Proclamation

Autism Awareness Month
April 2016

WHEREAS, autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting the social, communication and behavioral skills of those affected by it, and,

WHEREAS, as more health professionals become proficient in diagnosing autism, more children are being diagnosed on the autism spectrum, resulting in rates as high as 1 in 68 children nationally and 1 in 65 in Arkansas with boys being affected at a rate of 1 in 42, and,

WHEREAS, while there is no cure for autism, it is well-documented that if individuals with autism receive early and intensive treatment throughout their lives, they lead significantly improved lives, and,

WHEREAS, individuals with autism often require a lifetime of specialized and community support services to ensure their health and safety and to support families’ resilience as they manage the psychological and financial burdens autism can present,

WHEREAS, the City of Ward, Arkansas is honored to take part in the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month in a hope that it will lead to a better understanding of the disorder,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Art Brooke, Mayor of the City of Ward, do hereby proclaim April 2016 as NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH in the City of Ward Arkansas and urge all employees and Ward residents to become better educated about autism and create a better community for individuals with autism.

Dated: April 11, 2016