

*RESOLUTION NUMBER 234*  
*SR. MARIE CHARLES BUFORD, C.S.J*

**WHEREAS, sixty years after entering the novitiate of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Sister Marie Charles Buford, C.S.J., enthusiastically continued her ministry for thirty six years as the Executive Director of the Carondelet Community Betterment Federation; and**

**WHEREAS, always organized and a stickler for detail, Sr. Marie Charles has an emptier desktop these days because she is retiring after thirty six years as executive director of the Carondelet Community Betterment Federation. She was a founding member and has been its only director, a post created in 1977 to manage expanding programs. Her last day on the job was September 18, 2007; and**

**WHEREAS, Sr. Marie Charles was staff secretary for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet when neighborhood leaders called a meeting in January, 1971 to form the Federation. It was one of many founded in those days to counter the deterioration left by the steady exodus to the suburbs. Sr. Marie Charles joined the streets and alleys committee, quickly became board secretary and opened its first office in 1975; and**

**WHEREAS, the Federation strives to strengthen the South St. Louis neighborhood by providing residents with housing assistance, food and clothing outreach, a literacy program and a senior center. Sister Marie Charles experiences God's fidelity in the charisma of the Sisters of St. Joseph, love of God and love of neighbor; and**

**WHEREAS, "Strength," says Sister Marie Charles, "comes from prayer, especially daily Liturgy, and the support of knowing, living, and working with other Sisters of St. Joseph and religious in the Church." With these resources, Sister finds, "Every day becomes one of peace and love of God."**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Alderman of the City of St. Louis, that recognition be bestowed upon Sr. Marie Charles Buford by this Honorable Board for her exemplary service as executive director of the Carondelet Community Betterment Federation, for her tenacity and dedication to the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, for God and the citizens of St. Louis. We wish her continued joy, peace and health in her retirement, and we pause in our deliberations to consider and adopt this Resolution and 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 sponsors.**

**Introduced on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007 by:**

**Honorable Matt Villa, Alderman 11<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Honorable Fred Heitert, Alderman 12<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Honorable Alfred Wessels, Jr., Alderman 13<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Honorable Craig Schmid, Alderman 20<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Honorable Dorothy Kirner, Alderwoman 25<sup>th</sup> Ward**

**Adopted this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007 as attested by:**

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**Denise Watson-Wesley Coleman**  
**Clerk, Board of Aldermen**

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**Lewis E. Reed**  
**President, Board of Aldermen**