

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, AIDS was first identified in the U.S. in 1981, and has now spread to every part of the U.S. and to all sectors of society; and

WHEREAS, over 40 million people worldwide are currently living with HIV/AIDS - including over 2 million children under 15 years of age; and

WHEREAS, the latest UNAIDS reports show that the global AIDS epidemic is not yet over in any part of the world; and

WHEREAS, approximately ½ million people are living with HIV/AIDS in the U.S., including nearly 300 people here in St. Johns County; and

WHEREAS, children, as well as seniors, and men and women of all ages are being diagnosed every day; and

WHEREAS, the Community AIDS Coalition of St. Augustine is committed to bring awareness, education, testing, and prevention to St. Johns County; and

WHEREAS, 2008 marks the 20th anniversary of World AIDS Week; and

WHEREAS, the 2008 World AIDS Week theme in St. Johns County, "The Ages Of AIDS", hopes to instill awareness throughout our community that HIV/AIDS knows no ageism.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine hereby recognizes that November 30 to December 6, 2008 was World AIDS Week in St. Johns County and urges our citizens to support continuing efforts to increase awareness and understanding of the global challenge to prevent the further spread of HIV/AIDS.

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 December in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight and the four hundred and forty third year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.

Joseph L. Boles Jr., MAYOR