

Resolution Number 120
MATTHEWS DICKEY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
20TH ANNIVERSARY OF “SAY AMEN” BANQUET

WHEREAS, on August 15, 2009 The Matthews Dickey Boys & Girls Club will celebrate and hold its 20th anniversary Say Amen Banquet, which provides support for education and literacy programs for children; and

WHEREAS, in commemoration of this milestone, the fund-raiser welcomes back to the podium its inaugural keynote speaker, The Reverend Clifton Davis (famous for his role in the television series “Amen”), and will also be introducing a new award dedicated to the memory of and ground-breaking leadership of Benjamin F. Edwards III, who, along with H Edwin Trusheim and the late Bill Maritz formed the banquet’s very first three-man co-chair team; and

WHEREAS, the Say Amen Banquet has generated more than two million dollars since its inception to continue the Club’s Volunteer Tutorial services, expand after-school activities through Computer Literacy Instruction, and introduce career training, mentors and college scholarships via “The Sky is the Limit” and “Maleness to Manhood Workshop Series”; and

WHEREAS, funds generated by the Say Amen Banquet have benefited thousands of Mathews-Dickey Club members and students from local school districts; and

WHEREAS, through its partnership network and outreach, Mathews-Dickey has supported the development and growth of City Academy, The St. Louis Internship Program and many other endeavors aimed at educating St. Louis youth, and at the same time received support from major corporations, such as banquet sponsors: Anheuser Busch, Ameren UE, Brown Shoe Company, Centene Corporation, Peabody Energy, American Airlines, KMOX Radio, News Channel 5, and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch; and

WHEREAS, this year’s co-chairs are Ron Fromm, Chairman and CEO of Brown Shoe Company and Michael Niedorff, Chairman and CEO of Centene Corporation; and

WHEREAS, the Say Amen Banquet awards portion recognizes local educators, young academic scholars, outstanding volunteers and distinguished inspirational speakers. The Banquet increases the awareness of the Club’s educational programs, volunteer opportunities for tutors and computer instructors and raises funds to keep these programs flourishing.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to recognize and congratulate the Mathews-Dickey Boys & Girls Club 20th Anniversary Say Amen Banquet and thank all of the sponsors and supporters that have made the event a success for twenty years, 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 23rd day of August, 2009 by:

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

Adopted this the 23rd day of August, 2009 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen