

Proclamation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS | NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month – May 2025

WHEREAS, the Napa County Board of Supervisors proudly recognizes **May 2025** as **Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage (AANHPI) Month** in Napa County. We celebrate the diversity of AANHPI community in Napa County and their vast achievements and contributions in various sectors, including healthcare, technology, the arts, agriculture, and public service, that have significantly advanced the progress and prosperity of Napa County; and

WHEREAS, on March 28, 1979, President Jimmy Carter issued the first Presidential Proclamation declaring the first week of May, as National Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Week, and later in 1992, Congress passed a law designating the whole month of May as **Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month**; and

WHEREAS, Napa County has been deeply shaped by the lives and labor of Asian immigrants since the mid-1800s, beginning with Chinese immigrants who contributed to local agriculture, infrastructure, and vineyard development, and who established one of California's earliest Chinatowns in the city of Napa. Though this vibrant community was later displaced, its cultural legacy lives on through historic sites like China Point Overlook Park and the Sam Kee Laundry Building; and

WHEREAS, Japanese immigrants made lasting contributions through farming and viticulture, often under difficult and unjust conditions – including forced incarceration during World War II – yet continued to rebuild and strengthen the Napa County community post-war. Filipino immigrants, arriving largely in the early 20th century, played a vital role in vineyard labor and community building, laying the groundwork for civic organizations that endure today; and

WHEREAS, the Filipino American Association of American Canyon, known as Fil-Am, was established during a gathering of friends in September 2002. Since then, this remarkable organization has flourished into a vibrant community of 50 members who share a passion for embracing cultural diversity and fostering unity. Their mission is to celebrate and nurture values that promote togetherness and strength through the rich tapestry of cultural heritage, the importance of family, and dedicated service to the community; and

WHEREAS, preserving and honoring the rich heritage of AANHPI communities enriches the cultural fabric of our region, promotes mutual respect and understanding, and reflects our shared commitment to equity and inclusiveness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that this Board of Supervisors, County of Napa, State of California, on this 20th day of May 2025, does hereby recognize **May 2025** as **Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month** in Napa County, and we call upon community members to engage in programs, activities and reflections that uplift the stories, achievements, and continued contributions of the AANHPI community and reaffirm our collective commitment to building a more just, equitable and prosperous future for all.

Anne Cottrell, Chair

Amber Manfree, Vice Chair

Joelle Gallagher, District 1

Liz Alessio, District 2

Belia Ramos, District 5

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

