



WHEREAS, during Older Americans Month, we pause to draw upon the wisdom, spirit, and experience older adults bring to our families, our communities, and our nation. We recognize that during this time of crisis we can persevere and prevail by emulating the resolve, tenacity, and determination of Americans more experienced individuals who have endured and overcomes life's most challenging times; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County includes a community of older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions, as they are trailblazers who advocate for themselves, their peers, and their communities—paving the way for future generations; and,

WHEREAS, older Americans are among the most vulnerable to the effects of the coronavirus. As they continue to adhere to special guidance put in place to protect them, we must acknowledge that far too many are facing hardships of loneliness and social isolation; and,

WHEREAS, we must rally behind older Americans to ensure they can continue to live lives of dignity, joy, and purpose long after the threat of the virus has faded; and,

WHEREAS, Gaston County can support our community members by:

- Promoting independence, inclusion, and participation
- Engage older adults through education, recreation, and service
- Connecting people with opportunities to share their time, experience, and talents.

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 2020 as

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman

Chad Brown

Bob Hovis

Jack B. Brown, Vice-Chairman

Tom Keigher

Allen R. Fraley

Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 26th Day of May 2020