

Proclamation

WHEREAS, many residents of the City of Sparks don't know about radon, yet need to know, for the safety and well-being of their families; and

WHEREAS, radon is a colorless, odorless, naturally-occurring radioactive gas that may threaten the health of our citizens and their families; and

WHEREAS, the challenge is that we can't see, smell or taste radon; so it's easy to forget that radon may be a problem in homes, schools and any building in Sparks; and

WHEREAS, radon is the leading cause of lung cancer for nonsmokers in the United States and the second leading cause of lung cancer for smokers; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. EPA estimates 21,000 people in the United States die each year from lung cancer caused by indoor radon exposure; and

WHEREAS, radon kills more people than second hand smoke, drunken driving, falls in the home, drowning or home fires; and

WHEREAS, any home in Sparks may have elevated levels of radon, even if other homes in the same neighborhood do not; and

WHEREAS, testing for radon is simple and inexpensive and, when identified, the problems can be fixed; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General recommends all homes be tested for radon and fixed if they have 4 pCi/l or greater levels of radon; and

WHEREAS, the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are supporting efforts to encourage Americans to test their homes for radon, mitigate elevated levels of radon, and have new homes built with radon-reducing materials and features.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor of the City of Sparks, Nevada, do hereby proclaim January, 2014 as:

"NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the of Sparks, Nevada to be affixed this <u>30</u> day of December, 2013.

GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor ATTEST:

TERESA GARDNER, City Clerk