PROCLAMATION

Americans are increasingly heading to the water for recreation and relaxation as the opportunities for on-the-water activities that grow each year. But with this growth comes additional responsibility. It is vital that both novice and experienced boaters alike practice safe boating habits---especially wearing a life jacket. Approximately 88 percent of those who die in boating-related drownings were not wearing life jackets.

WHEREAS, hundreds of lives could be saved each year by wearing life jackets and the law requires that wearable life jackets be carried for each person on board a boat.

WHEREAS, responsible boaters will learn the local boating regulations, master the "rules of the road", not drink alcohol and boat, wear their life jacket, and respect fellow boaters.

WHEREAS, U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 12-06 Chincoteague provides safe boating instruction for all ages in order to prevent boating accidents and to teach rescue and survival techniques in case one does occur.

WHEREAS, boaters nationwide are wearing their life jackets this week and year round to recognize National Safe Boating Week with the theme, "Life Jacket. WEAR IT! a habit we can live with!"

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED I, Mayor John H. Tarr, proclaim May 21 through 27, 2016 as National Safe Boating Week within the Town of Chincoteague and encourage all boaters to wear their life jacket, boat responsibly, and enroll in a safe boating class.

DATED this 2nd, day of May, 2016

Mayor John H. Tarr
Town of Chincoteague, Inc.

CWO. Hank Deatrich
Officer in Charge
U. S. Coast Guard
Station Chincoteague

Robert G. Ritter Jr., Town Manager
Town of Chincoteague, Inc.

Warren C. Peake
Flotilla Commander 12-06
U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary