**P R O C L A M A T I O N**

**WHEREAS,** Mr. Thomas Neugent has been the Director of the Paris Municipal Band since 2001 and will now be retiring after serving as Director for almost 13 years; and

**WHEREAS, Mr. Neugent** has been an asset to the Band and we have been fortunate for his service to the City of Paris and the citizens with his time and talent. As his predecessors, founder, Arthur Layton (Director from 1929 – 1930), OM Barnett (1930 – 1942), George “Slick” Howard (Director 1942 – 1949) and Floyd Weger (Director from 1949 to 2001), he would traditionally begin each session with “The Star Spangled Banner” and end with I Love Paris”, he added however a Hymn to each session bringing his own tradition to the Band; and

**WHEREAS,** He married His wife Jacquelyn in 1964 and together they raised a son, Nathaniel who is the Band Director for Mansfield ISD and a Daughter Natalie who is the Band Director for Arlington ISD. They have one Grandson who plays the French Horn. He moved to Paris after retiring from Hurst Euless Bedford ISD in 1996 following his wife who was the Principal at Aaron Parker Elementary; and,

**WHEREAS,** His dedication to practices and getting musicians to attend the concerts in the summer at Bywaters Park, the annual Fireworks Display at Noyse Stadium and the Crepe Myrtle Coronation will not be forgotten. **Mr. Neugent** is well respected by the musicians and appreciated by all who know him; He is proud to have been a part of one of the few municipal bands in the State and one of the oldest bands, having been founded in 1923 with Arthur Layton as Director and officially being created and established by the City in 1929; and,

**WHEREAS, Mr. Neugent** plans to continue as a Band Director part-time with the North Lamar ISD Band Department before eventually moving closer to his children in the Hurst area.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** in honor of his contributions to the City of Paris, it is fitting and proper that I, A.J. Hashmi, Mayor of the City of Paris, Texas by the authority vested in me, do hereby pay tribute to

**“Thomas Neugent”**

and I request that the City of Paris join with me in expressing its sincere appreciation and thanks for his outstanding contribution of time and talent.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name and caused the Seal of the City to be affixed at the City of Paris, this the 20th day of May, 2013

**ATTEST:** A.J. Hashmi, M.D., Mayor

Janice Ellis, City Clerk

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

W. Kent McIlyar, City Attorney