

# PROCLAMATION

**Whereas,** Congenital heart defects are the most frequently occurring birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect related deaths worldwide; and

**Whereas,** Over a million families across America are facing the challenges and hardships of raising children with congenital heart defects; and

**Whereas,** Every year 40,000 babies are born in the United States with congenital heart defects; and

**Whereas,** Some congenital heart defects are not diagnosed until months or years after birth; and

**Whereas,** Undiagnosed congenital heart conditions cause many cases of sudden cardiac death in youth athletes; and

**Whereas,** Despite these statistics, newborn and young athletes are not routinely screened for congenital heart defects; and

**Whereas,** A disproportionately small amount of funding is available for congenital heart defect research and support; and

**Whereas,** Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides an opportunity for affected families to celebrate life, remember loved ones lost, honor dedicated health professionals, and raise public awareness about congenital heart defects.

**Now, Therefore, I, Doug Neeley,** Mayor of the City of Oregon City hereby proclaim

February 7-14, 2013

as

**Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week.**

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of February 2013.

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DOUG NEELEY, Mayor