

County of Buncombe

# Proclamation

## Buncombe County 230<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

WHEREAS, the County of Buncombe was established in 1792 and will celebrate its 230<sup>th</sup> anniversary in January of 2022; and

WHEREAS, according to oral tradition, Samuel Davidson was the first white person to permanently live in what is now Buncombe County when he built a homestead on Bee Tree Creek in 1781; and

WHEREAS, the area currently known as Buncombe County, North Carolina rests on land that was first inhabited by the Cherokee, who flourished here for thousands of years, as well as the Catawba People; and

WHEREAS, a small group of wealthy landowners formed Buncombe County's first local government in 1792; and

WHEREAS, the County was named to honor Colonel Edward Buncombe, a Caribbean-born plantation owner and Revolutionary War veteran; and

WHEREAS, at the time of its creation, the jurisdiction of Buncombe County encompassed most of the western part of the state and was so large that it was often called the "State of Buncombe"; and

WHEREAS, the county seat, originally called Morristown, was re-named Asheville in 1793 to honor Governor Samuel Ashe; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County became a popular destination in the 19th century for merchants from the Appalachian foothills as well as leisure travelers from the lower South seeking refuge from mosquito-borne diseases and intense summer heat; and

WHEREAS, today more than 10 million people make their way to Buncombe County each year; and

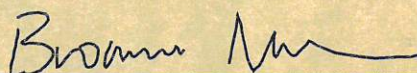
WHEREAS, at least 21 working family farms have been in business for more than 100 years; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County is now home to more than 263,000 residents in Asheville, Biltmore Forest, Black Mountain, Montreat, Weaverville, Woodfin and unincorporated areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County is a caring community in harmony with its environment where residents succeed, thrive, and realize their potential; and

WHEREAS, Buncombe County strives to promote a healthy, safe, well-educated, and thriving community with a sustainable quality of life, and provide effective and efficient government our residents can trust.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on this 4th day of January 2022, the Buncombe County Board of Commissioners does hereby recognize the momentous occasion of Buncombe County's 230th anniversary and extend to the County, its employees, residents, and visitors best wishes for the County's continued success in all future endeavors.



---

Brownie Newman

Chairman, Buncombe County Board of Commissioners