

RESOLUTION NUMBER 229

Mrs. Catherine Keel

WHEREAS, we pause in our deliberations to note the passing of St. Louis resident, Mrs. Catherine Keel; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Catherine Keel, a resident of the 4th Ward for nearly three decades, made her transition on August 11, 2011. She sojourned on this earth nearly 85 years and enjoyed a life rich and full of grace; she possessed a loving and kind spirit—to know her was to love her. Her family was her pride and joy and all were model citizens of the City of St. Louis and the 4th Ward; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Keel was the devoted wife to Mr. Mayo Keel and was a devout Christian. They produced and raised four wonderful children: Janice Hartlieb (Kansas City, KS), Barbara Hart (Marietta, GA), Jo Laverne Hardge and Wendell Keel (St. Louis). For the past three years, Jo Laverne graciously moved in with her parents in order to provide the extra needed care they required; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Keel was a member of Northern Baptist for 65 years. She also was a Block Unit #1435 member for approximately three decades and served several terms as president during the 1980's; and

WHEREAS, although she was soft spoken—she was always ready to protect and defend the neighborhood she loved so well. She and her deceased mother (Mrs. Suzie Ware a.k.a. Mama Suzie) provided direction, assistance and after school care to numerous neighborhood children who loved them dearly. Together, Sis. Catherine and Mama Suzie represented “The African Village” of sorts, always sharing and instilling in young people the importance of “Doing the Right Thing!!!”; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Catherine Keel was known for a “manicured lawn and beautiful flower gardens.” When Mrs. Keel’s health began to fail a neighbor volunteered to assist—but couldn’t touch Mrs. Keel’s green thumb ability!!! She loved the Lord, all God’s creations and was an avid baseball fan; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Catherine Keel was a true example of a civic hero; she dwelled among us for nearly 85 years. We’re better individuals to have known her and the 4th Ward and City of St. Louis is a better place because of her hard work and commitment.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause to remember the many contributions of Mrs. Catherine Keel to the citizens of the City of St. Louis and we join with her many friends in expressing our sorrow at her passing, 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 memorial copy for presentation to the Steele family, at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 21st day of October, 2011 by:

Honorable Samuel L. Moore Alderman 4th Ward

Adopted this the 21st day of October, 2011 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen