

Proclamation

- Whereas,** In 1980, President Carter declared the first National Women's History Week, and in 1987 Congress designated March as Women's History Month; and
- Whereas,** women have been critical to the economic, cultural, and social growth of America; and
- Whereas,** women dominate critical professions: 98% of speech pathologists; 90% of nurses, 85% of librarians, 80% of elementary and middle school teachers, 80% of social workers; and
- Whereas,** a wage gap exists with women earning 78 cents per dollar earned by a man, with African American and Latina women earning even less at 64 cents and 53 cents, respectively; and
- Whereas,** a poverty gap exists with women comprising 75 percent of elderly Americans living in poverty, a gap wider than anywhere else in the western world; and
- Whereas,** an opportunity gap exists with women comprising only 30% of physicians, 25% of architects and computing jobs (down from a high of 36% in 1991), 20% of congress and mayors, 14% of engineers, 12% of police officers, and 6% of firefighters and CEOs (Chief Executive Officers); and
- Whereas,** notable local women include: Marilyn York who was in the first class of Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) inducted during World War II, trained as an aircraft engine mechanic assigned to the Alameda Naval Air Station, one of very few women who rose to the status of journeyman, sold more than \$1 Million in war bonds, and cofounded the Alameda Naval Air Museum; Mary Reynolds, Alameda's first woman police officer, hired in 1963 as a "Police Woman" and then reclassified to Police Officer; Linda Dawson, Alameda's first woman firefighter, hired in 1983, who became a medic-firefighter, serving first at Station 1 then Station 4, retiring in 2010 after 27 years of service, and served as our only woman firefighter for 11 years until Captain Sharon Oliver joined as our second woman firefighter; and Grace Na, a member of Alameda High's first Women's Golf Team in 2006-7 school year, four-time All-American, six wins in collegiate competition, four years West Coast Conference (WCC), Women's Golf Player of the Year and a 2016 Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) rookie; and
- Whereas,** notable women in history include: Jeannette Pickering Rankin, the first woman elected to Congress in 1916 and was most proud of being the only woman able to vote in Congress for the women's right to vote; Anna Eleanor Roosevelt, the United States' first delegate to the United Nations, first chair of the UN Commission on Human Rights and chair of John F. Kennedy's Presidential Commission on the Status of Women; Ellen Ochoa, an engineer, a former astronaut, serving on a nine-day mission aboard the shuttle Discovery in 1993 and the current Director of the Johnson Space Center; and Serena Williams, an American professional tennis player ranked No. 1 in singles on eight separate occasions, and holds the most Grand Slam titles in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles combined amongst active players.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Trish Herrera Spencer, Mayor of the City of Alameda, hereby declare March 2018, as

Women's History Month

in the City of Alameda and encourage our community to observe and celebrate this month with appropriate activities, ceremonies and programs.



Trish Herrera Spencer

Mayor