

PROCLAMATION

**SOMERSET COUNTY FOUNDING DAY
MAY 22 (1688)**

WHEREAS, Somerset County, one of America’s oldest counties, was created on May 22, 1688 from a portion of Middlesex County and was named after the English County of Somerset; and

WHEREAS, Somerset County is steeped in Colonial and Revolutionary War history, with General George Washington and his troops having marched through the county on several occasions, stopping to set up camp and stay in several of the homes in the area, contributing to the historical sites and monuments located throughout the county and preserved for future generations;

WHEREAS, for much of its history Somerset County was primarily an agricultural county, with the Somerset Hills area becoming a popular country home site in the late 19th century for wealthy industrialists; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1960s townships that were once exclusively agricultural were quickly transformed into suburban communities aided by the development of the county’s very strong pharmaceutical and technology industries; and

WHEREAS, Somerset County, located in the heart of the nation’s largest metropolitan area, contains a balance of urban and suburban neighborhoods and rural countrysides, residential communities, parks, shopping areas, farmland and business and industry, making it a desirable place to live, work and play; and

WHEREAS, over the years Somerset County has become the hub of Central New Jersey, its twenty-one municipalities encompassing 305 square miles with a diversity of landscape, population and development that reflects the varied lifestyles of its estimated 324,194 residents; and

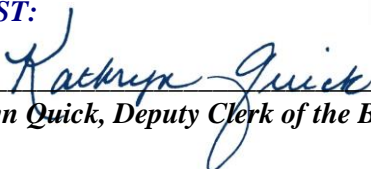
WHEREAS, Somerset County is sponsoring a number of events dedicated to the celebration of the County’s 325th Anniversary this year,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter S. Palmer, Director of the Board of Chosen Freeholders, do hereby proclaim **May 22** as **Somerset County Founding Day** and urge all Somerset County Municipalities and Residents to participate in all that makes our County a great place in which to live and work.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the County of Somerset, this 14th day of May, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and thirteen.

ATTEST:


Kathryn Quick, Deputy Clerk of the Board


Peter S. Palmer, Freeholder Director