COUNTY OF DORCHESTER

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS. ESSIE JOHNSON

WHEREAS, Mrs. Essie Johnson was a living legend and resident of Harleyville, SC, who celebrated her 105th birthday on November 27, 2015, and;

WHEREAS. Mrs. Johnson was born in Garnett (Jasper County), SC, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Bryant, and was a member of Bethel Baptist Church, and;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson was joined in holy matrimony to the late Mr. Jerome Simmons, and together they worked on the farm and raised eight children, four boys (one preceded in death) and four girls, in a loving, caring and positive environment with the challenge to be their best even when there were hills to climb, and;

WHEREAS, in later years, she was joined in holy matrimony to Mr. Emanuel Johnson and became a member of Antioch Baptist Church in Bowman, SC, where she sang in the senior choir and worked faithfully in the church until the passing of her husband, and;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Johnson loved to fry fish she had caught herself and bake pound cakes, sharing them with her more than 100 grandchildren, including great grandchildren and great, great grandchildren, and her many friends in the community who lovingly refer to her as "Momma Essie" or as one of the "Golden Girls," and;

WHEREAS, until she became ill, Mrs. Johnson was an active member of the Greater St. Paul A.M.E. Church in Dorchester, SC, where she was a prayer warrior, missionary, stewardess and Gospel group singer, earning the respected title of "Mother of the Church."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Dorchester County Council wishes to celebrate the life of Mrs. Essie Johnson and the loving community of family and friends she created.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon adoption of this Resolution, the original shall be presented to the family of Mrs. Johnson, and a copy filed in the permanent records of Dorchester County, South Carolina.

ADOPTED this 21ST day of March, 2016.

C. David Chinnis, Chairman

Dorchester County Council