



PROCLAMATION



Breast Cancer Awareness Month October 2016

WHEREAS, every year, too many Americans are touched by the pain and hardship caused by breast cancer, a disease that, among women, is not only one of the most common cancers, but also one of the leading causes of cancer-related death. During National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we honor all those who lost their lives to breast cancer, and we recognize the courageous survivors who are still fighting it. For these individuals, and for their loved ones who give their unwavering support during the most trying times, we recommit ourselves to the essential and necessary work of forging a future free from cancer in all its forms; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of Americans will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, and tens of thousands will lose their battle with this disease. Although both women and men can have breast cancer, women are at higher risk. Women with a family history of breast cancer, or those who are older or obese, are also more likely to be diagnosed with breast cancer. All women should be encouraged to find out if they are at increased risk and to learn more about recommended screenings by speaking with their health care providers. Early detection and treatment can save lives; and

WHEREAS, critical research efforts over time have yielded great progress in how breast cancer is diagnosed and treated, which has produced a steady increase in survival rates for those suffering from this disease, and it is crucial that we keep building on these successes. This year, the National Cancer Institute launched the largest study of its kind to investigate the role of genetic and biological factors in breast cancer risk among African American women, who have a higher risk of dying from breast cancer.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John A. Rey, Mayor of the City of DeKalb, Illinois, do proclaim that the City of DeKalb stands in solidarity with breast cancer survivors. Let us also thank the countless advocates, medical professionals, researchers, and caregivers who dedicate their lives to fighting for a world without breast cancer, and together, let us carry out the mission to cure cancer once and for all.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of DeKalb this 24th day of October, 2016.

John A. Rey, Mayor