



Established 1771

CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mike Dasher, Chair
Karen Howard, Vice Chair
Franklin Gomez Flores
David Delaney
Katie Kenlan

COUNTY MANAGER

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Proclamation of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners

HONORING BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2024

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners takes pride in recognizing February 2024 as Black History Month, celebrating the many notable contributions that people of African descent have made to our community, state, and country; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have played significant roles in the history of North Carolina's economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development while working tirelessly to maintain and promote their culture and history; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Black History Month was formally adopted to honor and affirm the importance of Black history throughout our American experience, which dates thousands of years and includes some of the greatest, most advanced, and innovative societies that we can all draw inspiration from; and

WHEREAS, since 1976, every American president has designated February as Black History Month and endorsed a specific theme; and

WHEREAS, the theme for Black History Month 2024 focuses on African Americans and the arts and is infused with African, Caribbean, and Black American lived experiences; and

WHEREAS, In the fields of visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, folklore, language, film, music, architecture, culinary and other forms of cultural expression the African American influence has been paramount; and

WHEREAS, because of their determination, hard work, and perseverance, African Americans have made valuable and lasting contributions to Chatham County and our state, achieving exceptional success in all aspects of society, including business, education, politics, science, athletics, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, African Americans living and working in Chatham County — from the time of legalized slavery to the present day — have shown a steadfast determination to live freely and equally and to press the town and the community to make manifest an equitable Chatham County where race is not a determining factor of outcomes; and

WHEREAS, this observance presents a special opportunity to become more knowledgeable about black heritage and to honor the many black leaders who have played a part in the progress of our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim February 2024 as Black History Month in Chatham County.

Adopted, this the 19th day of February.

Mike Dasher, Chair
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

Jenifer K. Johnson, MMC, Clerk to the Board