WHEREAS, it is one of the responsibilities of the Mayor of the City of Westerville to recognize occasions of outstanding significance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Westerville supports the rights of every citizen to experience equality and freedom from discrimination; and

WHEREAS, all people regardless of age, gender identity, race, color, religion, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical challenges have the right to be treated on the basis of their intrinsic value as human beings; and

WHEREAS, the City of Westerville accepts and welcomes people of diverse backgrounds and believes a diverse population leads to a more vibrant community; and

WHEREAS, the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) communities contribute to the cultural, civic and economic successes of the City of Westerville; and

WHEREAS, while we as a society at large are slowly embracing new definitions of sexuality and gender we must also acknowledge that the need for education and awareness remains vital to end discrimination and prejudice.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Cocuzzi, Mayor of the City of Westerville, Ohio, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2020 as

"PRIDE MONTH"

in Westerville and urge our residents to reflect on the ongoing struggle for equality members of the LGBTQ community face and celebrate the contributions that enhance our City.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and caused my seal to be affixed this 2nd day of June, in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty.

