

# State of Vermont

## House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

### Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 79

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Underhill-Jericho Fire Department on its centennial anniversary

Offered by: Representatives Frank of Underhill and Till of Jericho

Whereas, in 1906, a fire destroyed several major structures in Jericho, but not until 1913 did two men not known for their speed, Elbridge Nealy and Frank Ladue, form the Underhill Fire Department as a volunteer organization, and

Whereas, Elbridge Nealy became the first chief, and the sole fire wagon consisted of a tank mounted on two wagon wheels with a chemically based water release system and a wire box to store the hose, and

Whereas, the service area for this manually powered fire wagon was limited to the Underhill Flats Village and the Riverside section of Jericho, and

Whereas, motorized firefighting serving both towns came in 1927, and

Whereas, in 1936, under Chief Howard Davis, the first fire station was built in Jericho, and the town of Jericho contributed \$200 to departmental costs, resulting in the new name of the Underhill-Jericho Fire Department (UJFD), and

Whereas, in 1951, while Chief Howard Davis was still in command, the UJFD saved the District 5 School in Underhill Center, became an incorporated entity, and opened a new brick fire station in Underhill, and

Whereas, in the early 1960s, Chief Robert King oversaw the purchase of the department's first commercial fire truck and lowered insurance costs, and

Whereas, Chief Randall H. Clark's tenure included the construction in 1982 of a new two-bay Jericho substation that is used primarily as a quick response station for calls in Jericho Center and West Bolton, and

Whereas, under the leadership of Chief David Tillotson, the UJFD purchased equipment to extricate persons from car accidents, established mountain and water rescue teams, and in 1997 constructed a new four-bay main station in Underhill, and

Whereas, Chief Randall E. Clark, the third generation of his family to hold this post, oversaw the UJFD's addition of a fulltime EMT staff member and continued equipment modernization, and

Whereas, since 2011, Chief Todd Fischer has been in command, and the department now also serves West Bolton and parts of Westford, and

Whereas, on July 13, 2013, the UJFD will conduct a gala centennial celebration at Mills Riverside Park, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Underhill-Jericho Fire Department on its centennial anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Underhill-Jericho Fire Department.