

Meeting Date
02/06/18



AGENDA	
Section	Resolution
Item No.	I A

AGENDA REPORT
 BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT:	Resolution Recognizing February 2018 as Black History Month in Brevard County
DEPT/OFFICE:	County Commissioner Rita Pritchett, District 1

Requested Action:

It is requested that the Board of County Commissioners approve and authorize the Chair to sign a resolution recognizing February 2018 as Black History Month in Brevard County.

Summary Explanation & Background:

A Black History Month Celebration including keynote speaker, Mr. Eugene C. Johnson, artwork displays, music, dance and food trucks is scheduled to take place at the Viera Government Center, Building C, first floor Chambers and the west entrance area of Building C on **Tuesday, February 27, 2018, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Accepting Resolution:
 Mr. Melvin Morris

Clerk to the Board instruction: Need 2 framed resolutions for presentation on 2/6/18.

Exhibits Attached: Resolution

Contract /Agreement (If attached): Reviewed by County Attorney Yes No PR

County Manager	Assistant County Manager	Department Director/Extension
Frank Abbate	Interim Assistant County Manager James P. Liesenfelt	



**AGENDA REPORT
February 6, 2018**

SUBJECT:

Resolution Recognizing February 2018 as Black History Month in Brevard County

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this action.

DEPT/OFFICE:

Parks and Recreation

REQUESTED ACTION:

It is requested that the Board of County Commissioners approve and authorize the Chair to sign a resolution recognizing February 2018 as Black History Month in Brevard County.

SUMMARY EXPLANATION and BACKGROUND:

A Black History Month Celebration including keynote speaker, Mr. Eugene C. Johnson, artwork displays, music, dance and food trucks is scheduled to take place at the Viera Government Center, Building C, first floor Chambers and the west entrance area of Building C on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Accepting Resolution:

Mr. Melvin Morris

CLERK TO THE BOARD INSTRUCTIONS:

2 framed resolutions for presentation on 2/6/18

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

- **Black History Month Resolution**

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer
Parks and Recreation	Lopez, Hector
ACM Community Services	Liesenfelt, Jim
County Manager	Abbate, Frank



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February 7, 2018

MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioner Rita Pritchett, District 1 Attn: Marcia Newell

RE: Item I.A., Resolution Proclaiming February 2018 as Black History Month in Brevard County

The Board of County Commissioners, in regular session on February 6, 2018, adopted Resolution No. 18-008, recognizing February 2018 as Black History Month in Brevard County. Enclosed is a copy of the Resolution.

Your continued cooperation is always appreciated.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

Tammy Rowe

Tammy Rowe, Deputy Clerk

/dt

Encl. (1)

Brevard



County

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Resolution

THE BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY, 2018 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH THE THEME – "AFRICAN AMERICANS IN TIMES OF WAR".

WHEREAS, despite policies of racial segregation and discrimination, African Americans have participated in every American war, from the Revolutionary War Era to that of the present "War against Terrorism".

WHEREAS, the importance of the contributions of African American soldiers and sailors, veterans, and civilians in America's past, present, and future are of significance to the Nation's history, and since segregation in the armed services ended in 1953, African Americans have served at a rate higher than their percentage of the U.S. population; today, nearly 20% of active military are African-American, while making up 13% of the nation's population; and African American history is rich in brave stories of valor during times of war, such as:

- *The 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments (known as the Buffalo Soldiers) were all African American units utilized by the Army from 1863 to the early 20th century to combat the native Americans during the Indian Wars; and Buffalo soldiers had the lowest military desertion and court-martial rates of their time; and twenty-four (24) recipients were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for going above and beyond the call of duty.*
- *The 369th Infantry Regiment (known as the "Harlem Hellfighters") which served on the front lines for six months longer than any other American unit during WWI, and made notable due to the fact they had received less training; and during this time they never lost any prisoners or territory to the enemy.*
- *The 332nd Fighter Group (known as the "Tuskegee Airmen") was the first African American group of pilots to fly combat missions.*
- *The 761st Tank Battalion (known as the "Black Panthers") was a segregated tank battalion in WWII which fought continually for 183 days; during a three day period, the 761st inflicted more than 4,000 casualties on the German Army; and the 761st captured seven German towns, more than 400 vehicles, 80 heavy weapons, and thousands of small arms.*

WHEREAS, this year's resolution is dedicated to Sergeant First Class Melvin Morris, a Medal of Honor recipient who resides in Port St. John:

- *Sergeant First Class Melvin Morris distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and courage above and beyond the call of duty while serving as Commander of a Strike Force drawn from Company D, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, during combat operations against an armed enemy in the vicinity of Chi Lang, Republic of Vietnam on September 17, 1969.*
- *Sergeant First Class Morris was wounded three times, but ultimately succeeded in returning his fallen comrade to a friendly position; and his extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, does hereby recognize

THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2018 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

and urges the citizens of the County to be mindful of the contributions of African Americans, and of its citizens throughout the year.

DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED, in regular session, this 6th day of February, 2018.

ATTEST:

Scott Ellis
SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK

Rita Pritchett

RITA PRITCHETT, CHAIR
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA



RESOLUTION 18__

A RESOLUTION OF THE BREVARD COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2018 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH THE THEME - "*AFRICAN AMERICANS IN TIMES OF WAR.*"

WHEREAS, despite policies of racial segregation and discrimination, African Americans have participated in every American war, from the Revolutionary War Era to that of the present "War against Terrorism."

WHEREAS, the importance of the contributions of African American soldiers and sailors, veterans, and civilians in America's past, present, and future are of significance to the Nation's history, and since segregation in the armed services ended in 1953, African Americans have served at a rate higher than their percentage of the U.S. population. Today, nearly 20% of active military are African-American, while making up 13% of the nation's population. African American history is rich in brave stories of valor during times of war, such as:

- The 9th and 10th Cavalry Regiments (known as the Buffalo Soldiers) were all African American units utilized by the Army from 1863 to the early 20th century to combat the Native Americans during the Indian Wars. Buffalo soldiers had the lowest military desertion and court-martial rates of their time. Twenty-four (24) recipients were awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for going above and beyond the call of duty.
- The 369th Infantry Regiment (known as the "Harlem Hellfighters") which served on the front lines for six months, longer than any other American unit during WWI, and made notable due to the fact they had received less training. During this time they never lost any prisoners or territory to the enemy.
- The 332nd Fighter Group (known as the "Tuskegee Airmen") was the first African American group of pilots to fly combat missions.
- The 761st Tanker Battalion (known as the "Black Panthers") was a segregated tank battalion in WWII which fought continually for 183 days. During a three day period, the 761st inflicted more than 4,000 casualties on the German Army. The 761st captured 7 German towns, more than 400 vehicles, 80 heavy weapons, and thousands of small arms.

WHEREAS, this year's resolution is dedicated to Sergeant First Class Melvin Morris, a Medal of Honor recipient who resides in Port St. John:

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- Sergeant First Class Morris was wounded three times, but ultimately succeeded in returning his fallen comrade to a friendly position. His extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners does hereby recognize

THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2018 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

and urges the citizens of the County to be mindful of the contributions of African Americans, and its citizens throughout the year.

DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of February, 2018.

Scott Ellis, Clerk

Rita Pritchett, Chair
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA