



Proclamation Celebrating Black History Month

WHEREAS, Black History Month is celebrated during the month of February; and

WHEREAS, Albemarle County celebrates the wisdom of civil rights leaders and community builders this month and everyday; and

WHEREAS, the late John Lewis, speaking on the 50th anniversary of the Selma March and the subsequent attack on the gathering known infamously as “Bloody Sunday”, said:

“We, as a nation, have a great deal to be thankful for.

Jimmie Lee Jackson, whose death inspired the Selma march, along with so many others, did not make [it] to see this day.

But you and I are here. We can bear witness to the distance we have come and the progress we have made in 50 years. And we must use this moment to recommit ourselves to do all we can to finish the work. There’s still work left to be done. Get out there and push and pull, until we redeem the soul of America ...

Each of us must go back to our homes after this celebration and build on the legacy of the March in 1965. The Selma Movement is saying today that we all can do something. So I say to you, don't give up on the things that have great meaning to you. Don't get lost in a sea of despair. Stand up for what you believe. Because in the final analysis, we are one people, one family, the human family. We all live in the same House, the American House, the world House.

We're black. We're white. We are Hispanic, Asian-American, Native-American. But we're one people.”; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors does hereby honor Black History Month and looks forward with the rest of our community to an even brighter future as one people committed to taking meaningful actions in order to create a more equitable and inclusive community for all.

Signed this 3rd day of February, 2021

*Ned Galloway, Chair
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors*