



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Floyd Blair was in the US Army Air Corps Active Reserves from May 1942 until September 1947, when the Army Air Corps changed to the United States Air Force, and was discharged in March 1957; and

**WHEREAS**, Floyd Blair was on active duty during World War II in the European Theater of Operations as a fighter pilot with the 404<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group and the 507<sup>th</sup> Fighter Squadron flying the P-47 Thunderbolt from April 1944 to April 1945; and

**WHEREAS**, Floyd Blair's group was in combat supporting the Infantry and Armored Divisions of the US Army from May 1944 until May 1945, during which time he flew 100 combat missions and flew from South England during May and June, moved to France on July 4, 1944 and flew top cover over Omaha Beachhead in Normandy France on June 6 and 7, 1944; and

**WHEREAS**, after that, Floyd Blair's group operated in close support of the ground forces until the end of the war, supporting the Allied breakthrough at St. Lo in July 1944, the drive through Holland in September 1944, Allied operations during the Battle of the Bulge (December 1944 – January 1945) and the establishment of the Remagen Bridgehead and subsequent crossing of the Rhine in March 1945; and

**WHEREAS**, Floyd Blair was awarded the Air Medal with three Silver Oak Leaf Clusters, Distinguished Flying Cross and French Legion of Honor, and the 404<sup>th</sup> Fighter Group was awarded Distinguished Unit Citation, French Croix de Guerre with Palm, and the Belgium Fourragere.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Kent Guinn, by the virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, hereby proclaim November 14, 2020 as

## FLOYD BLAIR DAY

in Ocala and I call upon all residents of Ocala and Marion County to remember Floyd Blair on this day for the part he played among all the brave men living and dead who did so much to open the path to victory and peace.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2020.



Kent Guinn, Mayor  
City of Ocala