

**PROCLAMATION OF THE BEN HILL COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

WHEREAS, One of the most meaningful gifts that a human being can bestow upon another is the gift of life; and

WHEREAS, over 103,000 men, women and children are currently on the national waiting list for organ transplantation, of which over 3,000 reside in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, 46,630, a record number of transplants, occurred in the calendar year 2023 thanks to the generosity of 23,287 deceased and living donors, of which 1,268 transplant patients and 637 deceased and living donors were from Georgia; and

WHEREAS, more than 2.5 million people throughout the country and in Georgia benefit annually from tissue transplantation thanks to thousands of tissue donors; and

WHEREAS, the need for organ, eye, and tissue donation remains critical as a new patient is added to the national waiting list for an organ transplant every 8 minutes and each day roughly 17 people die due to the lack of available organs; and

WHEREAS, more than 3.8 million Georgians have already registered their decision to give the Gift of Life through organ and tissue donation at www.DonateLifeGeorgia.org or on their driver license or through a hunting, fishing, or trapping license; and

WHEREAS, LifeLink of Georgia, is the non-profit organization dedicated to the recovery of organs and tissue for transplantation therapy in Georgia, with a mission to honor donors and save lives through organ and tissue donation.

NOW, THEREFORE, Board of Commissioners of Ben Hill County do hereby proclaim the month of April 2024 as **DONATE LIFE MONTH** in Ben Hill County and encourage all residents to consider giving life through organ and tissue donation and to sign up on Georgia's organ and tissue donor registry by visiting www.DonateLifeGeorgia.org or when renewing their driver license or state identification card through the Department of Driver Services or when obtaining a hunting, fishing or trapping license through the Department of Natural Resources.

PROCLAIMED this 7th day of May 2024

BEN HILL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Steve Taylor, Chairman

Donna R. Prather, Clerk