

PROCLAMATION

Dr. Kizzmekia “Kizzy” Corbett Day

Jan. 12, 2021

WHEREAS, Dr. Kizzmekia “Kizzy” Corbett was born in Hurdle Mills, North Carolina, and raised in Hillsborough, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Corbett attended A.L. Stanback Middle School and graduated from Orange High School; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Corbett earned a Bachelor of Science in biological sciences and sociology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Corbett was conferred a doctorate in microbiology and immunology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2014; and

WHEREAS, upon receiving her doctorate, Dr. Corbett joined the National Institutes of Health with a research focus on the mechanisms of viral pathogens and host immunity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Corbett’s research has been focused on the development of vaccines for novel coronaviruses, including severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Corbett recognized that COVID-19 is caused by a coronavirus similar to the SARS virus, allowing her and her team to understand how to tackle vaccine development; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Corbett and her team at the National Institutes of Health partnered with Moderna as part of Operation Warp Speed to develop a vaccine for COVID-19 in record time; and

WHEREAS, due to the work of Dr. Corbett, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration granted Moderna an emergency use authorization for its COVID-19 vaccine; and

WHEREAS, the work of Dr. Corbett and her team was recognized by President Donald Trump and the Coronavirus Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, has publicly praised the work of Dr. Corbett on the development of a

coronavirus vaccine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Corbett has used her position as a prominent Black scientist to educate the public about COVID-19 generally but also the Black community specifically; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners recognizes the work of Dr. Corbett in leading the way against the COVID-19 global pandemic as a member of our greater Hillsborough community and recognizes the role of young people and public schools in shaping the future of our nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jenn Weaver, mayor of the Town of Hillsborough, do hereby proclaim Jan. 12, 2021, as Dr. Kizzmekia “Kizzy” Corbett Day in Hillsborough.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal of the Town of Hillsborough to be affixed this 11th day of January in the year 2021.



Jenn Weaver, Mayor
Town of Hillsborough