



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in 1938, Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards was born in Ocala and later graduated from Howard High School in 1955; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards attended Florida A&M after high school before returning home and graduating from Central Florida Community College with an associate degree; and

WHEREAS, after earning his associate degree, Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards earned a bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Florida, and a Doctor of Divinity through Inter-Denominational Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards married his wife Barbara in 1957 and is a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards served as the pastor for 50 years at Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church in downtown Ocala; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards became president of the local chapter of NAACP and has extensive knowledge of African-American history in Ocala from segregation through integration; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Ocala elected Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards to serve on the Ocala City Council representing District Two for ten years starting in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards was hired as the Director of Minority Affairs at Central Florida Community College/Hampton Center focusing on providing higher education opportunities for minority students; and

WHEREAS, the Ocala City Council, the Mayor, the College of Central Florida, and the citizens of this community applaud his accomplishments as a pastor, educator, statesman, and decision-maker; and

WHEREAS, the College of Central Florida and the City of Ocala will dedicate the Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards Community Room at the Hampton Center at a special ceremony on Thursday, June 20, 2024, at 10:30 am; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ben Marciano, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, present this proclamation to Reverend Dr. Lorenzo Edwards as a token of our deep appreciation and respect for his remarkable service to our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 20th day of June 2024.



Ben Marciano

Ben Marciano, Mayor
City of Ocala