



## *A Proclamation by the Mayor*

### *National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month 2024*

- WHEREAS,** every 68 seconds another person in the United States is sexually assaulted, and in Texas 2 in 5 women and 1 in 5 men are victims of sexual assault; AND in fiscal year 2023, Thriving Hearts Crisis Center rendered 1,410 services to 452 survivors of sexual violence and provided 124 hospital accompaniments for sexual assault exams; and
- WHEREAS,** according to a study conducted by the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault and The University of Texas at Austin Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault approximately 6.3 million Texans have been sexually victimized; and
- WHEREAS,** most victims are sexually assaulted by someone they know and 91 percent of victims did not report to the police; and
- WHEREAS,** it is appropriate to salute the more than 20 Million victims who have survived sexual assault in the United States and the efforts of victims, volunteers, and professionals who combat sexual assault; and
- WHEREAS,** national and community organizations and private sector supporters should be recognized and applauded for their work in promoting awareness about sexual assault; and
- WHEREAS,** police, forensic workers, and prosecutors should be recognized and commended for their hard work and innovative strategies to

increase the percentage of sexual assault cases that resolve in the prosecution and incarceration of the offenders; and

**WHEREAS,** sexual violence is a persistent and pervasive problem in our society, one that requires attention year-round, and in order to foster healthy communities, all citizens must support the effort to end sexual violence every month of the year; and

**WHEREAS,** national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, and the media are urged, through *National Sexual Assault Awareness* of sexual violence and strategies to decrease the incidence of sexual assault.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Martin Poore, Mayor of the City of La Vernia do hereby proclaim the month of April as “*National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month*” in La Vernia and urge all citizens to observe this month by supporting the goals and ideas of victims and those working toward awareness and prevention, and by participating in community efforts.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of La Vernia to be affixed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

**City Seal**

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Martin Poore, Mayor

Attest:

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Lindsey Wheeler, City Secretary