

1 Introduced by Council Members Bowman, Salem, Freeman, Hazouri,  
2 Becton, Carlucci and Newby:

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5 **RESOLUTION 2020-322-A**

6 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE  
7 LIFE AND REMARKABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DR.  
8 FRANCES BARTLETT KINNE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE  
9 DATE.

10  
11 **WHEREAS**, Frances Bartlett was born in Story City, Iowa in May  
12 1917, the daughter of a newspaper publisher and a librarian; she  
13 earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in music education at  
14 Drake University and worked as music teacher and choral and  
15 instrumental conductor before the outbreak of World War II; and

16 **WHEREAS**, unable to enlist in the regular Women's Army Corps  
17 because of her eyesight, Frances Bartlett prevailed upon her U.S.  
18 Representative to help secure a waiver of the mandatory minimum age  
19 requirement to allow her to volunteer with the newly launched Army  
20 Hostess and Librarian Service program, in which she spent the war  
21 arranging entertainment for tens of thousands of American forces  
22 training and preparing for deployment overseas. During that time  
23 she met and married Army Lieutenant Colonel Harry Kinne, with whom  
24 she traveled to China and Japan in the immediate post-war years in  
25 conjunction with Lt. Col. Kinne's duties on General Douglas  
26 MacArthur's headquarters staff, and where she taught English and  
27 music at a girls' school and college in Tokyo; and

28 **WHEREAS**, in 1955 Col. Kinne was reassigned to Frankfurt,  
29 Germany as commanding officer of the Army's 4th Armor Group during  
30 the Allied occupation, where Fran Kinne earned her doctoral degree  
31 with honors in music, English literature and philosophy at the

1 University of Frankfurt, becoming the first woman ever to earn a  
2 doctoral degree from that university, the first in a long string of  
3 "firsts" in her life; and

4 **WHEREAS**, in 1958 Dr. Kinne came to Jacksonville for what she  
5 thought would be a one-month stint as an adjunct humanities  
6 professor at Jacksonville University. That plan for a short stay  
7 evolved into her appointment as the founding Dean of JU's College  
8 of Fine Arts in 1961, by which she became the first female dean of  
9 a college of fine arts in the United States. In 1979 Dr. Kinne was  
10 appointed President of Jacksonville University, the first female  
11 president of a college or university in Florida, a position she  
12 held until 1989; and

13 **WHEREAS**, during her remarkable tenure at Jacksonville  
14 University, Fran Kinne oversaw tremendous growth and development of  
15 academic programs and the university's campus, raised the  
16 university's profile in the state and nationally, and brought to  
17 the campus and the City of Jacksonville an astounding array of the  
18 greatest figures in the arts, politics, business and world affairs,  
19 ranging from actor Charlton Heston and Nobel Prize-winning  
20 scientist Linus Pauling to President Gerald Ford, Saudi Arabia's  
21 King Fahd, Boston Pops conductor Arthur Fiedler, and entertainers  
22 Bob Hope and Jack Benny; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Fran Kinne also made an indelible mark on the City of  
24 Jacksonville through her boundless energy, enthusiasm, and desire  
25 to make a difference, including such "firsts" as being the first  
26 female member and President of the Downtown Rotary Club, the first  
27 female member of the River Club, and the winner of the first EVE of  
28 the Decade Award for Education. Dr. Kinne was instrumental in  
29 helping to recruit the Mayo Clinic to open its Jacksonville  
30 location and has contributed leadership and financial resources to  
31 countless worthy causes and organizations; and

1           **WHEREAS**, for all of the remarkable things she saw and did  
2 throughout her life for the benefit of others, Fran Kinne's most  
3 distinguishing characteristics were her boundless optimism, her  
4 unyielding grace and humor, and her determination to do the greatest  
5 amount of good for the greatest number of people while treating  
6 everyone she met with respect and dignity. Since her recent passing  
7 just two weeks shy of her 103rd birthday, generations of  
8 Jacksonville University students and faculty, community leaders and  
9 others have shared a flood of remarkable stories about the impact  
10 this amazing woman had on their lives through her kindness and  
11 caring about their personal lives and success. At the age of 100  
12 Dr. Kinne delivered the spring commencement address at JU in which  
13 she shared her philosophy of unconquerable optimism and commitment  
14 to the service of others as the keys to personal happiness, and her  
15 life embodied that philosophy to the very end; now therefore

16           **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

17           **Section 1.**       The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and  
18 commemorates the life and remarkable accomplishments of Dr. Frances  
19 Bartlett Kinne on the occasion of her passing and extends to her  
20 family and legions of friends and admirers its most sincere  
21 condolences. The City of Jacksonville was indelibly marked by this  
22 amazing woman and gratefully acknowledges all she did to make the  
23 city a more vibrant, caring, optimistic place for all its citizens.

24           **Section 2.       Effective Date.**   This Resolution shall become  
25 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
26 without the Mayor's signature.

27 Form Approved:

28  
29 /s/ Margaret M. Sidman

30 Office of General Counsel

31 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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