

**2025 RES-429**

**COMMEMORATING FORMER DANE COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR AND PARKS  
COMMISSIONER WILLIAM “BILL” GEORGE LUNNEY**

**WHEREAS**, William “Bill” George Lunney born September 24, 1941, passed away on Saturday, February 28, 2026, at the age of 84, surrounded by his loving family; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill served as a Supervisor on the Dane County Board during two separate periods, from 1969 to 1974, representing Districts 40 and 27—including the towns of Madison, Fitchburg, and Middleton—and from 1979 to 1986, representing District 20 in the City of Madison; and

**WHEREAS**, during his tenure on the Board, Bill served on numerous boards, commissions, and committees, including Finance, Public Protection and Judiciary, Budget, Developmental Disabilities, Park Commission, and the Regional Planning Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, his leadership and vision extended beyond committee service and contributed to structural improvements in county government, including efforts that helped lead to the creation of the elected office of Dane County Executive; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1987, Bill was appointed by County Executive Jonathan Barry to the Dane County Park Commission, where he served for 30 years as the commission’s chair; and

**WHEREAS**, during his leadership on the Park Commission, Bill was instrumental in expanding Dane County’s Park system and natural resource areas from approximately 3,500 acres to more than 15,000 acres—preserving critical landscapes for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill championed conservation, public access, and environmental stewardship, helping to guide the acquisition and protection of wetlands, prairies, and open spaces throughout Dane County; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill, together with his wife Judie Pfeifer, co-founded the Foundation for Dane County Parks, where he served as president and helped build a permanent endowment to support the ongoing stewardship and enhancement of Dane County Parks; and

**WHEREAS**, through the dedication and partnership of Bill and Judie, countless residents and visitors are able to enjoy the beauty and accessibility of Dane County Parks, including William G. Lunney Lake Farm County Park, which stands as a lasting tribute to his legacy; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill was especially committed to ensuring accessibility and inclusivity in parks, championing projects such as accessible fishing piers and kayak launches, and promoting opportunities for youth engagement, outdoor education, and volunteerism that support physical and mental well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, Bill resided in Sun Prairie, and was recognized for his decades of conservation leadership with a tree planting and signage in Thoreau City Park, where he will be remembered as a passionate public servant, a tireless advocate for conservation, and a generous community leader whose legacy continues to enrich the lives of all who call Dane County home; and

**WHEREAS**, Bill was a pillar of the Wisconsin and Dane County environmental movement for several decades, as evidenced by his many awards including the Stewardship Award and Bolz Lifetime Achievement Award from Groundswell Conservancy, Land Stewardship Award from the

Town of Dunn, the Jordahl Lifetime Achievement Award from Gathering Waters Conservancy and, most recently, induction to the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame in 2026.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors hereby honors the life and legacy of William “Bill” George Lunney, expresses its deep gratitude for his many contributions to Dane County and its past, current, and future residents, and extends its heartfelt sympathies to his family, friends, and all who knew him.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be presented to his wife, Judie Pfeifer, and his family as a token of the Dane County Board’s respect and appreciation.

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Patrick Miles, Chair  
Dane County Board of Supervisors

Signed and sealed before me this  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026.

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Scott McDonell,  
Dane County Clerk