

ENROLLED HOUSE  
RESOLUTION NO. 1114

By: Duncan

A Resolution honoring Gordon W. Lillie better known as Pawnee Bill; recognizing the Pawnee Bill Ranch and Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, Gordon W. Lillie, born in Illinois in 1860, had a burning desire to see the vanishing frontier. He followed his dream south to Indian Territory, making his way as a trapper, cowboy, and translator on the Pawnee Reservation; and

WHEREAS, at age 23 Gordon Lillie and his troupe of Pawnee Indians joined Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, performing as Pawnee Bill. While on tour, Gordon met his future wife, May Elizabeth Manning, a Philadelphia socialite; and

WHEREAS, Pawnee Bill and May Lillie, with a desire to showcase the spirit of the west, started Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show and built their 1910 dream home on Blue Hawk Peak in the newly opened Cherokee Outlet; and

WHEREAS, the Pawnee Bill Ranch, a treasured historical site, is open for all to enjoy numerous artifacts, including May Lillie's pistol; and

WHEREAS, on the last three Saturdays in June, the proud citizens of Pawnee celebrate the life and times of Pawnee Bill and May Lillie with a reenactment of the Wild West Show, with Pawnee Bill expertly portrayed by Wayne Spears, County Assessor, and horse Bear Paw, transporting us back to the days of the wild west; and

WHEREAS, all citizens are encouraged to experience the thrilling reenactment of the wild west with amazing trick roping, Native American dancers, cavalry charges, Annie Oakley's trick shooting, and precision horsemanship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 50TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives recognizes the Pawnee Bill Ranch as an historical treasure and Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show as an amazing reenactment of the old west, encouraging all citizens to experience the spirit and excitement.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the Pawnee Bill Ranch, the Pawnee Bill Wild West Show, the City of Pawnee, and the Pawnee Chamber of Commerce.

Adopted by the House of Representatives the 9th day of May,  
2006.

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Presiding Officer of the House of  
Representatives