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**WHEREAS,** Congress designated the third full week in March to be National Poison Prevention Week in 1961 and since then this week has helped to raise national awareness of the dangers of potentially poisonous medicines, household chemicals, and other substances; and

**WHEREAS**, 90% of poisoning occur in people’s homes and our society has become increasingly dependent on household chemicals to perform labor-saving, time-saving miracles; and on medicine to provide health-giving, life-sustaining benefits;

***WHEREAS,*** *these products, when not used as intended or directed, may be hazardous, particularly if children gain access to them;*

***WHEREAS,*** *over the past 52 years, the nation has been observing Poison Prevention Week to call attention to these hazards and how proper handling and disposal of these substances and proper use of safety packaging can help eliminate them;*

***WHEREAS,*** *the efforts of our community organizations, complemented by the efforts of the North Texas Poison Center have reduced childhood poisonings in White Oak, Texas;*

***WHEREAS,*** *the North Texas Poison Center, a regional poison center, located at Parkland Health & Hospital System, provides the ultimate in human service programming, immediate, accessible emergency information to save lives of victims of poison-related emergencies, and;*

***WHEREAS,*** *these programs must continue as long as even one child swallows a household product or medicine by mistake.*

***NOW, THEREFORE,*** *I, Rick May, Mayor of the City of White Oak, do hereby proclaim the week of March 16-22, 2014, as Poison Prevention Week in this city. Further, I direct the appropriate agencies in our local government to continue their cooperation with concerned citizens and community organizations, including our schools, to develop programs which will alert our people to the continued danger of misusing medicines and household products and to promote effective safeguards against accidental poisonings among young children.*

**PROCLAIMED** this 11th day of March 2014.

***Rick May,***

***Mayor, City of White Oak***