WHEREAS, when Older Americans Month was established in 1963, only 17 million living Americans had reached their 65th birthdays; about a third of older Americans lived in poverty and there were few programs to meet their needs; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 census, 277,897 citizens ages 60 and older call Allegheny County home; regardless of age and ability, the County is committed to helping all individuals live longer, healthier lives; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with this year’s national theme, “Safe Today, Healthy Tomorrow;” older Americans play a vital role in our community and act as mentors, teachers, friends, and inspirations to all those with whom they interact; and

WHEREAS, in honor of Older Americans Months, the Allegheny County Department of Human Services’ Area Agency on Aging is hosting a number of events with its contracted senior center providers including a Cinco de Mayo party, vintage fashion show and lunch, dance, tea, “sock hop,” and more; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is thankful for the contributions older Americans make to our community; all senior adults should be able to live safe, healthy, and independent lives, and through various programs and initiatives, we strive to make this dream possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, by virtue of the authority vested in me, do hereby proclaim May 2014 as “Older Americans Month” in Allegheny County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 1st day of May, 2014.

Rich Fitzgerald