



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2023-20

National Cigar Day

WHEREAS, National Cigar Day commemorates the inventions of Oscar Hammerstein, who left his native Germany for New York City where he became a cigar maker in the 1880's. He engineered and improved the automation of the cigar-rolling machine; and

WHEREAS, Hammerstein founded the U.S. Tobacco Journal. His most well-known contribution to the cigar-making process is adding an air-suctioning component to the traditional cigar making machines that holds down the tobacco leaves firmly so they can be cut more cleanly; and

WHEREAS, Hammerstein's initial cigar-making machine sold for \$6,000 but later reinventions would boost his machine's worth to around \$200,000. He became wealthy industrializing cigar manufacturing, and his tobacco fortune provided the money he used to pursue his interests in theatre; and

WHEREAS, the cigar lounge industry comprises businesses known as smoke shops, cigar bars or lounges where patrons can purchase and smoke cigars freely without the fear of breaking the law of the county or city; and

WHEREAS, Charles County supports small businesses and currently has over forty stores related to the cigar, tobacco and vape industry.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim February 27, 2023 as **National Cigar Day** in Charles County and encourages cigar loving residents to visit the local cigar businesses in Charles County.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

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Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners