



# City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building  
414 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

## Text File

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**Committee:** City Council

**Status:** Adopted

***WHEREAS***, Grandview Park, one of the city's hidden gems, is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary; and

***WHEREAS***, in 1863, Grandview Park was known as Fort McKnight and served as a fortification to protect Pittsburgh from attack during the Civil War; and it then became the George T. Robinson Farm and was sold to the City, for \$62,000.00, in 1897 and was officially dedicated as a park in 1909; and

***WHEREAS***, today, this jewel has no greater Ambassador than **Don Panella**; and

***WHEREAS***, **Donato Panella** began work, as a laborer, in the City of Pittsburgh Department of Parks & Recreation, Bureau of Grounds and Buildings, Southern Division, on October 30, 1967; and

***WHEREAS***, taking care of the park has become more than a job, it is a labor of love, as **Don** says "Once I was sent here, I kind of fell in love with it."; and

***WHEREAS***, **Don** has always been a model employee, going above and beyond what was asked of him, often taking on added responsibilities outside of his 'official' job description; and

***WHEREAS***, **Don** takes on many roles, as teacher, sharing his vast knowledge of Grandview Park with school students visiting on field trips; as a mentor to new employees and as tour guide to the thousands of visitors who come to Pittsburgh each year.

***THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED***, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh is proud to commend **Don Panella** for his dedication to and passion for Grandview Park.

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED***, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does, hereby, declare Saturday, October 3, 2009 to be **Don Panella Day** in the City of Pittsburgh.