

RESOLUTION  
*of*  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
MARIN COUNTY

PROCLAIMING  
2018 AS YEAR OF THE OLDER ADULT

**WHEREAS**, as the author and feminist leader Betty Friedan, taught us, "Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength." And yet, as the screen legend Bette Davis famously remarked, "old age is no place for sissies." Guided by this spirit of optimism and acknowledgement, the County of Marin proclaims 2018 as the Year of the Older Adult to highlight the ways older adults in Marin create a welcoming place to age, learn, share and grow, while recognizing the concerns and challenges aging may bring; and

**WHEREAS**, Marin's older residents are valued, honored and celebrated for the many ways in which they contribute to, strengthen and add vitality to the lively social and cultural fabric of life in Marin. People and cultures throughout history have looked to elders for their deeper understanding, sharing their stories and lore, and seeking their wisdom and sage advice, leavened by changing times, circumstances and hard-won experience; and

**WHEREAS**, with 27 percent of its total population of 256,349 residents age 60 or older, Marin is the oldest county in the San Francisco Bay Area and one of the oldest in California. The number of older adults in Marin County will increase proportionately until 2030 when this cohort will account for 34 percent of Marin's population, a rate of increase surpassing the national average; and

**WHEREAS**, older adults in Marin are a vital source of experience, wisdom, energy and know-how, contributing immeasurably to helping Marin reach for and achieve the high quality of life it seeks for all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, older adults are active in Marin's civic life. Drawing on years of professional and life experience, older people serve as volunteers and consultants in groups such as Experience Corps, the Financial Abuse Specialist Team, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, the Marin Medical Reserve Corps, and the Aging and Disability Resource Connection, to name just a few; and

**WHEREAS**, the growing population of adults 60 and older presents challenges for individuals, families, communities and local government, all of which must plan immediately and in the future for how best to serve increasing numbers of people with varied needs, financial circumstances, and living situations; and

**WHEREAS**, the Marin County Area on Aging's 2016 Community Needs Assessment identified falls, memory loss, financial security, crime/financial abuse, end-of-life plans, isolation and depression as the top concerns of residents polled; and

**WHEREAS**, with one in four older adults in Marin County living below economic self-sufficiency, as measured by the Elder Economic Security Index, financial security is a pervasive, widely-shared concern of older adults in Marin, regardless of income; and

**WHEREAS**, supporting residents to Live Long and Live Well is a priority Marin set in 2014 with programs and services to provide opportunities for older adults to thrive. Today, more than 125 agencies and service providers are collaborating for an age-friendly Marin through the Aging Action Initiative. In 2018, the Aging Action Initiative highlights four issues areas important for older adults: housing (a place to live), Aging in Community (at-home resources, social isolation and mental health), economic security, and transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout Marin, jurisdictions are working hard to gain the World Health Organization's "Age Friendly" designation, setting them on a path to make communities great places to grow up and grow old.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims 2018, as "The Year of the Older Adult" and invites everyone to join this year-long celebration by attending the many social and educational events featured throughout the year.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that as we go about this year, let us each resolve to take the time to see and acknowledge the older adults living here, and to pause and say hello or share a kind word of encouragement and appreciation. Being seen and honored will make the Year of the Older Adult a true community celebration.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 23rd day of January 2018.

---

*DAMON CONNOLLY – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 1 - PRESIDENT*

---

*KATHRIN SEARS – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 3*

---

*DENNIS RODONI – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4*

