



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, women have been foundational to the progression of families, nations, science, and art from Eve in The Garden of Eden to Cleopatra and Queen Elizabeth I, from Marie Curie and Katherine Johnson to Frieda Kahlo and Celia Cruz; and

WHEREAS, women make up 50.4% of the American population and 51% of the U.S. college-educated workforce over the age of 25, but still only earn 82 cents for every dollar men earn; and

WHEREAS, women have made and continue to make history across the world, for instance:

- **Kalpana Chawla**- an Indian-born American astronaut and aerospace engineer, who was the first South Asian woman to fly to space
- **Shirley Chisholm**- the first black woman elected to the US Congress, first black candidate for President for a major party nomination, and first woman to run for the Democratic Party's Presidential nomination
- **Dolores Huerta and Crystal Lee Sutton**- both labor advocates and union organizers; Dolores Huerta for co-founding the United Farmworkers Association, which later became United Farm Workers in California, and has April 10 designated in her name in that state; Crystal Lee Sutton who worked diligently to unionize a textile factory in North Carolina, was fired for it, and was ultimately successful, the story of which inspired the Oscar-winning film Norma Rae
- **Cristina Junquiera**- known as Brazil's Wonder woman of Finance, she is Brazil's 2nd self-made billionaire and one of the first finance technology, or fintech, billionaires, who co-founded NuBank, a digital banking venture, where she led the company's policy on inclusivity programs and fought to increase female representation in both tech and finance
- **Ellen Ochoa**- an American, she was the first Hispanic woman to go to space when in 1993, she served on the Space Shuttle Discovery; later she would go on to become the first Hispanic and 2nd woman to lead the Johnson Space Center
- **Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**- a Nigerian-American economist, she is the first woman and first African to lead the World Trade Organization as Director-

General; she has served twice as Nigeria's Finance Minister and had a 25-year career at the World Bank in Washington, DC, and these are just a few of her accomplishments

- **Susan LaFlesche Picotte-** a member of the Omaha Tribe, she is acknowledged as one of the first indigenous people, and first indigenous woman to earn a medical degree; after graduating Valedictorian at Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, she went back to the Omaha reservation where she promoted public health reforms in addition to her duties as a doctor
- **Kate Sheppard-** a suffragette in New Zealand, whose work led to parliament extending voting rights to women in 1893, and in so doing, making New Zealand the first country to establish universal suffrage; later in life, she assisted the suffrage movement in Britain; and

WHEREAS, these women, and indeed all women, be they mothers, sisters, daughters, aunts, cousins, or friends work hard to provide for their respective families and communities, many in the face of overwhelming odds;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court hereby proclaims March 2024, as Women's History Month in Williamson County to tell all women that you are seen, you are beautiful, you are significant, and we appreciate that all you do.

Passed by Commissioners Court and Signed on this date: _____

Bill Gravell, County Judge

On behalf of the Williamson County Commissioners Court Members