



Proclamation

Board of County Commissioners
Manatee County, Florida

WHEREAS, Black History Month dates back to 1926 and observes African-American achievements; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month celebrates the achievements and contributions of African-Americans in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month's intent is not only to increase the knowledge of black history in black communities, but also to spread the issue to American society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, all members of the nation are affected by black history because it is a part of American history, which should be celebrated by everyone; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month has become a symbolic time period in which the appreciation and celebration of African-Americans begins every year and continues all year; and

WHEREAS, various celebrations will be held in Manatee County in honor of Black History Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, that February 2017 shall be known, designated, and set aside as

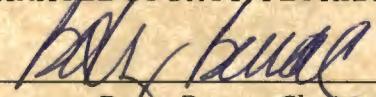
BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in Manatee County, Florida, and the Board further calls upon the people of Manatee County to recognize this special observance with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

ADOPTED with a quorum present and voting this 7th day of February 2017.

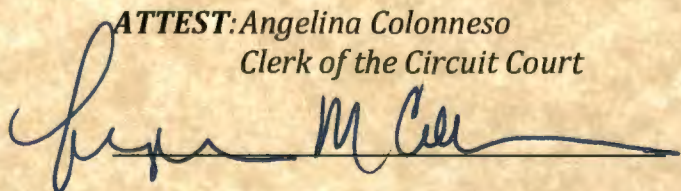


**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA**



Betsy Benac, Chairman

ATTEST: Angelina Colonnese
Clerk of the Circuit Court



APPROVED in Open Session

Manatee County Board of County
Commissioners

Manatee County Government Administrative Center
Commission Chambers, First Floor
9:00 a.m. - February 7, 2017

2/7/17

February 7, 2017 - Regular Meeting
Agenda Item #8

Subject

Black History Month - February 2017

Briefings

None

Contact and/or Presenter Information

Board of County Commissioners

Action Requested

Adopt Proclamation designating February 2017 as "Black History Month" in Manatee County, Florida.

Enabling/Regulating Authority

Background Discussion

Black History Month dates back to 1926, observes African-American achievements, and celebrates the achievements and contributions of African-Americans in the United States.

County Attorney Review

Not Reviewed (No apparent legal issues)

Explanation of Other

Reviewing Attorney

N/A

Instructions to Board Records

None.

Cost and Funds Source Account Number and Name

N/A

Amount and Frequency of Recurring Costs

N/A

Attachment: [Black History Month Proclamation.pdf](#)

Manatee County Government Administrative Center
Commission Chambers, First Floor
9:00 a.m. - February 7, 2017

Lawrence C. Livingston, R.N.; Pastor

**September 1956, We moved here from Greenville, FL.; Madison County;
after death; Father; Abraham Livingston, Sr. March 16, 1956; 10:10 a.m.**

**Next year; 1957 I Suffered paralysis several months from Spinal Meningitis.
TREATED BY Dr. Chennault; Comforted by Nurse Lubell Mays.**

June 1961, Graduated from Lincoln Memorial High School, Palmetto, FL.

Later that year; I had Appendectomy surgery.

March 1, 1962; Housekeeping Manatee Memorial; Pay off my hospital bill.

6 Mos First Black Orderly hired in the Emergency Room. Thanks Director Valorie Trapp

October 1964 First Employee of the Month – Thanks to Mr. Bently Lang

August 7, 1965 Married GOD'S MOST WONDERFL GIFT; My wife Clifford L. Baity-Livingston

1968 Enrolled in Manatee Junior College Nursing; Graduated R. N. June 1971.

1968 Enrolled; First Born Seminary School; Waycross, GA. Earned my degree of Mth.

1971 First Black Male; Graduate Manatee Junior College

Assigned 1st Church to Pastor; Bowling Green, FL; First Born Church

**1974 First MJC Student Graduate to do the Commencement Address; Thanks to Dr.
Samuel Neal**

1976 Assigned 2nd Church to Pastor: Bartow First Born Church

1982 Founded Eternity Temple F. B. Church; with my wife; Clifford & Family.

1985 First Black Male Nurse Manager. Thanks to Director Ella Briggs

1/1/85 My 1st Certification in National Nursing Administration; Orlando, FL.

1/1/1990 My 2nd Certification in National Nursing Administration; Orlando, FL.

July 1, 1994 Retired from Manatee Memorial Hospital; at age 50

**July 3, 1994; Kate Pursell, Herald Staff Writer;
Bradenton Herald; Wrote on RETIREMENT 3-pages in the People Section**

November 2016; Retired as Pastor Eternity Temple Church, Palmetto, FL.

Currently; I am Teaching Biblical Hebrew; VIA Facebook & Youtube.

THE PACEMAKER

Published monthly by Manatee Memorial Hospital, 206 2nd Street, East, Bradenton, Florida
Bently B. Lang, Administrator

Manatee Memorial Hospital is approved by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals, and is a member of the American Hospital Association and of the Florida Hospital Association.

Barbara Brady, Editor
Winifrede Dunn, Associate Editor

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



"He makes being an Orderly a profession and a pleasure."

LAWRENCE LIVINGSTON, our very first Employee of the Month, has been Emergency Room Orderly for the past two years, and is well-known for his neat appearance; his kind and courteous manner towards patients, nurses and fellow employees; and for his sincere devotion to duty.

Lawrence is a credit to our hospital, and we are proud that his outstanding and unselfish service has earned him this special recognition and thanks.

* * * * *

All employees are urged to continue submitting the names of persons who exhibit the character and the qualities which

NURSING MANAGER

Manatee Face

He Was Inspired By Kindness

When Lawrence Livingston was recovering from spinal meningitis at age 13, one of his caretakers was a nurse whose kindness sparked his interest in the nursing field.

Today, Livingston is nursing manager at Manatee Memorial Hospital and pastor of Eternity Temple First Born Church in Palmetto, a church he founded in 1982.

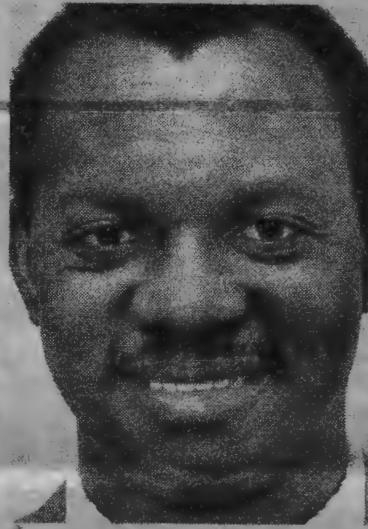
Livingston, 43, went to work at Manatee Memorial in 1962 following his graduation from Lincoln Memorial High School. He spent the first six months in housekeeping, where he mopped floors. Then he worked in the emergency room as an orderly for the next seven years.

"I knew that I wanted to become a professional in nursing," Livingston said. "I decided to attend Manatee Community College and earn a degree.

"The nursing field has always appealed to me because of my own early experience with sickness and a nurse's concern for me. It made a difference and made me want to help others. My mother's faith and prayer also played an important role during those difficult years."

While he attended MCC, he studied for the ministry and also found the time and energy for campus activities. He was active in the Committee of 20, the Library Committee and a minority scholarship committee.

He graduated from MCC in 1971 with an associate of science degree in nursing, the first black male to do so. Among those who recognized his achievements was Dr. Samuel Neel, then president of MCC. In 1974, Neel asked Lawrence to return to MCC to deliver the commencement address, an experience



Lawrence Livingston

that Lawrence numbers among the highlights of his life.

After graduation, Livingston became staff registered nurse and charge nurse of the night shift at Manatee Memorial. From 1972 to 1978 he was in charge of the surgical urology unit. He became nurse manager in 1978. He took graduate studies at the University of South Florida and received national certification in nursing management in 1985.

"You never stop learning," said Livingston. "I still enjoy talking with patients and planning for their care. My duties are more administrative today, but I feel a personal commitment to the patients."

Livingston served as president of the Community Organization for Urban Politics during the late 1960s. He served 14 years on the board of the Palmetto Youth Center and continues to support activities for youths in the community. He is an active member of the Manatee County Ministerial Alliance.

Livingston lives in Palmetto with his wife, Clifford. The couple enjoy reading and walking and spending time with their four children and two grandchildren.

- Marjorie Fritz

