

PROCLAMATION

BLACK HISTORY MONTH FEBRUARY 2015

WHEREAS, in February of 1926, sixty-one years after the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the United States Constitution, Dr. Carter Woodson, a noted historian, desired to recognize the achievements and contributions of Black Americans in this country; and

WHEREAS, the month of February was appropriately chosen to recognize the achievements of Black Americans as it contained the birth anniversaries of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass; and

WHEREAS, the traditional one-week observance was expanded in 1976 to include the entire month of February; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month allows us to honor the achievements of and celebrate the heritage of Black Americans while recalling the courage of their struggle to achieve equality; and

WHEREAS, historically Black Americans, such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Medgar Evers, Jessie Jackson, Dred Scott, W.E.B. DuBois, and Mary McLeod Bethune have worked to lay the very foundation for the free and diverse society that we as Americans enjoy today; and

WHEREAS, this year marks the 51st anniversary of the signing of the 1964 Civil Rights Act that gave all citizens of the United States equal rights under the law.

THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Leesburg in Virginia hereby proclaim the month of February of the Year 2015 as Black History Month in the Town of Leesburg and urge the citizens of Leesburg to join in recognizing the contributions made by the Loudoun Chapter of the NAACP and other community organizations to preserve and remember the accomplishments of Black Americans throughout the history of our nation.

PROCLAIMED this 10th day of February 2015.

Kristen C. Umstatt, Mayor
Town of Leesburg

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council