



Proclamation



Recreation and Parks Month

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Carrboro, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, since 1985, Parks and Recreation Month has been celebrated every July; in 2009, the U.S. Congress officially designated July as National Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs are vital to establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities and ensuring the health of all residents; these programs contribute to the economic and environmental well-being of a community and region through increased property values, expansion of the local tax base, increased tourism, the attraction and retention of businesses, and crime reduction; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities; they help prevent chronic diseases, they provide therapeutic recreation services for those who face physical or mental challenges, and improve the health and well-being of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2019-20, Carrboro offered over 300 programs including: youth and adult classes, athletic programs, camps, workshops, clinics, community events such as the Carrboro Music Festival, Carrboro Film Festival, West End Poetry Festival, July 4th Celebration, Halloween Carnival, and virtual events for Carrboro Day, the Freight Train Blues Series and Juneteenth; and

WHEREAS, during fiscal year 2019-20, 120 people generously volunteered to assist with Carrboro's programs, providing nearly 3,000 hours of service; and

WHEREAS, the Carrboro Youth Council contributed nearly 150 service hours to the community, and has been involved in numerous community service projects including the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, tutoring at local middle schools, the Kids Dog Show, and other Town events; and

WHEREAS, parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and protect habitat for wildlife; and

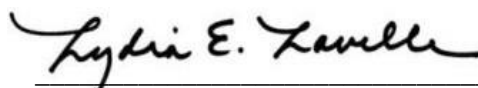
WHEREAS, understanding the importance of providing citizens with recreation spaces, the Town of Carrboro opened the new Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park in January 2020; and

WHEREAS, our parks and natural recreation areas enhance the ecological beauty of our community while providing a place for children and adults to connect with nature and enjoy the many healthful benefits of being outdoors.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, hereby proclaim July 2020 as **Recreation and Parks Month** in Carrboro. I encourage all residents to enjoy our parks and natural areas, and to safely take advantage of classes, camps, programs and events provided by our Recreation and Parks Department.

This the 23rd day of June, 2020




Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor