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## **Children's Week in Jacksonville Next Week**

By Dave Wax

March 25, 2009 (LATE)

JACKSONVILLE, FL -- Kids, next week is all for you.

In a ceremony Tuesday morning, Mayor John Peyton declared the week of March 29-April 4 to be Children's Week.

During the ceremony, children from Community Connections Davis Center offered the Mayor a symbolic box of hands, representing the children of Jacksonville.

Jax4kids.com, the Jacksonville Public Library and the Parks, Recreation, Entertainment and Conservation Department will partner together to promote events throughout the week.

"Children are our most valuable resource, and I have been a vocal advocate of children's issues throughout my time in office," says Mayor Peyton. "When we invest in children today, we gain immeasurable returns. I am glad we can use events like Children's Week to bring attention to the issues affecting children and families."

Councilman Michael Corrigan is sponsoring a resolution to be passed at tonight's City Council meeting that will make next week's designation official.

"We are promoting children's issues in our city. Even with the current poor economic environment, Jacksonville continues to make the investment needed to help our children have more opportunities in the future," he says.

One of the things that will happen next week is that a group from the Jacksonville Kids Coalition will go to Tallahassee to lobby for children's issues in front of legislators.