RESOLUTION 2022 - 113

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF GLENDA SIMMONS-JENKINS AND COMMENDING HER ON HER FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL 2022 STEWARDS OF HERITAGE AWARD.

WHEREAS, Glenda Simmons-Jenkins is a resident of Nassau County who lives in the historic O'Neil Community located in Yulee, Florida; and

WHEREAS, Glenda Simmons-Jenkins has dedicated countless hours locating and documenting African-American heritage in Northeast Florida; and

WHEREAS, her efforts include identification and updates to numerous sites to the Florida Master Site File, including but not limited to, the Harper Chapel Cemetery; Hughes/Friendship archaeological Site; Gross Cemetery; Jones Jacob Wilder Cemetery; Martin Cemetery; Friendship Baptist Church; Third Mt. Zion Baptist Church; Silver Square Masonic Lodge; and the Amos White Community Center; and

WHEREAS, Glenda Simmons-Jenkins also serves as a Florida Representative for the Gullah/Geechee Nation, and as a cofounder of the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Committee of Northeast Florida, a group that works to elevate the voices of Gullah/Geechee descendants and to protect their cultural practices, resources; and landscapes; and

WHEREAS, Gullah/Geechee people have an extensive history in Nassau County that includes Evergreen, Sandhill, White Oak, Kings Ferry, Lessie, Hero, Piney, O'Neil and Nassauville where enslaved Africans worked and where their descendants have exercised self-determination; and

WHEREAS, Glenda Simmons Jenkins has also served on the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission which was established by an act of Congress on October 12, 2006, and was successful in having wayfinding signs installed along U.S. 17 and State Road 200 in Nassau County to further promote the culture and legacy of the Gullah/Geechee people; and

WHEREAS, it was announced on May 6, 2022, that Glenda Simmons-Jenkins is the proud recipient of the Florida Archaeological Council's Stewards of Heritage Award which recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to aid archaeological preservation and promote public awareness of Florida's heritage.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, this 13th day of June , 2022, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, that the Board publicly commends Glenda Simmons-Jenkins for all she has done to advance research and education related to the Gullah/Geechee people and in preserving their heritage for future generations.

| | DULY | ADOPTED | THIS _ | 13th | day of | June | |
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