

# Mecklenburg County

## North Carolina

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, since 1976, the month of February has been recognized nationally as Black History Month by every United States president; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Carter G. Woodson has been credited with obtaining this national recognition through the founding of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History and the launching of “Negro History Week” in February of 1926; and

**WHEREAS**, for generations Black Americans have helped to shape our nation, and Black History Month is a time to honor the contributions and legacy of African Americans across United States history and society; and

**WHEREAS**, residents are encouraged to celebrate the works of activists, civil rights pioneers, leaders in industry, politics, science, culture and more; and

**WHEREAS**, each year has a specific focus, and the Black History Month 2026 theme is, “A Century of Black History Commemorations” emphasizing the significant achievement represented by a century of dedicated Black history commemorations. The theme honors how Carter G. Woodson’s concept of “Negro History Week” has evolved to become an annual, month-long, scholarly and sustained movement to study, teach, and disseminate Black history; and

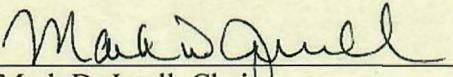
**WHEREAS**, in Mecklenburg County we recognize the contributions of Harvey Boyd, designer of the Mecklenburg County Seal, Fred Alexander Sr., the first African American elected to public office in Mecklenburg County since Reconstruction, and Allegra Westbrooks, the first black supervisor in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Public Library System; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim February 2026, as

## “BLACK HISTORY MONTH”

in Mecklenburg County and encourages all residents to join us in this special observance.

This 4th day of February 2026

  
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Mark D. Jerell, Chair  
Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners

