



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Dr. De'Borah D. Brown-Crowell, founder of the Greater Apostolic Outreach Holy Church of God, operator of the Dr. D.D. Brown Christian Academy of Hope and Day Care Center and Deliverance Refuge Center, has been serving and ministering to the needy in the Ocala community for the past 65 years; and

WHEREAS, she was born in 1930 and married Henry Crowell Jr. who served in the US Army for 11 years before they moved to Ocala and raised 11 biological children, 5 adopted children and numerous foster children; and

WHEREAS, Apostle Brown-Crowell later attended Santa Fe Community College with 3 of her daughters and received an A.A. degree in Education and a B.A. degree in Sociology as she availed of her equal rights to an education for which her forefathers fought so hard and often died in the process; and additionally she graduated from the Baptist Theological Seminary, the Church of God Seminary in Mobile, Alabama and the A.O.H. Church of God Theological Seminary, and received her Doctor of Divinity from Thomasville University in North Carolina, and she also taught Kindergarten at Central Florida Community College Childcare; and

WHEREAS, she has received numerous awards and nominations as well as the honor of SW Third Street at SW 10th Avenue being designated "Honorary Dr. D.D. Brown Street" in Ocala; and

WHEREAS, when Dr. Brown-Crowell started her ministry in Ocala she used a no-nonsense but faith-based approach to clean up the area around her church and stood up to threats from gang leaders telling them "she wouldn't tell the police, she would tell God" about any problems when they tried to block and intimidate her as she left the church; in later years those gang leaders came back to visit her having earned their respect; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Brown's decades of dedication has had a tremendous impact on the community with her message "to love everyone you meet, be caring, and use the gifts God gave you to help others", her guidance in helping many to turn their lives away from drugs and alcohol, her involvement with families in numerous capacities such as taking their children into her day care center, providing furniture and clothing, and helping whenever possible with housing needs, etc. and the Center now includes neighborhood ministries that followed the example of Dr. Brown, and now assist with her 30 year tradition of providing meals and cooking for needy families at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby publicly proclaim September 14, 2019 to be

DR. D.D. BROWN-CROWELL DAY

in Ocala and I urge residents to recognize Dr. De'Borah D. Brown-Crowell for the extraordinary work she has done in serving and ministering to the needy in our community through the Deliverance Refuge Center outreach ministry over the past 30 years.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 14th day of September 2019.



Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala