

**BEN HILL COUNTY PROCLAMATION
WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY
JUNE 15, 2021**

- WHEREAS:** Ben Hill County's seniors are valued, contributing members of society, imparting a wealth of experience and wisdom in our communities. They deserve to be treated with respect and dignity. It is our collective responsibility to ensure they live safely and fully engaged within the community that cares about them.
- WHEREAS:** The International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse, in support of the United Nations International Plan of Action, proclaimed this day to recognize the significance of elder abuse as both a public health and human rights issue; and
- WHEREAS:** **2021 Marks the 16th Anniversary of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day.** Its recognition will foster a better understanding of abuse and neglect of older adults; and
- WHEREAS:** Elder abuse is not limited to race, gender, culture, or circumstance, and regardless of whether the abuse is physical, emotional, or financial, it has a significant impact on the lives of individuals and families; and
- WHEREAS:** Seniors are at risk of being abused and social isolation and ageism are contributing risk factors in our country; and
- WHEREAS:** Ben Hill County recognizes the importance of taking action, to create social change, that prevents elder abuse and raises awareness, through education of neighbors, friends and family members about the Rights of older adults; and
- WHEREAS:** Preventing abuse of older adults will help improve their quality of life and allow them to live independently and contribute to the vibrancy of our country for as long as possible; and
- WHEREAS:** Where there is Respect there can be no abuse; therefore, residents of our country are urged to Stop Abuse and Restore Respect.
- WHEREAS:** Where there is respect there can be no abuse; therefore, residents of Ben Hill County are urged to join this global movement to Stop Abuse and Restore Respect.
- THEREFORE,** The Ben Hill County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim **June 15, 2021, as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day** and encourage all of our residents to recognize and celebrate seniors and their ongoing contributions to the success and vitality of our country.

SO RESOLVED, this **8th** day of **June, 2021**.

Steve Taylor, Chairman

ATTEST:

Donna R. Prather, Clerk