

RESOLUTION NUMBER 224
Shirley Polk

WHEREAS, Shirley Whitney Polk was born July 20, 1935 in St. Louis to parents Blunt and Emma Whitney; and

WHEREAS, Shirley was married to her loving husband Albert (Al) Polk for 51 years. To their union, two sons were born, Allen Whitney and Michael Whitney Polk, who preceded her in death; and

WHEREAS, Shirley was employed at BJC Hospital for 43 years in nursing service. She retired in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Shirley was Vice President and co-owner of SPP Productions Fashion Modeling and Talent Agency of St. Louis. She was the author of a cookbook titled "Shirley in the Kitchen." She was a lifelong member of Transfiguration Lutheran Church of St. Louis at 1807 Biddle Street; and

WHEREAS, Shirley moved to the 5700 block of DeGiverville in the early 1960's and she resided on the block for 43 years; and

WHEREAS, Shirley through her faithful commitment to serve as a positive mentor and role model, was able to encourage neighborhood youth to achieve academic success and realize their full potential; and

WHEREAS, Shirley was a board member of the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council (SDCC) in its early years and she served as an at-large member for more than 20 years from 1987-2010; and

WHEREAS, Shirley spearheaded an annual food drive for a number of years and sponsored the West End Picnic in Forest Park every August for children in the area; and

WHEREAS, Shirley's unwavering generosity to organize various neighborhood events positively impacted the SDCC residents and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, Shirley worked tirelessly to effect change in the Skinker DeBaliviere neighborhood to bring about diversity, economic growth and social change; and

WHEREAS, Shirley Polk was also a 28th Ward Democrat member for 20 years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Saint Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the many contributions of Shirley Polk by awarding the Neighborhood Steward Award in conjunction with the Skinker DeBaliviere Community Council Martin Luther King Commemoration and show our appreciation for her many contributions to the City of Saint Louis 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's family at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 18th day of January, 2013 by:

Honorable Lyda Krewson, Alderwoman 28th Ward

Adopted this the 18th day of January, 2013 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen