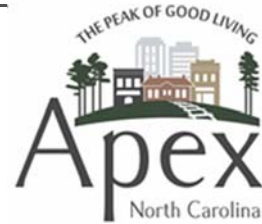


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# PROCLAMATION

*From the Office of the Mayor*



## Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Whereas, in 1977, United States Representatives Frank Horton (New York), and Norman Y. Mineta (California), introduced a Resolution to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian-Pacific Heritage Week that President Jimmy Carter signed into law in 1978; and

Whereas, in 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed a bill passed by the United States Congress to extend the week-long celebration to a month; and in 1992, the official designation of May as Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month became law; and

Whereas, North Carolina has been home to members of the Asian American Pacific Islander community since the mid-nineteenth century, when the first Chinese immigrants began to settle in our state; and

Whereas, the Raleigh and Charlotte areas are home to the largest communities of Asian American Pacific Islanders in North Carolina; and

Whereas, while Asian American Pacific Islander communities are diverse, throughout history the communities have had diverse experiences relative to opportunity, inequity, and adversity; and

Whereas, during national celebrations, the story of inventor, An Wang, PhD is often shared as his helping shape the technology revolution, holding forty patents, and founding Wang Laboratories, later selling his core memory patent to IBM; and

Whereas, there were also less talked about stories like that of attorney Patsy Takemoto Mink, the first woman of color elected to US Congress in 1964, championing gender equity by being one of the principal authors and cosponsors of Title IX legislation later named, Patsy T. Mink Gender Equity in Education Act, and being well known for encouraging gender equity and prohibiting discrimination and sexual harassment in educational settings; and

Whereas, industrial draftsman Vincent Chin was killed on the eve of his wedding, his death being a turning point for civil rights engagement of Asian American Pacific Islanders; and

Whereas, the efforts, resilience, and contributions of Asian American Pacific Islanders can be seen in every aspect of society, including education, military, politics, health care, economics, and science, playing a pivotal role in America's history; and

Whereas, the Federal Asian Pacific American Council, the Federal Government, and the State of North Carolina has proclaimed May as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and

Whereas, the Town of Apex proclaims Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month to recognize the contributions of Asian Pacific Islander Americans;

Now, therefore, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of the Town of Apex, do hereby proclaim May 2020 as Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the Town of Apex and encourage all Apex residents to learn more about those of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander heritage, moving us closer to a beloved community.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and  
caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina  
to be affixed this the 19th day of May 2020

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Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor