

Designation of July as Park and Recreation Month

WHEREAS parks and recreation programs are an integral part of communities throughout this country, including Carrboro, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS our parks and recreation programs are vitally important in establishing and maintaining the quality of life in our communities, ensuring the health of all citizens, and contributing to the economic and environmental well-being of our community and region; and

WHEREAS, parks and recreation programs build healthy, active communities that aid in the prevention of chronic disease, provide therapeutic recreation services for those who are mentally or physically disabled, and also improve the mental and emotional health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, in 2014-15, The Town of Carrboro offered nearly 400 programs including youth and adult classes, athletic programs, camps, workshops, and clinics; and large community events such as Carrboro Day, Carrboro Music Festival, Carrboro Film Festival, West End Poetry Festival, July 4th Celebration, Halloween Carnival and Open Streets; and

WHEREAS, in 2014-5, the Town of Carrboro utilized over 200 volunteers who provided over 5000 hours of service; and

WHEREAS our Carrboro Youth Council has grown to twenty-six members who provided 432 service hours to the community; and

WHEREAS; parks and recreation areas are also fundamental to the environmental well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS parks and natural recreation areas improve water quality, protect groundwater, prevent flooding, improve the quality of the air that we breathe, provide vegetative buffers to development, and produce habitat for wildlife; 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, in Carrboro, we recognize the importance of our parks and natural areas, and have recently completed three park projects and are currently working on five other park enhancement projects; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lydia Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim that **July 2015** is designated as **“Parks and Recreation Month.”**

This the 23rd day of June 2015