

Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation

Whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has public health implications for every resident of Big Piney and every citizen of Wyoming; and

Whereas, Rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our state as seen by statistics indicating that one in five women will have experienced forcible rape in their lifetime; and

Whereas, Victims need an array of services to heal from trauma of sexual assault, including crisis intervention, 24 hour sexual assault hot lines, medical and criminal justice accompaniment, advocacy and counseling; and

Whereas, Victim service providers are essential to this effort and work tirelessly to help victims cope with the trauma of sexual assault and transition from "victim" to "survivor"; and

Whereas, Holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions and Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART) & Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) can ensure that victims are treated with requisite sensitivity and that critical evidence is collected to facilitate a successful prosecution; and

Whereas, The Sublette County Sexual Assault/Family Violence (SAFV) Task Force and its community partners are committed to eliminating sexual violence through prevention and community action in Big Piney and promoting equality, safety and respect among all individuals; and

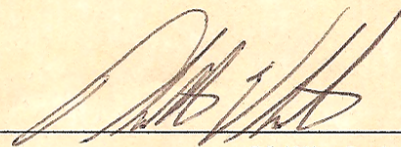
Whereas, With leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence in Big Piney and throughout Wyoming through prevention education and increased awareness; and

Whereas, I strongly support the efforts of local and state partners, and of every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

That I, Phillip Smith, Mayor of the Town of Big Piney, Wyoming, join anti-sexual violence advocates and support service programs in the belief that all community members must be part of the solution to end sexual violence.

I do hereby proclaim April 2011 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and urge all residents of Big Piney to fully participate in activities and events to observe Sexual Assault Awareness Month.



Phillip Smith, Mayor