



## PROCLAMATION

### HONORING ELEANOR KENITZER

**WHEREAS**, Eleanor Kenitzer has devoted decades of extraordinary service to the City of Grass Valley through her leadership, artistic vision, and deep commitment to preserving and celebrating the community's unique cultural heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1990, Eleanor revived a cherished Grass Valley tradition when she became Director of the Grass Valley Cornish Carol Choir, recognizing from the outset that the folk carols belonged to the singers themselves and that their true value lay in the tradition, spirit, and shared excitement of the community; and

**WHEREAS**, Eleanor directed the Grass Valley Cornish Carol Choir for thirty-six (36) years, guiding it to regional, national, and international recognition, where she expanded and strengthened the choir by inviting women to join, and filling soprano ranks previously held by boy altos; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1997, together with then-Mayor Mark Johnson, Eleanor helped establish the sister city relationship between Grass Valley and Bodmin, Cornwall, initiating cultural exchanges that continue to enrich both communities today; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of her cultural leadership and contributions, Eleanor was made a Cornish Bard in Falmouth, Cornwall in 2000, and her work in Grass Valley has since inspired a revival of Cornish caroling in Cornwall itself, where she continues to serve as a mentor to musicians and musicologists; and

**WHEREAS**, Eleanor was a founder of Grass Valley's St. Piran's Day celebration twenty-five (25) years ago, further strengthening the area's Cornish heritage; and

**WHEREAS**, Eleanor's civic leadership extends beyond music, including service as Chair of the Grass Valley Planning Commission and President of the Greater Grass Valley Chamber of Commerce in 2008, and as the first recipient of the Grass Valley Mayor's Award in 1998; and

**WHEREAS**, Eleanor has consistently reminded the community that "Music is to build our souls, our spirits, and our community consciousness," a philosophy reflected throughout her life's work;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the City Council of the City of Grass Valley hereby honors and recognizes ELEANOR KENITZER for her exceptional contributions to the cultural, civic, and community life of Grass Valley, and expresses its deepest gratitude for her enduring legacy and lifelong dedication to preserving the spirit, heritage, and heart of the community.

*Dated this 10th day of March 2026*

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Hilary Hodge, Mayor

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Haven Caravelli, Vice Mayor

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Jan Arbuckle, Council Member

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Joe Bonomolo, Council Member

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Thomas Ivy, Council Member