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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The members of the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois are pleased to be able to recognize and honor two citizens who, through their quick responses in an emergency situation, were successful in saving the life of another; and

WHEREAS, It has come to our attention that on Saturday, August 12, 2006, Central City Police Officer Matthew B. Dukes and Sandi Gherardini of Centralia were some of the first people on the scene when a van was on fire on U.S. Route 51; and

WHEREAS, They found a physically impaired person trapped inside the burning vehicle; Officer Dukes and Ms. Gherardini extricated the occupant of the van and carried him to safety; Ms. Gherardini called 911 and worked to keep Mr. Robert Murphy, the van passenger, from going into shock; when the fire truck arrived, Officer Dukes helped to extinguish the fire; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Murphy was transported to the hospital and survived because of the quick actions of Officer Dukes and Ms. Gherardini; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we applaud and commend Officer Matthew B. Dukes and Ms. Sandi Gherardini for their quick and heroic action in saving the life of another; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Officer Dukes and Ms. Gherardini as an expression of our respect and esteem.