

PROCLAMATION

- Whereas,** Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive, neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States; and
- Whereas,** there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, but it is estimated to affect 500,000 to 1,500,000 people in the United States and the prevalence will more than double by 2040; and
- Whereas,** Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the age-adjusted death rate increased 2.9 percent from 2010 to 2011; and
- Whereas,** it is estimated that the economic burden of Parkinson's disease is at least \$14.4 billion annually, including indirect costs to patients and family members of \$6.3 billion; and
- Whereas,** research suggests the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause and progression of the disease is still unknown; and
- Whereas,** there is no objective test or biomarker for Parkinson's disease, and the rate of misdiagnosis can be high; and
- Whereas,** the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and can include tremors; slowness of movement and rigidity; difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking; cognitive impairment and dementia; mood disorders (such as depression and anxiety); constipation; skin problems; and sleep difficulties; and
- Whereas,** there is no cure, therapy, or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson's disease; and
- Whereas,** local, regional, and state volunteers, researchers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of persons living with Parkinson's disease and their families; and
- Whereas,** increased education and research is needed to find more effective treatments with fewer side effects and, ultimately, a cure for Parkinson's disease.

Now, Therefore, I, Doug Neeley, Mayor of Oregon City, hereby proclaim

The Month of April 2014
as
Parkinson's Awareness Month

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of April 2014.

DOUG NEELEY, Mayor