CITATION OF COMMENDATION



KNOW YOU BY THESE PRESENTS:

WHEREAS, Martin Hanson was born on January 23, 1927 in Oak Park, Illinois; and

WHEREAS, after vacationing with his family during his youth, Martin permanently relocated to family-owned land in Mellen in Ashland County in 1961 to extend his conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, his outdoor experiences merged with another interest, filmmaking, and he made movies and videotapes of wildlife, furthering the conservation cause by educating others; and

WHEREAS, Martin has compiled and catalogued more than 600 two-hour videotapes of wildlife in their natural ecosystems, including one that depicts the limited denning options polar bears face because of the upheaval of their natural environment, an issue that mainstream media did not address until years later; and

WHEREAS, he played an important role in scores of conservation causes including building local support for the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, helping to gain Wild and Scenic River status for the St. Croix and Namekagon Rivers, and spearheading the efforts to reintroduce elk in Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, he has received numerous awards recognizing his diligent work in the area of conservation from the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Interior, as well as local organizations; and

WHEREAS, Martin Hanson is a 2009 inductee into the Wisconsin Conservation Hall of Fame; now

THEREFORE, Senator Julie Lassa and Representative Louis J. Molepske, Jr. on behalf of the State of Wisconsin hereby honor Martin Hanson for his dedication to environmental protection and preservation of our natural resources, which has enabled generations of Wisconsin residents to enjoy our pristine outdoors.

Senator Julie Lassa

Representative Louis J. Molepske, Jr.

Saturday, April 18, 2009