

## PROCLAMATION DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence affects all Union County residents, and far too many people suffer abuse at the hands of a spouse, partner, parent, child, or sibling; these victims can be of any age, race, religion, or economic status and the resulting damage is inflicted not only on the victims, but their children, families, and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence includes not only physical but also mental abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse, sexual abuse, and isolation; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is widespread, including one in three Americans who have witnessed an incident of domestic violence with an annual cost to US companies of \$3.5 billion in lost work time, increased health care costs, higher turnover, and lower productivity; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence, there have been 819 women, men, and children murdered as a result of domestic violence since January 1, 2002 in North Carolina; and


**WHEREAS**, according to the North Carolina Council for Women, domestic violence programs across the state responded to over 114,034 crisis calls and provided services to over 57,000 victims last year; and

**WHEREAS**, the key to prevention is education, community awareness, having zero tolerance for domestic violence, and requiring accountability by the abuser; and

**WHEREAS**, Union County recognizes the importance of having collaborations by multiple partners to promote social norms, policies and laws that support gender equity and foster intimate partnerships based on mutual respect, equality, and trust; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that I, Phillip Thomas, Mayor of the Town of Fairview, do hereby proclaim October 2016 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Union County and urge all citizens to support this observance. I further urge our citizens to increase their awareness and education of this destructive force which deeply affects a large number of families in our State each year and to become part of the efforts to stop violence in families.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Fairview to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2016.

  
Phillip Thomas, Mayor of Fairview