

**PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, the use of drugs, alcohol and nicotine and the misuse of prescription and over-the-counter drugs constitute great threats to the well-being of America's children; and*

*WHEREAS, the most recent Developmental Assets survey of seventh through twelfth grade Alexandria City Public School students indicated that 11% of seventh graders and 25% of twelfth graders reported binge drinking in the two weeks prior to the survey; and*

*WHEREAS, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria, an alliance of parents, youth, schools, nonprofits, business, policymakers and City departments, works to support parents as they tackle these threats; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria, recognized two years in a row by America's Promise as one of the Top 100 Communities for Young People, works to address these issues by providing comprehensive positive youth development programming; and*

*WHEREAS, 13 years of surveys conducted by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) at Columbia University have consistently found that the more often children and teenagers eat dinner with their families the less likely they are to smoke, drink and use illegal drugs; and*

*WHEREAS, parents who are engaged in their children's lives – through such activities as frequent family dinners – are less likely to have children who abuse substances; and*

*WHEREAS, family dinners have long constituted a substantial pillar of family life in America;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim September 22, 2008, the fourth Monday in September as:*

***“FAMILY DAY – A DAY TO  
EAT DINNER WITH YOUR CHILDREN”***

*and call upon the people of Alexandria to recognize and participate in its observance.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2008.*

**WILLIAM D. EUILLE    MAYOR**

*On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC    City Clerk