

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, this year, breast cancer will be newly diagnosed every three minutes and a woman will die from breast cancer every 13 minutes; and

WHEREAS, every woman is at risk for breast cancer. The risk of developing breast cancer increases as a woman ages. Over 70% of cases occur in women who have no identifiable risk factor; and

WHEREAS, breast cancer can be detected at an early, treatable stage in women age 40 and older. More widespread use of regular screening mammography has been a major contributor to recent improvements in the breast cancer survival rate; and

WHEREAS, annual screening mammography should begin at age 40 and continue as long as a woman is healthy and able to undergo the test and should be complemented by annual breast examinations by a medical professional; and

WHEREAS, currently, 63% of breast cancers are discovered at an early, "localized" stage and five-year survival after treatment for early-stage breast cancer is 96%; and

WHEREAS, over 1,500 uninsured Alexandria women have been afforded mammograms using funds raised by the Walk to Fight Breast Cancer held annually since 1995; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Office of the City Manager, the Alexandria Office for Women, the Alexandria Commission for Women, the Alexandria Commission on Aging, the Alexandria Health Department, the Alexandria Office of Aging and Adult Services, the Alexandria Volunteer Bureau, the Y-ME of the National Capital Area, the Alexandria Business & Professional Women, the Retired & Senior Volunteer Program, the Women Mean Business, the Inova Alexandria Hospital Foundation, and the Walk to Fight Breast Cancer Development Committee are sponsoring the eighth annual Walk to Fight Breast Cancer on Saturday, October 26, 2002, to raise funds to support free mammograms for uninsured and under-insured, low-income women; and

WHEREAS, all Alexandrians are invited to join the Walk to Fight Breast Cancer on October 26, 2002, at 8:30 a.m., at Cameron Run Regional Park, or to sponsor participants in the Walk;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2002, as:

**"BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"
AND
OCTOBER 15 AS "MAMMOGRAPHY DAY"**

in the City of Alexandria, and encourage all women in Alexandria to be aware that they are at risk for breast cancer, and urge them to discuss early detection measures with their own health care providers.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 8th day of October 2002.

KERRY J. DONLEY **MAYOR**
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk