

*Office of the Mayor
Township of Bordentown*

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Black History Month began on Thursday, February 1 and will conclude on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 and was originally chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglas and Abraham Lincoln and was created by Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the "Study of Negro Life and History"; and

WHEREAS, President, Donald J. Trump proclaimed February to be "National African-American History Month" observing the African-Americans and the role that they played in society over the years. This year's theme being noted as "African-American in Times of War" calling to mind the heroic contributions they have made during our Nation's military conflicts; and

WHEREAS, in 1976 Black History Month was officially acknowledged by the United States government by President Gerald Ford who gave a speech that supported the opportunity "to recognize the too-often neglected accomplishments of the black Americans"; and

WHEREAS, there are many African-Americans who made a significant contribution to our society such as, John Mercer Langston, first black man that became a lawyer, Jack Johnson, first black man to hold the World Heavyweight Champion boxing title in 1908, Madam C.J. Walker who was born on a cotton plantation in Louisiana and became the first black woman that was a Self-Made Millionaire by inventing African-American hair care products, in 1992, Mae Jemison became the first African-American woman to go into space on the Endeavor, and in 2009 Barack Obama became the first African-American President in United States History serving two consecutive terms; and

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, I, Steve Benowitz, Mayor, of the Township of Bordentown, County of Burlington and State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim and recognize the outstanding achievements that are celebrated and highlighted especially during Black History Month in February and encourage the educators, librarians, public officials and residents of our township to observe February with participating in appropriate programs and ceremonies that reflect their accomplishments.




STEVE BENOWITZ
MAYOR