

**WHEREAS**, drowning is a leading cause of death and life-long disabilities to children under the age of five, and boating fatalities are mostly the result of boaters not wearing lifejackets; and

**WHEREAS**, with temperatures on the rise as we head out to enjoy summer activities, parents are reminded to always watch young children playing in or near any body of water, and insure that lifejackets are available and worn when boating; and

**WHEREAS**, Drowning Prevention Month was established through a collaborative effort across the country to promote water safety and drowning prevention along with National Safe Boating Week, which has been identified by the United States Coast Guard, coincides with this same period; and

**WHEREAS**, “Josh the Otter” Water Safety Awareness projects were first conducted throughout Brevard County by Rotary Club members, and are now done in over 40 States to promote water safety awareness; and

**WHEREAS**, Swim Safe Forever educates our community about layers of protection necessary to prevent drowning and provides access to survival swim instruction through scholarships; and

**WHEREAS**, The Florida Department of Health in Brevard County recognizes that drowning is 100% preventable and promotes public awareness through educational outreach.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA**, does hereby unanimously recognize the month of May 2020 as

**WATER SAFETY AND DROWNING PREVENTION MONTH**

And urges all residents and visitors to recognize the vital importance of water safety and drowning prevention education.

**DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED**, in regular session, this 19 day of May, 2020.