

BY ALD. COGGS

*Resolution recognizing and commemorating the dedication of James W. Beckum Park and Opening Day of the Beckum-Stapleton Little League's 49th season.*

**WHEREAS,**

**JAMES W. BECKUM**

*was honored with the dedication of James W. Beckum Park in his name on May 4, 2013, during Opening Day ceremonies for the Beckum-Stapleton Little League's 49th season at 900 W. Brown St.; and*

*WHEREAS, Prior to his residence in Wisconsin, James W. Beckum played semi-professional baseball for the East Saint Louis Colts and the East Saint Louis Giants and served in the United States Marines, then married Ruth Golden on July 14, 1956 and moved to Milwaukee, where he became a catcher-infielder in the Langsdorf League; and*

*WHEREAS, In 1964, James W. Beckum founded what later became known as the Beckum-Stapleton Little League, the first nationally-associated youth league in Milwaukee, creating an environment for young men to learn sportsmanship, discipline and a passion for the game of baseball and working tirelessly to serve the youth of the community through sports; and*

*WHEREAS, Settling the league in what was originally known as Carver Park, James W. Beckum was honored by Milwaukee County Parks in 2013 as they renamed the portion of Carver Park north of Brown Street as James W. Beckum Park; and*

*WHEREAS, Following a parade in his honor on Opening Day of the Beckum-Stapleton Little League's 49th season, James W. Beckum threw out the ceremonial first pitch to kick off the 2013 season of play; now, therefore, be it*

*RESOLVED, That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee formally recognizes the contributions and good works of James W. Beckum, congratulates him on the dedication of James W. Beckum Park in his name and celebrates with him the Opening Day of the Beckum-Stapleton Little League's 49th season; and, be it*

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

***Introduced by Common Council member Milele A. Coggs and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on May 21, 2013.***