

City of San Rafael
Proclamation in Recognition of

Celebrating Older Americans Month 2024

WHEREAS, May is Older Americans Month, a time for us to recognize and honor San Rafael older adults and their immense influence on every facet of American society; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Rafael is home to more than 15,000 residents aged 60 or older, and more than 1,000 residents aged 90 or older, all of whom contribute their strength, wisdom, and experience to our community; and

WHEREAS, older San Rafael Residents enrich our families, communities, and economy through diverse life experiences, cultures, and contributions. We all benefit when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are welcomed, included, and supported. The City of San Rafael recognizes the importance of creating a community that supports and provides the services that older residents need to thrive and live independently for as long as possible, and

WHEREAS, an objective of the City of San Rafael is to continue to implement the Age-Friendly Strategic Plan, including working with the Age-Friendly Community Partnership to support ageism trainings and activities to address social isolation. The work of the Age Friendly San Rafael Community Partnership helps the City to stay in front of these demographic shifts and continue to ensure older adults in our community are included, supported, and celebrated; and

WHEREAS, the theme of Older Americans Month 2024 is *Powered by Connection*, which emphasizes the profound impact of meaningful interactions and social connection on the well-being and health of older adults in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATE COLIN, Mayor of San Rafael, do hereby proclaim the month of May as Older Americans Month in San Rafael. I urge every resident to recognize the contributions of our older citizens, help to create an inclusive and connected society, and join efforts to support older Americans' choices about how they age in their communities.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kate".

Kate Colin
Mayor

City of San Rafael
Proclamation In Recognition of
Wildfire Preparedness Month 2024

WHEREAS, the risk of wildfire in the City of San Rafael, Marin County, the State of California, and now in many areas of North America is a significant concern to community members, City, State, and Federal leaders and Fire Department personnel; and

WHEREAS, the voters of Marin County agreed to take action to address the growing threat of wildfire with the passage of Measure C in 2020 and establishment of the joint powers authority known as the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority; and

WHEREAS, the funds from Measure C are used to directly support the San Rafael Wildfire Prevention and Protection Action Plan and annual MWPA workplan, and together staff and residents have made significant strides to reduce community risk; and

WHEREAS, addressing wildfire risk requires year-round resident action to create effective defensible space with a “house out approach” to protect lives and prevent ignitions of structures and maintain critical housing for community members; and

WHEREAS, Wildfire Preparedness month is an opportunity to emphasize individual action and collaboration to reduce community risk: and

WHEREAS, An informed and active community is a proactive and prepared community, and community organizations such as Firewise Communities, Neighborhood Response Groups, and the Community Emergency Response Team make San Rafael more resilient; and

WHEREAS, and given the climate, drought conditions, and other factors, hazard mitigation and community preparedness efforts are now required year-round to ensure community safety and resiliency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kate Colin, Mayor of San Rafael, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2024 as Wildfire Preparedness Month and in doing so, urge all residents and community members to take adaptive wildfire preparation steps to reduce our community’s risk profile and achieve safety related to wildfire.



Kate Colin
Mayor

City of San Rafael
Proclamation in Recognition of
PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK
May 5 - 11, 2024

WHEREAS, Since 1985, Public Service Recognition Week has been celebrated on the first week of May, beginning on the first Sunday of the month, to highlight and to honor those who have chosen public service through work as federal, state, county, local and tribal government employees; and

WHEREAS, this week is a time to educate citizens about the work public servants do and the many ways government services make life better for the American people, at the local level up to the federal level, it is also a time to connect and educate citizens nationwide to the work of their government and to improve the perception and morale of government workers and other public servants; and

WHEREAS, Public Service Recognition Week is intended to foster pride among public servants and help inspire a new generation of public servants; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Rafael supports and encourages employees to continue building new partnerships with other public agencies, associations, community organizations, and private corporations in order to continue providing efficient and excellent service to our community; and

WHEREAS, the City honors our public employees for their dedication and service and acknowledges and appreciates the work they do to ensure the safety of our citizens, improve and preserve public assets, preserve and sustain our neighborhoods and economic vitality, and support and strengthen the quality of life for our residents.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Rafael hereby proclaim May 5-11, 2024, as Public Service Recognition Week, and encourages all citizens to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of government employees at all levels – federal, state, county and here in the City of San Rafael.



Kate Colin
Mayor

City of San Rafael
Proclamation in Recognition of
ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH
May 1 - 31, 2024

WHEREAS, First commemorated in 1987 as a week and expanded in 1990 to a full month, Asian American, Native Hawai'ian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month recognizes, celebrates, and increases awareness of the rich history, contributions, and accomplishments of Asian Americans, Native Hawai'ians, and Pacific Island Americans; and

WHEREAS, the month of May was chosen to coincide with two milestones in Asian/Pacific American history: the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in America on May 7, 1843, and Chinese workers' role in building the transcontinental railroad, completed May 10, 1869; and

WHEREAS, there are over 20 million people identifying as Asian Americans, Native Hawai'ians, or Pacific Islanders in the United States, from over 20 different countries of origin or ethnicities, AANHPI Heritage Month celebrates the individual journey of all AANHPI citizens and immigrants in the United States and their unique life experiences, traditions, and cultures; and

WHEREAS, the national theme for 2024 is "Advancing Leaders Through Innovation," which pays homage to the visionaries and trailblazers who have shaped AANHPI history and continue to influence in all areas of industry, as AANHPI leaders have made lasting contributions to economic prosperity, technological advancements, and social and political change through ingenuity and creativity while navigating significant cultural and systemic barriers; and

WHEREAS, the City encourages everyone to learn more about Asian American, Native Hawai'ian, and Pacific Islander heritage, work to combat racism and xenophobia, and support the next generations of AANHPI community members near and far, as we celebrate and learn during this month.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Rafael proclaim May 1-May 31, 2024, as Asian American, Native Hawai'ian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and do hereby reaffirm our shared values of compassion, equity, inclusion, and celebrating diversity and the impacts that AANHPI have had locally and nationally.



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Kate Colin
Mayor

City of San Rafael
Proclamation in Recognition of
JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH
May 1 - 31, 2024

- WHEREAS,** Jewish Americans have been an important part of the American story and have greatly contributed to all areas of American life and culture since our nation's earliest days; and
- WHEREAS,** Jewish Americans connect to their Jewish identity in a variety of ways, such as culturally, ethnically, religiously, and by following Jewish ethics and values; and with varied and rich histories, countries of origin, specific ethnicities, and a range of religious practices, each bringing a unique perspective to the community from their lived experiences and background; and
- WHEREAS,** Jewish people and communities continue to be faced with prejudice, discrimination, and confront hostility, bigotry, and antisemitism, the City of San Rafael adamantly condemns these actions and asks community members to embrace, learn from, and collaborate with our Jewish community members, and celebrate differences and similarities to our individual selves; and
- WHEREAS,** There is a need for education and policies that are culturally competent when describing, discussing, or addressing the impacts of being Jewish in all aspects of American society, including discourse and policy; and
- WHEREAS,** May is recognized as Jewish American Heritage Month by Presidential Proclamation, the Jewish American experience is a story of faith, fortitude, and progress and one that is connected to key tenets of American identity, including our Nation's commitment to freedom of religion and conscience.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Rafael hereby proclaim May 1-31, 2024, as Jewish American Heritage Month in recognition and appreciation of the achievements and contributions made by members of the Jewish community and calls upon all residents to celebrate Jewish Americans who have woven the fabric of our country and community, and support opportunities to learn more about Jewish American history and culture.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that San Rafael will continue efforts to confront antisemitism and other forms of hate impacting the Jewish community, support local education about the diversity of our Jewish American community, and integrate Jewish American culture into future programs, activities, and ceremonies throughout the year.



Kate Colin
Mayor

City of San Rafael
Proclamation in Recognition of
ARAB AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH, 2024

WHEREAS, in the nineteenth century, Arab individuals, families, and communities began a noted migration to the United States, from counties including Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Palestine, Egypt, Morocco, Iraq, Yemen, Tunisia, Algeria, the Gulf countries, and Libya, with approximately 200,000 Arabs living in the United States by 1924; and

WHEREAS, they brought to America resilient family values, strong work ethic, dedication to education, diversity in faith and creed, and valuable contributions to virtually every aspect of American society: in medicine, law, business, education, technology, and government, that have added strength to our great democracy; and

WHEREAS, with approximately 3.7 million Arabs and Arab Americans living in the United States, Arabs are diverse with their unique countries of origin, own rich histories, cultures, traditions, and perspectives that they share with neighbors and friends, along with their entrepreneurial spirit and community leadership; and

WHEREAS, Arab people and communities continue to feel the pressures and traumas of ongoing strife in the Middle East and are faced with prejudice, hostility, bigotry, and persecution for religious beliefs, dress, and practices, the City of San Rafael condemns those actions and asks of community members to embrace, learn from, share with, and celebrate the varied uniqueness of the Arab community; and

WHEREAS, April is recognized as Arab American Heritage Month by Presidential Proclamation, we take time now to honor Arab Americans in our community, state, and nation, and Arabs abroad as part of the world diaspora, and recognize their role in the development of America and the continued influence Arab Americans have in all aspects of life; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Rafael, ask community members to engage in opportunities to learn more about and support our Arab American neighbors, friends, and businesses, and to celebrate the achievements and contributions from the Arab community, and to encourage each of us to commit to supporting religious and cultural freedoms.



Kate Colin
Mayor

City of San Rafael
Proclamation in Recognition of
NATIONAL POLICE WEEK 2024

- WHEREAS, The Congress and President of the United States have designated May 15, 2024, as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and May 12th to 18th, 2024 as National Police Week; and
- WHEREAS, the members of the San Rafael Police Department play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of all those residing in or visiting San Rafael; and
- WHEREAS, it is important that all residents know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of their law enforcement agency, and that members of the Police Department recognize their duty to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence and disorder, and by protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression; and
- WHEREAS, the men and women of the San Rafael Police Department unceasingly provide a vital public service.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of San Rafael call upon all patriotic, civic and educational organizations to observe the week of May 12th to the 18th, 2024 as National Police Week with appropriate ceremonies and observances in which all of our people may join in commemorating law enforcement officers, past and present, who, by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities, have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in so doing, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all residents.

FURTHERMORE, we call upon all residents of San Rafael to recognize Monday, May 15, as Peace Officers' Memorial Day in honor of those law enforcement officers who, through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to their community or have become disabled in the performance of duty and let us recognize and pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes.





Kate Colin
Mayor