

BY ALD. KOVAC

Resolution recognizing the Village Bazaar on its contributions to the east side's small business community.

WHEREAS,

VILLAGE BAZAAR

ended a spectacular run as a unique, mainstay east side small business when it closed its doors after 42 years on December 31, 2014; and

WHEREAS, *The Village Bazaar opened its doors in 1972 in the Village of Wauwatosa and moved in 1978 to 2201 N. Farwell Ave. (northwest corner of E. Kenilworth and N. Farwell) and became known for its offerings of ethnographic art from more than 40 countries: unique sculpture, textiles, antique Middle Eastern furniture, contemporary and ethnic silver jewelry, amber and more; and*

WHEREAS, *In founding the Village Bazaar, owners Hamid & Kim Alwan wanted to share their love for African and Middle Eastern art, creating an enticing center for non-Western art, and the Alwans' intimate knowledge of remote countries along with a discriminating eye for fine ethnographic jewelry and art have been the hallmarks of the business; and*

WHEREAS, *The main focus at the Village Bazaar was jewelry made by craftsmen from many cultures, and customers could find antique ethnic pieces from Africa, Egypt, Syria, Turkey, India, Nepal and Afghanistan, as well as contemporary Western silver jewelry, and the store also featured a large collection of Baltic amber; and*

WHEREAS, *By making the Village Bazaar a mainstay small business on the east side for 36 years, Hamid and Kim Alwan helped add flavor and greater diversity to the East Side Business Improvement District; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith recognizes the Village Bazaar and Hamid and Kim Alwan on outstanding contributions to the business community in Milwaukee, and extends its sincere wishes for future health and happiness; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Hamid and Kim Alwan.*

Introduced by Common Council member Nik Kovac and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on January 21, 2015.