



ALZHEIMER'S AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAIMED – The Garrett County commissioners have declared June as Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month to bring attention to the problems associated with brain disorders and to honor those who care for Alzheimer's patients. The commissioners' proclamation notes that Alzheimer's is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States. More than 5 million people in the United States have Alzheimer's disease, a progressive neurodegenerative brain disorder that robs individuals of their memories and leads to progressive mental and physical impairments. There currently is no cure, no treatment, and now way to slow the progression of the disease. There are over 291,000 unpaid caregivers currently in the U.S., providing in-home care valued at more than \$4 billion, according to Donna Fost, Alzheimer's Association education coordinator for Garrett County. Pictured, from left, at the commissioners' meeting at Garrett College Monday evening are commission chair Paul Edwards, Fost, and Diane Donham, the Alzheimer's Association's Garrett County Support Group leader and Maryland Access Point coordinator for the Area Agency on Aging.