

State of Vermont House of Representatives



Montpelier, Vermont

Concurrent House Resolution

H.C.R. 309

House concurrent resolution congratulating the *Reporter* newspaper on winning eight 2014 New England Newspaper and Press Association awards

Offered by: Representatives Shaw of Pittsford and Carr of Brandon

Offered by: Senators Flory, French, and Mullin

Whereas, the New England Newspaper and Press Association (NENPA) recognizes journalistic excellence in the presentation of its annual awards, and

Whereas, the *Reporter*, serving the towns of Brandon, Pittsford, Proctor, and West Rutland, as well as other nearby communities, is judged as a NENPA Class I Weekly with a circulation under 6,000, and

Whereas, this newspaper's three-person staff, including advertising manager-general manager Alyssa Zollman, editor-reporter Lee Kahrs, and graphic artist Mandy Davis, won an impressive eight awards at the 2014 NENPA convention in February, and

Whereas, in the editorial category, the *Reporter's* Lee Kahrs earned two first-place awards for Business-Economic Reporting and Business-Economic Special Section for an August 2012 edition devoted almost entirely to detailed coverage of the Brandon business community one year after the devastation of Tropical Storm Irene, and

Whereas, Lee Kahrs' reporting garnered two second-place prizes, one in the Local Personality category, for a story on Rutland author Linda Goodspeed, whose blindness has not prevented her from writing, skiing, and parenting an adopted daughter, and a second for the Human Interest Feature on Harold and Becky Adams's 65th wedding anniversary, and

Whereas, her incisive reporting garnered a third-place award in the History Reporting category for a story on the 1935–1936 Proctor Marble strike and Brandon resident Scott McDowell's master's thesis on the same topic, and

Whereas, 2014 marked the initial entry of the *Reporter* into the advertising competition, and Mandy Davis's black and white ad for the Pittsford Fire Department's Haunted House won a first-place award, and

Whereas, the *Reporter* was also honored with second- and third-place advertising recognition respectively for a Neshobe River Winery color ad and a Brandon Lumber advertisement, and

Whereas, these multiple honors demonstrate the extraordinary results a small but talented newspaper staff can produce, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the *Reporter* newspaper on winning eight 2014 New England Newspaper and Press Association awards, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the *Reporter* in Brandon.