-19 when heroic staff lived and worked "bubbled" on site for ten weeks in 2020; and
- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks achieved awards such as Bristol Press "Best of Bristol" for six years (2020-2025), and the CT SBA Family-Owned Business of 2024; and
- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks achieved further renown by its family-given five-star rating from 85 google reviews and five-star rating in U.S. News & World Report; and
- WHEREAS:** Shady Oaks with its residents, families and staff together, go above and beyond as a "small home with a big heart" and exemplify Bristol's "All Heart" values.

THEREFORE, I, Ellen Zoppo-Sassu, Mayor of the City of Bristol, do hereby congratulate Shady Oaks Assisted Living on its 50th Anniversary Celebration. I call upon Bristol's citizens to join me in honoring this extraordinary local business for its fifty years of compassionate, professional service and significant contributions to the quality of life in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Bristol to be affixed on this thirteenth day of May, 2026.

Ellen Zoppo-Sassu

Ellen Zoppo-Sassu
Mayor, City of Bristol

