



RESOLUTION NO. 2009-18

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH HONORING ISH BRANT AND DECLARING A NAMESAKE PARK

WHEREAS, it is proper to honor those who have attained an exemplary level of statesmanship, high personal integrity and dedicated service to the children and citizens of the State of Florida, and in particular, the City of Neptune Beach; we, the Mayor and Council, therefore, do unanimously resolve that:

- Ish Brant came to the City of Neptune Beach in 1942, after first graduating from the University of Florida, where he distinguished himself academically and as a member of the football, baseball and track teams and serving as Head Coach, Classroom Instructor and the youngest Elected Member of the Rockledge, Florida, City Council,
- Ish Brant served at Fletcher High School as Head Coach and Athletic Director from 1942 to 1957, coaching all major sports and winning seven state and twenty-three conference championships, achieving an unparalleled winning record, earning the nickname the "Silver Fox".
- Ish Brant coached the North All-Star Football Team to its first ever victory; organized and expanded the Florida Community College Jacksonville Boosters, a philanthropic group making substantial financial contributions to the athletic program; highly regarded as an Administrator, Professor and Athletic Director, Florida Community College Jacksonville (FCCJ); held membership on the Board of Directors, Gator Bowl Association; served as President, Jacksonville Quarterback Club; inducted into the Florida Athletic Coaches and Jacksonville Sports Hall of Fame.
- Ish Brant was instrumental in initiating and bringing about the establishment of Florida Community College Jacksonville; received the Service to Education Award, Florida State Department of Education; Service to Citizens and School Children Award, Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce; and a Founder, Jacksonville Episcopal School, receiving the Board of Regents Recognition Award;
- Ish Brant was President and is a Board Member, Boys Home Association; Executive Board Member and Silver Beaver Award, Boy Scouts of America; and Chairman Scholarship Committee, Scottish Rite Masonic Order.
- Ish Brant served his community honorably and capably both as an elected and appointed official: elected Duval County Superintendent of Public Instruction from 1957 - 1969; City Manager, City of Jacksonville Beach, 1974 - 1977; City Councilman, City of Neptune Beach, 1979 - 1981 and 1991 - 1995; Mayor, City of Neptune Beach, 1981 - 1989; Member, Jacksonville Civil Service Board, 1995 - 1999; Member, Beaches Hospital Board 1978 - 1982, Chairman from 1980 - 1982, a period during which the hospital plant, services and staffing greatly improved under his dedicated leadership;

President, Northeast Florida League of Cities; Member, Federal Road Board, appointed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

- Ish Brant's civic and fraternal accomplishments are many; President, Beaches Art Foundation and Chairman, Scholarship Committee; First President and Charter Member, Kiwanis Club of the Jacksonville Beaches; Governor, Florida District Kiwanis and Thirty-third Degree Scottish Rite Mason; President, Jacksonville Beaches Shrine Club; Worshipful Master, Masonic Lodge; Senior Warden, Treasurer, Sunday School Teacher and Chairman, Building Fund Committee, St. Pauls By-The-Sea Episcopal Church.
- Ish Brant played an essential role in securing the construction of a new public library in Neptune Beach; he established libraries in all Duval County Elementary Schools during his tenure as the last Superintendent of Public Instruction elected by the people.
- Ish Brant was honored by Governor Lawton Chiles, at a special ceremony during which he was presented with the Heartland Award, the State's highest recognition, for a lifetime of leadership, philanthropy, integrity and service to the children and citizens of the State of Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEPTUNE BEACH, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That, we therefore, wish to recognize and honor this unique and exceptional individual's spirit, vigor, compassion and integrity, characterized by his unequalled record of outstanding and noteworthy accomplishments and steadfast loyal service to his community and the citizens of Neptune Beach.

SECTION 2. Be it further resolved, that the Mayor and City Council do hereby dedicate that portion of land on Atlantic Boulevard, Government Lot 4, Tax Parcel No. cut out from 172400-0500, as recorded in the Duval County Public Records, Special Warranty Deed, Volume 7215, Pages 1287 through 1290, by naming this tract of land ISH BRANT PARK.

This Resolution adopted by the City Council of Neptune Beach, Florida, at the City Council Meeting held

Harriet Pruette, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Volpe, CMC, City Clerk