PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, alcoholism and drug dependency are chronic disorders with genetic, psychosocial and environmental factors influencing their development and manifestations; and

WHEREAS, prevention efforts can be effective in reducing the psychosocial and environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1 in 10 individuals suffer from an alcohol or drug problem, which in Napa County translates to about 12, 000 people; and

WHEREAS, 24% of Napa County 11th graders have binge drank within the previous 30-day period; and

WHEREAS, 46% of Napa County 11th graders have been very drunk or sick from drinking; and

WHEREAS, alcohol and drugs are the third leading cause of death in the nation; and

WHEREAS, untreated alcoholism and drug addiction cost the State's workplaces billions of dollars in lost productivity, absenteeism, and accidents every year; and

WHEREAS, untreated addiction contributes to unwanted pregnancy, school dropouts, suicide, crime, juvenile delinquency, dysfunctional families, poverty, joblessness, homelessness, ill health, mental illness, HIV infection, Hepatitis and other deadly infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, treatment and recovery programs can reduce unnecessary State health care costs; increase State productivity by getting more workers into recovery; reduce the number of people in jails and prisons; reduce street and gang violence; reduce school dropout rates; reduce the cost of crime, the rate of recidivism, and the burden on law enforcement officials; reduce the total financial drain on our economy; and improve the quality of life for individuals and for society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of individuals are living sober productive lives and paying taxes in this State and our community as a result of prevention, treatment or recovery services.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brad Wagenknecht, Chair of the Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim September 2008 as **Recovery Happens Month**, a supporting event of National Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month, to demonstrate our continued support and commitment to alcohol and drug prevention, treatment and recovery, and to encourage individuals and communities from throughout the State to participate in its activities.

Brad Wagenknecht
Napa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

By Gladys I. Coil
Gladys I. Coil
Clerk of the Board