

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, each year in the United States, hundreds of young people die suddenly and unexpectedly due to cardiac arrhythmias; and

WHEREAS, the Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndrome (SADS) Foundation's mission is to save lives and support the families of children and young adults who are genetically predisposed to sudden death due to heart rhythm abnormalities; and

WHEREAS, in 1991 a group of scientists lead by Drs. Michael Vincent and Mark Keating at the University of Utah isolated the chromosomal location for the first gene known to cause Long QT Syndrome, a disturbance of the heart's electrical system and one of the leading causes of sudden cardiac death among children and young adults; and

WHEREAS, the SADS Foundation was organized to implement widespread educational programs to make people aware of these conditions that can cause sudden death in the young and to provide support to people living with the reality and risks of serious heart rhythm abnormalities; and

WHEREAS, most of these deaths are preventable if the condition is recognized and treated, and parents need to be made aware of warning signs such as a family history of unexpected, unexplained death in a young person, fainting or seizure during exercise, and consistent or unusual chest pain and/or shortness of breath during exercise.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by this County Board of Lake County, Illinois, that the month of September 2006 be proclaimed "Sudden Arrhythmia Death Syndrome (SADS) Awareness Month" in Lake County, Illinois, and we hereby call upon all Lake County residents to recognize the outstanding contributions and support provided by the SADS Foundation in diagnosing and preventing sudden cardiac death in the young and to all who have lost a child or young adult to sudden cardiac death.

DATED, at Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois on this 1st day of August, A.D., 2006.