

Town of Chapel Hill

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Mildred Council, who is better known as "Mama Dip", was born in Chatham County in 1929 to Ed Cotton and Effie Edwards Cotton; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Council began cooking before she was ten; and

WHEREAS, In 1945 her family moved to Chapel Hill, and two years later, she married Joe Council, whose parents owned Bill's Barbecue Restaurant; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Council gained much of her early training and culinary skills by "dump cooking," meaning that she cooked without making measurements, and she learned to cook by eye, feel and taste;

WHEREAS, In 1976 Ms. Council opened the original— now famous —Mama Dip's restaurant located on West Rosemary Street; and

WHEREAS, She became an icon of Southern cooking, attracting regional and national attention to her restaurant and authoring two cookbooks filled with stories of her humble beginnings and classic recipes; and

WHEREAS, she and Joe raised eight children, many of whom have followed in their parents' footsteps by launching their own restaurants or assisting in the operation of the present Mama Dip's restaurant; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Council used food to help ease injustice, providing training to young people and giving former inmates jobs when they left prison in order to help them provide for their families; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Council was invited to the White House by President George W. Bush and became pen pals with President Barack Obama;

WHEREAS, Ms. Council received North Carolina's highest civilian honor, the Order of the Long Leaf Pine;

WHEREAS, Two decades ago, she helped start the Community Dinner in Chapel Hill, a large annual gathering that brings together people from all incomes, ethnic backgrounds and abilities to share a meal.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Chapel Hill Town Council do hereby proclaim June 20, 2018 to be

Mildred "Mama Dip" Council Day

In the Town of Chapel Hill and urge everyone to continue her legacy of feeding, helping and loving others.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE TOWN
OF CHAPEL HILL ON THIS THE 20th DAY OF JUNE TWO
THOUSAND EIGHTEEN.



