

House Resolution No. 4432

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives now pause to recognize the City of Fair Grove, on the illustrious occasion of its fortieth anniversary of incorporation on September 29, 2007; and

Whereas, in the early years of Fair Grove, the citizens of the place, and community – mostly Methodists and Presbyterians – met to worship under a brush arbor about where a small house of worship was built and afterward a spacious arbor supported by numerous posts and covered with clapboards, served a few years; and

Whereas, at one of these meetings the question was asked “What shall we name this place?” and Uncle Willis Spence, as he was familiarly called, suggested that it be called Fair Grove after the name of the Methodist church of which he had been a member, in Randolph County, N. C., and all acquiesced and the name has ever since remained; and

Whereas, in 1883, a very good and efficient buhr mill was built to grind both corn and wheat, and after a few years they dispensed with the wheat buhr and installed the roller process of making flour which enabled them to turn out a high grade of merchantable flour and the proprietors for years and years had a very lucrative business; and

Whereas, Fair Grove at one time had a wool carding machine, and this machine was housed in a small house immediately west of the Bell Hotel Lot, and the factory was built by Paschal McMinn, father of the late Willis McMinn, who established the first barbershop in town; and

Whereas, Fair Grove had an elegant cafe and a hotel second to none in the country, and Mr. Bell, proprietor, together with his good wife built through courtesousness, an enviable business in their line, and their table filled with delicious viands is seldom surpassed by any hotel in large cities; and

Whereas, Mr. Bell established a miniature zoo park which featured a pair each of deer, peafowl, white guineas, ring-tail coon, black coon, (a very rare animal) a white opossum, a ground hog, a pair of fox squirrels and several gray squirrels; also three exquisite houses for Martins which from their elevation overlooked the town; and

Whereas, Fair Grove from its early existence has been noted for as a center for commerce, which increased as the years have passed:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our heartfelt congratulations to the City of Fair Grove on the auspicious occasion of its fortieth year of incorporation and to wish it every success in the future; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the City of Fair Grove.

Offered by _____
Representative Shane Schoeller
District No. 139

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4432, adopted August 13, 2007.

Rod Jetton, Speaker