

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)

COUNTY OF NEWBERRY)

PROCLAMATION

CITY OF NEWBERRY)

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of Newberry supports activities and awareness of National Alcohol Awareness Month which calls attention to the disease of alcoholism and promotes understanding that alcoholism is a chronic, treatable disease from which people can recover; and

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse and addiction are a public health issue and can have serious health consequences for all of society, such as increased costs in health care, welfare, insurance and criminal justice services, and alcohol dependence can also impact an individual and his or her family by affecting job performance and family relationships; and

WHEREAS, persons with alcoholism can experience periods of sobriety and stability and periods of relapse, and, as with other forms of addiction, recovery is possible through effective interventions, treatments and rehabilitation programs; and

WHEREAS, alcohol-impaired-driving fatalities account for 32 percent of the total motor vehicle traffic fatalities in the United States and the majority of traffic fatalities in South Carolina.

WHEREAS, alcohol harms and kills more youth than all illegal drugs, combined; and

WHEREAS, alcohol use undermines adolescent brain development, seriously impacting learning and behavior; and

WHEREAS, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21, and

WHEREAS, alcohol is involved in fifty percent of criminal assault, traffic, theft, fraud, vandalism and sex crime cases in the juvenile justice system; and


WHEREAS, older friends and siblings are the primary source by which underage youth in the Midlands obtain alcohol; and

WHEREAS, providing alcohol to minors is against the law and that together we can keep it "Out of their Hands;" and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that we join with others in advancing efforts to strengthen the enforcement of our South Carolina underage drinking laws, and build partnerships among local agencies, elected officials, law enforcement, businesses, schools, and communities to prevent underage drinking and alcoholism; and


NOW, THEREFORE, I, Foster Senn, Mayor of the City of Newberry do hereby proclaim April 2011 as "**Alcohol Awareness Month**"; to help raise community awareness and to encourage citizens to join in efforts to reduce underage and youth binge drinking rates in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Newberry, Newberry County, and State of South Carolina this 22nd day of March, 2011.



Foster Senn, Mayor
City of Newberry

ATTEST:



Tina P. Wicker, City Clerk
Newberry, South Carolina

