

THURSTON COUNTY

# Proclamation

## National Blood Donor Month

*WHEREAS, President Richard Nixon, in the December 31<sup>st</sup> 1969 Proclamation 3952; the document that made National Blood Donor Month law; praised the generosity of the American people declaring “No manifestation of this generosity of spirit is more expressive, and no gift more priceless in time of personal crisis, than the donation of one's blood. The voluntary blood donor truly gives life itself”; and*

*WHEREAS, National Blood Donor Month has been observed in January since 1970 with the goal of increasing blood and platelet donations during winter, which is one of the most difficult times of year to collect enough blood products to meet patient needs due to inclement weather often resulting in cancelled blood drives, and seasonal illnesses like the flu may cause some donors to become temporarily unable to donate; and*

*WHEREAS, every day in the United States, approximately 39,000 units of blood are required in hospitals and emergency treatment facilities for patients with cancer and other diseases, for organ transplant recipients, and to help save the lives of accident victims; and*

*WHEREAS, every two seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood and a single car accident victim can require as many as 100 pints of blood; and*

*WHEREAS, the blood used in an emergency is already on the shelves before the event occurs so blood donations are needed more than ever after large scale emergencies, especially since it cannot be manufactured and can only come from generous donors; and*

*WHEREAS, an average of 6.8 million blood donors give in a year but only an estimated 38 percent of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood at any given time with less than 10 percent of the eligible population actually donating each year.*

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Health hereby proclaims **January as National Blood Donor Month** to increase public understanding of the importance of blood donation and urge, citizens of our community to donate towards this lifesaving cause.*

Adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2018

BOARD OF HEALTH

*Bud Blake*

*Sam Howard*

*Sam Howard*

