



WHEREAS, Mrs. Ruth Patterson, long-term Gaston County volunteer and advocate for elderly and disabled adults, stepped down after more than 23 years of service to the Gaston County Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee (ACHCAC); and,

WHEREAS, a life-long registered nurse, Ruth realized the adult care and nursing home community advisory committees (CACs) provide a much-needed service to our community. Following her retirement as a nurse, she joined the Adult Care Home CAC in 1995, selflessly giving of her professional knowledge and compassion to many of Gaston County's elderly and disabled residents; and,

WHEREAS, the Committee, which is made up of 13 members, *"promotes community involvement and cooperation with adult care homes to ensure quality of care for older and disabled adults"*; and,

WHEREAS, the ACHCAC members pay quarterly visits to adult care homes, annual visits to family care homes, and conduct friendly drop-in-visits throughout the year; and,

WHEREAS, a vocal leader, Ruth served in the capacity of Secretary, Chairperson and Co-Chairperson during her long tenure; and,

WHEREAS, she was also appointed to the Gaston County *Senior Center Study Committee* in 2004 which was charged with seeking input and identifying facility components and ancillary needs of the senior population; and,

WHEREAS, Ruth's sense of community led her to many years of service to other organizations in Gaston County including the Gaston Literacy Council and Gaston Hospice; and,

WHEREAS, a model of servant leadership, Ruth was recognized in 2002 as one of four recipients to receive the Judge William Gaston Award – an annual County Commission award that recognizes stellar volunteer service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners commends

MRS. RUTH PATTERSON

for her many years of dedicated and compassionate service and for her commitment to enhancing the quality of life of Gaston County's older and disabled residents. The Commission extends its grateful appreciation to Ruth and wishes her the best upon her retirement from volunteerism.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Allen R. Fraley

Tom Keigher

Donald J. Grant, Jr.

Tracy L. Philbeck

Bob Hovis

Ronald E. Worley, Vice-Chairman