



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** Deaf Awareness Week is celebrated the last full week of September in commemoration of the first World Congress of the Deaf, held in 1951; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Olathe is pleased to join communities across America in recognizing Deaf Awareness Week and celebrating the culture, heritage, and language unique to the deaf; and
- WHEREAS,** Olathe has been named as one of America's "Most Deaf Friendly Cities" in recognition of the opportunities and programs it offers and its culture, which truly embraces the deaf and hard of hearing community; and
- WHEREAS,** Olathe has the very proud distinction of being home to the Kansas School for the Deaf, established in Olathe in 1866 and known nationally for its outstanding academic and outreach efforts for students who are deaf or hard of hearing; and
- WHEREAS,** the lives of Olatheans are further enriched by the presence of the Deaf Cultural Center, the William J. Marra Museum of Deaf History and Deaf Culture, and the Olathe Club of the Deaf, as well as the many valuable contributions of citizens who are deaf and have volunteered their time and talents to serve our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Copeland, Mayor of the City of Olathe, do hereby proclaim September 20-26, 2009, as

DEAF AWARENESS WEEK

in Olathe, encouraging all citizens to share in our deaf population's immense pride in their rich history and achievements and to celebrate the Kansas School for the Deaf as a cherished cornerstone of our community.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Olathe to be affixed this first day of September, 2009.




Michael Copeland, Mayor


Debra S. Gragg, City Clerk