

PROCLAMATION

Black History Month

WHEREAS, African Americans have played significant roles in the history of this nation's economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development while working tirelessly to maintain and promote their culture and history; and

WHEREAS, because of their determination, hard work, intelligence and perseverance, African Americans have made valuable and lasting contributions to our community, achieving exceptional success in all aspects of society, including business, education, politics, science, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter G. Woodson initiated Black History Week, February 12, 1926; and for many years, the second week of February, chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln, was celebrated by African Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, Black History Week was expanded and became established as Black History Month, and is now celebrated all over North America; and

WHEREAS, After the Civil War, many black Americans sought a better life, free from oppression and in search of new economic opportunities, and the liberty to create their own lives; and

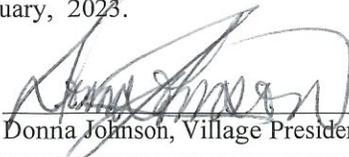
WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black History throughout our American experience, which goes back hundreds of years and includes some of the greatest, most advanced, and innovative societies in our history that we can all draw inspiration from; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time for all Americans to remember the stories and teachings of those who helped build our nation, took a stance against prejudice to build lives of dignity and opportunity, advanced the cause of civil rights, and strengthened families and communities; and

WHEREAS, during Black History Month all Americans are encouraged to reflect on past successes and challenges of African Americans and look to the future to continue to improve society so that we live up to the ideals of freedom, equality, and justice.

NOW THEREFORE, I Donna Johnson, Mayor of the Village of Libertyville, do hereby proclaim February 2023 as **Black History Month** and urge all citizens to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture and continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, peaceful, and prosperous for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have unto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Village of Libertyville to be affixed this 24th day of January, 2023.


Donna Johnson, Village President

