

WHEREAS, the young people of St. Lucie County are the foundation on which our future success is built; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Boys and Girls Club is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens; and

WHEREAS, Boys and Girls Club programs teach leadership, career exploration, peer engagement, academic success, community involvement, healthy habits, life skills, fine arts and physical activity; and

WHEREAS, the Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Lucie County have 3,087 members, 866 of them from the City of Fort Pierce; and

WHEREAS, Fort Pierce Club members contributed 3,643 volunteer hours with an economic value of \$40,801.00; and

WHEREAS, 85% of Fort Pierce Club members are passing math and literacy, 81 are on the honor roll, 100% abstained from smoking cigarettes, 100% received homework assistance, there were zero teen pregnancies and 89% feel a sense of belonging at the club; and

WHEREAS, Boy's and Girls Club programs save taxpayers more than \$9,000 for every student not held back a grade, to an aggregate of \$29,080,000 in lifetime earnings for each 100 additional high school graduates. Taxpayers also realize a cost avoidance of \$5,000 per youth who are diverted from criminal activities; and

WHEREAS, citizens can assist the Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County by volunteering, making a donation or participating in one of their many events.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of May, 2015, as:

Boys & Girls Club Month

in the City of Fort Pierce and call on all citizens to join me in recognizing and commending the Boys & Girls Club of St. Lucie County for providing comprehensive, effective services to the young people of our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 4th day of May, 2015.

MAYOR COMMISSIONER