

# The County of Centre

## PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 5 OF 2023

**WHEREAS**, the UNITED STATES Government officially recognized Black History Month as an annual celebration in February since 1976. Black History Month fosters awareness, education and celebration of the many achievements and vital contributions made by African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

**WHEREAS**, the origin of Black History Month dates back to 1915 when Carter G. Woodson founded the organization known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History; and

**WHEREAS**, the observance of Black History Month calls our attention to the moral imperative for global dignity, to acknowledge the important contributions of African Americans in shaping our nation's history, and pays tribute to the generational struggle through systemic racism to create a more equitable future for Black people; and

**WHEREAS**, the national theme for 2023 is "Black Resistance" exploring how African Americans have resisted historic and ongoing oppression in all forms, especially the racial terrorism of lynching, racial pogroms, and police killings since the nation's earliest days.

**WHEREAS**, we recognize and commend the invaluable contributions of African Americans that have shaped our community of Centre County. We honor local individuals, scholars, teachers, business people, community leaders and contributors who have enriched the quality of our lives and continue to move us towards freedom, fairness, justice, and equity; and

**WHEREAS**, Centre County endeavors working toward becoming an inclusive, welcoming, and engaging community where diversity is honored and celebrated throughout Pennsylvania,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim **February 2023** as **Black History Month** in Centre County and encourages all community members to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture and to continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all.

**ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023.



CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Handwritten signature of Mark Higgins in black ink.

Mark Higgins, Chair

Handwritten signature of Amber Concepcion in black ink.

Amber Concepcion

Handwritten signature of Steven G. Dershem in black ink.

Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

Handwritten signature of John Franek Jr. in black ink.

John Franek Jr, Administrator