

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2022/497

In the matter of honoring Dr. Michael G. Harris, Pleasant Hill City Council Member, upon his retirement

WHEREAS, Dr. Michael G. Harris graduated from the University of California School of Optometry where he received his Bachelor of Science, Master of Optometry, Doctor of Optometry, and Master of Science in Physiological Optics degrees; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Dr. Harris became the youngest person elected to a Fellowship in the American Academy of Optometry and was honored with the first John de Carle Visiting Professorship at City University, London, England; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, he was selected as Alumnus of the Year by the University of California Optometry Alumni Association, and in 2003, the American Academy of Optometry honored him with its Eminent Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris was Director of Policy and Planning, Associate Dean Emeritus, Clinical Professor, and Senior Lecturer at the University of California, where he served as Chief of the Contact Lens Clinic for over 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris has served as a consultant to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Ophthalmic Devices Panel and chaired the Panel meeting where the first laser for refractive surgery was approved; and

WHEREAS, he has lectured throughout the world and has authored over 180 scientific papers and articles on the subjects of contact lenses, corneal physiology, optometric jurisprudence, and hypnosis; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris received his Juris Doctor degree from John F. Kennedy University School of Law; and

WHEREAS, he is an attorney-at-law and a member of the State Bar of California and the American Bar Association; and

WHEREAS, he has been a member of the Board of Directors of the JFK University School of Law Alumni Association, the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater East Bay, Temple Isaiah of Lafayette, California, the Campolindo Homeowners Association, and the Moraga Educational Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris served civically in the Town of Moraga as Vice-Mayor, Councilmember, Planning Commissioner, and Chair of the Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, he was a founding member and past chair of the Contra Costa County Managed Care Commission; and

WHEREAS, he moved to Pleasant Hill and was initially elected to the City Council in 2002 and re-elected in 2006, 2010, 2014, and 2018 and served five terms as Mayor; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor, Dr. Harris started the award-winning Community Service Day, where residents all pitch in to make Pleasant Hill a better place for everyone; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris also established the Pleasant Hill Education Initiative, a community-wide volunteer effort to enhance educational opportunities for Pleasant Hill students; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris has also served in the following roles in Pleasant Hill: Vice-Chair of the City's Redevelopment Agency, Chair of the City's Planning Commission, and Acting Chair of the City's General Plan Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris is involved with many groups and causes including the Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce, Friends of Rodgers Ranch, the Pleasant Hill Community Foundation, the Pleasant Hill Senior Center, the Foundation for Pleasant Hill Education, the Contra Costa County Mayors' Conference and East Bay Division of the League of California Cities; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Harris was a pivotal member of the Pleasant Hill Library Task Force since its inception in

2014. The Task force was comprised of 11 members who worked to learn more about what residents want in a new library facility; and

WHEREAS, through this work, the City of Pleasant Hill was able to work with the County Librarian to design a building that would be useful to patrons. On July 30, 2022, the Pleasant Hill Library opened its new facility with over 3,000 people in attendance; and

WHEREAS, he is married to his wife Dawn Block, who is the reason he moved to Pleasant Hill, and they have four children and he enjoys spending time with his grandchildren.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors recognizes Dr. Michael G. Harris on the occasion of his retirement and honors his hard work and dedication to our community.

KAREN MITCHOFF

Chair, District IV Supervisor

JOHN GIOIA

District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN

District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS

District III Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER

District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: December 13, 2022

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy