

PROCLAMATION

Hunger Awareness Month

May 2016

WHEREAS, the citizens of this community have a longstanding tradition of humanitarian services, generosity, and voluntarily giving their own time and resources in order to make the Town of Leesburg and Loudoun County a better place to live; and

WHEREAS, the problem of “food insecurity” or hunger is one of the most disquieting conditions that impact us locally and globally; and

WHEREAS, in the same year Loudoun earned its “Wealthiest County” status, approximately 17,000 people in Loudoun County (or 4.7% percent of the population) were identified as “food insecure” or hungry; and out of Loudoun’s “food insecure” population, 69 percent do not qualify for government assistance; and

WHEREAS, local food pantries see a significant decrease in contributions over the summer months while needs increase as many families no longer have the security of school based food programs; and

WHEREAS, the “Love Your Neighbor, Feed Your Neighbor” campaign is in its fifth year and has truly brought various religious and secular groups around Loudoun County together under a single goal to help those suffering from food; and in 2015, volunteers from 25 denominations collected 90,000 pounds of food for seven food pantries across Loudoun County which is a 61% increase over 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Hunger Awareness Month initiative helps to send a message of support to those in need, raises awareness of this critical issue, and encourages our citizens to come together to lend a hand.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town of Leesburg Council does hereby proclaim May 2016 as Town of Leesburg Hunger Awareness Month, and calls this observance to the attention of all Leesburg citizens.

PROCLAIMED this 25th day of April, 2016.

David S. Butler, Mayor

Kelly Burk, Vice Mayor

Fernando “Marty” Martinez

Katie Sheldon Hammler

Thomas S. Dunn, II

Suzanne D. Fox

R. Bruce Gemmill