



# FLORENCE CITY-COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

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## For Immediate Release

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## Josh Turner Day in Florence County Celebrates A Country Music Star and Hometown Son

**Florence, SC. Oct. 21**– The Florence County Council issued a formal proclamation declaring October 27, 2004 as JOSH TURNER DAY at its meeting on October 21. The designation coincides with the Josh Turner “Hometown Country Concert” to be held at the Florence Civic Center. Josh is a native of the Florence County community of Hannah and is nominated for two CMA awards: the Horizon Award for best new artist and Song of the Year for “Long Black Train.”

His parents, Karen and Joe Turner, accepted the “Josh Turner Day” framed proclamation at the Council meeting. Thomas E. Smith, Jr., Vice Chairman of the Council, explained, “The Council feels that this is an appropriate recognition for an outstanding young man from this small community in Florence County. He is one of our finest!”

The proclamation reads, in part, “that the Florence County Council deems it appropriate to recognize young achievers from Florence County who have set a goal, persevered and achieved that goal, thereby setting an exemplary example for our youth; and his climb up the ladder of success shows clearly that anything is indeed possible for those who have a vision and put that vision in motion...”

Kendall Wall, General Manager of the Civic Center, has been working to put this concert together for a number of months. “We thought it was a wonderful opportunity to bring such a great, nationally recognized talent back to his hometown to share this extraordinary show.”

Josh commented, “It’s very exciting and fulfilling to me because its a sign that I’ve continued in the right direction towards my goals. I am really proud to be coming home!”

Josh Turner graduated from Hannah-Pamplico High School in 1996, attended Francis Marion University and embarked on his journey for a musical career at Belmont University in Nashville, TN where he met his wife Jennifer Ford of Stone Mountain, GA, also a Belmont graduate. He has a younger brother Matt, who attends a University out of state and a sister Carrie, a Clemson graduate, who now does missionary work out of the country. He is also the grandson of Mrs. C. Weaver of Florence County and the late F. E. Weaver, Jr. and the late Dora and Drexell Turner.

He began his musical career at the age of five singing in the youth choir at Union Baptist Church. His hit song, “Long Black Train,” which he wrote when he was at Belmont University, has an old time gospel feel to it reflecting Josh’s country upbringing and Christian heritage. The song has received a nomination for Outstanding Country Gospel Song of the Year for the 2004 Christian Country Music Awards. Josh has also received their nominations for Mainstream Country Artist of the Year, Songwriter of the Year and Video of the Year. He will co-host, along with Lisa Ryan of the 700 Club, the 10th Annual Christian Country Music Awards on November 4, 2004 at Ryman Auditorium.

(more)



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Florence, SC  
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When asked how he hopes his music, based on his Christian background, will influence others, Josh responded, "It is important to me that through my music, I bring a message of hope, a sense of joy and uplifting to everyday life...life is hard enough, you don't need music to bring you down. I want to use my God given talent to lift people up."

Florence County and the surrounding area will be welcoming Josh Turner at his "Hometown Country Concert" Wednesday, October 27 at 7:30 pm. Tickets are still available and can be purchased at the Florence Civic Center Box Office and the FYE Music Store in Magnolia Mall, or by calling Ticketmaster at 843-679-9333 and on line at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com)

For additional information log on to the Florence Civic Center's web site at [www.florenceciviccenter.com](http://www.florenceciviccenter.com). For more on Josh Turner go to [joshturner.com](http://joshturner.com)

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Photo Attachment: Josh Turner

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