



Proclamation Designating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage in the United States was celebrated beginning in 1978 and was made into a month-long event in 1992; and

WHEREAS, AAPI Heritage Month seeks to honor and recognize the contributions of residents from Asia, India and the Pacific Islands; and

WHEREAS, Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia and Easter Island); and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge Asians and Pacific Islanders have lived, worked, and contributed to the United States' economy, culture, education, politics, arts, literature, science and technological developments despite institutional and systemic injustices designed to prevent and limit these achievements and contributions; and

WHEREAS, racially motivated discrimination and harassment is at a high in our nation with hate crimes against the AAPI community, especially targeting its Muslim, South Asian, and Southeast Asian members; and

WHEREAS, AAPI community members have been disproportionately impacted by incidences of hate and discrimination during the COVID 19 pandemic, and these experiences have disproportionately impacted our AAPI youth; and

WHEREAS, greater public awareness about AAPI history and culture can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward AAPI community members.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CATHERINE ADDUCI, VILLAGE PRESIDENT OF THE VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST, do hereby proclaim the month of May to be Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the Village of River Forest, Illinois, and I strongly encourage our community to observe, recognize, and celebrate the culture, heritage, and contributions of Asian American and Pacific Islanders to our country, our state, our cities, and our schools.

IN WITNESS, THEREOF, I have hereto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the seal of the Village of River Forest, this 10th day of May.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Catherine M. Adduci", is written over a horizontal line.

Catherine M. Adduci
Village President