WHEREAS, Gaston County has a growing number of older Americans who contribute their strength, wisdom, and experience to enhance and improve our community; and,

WHEREAS, our citizens benefit when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are welcomed, included, and supported; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County recognizes its need to support and sustain a community that provides services and champions older Americans need to thrive and live independently for as long as possible; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County will continue its work to build an even better community for its older residents by planning programs that encourage independence, ensuring activities are responsive to individual needs, provide positive mental and physical engagement and increase access to services that support aging in place; and,

WHEREAS, the 2026 national theme for Older Americans' Month is "Champion Your Health," which focuses on prevention, wellness, and personal responsibility as cornerstones of healthy aging, and encourages older Americans to take an active role in managing their health, advocating for themselves, accessing preventive care, and making informed decisions that support independence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as

OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH

in Gaston County and urge every resident to recognize the contributions of our older citizens, and strive to create an inclusive society, that supports our older Americans' choices about how they age in their communities.

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Chad Brown, Chairman

Jim Bailey	Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman
Cathy Cloninger	Tom Keigher
Allen R. Fraley	Scott Shehan

To be Adopted the 26th Day of May 2026