



IN HONOR OF ARNIE PASSMAN

WHEREAS, Arnie Passman is a writer, poet, satirist, songwriter, and activist who for more than 60 years has been a vital and unwavering voice of Berkeley culture, values, and wit; and

WHEREAS, Arnie authored his first major work, "The Deeja's," in 1971 -- the first book on the history and influence of the American radio DJ and on-air personalities; and

WHEREAS, he composed twelve musical histories of corporations, wrote two plays on Black radio history, and founded Berkeley's moveable-feast comedy club The House of Cards; and

WHEREAS, Arnie's large body of work includes an epic poem "Occupy Your Local Country Club," a collection of poems called "Climbing Whateverest," an illustrated book "The Dollar: From Death to Birth," and "The Damned of Enchantment," a history of the largest nuclear accident in U.S. history, which happened on the Navajo reservation in July 1979; and

WHEREAS, Arnie urged the passage of three holidays -- the Peace Symbol's Birthday (February 21), Midsummer Day/Peace Day (August 6) and Gandhi's Birthday (October 2); and

WHEREAS, Arnie was born on May 25, 1936 and in May of this year turned 85 years old, all the while speaking puns to power and advancing peace and justice through writing.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, **Jesse Arreguin**, Mayor of the City of Berkeley, do hereby declare June 15, 2021 as

ARNIE PASSMAN DAY

in the City of Berkeley.

Jesse Arreguin

Jesse Arreguin
Mayor



June 15, 2021