



PROCLAMATION

Declaring

2017

As

“The Year of Civic Engagement”

Whereas, great leaders of our nation, from the beginning, have encouraged citizens of the United States to be informed and engaged with their government on the local, state and national levels;

Whereas, the Founders of our Nation stressed the importance of an educated citizenry including:

James Madison said, “A popular government without popular information or the means of acquiring it is but a prologue to Farce or Tragedy or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance, and a people who mean to be their own Governors must arm themselves with the power knowledge gives.”

John Adams said “Liberty cannot be preserved without a general knowledge among the people, who have a right...and a desire to know”;

Whereas, recent Presidents have reinforced the importance of engaged citizens including:

Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education."

Dwight D. Eisenhower said, “Politics ought to be the part-time profession of every citizen who would protect the rights and privileges of free men.”

John F. Kennedy said, “Democracy is never a final achievement. It is a call to an untiring effort.”

Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."

Whereas civics education has been deemed important for our children:

Eleanor Roosevelt said, “Our children should learn the general framework of their government and then they should know where they come in contact with the government, where it touches their daily lives and where their influence is exerted on the government. It must not be a distant thing, someone else’s business, but they must see how every cog in the wheel of a democracy is important and bears its share of responsibility for the smooth running of the entire machine.”

Whereas, The League of Women Voters US was founded in 1920, the League of Women Voters Arizona was founded in 1950, and the local chapter, now called the League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley, was founded in 1988;

Whereas the League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization, encouraging informed and active participation in government, working to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influencing public policy through education and advocacy;

Whereas the League of Women Voters Greater Verde Valley has planned programs throughout 2017 to inspire, inform and motivate our residents to become informed and engaged in our democracy;

Therefore I, Charles German, Mayor of Camp Verde, Arizona do hereby proclaim 2017 as The Year of Civic Engagement and encourage all residents of Camp Verde, Arizona to participate in programs to become informed citizens and to take action to have their voices heard on issues of importance to them, the community and society as a whole.



Charles German, Mayor

2-1-2017

Date

Attest:



Virginia Jones, Town Clerk

