



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer is among the deadliest of cancers, with fewer than one in five patients surviving five years; and

WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer has low survival rates due at least in part to the fact it is usually discovered at advanced stages when treatment outcomes are poorer; and

WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer in the United States is most often associated with persistent Heartburn or Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease (GERD), yet many who are at risk are unaware of the potential danger GERD can present when it occurs over several months or years; and

WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer can be a silent killer with patients often unaware that the cough, hoarse voice, sore throat or chest pain they suffer can be signs of GERD and are reasons to seek further consultation from their health care professional to rule out esophageal cancer; and

WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer can be prevented through early detection of its precursor, Barrett's Esophagus, which can be treated with new healing outpatient techniques; and

WHEREAS, the Esophageal Cancer Action Network, ECAN, is working to improve public awareness of the link between Heartburn and Cancer and supports progress in early detection and treatment of Esophageal Cancer; and

WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer awareness along with improvements in prevention, early detection and treatment strategies will enhance the health and well-being of all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark W. Eckert, Mayor of the City of Belleville, Illinois, do hereby proclaim April 2019 *Esophageal Cancer Awareness Month* in the City of Belleville.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Belleville to be affixed, this 1st day of April, 2019.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark W. Eckert". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Mark W. Eckert, Mayor
City of Belleville, Illinois