

HOUSE RESOLUTION 282
By Williams (Unio)

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Conley Tharp and the
Fallen Water Festival.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the State of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to those special events that unite communities to achieve a common goal; and

WHEREAS, on November 3, 1990, a cookout, covered-dish and gospel music gathering took place at Fallen Water Farm near Luttrell, with approximately 140 people present; and

WHEREAS, from these humble origins, the Fallen Water Festival, hosted by Conley Tharp, has grown into a large community gathering that is highly anticipated and perfectly organized; the Festival is a unique and special event that is not soon forgotten; and

WHEREAS, on October 19, 1991, the second festival was held and dedicated in honor of cancer victim Harley Tharp and his wife Fern; the 350 attendees took up a love offering to help the Tharps; and

WHEREAS, from this point, the Fallen Water Festival began to grow by leaps and bounds; a festival committee was formed and the third Saturday in September was set aside as the annual day for the event; and

WHEREAS, opening ceremonies at the Fallen Water Festival are always very special: at the fourth annual event the first festival queen was crowned; the fifth annual festival featured

Representative Mike Williams churning his first pound of butter; and at the sixth annual festival, Conley Tharp dedicated the Rettie Tharp Memorial Stage with the help of volunteers; and

WHEREAS, during the past five years, the Fallen Water Festival has offered assistance to six cancer victims, the Luttrell Fire Department and numerous churches; and

WHEREAS, much of the astounding success of the Fallen Water Festival is directly attributable to its host and organizer, Conley Tharp, who owns the idyllic property known as Fallen Water Farm, the name of which farm refers to the waterfall on the property; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tharp graciously credits the festival committee and the many volunteers and sponsors who sincerely believe in the event with organizing the wide variety of attractions and keeping the admission price reasonable, i.e., free; and

WHEREAS, on September 20-21, 1996, the Seventh Annual Fallen Water Festival will bring great joy and fellowship to the Luttrell community, featuring games, down-home country cooking, bluegrass, country and gospel music and loads of fun for everyone; and

WHEREAS, the Fallen Water Festival recalls the halcyon days when neighbors joined together to help those fellow citizens in need, celebrate God's blessings and revel in the happiness of each other's company; this event represents a return to the past that we would all do well to emulate; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we hereby honor and commend Conley Tharp upon his stellar community spirit and peerless public service in hosting the Fallen Water Festival, one of the finest and most enriching community gatherings in Tennessee, at his Fallen Water Farm.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we join in the celebration, fellowship and fun of the Seventh Annual Fallen Water Festival on September 20-21, 1996.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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