

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

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WHEREAS, Deaf Awareness Week is annually celebrated the last full week of September in commemoration of the first World Congress of the Deaf;

WHEREAS, the purpose of Deaf Awareness Week is to celebrate the culture, heritage and language unique to our Deaf population. American sign language is the third most widely used language in the United States;

WHEREAS, it is important that people who are deaf have equal and full access to resources, services, and opportunities for participation in all aspects of community life;

WHEREAS, this annual celebration is dedicated to promoting education, employment, and independent living among persons who are deaf, and recognizes their achievements and capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Greenville is pleased to join communities across America in recognizing Deaf Awareness Week and celebrating the many valuable contributions of citizens who are deaf and have volunteered their time and talents to serve our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of September 25-30, 2011 as

DEAF AWARENESS WEEK

in Greenville and urge all citizens to join me in observance of this very special occasion as we recognize the challenges and applaud the accomplishments of the deaf population.

This 16th day of September, 2011.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor