

The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 27 OF 2023

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jews by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945. Jews were the primary victims – six million Jews were murdered; and

WHEREAS, a 2020 survey found that two-thirds of millennials and Generation Z lack basic knowledge of the Holocaust, while some actively deny that it occurred; and

WHEREAS, postal relics and stamps from the Holocaust era are important physical evidence of the Nazi regime and their victims who were forcibly contained and murdered at ghettos and concentration camps in Europe; and

WHEREAS, the American Philatelic Society built a museum exhibit entitled “A Philatelic Memorial of the Holocaust” from this postal collection, dedicated to public education and combating Holocaust denial. The exhibit offers the public an opportunity to read postal material sent to and from ghettos and concentration camps, and bear witness to the unique stories of Holocaust victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, the American Philatelic Society has dedicated and formally opened the museum exhibit to the public on May 31, 2023, with the partnership of Penn State University Hillel and the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights Education Initiative; and

WHEREAS, we the people of Pennsylvania should always remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the official dedication and opening of “A Philatelic Memorial of the Holocaust” exhibit, in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of Centre County, Pennsylvania, should work to combat anti-Semitism, promote education, and confront hate whenever and wherever it occurs.

ADOPTED this 30th 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