



# City of Pittsburgh

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

## Text File

**Introduced:** 4/10/2012

**Bill No:** 2012-0281, **Version:** 1

**Committee:** City Council

**Status:** Adopted

**WHEREAS**, throughout human history, dogs have played an important role in the lives of people, serving as our friends, protectors, and companions; and

**WHEREAS**, working therapy dogs have therapeutic benefits on the lives of many individuals by initiating and maintaining the relaxation response, that take a person's focus off their pain, elevate their mood and feelings of well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, Anastasia, a full-blooded Rottweiler, was trained and certified as a therapy dog when she was one year old, works solely for Three Rivers Hospice and Family Home Health Services but visits anyone who needs her - without a fee; and

**WHEREAS**, Three Rivers Hospice's Pet Therapy Program enhances the health and quality of life through play and enrichment activities which promote the human-animal bond; and

**WHEREAS**, Anastasia draws people to her wherever she goes - wearing a different outfit for every occasion from her vast wardrobe bringing smiles to those who need it; and

**WHEREAS**, Anastasia, owned by Laura Sokolovic, spends several days a week visiting nursing homes, schools, hospitals and community events each year throughout Western Pennsylvania whose visits boost the morale of the patients and staff to an otherwise mundane day; and

**WHEREAS**, Laura Sokolovic is to be commended for raising such an extraordinary Rottweiler and providing a home environment full of love and positive energy wherein Anastasia can thrive and share her gifts for the welfare of others;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize and honor the important work of Three Rivers Hospice's Pet Therapy Program for its dedicated efforts and contributions to improving the health and well being of our area; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Tuesday, April 10, 2012, to be "**Anastasia Therapy Dog Day**" in the City of Pittsburgh.