

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA



Board of Supervisors
P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, knowledge of historic events and peoples helps foster local pride and enriches the community with an appreciation of the threads that make up our common history; and

WHEREAS, this year (2011) is the 150th Year Anniversary of the Civil War and an Act of Congress in 1866 established the six all-black Buffalo Soldiers regiments, later known as *Guardians of the West*, to help rebuild the country after the war and to patrol and assist in the building of the western frontier that includes our region; and

WHEREAS, the 9th and 10th Regiments of the Buffalo Soldiers, stationed at the San Francisco Presidio beginning in 1902, traveled by horseback through Santa Clara County on their annual May to November trek to protect and build the areas of Yosemite, Sequoia, and Kings Canyon (General Grant), later declared National Parks; and

WHEREAS, there is great value in sharing the documented records of the visits and activities of the Buffalo Soldiers in Santa Clara County, including yearly encampments in Palo Alto (at California Avenue & El Camino), in San Jose (at the old San Jose Racetrack at Alameda & Race Streets), and in Gilroy (at Wilson's Ranch and the old Depot Grounds); and

WHEREAS, Charles Young (1864-1922), the first and only African American Superintendent of a National Park, Colonel and Commander of the 9th Cavalry that traveled through Santa Clara County, and speaker at Stanford University in Palo Alto, is the object of a national campaign to honor and promote to the rank of brigadier general; and

WHEREAS, Santa Clara County has over the years been home to retired Buffalo Soldiers, leaders and contributing members of our local communities, as well as those who have joined in the local initiatives to share the history of the Buffalo Soldiers; and

WHEREAS, the support in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to establish a National Buffalo Soldiers Historic Trail from the Presidio through Santa Clara County to the Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks, is encouragement to all to learn about the history and contributions of the Buffalo Soldiers in our local and national history;

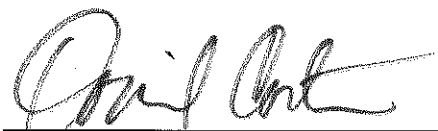
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara does hereby proclaim the Month of May 2011 as

***Santa Clara County Buffalo Soldiers
Awareness Month***

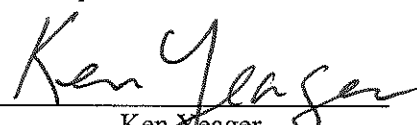
and encourage the local and national efforts to celebrate and educate our community about the history and legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers.

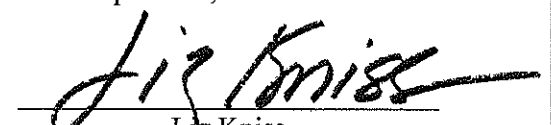
PASSED AND ADOPTED, this Tenth Day of May, Two Thousand and Eleven by unanimous vote.



Mike Wasserman
Supervisor, District One


Dave Cortese
President, Board of Supervisors


George Shirakawa
Supervisor, District Two


Ken Yeager
Supervisor, District Four


Liz Kniss
Supervisor, District Five


Attest: Maria Marinos
Clerk, Board of Supervisors

