

## Office of the City Clerk



R2012-888

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## City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date:

Sponsor(s):

Type:

Title:

Committee(s) Assignment:

9/12/2012

Laurino, Margaret (39)

Resolution

Congratulations extended to Monastero's Ristorante

## CONGRATULATIONS EXTENDED TO MONASTERO'S RISTORANTE ON FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, This year marks the fiftieth anniversary of Monastero's Ristorante, located on Chicago's northwest side; and

WHEREAS, The Chicago City Council has been informed of this special occasion by The Honorable Margaret Laurino, Alderman of the 39<sup>th</sup> Ward; and

WHEREAS, Joseph and Salvy Monastero were born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania but, were raised in Caccamo, Sicily. They returned to the United States, and opened La Canopy Ristorante with their sister Gina, just two doors west of their present location, in 1962; and

WHEREAS, Joseph and Salvy Monastero moved into the newly built Monastero's Ristorante on February 7, 1967, expanding into the banquet business with the addition of the Botticelli Banquet Room in 1981, and Gina's Banquet Room in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Monastero's Ristorante takes pride in preparing "food with flavor", using family recipes that were brought from the "old country"; and

WHEREAS, Monastero's Ristorante's dining room is a veritable shrine to Sicily, with twelve richly painted shields depicting the rich history of the province, along with busts and paintings celebrating its people and places; and

WHEREAS, Monastero's Ristorante celebrates the fall harvest every year with a wine-making festival where selected contestants compete in a grape-stomping competition; and

WHEREAS, Monastero's Ristorante hosted an aria competition for Northwestern University students in 1972, which resulted in the start of the Bel Canto Foundation, which holds annual opera contests; and

WHEREAS, Monastero's Ristorante is still owned and managed by the Monastero family even though Gina and Salvy are no longer living; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved,* That we, the Mayor and members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, gathered here this twelfth day of September, 2012, do hereby congratulate Monastero's Ristorante on its fiftieth anniversary and extend our best wishes for continuing success; and

*Be It Further Resolved*, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Monastero's Ristorante.

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MARĞARET LAURINO Alderman, 39<sup>th</sup> Ward