

RESOLUTION NUMBER 95

Bertha Bryant Morris

WHEREAS, we have been apprised that on May 24, 2010, Bertha Bryant Morris will celebrate her glorious 100th Birthday; and

WHEREAS, Bertha Bryant Morris was born May 24, 1910 in Edwards, Mississippi to Judge and Amie Bryant. She was the fifth child of 9; 2 boys and 7 girls, of which 4 girls are currently living. Her nickname "Doll" is derived from when she was born she was as small as a baby doll. Her family migrated to Oneida, Arkansas in 1917 when she was the age of seven. She grew up on the family farm, which currently exists; and

WHEREAS, she had to leave school after the 8th grade to attend to her ill father. Early in life she was the baby sitter while everybody else worked in the fields. She did not care for working in the fields or cooking. She really loved to keep house; and

WHEREAS, Bertha married Nathaniel Smith in March of 1930. On Christmas Day that year, in Lexa, Arkansas she was blessed with a precious present, her only child, Christina. She migrated to St. Louis, Missouri in 1941 and married Muriel Morris in June 1951; and

WHEREAS, she resided on 4588 Aldine Ave and 4370 Garfield Ave in her early years in St. Louis. Since the 1960's she has resided at 1916 Semple Ave; and

WHEREAS, she was a member of Greater Bethlehem Baptist Church. She joined her current church, Newstead Missionary Baptist Church in 1949. Bertha served as an active member of the St. Louis Usher Alliance and Usher Drill Team and is currently an honorary lifetime member. She is the oldest Usher living in the Missouri area; and

WHEREAS, she was a seamstress for the Selmo Garment Company for many years and until the age of 70, she worked as a housekeeper; and

WHEREAS, Bertha enjoys tending to her vegetable garden in her back yard, sewing and baking cakes (German chocolate and pound cakes); and

WHEREAS, she has voted in many Presidential Elections of which the most current was in 2008 for the first African American President Barack Obama.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations to congratulate Bertha Bryant Morris on the occasion of her 100th Birthday and we wish her continued peace, good health and happiness and we further 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 Sponsor.

Introduced on the 24th day of May, 2010 by:

Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward

Adopted this the 24th day of May, 2010 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen