

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, after 35 years of serving the poor, homeless and marginalized of Thurston County, Bread & Roses (B&R) will be closing; and

WHEREAS, B&R has served the community in many ways since volunteers from the Catholic Worker tradition founded it in 1982; and

WHEREAS, B&R's vision represented dignity, humanity, and rights to inclusion for the most vulnerable members of our community; and

WHEREAS, the original house on 8th Avenue has been the heart of B&R from the beginning and, along with the duplex added next door in 1987, has provided shelter, respite and a welcoming home for hundreds of people through the years; and

WHEREAS, B&R is remembered for the large soup kitchen and drop-in center operated on Cherry Street until 2003, where many volunteers were able to cook and share meals with those living on the streets; and

WHEREAS, the Devoe Street Men's Emergency Shelter (now Drexel House) provided shelter for vulnerable homeless men; and

WHEREAS, the B&R Advocacy Center connected homeless individuals with volunteer advocates to increase access to resources; and

WHEREAS, the Voice of Olympia street newspaper published articles, poetry and art by and for houseless people, for several years; and

WHEREAS, B&R played an important role in the creation and/or ongoing support of organizations, including our community's first syringe exchange, emergency winter overnight shelters, Partners in Prevention Education, Camp Quixote, SideWalk, EGYHOP, Food Not Bombs, among others; and

WHEREAS, we are thankful that the houses on 8th Ave will pass to Homes First for continued use as affordable housing for our low-income neighbors; and

WHEREAS, we are grateful for the tremendous impact B&R has had in supporting our most vulnerable community members; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Olympia City

Council does hereby honor Bread & Roses for its years of service to the citizens of Thurston County.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 4th DAY OF APRIL, 2017.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

*Cheryl Selby
Mayor*