

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, For several years, local HCC alumni pondered how to honor the life and legacy of Governor Edward T. "Ned" Breathitt, the 51st Governor of Kentucky. Breathitt, a native son of Hopkinsville and Hopkinsville High School graduate was elected governor at age 38 and served from 1963-1967; and

WHEREAS, Governor Breathitt staked his political life on the passage of the Kentucky Civil Rights Act, the first legislation of its kind passed in the south, and Gov. Breathitt was quoted by the Kentucky Historical Society as saying, "The civil rights legislation justifies my public career. It justifies my governorship. It justifies what I have done because it was the most significant thing that I have ever had a part in. It was the only one south of the Mason-Dixon Line when we passed it"; and

WHEREAS, During the same period in history, Joan Trumpauer Mulholland responded to a call soliciting additional Freedom Riders after the tragedies in Anniston, Alabama, in the summer of 1961; and

WHEREAS, Upon her arrival in Jackson, Mississippi, in June of 1961 at 19 years of age, Mulholland along with Stokely Carmichael and Hank Thomas were arrested and taken to the notorious Parchman Penitentiary, the most dreaded prison in Mississippi. There, she refused to pay her bail and served out her entire prison sentence and, following her imprisonment, was the first white student to enroll at Tougaloo College where she continued her service to the Movement; and

WHEREAS, We gather today in recognition of Joan Trumpauer Mulholland's many acts of courage during the Civil Rights Movement including her participation in the sit-in at the Woolworth lunch counter on May 28, 1963, and her later help to plan and execute the March on Washington as well as many other events and activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, CARTER M. HENDRICKS, Mayor of Hopkinsville, and STEVE TRIBBLE, Christian County Judge/Executive, do hereby proclaim April 28, 2016, as:

JOAN TRUMPAUER HULHOLLAND DAY

in Hopkinsville and Christian County, Kentucky, and call upon all citizens to join in the celebration of her courage and valor in the spirit of the profound influence of Governor Ned Breathitt on the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

DATED this 28th day of April 2016.

CARTER M. HENDRICKS, Mayor
City of Hopkinsville