Whereas, the need for a highly literate citizenry is necessary as Newport Beach moves toward an increasingly challenging future; and

Whereas, approximately ten percent of the residents of Newport Beach and many of the adults employed within the city are lacking the literacy skills necessary to meet these challenges; and

Whereas, lack of literacy skills impacts not only their lives and the lives of their families, but their ability to work productively, and their full participation as citizens, residents, and employees of our city, and

Whereas, Newport /Mesa ProLiteracy, a program of the Newport Beach Public Library works with adults seeking to improve their literacy skills to enable them to achieve greater success in their lives - at home, at work, and in the community; and

Whereas, Newport /Mesa ProLiteracy, a program of the Newport Beach Public Library hosts an annual International Literacy Day event to highlight the importance of literacy in society and the great strides that program participants have made.

Now, therefore, I Keith Curry, Mayor of Newport Beach, on behalf of the entire Newport Beach City Council, hereby proclaim September 12, 2013 as "International Literacy Day"

in the City of Newport Beach and urge my fellow citizens to learn more about the importance of literacy and to become involved with literacy in the community.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Newport Beach to be affixed this