

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the American Red Cross saw a record-breaking year in 2017 of challenging domestic and international response efforts; and

WHEREAS, through the support of its volunteers, in just 45 days, the Red Cross responded to six of the largest and most complex disasters of 2017 including back-to-back hurricanes, the deadliest week of wildfires in California history, and the horrific mass shooting in Las Vegas. In addition, the Red Cross responded to nearly 50,000 home fires in 2017, providing casework assistance to help 76,000 families recover; and

WHEREAS, in **Volusia County, FL**, the Red Cross has a long history of helping our neighbors in need. The Space Coast Chapter of the ARC assisted with 75 local disasters in the past year alone. They installed 478 smoke alarms and provided those residents with fire safety information. In our area, the Red Cross handles an average of 865 emergency military calls last year; and

WHEREAS, March is American Red Cross Month, a special time to recognize and thank the Red Cross volunteers and donors who give of their time and resources to help members of the community. The Red Cross depends on these local heroes to deliver help and hope during a disaster. We applaud our heroes here in Volusia County, FL who give of themselves to assist their neighbors when they need a helping hand; and

WHEREAS, across the country and around the world, the American Red Cross responds to disasters big and small. It collects about 40 percent of the nation's blood supply; provides 24-hour support to military members, veterans and their families; teaches millions of lifesaving skills such as lifeguarding and CPR; and through its Restoring Family Links program, connects family members separated by crisis, conflict or migration; and

WHEREAS, we dedicate the month of March to all those who support the American Red Cross mission to prevent and alleviate human suffering in the face of emergencies. Our community depends on the American Red Cross, which relies on donations of time, money and blood to fulfill its humanitarian mission;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Partington, Mayor of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, do hereby proclaim March 2018 as

AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

in the City of Ormond Beach and urge all residents to join with me at this time as we recognize the American Red Cross for their valuable service to our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Ormond Beach, Florida, to be affixed this 6th day of March in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eighteen.



BILL PARTINGTON

Mayor