

WHEREAS, February is recognized throughout the United States of America as Black History Month in honor and recognition of the many contributions made by Black Americans and Black American organizations; and

WHEREAS, our lives have all been enriched by the lofty and significant contributions of such prominent Black Americans as: Nobel Peace Prize Winner, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., President Barack Obama, former Secretary of State Colin Powell, Educator Booker T. Washington, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, The Tuskegee Airmen, Poet Maya Angelo, Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, baseball great Hank Aaron, Academy Award Winner Sidney Poitier, celebrated broadcast journalist, Ed Bradley and many, many more; and

WHEREAS, the North Bay Black Chamber of Commerce is an organization made up of professionals and business owners committed to supporting all businesses and economic vitality, especially those that are owned by Black Americans, and encourage professional networking at regularly organized events since its inception in 2003; and

WHEREAS, they promote these goals by being advocates on issues that affect business conditions and market events to increase awareness of businesses throughout Sonoma County and assist Black-owned businesses in garnering needed resources to enhance the success of its 74 current members; and

WHEREAS, the North Bay Black Chamber has created the Our Entrepreneurs of Tomorrow Foundation to raise funds for numerous worthy causes including the Ben Thornton Heart Fund, Sonoma County Family YMCA, Rites of Passage, Camp FAME, Youth Business Week, and Roseland University Prep; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that, I, Scott P. Bartley, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the Santa Rosa City Council, do hereby honor and praise the contributions of the North Bay Black Chamber of Commerce and all local Black American organizations, and the citizens they serve, by proclaiming the month of February, 2013,

## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

