



Staff Report

Agenda Item: **Light Heart Foundation Proclamation-** Approval of a request from the Light Heart Foundation that the Town of Clarkdale proclaim September, 2008 Grandparents/Elder Recognition month.

Sponsored By: Doug Von Gausig, Mayor

Staff Contact: Walt Good, Deputy Town Clerk

Meeting Date: August 12, 2008

Background: The Light Heart Foundation is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization that was established in 1997. They offer opportunities for people of all ages, community businesses and major industries to use their resources and skill by joining forces with our senior population living in these communities. The Light Heart Foundation has requested that the Town of Clarkdale proclaim September, 2008 as Grandparent/Elder Recognition Month and urge citizens of all ages to visit the elderly in community facilities.

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of proclamation.

Proclamation

WHEREAS: September 2008 has been designated as Grandparent/Elder Recognition Month by the Light Heart Foundation; and

WHEREAS: the mission of the Light Heart Foundation is to increase visitation and promote community awareness as to the needs of the elderly living in assisted living, retirement and convalescent communities; and

WHEREAS: in times past, villages were made up of extended family communities and the elderly were the storytellers to the young so that history was not lost; and

WHEREAS: these villages have disappeared along with reverence for wisdom that the elders possessed. Our mobile society has now created unnatural age segregation which has isolated generations from each other; and

WHEREAS: we recognize that communities are strengthened when intergenerational relationships are encouraged and supported and that social progress is stimulated when the strengths of one generation can help meet the needs of another. Dynamic exchange between youth and elders leads to a thriving community.

NOW THEREFORE, I, the Mayor of Clarkdale hereby proclaim September 2008 as Grandparent/Elder Recognition Month in the Verde Valley and urge citizens of all ages to visit the elderly in community facilities to let them know that we care, that we remember that they fought for our country and built our communities.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hands and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Clarkdale this _____ day of _____ 2008.

Doug Von Gausig, Mayor
Clarkdale, Arizona



July 15, 2008

Doug VonGausig, Mayor
Town of Clarkdale
P.O.Box 308
Clarkdale, AZ. 86324

Dear Mayor VonGausig,

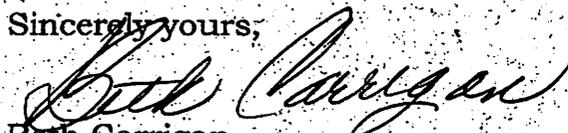
Would you be so kind as to sign the attached Proclamation announcing that September has been designated as Grandparent/Elder Awareness month by the Light Heart Foundation? This is a time when we urge the populace to visit the elderly living in facilities and throughout our community. These visits mean the world to our seniors because more than half of them have no visitors whatsoever.

As you already know Light Heart Foundation strongly supports the need to remember our elders. Many of these seniors are the same people who fought for our country, built and financially supported our communities, provided for us in our youth, and created programs we are benefiting from today. A countless number of these same people now sit waiting alone for a kind word of encouragement from someone reminding them that they are appreciated, and needed by their community most importantly to let them know that they still have something to offer future generations.

Light Heart Foundation encourages people of all ages and backgrounds to pool their unique experiences, talents and resources together to build a bridge to stronger communities and brighter future for everyone.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for the support you have given to Light Heart Foundations efforts.

Sincerely yours,


Beth Carrigan,
Executive Director
Light Heart Foundation

Light Heart Foundation Reminder

September is the time to recognize
our Grandparents & our Elders

Attention Business Owners

You can join in by recognizing
Your senior customers through:

- ♥ Service or product discounts
- ♥ Special giveaways
- ♥ Or sponsor special outings for seniors

Call 634-0770 for more information!



Attention Individuals

You can join in by Sponsoring:

- A Group of 10 or more Seniors and/or Youth Visitors
- A Special Outing ♥ Entertainment ♥ Ice Cream Social
- Theater ♥ Musical Event ♥ Breakfast ♥ Lunch ♥ ?????

We can help you create your own event!

Call 634-0770 for more information!

Send
A
Note

Give
A Hug

Visit
Them

Do You Remember How They

- ♥ Fought for your Country?
- ♥ Built your Community?
- ♥ Gave you a Helping Hand?
- ♥ Comforted You in Times of Need!
- ♥ Gave Direction to Your Life?
- ♥ Just Loved you Unconditionally!

Show them how much you appreciate
What they did and still do for you?

Send
Flowers

Give A
Smile

Call
Them

Our community mayors have signed Proclamations honoring our Elders!