

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-314

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

November 10, 2020

To pay special recognition and to congratulate members of the Bachelor-Benedict Club on the occasion of its 110th Anniversary.

WHEREAS, the Bachelor-Benedict Club was founded in 1910 by 5 bachelors: Bismark R. Pinchback, Dr. Arthur Curtis, Frederick D. Wilkinson, John F. M. Wilkinson, and Dr. William H. “Billy” Wilson;

WHEREAS, the initial name of the Bachelor-Benedict Club was the “Bachelor’s Pleasure Club”;

WHEREAS, on November 4, 1919, the Club was reorganized as the “Bachelor-Benedict Club” to include members who had married;

WHEREAS, by the 1930s the Bachelor-Benedict Club social calendar included a smoker and four dances per year;

WHEREAS, from 1940-1970, the Bachelor-Benedict Club sponsored Debutante Presentations to introduce young ladies to D.C. society;

WHEREAS, each fiscal year the Bachelor-Benedict Club sponsors six major events;

WHEREAS, the Bachelor-Benedict Club’s roster has included the names of hundreds of African American men, many of whom are recognizable both locally and nationally, and have included politicians, judges, local and federal government officials, university and college presidents, heads of national fraternal organizations, educators, professional men, government employees, independent businessmen and other distinguished men from varied walks of life;

WHEREAS, for over a century, the Bachelor-Benedict Club has remained an organization that provides importance to family and socialization;

WHEREAS, the Bachelor-Benedict Club has left an indelible mark on the District of Columbia and continues to enrich the lives of others through its programs and social events; and

WHEREAS, after 110 years, the Bachelor-Benedict Club remains committed to men of color, allowing them to develop camaraderie and social awareness.

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Bachelor-Benedict Club 110th Anniversary Ceremonial Recognition Resolution of 2020”.

Sec. 2. The Council congratulates Bachelor-Benedict Club on the occasion of its 110th Anniversary and extends its best wishes for a happy anniversary and continued growth.

Sec. 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.