

CITY OF ROCHESTER HILLS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION
IN RECOGNITION OF

Leah Howdyshell

On June 7, 2008, a seven-year-old novice swimmer got into a very dangerous situation when she waded out too far in the lake at Spencer Park. When the child began to bob up and down with wide eyes and a frantic look, Leah Howdyshell, veteran lifeguard and current lifeguard captain, jumped from the lifeguard tower and quickly ran toward the water. She heard the child cry out for help just before she sank below the surface. When Leah reached her, the young girl had submerged and was holding her breath and waving for help. Leah brought her safely to shore.

WHEREAS, Leah Howdyshell is a 22-year-old lifeguard who has worked at Spencer Park for six years while she continues her studies in the field of medicine; and

WHEREAS, Spencer Park Beachfront Supervisor Fred Carter stated, "Little kids in danger of drowning are the hardest to recognize because they don't often show the lifeguard an obvious struggle and only remain on the surface about half the time of a struggling adult."; and

WHEREAS, Leah Howdyshell is known as one of the best lifeguards to come through the City of Rochester Hills highly skilled, award winning lifeguard training program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT KNOWN, that the Mayor and City Council of Rochester Hills hereby recognize Lifeguard Captain Leah Howdyshell for her outstanding skill and professionalism in saving the life of a seven-year-old child.

Bryan K. Barnett, Mayor

Greg Hooper, Council President

Erik Ambrozaitis, Council Member

J. Martin Brennan, Council Vice President

Vern Pixley, Council Member

James Rosen, Council Member

Michael Webber, Council Member

Ravi Yalamanchi, Council Member

