

- **WHEREAS:** Since the 1970s, the month of April has been recognized as National Autism Awareness Month and has been used as an opportunity to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community; and
- WHEREAS: Autism is a pervasive developmental disorder affecting sensory, social, communication, learning, and behavioral skills which include High Functioning Autism, Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, and Pervasive Developmental Disorder which manifests itself in the first three years of life; and
- **WHEREAS:** It is estimated that autism affects 1 in every 44 children nationally and 1 in 35 in New Jersey, and with no current medical detection or cure, it is essential that when autism is suspected an early diagnosis accompanied by appropriate education is vital to the development of the affected individual; and
- **WHEREAS:** OASIS (Ongoing Autistic Success in Society) tlc was formed with the mission of promoting inclusion and acceptance of autistic individuals into local communities by establishing farm centers where autistic adults can live and work; and
- **WHEREAS:** The OASIS tlc philosophy embraces human beings for their interconnectedness to each other and all living things. Its centers will be set up to foster interdependence and social connectedness to better the quality of life of adults on the autism spectrum and with autism. Now,
- **THEREFORE:** I, Mayor Tony Perry and the Middletown Township Committee do hereby proclaim April 2022 as **Autism Awareness Month** in the Township of Middletown.

Given, under my hand and the Great Seal of the Township of Middletown, this 4th day of April in the year two thousand twenty-two

Mayor Tony Perry