



# City of Grand Island

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Council Session

## Item C2

### Proclamation "Autism Awareness Month" April 2006

*A severe, life-long development disability, resulting in the significant impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop appropriate social skills, and understand verbal, non-verbal, and reciprocal communication, Autism affects one out of every 250 babies born today. The Mayor has proclaimed the month of April, 2006 as "Autism Awareness Month" in Grand Island and encourages a greater recognition and understanding of Autism. See attached PROCLAMATION.*

Staff Contact: RaNae Edwards

THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
City of Grand Island  
State of Nebraska

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder is the third most common developmental disability; and

WHEREAS, autism spectrum disorder is a severely incapacitating, lifelong developmental disability, resulting in significant impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal, nonverbal, and reciprocal communication; and

WHEREAS, although a cure for autism spectrum disorder has not been found, accurate, early diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education and intervention can help persons with autism spectrum disorder reach their maximum potential; and

WHEREAS, the Grand Island support group of the Autism Society of Nebraska and other support groups are advocates for the rights, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all persons with autism spectrum disorder; and

WHEREAS, the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month educates families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disability.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Vavricek, Mayor of the City of Grand Island, Nebraska, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2006 as

***“AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH”***

throughout the City of Grand Island, and encourage all Grand Islanders to work together to ensure that individuals with autism spectrum disorder are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Grand Island to be affixed this twenty-eighth day of March in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Six.

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Jay Vavricek, Mayor

Attest:

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RaNae Edwards, City Clerk