



Proclamation



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, on February 28, 1980, President Jimmy Carter proclaimed March 2 - 8, 1980, as "National Women's History Week;" this being followed in 1981 by a Joint Congressional Resolution designating the week of March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week," which recurred every year in March until the adoption, in 1987, of Public Law 100-9, designating March as "Women's History Month;" and

WHEREAS, according to Census.Gov (<https://www.census.gov>), Carrboro, North Carolina in 2019 had a population of 21,190, of which 54.3% identified as female; and

WHEREAS, since the town's founding, women have played significant roles in Carrboro's economic, cultural, and political development; and

WHEREAS, in Carrboro's earliest days, while men worked in the local mills, women and girls known as "Toppers" or "Loopers" installed looping machines in their homes, allowing them to support the production of clothing while also tending to domestic responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, in 1975, Ruth West was the first woman elected as Mayor of Carrboro; and

WHEREAS, 2020 marked the 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution which granted women the right to vote; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Women's History Alliance, the theme for this year's Women's History Month has been carried over from 2020 due to the pandemic, the theme continues to be "Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to Be Silent;" this theme is intended to honor all of the women, including multicultural suffragists and voting rights activists, who, through great dedication and decades of struggle, secured the right for women to vote, as well as those who continue to work for voting rights and who stand in opposition to voter purges, literacy tests and other forms of voter suppression; and

WHEREAS, the efforts of these women should continue to be recognized and honored, and "[w]e refuse to allow their voices to be silenced, even by a pandemic;" and

WHEREAS, Carrboro is proud to recognize and honor the history and contributions of women in Carrboro and throughout the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim March 2021 to be **WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**. I encourage all residents to celebrate this observance, to learn more about the important achievements of women throughout history, and to find inspiration in the stories of the courageous and steadfast women who fought to achieve equity and justice, and in doing so, changed the world.

This the 2nd day of March, 2021



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor