

**PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, the National Center of Women's Innovations was established in 2023 as a not-for-profit educational organization dedicated to showcase and promote the forgotten achievements of women innovators through high-tech educational platforms and programs which inspires and teaches girls to use their technical and innovative skills to solve world challenges and help fill workforce demand. Today's workforce reflects gender and race disparity with only 28% of STEM workers being women and less than 3% being women of color; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Gladys B. West, transformed her life as the daughter of black So. Va. sharecroppers with undergraduate and masters degrees from Virginia State University and Oklahoma University, and a PHd. from Virginia Tech at age 70; and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Gladys B. West while employed at the Naval Support Facility, Dahlgren for 42 years perfected the mathematical modeling of the world enabling GPS, (Global Positioning System); and*

*WHEREAS, Dr. Gladys B. West has lacked public recognition for her work as the founder of GPS; and*

*WHEREAS, the National Center of Women's Innovations has created an interactive mobile exhibit that is being unveiled at the VT Innovation Campus to inspire youngsters and the general public about her life's accomplishments.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALYIA GASKINS, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 as:*

**"DR. WEST DAY"**

*In the City of Alexandria and salute the National Center of Women's Innovations' determined efforts to combine the community's love of history with innovation.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 7th day of March 2025.*



**MAYOR ALYIA GASKINS**  
On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

  
Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk