

**RESOLUTION NO. 86**

**DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 2016 AS “AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH” IN ALBANY COUNTY**

Introduced: 2/9/16

By Mss. McKnight, Chapman, Willingham, Messrs. Clay, Fein, Simpson, Beston, Bullock, Clenahan, Commisso, Ms. Cunningham, Messrs. Dawson, Domalewicz, Ethier, Feeney, Higgins, A. Joyce, R. Joyce, Ms. Lekakis, Mr. Mackey, Mayo, Ms. McLean Lane, Messrs. Miller, O’Brien, Reinhardt, Signoracci, Smith, Touchette, Ward, Burgdorf, Crouse, Drake, Grimm, Hogan, Ms. Lockart, Messrs. Mauriello, Mendick, Stevens and Tunny:

WHEREAS, This month Albany County will join citizens from around the nation to commemorate African-American History Month and pay tribute to the determination and triumphs of African-Americans throughout our Country’s history and to the legacy of their experience, and

WHEREAS, Albany County has chosen “Hallowed Grounds: Sites of African-American Memories” as its theme for the 2016 observance of African-American History Month, and

WHEREAS, There are sacred sites associated with our County’s diverse history, from archaeological sites to the homes of abolitionists, African-American reverends, Dutch settlers and slaves to the sobering stories of Civil War soldiers and civilians to the legacies of courageous women and men who organized the Civil Rights Movement, and

WHEREAS, Just as General Philip Schuyler owned and housed slaves at the Schuyler Mansion in the City of Albany, many other locations throughout the County such as the Israel AME Church, African Baptist Church and the Second Wesleyan Church all served as safe houses for African-Americans as part of the Underground Railroad movement, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, By this Honorable Body that February 2016 is hereby designated as African-American History Month in Albany County and all citizens of Albany County are encouraged to reflect upon the African-American contributions to the history and culture of our Nation, and, be it further

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

*Adopted by unanimous vote. 2/9/16*