

BY THE COMMON COUNCIL

Resolution congratulating James Beckum on the honor bestowed to him by the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club on the occasion of its tenth annual Negro Leagues Tribute event on July 18, 2015.

WHEREAS,

JAMES BECKUM

was honored during the tenth annual Negro Leagues Tribute event on July 18, 2015, at Miller Park during the Brewers – Pirates MLB game, on a day devoted to honoring the great players of the Negro Leagues; and

WHEREAS, *James Beckum was born on February 7, 1929 in Villa Ridge, Illinois and started his Negro Leagues career playing from 1950-1952, where he then entered military service before returning to play for the East St. Louis Giants from 1954-1956; and*

WHEREAS, *In 1964 James Beckum organized a youth baseball league in Milwaukee called the Beckum-Stapleton Little League, which is the longest-running inner-city baseball program in the country, celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2014; and*

WHEREAS, *The Milwaukee County Parks dedicated the north half of Carver Park as Beckum Park in March, 2011, and Beckum has five grown children from his late wife, Ruth, along with six grandchildren; and*

WHEREAS, *The Brewers have recognized 15 other Negro League players to date at the annual event, which includes an auction of Milwaukee Bears uniforms worn by Brewers players and coaches, and the proceeds from the auction go to the Brewers Community Foundation to benefit the Yesterday's Negro League Baseball Players Foundation and the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City; and*

WHEREAS, *For his invaluable contributions to baseball, James Beckum had his name placed on a permanent display at Miller Park, and he will be inducted into the Yesterday's Negro League Hall of Fame, located at the Mother Kathryn Daniels Conference Center; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith congratulates James Beckum on the honor bestowed to him by the Milwaukee Brewers Baseball Club on the occasion of its tenth annual Negro Leagues Tribute event, thanks him on behalf of the community for his many contributions to baseball and wishes him continued health and happiness; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to James Beckum.*

Introduced and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on July 21, 2015: Russell W. Stamper, II, Joe Davis, Sr., Ashanti Hamilton, Nik Kovac, Robert J. Bauman, Jim Bohl, Milele A. Coggs, Willie C. Wade, Robert G. Donovan, Robert W. Puente, Michael J. Murphy, José G. Pérez, Terry L. Witkowski and Tony Zielinski.