

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 CONCURRENT
3 RESOLUTION NO. 28

By: Gumm, Adelson, Aldridge,
Anderson, Ballenger,
Barrington, Bass, Bingman,
Branan, Brogdon, Brown,
Burrage, Coates, Coffee,
Corn, Crain, Crutchfield,
Easley, Eason McIntyre,
Ellis, Ford, Garrison,
Halligan, Ivester, Johnson
(Constance), Johnson
(Mike), Jolley, Justice,
Lamb, Laster, Leftwich,
Lerblance, Marlatt, Mazzei,
Myers, Newberry, Nichols,
Paddack, Reynolds, Rice,
Russell, Schulz, Sparks,
Stanislawski, Sweeden,
Sykes, Wilson and Wyrick of
the Senate

12 and

13 Buck of the House

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15
16 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing the heroism of
17 Byron Self and Cheryl Myers; and directing
18 distribution.

19 WHEREAS, the holiday season in Madill, Oklahoma, was a joyous
20 one, thanks to a Good Neighbor and a Good Samaritan. The story
21 began in a 105-year-old house located at 701 Lillie Boulevard in
22 Madill. It has been home to Jim and Dee O'Neal for the past 43
23 years; and
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1 WHEREAS, early on a Friday afternoon, December 19, 2008, the
2 house caught fire. Jim O'Neal, proprietor of the Busy Bee Cleaners,
3 was at work. His wife, Dee, who suffers from respiratory problems,
4 was at home in the back of the house; and

5 WHEREAS, Good Neighbor Byron Self was at his nearby home
6 watching a crew installing windows. When he noticed smoke billowing
7 from the O'Neal's house, Self and the window crew hurried over to
8 help. On his way over, he noticed a woman with a cell phone and
9 instructed her to call the fire department. When he arrived at the
10 burning house, Self was aware that Jim O'Neal was at work, and Dee
11 O'Neal was none too ambulatory; and

12 WHEREAS, the window installers entered the house with Self but
13 were forced back out by the heavy smoke. With his eyes burning and
14 choking with smoke, Self rushed in. When he reached the back of the
15 house, Self discovered Mrs. O'Neal with her oxygen machine mask on,
16 enabling her to breath good air; and

17 WHEREAS, when Byron Self attempted to help Dee O'Neal out of the
18 burning building, a stranger who had followed Self into the house
19 grabbed Dee's feet, and then the two were able to successfully
20 rescue her from the smoke and flames; and

21 WHEREAS, the Good Samaritan who rushed into the blazing
22 structure to save a stranger was Cheryl Myers, a night-shift
23 employee at Brookside Nursing Home. Like Byron Self, Cheryl Myers
24 arrived before the fire department. After the rescue, ascertaining

1 that Dee O'Neal was safe, she walked away unnoticed and
2 unrecognized. At the time no one knew the identity of the
3 mysterious, slight woman who risked her own life to save that of a
4 stranger; and

5 WHEREAS, the spirit of the holidays was demonstrated in Madill,
6 Oklahoma, by Byron Self and Cheryl Myers, a Good Neighbor and a Good
7 Samaritan, who put the safety and welfare of another above their
8 own.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
10 OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
11 CONCURRING THEREIN:

12 THAT the Oklahoma State Legislature recognizes the heroism of
13 Byron Self and Cheryl Myers, commends their courageous actions, and
14 thanks them for their unselfish demonstration of the true meaning of
15 the holiday season.

16 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Madill's Good
17 Neighbor and Good Samaritan, Byron Self and Cheryl Myers.

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