

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan

#040883

10/24/05

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the fire and burn problem in the United States is one of the worst of any industrialized nation, and burn injuries are one of the leading causes of accidental death in the United States today; and

WHEREAS, every year more than (1) million people are victims of burn injuries of which forty-five thousand are hospitalized. Burn injuries also account for nine million disability days and one hundred million dollars in costs; and

WHEREAS, young children are in the highest risk group suffering from burns and injuries caused by child fire play and inappropriate use of flammable liquids, with older adults and the disabled also at great risk and extremely susceptible to burn injuries; and

WHEREAS, locally, burns caused by hot liquids and the inappropriate use of flammable liquids, especially gasoline, are increasing yearly; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that approximately 75 percent of all burn injuries and deaths could be prevented by a comprehensive national education and awareness campaign, saving burn survivors years of costly reconstructive surgery and extensive physical and psychological rehabilitation, the impact of which cannot be measured in economic terms alone; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has designated the week of February 6, 2005 as *National Burn Awareness Week* and encourages an effective local community program that deals with all aspects of burn injuries and with the prevention thereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pegeen Hanrahan, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim the week of February 6-12, 2005 as:

Burn Awareness Week

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to better educate themselves in protecting their family and loved ones from the devastation of burn injuries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this 12th day of January, A.D., 2005.

Pegeen Hanrahan
Mayor