

*WHEREAS, Sarasota County is a vibrant community for all generations; and*

*WHEREAS, nearly one third of the population is age 65 and over; and*

*WHEREAS, worldwide, there are countless examples of individuals contributing as artists, inventors and humanitarians after the age of seventy; and*

*WHEREAS, nationally, each year The Purpose Prize is awarded to social innovators over the age of 60 who use their experience and passion to take on the biggest challenges in society and create lasting change; and*

*WHEREAS, in Sarasota County older adults are actively engaged in leadership roles, as volunteers and in the workforce; and*

*WHEREAS, our older residents express their civic engagement and quest for learning in many positive ways; and*

*WHEREAS, our community is offering many opportunities to learn and experience optimal aging during February 15<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>; and*

*WHEREAS, Sarasota County has the potential to be at the leading edge of thought and action for creating a community that supports and engages older adults as an integral part of our community; and*

*WHEREAS, Sarasota County could be a model for the rest of the country*

***NOW, THEREFORE, WE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF SARASOTA COUNTY, FLORIDA do hereby proclaim February 15 –February 22, 2008 as***

***Creating a Great Community for Aging Week***

*A week of special importance and worthy of the recognition of the citizens of Sarasota County.*

***PRESENTED*** this xx<sup>th</sup> day of February , 2008.