

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, Ronnie Hughes, publisher of The St. Augustine Record and community leader for the past eleven and a half years, is retiring after a distinguished 42-year career in journalism, and

WHEREAS, his career has ranged from reporting, editing, and newspaper ownership to publisher, and from Oklahoma and Alaska to Florida, and

WHEREAS, William S. "Billy" Morris III, chairman of the board of Morris Communications, in which he has served for 38 years, noted, "Ronnie Hughes is one of the most competent newspaper executives I have ever worked with, an exceptional supervisor who has always maintained the highest morale in his newspapers," and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, The Record grew from tiny offices in a 100-year-old downtown building to a new \$12 million plant on 16 acres at state roads 207 and 312, and is today the fastest growing newspaper in Florida, and

WHEREAS, our community can attest to Mr. Morris's comment that "His relationship with his community has been outstanding. He has served St. Augustine well and worked hard on many worthwhile projects," and

WHEREAS, his leadership and influence have touched the broad spectrum of community agencies, services, and goals,

NOW THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine congratulates Ronnie Hughes upon his retirement and extends its deep gratitude for his service to the greater St. Augustine community, both as publisher of The St. Augustine Record and as a dedicated community leader.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of St. Augustine to be affixed this 1st day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand and six, and the four hundred and fortieth year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.

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George Gardner, MAYOR

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Susan Burk, VICE MAYOR

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Joseph L. Boles, COMMISSIONER

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Donald A. Crichlow, COMMISSIONER

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Errol D. Jones, COMMISSIONER