

## PROCLAMATION

COMMEMORATING the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Harlan County, Kentucky

**WHEREAS**, the County of Harlan celebrates its Bicentennial in the year of 2019 and it is fitting to recognize the County of Harlan on the occasion of this special milestone and to applaud its distinguished history; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Harlan was called Mount Pleasant for much of its earlier existence, but due to there being a post office elsewhere in the state called Mount Pleasant soon developed its name of Harlan; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Harlan was formed in 1819 when the Act for the Division of Knox County was approved by the Kentucky Legislature and was named for Major Silas Harlan, a Revolutionary War hero; and

**WHEREAS**, the Harlan County Court in 1820 purchased a little over 12 acres for five dollars for the county seat from John N. and Susannah Howard and Samuel and Chole Howard; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Harlan is 468 square miles, and was the 60<sup>th</sup> in order of formation in the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, it is believed that the County of Harlan's first settlers were hunters, who discovered the area to be rich with a variety of animal life, such as, buffaloes, bears, elk, deer, otters, mink, beavers, foxes, wolves and panthers; and

**WHEREAS**, the first commercial coal shipment by rail from Harlan County was in 1911 as the L&N locomotive steamed away from Harlan, and in 1921 the City of Lynch had the largest coal tipple in the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Harlan has much beauty in these mountains, and enables citizens and visitors to enjoy such attractions as Blanton Forest, Martins Fork Lake, Kingdom Come State Park, Gabes Branch Falls, Pine Mountain Settlement School and Black Mountain; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the County of Harlan's rich history and enduring contributions of producing coal to keep the lights on in this great country to our natural beauty that we pay tribute during its Bicentennial, and to the men and women who have been so resilient throughout the years; and

**THEREFORE, NOW, I, Harlan County Judge Executive, Dan Mosley, do hereby recognize 2019 as the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the County of Harlan, and urge all citizens to participate in the extraordinary Bicentennial events, that celebrate who we are.**



Dan Mosley  
Harlan County Judge/Executive