

No. R-280. Senate concurrent resolution congratulating Ben and Rosalie Harris on being named the recipients of the 2009 David Rahr Community Service Award.

(S.C.R.36)

By Senators Kitchel and Choate,

By Representatives Crawford of Burke, Larocque of Barnet, Lawrence of Lyndon, Peaslee of Guildhall, Reis of St. Johnsbury, South of St. Johnsbury and Toll of Danville,

Whereas, the primary mission of the Middlebury-based Vermont Community Foundation is to assist “Vermont-focused philanthropists, organizations and businesses to cultivate their love of giving to the community,” and

Whereas, annually, on a rotating regional basis, the foundation presents the David G. Rahr Community Service Award, named in honor of the foundation’s first president, in recognition of “an individual or group that has made a significant contribution toward building healthy and vital Vermont communities,” and

Whereas, at the Vermont Community Foundation’s 2009 annual meeting, held on September 22 in East Burke, the David G. Rahr Community Service Award was presented to Ben and Rosalie Harris of St. Johnsbury, whose history of dedication to community volunteerism made them ideal recipients for this special tribute, and

Whereas, prior to their retirement, Ben and Rosalie Harris were the husband and wife co-proprietors of Nate’s, a clothing store chain that operated stores in Montpelier, St. Albans and St. Johnsbury, and

Whereas, among the many organizations at which Ben and Rosalie Harris volunteer countless hours of their time are the Caledonia Home Health Care Agency, the Fairbanks Museum and Congregation Beth-El, and

Whereas, as recipients of the 2009 winners of the David G. Rahr award, Ben and Rosalie Harris were afforded the opportunity to become philanthropists for the day and select a local organization to receive a \$2,500.00 grant from the Vermont Community Foundation, and

Whereas, in recognition of the rising number of Vermonters who are unable to afford the cost of basic nourishment, the Harrises designated Kingdom Community Services, which helps feed the hungry as their selected grant recipient, and

Whereas, Bob and Rosalie Harris's selfless and unheralded dedication to the vibrancy and vitality of the St. Johnsbury community has now received its much-deserved praise and recognition, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Ben and Rosalie Harris of St. Johnsbury on being named the recipients of the 2009 David G. Rahr Community Service Award, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Ben and Rosalie Harris in St. Johnsbury.