

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 159**  
**Belt Loop Confectionary and Package Liquor**

**WHEREAS**, we have been apprised that on Thursday, October 25, 2012, Belt Loop Confectionary and Package Liquor will be recognized by the residents of the Twenty-Second Ward with the presentation of the Good Neighbor Award for a Business; and

**WHEREAS**, Belt Loop opened in September of 1991, by Norma J. Walker. On the way home from work Ms. Walker passed an empty store front (5501 St. Louis Avenue) located around the corner from her residence (5740 Roosevelt). With only \$250.00 she negotiated terms with the owner, researched and did the leg work necessary to secure a business license; and

**WHEREAS**, every dime that wasn't used for bills was recycled over and over into more stock. She went to the wholesale house daily. About a year later, Ms. Walker did the foot work to obtain the neighborhood's consent to receive a liquor license. Ms. Walker's temporary job turned into a permanent job offer, which she turned down to work full time developing her own business; and

**WHEREAS**, Belt Loop will always have an obligation to its youngest customers because that's who supported them at the start. Every Halloween, Easter and Christmas, Belt Loop gives candy bags free to the children in their neighborhood; and

**WHEREAS**, for fifteen years they put on a customer appreciation day that is always an outstanding event. They provide free BBQ, beverages, limo rides, pony rides, goats, sheep, clowns, outdoor amusement equipment, tee shirts, jackets, etc. to all our neighbors for a day of fun once a year. Unfortunately, economics changed, as well as, their customer base, therefore, they had to change their strategy. They continue to provide their customers with yearly calendars and small tokens throughout the year to show their appreciation for their patronage; and

**WHEREAS**, Belt Loop believes in being a good citizen. They watch out for their neighbors, residents and businesses by reporting suspicious behavior. They have acted as a safe haven for neighborhood children that might be in distressful situation. Belt Loop provides a safe place for all to shop by having a no tolerance policy in regards to loitering around their business; and

**WHEREAS**, Belt Loop has assisted many families in the neighborhood with financial support, i.e. school supplies, school clothing, funeral cost, headstones, fire victims and Christmas toys. They look out for our seniors that might need something, but can't make it to the store by making delivery runs when necessary; and

**WHEREAS**, they have worked with the City of St. Louis to put on a job fair in the Wells-Goodfellow neighborhood. They have sponsored and donated to many National Night Outs; and

**WHEREAS**, Belt Loop believes in making their community look attractive. They take responsibility for cleaning the vacant lot across from the business. They don't believe in defacing the outside of their building with advertising and work to keep their property neat, attractive and well lit.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the contributions of Belt Loop Confectionary and Package Liquor and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the minutes of these proceedings and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 25th day of October, 2012 by:

**Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward**

Adopted this the 26th day of October, 2012 as attested by:

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David W. Sweeney  
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

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Lewis E. Reed  
President, Board of Aldermen