



Legislation Text

File #: RES 16-1437, **Version:** 1

Declaring September 17, 2016 (the first day of Oktoberfest) to be Bruce Larson Day in the City of Saint Paul and thanking Bruce for all of the service and joy he has given to our community.

WHEREAS Bruce started a home health care business (investing his last \$500), Equity Services of St. Paul, and watched it grow into a multi-million dollar North End business employing as many as 125 workers; and

WHEREAS Bruce is co-founder of the North End Community Foundation established in 2000 and has since dispersed over one million dollars into the North End neighborhood of Saint Paul in the form of scholarships and community grants; and

WHEREAS Bruce has contributed tens of thousands of dollars to the University of Minnesota and the University of Saint Thomas to benefit the History and Language Departments; and

WHEREAS Bruce's knowledge of European history and German culture coupled with a flair for the theatrical in period dress has all who meet him affectionately call him "The Kaiser"; and

WHEREAS Bruce created and funded the St. Paul Oktoberfest for thirteen years, bringing Germanic cultural awareness and excitement to thousands of families in St. Paul and the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS Bruce recreated and funded as an annual event an exquisitely detailed version of the historic Viennese Ball at the St. Paul Landmark Center; and

WHEREAS after eight years at the University of Minnesota his love of education earned him degrees in Classic European History, Psychology and Chemistry all of which he used as a community leader; and

WHEREAS Bruce purchased and renovated the Klub Haus on Rice Street to benefit the community as a whole by providing a clean, well lit place for weddings, cultural events, community meetings and ballet lessons and performances; and

WHEREAS several St. Paul tennis pros acknowledge that Bruce had a devastating baseline backhand stroke; and

WHEREAS when Bruce is asked about his background he proudly replies that he was born of German and Norwegian heritage, baptized a Methodist, reared a Lutheran and (just to make sure) confirmed a Catholic and according to Bruce "more to come,"

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Saint Paul declares the first day of Oktoberfest, September 17, 2016 to be Bruce Larson Day and offers many thanks to Bruce for the years of service and joy he has given our community.