

Proclamation



Office of the Mayor

Whereas, nationwide, one fifth of all high school students (grades 9-12) are current smokers; along with nearly one out of every ten eighth graders; and

Whereas, three million high school students are current smokers; and more than a third of all kids who ever try smoking a cigarette become new regular, daily smokers before leaving high school; and

Whereas, one out of three youth smokers will ultimately die prematurely from smoking-related diseases, unless current trends are reversed; and

Whereas, smoking kills more than 400,000 Americans each year, representing more deaths than from AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, murders, suicides, drugs and fires combined; and

Whereas, most of these deaths could be prevented; and

Whereas, Kick Butts Day is an annual national initiative sponsored by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids that makes elementary, middle and high school students leaders in the fight against youth tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke; and

Whereas, the children of Tahlequah, Oklahoma, as the community's most valued resource, deserve support in their efforts to fight tobacco use and exposure.

Now, Therefore, I, Jason Nichols, with the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tahlequah, do hereby proclaim March 12, 2014 as

“Kick Butts Day”

in the City of Tahlequah, and encourage our citizens to stand up with the children of our community in opposition to the sale, advertising and marketing of tobacco products to children by supporting SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) in picking up cigarette butts in Tahlequah City Park in May.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Tahlequah to be affixed this 12th day of March 2014.

Jason Nichols, Mayor