

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, St. Johns County is home to nearly 30,000 citizens aged 60 years or older, and

WHEREAS, the older Americans of St. Johns County are a vital part of our nations demographic makeup; and

WHEREAS, older citizens are members of our community and are entitled to dignified independent lives free from fears, myths and misconceptions about aging; and

WHEREAS, each community in America must strive to recognize the contributions of our older citizens, understand and address their evolving needs and support their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, the St. Johns County Council on Aging has acted as a catalyst for mobilizing the vitality and commitment of older residents who desire to live independently, and with dignity and respect; and

WHEREAS, our society is dependent upon intergenerational cooperation and support and benefits from our collective efforts to serve older Americans and the people who love them; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 41st anniversary of the passage of the Older Americans Act by the United States Congress;

*NOW, THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine hereby proclaims the month of May 2006, as **Older Americans Month**, and calls upon all our citizens to recognize and honor our senior citizens, who have contributed so greatly to our American way of life.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of St. Augustine to be affixed this 8th day of May 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.

George Gardner, MAYOR