

**PROCLAMATION**  
**February 2019**  
**“National African American History Month”**



**WHEREAS:** the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners takes pride in recognizing February 2019 as National African American History Month, celebrating the many contributions that people of African ancestry have made throughout our nation’s history; and

**WHEREAS:** the theme “*Black Migrations*” focuses specifically on people of African heritage traveling from the agricultural South to communities across the United States, which occurred primarily in the twentieth century; and

**WHEREAS:** African Americans have contributed greatly to communities in Kittitas County and across the United States of America many of whom lived through segregation, racial prejudice, discrimination; and

**WHEREAS:** *Black Migrations* have contributed to economic, political and social achievements and have helped to create strong communities; and

**WHEREAS:** Kittitas County would like to specifically recognize the heroes, leaders, and athletes of African descent who made a lasting contribution to our community; and

**WHEREAS:** These individuals include but are not limited to:

- William Craven, on June 10, 1975 became Washington State’s first African American Mayor.
- Ivory Nelson, in 1992 became Central Washington University’s first African American President.
- Tom Craven, Wildland Firefighter and Squad Boss lost his life in the Thirtymile Fire after 12 years of service in USFS.
- Ja'Warren Hooker made the 2000 Olympic relay team and is a former University of Washington football player.
- Jimmy Claxton, a Roslyn resident was the first African American player in organized baseball in the 20th century.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that on this 19th day of February, 2019, the Kittitas County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim February 2019, as National African American History Month in Kittitas County.

**ADOPTED this 19<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2019.**

**THE KITTTITAS COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**



**Cory Wright, Chairman**

**ABSENT**



**Brett Wachsmith, Vice-Chairman**



**Laura Osjadacz, Commissioner**



**ATTEST:**

  
**Julie Kjorsvik, Clerk of the Board**