

# *Proclamation*

## **AUGUST 21, 2021 AS: "ELLEN V. ROBERTS DAY" IN THE CITY OF FRUITA**

- Whereas,** Ellen Virginia Compton was born on August 21, 1921 in Branson, Missouri and moved with her family to the Town of Fruita in 1923; and
- Whereas,** Ellen worked tirelessly as a farm hand on the Fruita homestead in the early 1920s as a fruit harvester, cow puncher, horse rider, ditch cleaner and animal tender - all before her mile-long walk to school; and
- Whereas,** as a young girl, Ellen had the envious distinction of having met the one and only Mike the Headless Chicken before he died; and
- Whereas,** Ellen was a member of the Fruita Lioness' for over 37 years. She was also a founding member of the Fruita Senior Task Force and was vitally instrumental in raising over \$89,000 for a senior recreation center as part of the Fruita Community Center project by collecting aluminum cans, some of which she crocheted into skirts, hats and purses for the cause; and
- Whereas,** Ellen is a three-time champion of the "Chicken Dance Contest" held at the annual Mike the Headless Chicken Festival where she can be found wearing her notorious chicken cap,
- Whereas,** when Ellen isn't helping out with the Mike the Headless Chicken Festival, she volunteers at the Fruita Community Center's Senior Program for Thursday potluck lunches, talent shows, hula shows and movie nights; and
- Whereas,** Ellen has experienced a lot during her 100 years on this earth, including participating in 16 different events such as shot put, golf chip/putt, softball slug, Bocce Ball and cornhole at the Western Colorado Senior Games and winning a slew of gold medals; and
- Whereas,** Ellen has been a performer of the "Patsy Cline Wannabes" skit, as well as a hula dancer, line dancer and belly dancer for local nursing homes, hospitals, BeaconFest shows, special events and talent shows, sometimes performing four or five times per week; and
- Whereas,** Ellen has made such a difference in so many Fruita seniors' lives and as a great-great-great grandmother, the lives of her family; and
- Whereas,** Ellen has embodied the great spirit and character of the entire Fruita community as a whole;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Fruita City Council, on behalf of the citizens of Fruita, wishes Ellen a very Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday and hereby proclaims August 21, 2021 as "**ELLEN V. ROBERTS DAY**" in the City of Fruita.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Fruita this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 2021.

Joel Kincaid, Mayor, City of Fruita

