

County of Luzerne

PENNSYLVANIA



Resolution

PROCLAMATION



WHEREAS, The Citizens and leadership of Luzerne County recognizes that June 23, 2022, reflects the 50th anniversary of the historic Tropical Storm Agnes Flood of 1972; and

WHEREAS, on the morning of June 23, 1972, the low-lying areas of Luzerne County and the Wyoming Valley were evacuated by the Luzerne County Civil Defense office; and

WHEREAS, on that same morning, the entire Wyoming Valley, as a result of relentless, inundating rains from Tropical Storm Agnes, experienced what was described by the President of the United States as ‘The worst natural disaster in the history of the United States,’; and

WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council and Staff recognizes the truly heroic efforts of the people of the County and Wyoming Valley during and after Agnes. From tens-of-thousands of sandbags that were hand filled, to countless watercraft rescues, the strength and resiliency of our County was on national prominence. Furthermore, as demonstrated for days, weeks and years during post-flood recovery and rebuilding operations, Agnes’ lasting imprint will forever be recognized as a one of the challenging yet greatest moments for the people of “The Valley With A Heart,”; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Agnes, today our community is a safer place to live, work and play. Not only were the cities and towns destroyed by Agnes rebuilt, but since then a modern, tremendously improved levee system constructed along the Susquehanna River has helped prevent comparable disasters. The United States Federal Emergency Management Agency, or more usually known as FEMA, which was not in existence at the time, can trace its origins to Agnes.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, the Luzerne County Council and Luzerne County Manager, on this day, June 28, 2022, do formally recognize this day as the 50th Anniversary of historic Tropical Storm Agnes Floods and honor the men and women of Luzerne County who meet the adversities that came from it with firm resolve, absolute determination and unyielding resilience.

Attest:

Luzerne County Council Chair