



WHEREAS, Gaston County includes a community of older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions to our nation, as they are trailblazers who advocate for themselves, their peers, and their communities—paving the way for future generations. Currently, one-fourth of Gaston County's population is over age 60; by year 2034, this age group will make up approximately 46% of our population; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County is committed to raising awareness about issues facing older Americans and helping all individuals age in place and thrive in livable communities of their choice for as long as possible. We appreciate the value of inclusion and support in helping older adults successfully contribute to and benefit from their communities; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:

- Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social involvement
- Emphasizing home and community-based services that support independent living
- Ensuring community members can benefit from the contributions and experience of older adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners, in recognition of the valuable contributions made by Gaston County's older Americans, proclaims the month of May 2016 as

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

and urges every resident to take time this month to acknowledge older adults and the people who serve them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to our community.

Tom Keigher, Chairman

Chad Brown

Tracy L. Philbeck

Joe D. Carpenter

Mickey Price

Allen R. Fraley

Jason Williams, Vice-Chairman

To be adopted the 24th day of May 2016