



City of Cambridge

O-2.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 18, 2001

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
MAYOR GALLUCCIO
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

WHEREAS: This day the City Council honors Incoronata Maryanne "Millie" Centanni, a much-loved long-time resident of Cambridge; and

WHEREAS: Millie was born on July 10, 1921 in the Bronx, New York, to Raphael and Maria Antonia Colella, who were both born in Italy; she has been known almost exclusively as "Millie" since her New York elementary school teachers, who could not pronounce "Incoronata," started calling her "Millie" instead; and

WHEREAS: On January 9, 1944, in New York, Millie married the late Frederick A. Centanni; and

WHEREAS: Frederick and Millie moved to East Cambridge in 1946; they first lived on Gore Street, and in 1947 they moved to the house at 60 Sixth Street, where Millie still resides; and

WHEREAS: The marriage of Frederick and Millie was blessed with four wonderful sons, Frederick, Arthur M., Patrick D. and Ralph Centanni; and

WHEREAS: The children grew up; Frederick married Betty, Arthur married Betty, Patrick married Ellen, Ralph married Jann, and Millie became the doting grandmother of Frederick III, Laura, Rebecca, Sara, Cori Ann, Madison Kate and Doug Hallock; she will become a great grandmother in the fall when Frederick III and his wife Paula expect their baby; and

WHEREAS: Despite the responsibilities of raising her four active children, Millie served her community by taking on many civic responsibilities; she was an active member of the Thorndike and Kennedy PTA and served two terms as president; she was a board member of the Community Schools, the East End House and the Cambridge Multicultural Art Center; she was a member of the Cambridge Task Force to Elect a Commissioner of Health and Welfare, the Trees Committee, the East Cambridge Planning Team and the Friends of the Cambridge Hospital, of which she was president; she was on the Pastoral and Liturgical Committee of Sacred Heart Church; and

WHEREAS: Teaching and learning has always been a priority for Millie; in addition to her active involvement in the PTA of her children's school, Millie was a teacher's aide for art classes, taught cooking, knitting and crocheting at Cambridge Community Schools and graduated from Bunker Hill Community College in 1977 at the age of 56; and

WHEREAS: Millie always found time to help friends and neighbors in need and to make enough of her wonderful cooking to feed the many, many people she always welcomed to her home; and

WHEREAS: Millie's devotion to her family, neighborhood and city will always be an inspiration; in her life she has truly exemplified the highest levels of community and humanity; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record dedicating the corner of Sixth Street and Spring Street as

Incoronata "Millie" Centanni Square

and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to prepare a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution for presentation at the dedication ceremony on June 30, 2001.

In City Council June 18, 2001.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-



D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

0-2
R-20
6/25/01
18

W/A : This day the City Council honors
Incoronata Maryann & "Millie" Centanni,
~~an~~ ⁺ a much-loved long-time resident of
~~the~~ Cambridge; and

W/A Millie was born on July 10, 1921 in the
Bronx, New York, to Raphael and Maria
Antonia Colella, who were both born
in Italy; ~~and~~ she has been known almost
exclusively as "Millie" since her New York elementary
school teachers, who could not pronounce "Incoronata," ~~called~~
started calling her "Millie" instead.
W/A On January 9, 1944, in ~~the~~ New York,
Millie married the late Frederick
A. Centanni; and

W/A Frederick
~~and~~ and Millie moved to ~~the~~ East
Cambridge in 1946; they first lived on
Gore Street, and in 1947 they moved to
the house ~~on~~ at 60 Sixth Street, where
Millie still ^{resides} ~~lives~~; and

W/A The marriage of Frederick and Millie
was blessed with ~~four~~ ^{sons} wonderful children,
Frederick ~~III~~, Arthur M., Patrick D., ^{and} Ralph
(~~F. and James~~) Centanni; and

W/A As the children grew up; ~~and~~ ~~after~~ Frederick
married Betty, Arthur married Betty,

Jann

Patrick married Ellen, Ralph married ~~Jenny~~
and Millie became the dotting grandmother
of Frederick III, Laura, Rebecca, Sara,
Cris Ann, Madison Kate and Doug Hallenck;
she will become a great grandmother in
~~the fall~~ ~~September~~ when Frederick III and his
~~Paula~~ ^{expect} wife ~~Polly~~ ~~have~~ their baby; and

w/7

~~Millie was a devoted mother and a~~
Despite the responsibilities of raising
her four children, ~~Millie's sons~~
active children, Millie served her
community by taking on many civic
responsibilities; she was an active
member of the Thorndike and Kennedy PTA
and served two terms as president;
she was a board member of the Community
Schools, the East End House and the
Cambridge Multicultural Art Center; she
was a member of the ^{Cambridge} Task Force to Elect
a Commissioner of Health and Welfare,
the Trees Committee, ~~the Friends of~~
~~the Cambridge Ho~~, the East Cambridge
Planning Team and the Friends of the
Cambridge Hospital, of which she was a
president; and

W/A

Teaching and learning

Education has always been a priority for Millie; in addition to her active involvement in the PTA of her children's schools, Millie was a teacher and gave art classes; she taught cooking, knitting and crocheting at Cambridge Community School and ~~earned~~ graduated from Bunker Hill Community College in 1977 at the age of 56; and

W/A

Millie always found time to help friends and neighbors in need and to make enough of her wonderful cooking to feed the many, many ~~people~~ ^{people} she ~~used~~ always welcomed to her home; and

W/A

Millie's devotion to her family, neighborhood and city ~~has~~ ^{will} always ~~be~~ be an inspiration; ~~she~~ in her life she has truly exemplified the highest levels of community and humanity; now may we be it

R

That the City Council go on record dedicating the corner of Sixth Street and Spring Street as ~~the~~

^{to} Incorporate "Millie" Centanni Square; and

be it further

R

SE for presentation of the dedication corner 6/30/01

Biography

Incoronata Maryann (Millie) Centanni



Known almost exclusively as "Millie" as elementary school teachers had trouble pronouncing Incoronata so they bequeathed name Millie

Born July 10, 1921
Bronx, New York

Parents Raphael and Maria Antonia Colella
Both Parents Born in Italy

Married to Frederick A. Centanni – (Deceased 1984)
Husband Born in Cambridge 1923

Married January 9, 1944 – New York

Moved to Cambridge 1946
- Originally to Gore Street
- 60 Sixth Street (1947)

Children:

- Frederick A Centanni 56 - Cambridge MA – Wife Betty
 - Son Frederick III 30 – Charlestown MA – Wife Paula – child due in fall
- Arthur M Centanni 54 – Hingham MA – Wife Betty
 - Daughter Laura 11
- Patrick D Centanni 48 – Hingham MA – Wife Ellen
 - Daughters Rebecca 10, Sara 6
- Ralph T Centanni (obviously the best son/brother) a young 45 – Richmond VA – Wife (the wonderful) Jann
 - Daughters Cori Ann 20, Madison Kate 6, Son Doug Hallock 19,

College

- Graduated from Bunker Hill College 1977 – (age 56) AD Liberal Arts (Highest Honors)

Community

- ✓ Thorndike School PTA (2X President)
- ✓ Trees Committee of Cambridge
- ✓ Task Force to Elect a Commissioner of Health and Welfare (Cambridge)
- Teachers aid in Art
- Taught Cooking, Knitting and Crocheting at Cambridge Community Schools
- ✓ Board Member – Community Schools
- Member East Cambridge Planning Team
- Friends of the Cambridge Hospital (Past President)
- ✓ Board of East End House
- ✓ Board of CMAC
- Recipe column in East Cambridge News
- Sacred Heart Church – Pastoral and Liturgical Committee

Activities

- Renowned Artist – Won Numerous Awards
- Renowned Cook
- Renowned Mother
- Renowned Friend and Neighbor

2:00
2:00 p.m.

→ Ralph
Ralph T. Centanni
2957 Dragana Drive
Richmond, VA 23233
804.357.3004

*Spring 9
& 6*
surprise

May 31, 2001

Councilor Timothy Toomey
88 Sixth Street
Cambridge, MA 02141

Dear Tim,

On July 10, 2001, my mom, Incoronata (Millie) Centanni will celebrate her 80th birthday. This year will also commemorate her 56th anniversary of proudly living in East Cambridge at 60 Sixth Street. As you are well aware she has become quite a fixture in the community. Her devotion to her family, neighborhood and city has been inspirational. While providing the optimum care to her family (you know what a challenge that was with a son like me), she still found the time to support numerous Cambridge causes such as:

- Thorndike and Kennedy PTA
- Friends of the Cambridge Hospital (Past President)
- East End House
- Cambridge Multi-Cultural Arts Center
- Sacred Heart Church
- Cambridge Community Schools

...and many other organizations to numerous to name. While doing all of this, she always found the time to help friends and neighbors in need and turn our kitchen into a substantial production center to feed all who may pass through.

My Mom has truly exemplified the highest levels of community and humanity. She has dedicated her life to nourishing the soul and heart of all who pass her way through compassion, kindness and food. She is a strong proponent of "a great meal can soothe most ills" and "no one is a stranger only a friend not yet recognized".

On June 30th, her family and friends will gather to pay tribute to this fine lady with a surprise dinner party at The Groceria restaurant.

I am writing this in hope that you can provide me guidance and support to have her life and neighborhood commitment recognized by naming a square (hopefully on Sixth Street) in her honor on this day. I would be most willing to bear any expense or other activity that may be necessary to accomplish this.

I appreciate your time and consideration on this matter. I recognize how busy you must be in both demanding civic positions and realize this isn't exactly paramount in importance. But I must say that with her advancing age and declining health, this type of tribute would be incredibly appreciated by both my Mom and our entire family.

Once again, thanks for your consideration.

Regards,

Ralph
Ralph

James Mackey
- Spax - Ralph
- unril
- Grandchildren



CAMBRIDGE CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

(617) 349-4280

Fax (617) 349-4287

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ms. Lisa Peterson, Commissioner
FROM: Sandra Albano, Assistant to the City Council
SUBJECT: Centanni Dedication
DATE: June 8, 2001

Enclosed please find a copy of a resolution passed by the City Council designating the corner of Sixth and Spring Streets as the Incoronata "Millie" Centanni Square.

Please be advised that the dedication **IS A SURPRISE** and will take place on **Saturday, June 30th at 2:00 p.m.** at the above mentioned location. I will need a PA system and Podium for the event.

After consulting with the family, they would like a Metal sign and it should read as follows:

Incoronata "Millie" Centanni Square

If you have any questions, please call me at x4280.

cc: Mr. Freddie Cabral
Ms. D. Margaret Drury

Enclosure

2001 JUN 11 A 10:46
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Biography

Incoronata Maryann (Millie) Centanni

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- Board Member – Community Schools
- Member East Cambridge Planning Team
- Friends of the Cambridge Hospital (Past President)
- Board of East End House
- Board of CMAC
- Recipe column in East Cambridge News
- Sacred Heart Church – Pastoral and Liturgical Committee

Activities

- Renowned Artist – Won Numerous Awards
- Renowned Cook
- Renowned Mother
- Renowned Friend and Neighbor

2001 JUN 27 A 10:25
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS



City of Cambridge

O-2.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 18, 2001

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR BRAUDE
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
COUNCILLOR DECKER
MAYOR GALLUCCIO
VICE MAYOR MAHER
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN

- RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record extending its Happy 80th Birthday wishes to a special Cantabrigian; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That the City Council dedicate the corners of Sixth and Spring Streets to this special person, after consultation with the family; and be it further
- RESOLVED: That a dedication ceremony be arranged by the Assistant to the City Council after consultation with the family and an appropriate sign be made by the Public Works Department.

Centanni

In City Council June 18, 2001.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.

Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

~~R-4~~ D-2
June 18, 2001

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record extending its Happy 80th Birthday wishes to a special Cantabrigian; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council dedicate an appropriate location to this special person after consultation with the family; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a dedication ceremony be arranged by the Assistant to the City Council after consultation with family and an appropriate sign be made by the Public Works Department.

Sixth + Spring Streets

Cantabrigia



City of Cambridge

O-2.

IN CITY COUNCIL

June 18, 2001

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record extending its Happy 80th Birthday wishes to a special Cantabrigian; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the City Council dedicate the corners of Sixth and Spring Streets to this special person, after consultation with the family; and be it further

RESOLVED: That a dedication ceremony be arranged by the Assistant to the City Council after consultation with the family and an appropriate sign be made by the Public Works Department.

69H

Order #2

Happy 80th Birthday wishes to a
special Cantabrigian.

Councillor Toomey

In City Council June 18, 2001

ORDER ADOPTED