



Staff Report

Agenda Item: **Proclamation Proclaiming the Month of August 2009 as Drowning Impact Awareness Month– Approval of a Proclamation declaring the month of August 2009 as Drowning Impact Awareness Month.**

Sponsored By: **Doug Von Gausig, Mayor**

Staff Contact: **Walt Good, Deputy Town Clerk**

Meeting Date: **June 23, 2009**

Background: **In order to raise the awareness of the numbers and impact of child drowning in Arizona, Phoenix Children’s Hospital has requested that the Town of Clarkdale approve a proclamation declaring August as Drowning Impact Awareness Month.**

Recommendation: **Staff recommends approval of proclamation declaring the month of August 2009 as Drowning Impact Awareness Month**



PROCLAMATION

DROWNING IMPACT AWARENESS MONTH AUGUST 2009

WHEREAS, Drowning Impact Awareness month will raise awareness that the number and impact of child drownings in Arizona affects everyone; and

WHEREAS, the drowning incidents in Arizona take the lives of the equivalent of a classroom of children each year; and

WHEREAS, a child drowning can happen to any family regardless of education, race or socio-economic background; and

WHEREAS, families can take simple steps to protect their children around water to avoid the tragedy of the unnecessary loss of life; and

WHEREAS, water safety remains a priority for Arizona families, communities, and government, and Water Watchers at Phoenix Children's Hospital; and

WHEREAS, keeping children healthy and safe is the goal of Water Watchers at Phoenix Children's Hospital, Fire Departments and other prevention institutions in Arizona, raising awareness will increase understanding and education of effective ways to prevent drownings.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Doug Van Gausig, MAYOR of the Town of Clarkdale, Arizona, do hereby proclaim August 1 through 31, 2009 as DROWNING IMPACT AWARENESS MONTH in Clarkdale.

Dated this 23rd day of June, 2009.

Doug Von Gausig, Mayor

Attest:

Kathy Bainbridge, Town Clerk/Finance Director

Walt Good

From: ladon diey [dieudesigns@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, May 17, 2009 9:13 PM
To: Walt Good
Cc: Tiffaneylsaacson
Subject: Drowning Impact Proclamation
Attachments: DIAM proclamation_09.doc

Categories: Red Category

Dear Walt,

Attached is a proclamation for **Drowning Impact Awareness Month**, which is the month of August. Last year, proclamations were passed by cities throughout the state of Arizona, as well as the Governor's office. This year we hope to exceed last year's total of purple ribbons worn by supporters, which was 50,000.

If you believe that the proclamation will be put into place, we would like to have it read at a council meeting. (The end of July or beginning of August would be the best time.) Many cities invite local fire officials, and I would like to try to have families who have been touched by drownings attend, if possible. Drawing the media's attention to the proclamations increases awareness of the effort and water safety as a whole. We would also ask to have a hard copy mailed back to the address below so we can display the proclamation at Phoenix Children's Hospital during the month of August.

Most local fire department employees wore purple ribbons last year, as did some city employees. Banners may be available to some cities at no charge. Also, many cities place information in city newsletters and on websites, include it on "hold" messages on city phone systems, and include it in communication with the public, such as utility bills.

Any or all of these ideas will help to make the effort a success, and any support that you can give to the proclamation request process would be greatly appreciated. I have copied Tiffany Isaacson, the Water Safety Coordinator at Phoenix Children's Hospital, but if you can please keep me informed about the status of the proclamation in your city, I would appreciate it.

Thank you!

LaDon Dieu
Coordinator at Phoenix Children's Hospital
dieudesigns@yahoo.com / 602-909-5636

Phoenix Children's Hospital
Water Safety Program
1919 E. Thomas #C2391
Phoenix, AZ 85016

*** Effective January 2, 2009, Town of Clarkdale offices will be open Monday-Thursday from 8:00 am to 5:30 p.m. and closed on Fridays. Public contact hours have changed due to our continued efforts to reduce expenses. Even with these scheduling changes, our commitment to providing quality community services remains our most important priority. ***