

Proclamation

WHEREAS, *The White Lion* Pub has become an iconic Tulsa “watering hole” with classic British food since 1999; and

WHEREAS, Tulsan Mr. Jon Southard used his antique business and interior design skills to create an authentic British Pub. *The Churchill Room*, *The Thistle Room*, *The Lancashire Room*, *The Harvest Mouse* and *The Parliament Room* have hosted many a happy diner over the years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jon Southard enlisted the whole family to bring his idea to life. Mother Betty closed her travel agency to cook and host, Sister Lesa waited tables and Father Ken, years earlier, found the building that allowed Jon to create this authentic pub. After the doors opened it was Jon who manned the bar; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Jon Southard used one of his British antique sources, a Liverpool dealer, who found much of the interior from an 11th century windmill pub, *The Harvest Mouse*. The contents arrived in a large shipping container and today, as you enter the Pub, you’ll see the name, *The Harvest Mouse*, etched in glass on the doors to the White Lion; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Betty Southard set about creating an authentic British menu that includes The Yorkshire, Me Mum’s, Cockney Pride Bangers and Mash, Cottage Pie, The Cornwall Special, Sticky Toffee Pudding, Mushy Peas and Beef Wellington along with Betty’s Special Salad. From day one the menu has stayed the same; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Betty Southard decided to give Tulsans a special evening, inspired by a favorite book, organized a nine-course meal that was once served to Queen Victoria at Buckingham Palace in 1841. Betty’s culinary and hostess skills have given her fans a memorable evening that includes: Caviar and smoked salmon, Champagne melon, celery soup, fish sole, sorbet and Beef Wellington topped off with crepes. Guests are served on China with the Churchill coat-of-arms, fish plates that have been in the family for over 100 years as well as authentic British fish and melon knives and forks. The evening has become an annual lesson in how Brits eat...cutlery and all; and

WHEREAS, all this attention to detail prompted *The British Institute of Innkeepers* who in an unprecedented move are awarding Mr. Jon Southard an honorary membership to their institute; and

NOW, THEREFORE, on today, in the year of the 20th anniversary of *The White Lion*, the Tulsa County Board of County Commissioners declares this *Jon Southard Day* honoring Jon and his family for creating Tulsa’s authentic British Pub, *The White Lion*, and the honorary membership to the prestigious *British Institute of Innkeepers*. The Board of County Commissioners of Tulsa County, Oklahoma, does hereby proclaim, March 25, 2019, as:

JON SOUTHARD DAY


PROCLAIMED this 25th day of March 2019.

WITNESS

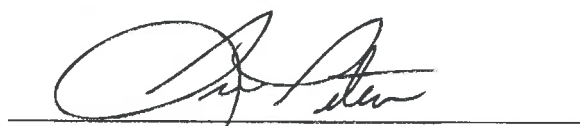

Michael Willis, County Clerk

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