

Of
BUNCOMBE COUNTY AS A
“PURPLE HEART COUNTY”

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart is the oldest decoration in present use and was initially created as the Badge of Military merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American service award or decoration made available to the common soldier and is specifically awarded to any member of the United States Armed Services wounded or killed in combat with a declared enemy of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chartered by an act of Congress, is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly, make sure we never forget; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County residents have been engaged in every war against a declared enemy fought by the United States, including the war for the nation's independence; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County has a number of residents who have been awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in combat; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County recognizes the commitment and increasing sacrifices required of military families; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County pledges its ongoing commitment and support for the men and women who so honorably serve our nation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That this Board does hereby declare Buncombe County to be a *“Purple Heart County”* in the State of North Carolina.
2. That this proclamation be effective upon its adoption.

ADOPTED, this the 18th day of March, 2014.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

DAVID GANTT, CHAIRMAN