



Established 1771

**CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

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

**COUNTY MANAGER**

Dan LaMontagne

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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 19<sup>th</sup> day of February.

Mike Dasher, Chair  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners



ATTEST:

Jenifer K. Johnson, MMC, Clerk to the Board