



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Bainbridge Island, Washington is home to more than approximately 5,200 citizens 55 years of age or older (almost one-fourth of the Island population); and

WHEREAS, the older citizens of Bainbridge Island represent a dramatic trend in our nation's demographic make up; and

WHEREAS, older persons are diverse, respected citizens who continue to contribute to our nation's social and economic well-being; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of baby boomers are rapidly becoming older citizens, and the number of individuals providing care to family members and friends is expanding significantly; and

WHEREAS, the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead require us to think differently about health and long-term care, and work together to rebalance and modernize our current systems so that we may adequately plan for and address the needs of current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, older persons are entitled to live lives of dignity and independence through:

Streamlined access to information and community services,

Information about cost-effective prevention practices and activities that will improve health and quality of life, and

Innovative, affordable options of care and support that will provide an array of choices about how and where to live.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Darlene Kordonowy, Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, Washington do hereby proclaim the month of May 2007 to be

Older Americans Month

and urge all citizens to honor older adults, and those who care for them, during May and throughout the year. We urge all to promote and participate in activities that contribute to helping older Americans make choices for a healthy and rewarding future.

SIGNED this 23rd day of April 2007


Darlene Kordonowy, Mayor

