



Board of Commissioners of Cook County

118 North Clark Street
Chicago, IL

Legislation Text

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PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION HONORING DINKEL'S BAKERY 101 YEARS OF BUSINESS

WHEREAS, Dinkel's Bakery and Cafe, located at 3329 North Lincoln Ave. is closing for business on April 30, 2022 after almost 101 years and four (4) generations of ownership; and

WHEREAS, in 1922, after immigrating to Chicago from Bavaria, Germany, Joseph Dinkel opened Dinkel's Bakery and Café at 3312 N Lincoln Ave. along with his wife, Antonie Dinkel; and

WHEREAS, Joseph Dinkel descended from a long line of master bakers. In the early years of the bakery, Joseph baked all the products while his wife, Antonie, handled the selling; and

WHEREAS, in 1926, Joseph and Antonie expanded the bakery to its current location, and enlisted the help of their son, Norman Dinkel, Sr. to operate the business and take over as owner; and

WHEREAS, Dinkel's Bakery and Cafe welcomed its third generation of Dinkel family ownership when Norman Dinkel Jr. took over the business. He remains the current owner with the help of Luke Karl and his wife Sandgren, the 4th generation of the Dinkel family; and

WHEREAS, in the 1980s, Dinkel's began a thriving mail-order business with its stollen and strudels, and in 2013, it began selling bread and sandwiches, while beginning to sell pastries wholesale to local supermarkets; and

WHEREAS, Dinkel's has also been a longtime member of the Bakers Dozen, a secret society of leaders from the oldest family-owner bakeries in and around Chicago. The group gives feedback on recipes, ordering systems and equipment, helping bakeries continue to thrive in their local communities; and

WHEREAS, Dinkel's Bakery is a part of Chicago's northside history as one of the few remaining stores left from the Lincoln-Belmont-Ashland shopping district. In the mid-20th century, the District was one of the largest shopping districts outside of the Loop, and many of its businesses were founded by German immigrants. Dinkel's honors the historic businesses from the local shopping district by naming sandwiches in their café after iconic business such as Wieboldt's and Goldblatt's Department stores; and

WHEREAS, Dinkel's Bakery has remained a popular bakery for generations of families. It's known for its Dinkel's World Famous Stollen, other breads, cakes, pies, and donuts. They are also known for paczkis, which they sold 6 days leading up to Fat Tuesday. This year, they sold over 30,000 paczkis on Fat Tuesday; and

WHEREAS, Dinkel's has been part of family traditions for generations providing baked goods for weddings, baptisms, and confirmations. Members of the community have fond memories of visiting the bakery on weekend mornings with grandparents and great grandparents, creating family traditions; and

WHEREAS, Dinkel's survived World War II, the Depression, financial turmoil, social upheaval and a public health crisis while continuing to be a revered neighborhood institution; and

WHEREAS, Dinkel's announced its impending closure on April 5, 2022, and saw customers visit the bakery, lining up

out of the door in reaction to the news, demonstrating the popularity and love of this local historic bakery; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County Board President and the Cook County Board of Commissioners, on behalf of the residents of Cook County, hereby honor and celebrate Dinkel's Bakery and Café on their 101 years of business; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be shared in the official proceedings of this Honorable Body and that an official copy of the same be tendered to Norman Dinkel Jr. and Dinkel's Bakery and Café.