

Proclamation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS | NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Women's History Month – March 2026

WHEREAS, Women's History Month recognizes and celebrates the remarkable contributions of women to economic, cultural, and social fabric of our nation and our local communities; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 Women's History Month theme, "*Leading the Change: Women Shaping a Sustainable Future*," expands our understanding of sustainability beyond environmental stewardship to include financial stability, community resilience, leadership development, and intergenerational equity, recognizing the vital role women play in shaping innovative and enduring solutions for the future; and

WHEREAS, women across Napa Valley continue to lead with vision, collaboration, and dedication, serving in elected office, guiding local businesses and wineries, strengthening nonprofit organizations, educating future generations, advancing healthcare, and advocating for the wellbeing of our communities; and

WHEREAS, Virginia "Ginny" Simms paved the way for women in Napa County leadership when she was elected in January 1973 as Napa County's first woman Supervisor, representing District 4, followed by Kathleen McCullough in 1985 (District 2), Kathryn Winter in 1997 (District 4), Diane Dillon in 2003 (District 3), Belia Ramos in 2016 (District 5), and Joelle Gallagher in 2022 (District 1); and

WHEREAS, Napa County made history in 2024 with the election of its first all-women Board of Supervisors, becoming only the second county in California to reach this milestone and demonstrating the growing role of women in shaping local policy and governance; and

WHEREAS, today, women hold 55 percent of all elected positions in Napa County, reflecting the community's confidence in women's leadership and the strong tradition of public service carried forward by women across the county; and

WHEREAS, women of every race, class, and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of Napa County in countless recorded and unrecorded ways. Women have been at the forefront of securing their rights to suffrage and equal opportunity, as well as leading movements for abolition, emancipation, labor rights, civil rights and peace, all of which have helped build a more fair and just society for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Napa County Board of Supervisors, State of California, on this 10th day of March, does hereby recognize **March 2026 as Women's History Month in Napa County**, and encourages all residents to celebrate the achievements, leadership, and lasting contributions of the women who have shaped our past, guide our communities today, and inspire the generations who will lead Napa County into the future.

Amber Manfree, Chair

Liz Alessio, Vice Chair

Joelle Gallagher, District 1

Anne Cottrell, District 3

Belia Ramos, District 5

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

