



PROCLAMATION

Whereas, since 1987, the National Council of Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) has sponsored Alcohol Awareness Month to increase public awareness, reduce stigma and encourage local communities to focus on alcoholism and alcohol-related issues; and

Whereas, this year's theme "Changing Attitudes: It's not a rite of passage: Parents Can Make a Difference in Teen Alcohol Use" is aimed at educating people about the treatment and prevention of alcoholism, particularly among our youth, and the important role parents can play in giving kids a better understanding of the impact that alcohol can have on their lives; and

Whereas, adolescence is a time of heightened risk-taking and as alcohol and drugs enter the picture, parents should take an active role in learning about alcohol and drugs and helping their kids do the same; and

Whereas, alcohol use by young people is extremely dangerous – both to themselves and society, and is directly associated with traffic fatalities, violence, suicide, educational failure, alcohol overdose, unsafe sex, and other problem behaviors; and

Whereas, reducing underage drinking is critical to securing a healthy future for America's youth and requires a cooperative effort from parents, schools, community organizations, business leaders, government agencies, the entertainment industry, alcohol manufacturers/retailers and young people; and

Whereas, although it can be daunting to talk with children about drinking and drug use, research has shown that kids who have conversations with their parents and learn a lot about the dangers of alcohol and drug use are 50% less likely to use these substances than those who don't have such conversations; and

Whereas, the City of Gillette is committed to raising public awareness about the use of alcohol and how it may be affecting individuals, families and the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Louise Carter-King, Mayor of the City of Gillette, along with the Campbell County Prevention Council, Students 4 Change youth coalitions, Campbell County Impaired Driving Task Force and the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence do hereby proclaim April 2018 as:

Alcohol Awareness Month

As Mayor, I call upon all members of our community to support efforts that increase community awareness, understanding and action to reduce underage drinking and to prevent alcohol related harms in our community. Through these efforts, together, we can provide **Hope, Help, and Healing** for those in our community who are facing challenges with alcohol use and abuse.

Louise Carter-King, Mayor

(Attest) Karlene Abelseth, City Clerk