

RESOLUTION NO. 110204

In Memory of Kansas City Legend and Radio Personality Mike Murphy, and declaring March 17, 2011, as Mike Murphy Day in Kansas City, Missouri.

WHEREAS, Michael J. "Murphy" Hervey was born in Ottumwa, Iowa in 1939, and worked as a radio host in three states before settling into Kansas City, taking the microphone for the first time in Kansas City on March 18, 1968; and

WHEREAS, no one was a stranger to Mike – "he's a pal" was one of his favorite phrases. He championed himself as an average guy, however Mike's talk show on KCMO became a must-do stop for national celebrities. Among those interviewed by the Kansas City legend were Walter Cronkite, John Wayne, Charlton Heston, Barry Goldwater, Liberace, Gregory Peck, Tiny Tim, Larry King, Pearl Bailey, Richard Harris and George Carlin; and

WHEREAS, Mike was honored by the National Association of Broadcasters, named the 1998 Radio Personality of the Year and awarded the Marconi Radio Award, radio's Oscar and highest honor. Mike retired from the radio business in 2004 after 46 years in the business; and

WHEREAS, Kansas City's St. Patrick's Day Parade will not be the same without Mr. Murphy. In 1973, as part of a publicity stunt for a local bar, Mike Murphy, Pat O'Neill, and Dan Hoggerty resurrected the St. Patrick's Day Parade, and it was billed "the shortest and worst parade" in history. Today, the Kansas City parade is one of the largest St. Patrick's Day celebrations in the nation. "It's a great day for Kansas City" he'd say of St. Patrick's Day; and

WHEREAS, Mike passed away at his home on March 9, 2011, at the age of 71. Mike was preceded in death by his parents, one brother, and his high school sweetheart and dear wife of 50 years, Cathy. Mike is survived by his children, Pat Hervey, Susan Hervey, Jenny Forney; by his sister, Patricia Schmidt; by grandchildren; and by his beloved dog, Scruffy; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting to pay tribute to such a wonderful Kansas City personality, who gave so much to Kansas City. He will be missed by all; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council do hereby declare March 17, 2011, Mike Murphy Day throughout Kansas City, Missouri. He will be missed by all; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread upon the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof with the Mayor and Council urging all citizens to keep the family of Mike Murphy in their thoughts and prayers.

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