

Proclamation

CELEBRATING DIWALI

October 24, 2022

- WHEREAS, Diwali, the Festival of Lights, is an important holiday for many Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists in the United States and around the world, and is marked by public national or regional holidays in many countries including India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Malaysia, Singapore, Mauritius, Fiji, Jamaica, Guyana, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago; and
- WHEREAS, Diwali or Deepavali, which means a row of lights, is celebrated differently by different communities, and is called by different names including Hari Diwali in Malaysia and Tihar in Nepal, it is always a time for prayer and reflection, and celebrations that focus on building and strengthening family and community bonds; and
- WHEREAS, lamps are lit to celebrate the victory of good over evil, and as a reminder that light will ultimately prevail over darkness and knowledge over ignorance, and of the role that each of us can play in bringing light where there is darkness; and
- WHEREAS, State College Borough greatly benefits from the creativity, enterprise, skills, and diverse heritage of our Asian and Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) residents that live, work, play throughout Centre County's large and small communities, contributing to our economy and enriching the ethnic and social fabric of our community with multiple languages, cultures, and religious beliefs; and
- WHEREAS, those celebrating Diwali are our beloved friends and family, our cherished neighbors, and valued members of the Borough of State College. We embrace and accept all our residents from diverse backgrounds.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Ezra Nanes, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2022, as Diwali, also known as Deepavali or Tihar, in the Municipality of State College. We wish everyone celebrating the holiday joyous celebrations and Saal Mubarak, and we invite and encourage everyone in State College to join in the celebration.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the great seal of the Borough of State College, this 17th day of October 2022.



Mayor Ezra Nanes
October 17, 2022

