



Proclamation

WHEREAS, communities across America have been plagued by the numerous problems associated with illicit drug use and those that traffic in them; and

WHEREAS, governments and community leaders know that citizen support is one of the most effective tools in the effort to reduce the use of illicit drugs in our communities; and

WHEREAS, there is hope in winning the war on drugs, and that hope lies in education and drug demand reduction, coupled with the hard work and determination of organizations such as the **Mecklenburg County Young Marines** of the **Marine Corps League** to foster a healthy, drug-free lifestyle; and

WHEREAS, the Red Ribbon Campaign was established by Congress in 1988 to encourage a drug-free lifestyle and involvement in drug prevention and reduction efforts; and

WHEREAS, the red ribbon has been chosen as a symbol commemorating the work of Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent, who was murdered in the line of duty, and represents the belief that one person can make a difference; and

WHEREAS, October 23-31 has been designated **National Red Ribbon Week**, which encourages Americans to wear a red ribbon to show their support for a drug-free environment.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John D. Bridgeman, Mayor of the City of Gastonia, do hereby proclaim October 23 - 31 as

RED RIBBON WEEK

in Gastonia, North Carolina, and urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Gastonia to be affixed, this the 17th day of October, two thousand and seventeen.

John D. Bridgeman, Mayor

Attest:

Sherry H. Dunaway, City Clerk