CITY OF SCAPPOOSE PROCLAMATION

National Child Abuse Prevention Month

Our Nation's children are our hope for the future, and caring for them is one of our greatest responsibilities. During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we renew our commitment to preventing child abuse and neglect by promoting healthy families, protecting children, and supporting communities throughout our Nation.

Although a strong family unit is the best deterrent to child abuse, effectively intervening in the lives of children threatened by abuse is a shared responsibility. Strengthening the bonds within families requires community members and leaders to partner with parents. From schools to local social service agencies, we can work together to protect the well-being of our children by recognizing the signs of violence and creating safe, stable, and nurturing environments that safeguard the promise of their futures.

As a community, we must continue our work to ensure all children have the ability to live free from abuse and neglect by advocating for the safety of all young people. For more information about what families can do to overcome this devastating problem, concerned community members can visit: <u>www.amanicenter.org</u> and <u>http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/children/abuse/</u>.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott Burge, Mayor of Scappoose, Oregon, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State do hereby proclaim April 2013 as National Child Abuse Prevention Month. I call upon all Americans to observe this month with programs and activities that help prevent child abuse and provide for children's physical, emotional, and developmental needs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Scappoose, to be affixed. Done at City Hall in the City of Scappoose, Oregon, on this 1st day of April, 2013.

CITY OF SCAPPOOSE, OREGON

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Susan M. Reeves, MMC, City Recorder