

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

**ADDENDUM**

**TO THE**

**HOUSE CALENDAR**

**Text of House and Senate  
Concurrent Resolutions**

**of**

**April 28, 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. 363.**

House concurrent resolution in memory of former Representative and Senator John C. Page of Bennington and his wife, Marjorie Page

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Botzow of Pownal, Browning of Arlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Komline of Dorset, and Morris of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, John Page's extensive career as an agricultural educator, combined with his multifaceted civic leadership, gave him a unique perspective on life in Vermont, and

Whereas, his primary schooling took place in Lamoille County, where his parents were subsistence farmers during the Great Depression, and he attended the Vermont State School of Agriculture in Randolph Center, and

Whereas, John Page served in Europe as a U.S. Army field artillery sergeant and military police officer during World War II, seeing the horrors of the Nazi death camps and guarding both the local population and valuable art treasures in Vienna in the war's immediate aftermath, and

Whereas, once home in Vermont, he earned an undergraduate degree in agronomy from the University of Vermont (UVM) and then a master's from Ohio State University, and

Whereas, after working briefly for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service, John Page began a three-decade plus role as the UVM Agricultural Extension Agent in Bennington County, and

Whereas, John Page's professional duties led to his collaboration with local farmers and agricultural organizations, including the Farm Bureau and the Grange, and in his frequent WBTN Radio reports, he always reminded listeners, "don't forget to drink your milk," and

Whereas, in recognition of his distinguished service, the UVM Extension Service awarded John Page the Sinclair Cup, and

Whereas, he cofounded and served on the Bennington Regional Planning Commission, served on the Vermont Environmental Board, and was instrumental in the planting of many trees in downtown Bennington, and

Whereas, John Page was a Bennington poll worker, justice of the peace, State Representative (1987–1988), and State Senator (1989–1992), and

Whereas, he was president of the Board of Directors of the Merck Forest Foundation, a trustee of the Second Congregational Church in Bennington, and held memberships in several fraternal organizations, and

Whereas, on September 7, 2015, John Page died at 91 years of age, and his wife of 59 years, Marjorie, died on November 9, 2015, and their survivors include their children, Sarah, Nancy, Mark, and Paul, five grandchildren, and his brother, Charles, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly extends its condolences to the Page family and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the members of John Page’s family.

#### **H.C.R. 364.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Windsor High School team on winning the 2016 3D Vermont architecture competition

Offered by: Representatives Sweaney of Windsor and Bartholomew of Hartland

Whereas, computer-generated 3D architectural models offer an exciting in-depth dimension to the understanding of a building’s structural design, and

Whereas, the 3D Vermont architecture competition challenges teams of students from middle and high schools to research and then create 3D models of historic buildings in their communities, and

Whereas, students were required to prepare multimedia presentations detailing the history of the selected buildings and the process used in designing their architectural model, and

Whereas, at the March 25 competition, held at Vermont Technical College in Randolph, the judging panel included members with expertise in architecture, historic preservation, and technology, and

Whereas, the Windsor team selected the former Vermont State Prison, originally constructed in 1809, as their historic building, and

Whereas, the students toured the building, researched its history, and interviewed former prison employees, and

Whereas, the Windsor students built their model based on historical materials, recreating the building as a prison even though it ceased serving that role in 1975 and is now a retirement home, and

Whereas, the students created an informative website, including a great timeline relating the building's history, and

Whereas, the judges were impressed with this innovative application of historic materials and awarded the Windsor team first place, marking the second consecutive year Windsor has won this demanding competition, and

Whereas, the creative and diligent Windsor 3D architecture team members included Maurice Day, Brianna Diggs, Asa Gaddis, Serene Martens, Vincent Moeykens, and Alexander Townsend, and

Whereas, guiding the students were Windsor High School faculty member Aaron Day and American Precision Museum staff member Sarah Rooker, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Windsor High School team on winning the 2016 3D Vermont architecture competition, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Windsor High School and the American Precision Museum.

**H.C.R. 365.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Windsor public schools' student winners of the 2016 State Science Fair

Offered by: Representatives Sweaney of Windsor and Bartholomew of Hartland

Whereas, Windsor High School's (WHS) first-place team finish at the 2016 State Science Fair, held at Norwich University, continued the school's history of excelling at this prestigious academic event, and

Whereas, for the second consecutive year, WHS sophomore Vincent Moeykens earned the top individual award, the honor of representing Vermont at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in May in Phoenix, Arizona, and

Whereas, his 2016 project involved the use of open-source software to monitor and adjust the temperature at his home from a remote computer, and

Whereas, he also earned \$200.00, a gold medal from the Vermont Principals Association, a U.S. Navy and Marines award, and recognition for excellence in computer science, and

Whereas, junior Megan Roberts also won a gold medal from the Vermont Principals Association, an award from the American Psychological Association, and a trip to Washington, D.C. as the recipient of an Intel prize, and

Whereas, Megan Roberts and classmates Will Jaarsma, also a U.S. Navy and Marines award winner, and Brooke Winter were among the top five junior competitors, earning each of these students a \$20,000.00 scholarship to attend Norwich University, and

Whereas, freshman Brooke McKeen was honored with several awards, including a prize from the American Meteorological Society, and sophomore Ben Millard earned \$300.00 from ALLEarth Renewables, and

Whereas, Windsor silver medal winners included sophomore Lysle Nelson and State Street School sixth-graders Eliot Rupp and Karen Kapuscinski, and

Whereas, faculty advisor and biology teacher Catherine Engwall assisted the team's members as they prepared for this rigorous statewide competition, and mathematics teacher Jen Townsend continues to encourage WHS students to explore the exciting future that can await them in science, technology, mathematics, and engineering, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Windsor public schools' student winners of the 2016 State Science Fair, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each student honored in this resolution and to Windsor High School faculty members Catherine Engwall and Jen Townsend.

**H.C.R. 366.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Nancy Remsen, on the conclusion of her journalism career, as a fair, perceptive, and thoughtful reporter and editor

Offered by: All Members of the House

Offered by: Senators Ashe, Ayer, Balint, Baruth, Benning, Bray, Campbell, Campion, Collamore, Cummings, Degree, Doyle, Flory, Kitchel, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Mullin, Nitka, Pollina, Riehle, Rodgers, Sears, Sirotkin, Starr, Westman, White, and Zuckerman

Whereas, Nancy Remsen is a journalist of the highest order, who, for many years, worked diligently to provide the *Burlington Free Press*, WCAX, and *Seven Days* audiences with accurate and fair coverage of the General Assembly's deliberations as well as of developments in the Executive Branch, and

Whereas, she is a Middlebury College graduate and earned a master's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri, and

Whereas, after starting her professional career at the Associated Press, Nancy Remsen joined the staff of the *Bangor Daily News*, where she served for 20 years as a reporter and an editor, and

Whereas, in the middle 1990s, Nancy Remsen came to the *Burlington Free Press* as an assistant metro editor and subsequently began reporting on the State House beat, and

Whereas, on the digital front, she contributed to the *Burlington Free Press's* vt.Buzz blog, and

Whereas, this excellent reporter could slip in and out of a legislative committee meeting and not disturb the proceedings, and

Whereas, Nancy Remsen earned the respect of Vermont's legislators for her reportorial impartiality, and

Whereas, Nancy Remsen is an individual for whom professional integrity and self-respect are paramount, and

Whereas, she always took the time to understand complex issues and translate them for a wider Vermont audience, with the goal of informing citizens about their government, and

Whereas, Nancy Remsen showed her versatility and value in transitioning in 2015, after 19 years with the *Burlington Free Press*, to working as a reporter for WCAX television and for the Burlington-based news and arts magazine *Seven Days*, before she joined *Seven Days* full-time in 2016, and

Whereas, the banging of the final gavel of the 2016 General Assembly session will mark the conclusion of Nancy Remsen's distinguished journalism career, and many legislators will miss her accurate and fair reporting, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Nancy Remsen, on the conclusion of her journalism career, as a fair, perceptive, and thoughtful reporter and editor and wishes her all the best in her future endeavors, and be it further

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

### **H.C.R. 367.**

House concurrent resolution expressing sincere appreciation for the presence of General Electric's Aviation and Healthcare units in Vermont and for their major contribution to the State's economy

Offered by: Representatives Fagan of Rutland City, Devereux of Mount Holly, Bancroft of Westford, Baser of Bristol, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Beyor of Highgate, Brennan of Colchester, Browning of Arlington, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Condon of Colchester, Corcoran of Bennington, Cupoli of Rutland City, Dakin of Colchester, Dame of Essex, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Donahue of Northfield, Evans of Essex, Feltus of Lyndon, Fiske of Enosburgh, Forguites of Springfield, French of Randolph, Gage of Rutland City, Gamache of Swanton, Graham of Williamstown, Head of South Burlington, Hebert of Vernon, Helm of Fair Haven, Higley of Lowell, Hubert of Milton, Huntley of Cavendish, Jerman of Essex, Johnson of South Hero, Juskiewicz of Cambridge, Keenan of St. Albans City, Krebs of South Hero, LaClair of Barre Town, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Lenex of Shelburne, Lewis of Berlin, Macaig of Williston, Martel of Waterford, McCoy of Poultney, McCullough of Williston, McFaun of Barre Town, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Morrissey of Bennington, Myers of Essex, Nuovo of Middlebury, Parent of St. Albans Town, Patt of Worcester, Pearce of Richford, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Purvis of Colchester, Quimby of Concord, Ram of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Scheuermann of Stowe, Sharpe of Bristol, Shaw of Pittsford, Shaw of Derby, Sibilina of Dover, Smith of New Haven, Strong of Albany, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sweaney of Windsor, Tate of Mendon, Terenzini of Rutland Town, Toll of Danville, Townsend of South Burlington, Trieber of Rockingham, Troiano of Stannard, Turner of Milton, Van Wyck of Ferrisburgh, Viens of Newport City, Walz of Barre City, Webb of Shelburne, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, Wright of Burlington, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Offered by: Senators Ashe, Ayer, Balint, Benning, Bray, Campbell, Champion, Collamore, Cummings, Degree, Doyle, Flory, Lyons, MacDonald, Mazza, McCormack, Mullin, Nitka, Pollina, Sears, Sirotkin, Starr, Westman, and White

Whereas, General Electric (GE) is an American manufacturing company that traces its history to Thomas Edison, the inventor of the incandescent light bulb, who established the Edison Electric Light Company in 1878 that by 1890 was known as the Edison General Electric Company, and

Whereas, in 1892, the Edison General Electric Company merged with its main competitor, the Thomson-Houston Company, to form the General Electric Company (GE) that has operated for 124 years, and

Whereas, since the 1950s, Rutland has been an important site for GE employment, and today the company, through its GE Aviation unit, operates a 528,000-square-foot plant on Windcrest Road in Rutland Town and a smaller manufacturing facility on Columbian Avenue in Rutland City, and

Whereas, the Rutland plants produce some of the best jet engines in the world, including the GENx that powers the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, and

Whereas, in recent years, GE has invested \$100 million in the Rutland plants, and

Whereas, over 1,000 people are employed at GE in Rutland, working in jobs regarded as the highest paid manufacturing positions in the region, and

Whereas, these employees are local and State taxpayers and contribute to the Rutland and Vermont economy when they purchase homes, goods, and services, and

Whereas, Rutland is not GE's only Vermont employment location as its GE Healthcare unit in South Burlington employs 340 persons and does approximately \$40 million worth of business with dozens of suppliers of parts and services across the State, and

Whereas, GE Aviation and GE Healthcare are important to the State's economic well-being, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly expresses sincere appreciation for the presence of General Electric's Aviation and Healthcare units in Vermont and for their major contribution to the State's economy, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to GE Aviation in Rutland, GE Healthcare in South Burlington, and to GE corporate headquarters in Fairfield, Connecticut.

### **H.C.R. 368.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2016 Mt. Anthony Union High School Patriots State championship wrestling team

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

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears



Whereas, entering the 2015–2016 wrestling season, the Mt. Anthony Union High School (MAU) Patriots were defending the team’s extraordinary State championship record that has endured for 27 consecutive years, and

Whereas, 31-year veteran Coach Scott Legacy had announced that this would be his final MAU season, motivating the team to end the famed Patriot coach’s career with a State championship, and

Whereas, the wrestlers strove all season to perfect their skills and be ready for the decisive championship meet at Mill River Union High School, and

Whereas, the Patriots did not disappoint their famous coach, as the team soared to nearly unimagined heights amassing an astounding 311 points, 147 more than second-place Champlain Valley Union High School, and bringing home to MAU the school’s 28th consecutive wrestling State championship, and

Whereas, these dedicated Patriot wrestlers included Tyler Burgess, Bryce Bush, Calvin Call, Noah Call, Colin Crowley, Calvin Hayford, Dakota King, Chris Mayer, Gage McLaughlin, Zac Oldham, Austin Prendergast, Tyler Raetz, Sebastian Rocher, Dylan Ross, Zack Sauer, Tyson Sauer, Ashdin Schaefer, Keenan Taylor, and Andre Wright, and

Whereas, the all-important and detailed-oriented team statisticians were Mackenzie Glanovsky, Mariah Sauer-Yerke, Anna Jacobs, Taylor Bushee, Nikia Hebbard, and Sabrina Weber, and

Whereas, Head Coach Scott Legacy, and Assistant Coaches Brian Coon, Frank Gaudette, Bucky Noyes, Dan Pierce, Steve Forrest, and Jimmy Zupko were each superb contributors to the team’s success, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the 2016 Mt. Anthony Union High School Patriots State championship wrestling team, and be it further

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

**H.C.R. 369.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating recent Vermont recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award

Offered by: Representatives O’Brien of Richmond, Dame of Essex, Evans of Essex, Jerman of Essex, Macaig of Williston, McCullough of Williston, Nuovo of Middlebury, and Sheldon of Middlebury

Whereas, in 1916, the Girl Scouts created a special project-based award for high school-age Scouts as the organization's highest honor known as the Golden Eaglet (1916–1939), the Curved Bar Award (1940–1963), First Class (1963–1980), and, beginning in 1980, the Gold Award, and

Whereas, to be welcomed into this elite group of Girl Scouts, the aspiring Gold Award recipient must compete a seven-step project that includes identifying an issue, investigating it thoroughly, getting help and building a team, creating a plan, presenting the plan and gathering feedback, taking action, and finally educating and inspiring others, and

Whereas, in 2016, as the Girl Scouts observe the centennial anniversary of their highest award, five Vermonters are being honored as Gold Award recipients, and

Whereas, Carolyn Balparda of Middlebury (Honey Bee Help in Addison) examined the disappearance of the honey bee in Addison County and what the home gardener can do to help, and

Whereas, Katherine Dempsey of Williston (Sailing and Science on Lake Champlain) taught youngsters how to sail and developed lesson about science and ecology on the lake that the Sailing Center at Lake Champlain will use, and

Whereas, Sarah Dramstad of Essex Junction (Courtyard Care) built two picnic tables in the Essex High School courtyard as a place for students to relax and enjoy the outdoor environment, and

Whereas, Gabrielle Fenton of Milton (Mural for Happiness) attempted to decrease local teenage drug use, help people who have depression, and created a mural and art classes to inspire happiness, and

Whereas, Kristyn Van Allen of Essex Junction (Signs for Local Cross Country Course) placed useful informational signs along Essex High School's cross country course, created an aerial map of the course, and is conducting a community race to publicize the course as a great place to run, and

Whereas, each of these young Vermonters brought creativity and initiative to projects that merited their being presented the Girl Scout Gold Award, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates recent Vermont recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to each of the Girl Scouts honored in this resolution.

### **H.C.R. 370.**

House concurrent resolution welcoming Shen Yun Performing Arts to Vermont

Offered by: Representatives Wood of Waterbury, Bissonnette of Winooski, Clarkson of Woodstock, Cole of Burlington, Conquest of Newbury, Corcoran of Bennington, Dakin of Chester, Dakin of Colchester, Head of South Burlington, LaLonde of South Burlington, Lenos of Shelburne, Lippert of Hinesburg, Long of Newfane, Martin of Wolcott, McCullough of Williston, Miller of Shaftsbury, Morris of Bennington, Nuovo of Middlebury, Partridge of Windham, Potter of Clarendon, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Russell of Rutland City, Stevens of Waterbury, Sullivan of Burlington, Townsend of South Burlington, Troiano of Stannard, Walz of Barre City, and Yantachka of Charlotte

Whereas, China was once known as Shen Zhou, the divine land, a place in which mortals and deities lived together, and where it was believed the divine transmitted a rich culture to earthly mortals, and

Whereas, Buddhist and Taoist practices, among others, contributed to the glorious culture of China in many disciplines, including music and dance, and

Whereas, during the past 60 years, any trace of classical Chinese culture has been blocked in China, and

Whereas, the world nearly lost this amazing cultural legacy, but in 2006, a group of talented classical Chinese performers formed the nonprofit and independent New York-based Shen Yun Performing Arts to ensure this special culture's continuity and accessibility, and

Whereas, Shen Yun performs classical Chinese dance and music in beautifully choreographed and costumed sequences with enthusiasm, precision, and much respect, and

Whereas, for six months each year, Shen Yun travels around the world delighting audiences with the group's historically accurate and dazzling performances, and

Whereas, Shen Yun Performing Arts is recognized as the world's premiere classical Chinese dance and music company, and

Whereas, Vermonters will have the opportunity to attend a Shen Yun performance on May 7, 2016 at the Flynn Theater in Burlington, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly welcomes Shen Yun Performing Arts to Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Shen Yen Performing Arts.

**H.C.R. 371.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Dismas of Vermont on its 30th anniversary

Offered by: Representatives Head of South Burlington, Briglin of Thetford, Browning of Arlington, Cole of Burlington, Donovan of Burlington, Emmons of Springfield, Fiske of Enosburgh, Frank of Underhill, Gonzalez of Winooski, Hooper of Montpelier, Krowinski of Burlington, Lenes of Shelburne, Lippert of Hinesburg, Lucke of Hartford, Morrissey of Bennington, O'Brien of Richmond, O'Sullivan of Burlington, Pugh of South Burlington, Rachelson of Burlington, Savage of Swanton, Stevens of Waterbury, Stuart of Brattleboro, Sullivan of Burlington, Tate of Mendon, and Walz of Barre City

Whereas, Dismas of Vermont was established in December of 1986 with a mission to reconcile prisoners with society and society with prisoners, and

Whereas, this valuable program of reconciliation has grown to serve Vermont communities in Dismas Houses in Burlington, Rutland, Winooski, and Hartford, and

Whereas, Dismas Houses are mutually supportive, diverse communities designed to end the stigma of incarceration and facilitate the reintegration of former prisoners into community life, and

Whereas, these special places of residence mix former inmates with college students, who are also experiencing life transitions, and with members of International Volunteers for Peace, and

Whereas, at Dismas Houses, there is a spirit of open and participative decision making, and

Whereas, over 500 volunteers assist in many activities at Dismas Houses, and

Whereas, Dismas of Vermont supports and emphasizes the reentry of former prisoners into the workforce in a broad array of businesses and services, and

Whereas, partnerships are maintained with the Department of Corrections, the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, the Vermont Community Foundation, and numerous social service agencies and faith communities, and

Whereas, Dismas of Vermont also has a strong record of private fundraising and many loyal donors, and

Whereas, an important role of Dismas of Vermont is supporting residents who are struggling to overcome addictions to alcohol and drugs, as well as those coping with mental illness and other disabilities, and

Whereas, the reconciliation of families, including parents and children, which incarceration has divided, is a central element of the Dismas program, and

Whereas, Dismas of Vermont is a critical partner in the effort to reduce incarceration and foster the reintegration of the formerly incarcerated into Vermont society, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Dismas of Vermont on its 30th anniversary, and be it further

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

#### **H.C.R. 372.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Montshire Museum in Norwich on the 40th anniversary of its opening

Offered by: Representatives Briglin of Thetford, Masland of Thetford, Bartholomew of Hartland, Buxton of Tunbridge, Clarkson of Woodstock, Copeland-Hanzas of Bradford, Dakin of Chester, Lucke of Hartford, Sweaney of Windsor, and Zagar of Barnard

Whereas, the Montshire Museum (Montshire), with a unique name incorporating the final syllables of the two states bordering the Connecticut River, was incorporated in 1974 to “encourage a lifelong interest in science through exhibits and programming dedicated to hands-on discovery,” and

Whereas, on January 10, 1976, the Montshire Museum opened in its temporary home, a former bowling alley, in Hanover with minimal exhibits, and

Whereas, in 1980, the Montshire earned the designation as the nation’s first public service science center, and

Whereas, seeking a permanent and more commodious location, in 1984 the Montshire purchased 100 acres along the Connecticut River in Norwich and on November 18, 1989, more than 3,000 persons attended the new building’s grand opening, and

Whereas, in 1994, the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded the Montshire a grant for Model Projects for Women and Girls in Science and Mathematics: Science Horizons, and the NSF has awarded the Montshire additional grants for special projects, and

Whereas, in 1995, the Montshire was designated an official interpretive center for the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, and

Whereas, also in 1995, at a White House ceremony, the Institute of Museum and Library Services presented the Montshire the National Award for Museum Service, and

Whereas, in 2002, Dartmouth College and the Montshire created the Dartmouth-Montshire Institute for Science Education to enhance the quality of science education in Vermont and New Hampshire, and

Whereas, that same year, the Montshire opened its 10,000-square-foot Leonard M. Reiser Learning Center, which included new exhibit space, a classroom for visiting school groups, and a multimedia theater, and

Whereas, in 2012, the Montshire was ranked fourth among the top science and technology museums in the country, and

Whereas, in 2015, the Montshire welcomed 166,648 visitors, including students from 242 schools, and it continues to create award-winning and innovative exhibits and programs and is a fun place to visit, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Montshire Museum on the 40th anniversary of its opening, and be it further

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

### **H.C.R. 373.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center for its award-winning renal care services

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Botzow of Pownal, Browning of Arlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Komline of Dorset, Miller of Shaftsbury, and Morris of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Champion and Sears

Whereas, medical treatment of the human kidney is referred to as renal care, and the practice of this specialized form of medicine is known as nephrology, and

Whereas, this medical specialty is given special attention and importance at the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC) Renal Dialysis Department (the Department), and

Whereas, the quality of care the Department offers its patients is of the highest standard, and

Whereas, the End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network of New England recognizes renal care facilities in the region “that have contributed significantly to both the ESRD community and to Network activities throughout the year,” and

Whereas, this recognition is manifested in the organization’s IPRO (Improving Health Care for the Community Good) ESRD Network of New England Excellence Award, and

Whereas, in 2014 and 2015, the Department was a recipient of this special award in recognition of its meeting high standards in various specialized statistical reporting categories, and

Whereas, in April 2015, the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission presented the Department with a 2014 Nephrology Nursing Certification Advocacy Award in recognition that the Department “values certification as a way to promote patient safety and improve the quality of care provided to nephrology patients,” and

Whereas, these awards reflect SVMC’s commitment to serving its patients in the best way possible, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center for its award-winning renal care services, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center.

**H.C.R. 374.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center on its receipt of a fourth Magnet recognition

Offered by: Representatives Morrissey of Bennington, Botzow of Pownal, Browning of Arlington, Corcoran of Bennington, Fields of Bennington, Komline of Dorset, Miller of Shaftsbury, and Morris of Bennington

Offered by: Senators Campion and Sears

Whereas, in December 1990, the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), a subsidiary of the American Nurses Association, established the Magnet Hospital Recognition Program for Excellence in Nursing Services, and

Whereas, in 2002, this special credential was renamed the Magnet Recognition Program, and

Whereas, the demanding evaluation process can discourage smaller hospitals from applying, and

Whereas, despite these challenges, the small Southwestern Vermont Medical Center (SVMC), located in Bennington, decided to pursue this coveted designation, and

Whereas, having earned Magnet recognition in 2002, 2006, and 2010, the outstanding nursing team at SVMC was prepared to try again, and

Whereas, a Magnet recognition applicant must address over 90 standards and supply evidence supporting claims of compliance, and

Whereas, a team of four Magnet specialists visited SVMC for two and one-half days, meeting with the SVMC nursing staff as well as with the hospital's department heads, community members, and even college professors, and

Whereas, the Magnet evaluation cited three exemplary SVMC initiatives: transitional care nursing; the hospital's community care team; and the Safe Arms program that prevents infants who are withdrawing from opiates from being transferred to hospitals farther away from their families, and

Whereas, the impressed Magnet specialists were pleased to award SVMC its fourth Magnet recognition, making the Bennington-based hospital one of only 31 worldwide, one of three in New England, to be similarly honored, and

Whereas, reflecting the participatory culture at SVMC, and in a departure from the typical ANCC practice, the good news was delivered to a large group of SVMC staff viewing an online video conference call announcement on a hospital laptop, and

Whereas, SVMC can be proud of the special achievement of earning a fourth Magnet recognition, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center on its receipt of a fourth Magnet recognition, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Southwestern Vermont Medical Center.



### **H.C.R. 375.**

House concurrent resolution honoring James Harrison of Chittenden for his exemplary leadership of the Vermont Retail & Grocers Association

Offered by: All Members of the House

Whereas, Jim Harrison began working in the grocery business as a high school student, earning a degree in business and food marketing at Cornell University, and

Whereas, his first grocery store managerial position was for Martin's, which became a Hannaford Supermarket, and

Whereas, in 1987, he moved to Vermont to become the Vermont Grocers Association (VGA) President, and

Whereas, Jim Harrison established a presence in the State House, earning the name "The Hammer" for his tenacity and passion for advocating on retail, food, and business issues, including the effective use of props, and

Whereas, in 1999, after the Vermont Petroleum Association (VPA) disassociated from a national organization, Jim Harrison was instrumental in bringing the VPA into the VGA organizational family, and

Whereas, in 2011, Jim Harrison relocated the VGA's offices to Montpelier in order to be closer to the State House, and

Whereas, in 2013, he orchestrated the successful merger of the Vermont Retail Association into the VGA, creating a solid association now known as the Vermont Retail & Grocers Association (VRGA), and

Whereas, recognizing that general and country stores are a key component of Vermont grocery and general retailing, Jim Harrison's leadership has centered on the premise that the association is only as strong as its smallest member, and

Whereas, Jim Harrison transformed the association's scholarship golf outing into a not-to-be-missed business and recreational event, and

Whereas, Jim Harrison is nationally known as an expert on the scope of Vermont laws and rules affecting grocers and other retailers, and

Whereas, he has visited regularly with VRGA members statewide, and

Whereas, after 28 years of distinguished service as president of the VGA/VRGA, Jim Harrison will retire on December 31, 2016 and hopes to spend quality time with his children, Ben and Robin, and grandchildren, Luke and Graham, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors James Harrison of Chittenden for his exemplary leadership of the Vermont Retail & Grocers Association, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jim Harrison and to the Vermont Retail & Grocers Association.

**H.C.R. 376.**

House concurrent resolution honoring Gary Rutkowski for his 40 years of outstanding editorial leadership at the *St. Albans Messenger*

Offered by: Representatives Keenan of St. Albans City, Dickinson of St. Albans Town, Parent of St. Albans Town, Beyor of Highgate, Branagan of Georgia, Connor of Fairfield, Fiske of Enosburgh, Gamache of Swanton, Murphy of Fairfax, Pearce of Richford, and Savage of Swanton

Offered by: Senator Degree

Whereas, Gary Rutkowski first manifested his journalistic acumen as editor of the Stevens Point Area Senior High School *Mirror*, and

Whereas, he reaffirmed his affinity for overseeing a news operation at the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point (UW–SP) as editor of the *Pointer*, and

Whereas, in 1974, having graduated from UW–SP, Gary Rutkowski and his wife, Cindy, headed for Vermont, where he accepted a position with the Vermont Publishing Company, the parent company of the *St. Albans Messenger*, with assignments at its sister papers the *Vermont Sunday News* and the *Colchester-Winooski News*, and

Whereas, the couple first envisioned staying of only two or three years, but their life path had led them home, and

Whereas, in 1975, the Vermont Publishing Company closed both the *Vermont Sunday News* and the *Colchester-Winooski News*, but fortunately Gary Rutkowski's future with the company was hardly over as he was offered a reporter's position at the *St. Albans Messenger*, and

Whereas, Gary Rutkowski's work in St. Albans impressed his supervisors, and just a year later, in 1976, he was named the *Messenger's* executive editor, a role that continued unabated for the next four decades, and

Whereas, in 1981, Emerson Lynn purchased the Vermont Publishing Company, and recognizing Gary Rutkowski's superb editorial leadership, retained him as the *Messenger's* editor, and

Whereas, during Gary Rutkowski's 40-year leadership at the *Messenger*, the paper won many journalism honors, including three that were awarded personally to its respected editor, epitomizing his strong belief in the local ownership of newspapers, and

Whereas, on March 30, 2016, Gary Rutkowski put the *St. Albans Messenger* to bed for his final time, concluding a career that has earned its editor great esteem in the community and from its publisher, Emerson Lynn, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors Gary Rutkowski for his 40 years of outstanding editorial leadership at the *St. Albans Messenger*, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Gary Rutkowski and to the *St. Albans Messenger*.

#### **H.C.R. 377.**

House concurrent resolution recognizing the economic vibrancy of the Northeast Kingdom

Offered by: Representatives Marcotte of Coventry, Batchelor of Derby, Beck of St. Johnsbury, Feltus of Lyndon, Higley of Lowell, Lawrence of Lyndon, Lefebvre of Newark, Martel of Waterford, Quimby of Concord, Shaw of Derby, Strong of Albany, Toll of Danville, Troiano of Stannard, Viens of Newport City, Willhoit of St. Johnsbury, and Young of Glover

Offered by: Senators Benning, Kitchel, Rodgers, and Starr

Whereas, the Northeast Kingdom (NEK), traditionally defined as Caledonia, Essex, and Orleans Counties, is a term that U.S. Senator George Aiken popularized in a 1950 address at the organizational meeting of the Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA), a regional development corporation, and

Whereas, the NVDA is an important economic catalyst for a region inhabited by hard-working Vermonters, where the harsh climate and largely rural landscape pose both economic challenges and opportunities, and

Whereas, other regional organizations that partner with the NVDA to develop a productive regional economic infrastructure include the Small Business Development Center, the Northeast Kingdom Collaborative, the Northeast Kingdom Travel and Tourism Association, and the North Country Chamber of Commerce, and

Whereas, the NEK includes persevering entrepreneurs such as Pete Johnson of Craftsbury, who rebuilt his well-known Pete's Greens into an even better agricultural business, following a devastating fire, and

Whereas, the recently completed 1,000-foot runway extension at the newly renamed Northeast Kingdom International Airport promises enhanced private and commercial aviation access and exciting new economic opportunities, and

Whereas, Foreign Trade Zone 286 facilitates international commerce, due to its special legal provisions that modify or eliminate various U.S. Customs delays, payments, and restrictions, and

Whereas, the NEK has benefited from State and federal programs such as the Vermont Economic Development Authority, Community Development Block Grants, and U.S. Department of Agriculture support, including rural development grants and the creation of the Northeast Kingdom Rural Economic Area Partnership Zone, and

Whereas, the NEK has much to offer in economic potential for future growth and prosperity, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the economic vibrancy of the Northeast Kingdom, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Northeastern Vermont Development Association, the North Country Chamber of Commerce, and the Agency of Commerce and Community Development.

#### **H.C.R. 378.**

House concurrent resolution congratulating Rutland's United Neighborhoods Community Justice Center on its 15th anniversary

Offered by: Representatives Russell of Rutland City, 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, Shaw of Pittsford, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, in 2001, the Mayor of Rutland City and the Rutland City Police Department supported the establishment of a new organization to be known as Rutland's United Neighborhoods Community Justice Center (RUNCJC), and

Whereas, the organization “works with a coalition of neighbors and the Agency of Human Services to provide and promote active representation, mutual respect and shared responsibility for the safe and healthy neighborhoods and community,” and

Whereas, RUNCJC has identified four Rutland City neighborhoods in which it facilitates community dialogue and addresses issues of concern, and

Whereas, the types of issues RUNCJC works on in these neighborhoods include establishing safer speeds on local streets and reducing noise levels, and

Whereas, each neighborhood has a coordinator and a police liaison to work with the local citizenry, and

Whereas, on a citywide basis, and in collaboration with the Rutland City Police and the Department of Corrections (DOC), RUNCJC offers educational and informational assistance in a number of areas, including facilitating restorative justice panels to create a mutually agreeable resolution to juvenile and adult offenses; through support of a DOC planning grant, operating an offender reentry program that balances the needs of crime victims and released offenders; coordinating a community mediation process that assists neighbors in resolving conflicts; and overseeing special events, including cosponsoring a National Night Out to say good-bye to crime, conducting Green Up activities in each of the four designated neighborhoods, and staffing an information booth at the Vermont State Fair, and

Whereas, 2008 Acts and Resolves No. 115 has provided legal authority for many of RUNCJC’s community justice programs, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates Rutland’s United Neighborhoods Community Justice Center on its 15th anniversary, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Rutland’s United Neighborhoods Community Justice Center.

**S.C.R. 43.**

Senate concurrent resolution congratulating the Green Mountain United Way on its 40th anniversary

*Whereas*, the Green Mountain United Way (GMUW) serves the residents of Washington, Caledonia, Essex, Orange, and Orleans Counties, and

*Whereas*, the mission of the GMUW is to mobilize “communities to create lasting changes in local conditions that will improve lives,” and

*Whereas*, the vision of GMUW is to energize and inspire people, craft human care agendas, build coalitions around these agendas, and reflect the diversity of the communities in GMUW’s geographic region, and

*Whereas*, GMUW seeks to “increase the organized capacity of people to care for one another,” and

*Whereas*, the organization is committed to being “effective, efficient and good stewards of donors’ investments,” and

*Whereas*, GMUW focuses on four broad policy support areas: financial stability, healthy living, early living, and basic needs, and

*Whereas*, determination of which programs should receive GMUW support is based on collaboration with nonprofits, “government agencies, businesses, faith-based groups, the media and volunteers,” and

*Whereas*, because GMUW is fundraising in one combined campaign, recipient organizations can focus on their own programmatic activities, and

*Whereas*, the many organizations and individuals that benefit from GMUW financing are appreciative of the support they receive, and

*Whereas*, in 2016, GMUW is observing its 40th anniversary and looking forward to serving Vermont communities for many years into the future, *now therefore be it*

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

That the General Assembly congratulates the Green Mountain United Way on its 40th anniversary, *and be it further*

***Resolved:*** That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Barre office of the Green Mountain United Way.