



WHEREAS, April is National Arab American Heritage Month, and the 2026 theme is ***“Many Voices, One Community,”*** and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Debbie Dingle of Michigan, with the help of several Arab American organizing groups, issued a resolution in 2017 recognizing April as **National Arab American Heritage Month**; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 3.5 million Arab Americans who live in the United States, who trace their ancestry to over 22 countries from North Africa to the Arabian Gulf, and places including Egypt, Iraq, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Sudan, and others; and

WHEREAS, the number of Marylanders of Arab ancestry has more than doubled since the Census first measured ethnic origins in 1908, and is among the fastest growing Arab populations in the Country; and

WHEREAS, Arab Americans take an active role within the Rockville community, and April helps to spotlight and allow them to celebrate this connection in a way that brings together those who represent home, heritage, and community; and

WHEREAS, the people of Maryland share with other states, including California, Michigan, and Virginia, in the rich culture and diversity of all Arab American communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, do proclaim **April 2026** as **National Arab American Heritage Month** and encourage all residents to acknowledge, embrace, and celebrate Arab Americans!



Monique Ashton, Mayor

Kate Fulton, Councilmember

Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember

Barry Jackson, Councilmember

Marissa Valeri, Councilmember

David Myles, Councilmember

Adam Van Grack, Councilmember

April 13, 2026