

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in the 1920's the US Census only counted 27 Koreans in the Chicagoland area. Since the 1970's, Koreans have been one of the top groups to lead the way in immigration; and

WHEREAS, the Korean population has been growing at a rapid rate in the United States, growing by as much as 25% from the 1990's to 2000. There are now just over a million Korean's in the United States, and approximately 100,000 Koreans living in the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, our society benefits from the invigorated business, church, and academic communities, in which Korean-American citizens reside. Like most immigrants, the Korean's came to the United States in search of a better life. They raised their families, became honorable members of their communities, created organizations to help preserve their culture and traditions, and became politically active for the cause of freedom; and

WHEREAS, Korean-Americans play a crucial role in maintaining the strength and vitality of the United States-Korean partnership, which helps foster peace and stability in the Asia-pacific region. This partnership also provides economic benefits for the people of the United States and Korea, along with those of the rest of the world; and

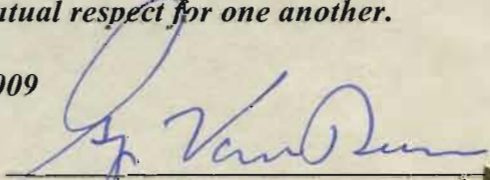
WHEREAS, as an association with a mission to promote cultural exchanges and mutual understanding between cultures, the Keumstil Cultural Society has carried out this mission with both the general American community and the Korean-American community. The participation and interaction among Korean communities in the public life of the United States has increased substantially in recent years, coinciding greatly with the growing diversity in American culture.

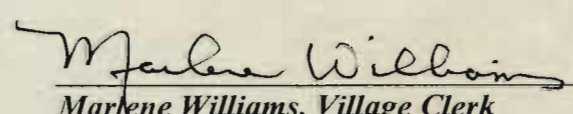
NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE VAN DUSEN, Mayor of the Village of Skokie, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, January 13, 2010, as

"KOREAN AMERICAN DAY CELEBRATION"

in the Village of Skokie and encourage all citizens to celebrate our diverse heritage and culture and continue efforts to create a world that is more just and peaceful, and to create togetherness in our society out of mutual respect for one another.

Passed this 16th day of November 2009


George Van Dusen
Mayor


Marlene Williams, Village Clerk

