



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bessie Gray Spain was born in Greenville, North Carolina one hundred years ago on February 7, 1909;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bessie Gray Spain has lived through a full century that included the Great Depression, two World Wars, and a multitude of technological advancements;

WHEREAS, for many years to help support her family, Mrs. Spain worked at the historic Imperial Tobacco Company, which once was a bustling industry in the heart of Greenville;

WHEREAS, at an early age, she became a member of Sycamore Chapel Missionary Baptist Church providing service to the Usher Board faithfully for approximately 50 years;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bessie Gray Spain, daughter of Washington Miller and Lizzie Gray; sister of four siblings; wife of Jasper Spain; and mother of five sons, is cherished by her only surviving son, Earl Spain, 11 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and a host of friends near and far; and

WHEREAS, a celebration of her one hundredth birthday with family and friends is scheduled for Saturday, February 7, 2009 at Sycamore Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Greenville, North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby congratulate Mrs. Bessie Gray Spain on her 100th Birthday and proclaim February 7, 2009 as

BESSIE GRAY SPAIN DAY

in Greenville.

This 6th day of February, 2009.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia C. Dunn", is written over a horizontal line.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor