

*❧* PROCLAMATION *❧*

*WHEREAS*, Since World War 1, canines have played an important and often lifesaving role in America's wars; and

*WHEREAS*, Beginning with a dog named Stubby, the "Great Dog of the Great War," America's soldiers have relied upon the skills and bravery of thousands of dogs, many of which died in action; and

*WHEREAS*, In World War 1, dogs were used to detect deadly mustard gas and searched for wounded; In World War II, they were used as couriers, to carry ammunition and to pull snow sleds carrying the injured; in Korea and Vietnam, they detected traps and warned of ambushes; and in Afghanistan and Iraq they located deadly mines and searched for hidden enemy positions; and

*WHEREAS*, During World War 1, nearly 7,000 dogs were killed in action; more than 10,000 dogs were in harm's way in World War II; 300 dogs served in Korea and 3,500 served in Vietnam; 125 dogs were used to detect hidden munitions caches in Kuwait in the Gulf War; and 500 dogs are serving in the current war on terror; and

*WHEREAS*, After 9/11, the definition of war dogs has expanded to include police dogs, search and rescue dogs, customs dogs, FBI dogs and a host of others that serve our country's security; and

*WHEREAS*, Through their selfless service, loyalty and bravery, America's dogs of war have saved countless lives and rendered honorable service to the United States.

*NOW, THEREFORE*, the City Commission of the City of St. Augustine hereby proclaims March 13, 2010 as **K9 VETERANS DAY** in St. Augustine, and urges all citizens to join in expressing gratitude for the extraordinary service and sacrifice of America's dogs of war and honoring the contributions of canine heroes.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of St. Augustine to be affixed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten and the four hundred and forty fourth year of the founding of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City.

---

Joseph L. Boles Jr., MAYOR