



- WHEREAS, communities across America have been plagued by the numerous problems associated with illicit drug use and those that traffic in them; and,
- WHEREAS, there is hope in winning the war on drugs, and that hope lies in education and drug demand reduction, coupled with the hard work and determination of organizations such as the Mecklenburg County Young Marines of the Marine Corps League to foster a healthy, drug-free lifestyle; and,
- WHEREAS, governments and community leaders know that citizen support is one of the most effective tools in the effort to reduce the use of illicit drugs in our communities; and,
- WHEREAS, the red ribbon has been chosen as a symbol commemorating the work of Enriqu  "Kiki" Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Administration Special Agent who was murdered in the line of duty, and represents the belief that one person can make a difference; and,
- WHEREAS, the Red Ribbon Campaign was established by Congress in 1988 to encourage a drug-free lifestyle and involvement in drug prevention and reduction efforts; and,
- WHEREAS, the last week in October has been designated as National Red Ribbon Week, and this year's theme is **"Send A Message. Stay Drug Free."** and encourages Americans to wear a red ribbon to show their support for a drug-free environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims October 23-31, 2019 as

RED RIBBON WEEK

in Gaston County and urge all citizens to join in this special observance.

Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman

Chad Brown, Vice-Chairman

Bob Hovis

Jack B. Brown

Tom Keigher

Allen R. Fraley

Ronald E. Worley