



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	2021-1102	Version:	1
Type:	Proclamation	Status:	Adopted
File created:	1/25/2021	In control:	City Council
On agenda:	1/26/2021	Final action:	1/26/2021
Enactment date:	1/26/2021	Enactment #:	18
Effective date:			
Title:	WHEREAS, Willa “Kitty” Chandler, matriarch of the Warren family, was born on November 13, 1919 to the late Ehtle (Smith) and William Warren, growing up with her younger brother John in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and,		
Sponsors:	R. Daniel Lavelle, All Members		
Indexes:	PROCLAMATION - MR. LAVELLE		
Code sections:			
Attachments:			

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
1/26/2021	1	City Council	Adopted	Pass

WHEREAS, Willa “Kitty” Chandler, matriarch of the Warren family, was born on November 13, 1919 to the late Ehtle (Smith) and William Warren, growing up with her younger brother John in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and,

WHEREAS, a devoted member of Macedonia Baptist Church, Mrs. Chandler followed her mother’s examples of singing in the choir and later working in the church, over the years becoming an active member of the Gospel Choir, the Trustee Board, the Heart Line Committee, the Blanche Thompkins Missionary Circle, Forever Young Seniors, The Food Bank, and the 80th and 90th Church Anniversary Committees; and,

WHEREAS, as a young woman she attend the Pittsburgh Public School system and immersed herself in a variety of activities, including singing, reading, track and field, various other sports, and history; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Chandler would go on to marry Mr. Richard Chandler, as the two were initially brought together by their love of music, when they began to travel the world with Mr. Chandler’s brother, Taft, who was a member of the County Basie Orchestra; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Willa Chandler was profoundly affected by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr’s “I have a Dream” speech at the Lincoln Memorial, which inspired her to enter active service with the Hill District NAACP to fight racial inequalities and discrimination in the workplace, scholarships for children and medication for seniors; and,

WHEREAS, several months after joining the NAACP she was offered an employment opportunity with Pittsburgh Police Department by becoming its first African American Meter Maid Officer, a job which she enjoyed as it provided her the opportunity to be outside, meet people and receive equal pay; and,

WHEREAS, after an injury sustained on the job with the Pittsburgh Police, Mrs. Chandler was offered a barrier

breaking position as a clerk in the Allegheny county Prothonotary Office, a role she held until her retirement at the age of 62; and,

WHEREAS, on Friday, January 15, 2021, after decades of faithful service to her family, church and community, Mrs. Willa “Kitty” Chandler passed away, leaving behind an extraordinary life and legacy celebrated by her extended and adopted family;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare February 2, 2021 to be “**Willa “Kitty” Chandler Day**” in the City of Pittsburgh.