## Proclamation

from the Office of the Mayor

## WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH-MARCH 2021

- WHEREAS, Women's History Month traces back to the first International Women's Day held in 1911 and was extended to Women's History week in 1978; and
- WHEREAS, Sarah Lawrence College, the Women's Action Alliance and the Smithsonian Institution collaborated to host the first Women's History Conference in 1979; and
- WHEREAS, the women's suffrage movement led to the passage by Congress of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in 1919 and was ratified by the states by the summer of 1920; and
- WHEREAS, in 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued a proclamation declaring the week beginning March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week" and in 1987 Congress provided bipartisan support to extend the Week to Women's History Month; and
- WHEREAS, the theme of 2021 is Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced, recognizing and honoring the important roles of multicultural suffragists and voting right activists; and
- WHEREAS, women of every race, ethnicity, and background have made contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless ways; and
- WHEREAS, women have historically played and continue to play a crucial economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of the life of the nation by constituting a significant portion of the work force inside and outside of the home; and
- WHEREAS, women of every race, ethnicity, and background have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of freedom, suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement, and other movements, especially the peace movement, which creates a more fair, just, and inclusive society for all people; and
- WHEREAS, despite these contributions, celebration of this Month acknowledging the role of women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American history;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of the Town of Apex, do hereby proclaim March 2021 as Women's History Month in the Town of Apex and call upon all citizens to celebrate the numerous contributions women have made to our community, state, nation and to the world.

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 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2021

Jacques	K. Gilbe	ert, Mayor	