

## Proclamation

Whereas, International Denim Day has been observed since April 1999 as a symbol of protest in response to an Italian High Court decision to overturn a rape conviction because the victim wore tight jeans that required her assistance removing, thereby implying consent. Every year since, community members, elected officials, businesses and students have organized to make a statement with their fashion by wearing jeans as a visible means of protest against the myths that surround sexual assault; and

Whereas, there are sexual assault prevention and education efforts underway throughout the Nation, New York, Westchester County, and the Village of Scarsdale to challenge the societal myths and behaviors that perpetuate rape as well as to engage communities and residents in a common goal of ending sexual assault; and

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 2010 Summary Report on National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence found that nearly 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men have been raped, with over 30% of both men and women having experienced some form of rape, physical violence and/or stalking in their life; and

Whereas, a life free from sexual violence is a basic human right that should be accorded to all members of our society, as there is no excuse for, and never an invitation to rape; and

Whereas, the Village of Scarsdale is dedicated to supporting Denim Day to make the community aware of the prevalence of sexual violence; and

*Now, therefore, I*, Dan Hochvert, Mayor of the Village of Scarsdale, joined by the entire Village Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2018, as

## Denim Day

in the Village of Scarsdale and urge all residents to wear denim while learning about the impacts of sexual violence, challenging the myths and behaviors that perpetuate it, and taking steps to end sexual assault.

Given Under My Hand and Seal this 24 Day of April, 2018

Mayor