

*BY ALDS. PEREZ, PUENTE, BOHL, WITKOWSKI, HINES, COGGS, KOVAC, DONOVAN, ZIELINSKI, MURPHY, HAMILTON, DUDZIK*

*Resolution congratulating Chocobella on their selection as the 2014 Hispanic Start-Up of the Year by Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin.*

**WHEREAS,**

**CHOCOBELLA**

*was selected as the 2014 Hispanic Start-Up of the Year by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin, and they were honored during HCCW's 24th annual HCCW Gala on January 18, 2014 at the Potawatomi Bingo and Casino Expo Center; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Chocobella is a family owned and operated, gourmet chocolate shop that serves recipes that were created just for the store. They have established themselves not just as the premier chocolate shop in Bay View, but as a premier shop in the region; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Luis and Karimar Mendez are the founders and owners of Chocobella. As immigrants from Puerto Rico, they strived to make a better life for their two daughters. Luis used his previous culinary experience to become an executive chef and realized his dream of opening a chocolate shop by using the art of chocolate making that he learned from his father; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Chocobella was given the honor by Real Milwaukee Fox 6 as one of the best places to celebrate National Chocolate Day on October 28th. The establishment is also a fixture at the Bay View Gallery Night and Milwaukee Food Tours where they are able to show their talents to the community; and*

**WHEREAS,** *The HCCW Gala honors the contributions of Wisconsin Hispanics to their communities, and in 2014, HCCW celebrates 24 years of building better futures for the individuals, families and communities it serves, and Chocobella is an outstanding example of a business making a positive impact in the lives of others; now, therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED,** *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith congratulates Chocobella on being selected as the 2014 Hispanic Start-Up of the Year, commends them for their achievement and accomplishments, and wishes for them a happy, healthy and successful future; and, be it*

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

**Introduced by Common Council members José G. Pérez, Robert W. Puente, Jim Bohl, Terry L. Witkowski, Willie L. Hines, Jr., Milele A. Coggs, Nik Kovac, Tony Zielinski, Robert G. Donovan, Michael J. Murphy, Ashanti Hamilton and Joe Dudzik and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on November 5, 2013.**