PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

WHEREAS: Dr. Walter "Wally" Eaton was the founder, original lead singer, and bass player for the Classics, later the Classics IV; and

WHEREAS: Founded in 1961 in Jacksonville, the Classics began as a cover band. After the release of their debut single in 1966, the renamed Classics IV, with drummer Dennis Yost stepping up as lead singer, rose to popularity, becoming one of the first, most successful rock bands from Jacksonville; and

WHEREAS: For five years, the Classics IV, with Dr. Eaton on Bass, toured the country and released multiple hits; and

WHEREAS: Upon his retirement from the band, Dr. Eaton returned to Jacksonville with his wife, Darlene, and enrolled in what is now Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ), studying computers and electronics; and

WHEREAS: In 1977, Dr. Eaton turned his expertise and service to Unisys Corp, overseeing the City of Jacksonville's computer networks from the Old City Hall Building in Downtown Jacksonville. Eventually Dr. Eaton would become Chief Security Officer in the City of Jacksonville's Information Technologies Division and managed the City's Data Center Operations; and

WHEREAS: Following his retirement from the City in 2005, Dr. Eaton returned to FSCJ as a Professor in their Advanced Technology Center; and

WHEREAS: Dr. Walter Eaton remains a vital and engaged member of the Jacksonville community. He not only remains an important piece of Jacksonville's rich musical history but has invested decades in improving the City of Jacksonville and supporting the next generation of computer scientists.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2023 as

DR. WALTER "WALLY" EATON DAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to take a moment to appreciate the music of the Classics IV and celebrate Dr. Eaton's many contributions to Jacksonville.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 19th Day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.
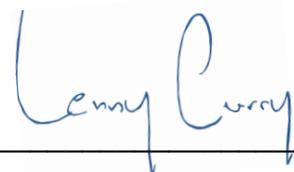
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MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE. FLORIDA