

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

In the matter of:

Resolution No. 2023/180

Recognizing May as Jewish American Heritage Month

WHEREAS, Jewish Americans have been an important part of the American story and have greatly contributed to all areas of American life and culture since our nation's earliest days; and
WHEREAS, on April 20, 2006, the Federal Government proclaimed May as Jewish American Heritage Month, stating, "As a nation of immigrants, the United States is better and stronger because Jewish people from all over the world have chosen to become American citizens," and, since then, proclamations in support of Jewish American Heritage Month have been made by Presidents of the United States annually; and
WHEREAS, generations of Jews have fled to the United States in search of a better life for themselves and their families, and these immigrants made invaluable contributions in support of equality and civil rights through their leadership and achievements; and
WHEREAS, Jewish Americans connect to their Jewish identity in a variety of ways, such as culturally, ethnically, religiously and by following Jewish ethics and values ; and
WHEREAS Jewish Americans are racially, ethnically, socially, politically and economically diverse; and
WHEREAS, in 2022 Jewish Americans faced a dramatic rise in antisemitic incidents—36% higher than in 2021—including but not limited to physical attacks, vandalism, verbal and physical harassment, and hateful comments posted on social media, and
WHEREAS, Contra Costa shares an obligation to condemn and combat antisemitism wherever it exists, to include Jewish Americans in all facets of civic life, and to stand with the Jewish American community against hatred or bigotry in our community; and
WHEREAS, there is a need for education and policies that are culturally competent when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts of being Jewish in all aspects of American society, including discourse and policy; and
WHEREAS we celebrate the rich and diverse heritage of the Jewish American community, including those who live, work and play in Contra Costa, and;
WHEREAS, we recognize Jewish American commitment to civic engagement and how Contra Costa has been enriched by local Jewish institutions and synagogues.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Contra Costa hereby declares the month of May as Jewish American Heritage Month in appreciation of the achievements and contributions made by members of the Jewish community. Contra Costa calls upon all residents to celebrate Jewish Americans who have woven the fabric of our country and community, and supports opportunities to learn more about Jewish American history and culture. THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Contra Costa will continue efforts to confront antisemitism and other forms of hate impacting the Jewish community, support local education about the diversity of our Jewish American community, and integrate Jewish American culture into future programs, activities, and ceremonies throughout the year.

JOHN GIOIA

Chair, District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN

District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS

District III Supervisor

KEN CARLSON

District IV 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: May 16, 2023

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy