

PROCLAMATION

ARBOR DAY

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska, and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires and countless other wood products; and

WHEREAS, trees in our city increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

WHEREAS, Muscatine has been recognized as a Tree City USA by The National Arbor Day Foundation and desires to continue its tree-planting practices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 27, 2012 as Arbor Day in the City of Muscatine, and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and further, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Signed and sealed this 5th day of April, 2012.

DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

PLUG INTO YOUR FAMILY WEEK

WHEREAS, the most important trait in strong, happy families is commitment; and

WHEREAS, strong families focus on the strengths of each other; and

WHEREAS, healthy families enjoy being together to work and play; and

WHEREAS, a family has to be willing to invest time to share feelings and opinions; and

WHEREAS, sharing spiritual values and standards are important to strong families; and

WHEREAS, happy families have fun together, play together, laugh together; and

WHEREAS, flexibility is an important trait in strong families; and

WHEREAS, the more family members have in common, the more they tend to do things together.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, do hereby proclaim the period April 30, 2012 through May 6, 2012 as Plug Into Your Family Week in the City of Muscatine and encourage all citizens to join me in turning off our electronics and "plugging" into our families during the designated period.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, to be affixed the 5th day of April, 2012.

DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

EARTH DAY 2012

WHEREAS, Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson proposed the first nationwide environmental protest to shake up the political establishment on April 22, 1970 to force this issue onto the national agenda; and

WHEREAS, the first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species acts; and

WHEREAS, Earth Day went global in 1990, mobilizing 200 million people in 141 countries and lifting the status of environmental issues on to the world stage and it gave a huge boost to recycling efforts worldwide; and

WHEREAS, April 22 of each year marks the anniversary of Earth Day; and

WHEREAS, the City of Muscatine has partnered with Muscatine Power and Water to celebrate Earth Day by hosting “Earth Day Celebration 2012 – Living Green in Muscatine – Walking the Walk” environmental event on Friday, April 20, 2012, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Discovery Park Environmental Learning Center;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor of the City of Muscatine, Iowa, do hereby proclaim April 22, 2012 as Earth Day in the City of Muscatine, and I urge all citizens to participate in living green to make our community a greener place to live. Opportunities for energy and water conservation, public transportation use, recycling, and caring about our environment are all ways we all can contribute to living green in Muscatine.

Signed and Sealed this 5th day of April 2012.

DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor

PROCLAMATION

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

“Protecting Children is Everyone’s Business”

WHEREAS, Iowa’s children are one of the most precious resources in our city and provide the hope for a brighter tomorrow;

WHEREAS, protecting children is everyone’s business and we can promote and support safe and healthy families in our community through partnering to protect children; and

WHEREAS, child abuse is a community issue and finding solutions depends on involvement and partnerships among people throughout the community; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention succeeds because of partnerships created by parents, practitioners, schools, faith communities, health care organizations, law enforcement agencies, community leaders, politicians and the business community; and

WHEREAS, all citizens need to be more aware of child abuse and neglect and its prevention in the community and be involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing society;

WHEREAS, public awareness regarding child abuse and neglect is encouraged by the Prevent Child Abuse Iowa and Muscatine County Child Abuse Response and Education System (CARES).

Therefore, I, DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2012, as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the City of Muscatine, Iowa, and urge all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to partner in efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect, thereby strengthening the community in which we live.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name to be affixed this 5th day of April, 2012.

DeWayne Hopkins, Mayor