

# PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

**WHEREAS:** Fried chicken and waffles has been seen on menus for nearly a century, but the brunch staple has an unclear history; and

**WHEREAS:** The waffle was popularized in America by Thomas Jefferson in the 1790s after returning from France with a waffle iron. While waffles are often served as a sweet, dessert-like dish, savory options have long existed; and

**WHEREAS:** While the origin of placing fried chicken atop a waffle is uncertain, a similar dish was served in the 1600s by the Pennsylvania Dutch, where waffles were topped with pulled chicken and gravy; and

**WHEREAS:** The dish we know today reportedly first appeared at Well's Supper Club in Harlem, New York. Well's was a late night hotspot for jazz musicians who would stop by after their gigs. The hungry musicians, who were too late for dinner and too early for breakfast, compromised with the appetizing fried chicken and waffles; and

**WHEREAS:** Today, the soul-food entrée can be found on restaurant menus all over America. Jacksonville's own Metro Diner features an award-winning Fried Chicken and Waffle dish at each of their 74 locations nationwide.

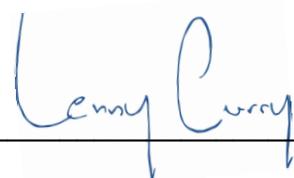
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY,** by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim August 8, 2019 as

## **FRIED CHICKEN AND WAFFLE DAY**

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to enjoy this foodie holiday by indulging in the sweet, savory, and spicy dish.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 1st day of August in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lenny Curry".

MAYOR