The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 33 of 2019

WHEREAS, the first public library in Centre County was the historic Miles-Humes home in Bellefonte. Ann Elmira Humes bequeathed her home to be used as a library if financial support was provided from the community. The Bellefonte Woman's Club led a town rally and in 1938 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Centre County agreed to help provide funding; and

WHEREAS, the Centre County Library & Historical Museum is comprised of the Bellefonte, Holt Memorial, and Centre Hall libraries, the Centre County Bookmobile, and the Historical Museum; and

WHEREAS, on October 25, 1939, the Library & Historical Corporation of Bellefonte opened at Allegheny and Howard Streets with a collection of 10,000 volumes. In 1956, the name was changed to the Centre County Library & Historical Museum; and

WHEREAS, on December 24, 1941, the Centre County Library introduced its first Bookmobile, a fully accessible library on wheels. The Bookmobile serves 29 municipalities within the County, focusing on areas without public transportation or nearby branch libraries; and

WHEREAS, the Philipsburg Public Library (now Holt Memorial Library) became part of the Centre County Library system in 1963, followed by the Centre Hall Area Branch library opening in 1997; and

WHEREAS, on October 23, 1977, the Centre County Library transferred its main circulating collection to the corner of Allegheny and Howard Streets. The Miles-Humes House became the Historical Museum and the Pennsylvania Room that is dedicated to local history and genealogical research; and

WHEREAS, the Centre County Library & Historical Museum is a free community destination that provides books, information, Internet access, and technology resources to preserve our heritage and promote a lifetime of reading and learning.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Centre County Library & Historical Museum and recognizes its vital part in the Centre County community and commends its mission and vision.

ADOPTED this 17th day of October 2019.

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Michael Pipe, Chair

Mark Higgins, Vice-Chair

Steven G. Dershem

ATTEST:

Margaret N. Gray, Administrator