

**Proclamations Issued by Governor Peter Shumlin
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**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS;** pharmacists have consistently been rated as one of the most trusted professions; and
- WHEREAS;** Vermont's pharmacists strive daily to provide medications to our sickest and neediest patients; and
- WHEREAS;** Vermont's pharmacists have helped prevent illness with the advent of pharmacist immunizations, diabetes education, medication therapy management, & other professional pharmacist services; and
- WHEREAS;** students from Vermont's new college, Albany College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences in Colchester—our future pharmacists—are assisting the profession through community events, such as drug take-backs, counseling, and pharmacy intern programs; and
- WHEREAS;** during the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene, Vermont's pharmacists and pharmacies coordinated with local authorities, patients, and prescribers to provide medications by alternate pathways for stranded patients such as by ATV, helicopter, mail, and neighbor deliveries;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim January 19, 2012 as

PHARMACIST DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 19th day of January, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, a large percentage of new jobs created throughout the United States in the past decade have resulted from the creative efforts of entrepreneurs, who have contributed to the advancement of technology and fueled economic growth; and

WHEREAS, entrepreneurs have been a source of economic innovation, contributing new ways of doing things through their creative ideas; and

WHEREAS, entrepreneurs work to improve their local communities by enhancing opportunities for businesses to operate and by supporting the human resources needed to advance their ideas; and

WHEREAS, more than 70% of young people consider starting a business or doing something entrepreneurial as adults, and entrepreneurial awareness can assist them in the future whether they operate their own businesses or work in businesses owned by others; and

WHEREAS, encouraging youth to be excited about entrepreneurship and working to expand the knowledge, skills, and attitudes of Vermont's youth and adults to be successful entrepreneurs are crucial to the long-term growth of local communities, the state and the nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 5-9, 2012 as

ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of January, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, pets provide companionship to more than 71,000,000 households in the United States; and

WHEREAS, humane societies and animal shelters have to put down more than four million cats, dogs, rabbits and other animals each year, many of whom are healthy and adoptable, due to a lack of critical resources and public awareness; and

WHEREAS, this tragic overpopulation of pets costs citizens and taxpayers of this country millions of dollars annually through animal service programs aimed at coping with the millions of homeless animals; and

WHEREAS, spaying and neutering has been shown to dramatically reduce the overpopulation of pets and feral cats, proving to be a wise investment in saving animal lives and taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, veterinarians, national and local animal protection organizations, and private citizens worked together to ensure the spaying or neutering of more than 48,000 pets and feral cats through "Spay Day™" in the United States in 2011; and

WHEREAS, veterinarians, national and local animal protection organizations, and private citizens have joined together again to advocate the spaying and neutering of pets and feral cats on "Spay Day™ 2012":

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February, 2012 as

SPAY/NEUTER MONTH

AND, I further proclaim February 28, 2012 as

SPAY DAY

in Vermont and call upon all citizens to join in this observation by having their own pets spayed or neutered.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of January, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Charles Gravier, Count de Vergennes, foreign minister and among the most influential advisors of young King Louis XVI of France, welcomed American representatives who turned for help to France, England's longstanding enemy, soon after the English colonies had declared their independence on July 4, 1776; and

WHEREAS, thanks to French support, the help brought by militiamen of Vermont in rear-guard actions at Hubbardton on July 7, with reinforcements at Bennington on August 16, allowed the American insurgents under General Gates finally to succeed, at Saratoga on September 19 and October 7, 1777, in achieving the surrender of General Burgoyne with his British army of some eight thousand men; and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 1778 a treaty of friendship was signed at Paris by the Count de Vergennes, according to which the two countries "engage not to put down arms until the independence of the United States will have been guaranteed by treaties ending the war"; and

WHEREAS, the name Vergennes was proposed in 1785 by Saint John de Crèvecoeur, French consul, to Ethan Allen; and

WHEREAS, on October 24, 1788 the Governor and Council of the State of Vermont erected by their authority a new municipality, formally named *the Mayor, Aldermen, Common Council and Freemen of the City of Vergennes*; and

WHEREAS, the City of Versailles and the French Society of the Sons of the American Revolution plan a festive convocation, which is to take place at Versailles on February 13, 2012, in the city where the Count of Vergennes ended his life, on the occasion of the 225th anniversary of the death of the man who deservedly is renowned as "the French father of American independence";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 13, 2012 as

COUNT DE VERGENNES DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 31st day of January, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** the world has been transformed by technology making modern life more efficient, accessible, richer, and faster; and,
- WHEREAS,** the modern world demands that the United States have a highly trained workforce in order to compete in the global economy; and,
- WHEREAS,** most industries and practices have embraced technology and used it to improve the way they do things; and,
- WHEREAS,** education has yet to have captured the potential that effective use of technology can provide new ways to offer students improved and personalized instruction; and,
- WHEREAS,** more schools and teachers are exploring the use of high-quality digital learning and the effective use of technology to improve student learning; and
- WHEREAS,** it is important that any new change in learning methods and infusion of technology in schools be done so in a high-quality manner that best helps every student and ensures public funding is being spent appropriately;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February, 2011 as

DIGITAL LEARNING DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 8th day of January, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, engineers have used their scientific and technical knowledge and skills in creative and innovative ways to fulfill society's needs for generations; and

WHEREAS, in Vermont, engineers face major technological challenges on a daily basis—from rebuilding towns devastated by flood and natural disaster to designing an information superhighway that will help navigate our state and country through the twenty-first century; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's engineers continue to inspire young math and science students to realize the practical power of their ideas; and

WHEREAS, we look more than ever to engineers to meet the challenges of the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 19-25, A.D. 2012 as

ENGINEERS WEEK

in Vermont and urge all students to further their understanding of science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 21st day of February, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defects are the most frequently occurring birth defect and the leading cause of birth defect related deaths worldwide; and

WHEREAS, over a million families across America are facing the challenges and hardships of raising children with Congenital Heart Defects; and

WHEREAS, every year 40,000 babies are born in the United States with Congenital Heart Defects; and

WHEREAS, some Congenital Heart Defects are not diagnosed until months or years after birth; and

WHEREAS, undiagnosed Congenital Heart conditions cause many cases of sudden cardiac death in young athletes; and

WHEREAS, Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides an opportunity for families whose lives have been affected to celebrate life and to remember loved ones lost, to honor dedicated health professionals, and to meet others and know they are not alone;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 7-14, 2012 as

CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS WEEK

in Vermont and encourage all citizens to increase awareness, education, and services for Congenital Heart Defects which each year affect thousands of babies in Vermont



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 22nd day of February, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the Fresh Air Fund provides free summer vacations in the country to nearly 9,000 New York City children each summer, and

WHEREAS, the Fresh Air Fund allows city youngsters to visit the homes of volunteer host families in 13 states and Canada, and

WHEREAS, Vermont families have been participating in The Fresh Air Fund Friendly Town program for over 130 years, and

WHEREAS, the Fresh Air Fund allows New York City youngsters to enjoy Vermont backyards, parks, and wide open spaces, and

WHEREAS, the Fresh Air Fund is celebrating its 136th summer,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 20, 2012 as

FRESH AIR FUND DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 23rd day of February, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** the public and private community is well served by increased awareness in the area of wellness education and improving the responsibility and opportunity of Vermont's citizenry; and
- WHEREAS,** promoting transparency in decision-making leads to better informed and healthier citizens, making an effort towards seeking experts who are committed to helping improve individuals' health and create a culture of health and wellness within organizations; and
- WHEREAS,** by offering employees choices and empowering them to make more informed, responsible, and cost-conscious decisions about their lifestyle and healthcare, employers can create a healthier, stronger, more productive workforce; and
- WHEREAS,** it is appropriate that all Vermont citizens become empowered and are encouraged in their health and wellness endeavors to become informed and take responsibility;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 26-30, 2012 as

CONSUMER DRIVEN HEALTH IMPROVEMENT WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 23rd day of February, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the mission of the Harpoon Championship of New England Barbecue continues to be the promotion of barbecue cuisine from Vermont and throughout New England; and

WHEREAS, for the past eleven years, the Harpoon Championship of New England Barbecue has successfully brought the art of barbecue to the people of Vermont and New England; and

WHEREAS, barbecue cuisine has deep roots in Vermont and New England; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Windsor, Vermont will once again welcome the Harpoon Championship of New England Barbecue and provide residents, competitors and participants with the opportunity to experience the tastes and smells of championship barbecue;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim the Grand Champion of the Harpoon Champion of New England Barbecue, to be conducted on July 28, 2012, as

STATE OF VERMONT CHAMPION



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 23rd day of February, A.D. 2012

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** over 600,000 persons in the United States have Lynch syndrome, but less than 5% of those persons are currently diagnosed and approximately one in every thirty-five individuals with colorectal cancer have Lynch syndrome; and
- WHEREAS,** Lynch Syndrome is a hereditary predisposition presenting a high lifetime risk of contracting a litany of cancers, including up to an: 85% lifetime risk of colon cancer, 65% lifetime risk of endometrial cancer and higher than average risks of contracting ovarian cancer, gastric tract cancers, hepatobiliary cancers, renal pelvic cancers, pancreatic cancer, prostate cancer, skin cancer, brain cancer and other cancers, often at an early age; and
- WHEREAS,** knowing one's family medical history of cancers may prompt genetic testing; and
- WHEREAS,** a positive genetic test will qualify one for annual cancer screening and cancers may be detected early and treated or removed often before becoming life threatening; and
- WHEREAS,** the numbers of cancer deaths will reduce as a result of public awareness of Lynch syndrome;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2012 as

LYNCH SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 23rd day of February, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** for over 130 years, the American Red Cross has created a community of service whose strength lies in a generous, strong and noble group of individuals who are united by a mission that reaches beyond themselves;
- WHEREAS,** the Red Cross is dedicated to providing 24-hour support to members of the military, veterans and their families; and
- WHEREAS,** each year thousands across our state become empowered through Red Cross training in CPR, aquatics safety, babysitting and first aid; and
- WHEREAS,** donors provide lifesaving blood at more than 850 blood drives held annually across Vermont, helping the Red Cross to contribute over 40% of the nation's blood supply; and
- WHEREAS,** across Vermont, the Red Cross responds to over 100 disasters a year, delivering comfort and a helping hand whether it is a single family impacted by a fire or a state devastated by Tropical Storm Irene; and
- WHEREAS,** at the heart of the Red Cross are their volunteers and donors, who are dedicated, compassionate and make a significant difference in the lives of our fellow Vermonters; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermonters understand that the Red Cross and its volunteers need the support of the community to remain vital and ready to meet the challenges that lie ahead;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 2012 as

AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

in Vermont, and encourage Vermonters to give their time and donations of blood to support the valuable services this organization provides.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 23rd day of February, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** Registered Dietitians are the food and nutrition experts who can translate the science of nutrition into practical solutions for healthy living; and
- WHEREAS,** Registered Dietitians have degrees in nutrition, dietetics, public health or a related field from well-respected, accredited colleges and universities, completed an internship and passed an examination; and
- WHEREAS,** Registered Dietitians use their nutrition expertise to help individuals make unique, positive lifestyle changes; and
- WHEREAS,** Registered Dietitians work throughout the community in hospitals, schools, public health clinics, nursing homes, fitness centers, food management, food industry, universities, research and private practice; and
- WHEREAS,** Registered Dietitians are advocates for advancing the nutritional status of Americans and people around the world;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 14, 2012 as

REGISTERED DIETITIAN DAY

in Vermont and encourage all citizens to recognize the contributions of Registered Dietitians and express appreciation for their commitment to promoting science-based nutrition in the hope of achieving optimum health for both today and tomorrow.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 23rd day of February, A.D. 2012

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** damage to underground utility facilities such as pipes, mains, cables and conduits can result in dangerous or costly leaks, as well as fires, explosions and fatalities, and this damage and its consequences are often preventable; and
- WHEREAS,** in the past, some excavators have failed to request line locations because of the many utilities involved; and
- WHEREAS,** Dig Safe System, Inc., a not-for-profit company, was established to protect the underground facilities of the public utilities by transmitting notices of digging from excavators to the utilities in order to locate and mark facilities prior to excavation; and
- WHEREAS,** this one-call system is a free service to excavators and homeowners alike, promoting safety, reducing cost, saving time, and helping excavators comply with safety rules and regulations;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2012 as

SAFE DIGGING MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 23rd day of February, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** the record flooding of 2011 and our history have shown that flooding is Vermont's greatest natural hazard to the citizens, landscape and economy; and
- WHEREAS,** this week marks the 20th Anniversary of the Montpelier Ice Jam Flood of 1992, that demonstrated the unpredictability of ice jams and the considerable property damage and life threatening flood conditions that they can produce; and
- WHEREAS,** whether the cause is due to snowmelt and rainfall that occur each late winter and early spring, including record Lake Champlain flooding in 2011; and
- WHEREAS,** heavy rain producing thunderstorms results in flash flooding during the late spring and summer such as the Route 2 corridor between Montpelier and Lunenburg in May 2011; and
- WHEREAS,** a tropical system, like Irene in 2011, can produce widespread heavy rainfall resulting in historical, devastating, life threatening and landscape altering flooding during the summer and fall; and
- WHEREAS,** NOAA's National Weather Service maintains a dedicated vigilance for threatening weather and flood hazards; and
- WHEREAS,** through partnerships with Local and state agencies, including Vermont Emergency Management, NOAA's National Weather Service is constantly striving to improve its weather warning services and preparedness education for the citizens of Vermont; and
- WHEREAS,** in the best tradition of public service, NOAA's National Weather Service and Vermont Emergency Management encourages all Vermonters to be aware of the year-round flood hazards in Vermont, and be prepared **BEFORE** and **DURING** periods of hazardous weather;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 12-16, 2012 as

FLOOD SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of March, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** Saturday, March 12, 2012 will mark the 100th anniversary of the first assembly of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, which was founded by Juliet Gordon Low in Savannah Georgia; and
- WHEREAS,** throughout its long and distinguished history, Girl Scouting has inspired millions of girls and women to work for the betterment of community and country, and to strive for the highest ideals of character, conduct and patriotism; and
- WHEREAS,** through Girl Scouting, girls build courage, confidence and character and make the world a better place through philanthropic programs and activities; and
- WHEREAS,** Girl Scouting takes an active role in increasing girls' awareness of the opportunities available to them in math, leadership, sports, technology and other fields; and
- WHEREAS,** the Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains is a chartered member of the Girl Scouts of the USA and serves 15,000 girls from age 5 to 17 thanks to the hard work of over 5,100 dedicated volunteers;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 12-16, A.D. 2012 as

GIRL SCOUT CENTENNIAL WEEK

in Vermont, and applaud the commitment the Girl Scout Councils have made to Vermont's girls.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of March, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, over 3.5 million people die each year of water-related illnesses; and
WHEREAS, every 20 seconds a child dies from a water-related illness; and
WHEREAS, nearly 850 million people worldwide lack access to clean water; and
WHEREAS, Pure Water for the World, Inc., based in Rutland, Vermont, was incorporated in 1999 and works to lift impoverished countries out of poverty by improving access to safe water; and
WHEREAS, since 2000, Pure Water for the World has provided clean water and hygiene education to over 19,000 families and 116,000 individuals in Honduras; and
WHEREAS, since 2008, Pure Water for the World has provided clean water to over 1,300 schools and provided hygiene education to over 2,600 teachers in Haiti; and
WHEREAS, in the Aftermath of the January 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Pure Water for the World provided clean water for 80,000 people per day in Cite Soleil; and
WHEREAS, on international World Water Day, Vermont recognizes the work of a Pure Water for the World and its mission in improving the health of children, families and communities by providing sustainable pure water solutions;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2012 as

PURE WATER FOR THE WORLD DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of March, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** over sixty million individuals and families are living with mental health and substance use problems in the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** more than twenty-three million adults once had drug or alcohol problems, but no longer do; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont, like the rest of the nation, is addressing mental health and addiction by combining effective prevention, treatment and recovery support; and
- WHEREAS,** the health, well-being and quality of life of all Vermonters is impacted by these chronic, yet treatable, health conditions, and virtually all Vermonters know someone in their network of family or friends who is affected; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont's mental health and addiction recovery organizations continue to educate the public and lawmakers about the effects of mental illness and addictions and the value of long-term recovery; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont's mental health and addiction recovery day is designed to remind all Vermonters that mental illness and addiction are conditions that respond to proper and timely intervention, treatment, and recovery support services, including the support from peers who have had successful recovery experiences;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 16, 2012 as

RECOVERY DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 15th day of March, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** the Northern New England Poison Center is the toxicology expert for Vermont; and
- WHEREAS,** the Northern New England Poison Center provides free, 24-hour poison emergency and information hotline services to the general public and health care professionals; and
- WHEREAS,** the Northern New England Poison Center manages more than 5,000 poisonings a year in Vermont; and
- WHEREAS,** most of those who call the Northern New England Poison Center from their home are treated with over-the-phone advice and avoid unnecessary and expensive visits to hospital emergency departments; and
- WHEREAS,** the Northern New England Poison Center improves health outcomes and decreases the length of stay for those who do have to go to the hospital; and
- WHEREAS,** the Northern New England Poison Center is most commonly used by parents and caregivers of young children; and
- WHEREAS,** the Northern New England Poison Center is increasingly being used by health care professionals to treat patients abusing substances such as bath salts and synthetic marijuana; and
- WHEREAS,** knowing and using the poison center phone number, 1-800-222-1222, can save the lives of Vermont residents, reduce the number of needless trips to crowded emergency departments and save money for the State of Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 18-24, 2012 as

POISON CONTROL WEEK
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 20th day of March, A.D. 2012

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** Team Rubicon unites the skills and experiences of military veterans with medical professionals to rapidly deploy emergency response teams into crisis situations; and
- WHEREAS,** since its creation in January 2010, Team Rubicon has saved thousands of lives in some of the poorest regions of the world; and
- WHEREAS,** Team Rubicon allows hundreds of veterans, many returning home from combat zones, to find a renewed sense of purpose while utilizing their skills and experiences to provide critical relief for communities affected by natural disasters and other emergency situations; and
- WHEREAS,** as the organization expands, Team Rubicon is evolving toward a regional structure that will allow larger groups of local veterans to quickly respond to local disasters; and
- WHEREAS,** on March 31, 2012, a series of *Run as One* events will be held in cities across the United States—including Bennington, Vermont—where veterans and advocates will gather to raise awareness and funds for the work of Team Rubicon;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2012 as

RUN AS ONE DAY

in Vermont and encourage all Vermonters to join Team Rubicon in these events.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of March, A.D. 2012

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** libraries have historically served as our nation's great equalizers of knowledge by providing free access to all; and
- WHEREAS,** our nation's school, academic, public and special libraries make a difference in the lives of millions of Americans; and
- WHEREAS,** libraries serve as crucial technology hubs for people in need of free Internet access, computer training, and assistance finding and using online resources; and
- WHEREAS,** libraries work to meet the changing needs of their users, building print and digital collections, providing outreach services, and offering programming for all ages; and
- WHEREAS,** our nation's libraries provide a forum for diverse ideas and points of view that help us better understand ourselves and one another; and
- WHEREAS,** librarians are trained professionals, helping people of all ages and backgrounds find and interpret the information they need to live, learn and work in a challenging economy; and
- WHEREAS,** librarians design and offer services to meet their community's economic needs, providing residents with job-seeking and e-Government resources; and
- WHEREAS,** libraries are part of the American dream, places for education, opportunity and lifelong learning;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 8-14, 2012 as

LIBRARY WEEK

in Vermont and encourage residents to visit their local libraries
to take advantage of the vast array of resources available.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of March, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, hundreds of people die and thousands are injured each year as a result of electricity-related incidents; and

WHEREAS, there are, on average, 450 civilian deaths related to electrical home structure fires each year; and

WHEREAS, taking basic electrical safety precautions can help prevent thousands of people from being injured or killed each year; and

WHEREAS, citizens are advised to protect their homes and families with the latest safety technology, such as ground fault interrupters and tamper resistant receptacles; and

WHEREAS, citizens are advised to install, test, and properly maintain an adequate number of smoke alarms;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

in Vermont and encourage all residents to observe the importance of good electrical safety practices



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of March, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, it is in everyone's interest to have their own voices heard in critical care, emergency care and end of life circumstances; and

WHEREAS, as a result of recommendations from the Attorney General's End of Life Task Force, the Vermont General Assembly passed a comprehensive Advance Directive law in 2005; and

WHEREAS, a component of Vermont's Advance Directive law was the establishment in 2007 of the Vermont Advance Directive Registry; and

WHEREAS, the Advance Directive Registry is an important tool for making and individual's documents immediately available for health care providers in need of information about critical health care and end of life wishes through an electronic database; and

WHEREAS, by completing an Advance Directive, Vermonters are able to communicate end of life choices on a timely basis; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 15-21, A.D. 2012 as

ADVANCE DIRECTIVES WEEK

in Vermont so that attention will be drawn to these important documents to help assure individual wishes in critical care and end of life situations will be honored.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of April, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** each year the citizens of Vermont conduct a campaign resulting in the honoring of a Vermont Mother of the Year; and
- WHEREAS,** the criteria for such an honor are those characteristics of personal integrity, dedication and generosity which distinguish mothers everywhere; and
- WHEREAS,** the mother of the year chosen for 2012 not only carries such characteristics with becoming modesty but has found time despite a busy family life for service to her fellow citizens in many projects of community concern;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim *Patti Howrigan Reynolds* as 2012

VERMONT MOTHER OF THE YEAR

and urge Vermonters to join me in recognition of her achievements as a mother and community leader.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of April, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, after debate, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin penned into the United States Declaration of Independence the famous promise of our "...unalienable rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"; and

WHEREAS, along with the right to pursue happiness comes an ethical responsibility to exercise that right, and to guide our values, policies and politics in a way that makes it possible for our fellow citizens to pursue happiness as well; and

WHEREAS, Gross Domestic Product is not, and never was intended to be, an indicator of happiness or well-being; and GDP fails to capture major factors that contribute to people's happiness, such as security, leisure, and a clean and sustainable environment; and

WHEREAS, research shows that income levels are associated with happiness up to an amount at which people's basic needs are met and at which point the correlation between income and happiness evaporates; and

WHEREAS, in order to raise awareness of our responsibility to create happiness and to increase opportunities for people to share and discuss ideas about how to build more happiness into our futures and the future of Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 13, 2012, the anniversary of President Jefferson's birth, as

PURSUIT OF HAPPINESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of March, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, there are more than 110,000 Americans and more than 4,600 in New England who are currently waiting for a life-saving organ transplant; and

WHEREAS, there are over one million life-enhancing tissue transplants each year that are made possible by the generous donation of corneas, bone, skin or other tissue; and

WHEREAS, we can all help to save someone's life and benefit up to 50 recipients by signing up to become an organ and tissue when we apply for - or renew - our drivers licenses or by registering on-line at www.donatelifenewengland.org; and

WHEREAS, this observance pays tribute to organ and tissue donors and their families whose decision to Donate Life enables others to receive life-saving organs and tissues for transplant;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2012 as

DONATE LIFE MONTH

in Vermont and urge all citizens of the state to take cognizance of the event and to participate fittingly in its observance.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 4th day of April, A.D. 2012

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, for over 40 years, our nation has come together on Earth Day to appreciate and raise awareness about our environment, natural heritage, and the resources upon which we depend; and

WHEREAS, as Vermont works to recover from the worst natural disasters that have ever hit our state, it is important to recognize our role in climate change and our responsibility to craft policies that reduce our environmental impact and focus on renewable sources of energy and transportation; and

WHEREAS, every Vermonter deserves clean air, safe water and unpolluted land, and each person can take steps to protect those precious resources; and

WHEREAS, by investing in the clean energy economy, Vermont can be a national leader in reducing our dependence on foreign oil and protecting our environment while creating good paying jobs for the 21st century; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 22, 2012 as

EARTH DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 4th day of April, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, we are fortunate to live in a nation that counts freedom of conscience and free exercise of religion among its most fundamental principles; and

WHEREAS, prayer has been a sustaining way for many Americans of diverse faiths to express their beliefs; and

WHEREAS, our thoughts and prayers are with those suffering from natural disasters throughout the world, and the people from those countries and around the world who have worked tirelessly and selflessly to render aid;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 3, 2012 as

DAY OF PRAYER

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 4th day of April, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** the craft community has been an important component in Vermont's social and economic culture for more than fifty years; and
- WHEREAS,** in 1993 the Vermont Crafts Council initiated a statewide tour of studios wherein crafts people and artists across the state opened their studios to the public; and
- WHEREAS,** the goal of Open Studio Weekend is to foster an appreciation for the creative process and the role that artists and craftspeople play in the vitality of Vermont's communities; and
- WHEREAS,** the studios of glass blowers, jewelers, printmakers, potters, furniture makers, weavers, ironworkers, painters, sculptors, quilt makers and wood carvers will be open to the public; and
- WHEREAS,** many galleries will host gallery talks and feature special exhibits and events; and
- WHEREAS,** in touring studios, visitors will travel the back roads and villages, developing an appreciation for Vermont's diverse communities; and
- WHEREAS,** 2012 is a milestone for Open Studio Weekend as its organizer, the Vermont Crafts Council, marks the 20th year of this annual event with the studio tour set for May 26th and 27th;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

CRAFT MONTH



in Vermont and urge all residents to participate in these important events.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 4th day of April, A.D. 2012

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, throughout our history, Vermonters have welcomed people from around the world of myriad nationalities and backgrounds, including those from the thriving and vibrant Turkish-American community that shares the customs and traditions of its homeland and upholds the American ideals of freedom and democracy; and

WHEREAS, Vermont recognizes the positive impact of the Turkish-American community upon the social, cultural and economic development of our state and nation as, over the years, this population has grown and made significant contributions in areas including the arts, education, industry, science and community service; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that Vermonters join to recognize and extend appreciation to the Turkish-American community for its many positive contributions to the people and communities of the Green Mountain State;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 18, 2012 as

TURKISH CULTURAL DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the safety and wellbeing of children is a top priority of this state; and

WHEREAS, more than 200,000 children are injured on playgrounds in the United States each year, averaging one playground-related emergency room visit every two and a half minutes; and

WHEREAS, the National Program for Playground Safety has been created at the University of Northern Iowa to help inform Americans about playground injury prevention; and

WHEREAS, the National Program for Playground Safety has identified key areas that could reduce the number of playground injuries and developed the SAFE program, emphasizing supervision, age appropriate equipment, fall-softening materials, and equipment maintenance; and

WHEREAS, spring is often a time when children utilize the playground and a large percentage of playground injuries occur from April through June; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 23-27, 2012 as

PLAYGROUND SAFETY WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, as Vermont citizens increase their understanding and practice of sound money management skills, the financial well-being of both the individual and the State will improve; and

WHEREAS, financial education can provide Vermont citizens with the knowledge and skills for the successful life-long management of personal finances; and

WHEREAS, national and regional surveys continue to point to a need for adults and youth to acquire more personal finance knowledge and skills; and

WHEREAS, it is important for adults to teach youth the practical application of financial skills, including how to manage personal spending, create and follow a budget, responsibly use credit, save for future financial goals, and understand and navigate through our increasingly complex financial system; and

WHEREAS, acquisition of financial literacy skills by Vermont youth will empower them to make wise financial decisions; and

WHEREAS, the activities and efforts of organizations such as the Vermont Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy and its volunteers, who come from business, government, and education sectors, should be recognized and supported; and

WHEREAS, national observances such as the April 24, 2012 National Teach Children to Save Day promote the importance of teaching our youth about saving for the future; and

WHEREAS, the designation of Financial Literacy for Youth Month will help raise public awareness about the importance of financial education in Vermont and the serious consequences that may be associated with a lack of understanding about personal finances;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2011 as

FINANCIAL LITERACY FOR YOUTH MONTH

in Vermont and urge all Vermonters to encourage and support the efforts of our youth and the organizations serving them to become financially educated.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of April, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Since December 1867 the Order of Patrons and Husbandry, better known as the Grange, has advocated on behalf of agricultural communities and families; and

WHEREAS, as the nation's oldest national agricultural organization, the Grange now has 300,000 members in 3,600 communities in 37 states; and

WHEREAS, the Grange provides service to agriculture and rural areas on a wide variety of issues including economic development, education, family endeavors, and legislation designed to assure a strong and viable Rural America; and

WHEREAS, formed in the years following the Civil War to unite private citizens in improving the economic and social position of the nation's farm population, the Grange now includes non-farm rural individuals and families in strengthening our communities and providing a social gathering place for activities and recreation, a place to develop skills for a lifetime, and a family-oriented organization that provides lifetime membership;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

GRANGE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, thousands of brave Americans have demonstrated their courage and commitment to freedom by serving the Armed Forces of the United States of America in active duty posts in Afghanistan, Iraq and around the world; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,097 of Vermont's children and youth have been directly affected by the military deployment of at least one parent; and

WHEREAS, these children and youth are a source of pride and honor to us all, and it is only fitting that we take time to recognize their contributions, celebrate their spirit, and let our men and women in uniform know that while they are taking care of us, we are taking care of their children and youth; and

WHEREAS, the recognition of a Month of the Military Child will allow us to pay tribute to military children and youth for their commitment, their struggles and their unconditional support of our troops – because when parents serve in the military, their kids are heroes too; and

WHEREAS, a month-long salute to military children and youth will encourage local community support to provide direct support to military children and families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2012 as

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

in Vermont and urge all citizens, business and government leaders to observe the month with appropriate ceremonies and activities that honor, support and thank military children.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of April, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** on August 28, 2011, Vermont was forever changed when the waters of Tropical Storm Irene brought tremendous personal and public loss—taking lives, damaging homes, and leaving an incomprehensible trail of destruction in its wake; and
- WHEREAS,** in the aftermath of the storm, several Vermont towns, including Rochester, were cut off, but because neighbors and strangers joined together to help one another, emergency access was restored to all communities within days; and
- WHEREAS,** throughout the initial response to the storm, the overwhelming community spirit and Vermont pride was evident; the Vermont Agency of Transportation, local road and utility crews joined with countless volunteers and citizen-soldiers from Vermont and beyond in working around the clock toward restoring our towns; and
- WHEREAS,** after the storm, spirit of community, sense of purpose and willingness to lend a hand in "the Island" of Rochester transcended any individual or business; from stores and restaurants feeding those in need, to residents looking past their own damage to help meet the needs of the town, everyone pitched in to help rebuild Rochester; and
- WHEREAS,** in eight months, Rochester has come a long way, and while there is still much work to be done, we will rebuild stronger, smarter, safer and better than Irene found us; and
- WHEREAS,** a testament to the progress has been the work of Relief for Rochester, who has raised over \$150,000 and helped countless Rochester residents on the road to recovery;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 9, 2012 as

ROCHESTER ROAD TO RECOVERY DAY

in Vermont and commend the residents of Rochester and other impacted communities for their courage and commitment to rebuilding and recovering.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** in an increasingly global economy, knowledge of foreign language becomes more necessary than ever; and
- WHEREAS,** those proficient in foreign language have greatly expanded access to a variety of experiences, communications and knowledge; and
- WHEREAS,** as our nation builds bridges around the world, it is imperative that students expand their lingual horizons in the interest of commerce, peace, technology, and the arts; and
- WHEREAS,** by exploring foreign language, learners come to appreciate the subtleties of their own language and culture more fully; and
- WHEREAS,** it is appropriate to celebrate the efforts of students, teachers and schools to increase the foreign language proficiency of Vermonters;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 5-11, 2012.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE WEEK

in Vermont and recognize the importance of foreign language education.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 11th day of April, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** nearly forty eight years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, women, especially minority women, continue to suffer the consequences of unequal pay; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the United States Census Bureau, year round, full-time working women in 2009 earned only 77% of the earnings of full-time working men, indicating little change or progress in pay equality; and
- WHEREAS,** over a working lifetime, wage disparity costs the average American woman and her family an estimated \$700,000 to \$2 million in lost wages, negatively impacting Social Security and pension benefits; and
- WHEREAS,** fair pay strengthens the security of families today and eases future retirement costs while enhancing the American economy;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 17, 2012 as

EQUAL PAY DAY

in Vermont and urge residents to recognize the significant value of women's skills and contributions to the labor force, and further encourage businesses to conduct an internal pay evaluation to ensure that women are being paid fairly.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** Autism Spectrum Disorder is a lifelong developmental disability, resulting in a range of significant impairments to an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal, nonverbal, and reciprocal communication; and
- WHEREAS,** Autism is the second most common developmental disability, affecting 1.5 million individuals nationwide and 1 in 110 children in Vermont and
- WHEREAS,** Autism is the result of a neurological disorder affecting the functioning of the brain, but few members of the general public understand the impact of this complex disability; and
- WHEREAS,** although a cure for Autism has not been found, persons with Autism can be helped to reach their greatest potential. Accurate, early diagnosis, and the resulting appropriate education and intervention are vital to the highest quality of life for the individual; and
- WHEREAS,** programs, such as The Vermont Achievement Center-Sheldon Academy, have dedicated years of service in their ongoing efforts to promote community inclusion, support and appropriate education of all persons with Autism; and
- WHEREAS,** Sheldon Academy remains committed to its cause and to educating families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disability; and
- WHEREAS,** Autism is a complex disability that requires increased research to one day find a cure and maximize potential; and greater recognition and understanding to ensure that individuals with Autism living in Vermont and all other Americans with Autism are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated throughout their lives;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2012 as

AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, in order to bring people together to celebrate our commitments to increasing diversity and equity across the state, April 27, 2012 marks the Young Women's Christian Association's (YWCA) *Stand Against Racism* events in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, all citizens regardless of race, creed or ethnicity deserve to be treated with dignity, respect, compassion and justice; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont joins the YWCA in its mission to eliminate racial inequalities and to stand for safety, health, and economic opportunity for every citizen; and

WHEREAS, nationally, an estimated 250,000 people will join in standing against racism in local communities on this day; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont joins YWCA Vermont along with local businesses, community organizations, schools, and places of worship, in celebrating diversity and advocating for the elimination of racism;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 27, 2012 as

STAND AGAINST RACISM DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, since 2000, it is estimated that over 500,000 babies have been born with Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia (CDH); and

WHEREAS, 1,600 babies are born with CDH every year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, those with CDH often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complication beyond their diagnosis that include heart defects, pulmonary complications, gastric and intestinal problems, developmental delays, and may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness of this congenital defect will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering from it and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2012 as

CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** esophageal cancer is the fastest growing cancer diagnosis in the United States, increasing more than 400% in the past 20 years; and
- WHEREAS,** esophageal cancer kills one American every 36 minutes; and is among the deadliest of cancers, with fewer than one in five patients surviving five years; and
- WHEREAS,** esophageal cancer has low survival rates because it is usually discovered at advanced stages when treatment outcomes are poor; and
- WHEREAS,** esophageal cancer in the U.S. is most often caused by persistent heartburn or gastro esophageal reflux disease (GERD), yet many who are at risk are unaware of the potential danger GERD can present when it occurs over several weeks or months; and
- WHEREAS,** esophageal cancer can be a silent killer with patients often unaware that the cough, hoarse voice, sore throat or chest pain they suffer can be signs of GERD and reason to discuss screening for Esophageal Cancer with their medical care professional; and
- WHEREAS,** esophageal cancer can develop from GERD when acid from the stomach creates cellular change in the esophagus resulting in a precancerous condition known as Barrett's Esophagus which can lead to a 125-fold increase in a patient's risk of developing esophageal cancer; and
- WHEREAS,** esophageal cancer can be prevented through early detection of its precursor, Barrett's Esophagus, which can be treated with new, curative techniques; and
- WHEREAS,** esophageal cancer awareness along with improvements in prevention, early detection and treatment strategies will enhance the health and well-being of all Vermonters;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2012 as

ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Commendation

WHEREAS, Todd Keller sets the highest standards for both himself and the planning, operations and management of the maintenance and custodial program at Union Elementary School (UES), in order to create and preserve a safe and effective environment that supports the UES mission of learning; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keller orchestrates a multitude of responsibilities, including but not limited to buildings and grounds, plant engineering, building maintenance, safety, facility planning, design, construction, security, environmental management, and waste management; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keller demonstrates a sincere interest and exuberance in the performance of his work and the relationships he maintains with UES students, parents, educators and school support staff, as well as consulting engineers, vendors, manufacturers, architects, and project managers and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keller's honorable character and moral principles of caring, thoughtfulness and honesty, combined with his outstanding communication skills and openness to learning, make him an ideal role model for all members of the UES community, especially the students and

WHEREAS, Mr. Keller goes out of his way to positively engage with all children of UES assisting them with such things as eyeglass repair, playing catch, listening to them read, helping to display their school work and teaching life lessons in gentle, personal and meaningful ways;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

TODD KELLER

as a consummate professional and thank him
for his years of service to our community.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** Public Service Recognition Week is a celebration sponsored by the Public Employees' Roundtable and celebrated nationally since 1985; and
- WHEREAS,** the purpose of Public Service Recognition Week is to show appreciation to public employees and to showcase the services they provide to Vermonters and Americans every day at the state, county, city and federal levels; and
- WHEREAS,** public sector employees in Vermont provide services to protect, preserve and enhance the exceptional quality of life enjoyed by Vermonters and visitors to our state; and
- WHEREAS,** we recognize that without the talents, skills and dedication of our public sector employees, we would not be able to maintain the quality of life we now enjoy; and
- WHEREAS,** we strongly believe that it is important to express our gratitude for the contributions government employees make to the lives of all Vermonters by the work they perform.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 6-12, 2012 as

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** our state's continuing efforts to address the critical issues of safety, energy efficiency and sustainability in the built environment that affect our citizens, both in everyday life and in times of natural disaster, give us confidence that our structures are safe and sound; and
- WHEREAS,** our confidence is achieved through the devotion of vigilant guardians—building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, laborers and others in the construction industry—who work year-round to ensure the safe construction of buildings; and
- WHEREAS,** these guardians—dedicated members of the International Code Council—develop and implement the highest-quality codes to protect Americans in the buildings where we live, learn, work, worship, play; and
- WHEREAS,** the International building Code includes safeguards to protect the public from natural disasters such as hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildfires and earthquakes; and
- WHEREAS,** Building Safety Month is sponsored by the International Code Council and International Code Council Foundation, to remind the public about the critical role of our communities' largely unknown guardians of public safety—our local code officials—who assure us of safe, efficient and livable buildings; and
- WHEREAS,** each year, in observance of Building Safety Month, Americans are asked to consider projects to improve building safety and sustainability at home and in the community, and to acknowledge the essential service provided to all of us by local and state building departments and federal agencies in protecting lives and property;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies and other organizations nationwide are recognizing childcare providers on Provider Appreciation Day; and

WHEREAS, of the 20 million children under age five in America, more than 11 million are in some form of childcare setting; and

WHEREAS, by calling attention to the importance of high quality childcare services for all children and families within Vermont, these groups hope to improve the quality and availability of such services; and

WHEREAS, our future depends on the quality of the early childhood experiences provided to young children today; high quality childcare services represent a worthy commitment to our children's future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 19, 2012 as

PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, emergency medical services are a vital public service available to provide lifesaving care and disaster response to those in need 24 hours per day, seven days per week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rates of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, approximately two thirds of emergency medical service providers are volunteers; and

WHEREAS, members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, members of emergency medical services teams put their lives on the line each day in service to the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 20-26, 2012 as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of April, A.D. 2012



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, one in three women and one in seven men age 50 and older will break a bone, often a hip, in their lifetime due to osteoporosis, costing patients an average of \$90,000 per fracture; and

WHEREAS, studies of twice weekly weight and balance training confirm that people age 50 and older can increase their muscle strength, balance and bone density; and

WHEREAS, by raising awareness about osteoporosis and the steps that can be taken to prevent it, it is possible to significantly reduce falls, bone fractures and hospitalization; and

WHEREAS, one of the resources available in Vermont is the RSVP Bone Builders Program, which seeks to give people throughout the state of Vermont access to classes that prevent and reverse osteoporosis; and

WHEREAS, by utilizing trained volunteer instructors, donated sites and grant funding for equipment and training, the RSVP Bone Builders Exercise Program offers the benefits of the program at no cost to participants; and

WHEREAS, the RSVP Bone Builders Program began in Vermont in July 2000 with two pilot classes and has grown to 115 classes in eleven counties, Increasing awareness and expanding knowledge of the realities of osteoporosis and helping Vermonters age 50 and older to be healthier, stronger and maintain an independent lifestyle as they age;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

OSTEOPOROSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 24th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** in Vermont, trees and forests are fundamental to our natural heritage, and they support our way of life and economy in innumerable ways; and
- WHEREAS,** our trees provide other services that we rarely think about. Trees remove the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide from the air, conserve energy, enhance water quality, provide wildlife habitat and combat soil erosion; and
- WHEREAS,** trees in the heart of our communities increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of downtown business and improve our overall well-being; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermonters are encouraged to recognize the myriad benefits trees and forests provide, and if the opportunity exists, plant a tree; and
- WHEREAS,** on the first Friday in May, Vermonters come together to celebrate Arbor Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim Friday, May 4, 2012 as

ARBOR DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 27th day of April, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** April 2012 marks the 44th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Fair Housing Act, title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended, which represents a national policy of fair housing without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial status, and disability, and encourages fair housing opportunities for all citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont has been a leader in the country by enacting a law to extend protections of the Federal Fair Housing Act to include sexual orientation, age, marital status, gender identity, and recipients of public assistance as protected classes; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Vermont supports fairness in all housing transactions by continuing to address discrimination, supporting programs that educate the public about the right to equal housing opportunities, and collaborating with organizations to assure every Vermonter of their right to equal housing; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Vermont is undertaking a statewide analysis of impediments to fair housing choice to identify actions, omissions, or decisions that restrict the availability of fair housing choices;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2012 as

FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in Vermont and call upon residents to advocate for fair housing options.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 27th day of April, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) was founded in 1986 by Beth Sachs and Blair Hamilton to promote and encourage the conservation of natural resources, and to reduce energy costs for consumers, especially low-income consumers; and

WHEREAS, VEIC has been actively involved in helping design energy efficiency programs around the country, and around the world in regions including Europe, Asia, numerous Canadian provinces, and the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, VEIC has played a key role in supporting the establishment of several Vermont energy businesses and organizations, including the Energy Co-Op of Vermont, Renewable Energy Vermont, and the Vermont Energy Education Program; and

WHEREAS, VEIC has been active in advocacy and policy development related to energy efficiency and renewable energy in Vermont and beyond; and

WHEREAS, in the year 2000, VEIC competed successfully for the right to start up and operate Efficiency Vermont, the first statewide energy efficiency utility in the nation; and

WHEREAS, in the years that have followed, VEIC has worked to make Efficiency Vermont the most effective program of its kind in the nation, with numerous awards from the U.S. Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and an Innovations in American Government award from the Kennedy School of Government; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, VEIC set a 20-year organizational goal of offsetting double the amount of Vermont's greenhouse gas emissions in 2027, through its work advancing investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, by 2010, through its work operating Efficiency Vermont, VEIC had helped reduce carbon emissions by 5.1 tons as a result of investments in energy efficiency; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, VEIC commenced operation of two large-scale energy efficiency programs based on the successful Efficiency Vermont model: Efficiency Smart, based in the Midwest, and the Sustainable Energy Utility, based in Washington, DC; and

WHEREAS, through its "Great Ideas Group", VEIC has supported a wide range of community organizations and efforts, such as Vermont Food Education Every Day, Bike Recycle Vermont, a solar project at the Starksboro Public Library, and Habitat for Humanity initiatives; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the increasing importance that the transportation sector plays in addressing energy policy in Vermont and beyond, VEIC established a transportation efficiency division; and

WHEREAS, VEIC was recognized as one of the "2011 Best Places to Work in Vermont", as well as one of Vermont's ten fastest-growing companies; and

WHEREAS, VEIC now employs over 250 people in green jobs throughout Vermont, and in New Jersey, Ohio, and Washington, DC;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 3, 2012 as

VEIC 25TH ANNIVERSARY DAY



in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of May, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, May 19th, 2012 is the second National Kids to Parks Day organized and launched by the National Park Trust; and

WHEREAS, National Kids to Parks Day empowers kids and encourages families to get outdoors and visit America's parks; and

WHEREAS, it is important to introduce a new generation to our nation's parks because of the decline in park attendance over the last decades; and

WHEREAS, we should encourage children to lead a more active lifestyle to combat the issues of childhood obesity, diabetes mellitus, hypertension and hypercholesterolemia; and

WHEREAS, National Kids to Parks Day is open to all children and adults across the country to encourage a large and diverse group of participants; and

WHEREAS, National Kids to Parks Day will broaden children's appreciation for nature and the outdoors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 19, 2012 as

KIDS TO PARKS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont's system of transportation relies largely on cars and trucks, but it also includes buses, carpools, vanpools, trains, walking and bicycling; and

WHEREAS, driving alone produces more pollution and costs more money over time than driving with others or utilizing alternative methods of transportation; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's beauty is tied to clean air and water, and reducing pollution from all vehicles will help protect these assets; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that during last year's 2011 Way To Go! Challenge, over 3,200 participants prevented over 350,000 lbs of transportation pollutants, reduced over 400,000 miles of driving, and saved \$90,000 in fuel expenditures; and

WHEREAS, Way to Go! Commuter Challenge 2011 has garnered the support of Vermont businesses and participants to continue and expand efforts in order to encourage the use of cheaper, healthier and more earth-friendly transportation alternatives to driving alone; and

WHEREAS, the 2012 Way To Go! Statewide Commuter Challenge, a partnership of the Campus Area Transportation Management Association, statewide Regional Planning Commissions and transit organizations, Go Vermont, Vermont Agency of Transportation, Lake Champlain Committee, Local Motion, Vermont Energy Investment Corporation, Vermont Safe Routes To School, Seven Days, and The Point, and generously supported by many other private and public sector sponsors, is a commitment to expand the use and awareness of transportation alternatives to solo car commuting in an effort to reduce pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, save Vermonters money, and improve health.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 14-18, 2011 as

WAY TO GO! WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** The freedom and security that citizens of the United States enjoy today are direct results of the bloodshed and continued vigilance given by the United States Armed Forces over the history of our great nation; and
- WHEREAS,** the sacrifices that such members of the United States Armed Forces and of the family members that support them have preserved the liberties that have enriched this nation, making it unique in the world community; and
- WHEREAS,** the United States Congress, in 2004, passed a resolution proclaiming May as National Military Appreciation Month, calling all Americans to remember those who gave their lives in defense of freedom and to honor the men and women of all of our Armed Services who have served and are now serving our Country, together with their families; and
- WHEREAS,** the months of May and June were selected for this display of patriotism because during these months, we celebrate Victory in Europe (VE) Day, Military Spouse Day, Loyalty Day, Armed Forces Day/Week, National Day of Prayer, Memorial Day, Navy Day, Army Day and Flag Day;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 1- June 14, 2012 as

MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of May, A.D. 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, water is our most valuable natural resource; and

WHEREAS, tap water delivers public health protection, fire protection, support for our economy and the quality of life we enjoy; and

WHEREAS, any measure of a successful society - low mortality rates, economic growth and diversity, productivity, and public safety - are in some way related to access to safe water; and

WHEREAS, we are all stewards of the water infrastructure upon which future generations depend; and

WHEREAS, each citizen of our state is called upon to help protect our source waters from pollution, practice water conservation, and get involved in local water issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 6-12, 2012 as

DRINKING WATER WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Commendation**

- WHEREAS,** Brandon Fire District #1 operates a groundwater-based drinking water system that serve approximately 3,865 people and does not apply any chemicals or other purification process to the water; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2000, Brandon Fire District #1 Superintendent Ray Counter sought to upgrade the quality and classification of the system, but the state had not yet established the upgrading procedures; and
- WHEREAS,** Superintendent Counter partnered with the Vermont Geological Survey to obtain STATEMAP funds to map the surface geology and produce maps for groundwater resources, and secured United States Environmental Protection Agency support to investigate the system's hydraulic connection; and
- WHEREAS,** Brandon Fire District # 1 was recently elevated to Class II status, the first and only water district in Vermont to have earned this level of classification; and
- WHEREAS,** the elevation to Class II status is an especially noteworthy accomplishment for which Superintendent Counter and the Brandon Fire District #1 Prudential Committee deserve special recognition;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

**SUPERINTENDENT RAY COUNTER AND
THE BRANDON FIRE DISTRICT # 1 PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE**

for their hard work and diligence in the process of
attaining recognition as a Class II water system

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 7th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont and other local organizations are celebrating the Week of the Young Child, April 22-28, 2012; and

WHEREAS, these organizations are working to improve early learning opportunities, including early literacy programs, that can provide a foundation of learning for children in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, teachers and others who make a difference in the lives of young children deserve thanks and recognition; and

WHEREAS, public policies that support early learning for all young children are crucial to young children's futures;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 22-28, 2012 as

WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 11th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, more than 1 in every 7 Vermonters is affected by hunger and 27,160 Vermont children are living in households where food scarcity and hunger are daily struggles, according to U.S. Census data; and

WHEREAS, as many as 86,000 Vermonters were fed last year through a network that distributed more than 8 million pounds of food; and

WHEREAS, hunger exacts a terrible and spiraling cost upon individuals, especially elders and children; and

WHEREAS, hunger is a growing problem that – directly or indirectly – affects every Vermonter; and

WHEREAS, the solutions to this crippling problem begin with education, advocacy, and action within each Vermont community; and

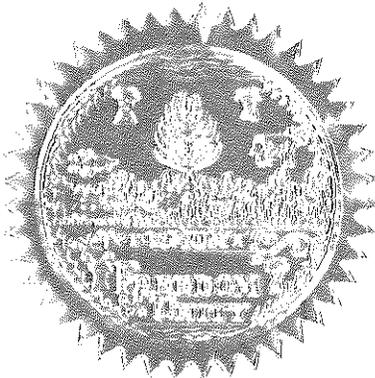
WHEREAS, Vermonters have an opportunity to participate in a meaningful way that will engage the community, raise awareness, and make a tangible contribution in the fight against hunger in Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 11, 2012 as

RIDE TO FIGHT HUNGER DAY

in Vermont and encourage residents to participate in the 11th annual Harpoon Point to Point to benefit the Vermont Foodbank.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3 day of August, A.D. 2012.




Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are nonprofit, community-based providers of comprehensive primary and preventive health care, offering service regardless of insurance status or ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are located in high-need areas identified as having elevated poverty, higher than average infant mortality, and where few physicians practice, providing care to 112,468 Vermonters in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers tailor services to fit the special needs and priorities of their communities and provide services in a linguistically and culturally appropriate manner; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are staffed by doctors, dentists, nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals who have chosen to serve in communities in need, helping to expand the reach of primary care and preventive health services; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers help contain Vermont's overall health care costs through comprehensive preventive and primary care health services, and coordinate delivery of quality care with outreach, patient education, and other enabling services.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 5-11, 2012 as

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in Vermont and encourage Vermonters to recognize the important contribution of Community Health Centers in safeguarding health and improving the quality of life for all Vermonters.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 2nd day of August, A.D. 2012.

/S/

Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth, and their families is fundamental to the future of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, the mental health of children and adolescents substantially impacts their future mental health, quality of life, and ability to contribute to society as adults; and

WHEREAS, preventive measures, early identification, and early interventions for the mental health of children and adolescents are proven to be highly cost-effective and efficacious measures that maximize their mental health status; and

WHEREAS, children and adolescents who have a higher mental health status have lower associated rates of truancy, crime, alcohol and/or drug abuse, tobacco abuse, suicide and other problems than those with a lower mental health status; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that a day should be set apart each year to direct our thoughts and actions toward our children's mental health and well-being;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 9, 2012 as

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 11th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, 15% of Vermonters are over the age of 65; and

WHEREAS, these 92,000 Vermont citizens have an important role in sharing knowledge, wisdom, and understanding of the history of our community through interactions with children, youth, and adults from other generations; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is committed to helping all individuals maintain their health and independence later in life; and

WHEREAS, our community can provide opportunities to enrich citizens young and old by emphasizing the value of including elders in public and family life, creating opportunities for older Americans to interact with people of different generations, and providing services, technologies, and support systems that allow older adults to participate in social activities in the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

in Vermont and remind all residents
that you're never too old to play.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 11th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** on average, 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the United States; approximately 70% of these are fatalities caused by drowning; and
- WHEREAS,** the vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment, equipment, or environmental factors; and
- WHEREAS,** a significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets; and
- WHEREAS,** today's life jackets are more comfortable, more attractive, and more wearable than styles of years past and deserve a fresh look by today's boating public;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 19-25, 2012 as

SAFE BOATING WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 11th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, families, serving as the primary sources of love, identity, self-esteem and support, are the very foundations of our communities and our state; and

WHEREAS, in Vermont there are over 680 children and youth in standard or specialized foster care who are being provided safe, secure and stable homes, along with the compassion and nurturing of foster families; and

WHEREAS, there are over 1,070 dedicated licensed foster families in Vermont who often adopt foster children; and

WHEREAS, there are numerous individuals, as well as public and private organizations, who work to increase public awareness of the needs of children who are currently in or leaving foster care; and

WHEREAS, it is important to honor the enduring and valuable contributions of foster parents and so many others who make the foster care system a successful, supportive network;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2012 as

FOSTER CARE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** the National Sojourners was established to organize Commissioned Officers, Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers of the United States Armed Services, who are Master Masons, into chapters for the promotion of good fellowship between members; and
- WHEREAS,** early in 1900, after the North Dakota Regiment departed the Philippines with its Field Lodge dispensation, a group of Masons organized an informal club and named it "Sojourners"; and
- WHEREAS,** additional clubs were quickly formed at Army posts and Naval bases under the name "National Sojourners Club." In 1927, the word "Club" was dropped and we became "National Sojourners, Incorporated" in 1931; and
- WHEREAS,** Sojourner efforts are directed toward Americanism and Masonic activities including speeches, flag ceremonies, presentations and other actions intended to promote national security and true love of country, with special emphasis on youth;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 2012 as

NATIONAL SOJOURNERS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** pollinator species such as birds and insects are essential partners of farmers and ranchers in producing much of our food supply; and
- WHEREAS,** pollination plays a vital role in the health of our national forests and grasslands, which provide forage, fish and wildlife, timber, mineral resources, and recreational opportunities as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for communities; and
- WHEREAS,** pollinator species provide significant environmental benefits that are necessary for maintaining healthy, biodiverse ecosystems; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Vermont has managed wildlife habitats and public lands including Vermont forests and grasslands for decades; and
- WHEREAS,** the State of Vermont provides producers with conservation assistance to promote wise conservation stewardship, including the protection and maintenance of pollinators and their habitats on working land and wildlands;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 18-24, 2012 as

POLLINATOR WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 22nd day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Relay For Life is the signature activity of the American Cancer Society and celebrates cancer survivors and caregivers, remembers loved ones lost to the disease, and empowers individuals and communities to fight back against cancer; and

WHEREAS, money raised during Relay For Life of Vermont supports the American Cancer Society's mission of saving lives and creating a world with less cancer and more birthdays – by helping people stay well, by helping people get well, by finding cures for cancer and by fighting back; and

WHEREAS, Relay For Life helped fund more than \$150 million in cancer research last year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 21-23, 2012 as

RELAY FOR LIFE DAYS

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 22nd day of May, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Beth and David London have owned and led Poker Hill School since 1978, educating over 1,000 Vermont preschool children and creating a nurturing, child-directed environment that has gained widespread acclamation and awards for early childhood education excellence, and

WHEREAS, Beth and David London have touched the lives of thousands of children, parents, and community members in the Underhill area, as evidenced by the extraordinary outpouring of support at a recent celebration at Browns River Middle School of their leadership, and

WHEREAS, the learning philosophy embodied at Poker Hill School focuses on developing a child's growth through responsibility, creativity, respect, and autonomy. Poker Hill School respects, values, and nurtures each child, and instills in them a spirit of service and responsibility to their community and the larger world, and

WHEREAS, Poker Hill School, under Beth and David London's leadership, places a high priority on teaching students to be stewards of the land, allotting them significant time to the outdoors, playing in and learning about the rich natural environment surrounding them, and

WHEREAS, in the years that Beth and David London have run Poker Hill School, many second-generation students – whose parents also attended Poker Hill – have attended and currently attend the school, and

WHEREAS, after 34 years, Beth and David London are retiring this year from Poker Hill School, with June 13 as the final day for Monday-Wednesday-Friday kids and June 14 as the final day for Tuesday-Thursday kids, now therefore

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 13-14, 2012 as

BETH AND DAVID LONDON DAYS

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** over 2,150 licensed amateur radio operators in Vermont pursue their interest in radio communications; and
- WHEREAS,** amateur radio operators volunteer and contribute their time, skills, equipment and energy to help those in need; and
- WHEREAS,** amateur radio operators provide emergency communications for public service organizations, hospitals, businesses and the public at large during emergencies and disasters, both natural and manmade, when conventional communications infrastructure may be disabled or overwhelmed; and
- WHEREAS,** amateur radio operators also provide support communications for public events such as parades, marathon races, and other events requiring central coordination and communication over wide spread distances; and
- WHEREAS,** government organizations and businesses support state and local efforts to carry out amateur radio communications missions; and
- WHEREAS,** amateur radio operators generate goodwill for the State of Vermont through their communications with others throughout the United States and the entire world; and
- WHEREAS,** amateur radio operators deserve our recognition and gratitude for the many services they provide;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 18-24, 2012 as

AMATEUR RADIO WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Commendation**

- WHEREAS,** since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' premier scholarship program in which over 50,000 students annually compete for more than \$2.3 million in scholarships and incentives; and
- WHEREAS,** selected from thousands of entrants, Lydia Ham has been named fourth place winner of the 2012 National Voice of Democracy Program; and
- WHEREAS,** for each year's event, students compete by writing and recording a broadcast script on a patriotic theme; and
- WHEREAS,** representing the VFW Alfred Pepin Post 798 in Newport, Vermont, Lydia went above and beyond in developing her essay—entitled *Is There Pride in Serving in Our Military?*—reaching out to active duty military personnel and reminding us of the pride and sacrifice inherent in military service; and
- WHEREAS,** it is necessary and proper to recognize Lydia Ham for her contributions to the state of Vermont;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

LYDIA HAM

for excellent representation of Vermont's values and her fourth place finish in the 2012 National Voice of Democracy Program.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** heart disease is the number one cause of death of men and women across the state and around the nation; and
- WHEREAS,** through the "Celebrate the Heart" initiative, members of the Rutland community dedicate their energy and passion to uniting the community and encouraging all residents to make healthy choices to reduce the risk of heart disease; and
- WHEREAS,** since 1976, Rutland has united to raise awareness and money for heart disease and, in recent years, preserve the memory of 1932 Olympian and native son Frank Crowley and his brothers Joe and Larry; and
- WHEREAS,** on Saturday, June 9th, 2012 the 6th Annual Heart Healthy Fitness Expo will be held in the Rutland Middle School's Keefe Gymnasium, followed by the 36th Annual Crowley Brothers Memorial Road Race, which will be held on Sunday, June 10th, 2012 at 8 AM; and
- WHEREAS,** this year's festivities will feature Bill Rodgers, a 1976 Olympian;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 6-12, 2011 as

CELEBRATE THE HEART WEEK

in Vermont and encourage all citizens to participate in the heart healthy events sponsored by the Crowley Brothers Memorial Road Race Committee and to become more informed about the health issues associated with the cardiovascular system and physical fitness.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 6th day of June, A.D. 2012.

/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont is celebrated for its places of natural beauty—from the scenic mountains to the rich wetlands; and

WHEREAS, conserving our natural resources and enhancing our environmental stewardship by protecting open spaces, restoring wildlife habitats, educating young people about the environment and taking actions to ensure its preservation, is an important part of ensuring that Vermont's abundant natural resources are accessible for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Great Outdoors Month provides an opportunity to recognize the community groups, environmental organizations, and state and local agencies who work diligently to protect our state's most precious treasures; and

WHEREAS, in these difficult economic times, we must renew our commitment and protection of natural resources as a means of job creation and statewide economic development through tourism and recreation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 2012 as

GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, one of the primary goals for the State of Vermont is to provide its citizens with an effective criminal justice system that focuses on quality of life and safety for all our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's dedicated correctional employees are essential to our justice system; and

WHEREAS, much is expected from the men and women who every day supervise offenders in correctional facilities and in the community and without whose daily hard work and sacrifices we could not operate; and

WHEREAS, correctional employees are skilled professionals who must act as counselors, communicators, educators and experts at crisis interventions, and must protect our safety while maintaining their professional demeanor, often in a challenging environment, and

WHEREAS, correctional employees must possess the intuitive sense to resolve conflict and support restorative activities while housing offenders in a humane environment or supervising offenders in the community, often to the risk of their own well-being, and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is pleased to celebrate Correctional Employees Week and is urging all citizens to pay special tribute to these women and men who serve so faithfully;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 10-16, 2012 as

CORRECTIONAL EMPLOYEES WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, gardeners have a passion for nurturing the beauty and resources of the earth through the planting of seeds, the care of all plants and the riches of their efforts; and

WHEREAS, gardeners seek to add beauty, splendor, fragrance and nutrition to our lives through the growing of herbs, vegetables, foliage and flowers; and

WHEREAS, gardening furnishes a challenging and productive activity for many citizens, for those just learning as well as those with years of experience; and

WHEREAS, gardeners advocate the importance of all creatures that share our world and their roles in a balanced and productive ecology; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 3-9, 2012 as

GARDEN WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, we must increase the public's awareness of scoliosis and help children, parents, adults, and health care providers understand, recognize and treat the complexities of spinal deformities such as Scoliosis; and

WHEREAS, scoliosis, an abnormal curvature of the spine, with no known cause (idiopathic), is a condition affecting 2-3% of the population, or an estimated 7 million people in the United States. Scoliosis is a condition which strikes without regard to gender, race, age or economic status; and

WHEREAS, an estimated one million scoliosis patients utilize health care yearly, with approximately one of every six children being diagnosed with this condition eventually being required to receive active medical treatment; and

WHEREAS, the primary age of onset for scoliosis is between ten and fifteen with females being five times more likely to progress to a curve magnitude that requires treatment; and

WHEREAS, screening programs allow for early detection, and for treatment opportunities which may alleviate the worst effects of the condition;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 2012 as

SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 12th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** the Bald Eagle was designated by the Second Continental Congress as the national emblem of the United States on June 20, 1782; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bald Eagle is unique to North America and has come to represent the basic American values that citizens of this nation hold dear; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bald Eagle is the central image of the Great Seal of the United States and the insignia of many branches of federal government, stamps and currency; and
- WHEREAS,** the Bald Eagle's image and symbolism have played a significant role in the American art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education and culture; and
- WHEREAS,** the Department of the Interior delisted the Bald Eagle from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007, but continues its protection under the Bald and Golden Eagle Act of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918; and
- WHEREAS,** the recovery of the Bald Eagle population was largely accomplished through the time consuming and vigilant efforts of individuals, agencies and organizations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2012 as

AMERICAN EAGLE DAY

in Vermont and encourage all citizens to support the continued recovery and protection of the majestic Bald Eagle

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 12th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Church Hinde has provided 13 years of leadership as President and CEO of the Visiting Nurse Association of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties; and

WHEREAS, the Visiting Nurse Association is a 106 year old organization that serves 1,200 clients a day and over 5,000 individuals a year providing care for clients from Birth through End-of-Life Care; and

WHEREAS, the Visiting Nurse Association includes over 700 employees and 700 volunteers, and is the largest "women's employer" in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Church has provided a strong voice for the patients and families that we serve in Montpelier and Washington, D.C; making sure that policy makers understand the needs of those our agency provided care for and the ways in which home health and hospice services helped to meet those needs; and

WHEREAS, Church has shared his skills and experience with the entire non-profit home health community as a member of the Vermont Assembly of Home Health agencies Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Church is also well-known for his health policy and non-profit management expertise which he shares with many through presentations as well as in his roles as a Clinical Associate Professor of Medicine at UVM since 1980 and as a member of the Faculty at the Marlboro College Nonprofit Management Program; and

WHEREAS, Church's leadership and advocacy have extended to other organizations in Chittenden and Grand Isle in his roles including the United Way of Chittenden County, Mercy Connections, and the Snelling Center for Government; and

WHEREAS, Church has represented the home health and hospice community in the State's health care reform dialogue as a member of the Blueprint for Health Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Church has led not just by his words but by his example as a volunteer at the VNA's Camp Knock Knock, the Father's Group at the Family Room, and at Vermont Respite House; through his participation in every VNA special event; and through his regular visits to VNA patients;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 21, 2012 as

CHURCH HINDES DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Lola Pierotti was born on June 24, 1912 and this year celebrates her 100th birthday; and

WHEREAS, throughout her distinguished career, Lola served Vermont in many capacities, from her first state house job with the secretary of state to her work as chief of staff for Senator George Aiken, always putting public service first; and

WHEREAS, in 1967, Lola and Senator Aiken married and served as a savvy political team until his retirement in 1975; and

WHEREAS, after his retirement, they returned to George Aiken's home town of Putney; and

WHEREAS, after Senator Aiken's death, Lola returned to her hometown of Montpelier and continued to serve her community by serving on the boards of many local organizations, including her most recent assignment of serving on a special committee appointed by the legislature to recommend historically accurate carpeting for the Senate chamber of the Vermont State House; and

WHEREAS, throughout her 100 years, Lola Aiken has always served as a model Vermonter, and it is necessary and proper to recognize her for her achievements;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 25, 2012 as

LOLA AIKEN DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 25th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, 25.8 million children and adults in the United States—8.3% of the population—have diabetes; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, diabetes was listed as the underlying cause on 71,382 death certificates and was listed as a contributing factor on an additional 160,022 death certificates—this means that diabetes contributed to a total of 231,404 deaths; and

WHEREAS, for children around the world, the daily fight to stay alive and counter the effects of diabetes requires a 24/7 effort that takes an unbelievable physical and emotional toll; and

WHEREAS, the second annual SLAM Diabetes waffle ball tournament has been organized to increase public awareness of diabetes, fund grants and scholarships to send children to camps designed specifically for those with type 1 diabetes, develop technology to improve the lives of those with diabetes, and fund research for a cure;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 29, 2012 as

SLAM DIABETES DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** keeping the homes, neighborhoods, schools, workplaces and communities of Vermont safe is of the utmost importance to all residents of our state; and
- WHEREAS,** the presence of crime in our communities spreads fear and destroys trust and faith in others, threatening life, liberty and general welfare; and
- WHEREAS,** it is the responsibility of all of us, from all ages and walks of life, to work together with law enforcement to keep ourselves and our communities safe from crime; and
- WHEREAS,** effective crime prevention programs excel because of partnerships among law enforcement, civic groups, schools, faith communities, businesses, and individuals to work together towards the common goal of increasing public safety; and
- WHEREAS,** Neighborhood Watch has brought countless communities together, inspiring members, bridging divides, and strengthening bonds through a willingness of neighbors to help each other build a better community; and
- WHEREAS,** Neighborhood Watch encourages individuals and groups to work directly with local law enforcement agencies to report suspicious activities and be the "eyes and ears," never intervening in law enforcement duty; and
- WHEREAS,** Neighborhood Watch, along with Crime Watch, Business Watch, is a time-honored tradition with over 25,000 programs, 7,000 law enforcement agencies and 2.5 million participants throughout the United States;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim July 2012 as

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MONTH

in Vermont and recognize the importance of Neighborhood Watch and similar programs in their efforts to improve the quality of life for all residents.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 27th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, baton twirling has been instrumental in building the confidence and character of nearly one half million young people, and has provided guidance so they can become better qualified citizens; and

WHEREAS, baton twirling plays an important role in children's hospitals as a unique form of physical therapy; and

WHEREAS, the national baton twirling championships will be held this July at the University of Notre Dame;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim July 15-21, 2012 as

BATON TWIRLING WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 27th day of June, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Commendation**

- WHEREAS,** a group of talented students from the Highgate and Green Acres apartments in Barre, Vermont have spent the last two weeks studying Shakespeare, honing theater skills, and building confidence and community, and
- WHEREAS,** many of these students have never read or performed Shakespeare before and are now bringing one of his best-loved, timeless stories, *Romeo and Juliet*, to life, and
- WHEREAS,** they are guided in this process by four talented young Vermonters who have been studying and performing Shakespeare since they were young students and are now passing that gift along to others, and
- WHEREAS,** founder-director Peter Gould continues to bring rich artistic opportunities to an increasingly diverse group of Vermont students and will continue to expand in the future, and
- WHEREAS,** the participants in this program will take everything they have learned about their hearts, minds, bodies, and voices and will use it to bring a positive, problem-solving attitude back to their homes, schools, and communities, and
- WHEREAS,** the state of Vermont is richer for having young people who are confident, articulate, creative, and empathetic—traits which are built through exposure to the arts,
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

THE FUNNERY AT HIGHGATE APARTMENTS

for their excellence in arts and community building.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of June, A.D. 2012

/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the 2012 Atlantic hurricane season is upon us; and

WHEREAS, tropical weather systems, whether a direct landfall or remnants from a distant tropical system, can produce widespread heavy rainfall in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, combined with Vermont's topography can result in historical, devastating, and life threatening flooding;

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Irene demonstrated that Vermont's greatest vulnerability to tropical systems is inland flooding; and

WHEREAS, Tropical Storm Irene's devastating damage to infrastructure, personal property, and Vermont's picturesque landscape totaled several hundred million dollars and the unfortunate tragic death of several Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, NOAA's National Weather Service in partnership with Vermont Emergency Management, other state and local agencies and the media is constantly striving to improve its weather warning services and preparedness education for the citizens of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, in the best tradition of public service, NOAA's National Weather Service and Vermont Emergency Management encourages all Vermonters to monitor forecasts, from various sources, for potential hazards and be prepared before and during periods of hazardous weather;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim July 16, 2012 as

HURRICANE FLOODING AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 12th day of July, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the Bulk is Green (BIG) Council is proud to be the leading national organization dedicated to increasing awareness of the environmental and economic benefits of shopping in the bulk aisle; and

WHEREAS, shopping in bulk offers consumers the opportunity to reduce waste by purchasing only the amount needed and decrease carbon footprints by using limited packaging; and

WHEREAS, shopping in bulk offers the consumer the opportunity to save money—anywhere from 30 to 70 percent; and

WHEREAS, the BIG Council has a goal of educating consumers about the eco-friendly and affordable nature of buying in bulk; and

WHEREAS, Bulk Foods Week is a time to celebrate the environmental and economic benefits of buying in bulk, as well as an opportunity to expand public knowledge of purchasing in bulk;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 14-20, 2012 as

BULK FOODS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of September, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, more than a century ago, hunters, anglers and trappers were among the first conservationists who realized America's natural resources were in peril and could not sustain unregulated harvest and habitat destruction; and

WHEREAS, hunters, anglers and trappers took it upon themselves to support laws that stopped excessive harvest of fish and wildlife, established game and fish agencies to protect fish, wildlife and their habitat, and supported special fishing and hunting license fees to help fund the new agencies' efforts to provide for healthy natural resources for future generations; and

WHEREAS, upon realizing that license fees alone were insufficient to restore and sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations, hunters, anglers and trappers supported excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, hunting equipment, and fishing equipment to raise additional funds to support restoration and enhancement efforts of the state agencies; and

WHEREAS, the combined contribution of the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs to state fish and wildlife agencies exceeds \$13 Billion since 1939 (the first year money was distributed to the states) – more than any other single conservation effort in American history – which constitute, collectively, the American System of Conservation Funding; and

WHEREAS, the manufacturers of firearms, ammunition, hunting, fishing and boating equipment have collected excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, archery equipment, manufactured fishing tackle, electric trolling motors, marine electronics and motorboat fuel and distributed these funds to the states through the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and

WHEREAS, this cooperative partnership between industry, hunters, anglers, trappers, boaters, recreational shooters, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state natural resource agencies has resulted in the most successful model of fish and wildlife management in the world, restoring populations from coast to coast, Alaska and Hawaii;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 2012 as

WILDLIFE AND SPORTFISH RESTORATION PROGRAMS MONTH

in Vermont and commend Vermont's hunters, anglers, trappers, boaters, and recreational shooters for their leading role in restoring healthy populations of fish, wildlife and other natural resources, on this the 75th anniversary year of America's greatest conservation story.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of July, A.D. 2012.

/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** September 17, 2012 marks the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution, providing a historic opportunity for all Americans to remember the achievements of our Founding Fathers and to reflect of the actions of Americans who for the past 225 years have exercised their constitutional rights and responsibilities as citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** the Constitution is fundamentally predicated on governance by the people, making citizens' understanding of the Constitution and its framework an essential element of the future of our country and the civic health of its populace; and
- WHEREAS,** it is fitting and proper to officially recognize this remarkable document and the milestone anniversary of its creation, and the additions to it in the form of 27 amendments; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Constitution Center, America's first and only nonpartisan, nonprofit institution devoted to the constitution, located in Philadelphia across from Independence Hall where the Constitution was drafted and signed, is the home to the 225th anniversary celebration of the Constitution;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 17-23, 2012

CONSTITUTION WEEK

in Vermont and encourage all citizens to recognize and appreciate the importance of this enduring document to our nation and reaffirm our commitment to the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 20th day of July, A.D. 2012.

/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, more than 1 in every 7 Vermonters is affected by hunger and 27,160 Vermont children are living in households where food scarcity and hunger are daily struggles, according to U.S. Census data; and

WHEREAS, as many as 86,000 Vermonters were fed last year through a network that distributed more than 8 million pounds of food; and

WHEREAS, hunger exacts a terrible and spiraling cost upon individuals, especially elders and children; and

WHEREAS, hunger is a growing problem that – directly or indirectly – affects every Vermonter; and

WHEREAS, the solutions to this crippling problem begin with education, advocacy, and action within each Vermont community; and

WHEREAS, Vermonters have an opportunity to participate in a meaningful way that will engage the community, raise awareness, and make a tangible contribution in the fight against hunger in Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 11, 2012 as

RIDE TO FIGHT HUNGER DAY

in Vermont and encourage residents to participate in the 11th annual Harpoon Point to Point to benefit the Vermont Foodbank.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of August, A.D. 2012.

/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, farmers' markets offer consumers tasty, local products including fresh, high quality meats, heirloom produce, flowers, organic items, specialty cheeses, baked goods, and much more; and

WHEREAS, farmers' markets create an opportunity for customers to meet and interact with the farmers and producers who provide the food they are purchasing, and learn more about how their food is produced; and

WHEREAS, farmers' markets support our local farmers by providing additional marketing outlets and increased revenue opportunities through direct-to-consumer sales; and

WHEREAS, Vermont has more farmers' markets per capita than any other state; and

WHEREAS, farmers' markets support our communities by providing better access to fresh, delicious food, enhancing the local economy, attracting tourism, preserving the working landscape and creating jobs while advocating healthy eating habits;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 5-11, 2012 as

FARMERS' MARKET WEEK

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of August, A.D. 2012.

/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are nonprofit, community-based providers of comprehensive primary and preventive health care, offering service regardless of insurance status or ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are located in high-need areas identified as having elevated poverty, higher than average infant mortality, and where few physicians practice, providing care to 112,468 Vermonters in 2010; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers tailor services to fit the special needs and priorities of their communities and provide services in a linguistically and culturally appropriate manner; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers are staffed by doctors, dentists, nurses, pharmacists and other health professionals who have chosen to serve in communities in need, helping to expand the reach of primary care and preventive health services; and

WHEREAS, Community Health Centers help contain Vermont's overall health care costs through comprehensive preventive and primary care health services, and coordinate delivery of quality care with outreach, patient education, and other enabling services.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 5-11, 2012 as

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in Vermont and encourage Vermonters to recognize the important contribution of Community Health Centers in safeguarding health and improving the quality of life for all Vermonters.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 9th day of August, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the use of illegal and prescription drugs and the abuse of alcohol and nicotine constitute the greatest threat to the wellbeing of America's children; and

WHEREAS, 16 years of surveys conducted by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University have consistently found that the more often children and teens eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to smoke, drink and use illegal drugs; and

WHEREAS, parents who are engaged in their children's lives—through such activities as frequent family dinners—are less likely to have children who abuse substances; and

WHEREAS, family dinners have long contributed a substantial pillar of family life in America;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 24, 2012 as

FAMILY DAY—A DAY TO EAT DINNER WITH YOUR CHILDREN

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 10th day of August, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, America's system of public lands includes parks, unique landscapes, forests, wildlife refuges, historic trails, natural streams and wetlands, nature centers, gardens and other landmark areas throughout the nation that individually and collectively represent irreplaceable national resources; and

WHEREAS, public lands provide locally accessible natural and cultural resources for environmental learning, wildlife appreciation and recreation; and

WHEREAS, public lands promote civic ideals that include shared stewardship and recognition of public ownership; and

WHEREAS, shared stewardship requires the goodwill, cooperation and active support of citizens, community, city and state officials, business leaders, children and adults; and

WHEREAS, recreation opportunities offered by public lands help families lead a more active lifestyle and reduce the incidence of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, land conservation efforts improve access to public lands by urban residents and work to break down the barriers that prevent Americans from actively utilizing their public lands; and

WHEREAS, a collaboration among state and local residents, land managers and community leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer event for public lands and has become an annually anticipated event for local participation on publicly held lands in this state of Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 29, 2012 as

PUBLIC LANDS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of August, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, through education and recreation, the Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association has helped to connect Vermonters to the natural world for twenty years; and

WHEREAS, the idea for the Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association was conceived in 1991 as a use of the Jamie Latham Memorial Fund, in honor of a young man who demonstrated a love for the Pinnacle; and

WHEREAS, Windmill Hill Pinnacle is one of Southern Vermont's most scenic peaks; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with Vermont Land Trust and the Housing and Conservation Board, The Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association has succeeded in preserving over 1,820 acres of unspoiled land; and

WHEREAS, Windmill Hill Pinnacle Association is 100 percent volunteer-run and could not exist without the tireless efforts of community members assisting with projects such as trail maintenance, fundraising, wildlife monitoring, office work, photography and education programming;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby recognize

THE WINDMILL HILL PINNACLE ASSOCIATION

for their outstanding progress over the past twenty years in preserving some of Vermont's most cherished natural resources, congratulate them for their partnership with the Vermont Land Trust and the Housing and Conservation Board, and encourage southern Vermont residents to volunteer to make the Pinnacle an even more beautiful place.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of August, A.D. 2012.

/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among children in the United States, detecting in nearly 15,000 of our nation's young people each and every year; and

WHEREAS, founded nearly twenty years ago, the American Cancer Fund for Children, Inc. and sister organization, Kids Cancer Connection, Inc. are dedicated to helping these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection provide a variety of vital patient psychosocial services to children undergoing cancer treatment at the Vermont Children's Hospital at Fletcher Allen Health Care in Burlington, as well as participating hospitals throughout the country, thereby enhancing the quality of life for these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, through its uniquely sensitive and comforting Magical Caps for Kids program, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection distributes thousands handmade caps to children who want to protect their heads following the trauma of chemotherapy, surgery and/or radiation treatments; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection also sponsor nationwide Courageous Kid recognition award ceremonies and hospital celebrations in honor of a child's determination and bravery to fight the battle against childhood cancer;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of August, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, in 1962, Castleton State College was the first Vermont State College to establish an Associate in Science in Nursing Degree Program in the Green Mountain State; and

WHEREAS, the Castleton Nursing Program has distinguished itself as a nationally accredited nursing program of excellence and has educated more than 1500 nursing professionals who have joined the health care workforce in our state, our nation, and around the world as expert clinicians and leaders in a wide variety of health care settings; and

WHEREAS, the Castleton Nursing Department has been honored by the Vermont Campus Compact with a special award for Most Engaged Department in Service Learning and continues to be a leader on campus and in Vermont for Service Learning in our communities through the altruistic efforts of its faculty and students; and

WHEREAS, the Castleton Nursing Department has renewed its commitment to promote seamless academic progression from its associate in science to a baccalaureate nursing degree to prepare nurses who will lead change and advance health; and

WHEREAS, nurses comprise the largest percentage of Vermont's health care workforce, are highly trusted and valued by the public, work as full partners with physicians, and play a critical role in providing safe, quality, patient-centered care; and

WHEREAS, this year, Castleton State College Nursing Department will honor its past, celebrate its 50th anniversary, and embrace the future with a reunion of the alumni and friends of the college;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 29, 2012 as

**CASTLETON STATE COLLEGE NURSING
DEPARTMENT 50TH ANNIVERSARY DAY**

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 10th day of August, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the independent country store has been a fundamental component of the commerce, history and landscape of Vermont since its earliest days; and

WHEREAS, the independent country store is integral to Vermont's individuality as reflected in its towns, villages and cities; and

WHEREAS, the independent country store is a year-round center for goods, news, services, information and help in times of need—often serving as the town's center of economic and social activity; and

WHEREAS, the independent country store is a welcome center that contributes to the decision to visit Vermont and makes such visits rewarding; and

WHEREAS, the independent country store continues to contribute to a critical understanding and respect for Vermont's heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

INDEPENDENT COUNTRY STORE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of September, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont apple growers help support our local, state, and national economies, enhance the quality of living for our citizenry, and contribute to the beautification of the State; and

WHEREAS, more than 260 apple growers in the State generate more than \$177 million total agricultural sales annually for the Vermont economy; and

WHEREAS, apple growers and producers of agriculture commodities in the State participate in a wide variety of conservation efforts and renewable energy projects that advance agricultural research and education and help protect the environment; and

WHEREAS, apple orchards preserve open spaces and provide families with opportunities to enjoy the outdoors and engage in treasured activities such as apple-picking; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the contributions that our apple and fruit growers make by consistently meeting the demands of consumers by providing a wide variety of fresh, locally produced, environmentally safe, and high-quality food for our residents,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

APPLE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of August, A.D. 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, over the past several decades, cars, traffic rules, driving conditions, and the roads travelled every day have changed; and

WHEREAS, even the most experienced drivers can benefit from driving refresher courses; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, there were 32 million licensed older drivers in the United States—a 20 percent increase since 1999; and

WHEREAS, most traffic fatalities involving older drivers in 2009 occurred during the daytime (81%), on weekdays (71%), and involved another driver (69%); and

WHEREAS, in 2009, 25.4 percent of traffic fatalities in Vermont were people over the age of 65—as opposed to 15.6 percent nationally; and

WHEREAS, by enrolling in refresher programs, seniors can learn to accommodate common age-related changes in vision, hearing and reaction time, and take proactive steps toward keeping themselves and Vermont's roads safer;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 2012 as

SENIOR DRIVER SAFETY MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 10th day of August, 2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont joins organizations statewide in recognizing human resource professionals; and

WHEREAS, by calling attention to human resources professionals, we recognize Vermont employers who contribute to the reputation of the state as a great place to work; and

WHEREAS, the future strength of the Vermont economy is impacted by the human resource professionals who engage employees and help them perform at their best; and

WHEREAS, human resource professionals recognize that people are their organizations' most important assets and promote the creation of fair and flexible workplaces; and

WHEREAS, human resource professionals believe that valuing and respecting individuals and teams of people working towards common goals forms the foundations of strong communities; and

WHEREAS, human resource professionals provide important leadership in creating and fostering ethical cultures and workplaces that value diversity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 17, 2012 as

HUMAN RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 10th day of August, 2012.

/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, David Grimm has been the general manager of the Champlain Valley Exposition for nearly 24 years; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, David Grimm has bettered the community by volunteering his time to many organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Champlain Valley Exposition is an economic driver for Vermont; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, David Grimm's vision has led to significant change at the Exposition including but not limited to improved and expanded infrastructure, year round special events and improved Fair operations

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 25 as

DAVID F. GRIMM DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 13th day of August, A.D. 2012.



/S/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont's past is important in understanding its future; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to keep everyone informed of the importance of Vermont's cultural heritage and interested in its preservation; and

WHEREAS, interest in Vermont's past has never been higher with the bicentennial of the War of 1812 and the sesquicentennial of the Civil War in the news; and

WHEREAS, all aspects of Vermont's history - Native American, contact and colonial periods, 19th and 20th century – are equally important and worthy of study and preservation; and

WHEREAS, much of Vermont's cultural heritage is not visible or recognizable above ground, requiring concerted, scientific investigation; and

WHEREAS, both the land and the water can yield important information about Vermont's cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Department for Historic Preservation and the Vermont Archaeological Society are the agents for informing the public of Vermont's rich cultural heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Vermont this 21st day of August, A.D.
2012.



/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, thousands of children are being raised by grandparents and other relatives because their parents are unable to do so; and

WHEREAS, the grandparents and relatives unselfishly provide for and nurture children on a day-to-day basis, often from early childhood to adulthood; and

WHEREAS, grandparents, aunts, uncles and other relatives put their life plans on hold to raise children, often in unplanned circumstances; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

KINSHIP CARE MONTH

in Vermont and honor those who serve the
children of Vermont in this capacity.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 23rd day of August, A.D. 2012.

/s/
Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, children across the globe are losing their connection with our natural world, an alienation that threatens their health, their quality of life, their readiness for future job opportunities and the future of our natural resources;

WHEREAS, children who spend frequent time outdoors enjoying unstructured and structured activity experience enhanced use of the senses, fewer attention difficulties and decreased rates of physical and emotional illness and obesity;

WHEREAS, spending frequent time outdoors is also the best way to develop a connection to nature and the foundation on which to build an environmental stewardship ethic;

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is committed to ensuring all children have the opportunity to connect with nature at an early age and build upon that connection throughout their developing years;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 22, 2012 as

HUNTING & FISHING DAY

in Vermont and recognize that all Vermont children deserve the opportunity to discover & connect with their natural world, play & learn outdoors, splash & swim in the water, camp under the stars, follow a trail, catch a fish, watch wildlife, enjoy wild game meat, explore wild places close to home, celebrate their culture & heritage, and share nature with a great mentor or teacher.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of September, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, older adults, 65 years of age and older, are the fastest-growing segment of the populations in the United States, and the number of older adults in the United States will increase from 35,000,000 in 2000 to 72,100,000 in 2030; and

WHEREAS, fall-related injuries are often preventable; and

WHEREAS, 1 out of 3 older adults in the United States fall each year; and

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of injury, death, and hospital admissions for traumatic injuries among older adults; and

WHEREAS, the average cost of a fall-related injury totals \$19,440; and

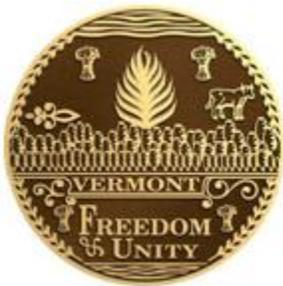
WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that if the rate of increase in falls is not slowed, the annual cost under the Medicare program will reach \$32,400,000,000 by 2020; and

WHEREAS, evidence-based programs such as comprehensive clinical assessments, exercise programs to improve balance and health, management of medications, correction of vision, and reduction of home and community hazards show promise in reducing falls; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 22, 2012 as

FALLS PREVENTION DAY

in Vermont and encourage businesses, individuals, federal, state, and local governments, the public health community, and health care providers to work together to increase the awareness of falls.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17 day of September, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont is witnessing a dramatic growth in its population of those 55 or older, a trend that will continue well into the 21st century; and,

WHEREAS, the graying of our population has already had a profound effect on public policy and will continue to help shape and affect the dynamics of our society; and,

WHEREAS, Vermonters age 55 or older are an important part of our workforce. Their contributions to the state, as paid workers and volunteers in both the private and public sectors, are immeasurable; and

WHEREAS, we are witnessing the blurring of the line of demarcation, which has distinguished productive work years from those of retirement; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Governor's Commission on Successful Aging are committed to optimizing the potential of Vermont's older workers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 23-29, 2012 as

OLDER WORKERS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of September, A.D. 2012.



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, electric vehicles provide a clean, powerful, and reliable alternative to gasoline-powered vehicles; and

WHEREAS, electric vehicles are powered by locally-produced electricity, rather than by fossil fuels imported from outside the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is significantly less expensive to charge an electric vehicle than to fill up a gas tank; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Agency of Transportation has set a goal that 25 percent of all vehicles in Vermont be powered by renewable energy sources by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Agency of Transportation, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, the Vermont Department of Public Service, the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation, Project Get Ready, and a broad array of stakeholders from across the public and private sectors have established Drive Electric Vermont in order to advance electric vehicle adoption in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, the second annual National Plug in Day celebration is scheduled to take place at more than sixty sites across the United States and Canada on Sunday, September 23, 2012; and

WHEREAS, 8 local car dealerships from all corners of Vermont are partnering with Drive Electric Vermont to host Plug in Day events at their showrooms during open hours on the weekend of September 22-23, 2012;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 22-23, 2012 as

PLUG IN WEEKEND

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of September, A.D. 2012.



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, America’s human heroes and first-responders have been well-served by rescue dogs, law enforcement and arson-detection dogs, and military dogs that risk their own lives to save human ones by detecting bombs and other explosives with loyalty and courage; and

WHEREAS, service dogs trained to help the blind, the hearing impaired, people in wheelchairs or people needing alerts to other medical conditions that could create medical emergencies have worked tirelessly and obediently to serve humans; and

WHEREAS, some of America’s pet dogs—through untrained in special skills—have performed extraordinary acts of kindness, comfort or service in innovative roles including comforting children hospitalized with cancer, the elderly in nursing homes and veterans suffering post traumatic stress disorder;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 6, 2012 as

HERO DOG DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of September, A.D. 2012.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the National Association of Secondary School Principals and the National Association of Elementary School Principals have declared the month of October 2012 as National Principals Month; and

WHEREAS, principals are educational visionaries, instructional and assessment leaders, disciplinarians, community builders, budget analysts, facilities managers, and administrators of legal and contractual obligations; and

WHEREAS, principals work collaboratively with teachers and parents to develop and implement a clear mission, high curriculum standards, and performance goals;

WHEREAS, principals create school environments that facilitate great teaching and learning and continuous school improvement; and

WHEREAS, the vision, actions, and dedication of principals provide the mobilizing force behind any school reform effort; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of National Principals Month honors elementary school, middle school, and high school principals, and recognizes the importance of principals in ensuring that every child has access to a high quality education;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as

PRINCIPALS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of September, A.D. 2012.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Central Sterile Supply Department technicians are responsible for processing surgical instruments, supplies and equipment; and

WHEREAS, serving in settings ranging from hospitals to ambulatory surgical centers, Central Sterile Supply Department technicians provide support to patient care services; and

WHEREAS, Central Sterile Supply Department tasks include decontaminating, cleaning, processing, assembling, sterilizing, storing, and distributing the medical devices and supplies needed for patient care; and

WHEREAS, the Central Sterile Supply Department of a healthcare facility is the heart of all activity surrounding instruments, supplies and equipment required for operating rooms, Endoscopy suites, ICU, birth centers and other patient care areas; and

WHEREAS, Central Sterile Supply Department technicians play a most important role in patient care arenas, and are responsible for first-line processes to prevent patient infections; and

WHEREAS, International Central Sterile Supply Department Week recognizes the contribution Central Sterile Supply Department technicians make to patient safety and the opportunities and challenges facing the profession;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 14-20, 2012 as

CENTRAL STERILE SUPPLY DEPARTMENT WEEK

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this ___ day of September, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, case management is a multidisciplinary profession that seeks to assure the delivery of quality, appropriate, efficient and cost effective healthcare services to patients throughout the State of Vermont.

WHEREAS, case managers function in a variety of practice settings including hospitals, home healthcare, long-term care, rehabilitation, eldercare, managed care, and occupational health to facilitate the coordination of continuing care services.

WHEREAS, case management is the sole medical management strategy that fosters the careful shepherding of healthcare dollars while maintaining a primary and consistent focus on patient advocacy.

WHEREAS, case management services enhance quality of life while promoting the achievement of positive healthcare outcomes; and

WHEREAS, case management is an integral component of healthcare delivery in Vermont and throughout the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 14-20, 2012 as

CASE MANAGEMENT WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of September, A.D. 2012.




Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermonters believe in the enduring value of handmade craft and celebrate the artists and craftspeople who make Vermont unique; and

WHEREAS, settlers came to Vermont in the early 18th century, bringing their skills in furniture making, pottery, weaving, metalsmithing and glassblowing; and

WHEREAS, these crafts helped build Vermont's economic base and continue to contribute to its reputation and success; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont acknowledges its appreciation to the craftspeople who have enriched the lives of people throughout the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and proper to embrace and celebrate the creativity of all Vermonters;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as

AMERICAN CRAFT MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 20th day of September, A.D. 2012.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, on behalf of the citizens of Vermont, I join Nickelodeon, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, President's Council on Fitness, Sports & Nutrition, and National Park Foundation in celebrating Worldwide Day of Play and in ensuring that today's generation of kids becomes one of the healthiest, and

WHEREAS, the rates of childhood obesity continue to rise at alarming rates, and

WHEREAS, today's children and adults don't get as much physical activity as they should, and

WHEREAS, nutritious diets and physical activity are an important component to living a healthy lifestyle and reducing disease; and

WHEREAS, Vermont is committed to working to support kids in becoming the healthiest generation,

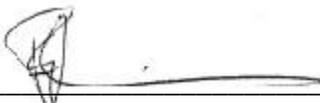
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 6, 2012 as

WORLDWIDE DAY OF PLAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of September, A.D. 2012.





Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, information technology enhances our quality of life and serves to broaden our cultural and economic horizons; and

WHEREAS, information technology companies are an important part of Vermont's creative economy; and

WHEREAS, Vermont has a long history of attracting and supporting companies that use information technology, and they continue to play an important role in building Vermont's economic future; and

WHEREAS, Vermont continues to be part of the next generation of information technology companies, and it will continue to be a destination for these innovative hi-tech companies; and

WHEREAS, information technology companies provide high paying jobs and these information technology companies fit well within the rural character of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, information technology will play an important part in creating the new jobs of the future and will continue to be an economic magnet for a new generation job of seekers;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of September, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, blood cancers currently afflict more than 1 million people in the United States, with an estimated 140,310 new cases diagnosed each year; and

WHEREAS, leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma will kill an estimated 53,010 people in the United States this year; and

WHEREAS, the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), through voluntary contributions, is dedicated to finding cures for these diseases through research efforts and the support for those that suffer from them; and

WHEREAS, LLS maintains an office in Vermont to support patients with these diseases and their family members in the state of Vermont, and

WHEREAS, the state of Vermont is similarly committed to the eradication of these diseases and supports the treatment of its citizens that suffer from them; and

WHEREAS, the state of Vermont encourages private efforts to enhance research funding and education programs that address these diseases,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

LEUKEMIA, LYMPHOMA & MYELOMA AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont to enhance understanding of blood cancers and to encourage participation in volunteer activities to support education programs and the funding of research.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 20th day of September, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the citizens of Vermont stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills; support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends. These programs build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people; and

WHEREAS, Vermont has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 18, 2012, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 28 million children in the United States have parents who work outside the home, and 15.1 million children have no place to go after school;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of Vermont, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2012 as

LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
this 25th day of September, AD 2012.



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the vast majority of Americans recognize that it is important to own life insurance to safeguard the financial security of their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, the life insurance industry pays roughly \$60 billion to beneficiaries each year, providing a tremendous source of financial relief and security to families that experience the loss of a loved one; and

WHEREAS, despite the peace of mind that life insurance brings to millions of American families, there are still too many Americans that lack adequate life insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, the unfortunate reality today is that roughly 70 million adult Americans have no life insurance, and most of those with coverage have less than experts recommend; and

WHEREAS, a recent survey found that nearly half of all Americans are worried about how their families would manage financially if they were to die tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, during times like these when so many families continue to struggle, life insurance coverage is more important than ever because most families have fewer financial resources to fall back on than in years past, increasing their financial vulnerability; and

WHEREAS, the nonprofit Life and Health Insurance Foundation for Education (LIFE) and a coalition representing hundreds of leading life insurance companies and organizations have designated September 2012 as “Life Insurance Awareness Month,” whose goal is to get consumers thinking about their need for life insurance protection, to encourage them to seek advice from a qualified insurance professional, and to take the actions necessary to achieve a financially secure future for their loved ones;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2012 as

LIFE INSURANCE AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 19th day of September, A.D. 2012.



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont recognizes the value and capabilities of its workforce, and has a strong commitment to equal opportunity for all regardless of disability, race, color, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or national origin; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont, its people, and its economy benefit when all Vermonters, of all abilities, have the opportunity to contribute their skills, talents, and gifts as part of Vermont's workforce; and

WHEREAS, workplaces that welcome of the talents of all people, including people with disabilities, are a critical part of our efforts to build an inclusive community and strong economy; and

WHEREAS, in this spirit, the State of Vermont is recognizing National Disability Employment Awareness Month to raise awareness about disability employment issues and to celebrate the many and varied contributions of people with disabilities to our workplaces and communities and affirm Vermont's commitment to an inclusive community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont and call upon employers, schools and other community organizations in Vermont to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities, and to advance its important message that "A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce," throughout the year.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of September, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, technology plays a vital role in our daily lives and in the future of our nation, whereby today many citizens, schools, libraries, businesses and other organizations use the Internet for a variety of tasks, including keeping in contact with family and friends, managing personal finances, performing research, enhancing education and conducting business; and

WHEREAS, critical sectors are increasingly reliant on information systems to support financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, utilities, health care, and emergency response systems; and

WHEREAS, the use of the Internet at the primary and secondary school levels in this state enhances the education of youth by providing them access to online educational and research materials; and at institutions of higher education, the use of information technology is integral to teaching and learning, research, and outreach and service; and

WHEREAS, Internet users and our information infrastructure face an increasing threat of malicious cyber attack, loss of privacy from spyware and adware and significant financial and personal privacy losses due to identity theft and fraud; and

WHEREAS, the Stop.Think.Connect. Campaign (www.stopthinkconnect.org) is a national effort coordinated by a coalition of private companies, nonprofits and government organizations to help all digital citizens stay safer and more secure online; and

WHEREAS, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center provides a collaborative mechanism to help state, local, territorial and tribal governments enhance cyber security; and the state of Vermont information security office provides a comprehensive approach to help enhance the security of this state; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role, and awareness of computer security essentials will improve the security of state of Vermont information infrastructure and economy; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (www.dhs.gov/cyber), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (www.msisac.org), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers, (www.nascio.org), and the National Cyber Security Alliance (www.staysafeonline.org) have declared October as National Cyber Security Awareness Month; and all citizens are encouraged to visit these sites, along with the state of Vermont <http://itsecurity.vermont.gov> and Stop.Think.Connect (www.stopthinkconnect.org) to learn about cyber security; and put that knowledge into practice in their homes, schools, workplaces, and businesses;

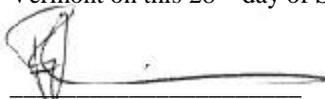
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2012 as

CYBER SECURITY AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of September, A.D. 2012.




Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, neuroendocrine tumors (NETs) often develop into cancer and, if left untreated, can result in serious illness and death; and

WHEREAS, NET cancer patients are often misdiagnosed or receive a delayed diagnosis, which can have a negative impact on their chance of survival and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, although there have been advances in the detection and treatment of NET cancers, not all patients benefit quickly enough from scientific and medical progress in the field; and

WHEREAS, with timely diagnosis and proper treatment, NET cancer patients can have significantly improved outcomes and quality of life;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 10, 2012 as

NET CANCER AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 19th day of October, A.D. 2012.



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the world is increasingly interconnected and interdependent, but too many students lack understanding of the world's geography within and beyond our country's borders; and

WHEREAS, Geography Awareness Week promotes geo-literacy and education in the nation's schools and communities, which is an essential part of a 21st century education, and has been a congressionally-mandated week since 1987; and

WHEREAS, teachers, students, and communities across Vermont will gain further understanding about how our world is made up of interconnected human and natural systems, with special emphasis this year on the 2012 theme of interdependence using resources developed by the National Geographic Society and other committed organizations during Geography Awareness Week and throughout the school year;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 11-17, 2012 as

GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of November, A.D. 2012.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a term used to refer to a group of diseases that cause airflow obstruction and breathing related problems, includes emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and in some cases, asthma and severe bronchiectasis; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 COPD became the third leading cause of death in the United States, 12 years earlier than predicted, and the only top 5 causes of death that is not declining; and

WHEREAS, COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that affects an estimated 24 million persons nationwide, half of whom have not been properly diagnosed, and 70% of whom are under age 65; and

WHEREAS, COPD is considered to be the 2nd leading causes of disability in the United States; and

WHEREAS, smoking is the primary risk factor for COPD, other risk factors include environmental and exposure to air pollution, second hand smoke, and genetics; and

WHEREAS, a genetic condition called Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency tends to cause individuals to develop COPD; and

WHEREAS, nationwide, the cost of COPD in 2010 was \$49.9 billion including healthcare services, indirect costs through loss of productivity, and the deterioration of personal health; and

WHEREAS, concerted public outreach efforts such as a DRIVE4COPD, the nation's largest public awareness and screening campaign for COPD, and the NHLBI's COPD: Learn More Breathe Better Campaign, can dramatically improve public awareness of COPD, and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for COPD, but increased awareness, early detection and proper health management can slow the progression of the disease and lead to reduced costs, improved quality of life and self-sufficiency for our residents and;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 2012 as

COPD AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of November, A.D. 2012



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in a loving, stable family; yet sadly, many children born have parents who are unwilling or unable to care for them; and

WHEREAS, more than 100,000 children in the United States and approximately 140 million children worldwide are currently in foster care awaiting adoption. For children who have lost their birth families, adoption can provide the home life, parental love, nurturing, and security that they would otherwise miss; and

WHEREAS, National Adoption Day occurs on Saturday, November 17, 2012, during National Adoption Month, and in order to help children find permanent “forever” homes, local courts in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico will open their doors to finalize the adoptions of children and join other organizations to celebrate these adoptions; and

WHEREAS, Vermont’s future depends on today’s children, and it is important to involve the media, private and public agencies, adoptive parents, advocacy groups, civic and church groups, and businesses in providing publicity and information to heighten community awareness of the crucial needs of these children and of all those who work tirelessly to place them in loving families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 17, 2012 as

ADOPTION DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of November, A.D. 2012.



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, home care and hospice services allow families to stay together, and provide for greater health, dignity and comfort in their own homes; and

WHEREAS, home care and hospice in the United States are a growing alternative to hospitalization or other institution-based forms of health care for acute and chronic illnesses, providing care to thousands of Vermonters and millions of Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of home care and hospice nurses, therapists and aides work tirelessly to provide professional health and palliative care and support to thousands of Vermonters in need of quality health services; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated home care and hospice professionals and volunteers form a support network that continues to play a vital role in health care delivery for Vermont's disabled, infirm and aging population; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Assembly of Home Health & Hospice Agencies and thousands of home care agencies across the United States have declared the month of November 2012 as National Home Care and Hospice Month and are calling on all Vermonters to observe these occasions with appropriate ceremonies and activities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 2012 as

HOME CARE AND HOSPICE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 15th day of November, A.D. 2012.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, one of our nation's oldest and most cherished traditions, Thanksgiving Day brings us closer to our loved ones and invites us to reflect on the blessings that enrich our lives; and

WHEREAS, though our traditions have evolved, the spirit of grace and humility at the heart of Thanksgiving has persisted through every chapter of our story; and

WHEREAS, in times of adversity and times of plenty, we have lifted our hearts by giving humble thanks for the blessings we have received and for those who bring meaning to our lives; and

WHEREAS, as we gather in our communities and in our homes, around the table or near the hearth, we give thanks for the many kindnesses and comforts that grace our lives. We must pause to remember those men and women of our military stationed in harm's way to protect our freedom; and

WHEREAS, in addition to giving thanks, Thanksgiving is a time to give back to our communities and to those less fortunate, to be generous with our time and compassionate with our neighbors in need;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 22, 2012 as

THANKSGIVING DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of November, A.D. 2012.



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, our deployed service members have courageously answered our nation's call to service by defending our freedoms on foreign lands; and

WHEREAS, Americans are encouraged to reaffirm their patriotism and allegiance to our flag and country, and honor the brave men and women currently deployed to protect and preserve our way of life; and

WHEREAS, since 2006, Soldier's Angels has honored our deployed heroes with a day set aside in recognition of their hard work, dedication and commitment to the United States of America;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 26, 2012 as

DAY OF THE DEPLOYED

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of November, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Commendation**

WHEREAS, the students of Swanton Central School were active in the legislative process to get snowboarding and skiing declared the state's official winter sports; and

WHEREAS, students Katie Cleary, Myriam Bouti, Jocelyn Shusda, Rachel Greenia, Alex Benckert, Michael Wilks, Cierra Adams-Cherrier, Alyssa Ashline, Alex Beebe, Brianna Cooper, Jessica Duprey, Chris Grisgraber, Daniel Laroche, Justin Marchand, Jonah Snide, Brian Zhane, and Nathan Lillquist were the driving force behind this legislation; and

WHEREAS, since 2008, under the guidance of physical education teacher Greg Carpenter and classroom teacher Kirsten Belrose, the students worked toward official recognition of skiing and snowboarding; and

WHEREAS, students, teachers, parents, and school administrators are to be commended for their perseverance, hard work and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, the official winter sports bill was signed into law on March 8, 2012 at the Vermont Ski and Snowboarding Museum in Stowe;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

THE STUDENTS OF SWANTON CENTRAL SCHOOL

for their hard work in gaining official statewide
recognition for skiing and snowboarding.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 15th day of November, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Karen Hesse, a native of Baltimore, Maryland, now calls Brattleboro, Vermont home; and

WHEREAS, Karen's studies in English, psychology, and anthropology at the University of Maryland prepared her well for a career as a writer; and

WHEREAS, throughout her storied career, Karen has written over 20 novels, primarily for young readers, that have garnered her significant critical praise and public recognition including a myriad of significant national awards; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Karen received a MacArthur Fellows Program award. In 1993, she received a National Jewish Book Award and a Christopher Award, the latter of which is given to those whose work encourages audiences to see the better side of human nature and motivate artists and the general public to use their best instincts on behalf of others. In 1998, she received both the Newberry Medal for her novel *Out of the Dust* and the Scott O'Dell Award for Historical Fiction. In 2002, she received her second Christopher Award, and in 2006 the University of Minnesota recognized her with the Kerlan Award, given in recognition of singular attainments in the creation of children's literature and in appreciation for generous donation of unique resources; and

WHEREAS, while her novels are written for younger readers, they do not shy away from difficult topics, such as racial discrimination in Vermont (*Witness*), the Holocaust (*The Cats of Krasinski Square*), and, in her latest novel, *Safekeeping*, life in a near-apocalyptic, dystopian America; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

KAREN HESSE

for her countless contributions to the state of Vermont and congratulate her for receipt of the 2012 Governor's Award in the Arts.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of November, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, following his graduation from Yale, Archer Mayor held a variety of positions both in the United States and abroad, including time as an editor, researcher, photographer, and journalist; and

WHEREAS, for the past quarter-century he has served his home of Newfane, Vermont as a firefighter and emergency medical technician; and

WHEREAS, Archer works as a death investigator for the Vermont State Medical Examiner's office as well as a deputy for the Windham County Sheriff's Department; and

WHEREAS, Archer's real life experiences have combined with his active imagination to create one of the most enduring and realistic fictional characters in Detective Joe Gunther; and

WHEREAS, whereas his first novel in the Joe Gunther series, *Open Season*, was published in 1988, and has been followed by an astounding 22 more over the next 24 years; and

WHEREAS, collectively his novels have tracked Joe Gunther's ascent from a detective on the Brattleboro police squad to the head of the fictional Vermont Bureau of Investigation even as he solves mysteries that involve traditional subjects like murder and kidnapping to more current issues like drug dependency and cyber-crime; and

WHEREAS, his novels have been collectively described as "The best thing going" by the New York Times Book Review, and Joe Gunther is frequently compared to classic crime detectives like Sherlock Homes, Hercule Poirot, and Travis McGee;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

ARCHER MAYOR

for his countless contributions to the state of Vermont and congratulate
him for receipt of the 2012 Governor's Award in the Arts.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of November, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Sharon Robinson was born in Houston to parents who were both members of the Houston Symphony Orchestra; and

WHEREAS, Sharon’s father was a bassist and her mother a violinist, which helped draw her to an “in-between” stringed instrument—the cello; and

WHEREAS, she graduated from the North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem and the Peabody Institute of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore; and

WHEREAS, Sharon made her New York debut in 1974, and has since performed with major symphonies in Baltimore, Boston, Dallas, Houston, London, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and San Francisco; as well as the National Symphony; and the English, Scottish, and Franz Liszt Chamber Orchestras; and

WHEREAS, in 1976 she joined colleagues Jaime Laredo and Joseph Kalichstein, to create the Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio which has performed worldwide for more than 35 years and is considered among the finest chamber ensembles in existence; and

WHEREAS, Robinson has participated in music festivals such as Spoleto, Mostly Mozart, Seoul Spring Festival, Aspen, Marlboro, London's South Bank, Madeira, Granada, Edinburgh, and Prague's Autumn Festival; and

WHEREAS, today, while living with her husband – Vermont Symphony Orchestra Music Director Jaime Laredo – in Guilford, Vermont, Sharon teaches privately and leads master classes worldwide and has recently joined the faculty at the Cleveland Institute of Music; and

WHEREAS, among her many accolades, Sharon has received the Avery Fisher Recital Award, the Piatigorsky Memorial Award and a Grammy nomination;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

SHARON ROBINSON

for her countless contributions to the state of Vermont and congratulate
her for receipt of the 2012 Governor’s Award in the Arts.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of November, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, it is difficult to categorize Stephen Stearns as a teacher, director, professional clown, mime, and actor because of his diversity of talents; and

WHEREAS, Stearns holds degrees from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art and the University of Washington, Seattle; and

WHEREAS, having taught theatre at Bucks County Community College, Stearns went to England for actor training, and returned to the United States to perform in Shakespeare Festivals in Oregon and Vermont; and

WHEREAS, he began his solo clown and mime career in 1977 while simultaneously creating the Horizons Project which brought professional performers into rural Vermont schools and, along with writer Peter Gould, formed *Gould & Stearns, The Clown Jewels of Vermont* in 1980 and have continued to perform since; and

WHEREAS, Gould and Stearns' original play *A Peasant of El Salvador*, has won several national awards including the Denver Global Peace and Justice Award for outstanding work in promoting justice and peace and human rights in Latin America; and

WHEREAS, Stearns's solo clown show, *Right Under Your Nose*, teaches children to transmute their handicaps into opportunities, and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Stearns founded the New England Youth Theatre in an abandoned Chinese restaurant and later moved it to an old automobile machine shop, where it has shepherded along dozens of plays over the years and trained hundreds of young actors and theater professionals, aged 3-19; and

WHEREAS, Stearns lives in Brattleboro and is rarely seen in public without a ready supply of bright red clown noses;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

STEPHEN STEARNS

for his countless contributions to the state of Vermont and congratulate
him for receipt of the 2012 Governor's Award in the Arts.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of November, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Bennington's Old First Church was gathered on December 3, 1762, the first Protestant congregation in the New Hampshire Grants which later became the state of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, church organizers were "Separatists," influenced by the religious revivals of the Great Awakening, who left homes in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts to become the first settlers of the newly organized town of Bennington the year before; and

WHEREAS, the first meetinghouse was a plain structure located in the center of the village on the green in front of the present building, and served for general public meetings, as a school, and for worship; and

WHEREAS, the present sanctuary, completed in 1805, is the first church built in Vermont that reflects the separation of church and state – the state would have no role in the maintenance of the church's building or ministry; and the church would be free to support and direct its own work; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary and proper to recognize the church on its 250th anniversary;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby commend

THE OLD FIRST CHURCH

and congratulate its members on its 250th anniversary.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of October, A.D. 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, adequate housing is essential for healthy families and communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, there were 1,954 homeless households sheltered in state-funded emergency shelters across Vermont; and

WHEREAS, the causes of homelessness are multifaceted and complex and homeless individuals and families have diverse needs; and

WHEREAS, Vermonters have a right to safe affordable permanent housing; and

WHEREAS, although many state and local agencies provide services to address the problem of homelessness, it is critical that we coordinate program development and include the community in the delivery of services;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim December 21, 2012 as

HOMELESS MEMORIAL DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of November, A.D. 2012.



Peter Shumlin
Governor