

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**ADDENDUM**

**TO THE**

**HOUSE CALENDAR**

**Text of House and Senate  
Concurrent Resolutions**

**of**

**March 10, 2016**

## **Concurrent Resolutions for Adoption Under Joint Rule 16**

The following concurrent resolutions will be adopted automatically unless a Representative or Senator requests floor consideration before the end of Friday's legislative session. Requests for floor consideration must be communicated to the House Clerk's office or the Senate Secretary's office.

### **Resolutions**

#### **H.C.R. 262.**

House concurrent resolution honoring St. Lawrence University Director of Athletic Media Relations Walter H. Johnson

Offered by: Representative Parent of St. Albans Town

Whereas, journalism and athletics have been the twin pillars of St. Albans native and 1971 UVM graduate Wally Johnson's distinguished career, and

Whereas, his first professional journalism position was at the *St. Albans Messenger* and the former *Vermont Sunday News*, and

Whereas, his craftsmanship as a chronicler of athletic competition earned him the 1971 Vermont Sportswriter of the Year award, and

Whereas, Wally Johnson moved on to the *Burlington Free Press* as an education reporter and then assistant sports editor, and

Whereas, in 1975, a new career path emerged, as Wally Johnson left the excitement of newspaper reporting for the different pace of college sports information, and

Whereas, he traveled across Lake Champlain to the friendly confines of St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York, and

Whereas, Wally Johnson's primary role was to write interesting stories relating the exploits of the St. Lawrence Saints teams, but his myriad duties were far more extensive, and

Whereas, in his first winter on campus, Wally Johnson launched a broadcasting career as the color commentator for St. Lawrence men's hockey radio play-by-play, and, years later, he created the university's first sports information website, and

Whereas, Wally Johnson has served as the host Sports Information Director for a number of National Collegiate Athletic Association events, and

Whereas, he was instrumental in establishing and selecting candidates for the St. Lawrence University Athletic Hall of Fame, and

Whereas, for a quarter of a century, Wally Johnson served on the Eastern College Athletic Conference-Sports Information Directors Association's board of directors, and

Whereas, he is the recipient of several prestigious professional honors and is a 2013 College Sports Information Directors of America Hall of Fame inductee, and

Whereas, after 41 years of superb oversight of sports information services at St. Lawrence University, Wally Johnson has announced that the 2015–2016 academic year will be his last as the university's Director of Athletic Media Relations, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors St. Lawrence University Director of Athletic Media Relations Walter H. Johnson, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Wally Johnson at St. Lawrence University.

### **H.C.R. 263.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Poultney Selectboard Chair Edward Lewis for his exemplary community leadership in the Town of Poultney and in Addison and Rutland counties

Offered by: Representatives McCoy of Poultney, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cupoli of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Eastman of Orwell, Fagan of Rutland City, Haas of Rochester, Helm of Fair Haven, Komline of Dorset, Potter of Clarendon, Russell of Rutland City, Shaw of Pittsford, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Ayer, Bray, Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, Ed Lewis's ancestors settled in Poultney in the 1700s, establishing the Tidy Hill Farm that has remained in his family to this day, and

Whereas, as a seventh-generation Vermonter, Ed Lewis has immersed himself in operating the Tidy Hill Farm, and

Whereas, although Ed Lewis's life is centered on his agricultural activities, he has participated in many community organizations, and

Whereas, for 40 years, he was the supervisor of the Poultney Mettowee Natural Resources Conservation District, and

Whereas, the Co-Operative Insurance Companies, located in Middlebury, benefited from his 39 years as a director, and

Whereas, Ed Lewis has served on the board of the Horace Greeley Foundation for the past 13 years and is currently the vice president of this institution that honors Poultney's most famous resident with commemorative and scholarly programs, and

Whereas, through his membership in the Poultney Historical Society, Ed Lewis has participated in celebrating and preserving his hometown's history, and

Whereas, Ed Lewis is a man of faith and serves as the record keeper for St. John's Episcopal Church in East Poultney, and

Whereas, in 2002, Ed Lewis was the worthy recipient of the Poultney Citizen of the Year Award, and

Whereas, Ed Lewis was married to his wife, Joan, for 42 years, until her death, and he is the father of Sharon, David, Rebecca, and Sarah and the grandfather of Travis, Megan, David, Macaela, Jordan, and Jacob, and

Whereas, for the past 16 years, Ed Lewis has exercised wise civic leadership as a member of the Poultney Selectboard, on which he has most recently been serving as the respected chair, and

Whereas, Ed Lewis has decided to pass along the Poultney Selectboard's gavel and not stand for reelection on Town Meeting Day 2016, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Poultney Selectboard Chair Edward Lewis for his exemplary community leadership in the Town of Poultney and in Addison and Rutland counties, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Ed Lewis.

#### **H.C.R. 264.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Vermont State employees for their exemplary public service

Offered by: Representatives Donovan of Burlington and Davis of Washington

Whereas, according to the Vermont Department of Human Services Workforce Report for fiscal year 2014, in the Executive Branch's classified service, there are 7,503 full-time and 154 part-time employees, and the

comparable numbers for the much smaller exempt category are 585 and 43, respectively, and

Whereas, these 8,284 Executive Branch State employees work in numerous occupations and professions across the State, and

Whereas, Vermont State employees are employed in fields as diverse as agriculture, computer science, corrections, health care, historic preservation, law enforcement, and transportation, and

Whereas, these outstanding individuals are called upon to report to work in emergency and difficult conditions, including blizzards, and

Whereas, Vermont State employees serve as the ambassadors of Vermont State government to the world-at-large, and

Whereas, despite instances when they must interact with angry and frustrated individuals, Vermont State employees always strive to perform their duties in the most professional manner possible, and

Whereas, it is not unusual to hear or read criticism of Vermont State employees, but praise is often in short supply, and

Whereas, today, February 25, 2016, is State Employees Legislative Day at the State House and offers a wonderful opportunity for the General Assembly to express its appreciation and gratitude for Vermont State employees' continuing dedication to serving the public, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Vermont State employees for their exemplary public service, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vermont State Employees' Association.

**H.C.R. 265.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Essex Municipal Manager Patrick C. Scheidel for his quarter-century of dedicated public service

Offered by: Representatives Myers of Essex, Bancroft of Westford, Dame of Essex, Evans of Essex, and Jerman of Essex

Whereas, in November 1990, Patrick Scheidel became Essex Town Manager, having served previously as Streamwood (Illinois) Village Manager, Centralia (Washington) City Manager, and Narragansett (Rhode Island) Town Manager, and

Whereas, Patrick Scheidel graduated from Trinity College as an English and political science double major, and he completed his academic studies at Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, where he earned a master's degree in public administration, and

Whereas, during the Vietnam War, Patrick Scheidel served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS New Jersey, known as America's most decorated battleship, and

Whereas, since 1998, Patrick Scheidel has served as president of the Vermont Property and Casualty Intermunicipal Insurance Fund, and

Whereas, he lent his expertise to the deliberations of the Vermont Town and City Management Association when he served on the organization's board of directors, and

Whereas, among the other institutions for which Patrick Scheidel has provided outstanding volunteer service are the board of directors of the then Fanny Allen Hospital and the Governor's Rail Council, and

Whereas, he joined Essex Rotary soon after his arrival in 1990, served as its president in 1999, and remains an active member, and

Whereas, recently Patrick Scheidel also served as Essex Junction Village Manager and is now the community's municipal manager, and

Whereas, Patrick Scheidel is the recipient of many awards honoring his dynamic municipal leadership, including the 2015 Vermont League of Cities and Towns Municipal Service Award, and

Whereas, in recognition of his superb job performance and in appreciation of his devotion to serving the municipality's citizenry, the Town of Essex's 2015 annual report is dedicated to Patrick Scheidel, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Essex Municipal Manager Patrick C. Scheidel for his quarter-century of dedicated public service, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Patrick Scheidel.

#### **H.C.R. 266.**

House concurrent resolution in memory of North Bennington civic leader Robert James McWaters

Offered by: Representatives Miller of Shaftsbury, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Botzow of Pownal, and Morris of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Sears and Campion

Whereas, Robert McWaters was born in 1925 in the Bronx, New York, and he served proudly in the U.S. Navy Seabees during World War II, and

Whereas, after military service, he attended the Rochester Institute of Technology, earning a degree in printing management, and

Whereas, in 1956, Robert McWaters moved his family to the village of North Bennington, where he worked in the printing industry and became a civic leader, and

Whereas, a strong concern for the quality of public education motivated him to serve two terms on the Mt. Anthony School Board, and

Whereas, he served as a village trustee for 13 years, and his tenure as a planning commissioner continued for almost three decades, and

Whereas, during the years 1989–1992, Robert McWaters played a major role in revising the village’s master plan and zoning bylaws, and more recently, he was engaged in a new project updating these documents and codifying the village’s ordinances, and

Whereas, as a member of the Bennington Regional Commission, he served terms as secretary and chair, and

Whereas, Robert McWaters’ work was essential in the implementation of the E-911 emergency address system in North Bennington, and

Whereas, the set of monographs he created on aspects of the village’s government and citizens is a valuable historical resource, and

Whereas, in 2001, Robert McWaters was the recipient of the Ferdinand “Nundy” Bongartz Award for Community Planning and Service, and

Whereas, after a long life of community service, Robert McWaters died at the Vermont Veterans’ Home on July 19, 2015, and his survivors include his wife, Jeanne, his children, Alan, Bruce, and Kathy, his Fresh Air daughter, Diane, and four grandchildren, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the family of Robert James McWaters, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Robert McWaters’ wife, each of his children, and his Fresh Air daughter.

## **H.C.R. 267.**

House concurrent resolution honoring David Michael Green for his community service in Massachusetts and Vermont and, especially, in the towns of Barnard and Woodstock

Offered by: Representatives Zagar of Barnard and Clarkson of Woodstock

Offered by: Senator McCormack

Whereas, David Green graduated from Cornell University and studied mathematics, on the graduate level, at Stanford University and accounting at the University of Vermont, and

Whereas, for 27 years (1978–2005), he worked in Boston as a certified public accountant, becoming a partner at the international accounting firm PricewaterhouseCoopers (now known as PwC), and

Whereas, he served on the board of the Longy School of Music in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and

Whereas, upon retiring from the accounting profession, he moved with his wife to Barnard, and

Whereas, his professional background and experience in the nonprofit sector were soon called upon in his new community, and

Whereas, David Green's financial knowledge was a great resource for the town during his service as a Barnard lister, and

Whereas, his familiarity with academic governance matters resulted in his membership on the board of Barnard Academy, and

Whereas, in the town of Barnard, David Green has generously, tirelessly, and painstakingly worked to negotiate contract agreements and budgets that serve the best interests of the town's students, school employees, and taxpayers, and

Whereas, David Green also brought both his passion for public education and his financial acumen to his service on the boards of the Woodstock Union and the Windsor Central Supervisory Union school districts, and

Whereas, his interest in the arts and their public availability motivated him to serve on the boards of Woodstock's Norman Williams Public Library and Pentangle Arts Council, and

Whereas, his longstanding musical involvement is the source of a chamber music series that continues to delight listeners at its Woodstock concerts, and



Whereas, on Town Meeting Day 2016, the town of Barnard is honoring David Green for his laudable community service, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors David Michael Green for his community service in Massachusetts and Vermont and, especially, in the towns of Barnard and Woodstock, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to David Green.

### **H.C.R. 268.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Barnard Selectboard Chair Thomas R. Morse for his civic leadership

Offered by: Representative Zagar of Barnard

Offered by: Senator McCormack

Whereas, Tom Morse attended a one-room schoolhouse in Cornwall, graduated from Middlebury College, and pursued graduate studies at the University of Toronto, and

Whereas, he served honorably in the U.S. Air Force from 1964–1968, and

Whereas, in 1977, Tom Morse arrived in Barnard, and upon acquiring land for a home, his first task was to locate a water source and construct a well, and

Whereas, in 1985, Tom Morse’s reputation for hard work and integrity resulted in the Town of Barnard appointing him to serve on the Board of Adjustment, and

Whereas, this initial role in town government provided a foundation for Tom Morse’s election to the Barnard Selectboard in 1988, and

Whereas, during Tom Morse’s 28 years as a selectboard member, including while he was serving in his present role as chair, the town of Barnard has implemented a number of important projects, and

Whereas, these included the construction of a new town garage, the renovation of the town hall, the formal closing of the landfill, and the associated establishment of a recycle center and transfer station, and

Whereas, the Barnard Selectboard identified the community’s ancient roads, bringing greater historical accuracy to the town’s highway mapping, and

Whereas, a major responsibility for Tom Morse, and the entire selectboard, was supervising the town’s cleanup in the wake of Tropical Storm Irene that left considerable damage, and

Whereas, Tom Morse has presided at numerous selectboard meetings and participated in numerous community social events, and

Whereas, for many years, Tom Morse has written the selectboard news column for the Barnard Bulletin, employing both his wit and, when needed, a mild scolding, and

Whereas, after almost three decades of representing the citizens of Barnard on the selectboard, Tom Morse will not stand for reelection in 2016, and he hopes to devote his attention to recreational pursuits, especially bass fishing, bow hunting, and growing the perfect tomato, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Barnard Selectboard Chair Thomas R. Morse for his civic leadership, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Tom Morse.

#### **H.C.R. 269.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Tinmouth's civic-minded citizen, Hollis G. Squier

Offered by: Representatives Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Burditt of West Rutland, Potter of Clarendon, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Cupoli of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Gage of Rutland City, Haas of Rochester, Helm of Fair Haven, McCoy of Poultney, Russell of Rutland City, Shaw of Pittsford, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Whereas, Hollis Squier's father instilled in him a duty to assist those in need, and, at 15 years of age, Hollis Squier joined the Tinmouth Volunteer Fire Department, and

Whereas, for the past 45 years, he has served with pride as a department member, assistant chief, or chief, and

Whereas, Hollis Squier has served Tinmouth as a member of the planning commission and of the board of zoning adjustment and as town agent, and

Whereas, his tenure as Tinmouth Road Commissioner was certainly among the longest for any road commissioner in the State, and his accomplishments in this post were both immediate and of enduring importance, and

Whereas, the voters of Tinmouth first elected Hollis Squier as road commissioner in 1979, when he was 23 years of age, and his selection prompted comments that he was too young for the job, and

Whereas, despite the skepticism, he proved more than capable of meeting the job's challenges, and

Whereas, in 1979, Tinmouth's road-clearing vehicles consisted of the City of Montpelier's discarded 1948 trucks, and

Whereas, under Hollis Squier's leadership, the town modernized the fleet, established a regular vehicle replacement schedule, and created an equipment fund, and

Whereas, on inclement winter days, he would awaken at 3:00 a.m. to check the weather and determine whether road plowing was required, and

Whereas, in 1988, Hollis Squier was awarded statewide recognition when he was named Municipal Highway Person of the Year, and

Whereas, by December 31, 2015, when he retired as Tinmouth Road Commissioner, the condition of the town's highways had improved immensely, and

Whereas, Hollis Squier continues to serve enthusiastically in the unique municipal office of "Town Hugger," having gained international notoriety for his exceptional job performance, and

Whereas, Hollis Squier, deservedly, has been honored with a special dedication in the 2015 Tinmouth Annual Report, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Tinmouth's civic-minded citizen Hollis G. Squier, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Hollis Squier.

#### **H.C.R. 270.**

House concurrent resolution in memory of West Rutland Selectboard member Peter Bianchi

Offered by: Representatives Burditt of West Rutland and Potter of Clarendon

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, Peter Bianchi's ties to his hometown extended back to his youth, when he attended West Rutland High School, which he represented in the 1960 Shrine football game, and

Whereas, he had served in the Vermont National Guard and was a member of the American Legion, and

Whereas, Peter Bianchi had a deeply personal devotion to St. Bridget Church, where he volunteered on a regular basis, and

Whereas, in 1999, the voters of West Rutland elected Peter Bianchi to serve on the selectboard, believing he possessed the right combination of skills and temperament to be entrusted with this important civic duty, and

Whereas, Peter Bianchi proved to be a superb selectboard member, who performed his duties conscientiously and responsibly, and

Whereas, although he expressed personal opinions on issues of the day, Peter Bianchi was an attentive and enthusiastic listener, who regularly solicited and considered the viewpoints of his constituents, and

Whereas, when it came time to cast a vote, he always remembered the comments he had heard and was known as the voice of West Rutland, and

Whereas, on election day, Peter Bianchi was among the first to arrive at the polling station to help prepare it for the arrival of the citizenry to vote, and

Whereas, in 2006, when he had decided not to seek reelection, the voters still returned him to the selectboard based on a write-in vote, and

Whereas, Peter Bianchi took great pride in the infrastructure projects that were completed during his selectboard tenure, and

Whereas, when not involved in his various civic and religious activities, Peter Bianchi enjoyed spending time at his hunting camp, and

Whereas, Peter Bianchi, who cared enormously for his town's welfare and vitality, died recently, leaving his wife, Nancy, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the superb public service of Peter Bianchi and extends condolences to his wife and many friends in West Rutland, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Nancy Bianchi, the West Rutland Town Clerk, and St. Bridget Church.

#### **H.C.R. 271.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 St. Johnsbury Academy State championship girls' indoor track team

Offered by: Representatives Beck of St. Johnsbury, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Lawrence of Lyndon, Martel of Waterford, Quimby of Concord, and Toll of Danville

Offered by: Senators Benning and Kitchel

Whereas, the St. Johnsbury Academy girls' indoor track team excelled in 2014–2015 winning the State championship, and

Whereas, the 2015–2016 season proved equally exciting, starting with the team winning first-place honors at four regular season track meets, and

Whereas, 31 of the team's members qualified for the championship competition, held primarily on January 30 at Norwich University, and

Whereas, St. Johnsbury won nine of 16 events; placed at least two scorers in each individual event; scored a record 229 points, to become the first championship team to achieve the 200-point threshold; and, most importantly, won the 2016 State championship, and

Whereas, this superb team included Allison Peck, Bettina Hammer, Desiree Taylor, Grace Desrochers, Jess Brink, Kristin Baldauf, Athena Hendrick-Kelly, Hannah Ryan, Jillian Brochu, Julia Ash, Lauren Green, Quinnae Outerbridge, Viktoria Ishaque, Annie Cunningham, Bridget Webber, Grace Cooke, Hannah Wescott, Kateri Gibson, Katherine Cowan, Siniah Yates-Moses, Breanna Fearon, Callahan Beck, Emily Langham, Jen Rotti, Kaelynn Silver, Kaitlynn Girouard, Lia Rotti, Lizzy Gilmartin, Riley Higgs, and Taryn Tremblay, and

Whereas, Coach Chip Langmaid was an ideal mentor for the girls, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2016 St. Johnsbury Academy State championship girls' indoor track team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to St. Johnsbury Academy.

#### **H.C.R. 272.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Brian Kasten on winning the 2016 International Bowhunting Organization 3D Indoor World Championship

Offered by: Representatives Masland of Thetford and Briglin of Thetford

Whereas, Brian Kasten of Thetford Center has been an avid bow hunter since his youth, and

Whereas, as an adult, his bowhunting has not been limited to the forests of the State and the shooting of a live target, and

Whereas, Brian Kasten has applied his bowhunting expertise in the competitive arena, and

Whereas, since the 1990s, his accurate shooting has garnered him numerous state championships at bowhunting tournaments throughout the Northeastern United States, and

Whereas, Brian Kasten's long-term goal was to win the International Bowhunting Organization 3D Indoor World Championship (IBO3DIWC), and

Whereas, to achieve this special objective, he has worked intensively to improve his accuracy at hitting targets, and

Whereas, this additional training resulted in Brian Kasten raising his final ranking at the IBO3DIWC from 25th place in 2014 to 17th place in 2015, and

Whereas, while this improved placement was encouraging, his goal remained unmet, and

Whereas, in the months preceding the 2016 IBO3DIWC that took place in Cleveland, Ohio, on January 16, Brian Kasten further refined his bowmanship in preparation for this critical test of his skills, and

Whereas, in Cleveland, 22 of Brian Kasten's 40 shots were pinpoint on the target for a top score of 11 points per shot, and another nine shots earned him a near perfect score of 10, and

Whereas, Brian Kasten, who has served as the Vermont IBO state representative since 2004, was thrilled that his hard work had produced a great victory, and

Whereas, when not occupied with matters involving bows and arrows, Brian Kasten is the proprietor of the Supper Solution, a cooking business, and he is well acquainted with the culinary arts, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Brian Kasten on winning the 2016 International Bowhunting Organization 3D Indoor World Championship, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Brian Kasten.

**H.C.R. 273.**

House concurrent resolution designating March 10, 2016 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Day in Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Krebs of South Hero and Johnson of South Hero

Whereas, according to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (the Society), “multiple sclerosis [MS] is a chronic, unpredictable disease of the central nervous system [CNS],” and

Whereas, although symptoms can affect nearly any neurological function, the most common indicators of MS are “overwhelming fatigue, visual disturbances, altered sensation and difficulties with mobility,” and

Whereas, these symptoms result when a person’s “immune system produces inflammation within the CNS,” and

Whereas, MS affects more than 2.3 million persons worldwide, and

Whereas, in 1873, a British physician, Dr. Walter Moxon, recognized MS as a specific disease, and

Whereas, in 1925, Lord Edgar Douglas Adrian’s first recording of nerve transmissions provided a technological breakthrough for the study of MS, and

Whereas, two mid-20th century institutional advancements were Sylvia Lawry’s establishment of the Society in 1946 and the 1950 federal legislation creating what today is known as the National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke, and

Whereas, laboratory advances in the 1970s, treatment trials in the 1980s, and, more recently, the increasing sophistication of magnetic resonance imaging technology and the advancement of gene research have all expanded scientists’ understanding of MS, and

Whereas, new treatment options, along with improved health care and lifestyle changes, have extended the life expectancy for persons with MS, and

Whereas, despite these positive developments, MS continues to result in consequential and unwelcomed impacts on people’s lives, and more research is required to eradicate the disease, and

Whereas, representatives of the Greater New England Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society are visiting the State House today to inform members of the General Assembly about the challenges that MS poses for individuals and society at large, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly designates March 10, 2016 as Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Day in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Greater New England Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

### **H.C.R. 274.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Stephen Stearns for his artistic and community contributions at the New England Youth Theatre

Offered by: Representatives Burke of Brattleboro, Deen of Westminster, Hebert of Vernon, Long of Newfane, Mrowicki of Putney, Olsen of Londonderry, Partridge of Windham, Sibia of Dover, Stuart of Brattleboro, Toleno of Brattleboro, and Trieber of Rockingham

Offered by: Senators Balint and White

Whereas, as a youth, Stephen Stearns had dyslexia and became a champion for all who struggle to fit into society, and

Whereas, in 1975, he moved from New York City to a Vermont farm and envisioned establishing a children's theater, and

Whereas, not until 1998 did the dream of Stephen Stearns become a reality, when he established the New England Youth Theatre (NEYT) in Brattleboro, and

Whereas, NEYT's mission is to educate "the hearts, minds, bodies and voices of youth of all abilities through the dramatic arts," and its complementary motto is "of children, for children and by children," and

Whereas, on March 12, 1999, NEYT raised the curtain on its inaugural performance, a presentation of Shakespeare's *A Midsummer's Night Dream*, staged in the basement of Brattleboro's Centre Congregational Church, and

Whereas, in 2006, the NEYT acquired a former Brattleboro brake shoe factory, and, after a major renovation and environmental remediation, built a modern theater and education complex, and

Whereas, as of 2016, 1,621 children have participated in NEYT's education programs that teach children all aspects of the theatrical arts, and

Whereas, annually, NEYT stages more than 20 student-staffed productions, with youngsters assuming on- and off-stage roles and associated duties, and

Whereas, NEYT is an important economic resource in Brattleboro, featuring an almost \$1,000,000 annual budget, employing 46 full- or part-time staff, and hosting a beautiful theater facility that community groups book for film and stage events 36 weekends each year, and

Whereas, Stephen Stearns has worked with the nonprofit Maria's Children arts and rehabilitation organization in Russia, and



Whereas, on March 12, 2016, the NEYT will celebrate the career of Stephen Stearns, as he assumes the new role of NEYT's founder and trustee emeritus, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Stephen Stearns for his artistic and community contributions at the New England Youth Theatre, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Stephen Stearns.

### **H.C.R. 275.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Agron and Irena Gerdhuqi on the tenth anniversary of Olympic Pizza in Rutland City

Offered by: Representatives Tate of Mendon, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cupoli of Rutland City, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, McCoy of Poultney, Potter of Clarendon, Russell of Rutland City, Shaw of Pittsford, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Whereas, new Americans, whose goal is to achieve the American dream, often confront a challenging task, and

Whereas, Agron and Irena Gerdhuqi immigrated from their native country of Albania, seeking a better life in the United States, and

Whereas, the couple settled in Rutland City and, ten years ago, opened their own business, Olympic Pizza, and

Whereas, Agron and Irena Gerdhuqi are the sole proprietors of this small but bustling pizzeria that is the focus of their entrepreneurial energy, and

Whereas, they spend the entire business day, from opening till closing, creating luscious pizzas, waiting on customers, and attending to the managerial details associated with operating a successful small business, and

Whereas, producing the highest quality pizza and other products is of great importance for Agron and Irena Gerdhuqi, and they take tremendous pride in their work, to which they devote much care and effort, and

Whereas, Agron and Irena Gerdhuqi respect their employees' hard work, and the couple pays their employees above-average wages compared to those paid to persons working in similar positions at comparable businesses, and

Whereas, these small business owners have donated generously to local charities, and

Whereas, Agron and Irena Gerdhuqi have become irreplaceable members of their community and are a wonderful example of an immigrant couple that has worked hard to make a successful and meaningful life in their new homeland, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Agron and Irena Gerdhuqi on the tenth anniversary of Olympic Pizza in Rutland City, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Agron and Irena Gerdhuqi in Rutland City.

**H.C.R. 276.**

House concurrent resolution commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Vermont Air National Guard

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: All Members of the Senate

Whereas, as long ago as World War I, the Vermont National Guard included aviation units, and this remained true through World War II, and

Whereas, however, as World War II was concluding, the prospect of a National Guard aviation presence at the Burlington Airport was uncertain, and

Whereas, on May 28, 1946, the Burlington Board of Alderman voted to deed to the State of Vermont the needed land for the construction of two hangars and the rights of way to use the runways, and

Whereas, on July 1, 1946, the U.S. Army Air Force announced the establishment of the Vermont Air National Guard (VTANG), and

Whereas, the VTANG's first commanding officer was Lt. Colonel William Bowden, and the original contingent of veteran World War II pilots numbered 25, and

Whereas, on August 14, 1946, the U.S. Army Air Force designated the VTANG as the 134th Fighter Squadron, and the VTANG's dual mission included assisting in State disasters and emergencies and supporting federal aviation defense efforts, and

Whereas, the U.S. Army Air Force sent AT-6 and L-5 trainers, and a C-47 "Gooney bird" transport plane, but a fleet of far superior Thunderbolt aircraft arrived soon thereafter as replacements for the original airplanes, and

Whereas, in 1948, the Burlington electorate approved a \$150,000.00 bond as the city's contribution towards airport improvements, including needed runway extensions to meet the needs of military aircraft, and

Whereas, during the Korean War, the VTANG was federalized, the first of many foreign deployments for the Vermont-based pilots, and

Whereas, in 1956, the 134th Fighter Squadron was designated as the 158th Fighter Group (Air Defense), and in 1992, it was redesignated as the 158th Fighter Wing, and

Whereas, in 2016, as it observes its 70th anniversary, the VTANG, now flying F-16 aircraft, has evolved into a modern and sophisticated airborne military force that has served our State and country well in times of war and peace, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Vermont Air National Guard on its 70th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Colonel Patrick M. Guinee, Wing Commander 158th Fighter Wing, Vermont Air National Guard.

#### **H.C.R. 277.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2015 Proctor High School Phantoms Division IV championship boys' soccer team

Offered by: Representatives Potter of Clarendon, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cupoli of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Eastman of Orwell, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, Komline of Dorset, McCoy of Poultney, Russell of Rutland City, Shaw of Pittsford, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Whereas, soccer can be an exhausting and grueling sport for even the most talented players, and

Whereas, in a typical soccer game, a player may run a great distance, and

Whereas, at the 2015 Division IV championship boys' soccer game played in Bethel, in which the Proctor Phantoms competed against the Arlington Eagles, the usual 80 minutes of field time were hardly sufficient, and

Whereas, after being tied 1–1 at the conclusion of regulation play, and still similarly deadlocked after two 15-minute overtime periods, the two teams then required three rounds of penalty shootout competition before the Phantoms

emerged victorious, capturing the 2015 Division IV title, the 17th championship in the team's history, and

Whereas, the tired, but thrilled, Proctor players included Braedon Fox, Shaun Blanchard, Curtis Tomlinson, Elijah Akin, Andre Greb, Logan Landon, Gannon McKearin, Nick Ojala, Joe Parker, Derek Almond, Patrick Carroll, Nate Greb, Jacob Perkins, Dylan Scott, Solomon Parker, and Joe Valerio, and

Whereas, head coach Chad Wilson and assistant coaches Jay Wilson and John Ojala had taught the boys the patience and perseverance required to endure successfully through such an unusually lengthy championship contest, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2015 Proctor High School Division IV championship boys' soccer team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Proctor High School.

**H.C.R. 278.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Proctor High School Division IV 2015 championship girls' soccer team

Offered by: Representatives Potter of Clarendon, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cupoli of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Eastman of Orwell, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, Komline of Dorset, McCoy of Poultney, Russell of Rutland City, Shaw of Pittsford, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Whereas, the top-seeded Proctor Phantoms girls' soccer team had a great 2015 season, and, not surprisingly, won a berth in the Division IV championship game played in Bethel, and

Whereas, in this season finale, the Phantoms' challenge was to defeat the West Rutland Golden Horde, and

Whereas, despite Proctor's having won both prior 2015 encounters against West Rutland, each team was capable of playing great soccer, and

Whereas, the defensive quality of play was evident during the scoreless first half, but Proctor scored two quick successive goals in the second half, the first with 9:28 remaining in regulation play, to win the game 2-0 and capture the 2015 Division IV title, and

Whereas, the delighted Phantoms, who were treated to the traditional escort of champions back into Proctor, included Maddison French, Brittany Gates, Morgan Anderson, Abby McKearin, Olivia Valerio, Courtney Currier, Alexis Bride, Reilly Duggan, Erin Flanders, Lucy George, Elisabeth Tate, Maxine Tilden, Sierra Thornton, Alexandra Lear, Erica May, Arielle Oechsle, Meredith Parker, Emma Shaw, Grace Tate, Isabel Valerio, Lillian Lang, and Sarah Pecor, and

Whereas, coaches Chris Hughes and Scott French were superb instructors, and team manager Allie Blackmer always offered great support, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Proctor High School Division IV 2015 championship girls' soccer team, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Proctor High School.

**S.C.R. 39.**

Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Rutland Garden Club on its centennial anniversary.

*Whereas*, since its founding in 1915, the Rutland Garden Club (RGC) has sought to “provide a social framework for the sharing of information and ideas on gardening and floral design,” and

*Whereas*, the RGC seeks to stimulate the public’s interest in all phases of gardening, and

*Whereas*, its continuing activities include the design, planting, and maintenance of the Rutland City gardens and downtown spaces and offering garden therapy services, and

*Whereas*, as a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of Vermont, Inc., the RGC is able to exchange ideas with other garden clubs throughout the State, and

*Whereas*, a highlight of the RGC’s centennial celebration was the holding of a standard (competitive and educational) flower show, and

*Whereas*, the RGC’s 2015 standard flower show, entitled “Song of the Seasons,” was held May 30–31, 2015 at the Vermont Marble Museum in Proctor and included Division I (judged floral designs), Division II (over 100 judged horticultural exhibits, including perennials), and Division III (special exhibits on bees, Vermont’s endangered and invasive plants, and home solar technology), and

*Whereas*, other centennial celebrations included raising funds to refurbish the Veterans' Blue Star Highway historic marker in the Woodstock Avenue Blue Star Garden and arranging for a commemorative planting marking the 100th anniversary of the placement of the Ethan Allen Green Mountain Boy sculpture in Rutland's Main Street Park, and

*Whereas*, RGC looks forward to its second century of leading the way in the beautification of Rutland and promoting interesting floral and horticultural projects, *now therefore be it*

***Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:***

That the General Assembly congratulates the Rutland Garden Club 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 Rutland Garden Club.