

PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE MONTH AUGUST 2020

WHEREAS, the bold, courageous and powerful women who fought for the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution on August 26, 1920 deserve special recognition, especially on the 100th anniversary of its ratification in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Oak Park Resident Grace Wilbur Trout led the successful effort across the State of Illinois to ensure that Illinois was the first state in the nation to ratify this amendment, and the site of Grace Wilbur Trout's Oak Park home (414 Forest Ave., Oak Park) has been selected as one of the Illinois sites on the National Votes for Women Trail, an initiative of the National Collaborative for Women's History Sites (NCWHS), and will be recognized with an historic roadside marker under the William G. Pomeroy Foundation National Women's Suffrage Marker Program; and

WHEREAS, the right to vote is the cornerstone of our democracy and the fundamental right upon which all our civil liberties rest, extending the right to vote to all citizens is an ongoing struggle, and the fact that today women are active in local, state and national government and are running for office in unprecedented numbers reminds us that we all follow in the footsteps of these resolute American suffragists; and

WHEREAS, the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution has played an important role in advancing the right of all women; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Oak Park joins The Historical Society of Oak Park and River Forest, the Oak Park River Forest League of Women Voters, and the Nineteenth Century Charitable Association in recognizing the pioneering role taken by residents of Oak Park and Illinois in granting the women of the nation their hard-won rights; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the residents and civic institutions of Oak Park, Illinois, celebrate the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the Constitution of the United States; to honor the role of the ratification of the 19th Amendment in further promoting the core values of our democracy as promised by the Constitution of the United States; to reaffirm the opportunity for students and adults in the county to learn about and commemorate the efforts of the women's suffrage movement and the role of women in our democracy; and to reaffirm our desire to continue to strengthen democratic participation and to inspire future generations to cherish and preserve the historic precedent established under the 19th Amendment.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, Anan Abu-Taleb, President of the Village of Oak Park and the Board of Trustees, do hereby recognize the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in the State of Illinois and the role played by the women of Oak Park in that achievement and urge citizens to join in celebrating this great milestone

ADOPTED and APPROVED this 3rd day of August 2020.

Mayor Anan Abu-Taleb

ATTEST:

Vicki Scaman
Village Clerk