



City of Pittsburgh

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

Text File

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Committee: City Council

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WHEREAS, Monday, November 9 is the 43rd Annual Thomas Merton Award Dinner held at the Station Square Sheraton in Pittsburgh, and;

WHEREAS, This year's Awardee of the Thomas Merton Peace and Justice Award is Congresswoman Barbara Lee, who represents the 13th District in California and was chosen for her continual work in Congress to bring about peace and economic justice, and;

WHEREAS, Past awardees include Noam Chomsky, Angela Davis, Sister Joan Chittester, Daniel Berrigan, Medea Benjamin, Rev. Lucius Walker and Dorothy Day, and;

WHEREAS, The Thomas Merton Center was co-founded in 1972 by Pittsburghers Molly Ruch and Larry Kessler as a resource for more than 40 projects and Affiliates including the Anti War Committee, Religion and Labor Coalition, New Economy Campaign, Pittsburghers For Public Transit, North Hills Anti-Racism Coalition and Marcellus Shale Protest Group, and;

WHEREAS, The East End Cooperative Thrift Store "Thrifty", which was founded by Shirley Gleditsch as a source of revenue for the Merton Center, has operated in the Garfield community for 22 years, and;

WHEREAS, The volunteers, staff, and interns, at the Center and at Thrifty are the community faces and the embodiment of the Merton Center Mission, which is to work to build a consciousness of values and to raise the moral questions involved in the issues of war, poverty, racism, classism, economic justice, human rights, and environmental justice and to engage people of diverse philosophies and faiths who find common ground in the nonviolent struggle to bring about a more peaceful and just world, and;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh, in celebration of the 43rd Annual Thomas Merton Award Dinner, thanks the Thomas Merton Center for their decades-long commitment toward a more peaceful and just society, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Monday, November 9th the "Thomas Merton Center Day" in the City of Pittsburgh.