## COUNTY OF TIOGA EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Vision loss is among the top 10 causes of disability in the United States, with an estimated 7 million Americans having vision impairment, including 1 million who are blind; and

WHEREAS: These numbers are expected to double by 2050 due to the aging U.S. population, and the expected increase in chronic diseases that can cause vision loss, such as diabetes; and

WHEREAS: Risk factors for eye disease include race/ethnicity, age, sex, and having a chronic health condition such as diabetes, high blood pressure, or heart disease; and behavioral factors such as smoking and being physically inactive; and

WHEREAS: Ninety percent of blindness caused by diabetes is preventable; and

WHEREAS: Early detection and timely treatment of eye conditions such as diabetic retinopathy has been found to be successful and cost effective; and

WHEREAS: More than half of adult Americans who did not seek eye care due to lack of awareness or costs; or by lack of insurance; therefore

THE TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, County of Tioga, does hereby proclaim the month of July 2021 as:

## HEALTHY VISION MONTH IN TIOGA COUNTY

and urges all the citizens of our County to know their family's eye health history, eat right, maintain a healthy weight, wear protective eyewear, quit smoking, and wear sunglasses, even on cloudy days to protect against vision loss.

Dated: July 13, 2021

MARTHA SAVERBREY, CHAIR TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE