

RESOLUTION

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMISSION
OF KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE,
HONORING JOE AND DALE LONGMIRE
UPON THEIR RETIREMENT AS OWNERS
OF THE MIDWAY IGA GROCERY STORE
IN THE CORRYTON COMMUNITY.**

RESOLUTION: R-23-4-101

**REQUESTED BY: COMMISSIONERS
FRAZIER, BEELER AND
JAY**

**PREPARED BY: KNOX COUNTY LAW
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND CORRECTNESS AND
NOT CONTENT: _____
DIRECTOR OF LAW**

**APPROVED: _____
DATE**

**VETOED: _____
DATE**

**VETO
OVERRIDE: _____
DATE**

**MINUTE
BOOK _____ PAGE _____**

WHEREAS, the Longmire family has been deeply rooted in the Corryton and Gibbs community for generations and giving back to the community that they deeply love in meaningful and impactful ways; and

WHEREAS, in May of 1947, Claude and Ruby Longmire opened Longmire Grocery in Corryton providing everything from produce and poultry, notions and shoes, to coals and toys to the people of east Knox County; and

WHEREAS, born into the grocery business, brothers Dale and Joe Longmire, learned the value and importance of hard work and living in community by working alongside their parents stocking shelves, delivering groceries, checking out customers, and often lending a helping hand to those in need; and

WHEREAS, Joe and Dale Longmire attended Corryton Elementary School and Gibbs High School; Joe studied accounting at the University of Tennessee, and Dale attended Lincoln Memorial University to train to become a teacher; and

WHEREAS, Dale and Joe expanded the family business with the construction of House Mountain Market in 1977; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, they bought Midway IGA, a grocery store founded by Berle Kirkpatrick and Bill Butler; in 1996, the Longmire brothers and their wives, Rebecca and Ellen, committed everything they owned and purchased an entire shopping center, completed the mall, and had 28,000 square feet for Midway IGA; and

WHEREAS, Midway IGA is located in the shopping plaza now known as Gibbs Center, and it is recognized as a pillar of the tri-county area; and

WHEREAS, the Midway IGA has become a staple in the community where one can find local brands like Cruze Farm Milk, Benton's Bacon, homemade fudge, farm fresh cheeses, and honey from Newport; Midway IGA has even reached celebrity status being featured in a country music star's music video; and

WHEREAS, for 45 years, the Longmire family IGA has been a stalwart steward of the Corryton and Gibbs community, maintaining a strong focus on the history and vitality of the area through fundraising for the restoration of the Corryton Train Depot, the Corryton Library, and Nicholas Gibbs Historical Society; and

WHEREAS, as consistent supporters of their community, the Longmire brothers have given countless donations over the years, such as creative prizes like toilet paper for the Wesley House for Grannies Bingo nights serving those on a limited income; meals at cost to the Ruritan Club, churches, and senior center; day old bread to the Children's Home; cash register receipts for student computers; paper goods to Shriners; and stocking local food pantries; and

WHEREAS, Dale and Joe Longmire have opened their hearts and doors as the location for numerous nonprofit and area school organizations like the boy scouts popcorn sales; cheer team car washes; athletic team events; teacher support events; and employing students; and

WHEREAS, although Joe and Dale Longmire are retiring, Midway IGA will continue to be in good hands under the new ownership of Haven Gopal, an investor and native Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Joe and Dale Longmire plan to enjoy a restful retirement, and they will continue to be active in their faith at Rutherford Methodist Church.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF KNOX COUNTY AS FOLLOWS:

The Knox County Commission hereby honors Dale and Joe Longmire upon their retirement as owners of the Midway IGA grocery store, extending to them the Commission's heartfelt thanks for their decades of service and contributions to our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution be presented to Dale and Joe Longmire and, in so doing, wish them a happy, healthy, and relaxing retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution is to take effect from and after its passage, as provided by the Charter of Knox County, Tennessee, the public welfare requiring it.

Presiding Officer of the Commission Date

County Clerk Date

Approved: _____
County Mayor Date

Vetoed: _____
County Mayor Date