

RESOLUTION

MEMORIALIZING THE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BUILDING LOCATED AT 1261 MAY RIVER ROAD IN HONOR OF THE LEGACY OF COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS AND PUBLIC SERVICE RENDERED BY JENNIE KITTY

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, believes it fitting and necessary to recognize the unforgettable and exemplary mark that the late Jennie Lavonia Williams Kitty left on the history, character, and people of the Town of Bluffton and Beaufort County; and,

WHEREAS, Jennie Kitty, a native of the Lowcountry and a graduate of the Penn School on St. Helena Island, was the first African-American Licensed Practical Nurse in the Bluffton community and acted as midwife for thirty-nine children born in Bluffton when travel to the nearest hospital was not readily available; and,

WHEREAS, as a medical professional, Mrs. Kitty worked tirelessly with Dr. Donald Gatch to expose the nation to the threat of chronic malnutrition and intestinal parasites that were plaguing much of Beaufort County and the American South, despite facing active resistance from forces throughout the area and the state at large; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kitty's efforts to expose the problems caused by intestinal parasites and her work on curing infected individuals helped countless individuals and families in Bluffton and beyond; and,

WHEREAS, in addition to her work in the medical field, in 1964, Mrs. Kitty petitioned President Lyndon B. Johnson for funding to establish the Bluffton Day Care Center, now known as the Bluffton Community Center, a nonprofit that has served Bluffton's residents, young and old, for over six decades; and,

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, wishes to honor the achievements and contributions that Jennie Lavonia Williams Kitty made during her life by naming the Town of Bluffton's Watershed Management Building after her.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Bluffton, South Carolina, that the Watershed Management Building located at 1261 May River Road shall henceforth be named the "Jennie Kitty Municipal Building."

THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ADOPTION.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED AS OF THIS _____ DAY OF JUNE, 2021.

Lisa Sulka, Mayor
Town of Bluffton, South Carolina

ATTEST:

Kimberly Chapman, Town Clerk
Town of Bluffton, South Carolina