PROCLAMATION

LITERACY AWARENESS DAY
September 8, 2007

Whereas, our community’s greatest resource is its people; and

Whereas, the growth and stability of our community are significantly affected by the ability of its citizens to read and write; and

Whereas there is a correlation among literacy, individual self-esteem, and the vitality of our cities; and

Whereas, it is in the best interests of our society to help increase the literacy levels of all its members; and

Whereas, Benicia Public Library has utilized the services of volunteer tutors since 1987 to increase the literacy levels in Benicia and surrounding areas by offering free, private English-language literacy tutoring for adults; and

Whereas, the Library’s Adult Literacy & ESL Program trains volunteers to provide literacy instruction to adults and to help adult literacy learners read to their children, thus helping to build “a community of readers”; and

Whereas, International Literacy Day is observed worldwide on September 8 and in Benicia will be celebrated with special literacy programming throughout the month at the Benicia Public Library.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Steve Messina, Mayor, on behalf of the city of Benicia, do hereby proclaim September 8, 2007 as Literacy Awareness Day. I commend the efforts of the hundreds of volunteers, tutors and adult learners who have worked through the Library’s Adult Literacy & ESL Program in the past 20 years. I urge all citizens to support the goals of the Library’s literacy program to make Benicia a more literate community.

Steve Messina, Mayor
September 4, 2007

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