



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Husband and wife, **Mr. David Leroy Stines** and **Mrs. Patricia Freeman Stines**, former owners of the Firestone Grill restaurant, 908 W. Franklin Boulevard, chose to retire from ownership and management of the Gastonia landmark restaurant, a mainstay of the community since 2004; and

WHEREAS, **Mr. and Mrs. Stines** have been longtime, enthusiastic promoters of Gastonia, supporting many community programs through their generous donations of meals and hospitality. For many years, they helped sponsor Fish Camp Jam and prepared a free Christmas morning breakfast buffet for police, fire and other first responders. They have always been generous in providing food to needy members of our community; and,

WHEREAS, as devoted members of Bradley Memorial United Methodist Church, the **Stines** have faithfully supported the church's Scouting program with **Mr. Stines** serving as Scoutmaster for 18 years. They have also been integral in the church's outreach to the community, serving pancake breakfasts, barbecue dinners, and other meals with their trademark hospitality. The **Stines'** generous and welcoming hospitality helped Firestone Grill become a popular gathering place for families, business people, community and civic groups adding a much-needed boost to revitalization in the West Gastonia-Franklin Boulevard corridor; and

WHEREAS, the **Stines** have been recognized and received numerous awards for their community involvement and service such as the Residential Beautification Award, Citizen of the Year award by the Gaston County Police Department, Order of the Longleaf Pine awarded to **Mr. Stines**, Commercial Beautification Award for the Firestone Grill in 2017.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Walker E. Reid III, Mayor of the City of Gastonia and the City Council of the City of Gastonia, do hereby recognize and congratulate **Mr. David Leroy Stines and Mrs. Patricia Freeman Stines** on their professional accomplishments, long-standing commitment to serving our community, and much-deserved retirement.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereunto set my hand this 16th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.

Walker E. Reid III, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sherry H. Dunaway, City Clerk