



# County Commissioners of Charles County

## PROCLAMATION 2024-35

### National Asian Pacific Heritage Month

**WHEREAS**, Asian Pacific Heritage observance began in 1977 as Pacific/Asian Heritage Week and was expanded by Congress to the entire month of May in 1992; and

**WHEREAS**, the month of May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869; and

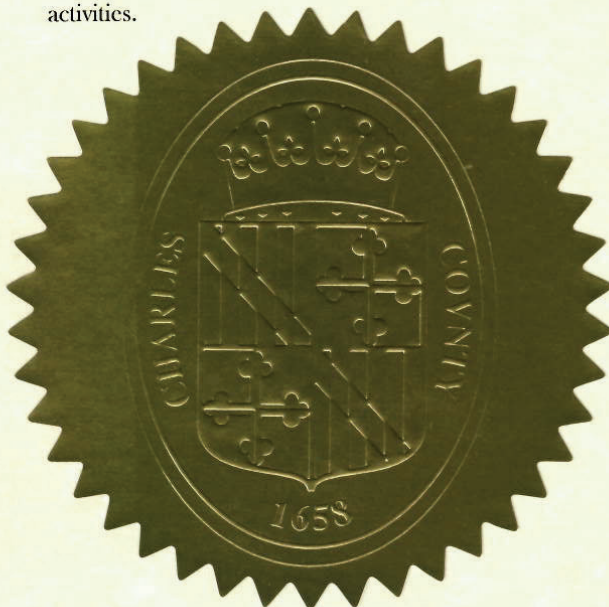
**WHEREAS**, Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia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

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 22.9 million residents in the United States identify as Asian Pacific; and

**WHEREAS**, we celebrate the contributions of Asian Pacific culture and languages in our Charles County community and nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, this year's theme, "Advancing Leaders Through Innovation", pays homage to the visionaries and trailblazers who have shaped our Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander history. Innovation, resilience and a pioneering spirit are cornerstones of American Leadership.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND**, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as **Asian Pacific American Heritage Month** in Charles County and encourage all residents to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.



#### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*  
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III  
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Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.  
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.  
District 3

Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners