



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Eritrea became independent on May 24, 1991, after a brutal 30-years of war and the mobilization of an impressive national liberation movement; and

WHEREAS, Eritrea is a country that lies on the west coast of the Red Sea in the Horn of Africa, inhabited by mosaic of diverse nine ethnic communities; and

WHEREAS, Eritrea is the first country in Africa to accept Christianity in the 4th century and Islam in the 7th century; and

WHEREAS, Eritrea's capital city Asmara is Africa's Secret Modernist City, recognized by the UN as the first World Heritage Site in Eritrea; and

WHEREAS, in addition to being the land of peace in the horn of Africa, Eritrea also dominates in cycling and marathon runners; and

WHEREAS, The Eritrean Community of Sonoma County was established in the late 1980s; and has grown considerably; and

WHEREAS, the Eritrean Community in Santa Rosa strives to help alleviate some of the problems faced by Eritreans in Northern California by helping them overcome many of the cultural, language, and other barriers; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Eritrean community have provided Santa Rosa with a unique cultural influence and have fundamentally enriched the character of our city; and

WHEREAS, Eritrean Americans bring with them their rich cultural heritage, including traditions, cuisine, music, sports, and art. Their presence adds to the vibrant tapestry of cultures, economic growth in Sonoma County, fostering cross-cultural understanding and appreciation among residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that, I, Natalie Rogers, Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim May 24, 2024 as

ERITREAN INDEPENDENCE DAY



Mayor Natalie Rogers
May 24, 2024