

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 18 OF 2017

WHEREAS, Lyme disease is the most common vector-borne illness in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania led the nation in 2016 with 12,000 reported Lyme disease cases, and, according to the Centers for Disease Control, ten times that number of Pennsylvanians may actually have become infected with Lyme disease; and

WHEREAS, Centre County has been identified as a very active area for Lyme disease in Pennsylvania creating a health threat especially to children and other high-risks groups; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a complex infection with significant and life-changing implications affecting various body systems which can lead to functional impairments, decreased quality of life, and disability; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease mimics other conditions and can go undiagnosed and untreated, and is often accompanied by co-infections making diagnosis and treatment even more difficult; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease can create a significant financial burden to victims and an economic burden to the state; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Act 83 of 2014 states explicitly that health care providers, insurers, patients, and governmental agencies be educated about the current aspects of Lyme disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Centre County Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of **May 2017** as "**Lyme Disease Awareness Month**" in Centre County to affirm the importance of Lyme disease education, prevention, symptom recognition, and treatment.

ADOPTED this 9th day of May 2017.



CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

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Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

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Margaret N. Gray, Administrator/Chief Clerk