

RESOLUTION NO. 2 - 2015

RECOGNIZING the lifelong contributions of Marjorie Parham to the City of Cincinnati, through her work for over thirty years as owner and publisher of the *Cincinnati Herald*, a trailblazing and popular weekly newspaper for the local African-American community.

WHEREAS, Marjorie Parham served as owner and publisher of the *Cincinnati Herald* from 1963 to 1996, disseminating important news, chronicling milestones in the lives of average citizens, providing a critical voice to the African-American community, and bringing recognition to the day-to-day happenings within the community; and

WHEREAS, Marjorie Parham was born in Clermont County in 1918, and after attending Batavia High School, Wilberforce University, and the University of Cincinnati, took a job with the Veterans Administration in Cincinnati, where she worked for fifteen years; and

WHEREAS, Marjorie Parham married Gerald Porter in 1954 and helped him found two publications aimed at the local African-American community, the *Cincinnati Herald* in 1955 and the *Dayton Tribune* in 1961; and

WHEREAS, Marjorie Parham's husband died just two years later in 1963, leaving Marjorie in the role of publisher for both the *Cincinnati Herald* and the *Dayton Tribune*; and

WHEREAS, Marjorie Parham closed the *Dayton Tribune* and focused her energies on the *Cincinnati Herald*, paying herself almost nothing; and

WHEREAS, despite a daunting beginning and many subsequent challenges, from a less than welcoming reception by the Cincinnati business community in the 1960s to an office bombing in the mid-1990s, the *Cincinnati Herald* never missed a week of publication under Marjorie Parham's direction, and she provided numerous young people with their first jobs, many of whom went on to accomplish great things; and

WHEREAS, Marjorie Parham demonstrated leadership at the national and local levels through board membership, including serving as chairwoman of the National Afro-American Museum and Cultural Center and the Cincinnati Technical College, treasurer of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, and a board member for the Better Business Bureau, the University of Cincinnati, United Appeal, the Urban League, the American Red Cross, the Cincinnati Chapter of the NAACP, the Metropolitan YMCA, the Greater Cincinnati Community Chest and Council, the Dan Beard Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Great Rivers Council of the Girl Scouts; and

WHEREAS, Marjorie Parham has received countless awards over the past several decades which reflect her significant leadership and contributions, including being named one of

the "Top 100 Black Business Professionals of America" by *Dollars & Sense* Magazine, "One of 12 Women Who Have Influenced The Queen City" by *The Cincinnati Post*, and one of "Cincinnati's Most Influential Blacks" over the past 50 years by WCIN; receiving the Trailblazer Award from the National Association of Black Journalists, the Lifetime Achiever Award from *Applause* Magazine, the YWCA Career Women of Achievement Award, the Governor's Outstanding Journalism Award, the Glorifying the Lion Award from the Urban League, the University of Cincinnati Black Arts Festival Award; and being inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame, the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame, and the Cincinnati Journalism Hall of Fame; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council recognize the lifelong contributions of Marjorie Parham and express their sincere appreciation for her service to Cincinnati's African American community and to the City of Cincinnati, through her work for over thirty years as owner and publisher of the *Cincinnati Herald*.

Section 2. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that copies be provided to Marjorie Parham.

Passed: February 4, 2015

Attest: [Signature]
Clerk

[Signature]
Mayor

Submitted by Councilmember Yvette Simpson