



Office of the
Orange County Mayor

Proclamation

WHEREAS, in late 1836, Major General Thomas Jesup, U.S. Quartermaster, assumed command of all U.S. troops in Florida during the second Seminole War; and

WHEREAS, to support the growing number of troops under his command, a series of forts serving as supply depots and offering protection to settlers were constructed along the length of the Florida peninsula; and

WHEREAS, on Christmas Day, December 25, 1837, a force of 2,000 U.S. Army soldiers and Alabama Volunteers arrived in the area near the St. Johns River to construct a supply depot, which was aptly named Fort Christmas; and

WHEREAS, building the fort required many supplies and a train of 50 wagons with 20,000 rations was moved to the area; 20 bridges ranging from 20 to 70 feet long and six causeways were built in order to bring the wagons to the area where the fort would be built; and

WHEREAS, Fort Christmas was built 80 feet square with pickets and two substantial block houses that were 20 feet square; and

WHEREAS, the fort was completed on December 27, 1837, and a company of eight soldiers remained encamped at Fort Christmas; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the citizens of Orange County and the Board of County Commissioners to recognize and congratulate the community of Christmas on this memorable occasion;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Teresa Jacobs, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Orange County Mayor, do hereby proclaim Saturday, December 29, 2012 as

FORT CHRISTMAS 175TH ANNIVERSARY DAY

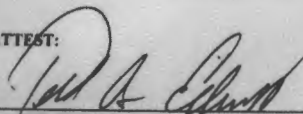
in Orange County, Florida.

DONE AND ORDERED this 29th day of December, 2012.



TERESA JACOBS, ORANGE COUNTY MAYOR

ATTEST:



TED EDWARDS, ORANGE COUNTY
COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT 5

