

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-11

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

February 5, 2019

To recognize and honor Christianne Ricchi and Ristorante i Ricchi on the occasion of the celebration of Ristorante i Ricchi's 30th anniversary and to declare February 9, 2019, as "Ristorante i Ricchi Day" in the District of Columbia. .

WHEREAS, Christianne Ricchi was born in New York and went to Florence, Italy to study while in college in the 1970s, where she met Francesco Ricchi and the Ricchi family;

WHEREAS, after graduation, she returned and worked with Francesco to establish one of the most well-known restaurants outside of Florence;

WHEREAS, Christianne and Francesco came to the United States because they learned that Americans had begun to discover authentic Italian regional cuisine and they settled in the District of Columbia because it is an international city with highly educated and well-traveled people and there were no other Tuscan restaurants here at the time;

WHEREAS, Ristorante i Ricchi opened the same month George Herbert Walker Bush was inaugurated as President and has been in the Golden Triangle/Dupont neighborhood for 5 presidential administrations;

WHEREAS, on February 13, 1989, President Bush came to the restaurant for the first time when Ristorante i Ricchi had only been open for a month, but that visit propelled the restaurant to international fame;

WHEREAS, during Bill Clinton's inauguration as President, the restaurant was filled with celebrities from Oprah to Sidney Poitier, James Garner, Harry Belafonte, Mariah Carey, and many more;

WHEREAS, Ristorante i Ricchi specializes in regional cooking made from recipes handed down from generation to generation and the most well-known Tuscan dish is "Penne Strascicate" where the sauce simmers for 12 hours and is unlike anything else you have ever tasted;

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WHEREAS, almost everything at the restaurant is done from scratch, from baking its own breads to making its own gelato and desserts daily, and all of the pastas are made in house as are all of the sauces;

WHEREAS, Ristorante i Ricchi works very hard to insure authenticity – right down to the art of making the perfect espresso or cappuccino; and

WHEREAS, Christianne Ricchi, along with a few other restaurant owners, started Restaurant Week in the District of Columbia in January 2002 to encourage people to dine out again following 9/11.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Ristorante i Ricchi 30th Anniversary Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia recognizes and honors the many contributions of Christianne Ricchi and Ristorante i Ricchi to the citizens and city of Washington, D.C. and declares February 9, 2019, as “Ristorante i Ricchi Day” in the District of Columbia.

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