

**RESOLUTION 2022 - 152**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROCLAIMING THE WEEK OF JULY 30 - AUGUST 6, 2022, AS “GULLAH/GEECHEE NATION APPRECIATION WEEK”.**

**WHEREAS**, Gullah/Geechee Nation Appreciation Week began in 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, this celebration of the living legacy of Gullah/Geechee history, heritage, and culture came about due to the work of St. Helena Island native, Queen Quet, Chieftess of the Gullah/Geechee Nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Queen Quet and Kwame Sha founded the “Gullah/Geechee Nation International Music & Movement Festival” in 2005, which is the culminating event of Gullah/Geechee Nation Appreciation Week; and

**WHEREAS**, Queen Quet has been spreading awareness regarding the history and legacy of the Gullah/Geechee Nation and has headed numerous endeavors that have led to global recognition; and

**WHEREAS**, the Gullah/Geechees have an extensive history in Nassau County that includes both the enslavement and self-determination of the Gullah/Geechee people through the history of Amelia Island, Old Town, Yulee, Nassauville, Franklinton, and American Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, Fernandina served as a point of disembarkation of Africans along our shoreline, as well as a place of Gullah/Geechee subsistence fishing and spiritual nourishment; and

**WHEREAS**, Nassau County supports the Gullah/Geechee Sustainability Plan which seeks to protect this historic coast including its sacred burial areas and other sites and to keep Gullah/Geechee culture alive on this land; and

**WHEREAS**, Queen Quet has led several libation ceremonies in Old Town including the Middle Passage Marker Ceremony at which the Peck Ensemble sang the spirituals created by Gullah/Geechees; and

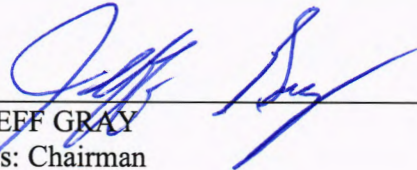
**WHEREAS**, many Gullah/Geechees have visited and continue to visit historic American Beach; and

**WHEREAS**, the Nassau County Board of County Commissioners acknowledges the native Gullah/Geechees of the Gullah/Geechee Nation from Jacksonville, NC to Jacksonville, FL throughout the Sea Islands and Lowcountry and support the honoring of their ancestors that built this region and the continuation of this rich and cultural heritage.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2022, by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, that:

- 1.The Board hereby proclaims the week of July 30 through August 6, 2022 as “Gullah/Geechee Nation Appreciation Week.”
- 2.The Board calls upon all citizens and visitors to take part in activities associated with Gullah/Geechee Nation which coincide with global activities for the United Nation’s International Decade of People of African Descent.
- 3.The Board extends their best wishes as they celebrate “Gullah/Geechee Living Legacy.”

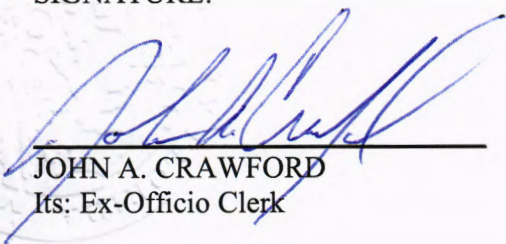
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA



---

JEFF GRAY  
Its: Chairman

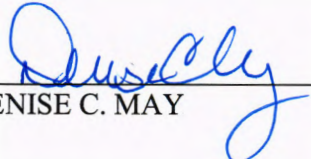
ATTEST AS TO CHAIRMAN'S  
SIGNATURE:



---

JOHN A. CRAWFORD  
Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the  
Nassau County Attorney



---

DENISE C. MAY