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Keith Pekau

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Village of Orland Park Proclamation

**A PROCLAMATION HONORING KISMET
AS ORLAND PARK BUSINESS OF THE MONTH**

Whereas, Orland Park's Kismet Restaurant first opened on April 1, 1977; and

Whereas, Kismet has always been a family owned business with the original owner, Roy Tufekcioglu, having owned the business and serving the community for 40 years; and

Whereas, in 2017, Roy sold the business and turned over the reins to his great great nephew, Etem Ramazanowski, his wife Ermina and their sons, Ervin and Muhamed and Ervin's wife Ermina; and

Whereas, the family owners of Kismet immigrated to the United States from Macedonia; and

Whereas, the famous shark on the wall at Kismet was reportedly caught by original owner Roy T. in Florida in the 1970s and has hung on the wall since Kismet first opened its doors; and

Whereas, the community history of Kismet can be found in the collection of Polaroid photos of customers past and present; and

Whereas, Kismet expanded its footprint in 2000 creating a larger dining room; and

Whereas, Kismet was the first restaurant on the south side that served gyros and is now known throughout the world for "having the best gyros on the south side;" and

Whereas, at one time the village's food inspectors wanted Kismet to not serve gyros meat because it was cooked on a spit and not in an oven; and

Whereas, kismet means destiny and Orland Park's Kismet is a family business of destiny and has become a favorite for people from throughout the Chicago area.

Now, therefore, I, Keith Pekau, village president of the Village of Orland Park, Illinois in the Counties of Cook and Will, do hereby extend the gratitude of the entire community to Kismet for more than 40 years of serving the community and hereby proclaim Monday, July 1, 2019 as Kismet Day in the Village of Orland Park.

Signed:

Keith Pekau, Village President
Village of Orland Park

Dated: June 27, 2019