



City of Chicago



R2023-387

Office of the City Clerk

Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 3/15/2023
Sponsor(s): Hairston (5)
Type: Resolution
Title: Recognition and honor extended to Alicia H. Evans
Committee(s) Assignment:

RECOGNITION AND HONOR EXTENDED TO ALICIA H. EVANS.

WHEREAS, Alicia H. Evans was born May 7, 1926 in Chicago, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, Alicia was raised at 49th Street and Prairie Avenue and attended Corpus Christi School where she attended Catholic mass every day as part of the school curriculum. She graduated in 1940. In 1944, her parents moved the family to 60th Street and Champlain Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Alicia attended Englewood High School where the student population consisted of both black and white students who were educated together and who also socialized together; and

WHEREAS, Alicia was an avid reader, and she made extra money in high school assisting fellow students with their book reports and made additional money giving manicures; and

WHEREAS, At the age of 16, Alicia had her first real job at Montgomery Ward, where she experienced racism for the first time: there were two sections for employees, a black section and a white section; and

WHEREAS, Alicia was determined to break this racial barrier. She worked hard and outperformed many of her colleagues and was moved to the "white" section; and

WHEREAS, She encouraged her coworkers who remained to do their best and eventually more black colleagues were working along with white employees until the entire department was desegregated; and

WHEREAS, Alicia met her future husband, Frank E. Evans, at his record store, appropriately named Frank's Record Store. They were married on August 26, 1948 and were married for 35 years until he expired from cancer. Alicia and Frank raised four daughters; three live in Chicago, and one daughter lives in California, the oldest being 71 and the youngest 64; and

WHEREAS, In that same year, with the help of her mother, Alicia acquired a position in the warehouse of Spiegel's. Very shortly after that she was asked if she knew how to use an adding machine. She lied and said "yes". Over a weekend her aunt, who worked as a secretary at the Persian Room, taught her how to use the adding machine. The following Monday Alicia passed the test and began working in the accounting department; and

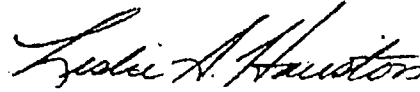
WHEREAS, Alicia's sister worked at the University of Chicago and informed Alicia that there was a position available at the university. She applied and acquired the job as an interviewer in U of C's National Opinion Research Center. She retired in 1999 after 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Alicia is extremely active in her building. She started a coloring book session in her building, a book club, taught herself to build miniature doll houses, and her daughter taught people in her building to crochet, where the men were more proficient than the women; and

WHEREAS, When Alicia's daughters told her to slow down -- her response was to master the iPad, enjoy playing the horses, going to the casino and living life to the fullest; now therefore,

Be It Resolved, That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, assembled this 15th day of March 2023, do hereby recognize and honor the life accomplishments of Alicia H. Evans; and

Be It Further Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be presented to Alicia H. Evans as a sign of good wishes.



By: _____

Alderman Leslie A. Hairston
Fifth Ward