

**In Recognition of
Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month**

- WHEREAS,** colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second most common cause of cancer deaths for men and women in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** colorectal cancer affects men and women equally; and
- WHEREAS,** every 3 minutes, someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer and every 10 minutes someone dies from colorectal cancer; and
- WHEREAS,** the vast majority of colon cancer deaths can be prevented through proper screening and early detection; and
- WHEREAS,** only 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancers detected at an early stage; and
- WHEREAS,** the survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90 percent but is only 10 percent when diagnosed after it has spread to other organs; and
- WHEREAS,** if the majority of people in the United States age 50 or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, the death rate from this disease could plummet by up to 70 percent; and
- WHEREAS,** African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, and Alaskan Natives are significantly less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer compared to Whites; and
- WHEREAS,** colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and beatable in most cases; and
- WHEREAS,** observing a Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month during the month of March would provide a special opportunity to offer education on the importance of early detection and screening.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, as City Commissioners of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, do hereby proclaim **March 2014** as:

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

in the City of Fort Lauderdale and urge all citizens to learn more about this disease, to assist in prevention efforts, and to recognize the importance of colorectal cancer screenings.

DATED this, the 4th day of March 2014.

Mayor John P. “Jack” Seiler

