CITY OF BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA

Proclamation

NO. 2026-28
DECLARING OCTOBER 23, 2026 AS "JOE SMITH DAY"
AND BESTOWING JOE SMITH A KEY TO THE CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Brevard recognizes individuals whose lives reflect a steadfast commitment to service, hard work, faith, family, creativity, and dedication to their community; and

WHEREAS, Joe Smith, born in Transylvania County in 1933, has devoted his life to serving his family, his community, and the people of Brevard and Transylvania County; and

WHEREAS, Joe proudly served two years in the United States Army and later devoted many years to his career at Ecusta Paper Mill; and

WHEREAS, Joe served with distinction in the Brevard Fire Department from 1966 until his retirement in 1992, completing approximately 26 years of service and rising through the ranks to retire as Deputy Fire Chief. His leadership, dedication, and commitment helped establish a foundation upon which generations of Brevard firefighters have continued to build; and

WHEREAS, Joe exemplified the highest ideals of the fire service, taking great pride in his profession and demonstrating a deep commitment not only to the citizens he served, but also to the firefighters who served alongside and under his leadership; and

WHEREAS, Joe's commitment to public service continued after his retirement. He has been a loyal and faithful member of the Transylvania County Sheriff's Office VIP — Volunteers in Partnership — program for over 20 years; and

WHEREAS, Joe also volunteered with the City of Brevard Public Works Department, sharing his time and craftsmanship on numerous community projects, including shelters at the Dog Park and information boards at City facilities such as the Depot and Community Garden; and

WHEREAS, Joe's remarkable creativity and craftsmanship are reflected in his woodworking, carpentry, sewing, painting, stained glass, model building, and many other creations, which he has generously shared with others as expressions of friendship and care; and

WHEREAS, faith and family have remained central to Joe's life. He met his wife, Murle in Brevard, and they married in 1958, beginning a lifetime together filled with family, memories, and shared experiences. Joe has also been a faithful member of Temple Baptist Church for 67 years; and

WHEREAS, Joe Smith's decades of service have become an important part of the history and character of the Brevard Fire Department and the broader Brevard community. His approximately 26 years of fire service, leadership as Deputy Fire Chief, and continued commitment to serving others represent a lasting legacy of public service; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, Joe Smith has exemplified service, dedication, faith, family, creativity, generosity, leadership, and love for his community, leaving a lasting impact on the people of Brevard and Transylvania County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Mayor Maureen Copelof and the Brevard City Council hereby recognize and honor Joe Smith and proclaim Friday, October 23, 2026, as **"JOE SMITH DAY"** in the City of Brevard and commend its observance to all its residents.

AND FURTHERMORE, as a symbol of our city's highest esteem, admiration, and affection, I am proud to present Joe Smith with the **KEY TO THE CITY**, in recognition of his extraordinary commitment to public service and for the countless ways he has shared his time, talents, skills, and generosity with our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Brevard to be affixed on this 19th day of October, 2026.

Maureen Copelof
Mayor

ATTEST:

Denise Hodsdon, CMC, NCCMC
City Clerk

CITY OF BREVARD, NC
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CORPORATE SEAL