

## Proclamation

### Recognizing LGBTQ Pride Month 2021

WHEREAS, our nation was founded on the principle of equal rights for all people, but the fulfillment of this promise has been long in coming for many Americans. Some of the most inspiring moments in our history have arisen from the various civil rights movements that have brought one group after another from the margins to the mainstream of American society; and

WHEREAS, in the movement toward equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) individuals, a historic turning point occurred on June 28, 1969, in New York City, with the onset of the Stonewall Riots. During these riots, LGBTQ citizens rose up and fought against the discriminatory criminal laws that have since been declared unconstitutional; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQ pride celebrations have taken place around the country every June to commemorate the beginning of the Stonewall Riots; and

WHEREAS, June is celebrated as LGBTQ Pride Month nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Lewiston has a diverse LGBTQ community that includes people of all ethnicities, religions, and professions; and

WHEREAS, everyone should be able to live without fear of prejudice, discrimination, violence, and hatred based on race, religion, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

NOW THEREFORE, I, as Mayor of the City of Lewiston, Maine, do hereby proclaim June 2021 as LGBTQ Pride Month in Lewiston and urge all residents to respect and honor our diverse community and celebrate and build a culture of inclusiveness and acceptance.



Presented this 1st day of June 2021

*Mark A. Cayer*

Mayor Mark A. Cayer