

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Mrs. Naomi Ruth Barber King, also known as the “*Butterfly Queen*,” who brings joy and beauty to all she comes in contact with is well-known for the quiet dignity and strength with which she supported her late husband, Rev. A. D. King, her family, and the communities around her; and

WHEREAS, as a young woman Naomi Ruth Barber was a charming, graceful, willowy, and beautiful woman, excelling in scholastics, poetry, dancing and singing; and

WHEREAS, as a young woman she gained notoriety as a preferred fashion model, earning the distinct honor of being featured in shop windows and circulars, while later being photographed with her children and said photographs displayed in prominent Atlanta photo galleries; and

WHEREAS, Naomi Ruth Barber married A.D. King launching a career as a mother of five (5), a “First Lady,” and a partner with her husband in the mission to support his brother, the famous Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; leader of the Civil Rights Movement of the 20th Century; and

WHEREAS, Rev. King shepherded four churches during his lifetime with Mrs. King at his side serving as First Lady, and as an integral part of the Reverend’s ministry hosting women’s teas, organizing musical concerts, women’s enrichment programs where she often was the keynote speaker, and sharing gracious tools for living to their congregations; and

WHEREAS, as a young wife of her activist husband, she stood as a confidant, prayer partner, and advisor during the height of civil rights battles through times of distress and even bombings of their home and their church; and

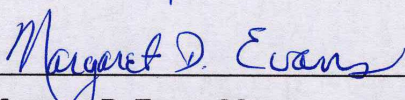
WHEREAS, Naomi has not only been an author and speaker on important issues of the day, she was also the inspiration of the documentary project *A.D. King: Brother to the Dreamer* and;

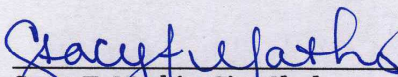
WHEREAS, today, Mrs. King is a beloved mother, grandmother, great grandmother, relative, friend, comfort and bright light to those in the church and communities she serves.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Margaret D. Evans, as Mayor of the City of Sylvania, and on behalf of the City of Sylvania, recognize Mrs. King for the exceptional role model she has been and continues to be among women and do hereby proclaim April 4, 2009 as

“Mrs. A.D. King Day in Sylvania, Georgia”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Sylvania to be affixed this 4th day of April, 2009.


Margaret D. Evans, Mayor


Stacy F. Mathis, City Clerk
[SEAL]

