



Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title: Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize and commemorate the achievements of these innovative and entrepreneurial western Pennsylvanians; and,
Be It Further Resolved, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh commends Mr. Alfred Mann of Highland Park for celebrating this important part of our region's history.

Sponsors: Patrick Dowd, All Members

Indexes: PROCLAMATION - MR. DOWD

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Attachments: 1. 2009-1732.doc

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
9/1/2009	1	City Council	Adopted	Pass

Whereas, in 1859 Edwin Drake was the first person in the world to apply well drilling technology to produce significant quantities of crude petroleum at Titusville, PA; and,

Whereas, it is an important but little known fact that Samuel Kier of Pittsburgh was the first person to refine crude oil by distillation, five years earlier than Drake's discovery, in about 1854; and,

Whereas, in 1861 Charles Lockhart built the first commercial scale oil refinery in Pittsburgh's Highland Park neighborhood. That plant was put to use to refine crude oil produced at Titusville. Lockhart became a prominent citizen of East Liberty and a generous philanthropist; and,

Whereas, to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the drilling of the Drake well, the American Chemical Society presented a National Historical Chemical Landmark award at Titusville on Thursday, August 27, 2009 and another commemorating Samuel Kier's work at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh on Wednesday August, 26; and,

Whereas, today's extensive worldwide petroleum industry is a direct outgrowth of the efforts of Drake, Kier and Lockhart, first demonstrated here in Western Pennsylvania; and,

Whereas, the idea for the historic landmark recognition came from Highland Park resident and American Chemical Society member, Alfred Mann;

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize and commemorate the achievements of these innovative and entrepreneurial western Pennsylvanians; and,

Be It Further Resolved, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh commends Mr. Alfred Mann of Highland Park for celebrating this important part of our region's history.