

WHEREAS, falls are the primary reason that Sonoma County seniors are seen in a hospital for an unintentional injury with approximately 1700 non-fatal hospitalizations and 30 deaths occurring annually; and

**WHEREAS**, falls are preventable when education, awareness, and interventions are put in place; and

**WHEREAS**, best practice fall prevention activities in California include evidence-based programs designed to reduce falls and the fear of falling; and

WHEREAS, the nationally ranked evidenced based "A Matter of Balance" program is sponsored by the Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging with partner agencies and trained volunteers to raise senior's confidence about their balance and increase their activity levels to reduce risk of falls; and

WHEREAS, the first day of fall, September 22, 2013, has been declared as National Fall Prevention Awareness Day; and

**WHEREAS**, by legislative resolution of 2008, California has established the first week of fall as Fall Prevention Awareness Week;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT,** I, Scott P. Bartley, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of September 22-28, 2013 as

FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK

