

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the open exchange of public discourse is essential to the democratic system of government; and

WHEREAS, as a cornerstone of democracy, Americans have observed certain rules of behavior known as civility; and

WHEREAS, civility, derived from the Latin words “civitas” meaning city and “civis” meaning citizen, is behavior worthy of citizens living in a community or in common with others and is understood to mean the act of showing regard for others; and

WHEREAS, displays of anger, rudeness, ridicule, impatience, and a lack of respect and personal attacks detract from the open exchange of ideas, prevent fair discussion of the issues, and can discourage individuals from participation in government; and

WHEREAS, civility can assist in reaching consensus on diverse issues, allow for mutually respectful ongoing relationships and help in establishing optimum business practices; and

WHEREAS, civility can uplift our daily life and make it more pleasant to live in an organized society; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Eugene Fields, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lake Wales, Polk County Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2014 as

“CIVILITY MONTH”

in the City of Lake Wales, Florida, and is pleased to join with other cities and counties throughout our state and the Local Government Section of the Florida Bar in urging our citizens to adopt a pledge of civility toward each other throughout the year.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Lake Wales, Florida to be affixed this April 15, 2014.

Mayor Eugene Fultz