RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes___ No_x_)

Pass and adopt the attached resolution recognizing Eugene Lawrence on his fifty years as a professional performing artist.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

None on this matter. Board has recognized those in the past who have provided service to the County.

Resolution is to be presented at an upcoming special event - information is included with this package.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
1) Approve resolution.
2) Do not approve and the Board's recognition will not be forthcoming.
3) Provide alternative direction.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:
This item on agenda as:

Recommended
Not Recommended
For Policy Determination
Submitted with Comment
Returned for Further Action

Comment:

A.O. Initials:

Action Form Revised 5/92
WHEREAS, EUGENE LAWRENCE has been a professional performing artist for fifty years; and
WHEREAS, EUGENE LAWRENCE has excelled as a singer of opera, oratorio, operetta and concerts; and
WHEREAS, EUGENE LAWRENCE was founder and baritone member of the Artists Trio, Boston Oratorio Quartet, San Francisco Oratorio Quartet, The Bel'Arte Trio, Trammel-Lawrence Duo; founder and General Director, Peninsula Artists & Opera Company; served as executive director for The Little Opera Guild, Palo Alto Sinfonietta, Giannini Polyphonic Chorale and others; and
WHEREAS, EUGENE LAWRENCE has appeared and performed on radio and television on the Charlie Dugdale Show, his own radio show, "Songs You Like Best" for two years, special programs on WBZ and WEEI in Boston, and in the Bay Area KPIX, Channel 36 (San Jose) KKHI, KQED, and others; and
WHEREAS, EUGENE LAWRENCE is a graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston and while a student served as super captain for the Metropolitan Opera's annual Boston Visit, worked for the Demeter Zachereff Concert Management of Boston & New York as Executive Secretary, New England Representative and as a performing artist, and represented such artists as Roland Hayes, Eugene Conley, Arthur Friedler Sinfonietta, Frederick Jagel and many others; and
WHEREAS, EUGENE LAWRENCE made his concert debut on November 19, 1943, in Columbus, Georgia, while a member of the Army Specialized Training Program, at the age of 18, and
WHEREAS, EUGENE LAWRENCE gave his first Boston recital in 1951 and the same year made his operatic debut as the Song Leader & Preacher in Kurt Weill's Opera "Down in the Valley" and has sung with, among others, The Boston Opera Guild, Golden Gate Opera Theatre, Cosmopolitan Opera, San Francisco Russian Opera, Opera Stage, Mills College Performing Group, Little Opera Guild, Peninsula Opera Company, San Jose Civic Light Opera, Spring Opera of San Francisco, Western Opera and 31 consecutive years with the San Francisco Opera Company as a member of the chorus and was heard in more than 25 roles; and
WHEREAS, EUGENE LAWRENCE upon returning to live in Mariposa in 1989, became involved in the community by developing a Performing Arts Committee, which for three years produced the Mariposa County Performing Arts Series and for the current 1992-93 Season, he and his committee organized the Mariposa Performing Arts Association of which he is President. EUGENE was elected 3rd Vice President of the American Guild of Musical Artists, the national union for opera soloists, chorus, ballet, concert chorus, etc., in 1989 and again in 1991. EUGENE helped producers Allie Light and Irving Saraf make the documentary movie, "In the Shadow of the Stars" which won an Oscar in 1992. EUGENE is a member of the faculty of the Merced College - Mariposa Campus, Conductor of the Mariposa Community Chorus & Orchestra, member of the California Concert Trio with Susan Hamp and Pamela Vanderveer, a member of Alpha Chapter, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and had produced and conducted the "Messiah", "Faure Requiem", "Carmina Burana", "Amahl & the Night Visitors", "Stainer", "Crucifixion" and appeared as soloist with the Merced Symphony and in concert with the Trio; and
WHEREAS, the ladies, gentlemen and children of the Mariposa community, Mariposa Performing Arts Association, Mariposa High School Chorus, Mariposa Academy of Performing Arts Ballet, Mariposa Drama and Agriculture Departments, Merced College and performing artists from the community will come together on Saturday, the 22nd of May, 1993, to celebrate Eugene's many contributions to the cultural life of Mariposa County and elsewhere.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors, a political subdivision of the State of California, that EUGENE LAWRENCE by recognized and congratulated on his fifty years as a professional performing artist.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors this 18th day of May, 1993, by unanimous vote.

ARTHUR G. BAGGETT, JR., DISTRICT I

DOUG BALMAIN, DISTRICT II

ERIC J. ERICKSON, DISTRICT III

GARRY R. PARKER, DISTRICT IV

GERTRUDE R. TABER, DISTRICT V