



# Grand Junction

State of Colorado

## PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS, in the early 1990's, a new roadway was threatening the preservation of Riverside School; and*

*WHEREAS, Linda Villa had moved back to Grand Junction and started an effort to restore her old school – Riverside School – and her old neighborhood; and*

*WHEREAS, Linda was no stranger to being involved in community projects having been involved in neighborhood clean ups and Canyon View Park development in the past; and*

*WHEREAS, Linda began a crusade to save the Riverside School, attending every School Board meeting to protest its demolition. She got the neighborhood involved and started a grass roots campaign – the Riverside Task Force – to face this challenge; and*

*WHEREAS, Linda worked tirelessly with the Riverside Task Force to improve the neighborhood with lighting, sidewalks, playground equipment, basketball courts, and upgraded restrooms in the neighborhood park. She held yard sales and bake sales to raise money for the cause; and*

*WHEREAS, Linda rallied School Board members and other community and business leaders to be involved in saving the Riverside School; and*

*WHEREAS, after years of fundraising and grant writing, their goal was realized when in March 2007, the renovation of the Riverside School was completed. The School now serves as The Riverside Community Center, an educational and cultural campus, with the Dual Immersion Academy, the Riverside Task Force, and the Riverside Educational Center; and*

*WHEREAS, the community owes a debt of gratitude to Linda Villa, whose efforts should not go unrecognized.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Phyllis Norris, by the power vested in me as Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, do hereby proclaim Monday, December 22, 2014 as*

**“LINDA VILLA DAY”**

*in the City of Grand Junction and express gratitude on behalf of the City Council and the citizens of Grand Junction for all of her community involvement and spirit for the Riverside community.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 22nd day of December, 2014.*

*Phyllis Norris*  
Mayor

