Recognizing April 2023 as Arab American Heritage Month

WHEREAS: Celebrating diversity of cultures and heritages is a reminder that despite our differing backgrounds, we are bound by a common hope for a more inclusive future for our children; and

WHEREAS: The Arab American community has a long and integral history within the United States; and

WHEREAS: For over a century, Arab Americans have made valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society, including medicine, law, business, technology, government, and culture; and

WHEREAS: Since migrating to America, men and women of Arab descent have shared their rich culture and traditions with neighbors and friends, while also serving as positive role models and public servants; and

WHEREAS: They brought with them to America their resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education, and diversity in faith and creed that have added to the fabric of our great democracy; and

WHEREAS: Arab Americans have also enriched our society by sharing in our nation’s entrepreneurial spirit that helps our country thrive; and

WHEREAS: Tens of thousands of Arab Americans have also served in the United States military, and their service is commended.

Now Therefore, I, Carl L. Sheline, as Mayor of Lewiston, Maine, do hereby recognize April 2023 as Arab American Heritage Month and express appreciation for the valuable contributions of Arab Americans throughout our city, state, and nation. From cultural diversity to economic growth, Arab Americans have made a positive difference.

Presented this 25th day of April, 2023

Mayor Carl L. Sheline