



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RESOLUTION

Resolution No.: 24-345

Adopt a resolution celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the)
Buddhist Temple of Salinas in Monterey County.....)

WHEREAS, Japanese immigrants came because the Alien Exclusion Act prohibited any further Chinese immigration and came to live in Chinatown because there was nowhere else they could stay, they developed a thriving community and founded the Buddhist Temple of Salinas; and

WHEREAS, The Buddhist Temple of Salinas was stablished in 1924, by Japanese Immigrants, and continues to serve as the Center for Buddhism in the Salinas Valley;

WHEREAS, The Buddhist Temple of Salinas is in the Jodo Shinshu tradition and it is part of the mother temple of the Nishi Hongwanji in Japan; and

WHEREAS, The Buddhist Temple of Salinas is affiliated with the Buddhist Churches of America headquartered in San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The need for Agricultural labor in the rich Salinas Valley was the stimulus for Asian immigration; and

WHEREAS, World War II and the incarceration of Japanese Americans created the need for Filipino field workers and another influx of Asian immigrants occurred. Despite the war, a small group of dedicated members returned and restarted the Buddhist Temple of Salinas; and

WHEREAS, Another wave of Japanese migration occurred in the 1960's, when immigrants from the Kagoshima area came to Salinas due to Post War conditions in Japan and became successful flower growers and greatly enhanced the Buddhist Temple of Salinas membership

WHEREAS, For the Temple's 10th Anniversary, a Bonsho (Bell) was ordered from Japan. This was the first and largest bell imported from Japan at that time. The Bell and Bell Tower continue to be an iconic, legacy and source of pride for the Buddhist Temple of Salinas; and

WHEREAS, Today, the Buddhist Temple of Salinas continues to serve all who are interested in Buddhism. They continue many Japanese Cultural and Religious Activities that harmonize with the Teachings of the Buddha.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT AND RESOLVED, that the County of Monterey Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County and all residents thereof, hereby recognize and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Buddhist Temple of Salinas and honor the Buddhist Temple of Salinas which provides our residents with an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the achievements, contributions, culture, and rich history of Japanese Americans in our county and beyond.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 8th day of October 2024

Chair Supervisor Glenn Church

Vice Chair Supervisor Chris Lopez

Supervisor Wendy Root Askew

Supervisor Luis Alejo

Supervisor Mary L. Adams

