



**BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF THUNDERBOLT**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**“OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”**

**WHEREAS**, in 1963 President John F. Kennedy designated May 1963 as Senior Citizens Month to pay tribute to citizens aged 65 and older. President Jimmy Carter changed the name to "Older Americans Month" in 1980; and

**WHEREAS**, older individuals in the United States play an important role in society by continuing to contribute their experience, knowledge, wisdom, and accomplishments;

**WHEREAS**, According to the Census Reporter twenty five percent of Thunderbolt residents are senior citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, Since 1992, the Administration on Aging (AOA) has selected an annual theme for OAM. The 2026 theme, Champion Your Health, focuses on prevention, wellness, and personal responsibility as cornerstones of healthy aging. It encourages taking an active role in managing your own health, advocating for yourself, accessing preventive care, and making informed decisions that support independence; and

**WHEREAS**, older individuals in the United States play vital roles in their communities and remain involved in volunteer work, the arts, cultural activities, and activities relating to mentorship and civic engagement;

**WHEREAS**, Thunderbolt must ensure that its older residents have the resources and support needed to stay involved in their communities, reflecting a commitment to inclusivity and connectedness; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR DANA WILLIAMS & COUNCIL**, do hereby designate the month of May 2026 as **“OLDER AMERICANS MONTH”**; and I urge all persons and public and private organizations to cooperate in its observance by increasing community awareness of the problems faced by older men and women, strengthening services and opportunities to meet their special needs, giving recognition to their past and present contributions, and making this special month the beginning of continuing interest and activity on their behalf. .

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Thunderbolt to be affixed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of **May 2026**.

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Mayor Dana Williams Town of Thunderbolt