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TOWN OF BOONTON
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Proclamation

Whereas, Congress designated the third full week in March to be National Poison Prevention Week in 1961 and since then this week has helped to raise national awareness of the dangers of potentially poisonous medicines, household chemicals, and other substances; and

Whereas, each year, more than 2 million potential poisonings are reported to the Nation's Poison Centers; and

Whereas, unintentional poisoning is the 2nd leading cause of unintentional injury death nationally; and

Whereas, approximately half of all unintentional poisonings occurring each year happen to children under six (6) years of age; and

Whereas, approximately 90 percent of poisonings occur in people's homes; and

Whereas, the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES), a division of the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health/NJ Medical School of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) is celebrating its 28th year of service to New Jersey residents; and

Whereas, NJPIES provides free poison consultation, drug information, and poison prevention education to NJ residents through the 1-800-222-1222 Poison Help Hotline; and

Whereas, NJPIES' services are free and confidential and are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year; and

Whereas, keeping the Poison Control Center phone number (800-222-1222) nearby or stored in home, office and cell phones can help save lives in times of emergency; and

Whereas, consumers and healthcare professionals need and desire a source of information for their questions regarding the use of prescriptive and non-prescriptive medications; and

Whereas, child resistant packaging has been successful in reducing unintentional poisoning. "Child-resistant is not "child-proof". Therefore, it is important to keep potential poisons locked up and out of reach of children; and

Whereas, year-round educational programs conducted by poison center staff ensures NJPIES' commitment to reducing unintentional poisonings in New Jersey; and

Whereas, every poisoning is preventable

Whereas, all NJ residents must be educated about the dangers posed by potentially poisonous household products and other toxic substances because these products when not used as intended or directed, may be dangerous or fatal; and

Whereas, NJPIES is involved in the state's efforts at homeland defense, counter-terrorism, bio surveillance, and surveillance for clusters of poisonings; and

Whereas, NJPIES encourages the public to use the resources of the Poison Control Center for emergencies, drug information, poison information questions, and public education services by calling the Poison Help Hotline at 1-800-222-1222; and

Whereas, educating the public about the Poison Control Center's services can help save lives.

