

**No. R-23. House concurrent resolution congratulating the Women's Community Club of Grafton on its centennial.**

(H.C.R.16)

Offered by: Representatives Partridge of Windham and Trieber of Rockingham

Whereas, the mission of the Women's Community Club of Grafton is to "encourage higher education through the awarding of scholastic aid obtained through fundraising and to provide a social program for its members with an educational focus," and

Whereas, scholarships are awarded to Grafton residents based on the students' scholastic achievement, financial need, community involvement, school-associated extracurricular activities, and job history, and

Whereas, the club was established on February 28, 1918, when 75 women gathered in the vestry of the Grafton Baptist Church and organized themselves as the Ladies Knitting Club, and

Whereas, the club raised funds to aid and support American soldiers fighting in World War I, and reflective of the club's name, a principal membership activity was knitting clothing for these soldiers, and

Whereas, upon the war's conclusion, the organization adopted its current name, the Women's Community Club of Grafton, and redirected its attention to different ways of serving the Grafton community, and

Whereas, in 1938, Susan Daniels, the club's first lifetime member, bequeathed funds to the organization to promote higher education, maintain Village Park, and tune the pianos in the town hall, chapel, and village school, and

Whereas, in the middle 1960s, the club awarded its first academic scholarship, in the amount of \$100.00, to Barbara Fisher Rogers, and

Whereas, by 2018, the club was annually awarding \$20,000.00 worth of scholarships, with a maximum individual grant of \$5,000.00, and

Whereas, since that initial academic grant, the club has presented 218 scholarships to 124 individuals, totaling \$250,000.00, and

Whereas, on August 18, 2018, the Women's Community Club of Grafton commemorated its century of community service with a gala fundraising event, benefiting its scholarship fund, that featured a performance of the Boston-based chamber orchestra, A Far Cry; an arts and crafts auction; and a presentation of the club's history, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the Women's Community Club of Grafton on its centennial, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Women's Community Club of Grafton.