PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

WHEREAS parks and recreation is an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Buncombe County; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation promotes health and wellness, improving the physical and mental health of people who utilize parks; and

WHEREAS through events like the Lake Julian Park campout and kids' fishing events, parks and recreation promote time spent in nature, which positively impacts mental health and well-being; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation encourages physical activities by providing space for popular sports, hiking trails, swimming pools, greenways, and many other activities designed to promote active lifestyles; and

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs and events are critical to social interaction and enhanced self-esteem; and

WHEREAS our parks and natural recreation areas ensure the ecological beauty of our community and provide a place for children and adults to connect with nature and recreate outdoors; and

WHEREAS the U.S. House of Representatives has designated July as Parks and Recreation Month; and

WHEREAS Buncombe County offers river parks, sports complexes, natural areas, for families and neighbors to gather, celebrate and recreate; and

WHEREAS residents and visitors celebrate with Buncombe County Parks and Recreation Services each July and December with fireworks and Festival of Lights; and

WHEREAS Buncombe County proudly partners with Special Olympics and celebrates our awardwinning teams that competed recently at the state level; and

WHEREAS Buncombe County recognizes the benefits derived from parks and recreation resources.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY Buncombe County Board of Commissioners that July is recognized as **Park and Recreation Month** in Buncombe County.

This 16th day of July 2024.