

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, each year, the Lupus Foundation of America designates May as National Lupus Awareness Month to show support for the estimated 1.5 million Americans who have lupus each year; and

WHEREAS, lupus is an unpredictable and misunderstood autoimmune disease that ravages different parts of the body. Lupus is difficult to diagnose, hard to live with, and a challenge to treat; and

WHEREAS, lupus can affect any part of the body, including the skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, and brain; no organ is spared. The disease can cause seizures, strokes, heart attacks, miscarriages, and organ failure; and

WHEREAS, lupus can be particularly difficult to diagnose because its symptoms are similar to those of many other illnesses, and major gaps exist in understanding the causes and consequences of lupus. More than half of all people with lupus take four or more years and visit three or more doctors before obtaining a correct diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, while lupus strikes mostly women of childbearing age, no one is safe from lupus. African Americans, Hispanics/Latinos, Asians and Native Americans are two to three times more likely to develop lupus - a disparity that remains unexplained.

AND WHEREAS, 120,000 citizens diagnosed in Texas are affected by lupus.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Karen Selbo Hunt, Mayor of the City of Coppell, do hereby proclaim the month of May as

"LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH IN COPPELL"

and urge each of our citizens to observe this month by educating themselves on the symptoms and impact of lupus, and to join with the North Texas Chapter of the Lupus Foundation of America in supporting programs of research, education, and community service.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Coppell to be affixed this 22nd day of April 2014.

Karen Selbo Hunt, Mayor

ATTEST:

Christel Pettinos, City Secretary