PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS the City of Benson recognizes the importance of parents talking with their children about alcohol in order to reduce the risks and dangers posed to children and communities; and

WHEREAS, high school students who use alcohol or other substances are five times more likely to drop out of school or believe good grades are not important; and

WHEREAS, 27 percent of middle school students try alcohol before graduating from 8th grade, significantly increasing the risk that they will develop alcohol problems later in life; and

WHEREAS, teen alcohol use kills 4,700 people each year, more than all other illegal drugs combined; and

WHEREAS, the majority of kids say their parents are their primary influence when it comes to decisions about drinking alcohol; and

WHEREAS, PowerTalk 21® day, started by Mothers Against Drunk Driving® (MADD) in 2011, is established on April 21, 2016, to encourage parents and caregivers to embrace their important role in influencing America's youth and their decisions about drinking alcohol; and

WHEREAS, to equip parents to talk with their teens about alcohol, MADD Arizona on April 21 will host Power of Parents® workshops to give parents the tools to effectively talk with their children about alcohol to protect them; and

WHEREAS, I urge all citizens to join in the local and national efforts to raise awareness of the importance of parents and children talking together about alcohol to reduce the risks and dangers posed to children and communities; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I Toney D. King, Sr., Mayor of the City of Benson, Arizona, do hereby proclaim Thursday, April 21st to be:

PowerTalk 21® Day

in the City of Benson.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Benson, Arizona on this 11th day of April, 2016.

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TONEY D. KING, SR., Mayor

ATTEST:

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VICKI L. VIVIAN, CMC, City Clerk

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