~PROCLAMATION~

Whereas, Clark County has more than 68,000 residents who are 65 and older; and

Whereas, Clark County's seniors are valued members of our community, and our collective responsibility is to ensure they live safely with a sense of security; and

Whereas, abuse, neglect and exploitation affect one in 10 older people nationwide across all sectors of society, damaging public health and threatening our parents, grandparents and friends; and

Whereas, in 2016, Adult Protective Services referred more than 460 cases involving physical abuse and financial exploitation of Clark County seniors to the Clark County Elder Justice Center; and

Whereas, alleviating and eliminating abuse will improve the quality of life for seniors, vulnerable adults and their families, and enable seniors to continue to live independently and contribute to the vibrancy of Clark County; and

Whereas, we must build and sustain an environment where seniors are treated with respect and dignity, enabling them to continue as leaders, mentors, volunteers and active members of this community.

Now, therefore, this Board of County Councilors does hereby proclaim June 15, 2017 as

~ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY~

in Clark County, Washington and encourages Clark County citizens to learn the signs and symptoms of elder abuse, report suspected elder abuse, support efforts to safeguard the elderly, and celebrate Clark County's seniors.

Signed this 13th day of June 2017

BOARD OF COUNTY COUNCILORS FOR CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Marc Boldt, Chair

Jeanne E. Stewart, District 1

Julie Olson, District 2

John Blom, District 3

Eileen Quiring, District 4