



Proclamation Recognizing the 100th Birthday of Edna Marie (Franklin) Mitchell

WHEREAS, Edna Marie (Franklin) Mitchell was born on June 1, 1921 and grew up in Bryant Hollow, VA., the middle daughter of 5 girls; and

WHEREAS, Edna's family attended Mt Sinai Baptist Church, which was the hub and anchor of the small, close knit community; and

WHEREAS, Edna worked in Elkton, VA until 1942 when she married Harold W. Mitchell; and

WHEREAS, Edna moved to Harrisonburg where she and Harold, along with their 2 children Glodie and Hattie, made their home; and

WHEREAS, Edna, who lost her husband in 1998 and her son in 2012, is much loved by her family, which includes her daughter Hattie, two granddaughters Andrea and Michele, two nephews Steven and Matthew, and her niece Genevieve; and

WHEREAS, Edna and her family joined John Wesley Methodist Church, and became members of the choir, taught Sunday School and served in programs of community outreach; and

WHEREAS, later Harold and Edna transferred their membership to Asbury United Methodist Church, where they maintained their dedication and active participation in church life and community service; and

WHEREAS, Edna worked in the housekeeping department of James Madison University and also catered for families and businesses throughout the city, forging many enduring friendships; and

WHEREAS, Edna is a friend to everyone she meets; and

WHEREAS, Edna is known for her spontaneous sense of humor, her easy smile and a wave, her spunkiness and always keeping up with the times; and

WHEREAS, Edna has always been a committed advocate of a healthy lifestyle: taking fitness class under instructor Dr. Bruce while working at JMU, walking with the "Stride Inside" mall walking group, and participating since 1991 in exercise and swimming classes at RMH Wellness Center; and

WHEREAS, Edna credits her longevity to her faith, her belief that learning is a lifetime endeavor and maintaining a socially active and healthy lifestyle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I, Deanna R. Reed, mayor, of the city of Harrisonburg, do hereby honor Edna Marie (Franklin) Mitchell on the occasion of her 100th birthday and recognize her exemplary life well lived and her positive impact on the Harrisonburg community.

GIVEN under my hand this ____ day of May, 2021.

BY: _____

Deanna R. Reed, Mayor

ATTEST: _____

Ande Banks, Deputy City Clerk