AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

Facilitated by the Office of Supervisor Dave Cortese, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors have proclaimed the month of February 2011 as African American History Month.

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA



- WHEREAS, Santa Clara has been the county home of many of African descent, including individuals in Juan Bautista De Anza's 1774-1775 northern California mission building party, and the 1777 founding of San Jose as the state's first civic pueblo; and
- WHEREAS, African Americans in California and Santa Clara County have a fascinating history that includes early settlers and pioneers, explorers, members of the national Underground Railroad network, Civil War veterans, *Buffalo Soldiers*, and others such as Peter Cassey and Jim Williams who were contributors to the business, educational, religious, and civic life of the community; and
- WHEREAS, since its 1926 introduction (in embryo stage) by Carter G. Woodson as a national educational tool, the celebration of African American History Month on the local level has become an opportunity to not only note contributions to local and national history, but also to recognize the many groups and organizations that have worked over the years to educate and build community, including: the Silicon Valley NAACP, the Santa Clara County Alliance of Black Educators, Silicon Valley 100 Black Men, the Black Community Leadership Kitchen Cabinet, the National Forum of Black Public Administrators, the African American Community Service Agency, the Dr, Martin Luther King, Jr. Association of Santa Clara Valley, Community Arts & History Support; local high school and college Black Student Unions, African American Studies Departments at our local colleges and universities, and most recently the African American Heritage House in History Park San Jose; and
- WHEREAS, this year's national theme, African Americans in The Civil War (marking the 150th Anniversary of the Civil War) is another opportunity to examine and recognize the contributions and sacrifices of people of African descent and to pay tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity (including the battle against slavery and its repercussions) to achieve full citizenship in American society, a precursor to universal freedom for all in our country;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara does hereby proclaim the month of February as

African American History Month

PASSED AND ADOPTED, this Eighth Day of February, Two Thousand and Eleven by unanimous vote.

Mike Wasserman Supervisor, District One

1/2 March

Ken Yeager Supervisor, District Four

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Attest: Maria Marinos Clerk, Board of Supervisors Dave Cortese President, Board of Supervisors

George Shirakawa Supervisor, District Two

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Supervisor, District Five