

# The County of Centre

## PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 23 OF 2023

**WHEREAS**, Congress enacted a law in 1992 annually designating the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month to celebrate the influence and contributions of those of Asian and Pacific Islander origin to the history, culture and achievements of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, we are blessed to have some Centre County residents who themselves, or whose families hail originally from the many diverse countries on the Asian continent and the many Pacific Islands – some are recent immigrants, and others are first, second, third, fourth or fifth generation Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, people of Asian and Pacific Islander origin constitute approximately 6.2 percent of our population, and have enriched the ethnic and social fabric of Centre County with their diverse languages, cultures, and religious beliefs; and

**WHEREAS**, people of Asian and Pacific Islander origin contribute to and enrich our community with their leadership, creativity, talent, enterprise and skill in countless ways and are an integral part of building and supporting a vibrant and resilient; and

**WHEREAS**, the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) community of Centre County are our beloved friends and family, our cherished neighbors, and valued members of Centre County, where we remain committed to embracing and accepting all our residents from diverse backgrounds, and standing systemic racism, xenophobia, and misogyny directed towards them in the past and in the present time; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centre County community came together on April 22, 2023, at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza in downtown State College, at the “APIDA Festival,” the first-ever community celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, organized by the Penn State APIDA caucus in collaboration with the

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim **May 2023** as “**Asian Pacific American Heritage Month**” in Centre County, and encourage all Centre County residents to celebrate the history and culture of Asian Pacific Islanders and Asian Pacific Americans and their vital contributions to our County, our Commonwealth and our Country.

**ADOPTED** this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.



CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

*Mark Higgins*

Mark Higgins, Chair

*Amber Concepcion*

Amber Concepcion

*Steven G. Dershem*

Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

*John Franek Jr.*

John Franek Jr, Administrator