

2018 SESSION

ENROLLED

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 87

Commending the Caroline County Agricultural Fair.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 23, 2018

WHEREAS, for 100 years, the Caroline County Agricultural Fair has preserved the agricultural history and heritage of Caroline County and promoted local farms and agricultural businesses; and

WHEREAS, the first ever county fair in Caroline County, then known as the Caroline County Agricultural and School Fair, was held in Bowling Green in November 1918 and focused on livestock, poultry, and potato growing; the fair was organized by R.F. Holbertson with assistance from Cora B. Kay and B.P. Noland; and

WHEREAS, the Caroline County Agricultural Fair continued annually until 1934, when local teachers expressed concern that preparation for the event took too much time away from children's studies; and

WHEREAS, the Caroline County Agricultural Fair was held again in 1941 at Caroline High School in Bowling Green, then revived after World War II and held at Caroline High School from 1945 to 1949; and

WHEREAS, from 1959 to 1961, the West Caroline Ruritan Club worked with 4-H and Future Farmers of America clubs to hold the Caroline County Agricultural Fair at local high schools; in 1962, the fair moved to a new location in Ruther Glen and was sponsored by the West Caroline Ruritan Club until 1969; and

WHEREAS, the Madison Ruritan Club hosted the Caroline County Agricultural Fair at Caroline Recreation Park in 1997 and at Caroline Middle School in subsequent years; and

WHEREAS, in 2002, representatives from Madison Ruritan Club and Caroline County officials formed the Fair Committee and incorporated the Caroline County Agricultural Fair Association as a nonprofit organization, to ensure that this beloved local tradition would be held consistently for years to come; and

WHEREAS, the Caroline County Agricultural Fair was held at The Virginia Bazaar in Ladysmith until 2009, when the fair moved to its current location on the Tate's Family Farm in Ruther Glen thanks to the generosity of Ann H. Tate; 2018 marks the fair's 10th season at the 40-acre site on County Fair Lane, which now includes 10 permanent structures; and

WHEREAS, the 2018 Caroline County Agricultural Fair features livestock and poultry shows, an antique tractor and farm tools exhibit, and many other exciting exhibits, vendors, games, and events; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the Caroline County Agricultural Fair hereby be commended on the occasion of its 100th anniversary in 2018; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the Caroline County Agricultural Fair as an expression of the House of Delegates' admiration for the event's unique contributions to cultural life in Caroline County.

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