



# Proclamation



## CARRBORO LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH & HONORING THE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF STONEWALL

**WHEREAS**, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ+) Pride Month is celebrated nationally each year in the month of June; this month was chosen to commemorate the riots that took place fifty years ago at the Stonewall Inn in Manhattan the morning of June 28, 1969, often viewed as the birth of the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement; we therefore take this time to reflect on the LGBTQ+ rights movement; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting that several major United States Supreme Court decisions impacting LGBTQ+ rights in a positive way have been announced in June, including *Lawrence v Texas*, *U.S. v Windsor*, *Obergefell v Hodges*, and *Pavan v. Smith*; and

**WHEREAS**, the Carrboro Board of Aldermen has a proud history of advancing the rights of LGBTQ+ North Carolinians, including being the first municipality in the state to create a domestic partner registry on October 11, 1994; the first in the state to extend eligibility for employment benefits to same-sex partners of Town employees; the first in the state to elect a gay mayor and a lesbian mayor; among the first in the state to pass a resolution supporting civil marriage for same-sex couples; and passage of a resolution urging a repeal of the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 26, 2016, Carrboro was the first municipality in North Carolina to call for repeal of the North Carolina General Assembly's discriminatory House Bill 2 (Session Law 2016-3), adopting a resolution affirming the dignity of LGBTQ+ people; although HB2 was repealed in March 2017, it was replaced with House Bill 142, which does not allow municipalities to pass non-discrimination ordinances that protect the LGBTQ+ community until December of 2020; as a result, Carrboro continues to speak out and advocate for this right; and

**WHEREAS**, although this month we celebrate progress made for LGBTQ+ rights, we also reflect on challenges that remain, including three cases being heard by the United States Supreme Court this fall that will address whether LGBTQ+ employees are protected under the Civil Rights Act, and another case not yet scheduled that will address whether persons who operate places of public accommodation can refuse to serve LGBTQ+ persons based on a religious exception; and

**WHEREAS**, unfortunately, there is still much physical and psychological violence inflicted on LGBTQ+ people both at home and abroad; there is increasing violence toward transgender women of color; and there continues to be bullying and harassment of LGBTQ+ youth, who make up a disproportionate number of homeless youth in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Carrboro is committed to standing with and supporting the LGBTQ+ community, and to working to ensure that all of its residents, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, are treated with respect and dignity.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 2019 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in the Town of Carrboro, and ask all residents to honor the memory of those at Stonewall who said, "Enough is enough."

This the 1st day of June, 2019.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor