

RESOLUTION NO. 76

DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 2008 AS AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH IN ALBANY COUNTY

Introduced: 2/11/08

By Mss. Chapman, McKnight, Willingham, Mr. Clay, Ms. Maffia-Tobler and the Albany County Legislature:

WHEREAS, Each year during February, Americans pause to reflect on the contributions and determination of African-Americans throughout the history of our nation to achieve equality and help form the United States of America as a diverse nation, and

WHEREAS, African American History Month highlights the African-American legacy and the strength, courage and continuing struggle of African-American men, women and children to meet the challenges of the 21st Century, and

WHEREAS, For the 2008 celebration of national African-American History Month, Albany County has chosen as its theme "Carter G. Woodson and the Origins of Multiculturalism" in honor of the noted African-American author and scholar who originally established "Negro History Week" in 1926 to recognize the multicultural history of our nation, and

WHEREAS, It is fitting to recognize the determination, fortitude and innumerable contributions of Carter Woodson and other prominent African-Americans as a reminder that we must be continually vigilant to preserve hard-fought gains for the present and the future, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By this Honorable Body that February 2008 is hereby designated as "African-American History Month" in Albany County, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That County employees are invited to participate in the celebration at 12:30 p.m. on February 29th in the Cahill Room of the Harold L. Joyce Albany County Office Building to hear keynote speaker Maxine Fantroy-Ford, principal at Albany High School, African-American artist Elizabeth Zunon, poet Mildred Chang, the Albany High Gospel Chorus and Minister Elgin Joseph Taylor, who will deliver a prayer, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That all citizens of Albany County are encouraged to reflect upon the African-American experience and participate in functions recognizing and celebrating African-American contributions to American history and culture, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed for forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Adopted by unanimous vote. 2/11/08