



PUBLIC INFORMATION

ITEM NO. 3.

DATE OF MEETING: October 21, 2013

REQUESTED BY: Chester Ward, County Commissioner

SHORT TITLE: Proclamation by the Pender County Board of Commissioners Recognizing the Month of September as "Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month."

BACKGROUND: The proclamation has been requested to be approved by Mr. Ward on behalf of Hampstead citizen Ms. Tammie M. Parris. Ms. Parris is a brain aneurysm survivor and her goal is to gain 100% of support from Pender County and New Hanover County and see that Governor McCrory will officially recognize September as Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month. A similar proclamation was presented to Ms. Parris by the Town of Surf City on October 1, 2013. She has learned of others at Cape Fear Community College, her church, and local communities who have been struck down by this "silent killer" or have a family member who did not make it. Ms. Parris plans to help organize an event next September raising awareness.

SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTED: To consider the attached proclamation recognizing the Month of September as "Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month."

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION

Respectfully recommend approval.

Initial

RESOLUTION

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Pender County Board of Commissioners that:

the attached proclamation to approve the month of September being recognized as Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month is hereby approved. The Chairman/ County Manager is authorized to execute any/all documents necessary to implement this resolution.

AMENDMENTS:

MOVED _____ SECONDED _____

APPROVED _____ DENIED _____ UNANIMOUS _____

YEA VOTES: Brown ___ McCoy ___ Tate ___ Ward ___ Williams ___

George R. Brown, Chairman 10/21/13
Date

ATTEST 10/21/13
Date



**PROCLAMATION BY THE PENDER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BRAIN ANEURYSM AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, A brain aneurysm (also called a cerebral aneurysm or an intracranial aneurysm) is a bulging, weakened area in the middle layer of the wall of a blood vessel in the brain, resulting in an abnormal widening or ballooning greater than 50% of the normal diameter (width). An aneurysm may occur in any blood vessel, but is most often seen in an artery rather than a vein; and

WHEREAS, Most brain aneurysms cause no symptoms and may only be discovered during tests for another, usually unrelated, condition. In other cases, an unruptured aneurysm will cause problems by pressing on areas in the brain. When this happens, the person may suffer from severe headaches, blurred vision, changes in speech, and neck pain, depending on what areas of the brain are affected and how bad the aneurysm is; and

WHEREAS, Symptoms of a ruptured brain aneurysm often come on suddenly. If you have any of the following symptoms or notice them in someone you know, **call 911 or other emergency services right away**: A sudden, severe headache that is different from past headaches, Neck pain, Nausea and vomiting, Sensitivity to light, Fainting or loss of consciousness, and Seizures.

WHEREAS, Brain aneurysm survivors cannot predict the length of time it will take to improve or recover completely. Most patients experience several challenges during the long journey to recovery after craniotomy or any other treatment: physical challenges, emotional challenges, psychological challenges and several temporary and permanent deficits. Several patients who receive treatment for an unruptured aneurysm require less rehabilitative therapy and recover faster than patients whose aneurysm has ruptured; and

WHEREAS, Every year over 30,000 families in the U.S. experience the unspeakable tragedy caused by a ruptured brain aneurysm. About 40% of those experiencing a ruptured brain aneurysm will die. Those that survive often face significant challenges, greatly impacting their lives and the lives of their families.

WHEREAS, The survivors who have the will power to live even if the recovery takes a long time have a better chance of improving their health. If the patients' caregivers or family maintain hope and positive energy around the patient then it would certainly make the patient/survivor's recovery easier and better. The brain certainly can adopt new ways and skills for a lifetime.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, George R. Brown, Chairman, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Chairman of the Pender County Board of Commissioners, do hereby recognize September 2013, as **"BRAIN ANEURYSM AWARENESS MONTH"** in Pender County, North Carolina. We urge all Pender County residents to ask Governor McCrory to support programs for patients and their families to receive the proper counseling for the emotional, physical, and mental changes that go along with this type of trauma, provide rehabilitative services to include: home rehabilitation, outpatient rehabilitation, and alternative therapies. North Carolina should recognize this and join the few states in our country who are officially recognizing September as Brain Aneurysm Awareness Month. We, the citizens of Pender County are asking for support in our efforts to raise awareness in hopes of preventing this life-changing illness from happening. Early detection will save lives if citizens will recognize symptoms, be educated about this "silent killer" and are given the opportunity to participate in the early screening processes.

Witness my hand and seal of the County of Pender this 21st day of October 2013.

George R. Brown, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Dr. Mickey Duvall, Clerk to the Board