

**Proclamations Issued by Governor Peter Shumlin
Year 2015**

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Vermont Registered Apprenticeship Week
Vermont Home Care and Hospice Month

November 5, 2015
November 12, 2015

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the future of Vermont rests on the hopes and dreams of its young people; and

WHEREAS, mentors offer valuable encouragement, motivation and hope for our youth by providing a consistent adult friend and role model; and

WHEREAS, relationships with caring mentors offer youth valuable support to guide them toward making positive, healthy choices; and

WHEREAS, mentoring before, during, and after school has become an effective strategy used by schools to increase student attendance and academic performance; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that mentoring is a proven prevention technique, and mentored youth are less likely to start using drugs and alcohol, engage in physical violence, or skip school, and are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college; and

WHEREAS, mentored youth also exhibit improved resiliency, better relationships with peers and family members, and feel greater connectedness to their community and school; and

WHEREAS, partnerships among businesses, schools and other youth service organizations, and mentoring programs are an effective way for businesses to support youth within the community; and

WHEREAS, collaborative mentoring programs that are supported by the entire community, locally and statewide, are more visible and therefore able to serve more youth; and

WHEREAS, Vermont mentoring programs, Mobius, and other public and private organizations throughout Vermont are committed to working collaboratively to increase the number of quality mentoring matches statewide; and

WHEREAS, according to MENTOR, The National Mentoring Partnership, one in three youth in Vermont will grow up without a formal or natural mentor; and

WHEREAS, since 2013, Mobius has served as Vermont's Mentoring Partnership, and is committed to closing this mentoring gap by providing support for youth mentoring programs and volunteer mentors throughout the state of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, since 2002, January has been designated National Mentoring Month, a month-long outreach campaign focusing national attention on the need for mentors, as well as how each of us can work together to increase the number of mentors and assure brighter futures for our young people.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim January 2015 as

MENTORING MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 22nd day of January, A.D. 2015



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, pets provide companionship to 68% of U.S. households and 71% of Vermont households; and

WHEREAS, nearly 3 million healthy and adoptable cats and dogs are put down in animal shelters each year due to lack of critical resources and public awareness; and

WHEREAS, nearly 90% of pets living in poverty and 98% of community (feral and stray) cats are unaltered; and

WHEREAS, spaying and neutering has been shown to dramatically reduce the number of animals who are put down in animal shelters; and

WHEREAS, programs exist to assist with the cost of spaying and neutering pets living in poverty and community cats; and

WHEREAS, veterinarians, national and local animal protection organizations, and private citizens worked together to ensure the spaying and neutering of more than 68,000 pets and community cats through “World Spay Day” in the United States and throughout the world in 2014; 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 community cats on “World Spay Day.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 2015 as

SPAY/ NEUTER MONTH

in Vermont and encourage citizens to have their pets spayed and neutered.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of January, A.D. 2015

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, Ronald Reagan was born on February 6, 1911; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his life, Reagan built a successful career in Hollywood, served as Governor of California and President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, President Reagan was well known for his love of the American way of life; and

WHEREAS, President Reagan played a substantial role in ending the Cold War and dismantling the Soviet Union; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is grateful for President Reagan's public service;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 6, 2015 as

PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN DAY

in Vermont



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of January, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**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, the role of the pharmacist includes making connections with healthcare facilities,
hospitals, visiting nurses, Hospice, and others to reconcile patient medications;
and

WHEREAS, Vermont's pharmacists have helped prevent illness with the advent of pharmacist
immunizations, diabetes education, medication therapy management, and other
professional pharmacist services; and

WHEREAS, an aging Vermont population continues to need ever more medications, thus
requiring pharmacists' professional clinical skills to help patients maintain their
health; and

WHEREAS, due to increasingly complex healthcare and insurance systems, patients rely on
pharmacists to make the connection from prescriber to patient to ensure timely
dispensing of critical medicines;

NOW THEREFORE, I Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim January 29, 2015 as

PHARMACISTS DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 27th day of January, A.D. 2015

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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 percent 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 1-7, 2015 as

ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK

in Vermont and call upon Vermonters and Vermont businesses and organizations to celebrate our great entrepreneurial spirit by encouraging our youth to explore their ideas and pursue their goals.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 2nd day of February, A.D. 2015

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, African Americans have played an important role in the history of the State of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Vermont was a leader on the issue of slavery, banning slavery in its constitution as early as 1777, the first state to do so; and

WHEREAS, March 9, 2015 will mark the 150th anniversary of the date on which Vermont ratified the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution banning slavery and involuntary servitude; and

WHEREAS, Vermont was the first state to celebrate an African American graduating from college; and

WHEREAS, African American Vermonters have made tremendous contributions to our communities and to the social and economic fabric of this great state; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have become leaders in all sectors including the arts, health, education, community service, business and public policy; and

WHEREAS, we must respect and encourage understanding of the knowledge, experiences, and traditions of all populations and cultures; and

WHEREAS, the tragedy of recent national events have brought important attention to the challenges we face, and emphasize the critical need for engagement and better relationships between communities and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, we must continue to reduce and eliminate racial and ethnic disparities for all populations, and support efforts to increase diversity and promote racial equality in our Green Mountain State;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 12, 2015 as

BLACK LIVES MATTER DAY

in Vermont, and encourage all Vermonters to recognize the important contributions of African Americans



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of February, A.D. 2015

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, approximately one in four individuals are living with mental health challenges in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Vermont, like the rest of the nation, is addressing mental illness 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 organizations continue to educate the public and lawmakers about the effects of mental illness and the value of treatment and long-term recovery; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's Mental Health Advocacy Day is designed to remind all Vermonters that mental health conditions can 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 February 11, 2015 as

MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 11th day of February, A.D. 2015



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, there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered rare (each affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans) in the United States; and

WHEREAS, while each of these diseases may affect small numbers of people, rare diseases as a group affect almost 30 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected; and

WHEREAS, while approximately 340 orphan drugs and biologics have been approved for the treatment of rare diseases affecting between 11 and 14 million people according to the Food and Drug Administration, that leaves well over 15 million Americans with rare diseases who have no treatment specific to their disease; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as a sense of isolation, difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely diagnosis, few treatment options, and problems related to accessing or being reimbursed for treatment; and

WHEREAS, some rare diseases, such as “Lou Gehrig's disease” and Huntington’s disease, are relatively well known, many others are not known at all by the public so that patients and their families must bear a large share of the burden for things such as raising funds for research; and

WHEREAS, thousands of residents of Vermont are among those affected by rare diseases;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2015 as

RARE DISEASE AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 19th day of February, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** art education contributes powerful educational benefits to elementary and secondary students including: development of problem solving and critical thinking abilities, sensitivity to beauty and understanding of multicultural values and beliefs; and
- WHEREAS,** Art education advances student mastery in art production, art history, art criticism and aesthetics; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Art Education Association, in conjunction with the Vermont Art Education Association, strives to improve the wellbeing of our communities by upgrading visual awareness of the cultural strengths of Vermont and the United States as a whole; and
- WHEREAS,** our national leaders have acknowledged the necessity of including art experiences in the education of all students; and
- WHEREAS,** the residents of Vermont have joined the National Art Education Association and the Vermont Art Teachers Association in supporting the youth of our community in their intellectual development through artistic endeavors, and offering support to our committed art teachers;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 2015 as

YOUTH ART MONTH

in Vermont, and encourage Vermonters to take interest and give full support to quality school art programs, and to teachers attempting to realize that goal.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 24th day of February, A.D. 2015

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, Narcolepsy is a chronic neurological disorder caused by the brain's inability to regulate sleep-wake cycles; and

WHEREAS, Narcolepsy affects an estimated 1 in every 2,000 Americans; and

WHEREAS, Narcolepsy is an under-recognized and under-diagnosed condition; and

WHEREAS, the symptoms of narcolepsy, especially when undiagnosed, can lead to accidents, injuries, and problems with learning, and working; and

WHEREAS, Narcolepsy affects people neurologically, socially, and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, Narcolepsy affects people of all ages, with onset typically between the ages of 15 and 25; and

WHEREAS, Narcolepsy Network is a national organization, created to promote awareness of the disease and support for those who suffer from narcolepsy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim Saturday, March 07, 2015 as

SUDDENLY SLEEPY SATURDAY – A DAY FOR NARCOLEPSY AWARENESS

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 24th day of February, A.D. 2015



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, colorectal cancer is third most commonly diagnosed cancer and the third most common cause of cancer deaths for men and women in the United States;

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer affects men and women equally;

WHEREAS, the vast majority of colon cancer deaths can be prevented through proper screening and early detection;

WHEREAS, only 40 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancers detected at an early stage;

WHEREAS, the survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90 percent but is only 13 percent when diagnosed after it has been diagnosed at a distant stage and spread to other organs;

WHEREAS, if the majority of people in the United States age 50 or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, the death rate from this disease could be reduced;

WHEREAS, African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, and Alaskan Natives are significantly less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer compared to Whites;

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and beatable in most cases; and

WHEREAS, observing a Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month during the month of March would provide a special opportunity to offer education on the importance of early detection and screening.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 2015 as

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 24th day of February, A.D. 2015



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, Twin Valley Senior Center serves as a Meals on Wheels Center for seniors who may face the threat of social isolation and hunger; and

WHEREAS, Twin Valley Senior Center serves the homebound seniors and disabled in East Montpelier, Calais, Plainfield, Marshfield, Cabot, and Woodbury; and

WHEREAS, Twin Valley Senior Center provides delicious nutritious meals, warm smiles, and a safety check by dedicated community volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Twin Valley Senior Center may serve as the lifeline to neighborhoods and communities for many seniors; and

WHEREAS, Twin Valley Senior Center helps seniors stay independent and live in the comfort of their own homes; and

WHEREAS, Twin Valley Senior Center serves 170 delivered meals per week thanks to caring community volunteers; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 16 – 20, 2015 as

MEALS ON WHEELS CELEBRATION WEEK

in Vermont, and encourage all communities to reach out to seniors, people with disabilities and veterans.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of February, A.D. 2015



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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 has 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, the 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 March 13, 2015 as

DIGITAL LEARNING DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of February, A.D. 2015.



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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 9-15, 2015.

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 26th day of February, A.D. 2015.

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, Multiple Myeloma (or Myeloma), the second most common blood cancer worldwide, is a cancer of plasma cells in the bone marrow. It is called “multiple” because cancer can occur at multiple sites in the body; and

WHEREAS, Multiple Myeloma currently affects more than 83,000 people in the United States, with an estimated 24,000 new cases diagnosed each year and 11,000 losing their battle each year; and

WHEREAS, because Myeloma is a rare disease, there can be a delayed diagnosis, leading to delayed treatment. For this reason an increased awareness of Myeloma for clinicians and the general public will lead to earlier diagnosis allowing people to live longer; and

WHEREAS, continued investment and innovation is critical to achieve early diagnosis and implement the most effective and safest treatments for Myeloma patients; and

WHEREAS, although we have seen important advances in the last decade there is still no cure for Myeloma; and

WHEREAS, Vermont is committed to finding a cure for Myeloma and supports the treatment of its citizens who suffer from Myeloma and encourages private efforts to enhance research funding and education programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March, 2015 as

MULTIPLE MYELOMA AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 26th day of February, A.D. 2015



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, Engineers use their scientific and technical knowledge and skills in creative and innovative ways to fulfill society's needs; and

WHEREAS, in Vermont, engineers face the major technological challenges of our time -- from rebuilding our towns devastated by natural disasters, cleaning up the environment, and assuring safe, clean, and efficient sources of energy, to designing information systems that will speed our State and country into the future; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's engineers are encouraging our young math and science students to realize the practical power of their knowledge; and

WHEREAS, we will look more than ever to engineers and their knowledge and skills to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont, do hereby proclaim the week of February 22-28, 2015, as



ENGINEERS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 26th day of February, A.D. 2015.

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, March 9, 2015 is the 150th anniversary of the date on which Vermont ratified the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth Amendment banned slavery and involuntary servitude; and

WHEREAS, the 1863 Emancipation Proclamation freed many slaves in the states in the rebellion, but had not freed those who were in the states still loyal to the Union; and

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln worried that the Emancipation Proclamation, which was an executive order, could be reversed by a different President; and saw a constitutional amendment as a more permanent solution; and

WHEREAS, after approval by the U.S. House of Representatives on January 31, 1895, the proposed Thirteenth Amendment was sent to the states for ratification; and

WHEREAS, Vermont was the final state to ratify the Amendment before the end of the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, Vermont had a long history of being a leader on the issue of slavery, banning slavery in its constitution as early as 1777, the first state to do so; and

WHEREAS, on December 31, 1865, Secretary of State William Seward proclaimed the Amendment to have been adopted;

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth Amendment in its entirety reads as follows:

Section 1. Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

Section 2. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby recognize March 9, 2015 as the 150th anniversary of the date on which Vermont ratified the Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and call on all Vermonters to honor and celebrate this landmark anniversary in our state's and nation's history.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of March, A.D. 2015

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, Lynch syndrome, a part of hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC), is a hereditary condition that causes greater risk of developing colorectal, endometrial, urinary tract, ovarian, pancreatic and other types of cancers; and

WHEREAS, geneticists estimate that approximately 1,400 individuals in Vermont and over 700,000 persons throughout the U.S. alone have Lynch syndrome, including one in every 440 persons; and

WHEREAS, every person should know their family history and share it with their physician to determine if their family may be at high risk for hereditary cancers and every newly diagnosed colorectal cancer should be screened for Lynch syndrome characteristics to prompt risk assessment and further testing; and

WHEREAS, having knowledge of a Lynch syndrome diagnosis can increase cancer prevention through regular screening measures, and lead to earlier cancer detection and treatment; and

WHEREAS, on this day, we join together to raise awareness of Lynch syndrome in Vermont and encourage all residents to learn more about this hereditary condition, to collect their family history information, and to share it with their healthcare provider in order to assess individual risk and take steps toward prevention and detection;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 22nd, 2015 as

LYNCH SYNDROME HEREDITARY CANCER AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of March, A.D. 2015

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, March 12, 2015, marks the 103rd anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, throughout its long and distinguished history, Girl Scouting has inspired millions of girls and women with the highest ideals of character, conduct, and patriotism; and

WHEREAS, through Girl Scouting, girls gain courage, confidence, and character, and learn to make the world a better place; and

WHEREAS, through the Girl Scout Leadership Experience, girls develop the skills and lessons that will serve them throughout their lives so that they may contribute to their communities; and

WHEREAS, Girl Scouting takes an active role in increasing girls' awareness of the opportunities in math, science, sports, technology, and many fields of interest that can expand their horizons; and

WHEREAS, nearly 3.5 million current Girl Scout members nationwide will be celebrating this American tradition, and welcome girls from every background to join;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby recognize the commitment Girl Scouting has made to support the leadership development of Vermont's girls and proclaim the week of March 8, 2015, as

GIRL SCOUT WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of March, A.D. 2015



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, 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 corporation, 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

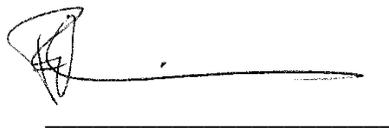
WHEREAS, THIS “One-Call” system is a free service to excavators as well as to homeowners, and it promotes safety, reduces costs and times of notifications, and helps excavators comply with safety rules and regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April, 2015 as

SAFE DIGGING MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 10th day of March, A.D. 2015

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, the Lions Club was established in 1917 by a small group of Chicago businessmen for the purpose of giving back to their community; and

WHEREAS, the Lions Club soon became known as Lions Club International (LCI), and adopted the motto “We Serve;” and

WHEREAS, in 1924, Vermont’s first Lions Club was established in Burlington, and was assigned to Lions District 33 also encompassing New Hampshire and western Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, following Helen Keller’s address at the 1925 LCI convention, the organization’s primary service mission became assisting the blind, persons with a visual impairment, as well as the deaf and persons who are hard of hearing; and

WHEREAS, in 1945, LCI realigned its jurisdictional map and transferred the Vermont Lions Clubs to a new District 44 with New Hampshire; and

WHEREAS, on June 5, 1955 at an LCI District Convention, the Vermont Lions were reorganized into their own LCI District 45; and

WHEREAS, the District 45 Lions Clubs support the LCI’s International Foundation’s activities, including working to eradicate measles worldwide, providing glasses to Special Olympic athletes, facilitating international disaster relief, and supporting other LCI activities, including the Sight First program, and the LCI’s youth programs through the formation of Leo Clubs; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Lions also sponsor many statewide programs that currently include the Lions Twin State Soccer Match, the Vermont Eye Bank at Porter Medical Center, the Green Mountain Lions Camp for deaf and hard of hearing children; and

WHEREAS, individual Vermont Lions Clubs also conduct locally originated service projects, including providing audiology equipment for schools, financing corrective surgeries, offering student scholarships, and purchasing eyeglasses and hearing aids for needy Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, today, LCI consists of 46,000 clubs and 1.3 million members worldwide, including the proud Lions of District 45;

WHEREAS, the Lions Club International’s District 45 is celebrating its 60th anniversary;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 8-15, 2015 as

LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 45 WEEK

in Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 10th day of March, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the Fresh Air Fund provides free summer experiences in the country to more than 9,000 New York City children each summer; and

WHEREAS, the Fresh Air Fund allows city children to visit the homes of volunteer host families in 13 states from Virginia to Maine to Canada; and

WHEREAS, Vermont families have been participating in The Fresh Air Fund's Volunteer Host Family Program for over 130 years; and

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

WHEREAS, the Fresh Air Fund is celebrating its 139th summer;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 20, 2015 as

FRESH AIR FUND DAY

in Vermont and recognize the valuable summertime experiences offered by The Fresh Air Fund.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 12 day of March, A.D. 2014

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, strong writing skills are essential for youth to fully engage in any learning experience, to succeed in school, college and the workforce and to become active community citizens; and

WHEREAS, strong writing skills help individuals express their beliefs, knowledge and opinions in civil and respectful ways; and

WHEREAS, the Young Writers Project was established in 2006 to encourage Vermont students to write and strengthen their writing skills as they progress through school; and

WHEREAS, the Young Writers Project provides youth with respectful space to take creative risks, share work and gain authentic audience for their best work, thus giving all of us understanding of the immense talent, humor, insight and ideas of the state's next great generation; and

WHEREAS, thousands of youth in Vermont and New Hampshire regularly participate and provide respectful support to each other through the Young Writers Project and its programs; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of teachers and their schools are participating in Young Writers Project programs as part of their own daily efforts to enhance students' engagement in writing; and

WHEREAS, devoting a public day to honor writing and to encourage school and community members to participate in a beneficial writing exercise led by the Young Writers Project has great value to youths and adults alike; and

WHEREAS, Vermonters value student learning, engagement and voice; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim March 12, 2015 as

VERMONT WRITES DAY



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 12th day of March, A.D. 2015

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, Fabry disease is a rare, progressive, destructive, and life-threatening inherited genetic disorder that causes children and adults to suffer a cascade of life-altering symptoms such as pain, decreased ability to perspire, intolerance to heat and exercise, unexplained fevers, chronic gastrointestinal upset, chronic fatigue, anxiety, depression, and excessive school and work absences. It progresses to include hearing loss, lung disease, heart disease, kidney disease, cerebrovascular disease, and other symptoms. It often causes premature death in adults due to heart attacks, strokes and kidney failure; and

WHEREAS, Fabry disease is caused by deficient activity of the lysosomal enzyme alpha-galactosidase A that causes insufficient breakdown of lipids. Lipids build up to harmful levels in the body causing lysosomal and cellular dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, there is an approved treatment for Fabry disease that must reach people who know they have Fabry disease as well as thousands of people who have not yet been recognized and diagnosed. Fabry disease is severely under-recognized and misdiagnosed. When diagnosed, it is often too late after irreversible organ damage occurs. Increased physician and family education are critical to increase disease recognition; and

WHEREAS, the current most commonly used estimate of classic Fabry disease incidence is about 1 in 50,000 males. Because of its x-chromosome inheritance pattern, twice as many females are potentially affected but with a random, more varied distribution of disease symptoms than in classic males. Recent studies suggest there are likely to be many times more people with Fabry disease than current estimates of classic disease indicate; and

WHEREAS, an enzyme assay test for males and molecular DNA test for females can confirm Fabry disease. Together, we can raise awareness to fight this tragic but treatable disorder.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April, 2015 as

FABRY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 13th day of March, A.D. 2015



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, 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, we must continue 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, 2015 as

GREAT OUTDOORS MONTH

in Vermont and urge all citizens and visitors to explore and enjoy,
protect and conserve Vermont's Great Outdoors.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of March, A.D. 2015

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, 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 Vermont Mother of the Year chosen for 2013 not only carries such characteristics with becoming modesty but has also 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 take pride in joining Vermonters everywhere in honoring Carol Willey as 2015



VERMONT MOTHER OF THE YEAR

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 30th day of March, A.D. 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is conducting its 101st year of volunteer service to America; and

WHEREAS, year after year the organization continues to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom by maintaining memorials to their service and sharing their history with our nation's youth so that what our nation's veterans have done for America will not be forgotten; and

WHEREAS, Ladies Auxiliary VFW supports the troops currently deployed overseas; and

WHEREAS, the 500,000 members represent the families of those who have served or are currently on foreign soil protecting our freedom; and

WHEREAS, members volunteer nearly 2 million hours in Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and other hospitals throughout this country; and

WHEREAS, the organization provides awards and scholarships to students based on their expressions of patriotism through art, speech, and volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, the 2014-2015 National President, Ann Panteleakos, is rallying Ladies Auxiliary members behind her theme, "**Patriotism Begins at Home;**" and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 2015, the National President will visit Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 3, 2015 as

PATRIOTISM BEGINS AT HOME DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 30th day of March, A.D. 2015



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, 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 and around the world; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,900 of Vermont's school-age children and youth have been directly affected by the military deployment or separation of at least one parent, and the difficult reintegration period that follows all deployments; 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;

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 2015 as

THE MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

in Vermont, and I do hereby 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 30th day of March, A.D. 2015

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

QUOD.CIVIBUS.NOTUM.SIT.OMNIBUS

CUM, ET.NUNC.ET.IN.OMNE.AEVUM.DISCIPULI.IN.LUDIS
SUPERIORIBUS.OPERAM.LINGVAE.LANINAE.DARE
DEBEANT

CUMQUE, USUI.OMNIBUS.SIT.LINGUA.LATINA.ET.BENE
DICENDO.LINGUAM.ANGLICAM.ET.EAM.VALDE
SCRIBENDO

CUM.QUOQUE, OMNIA.QUAE.AD.HOC.STUDIUM.PERTINEANT.ET LUDIS.
SUPERIORIBUS.ET.IN.UNIVERSITATE
VIRDMONTANA.AGI.DEBEANT.ET

CUM.DENIQUE, IV.ID.APR.MULTI.LUDORUM.DISCIPULI.IN.
REPUBLICA.VIRIDIMONTANA.QUI.REBUS.LATINS.
OCCUPATI.SUNT.IN.UNIVERSITATE.VIRDIS.MONTIS.
CONGREGARI.DEBEANT.AD.LUDOS.VERMONTENSES.
CONCELEBRANDOS.NONO.ET.TRICENSIMO.ANOO.
FESTI.ANNIVERSARII.

IDEO.EGO, PETRUS SHUMLIN.REIP.VIRDIS.MONTIS
GUBERNATOR.DECREVI.UT.AB.NON.APR.
SPATIUM.ADUSQUE.III.ID.APR.NUNCUPETUR.
HEBDOMAS.LATINA.VIRIDIMONTANA.QUOD
DECRETUM.MANU.MEA.ATQUE.SIGILLO.IPSE.
CONFIRMAVI



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 30th day of March, A.D. 2015

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

Petrus Shumlin
Gubernator

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, both now and for all time to come, pupils in upper schools should pay heed to the Latin tongue; and

WHEREAS, the Latin tongue is of use to all, both in speaking and in writing the English language with style and effect; and

WHEREAS, the importance of the study and understanding of the Latin language cannot be understated; and

WHEREAS, on the 10th day of April, many of the school pupils in Vermont who concern themselves with matters of Latin will come to an assembly at the University of Vermont in the thirty-ninth year of the annual festival;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 5 through April 11, 2015 as

LATIN WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of March, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, U.S. Masters Swimming (USMS), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that is headquartered in Sarasota, Florida; and

WHEREAS, USMS represents 60,000 USMS adult members who swim with its more than 1,000 local adult swim programs across the country; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control estimates that 37 percent of American adults could not save themselves if they fell in water over their heads. With the inability to swim affecting people’s lives in a broad spectrum of ways with direct negative implications on American’s quality of life; and

WHEREAS, adult drowning is a problem we can solve – teaching adults to swim is the central cause of the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation, the charitable arm of USMS; and

WHEREAS, the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation has provided grant resources to New England adult swimming programs so they may teach potentially thousands of adults who might not otherwise have the opportunity, especially in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, the grants to the adult swimming programs for the Adult Learn to Swim program is privately provided by the charitable and generous contributions of 60,000 USMS members and supporters; and

WHEREAS, April is ideal month for this designation as indoor pools have the greatest availability for such programs before the summer season; and

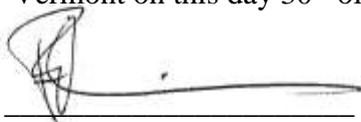
WHEREAS, nationally, April is being recognized as Adult Learn to Swim Month, and with the help of state governments throughout our great nation highlighting this lifesaving effort, the commendable goal of making water available for fun, fitness and health to our fellow non-swimming neighbors can be attained.

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

ADULT LEARN TO SWIM MONTH

In Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this day 30th of March, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** children, Vermont’s most precious resource, must be guaranteed their health, well-being and protection; and
- WHEREAS,** 42% of all substantiated child abuse incidents in Vermont in 2013 involved sexual abuse and 14% physical abuse; and
- WHEREAS,** infants and toddlers have died as a result of abusive head trauma and as stated in Act One of 2009: “Prevention is the most important and most often overlooked tool available to the state to fight violence against children.” While there is a coordinated statewide approach to stop abuse before it happens, it must provide safety and treatment for victims and offenders; and
- WHEREAS,** firm action by Vermont’s judicial system and the Vermont Department for Children and Families and Vermont’s Child Advocacy Centers to protect children who have been abused, coupled with prevention and early intervention programs and initiatives, such as Circle of Parents®, home visitation, Early Essential Education, SAFE-T, Care for Kids, KidSafe Collaborative, Commit to Kids, Strengthening Families Framework, quality child care and the Nurturing Parenting Programs®, significantly contribute to the reduction of child abuse in Vermont; and
- WHEREAS,** all forms of child abuse, sexual, physical, emotional, and neglect can lead to physical and behavioral health problems including heart disease, cancer, high blood pressure, obesity, substance abuse and incarceration which inevitably affects our families, schools, and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** parents, foster parents, social workers, health and mental health professionals, educators, law enforcement officers, victim advocates, home visitors, parent educators, domestic violence and rape crisis workers, hot line workers, mentors, guardian ad litem and other volunteers demonstrate a daily commitment to children and families who fall prey to violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont, do hereby proclaim
April, 2015, as

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

In Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 30th of March, A.D., 2015.



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, 9-1-1 is nationally recognized as the number to call in an emergency to receive immediate help from police, fire, emergency medical services, or other appropriate emergency response entities; and

WHEREAS, 9-1-1 was designated by Congress as the national emergency call number under the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-81); and

WHEREAS, the ENHANCED 911 Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-494) established enhanced 9-1-1 as a high national priority as part of our Nation's homeland security and public safety; and

WHEREAS, people of all ages use 9-1-1, and it is critical to educate the public of all ages on the proper use of 9-1-1; and

WHEREAS, in Vermont, it is possible to text to 9-1-1 if a voice call is not possible, which increases rescue for those who are unable to speak or hear, those at risk of being overheard placing a voice call, and those who are out of range for voice calls; and

WHEREAS, thousands of 9-1-1 calls are made every year by children properly trained on the use of 9-1-1, resulting in lives saved which underscores the critical importance of training children early in life about 9-1-1; and

WHEREAS, there is widespread misuse of the 9-1-1 system, including accidental and non-emergency calls, which can result in costly and inefficient use of 9-1-1 and emergency response resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April, 2015 as

9-1-1 EDUCATION MONTH

in Vermont, and call upon all government officials, parents, teachers, school administrators, caregivers, businesses leaders, non-profit organizations, and the people of the United States to observe this month with training, events, and activities to educate the public on 9-1-1 and its services.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 31st day of March, A.D. 2015

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, autism, the fastest growing developmental disability in the United States, affecting more than two million people, is an urgent public health crisis that demands a national response; and

WHEREAS, autism is the result of a neurological disorder that affects the normal functioning of the human brain, and can affect anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic background; and

WHEREAS, symptoms and characteristics of autism may present themselves in a variety of combinations and can result in significant lifelong impairment of an individual's ability to learn, develop healthy interactive behaviors, and understand verbal as well as nonverbal communication; and

WHEREAS, the effort to address autism continues, doctors, therapists, and educators can help persons with autism overcome or adjust to its challenges and provide early, accurate diagnosis and the resulting appropriate education, intervention, and therapy that are vital to future growth and development; and

WHEREAS, ensuring that persons living with autism have access to the lifelong care and services needed to pursue the full measure of personal happiness and achieve their greatest potential; and

WHEREAS, Vermont is honored to take part in the annual observance of Autism Awareness Month and World Autism Day in the hope that it will lead to a better understanding of the disorder;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2015 as **AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH**, and April 2, 2015 as **WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY**, to raise public awareness of autism and the myriad of issues surrounding autism, as well as to increase knowledge of the programs that have been and are being developed to support individuals with autism and their families.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th of March, A.D. 2015

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, Parkinson's disease is a progressive neurological movement disorder of the central nervous system, which has a unique impact on each patient; and

WHEREAS, according to the Parkinson's Action Network, the Parkinson's disease Foundation, the National Parkinson Foundation, the American Parkinson Disease Association and the National Institutes of Health, there are over one million Americans diagnosed with Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, symptoms include slowness, tremor, difficulty with balance and speaking, rigidity, cognitive and memory problems; and

WHEREAS, although new medicines and therapies may enhance life for some time for people with Parkinson's, more work is needed for a cure; and

WHEREAS, increased education and research are needed to help find more effective treatments with fewer side effects and ultimately a cure for Parkinson's disease; and

WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary approach to Parkinson's disease care includes local wellness, support, and caregiver groups; and

WHEREAS, April has been proclaimed as World Wide Parkinson's Awareness Month for all to recognize the need for more research and help in dealing with the devastating effects of Parkinson's disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2015 as

PARKINSON'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of March, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the diagnosis of many esophageal cancers has remained steady or declined, certain types of esophageal cancer diagnoses have increased in the United States in the past 20 years; and

WHEREAS, esophageal cancer has low survival rates because it is usually discovered at advanced stages when prognosis is poor; and

WHEREAS, esophageal cancer in the U.S. can be 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 time; 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 an 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, 2015 as

ESOPHAGEAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 31st day of March, A.D. 2015

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 7, 2015 as

DAY OF PRAYER



in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 1st day of April, A.D. 2015

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, 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, Vermont is leading the nation through Act 113 legislation which measures the state of Vermont's economic, environmental, and societal well-being as a supplement to the measurement derived from the gross state product and other existing statistical measurements; 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, 2015, 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 2nd day of April, A.D. 2015



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, since 2010, the Vermont National Guard has made tremendous and meaningful progress toward addressing sexual assault and has established and built a sexual violence prevention and response program that empowers survivors of sexual violence to speak out and receive help; and

WHEREAS, in April, the Vermont National Guard, and State of Vermont, observes Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Under this year's theme, "Eliminate Sexual Assault, know your part, do your part," we reinforce our determination to take the offensive in the fight against sexual assault. We stress the critical role of every service member in our Military's family to prevent sexual assault and advocate for the victims and survivors of those crimes; and

WHEREAS, through initiatives such as the Cultural Transformation Task Force, the Vermont National Guard works throughout the year to promote sexual violence awareness, prevention and intervention. April provides an additional opportunity for all leaders to promote action and encourage bystanders to intervene and survivors to report crimes. Sexual assault is a national problem that affects civilian and military communities alike. When it occurs within the National Guard, it compromises our force readiness and capability to successfully achieve missions; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of the Vermont National Guard is dedicated to creating a climate where survivors feel empowered to report crimes against them and all service members feel responsible for preventing sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont National Guard strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners. We understand this alone is not enough and call upon every citizen and service member to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence by stepping up and taking appropriate steps to support one another to create a safer, more positive, environment for everyone; and

WHEREAS, only by working together will we achieve an environment free of sexual violence, where inappropriate behaviors are not condoned, tolerated or ignored; where bystanders intervene, where victims are supported and feel safe to report crimes and where commanders hold offenders appropriately accountable. As a National Guard family, we must commit to eliminating sexual assault by each doing our part to prevent and defeat this insider threat; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, PETER SHUMLIN, Governor do hereby proclaim April 2015 as

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

in Vermont



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3 day of April, A.D. 2015

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, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945—six million Jews were murdered; Roma (Gypsies), people with disabilities, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons; and millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war, and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, the people of Vermont will always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside for the people of Vermont to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all peoples; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980), the United States Holocaust Memorial Council designates the Days of Remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, April 12, through Sunday, April 19, 2014, including the Day of Remembrance known as Yom Hashoah, April 16, 2015

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 12- April 19, 2015 as

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE

in Vermont in memory of the victims of the Holocaust and in honor of the survivors as well as the rescuers and liberators, and further proclaim that we, as citizens of Vermont, should work to promote human dignity and confront hate whenever and wherever it occurs.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 7th day of April, A.D. 2015



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, in 2015, the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) celebrates 125 years of the volunteer spirit; and

WHEREAS, the GFWC was founded in 1890 and since that time, has brought together local affiliated women's clubs in every state and in more than a dozen countries with over 100,000 members; and

WHEREAS, the GFWC is dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service, and the local work of affiliate clubs to create global change by supporting the arts, preserving natural resources, advancing education, promoting healthy life styles, encouraging civic involvement and working toward world peace and understanding; and

WHEREAS, during GFWC's first century its accomplishments included establishing 75 percent of the nation's public libraries, developing kindergartens in public schools, and working for food and drug regulation. GFWC has partnered with Easter Seals, Heifer International, Operation Smile, Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership, March of Dimes, all organizations with projects helping a variety causes; and

WHEREAS, during its second century, the Federation has pledged its commitment to working for a better world. With "Unity in Diversity" as its motto and a strong umbrella of programs that clubs adapt to suit the needs of their communities, GFWC encourages the flexibility that has enabled it to expand its reach in a rapidly changing society; and

WHEREAS, the GFWC is a national leader in the fight to end domestic violence, as demonstrated in 2011 with the launching of the GFWC Success for Survivors Scholarship which awards post-secondary education scholarships to survivors of domestic violence, giving them hope for a better tomorrow by obtaining a post-secondary education that will offer the chance to reshape their future by securing employment and gaining personal independence; and

WHEREAS, the GFWC Vermont Clubs, being forward thinking, had established in 1993 their own scholarship program known as the Barbara Jean Barker Scholarship for displaced homemakers, making awards of \$500 to \$1500 annually to qualifying women in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Vermont GFWC raised and donated more than \$5000 and volunteered close to 6,000 hours in their communities during 2014, and currently has 217 club members across Vermont who support food banks, scholarships, shelters for abused women and children, mentor programs in schools and Meal on Wheels; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 24, 2015 as

GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th ay of April, A.D. 2015



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, libraries create potential and possibilities within their communities, campuses and schools;

WHEREAS, libraries level the playing field for all who seek information and access to technologies;

WHEREAS, libraries continuously grow and evolve in how they provide for the needs of every member of their communities;

WHEREAS, libraries and librarians open up a world of possibilities through innovative STEAM programing, Makerspaces, job-seeking resources, and the power of reading;

WHEREAS, librarians are trained, tech-savvy professionals, providing technology training and assistance and access to downloadable content, including e-books;

WHEREAS, libraries support democracy and effect social change through their commitment to provide equitable access to information for all library users regardless of race, ethnicity, creed, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or socio-economic status;

WHEREAS, libraries, librarians, library workers and supporters across America are celebrating National Library Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Governor Peter Shumlin, proclaim April 12-18, 2015 as

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

in Vermont. I encourage all Vermonters to visit their library this week to take advantage of the vast array of library resources and programs available @ your library, and to thank their librarians and library workers for making these services available. Unlimited possibilities @ your library!



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 7th of April, A.D. 2015.

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, one in every 2,500 pregnancies are diagnosed with a congenital diaphragmatic hernia (CDH); and

WHEREAS, since 2000, it is estimated that over 500,000 babies have been born with CDH; however, only 50 percent of those babies survived; and

WHEREAS, CDH is as common as spina bifida and cystic fibrosis; however, very few people know about it or are aware of it; and

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

WHEREAS, there are many people living in Vermont who have been diagnosed with and have survived CDH; although many families in Vermont have endured the horrible pain and grief associated with the loss of loved ones with CDH; 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 with it and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2015 as

CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA ACTION DAY



in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 7th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, 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 15-21, 2015 as

POLLINATOR WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of April, A.D. 2015



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, Jack Glazebrook began his career with the Woburn, Massachusetts Boys' Club in 1966. During this five year period he gained experience and confidence to help even more youth; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, he became Executive Director of the Taunton Boys' Club, the first ever Executive Director of that Club, and during his eight years there grew the membership from 238 to over 1,200; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, he began 18 years of service to the Lowell Boys Club in Lowell, Massachusetts as Executive Director. During his tenure, Jack grew the budget from \$200,000 to near \$700,000 annually and expanded partnerships with individuals, corporations, foundations and government; and

WHEREAS, recognized for his organizational and development skills and his never-ending drive to help young people, Jack was named a Regional Service Director with Boys and Girls Clubs of America in 1997. His leadership had an impact throughout the Northeast. New clubs opened, and additional resources and a strong board volunteer base were established; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Government Relations of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America reached out to Jack in 2004. As a Government Relations Director for the past eleven years he has helped grow pass-through financing to local clubs from \$30 million to more than \$100 million, ensuring success for clubs throughout the Northeast and Midwest for years to come; and

WHEREAS, for the past 49 years, Jack has inspired Clubs, Alliances, fellow professionals and volunteers to do their very best to help our youth; and

WHEREAS, he has clearly lived his life to work toward the mission of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America: "To enable all young people especially those who need us most to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens."

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

JACK GLAZEBROOK

for his dedication to the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 9th day of April, A.D. 2015



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, 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 commend

FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROFESSIONALS

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 9 day of April, A.D. 2015

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, there are more than 123,000 Americans, with more than 5,000 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 donor by enrolling in the Vermont Donor Registry when we apply for, or renew, our drivers licenses or by registering on-line at www.DonateLifeVT.org; and

WHEREAS, 95% of all people in Vermont who register to become a donor do so at the Department of Motor Vehicles, it is fitting that Vermont join in the national goal of signing up 50% of our driving population to become donors and is dedicated to making it fast and easy to sign up to save a life through our Department of Motor Vehicles; 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 2015 as

DONATE LIFE MONTH

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



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, as Vermont citizens increase their personal finance knowledge and skills, the financial well-being of the individual and the State will improve; and

WHEREAS, as Vermont citizens improve their financial literacy they will be better equipped to effectively manage their finances in an increasingly complex financial world; and

WHEREAS, national research continues to highlight points of concern for how Americans manage personal debt, retirement savings, and daily budgetary challenges; and

WHEREAS, it is important for both adults and youth to demonstrate proficiency in personal financial management; 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, 2015 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 Month will help raise public awareness about the importance of financial education in Vermont;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim **April 2015** as

FINANCIAL LITERACY 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 9th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, 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 April, 2015 as

GRANGE MONTH
in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of April, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, neurofibromatosis (NF), a debilitating tumor disorder, affects over 100,000 Americans; and

WHEREAS, Neurofibromatosis, Inc., Northeast has worked for over 25 years on its mission to find a cure for NF; and

WHEREAS, by funding and promoting research, providing hope and support for NF patients, and raising awareness, Neurofibromatosis, Inc. is working at the grassroots level to find a cure for this tragic disease; and

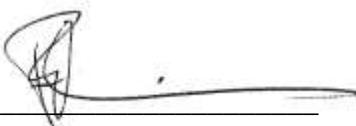
WHEREAS, Vermont's NF patients and families are determined to make neurofibromatosis a household word;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

NEUROFIBROMATOSIS MONTH

in Vermont and encourage citizens to raise awareness of this event and participate fittingly.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, nearly fifty-two 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, in 2013, Vermont women working full-time earned 83% of the earnings of full-time working men, indicating modest progress in pay equity; and

WHEREAS, on average, Vermont women who are employed full-time lose a combined total of approximately \$756,255,852 every year in lost wages, negatively impacting retirement savings, Social Security and pension benefits; and

WHEREAS, according to the Vermont Department of Labor, women are almost half of the state's workforce, making their earnings essential to the economic security of Vermont families; and

WHEREAS, equal pay for women will contribute to the economic prosperity of all Vermonters;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 14, 2015 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 encourage businesses to sign onto *Vermont's Equal Pay Compact* to help achieve pay equity.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of April, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Shumlin', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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 Vermont is called upon to help protect our source waters from pollution, to practice water conservation, and to get involved in local water issues by getting to know their water;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 3-9, 2015 as

DRINKING WATER WEEK

in Vermont, and encourage Vermonters to make every week Drinking Water Week.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, 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, 2015 as



EARTH DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of April, A.D. 2015.

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, Heterotaxy syndrome is a rare congenital defect in which the major visceral organs are distributed abnormally within the chest and abdomen;

WHEREAS, Heterotaxy effects four babies for every 1,000,000 born;

WHEREAS, Heterotaxy syndrome is equally common in boys and girls and occurs in all ethnic groups;

WHEREAS, recent advances in medical treatment and surgical repairs have greatly increased the life span for those with Heterotaxy;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 4, 2015 as



HETEROTAXY AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 15th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, Vermont’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, the theme for Building Safety Month 2015, “Resilient Communities Start with Building Codes,” encourages all Americans to raise awareness of the importance of building safe and resilient construction, and recognizes that lives have been saved due to the implementation of safety codes by local and state agencies; 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, 2015 as

BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 15th day of April, A.D. 2015



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, the State of Vermont includes a thriving community of older Americans who deserve recognition for their contributions and sacrifices to ensure a better life for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is committed to helping all individuals live longer, healthier lives in the communities of their choice for as long as possible; and

WHEREAS, since 1965, the Older Americans Act has provided services that help older adults remain healthy and independent by complementing existing medical and health care systems, helping prevent hospital readmissions, and supporting some of life's most basic functions, such as bathing or preparing meals; and

WHEREAS, these programs also support family caregivers, address issues of exploitation, neglect and abuse of older adults, and adapt services to the needs of Native American elders; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the value of community engagement and service in helping older adults remain healthy and active while giving back to others; and

WHEREAS, our community can provide opportunities to enrich the lives of individuals of all ages by:

- Promoting and engaging in activity, wellness, and social inclusion.
- Emphasizing home- and community-based services that support independent living.
- Ensuring community members of all ages benefit from the contributions and experience of older adults.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

in Vermont, and encourage every resident to celebrate older adults and the people who serve and support them as powerful and vital individuals who greatly contribute to the community.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 6th day of May, A.D. 2015

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, citizens of Vermont recognize the vital role that swimming and aquatic-related activities relate to good physical and mental health and enhance the quality of life for all people; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Vermont understand the essential role that education regarding the topic of Water Safety plays in preventing drowning and recreational water-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, the state of Vermont is aware of the contributions made by the recreational water industry, as represented by the Association of Pool & Spa Professionals, the National Recreation & Park Association and the World Waterpark Association in developing safe swimming facilities, aquatic programs, home pools and spas, and related activities providing healthy places to recreate, learn and grow, build self-esteem, confidence and sense of self-worth which contributes to the quality of life in our community; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Vermont recognize the ongoing efforts and commitments to educate the public on pool and spa safety issues and initiatives by the pool, spa, waterpark, recreation and parks industries; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Vermont understand the vital importance of communicating water safety rules and programs to families and individuals of all ages, whether owners of private pools, users of public swimming facilities, or visitors to waterparks;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May, 2015 as



WATER SAFETY MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of April, A.D. 2014

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, hundreds of people die and thousands are injured each year in the United States as a result of electrically-related incidents; and

WHEREAS, on average, there are 418 civilian deaths related to electrical home structure fires each year; and

WHEREAS, property damage resulting from home fires caused by electrical failure or malfunction amounts to more than \$1.4 billion annually; and

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

WHEREAS, citizens are encouraged to inspect their homes and workplaces for possible electrical hazards; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) is dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety in the home, school and workplace through education, awareness and advocacy:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of Vermont, do hereby proclaim May 2015, as

ELECTRICAL SAFETY MONTH

in Vermont and encourage all citizens to observe the importance of establishing and practicing electrical safety habits in the home, school and workplace to reduce the number of electrically-related fires, injuries and deaths.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of April, A.D. 2015.

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, stroke occurs at a rate of 1 in 2700 live births each year and in 12 in 100,000 children per year, with stroke being the sixth leading cause of death in children; and

WHEREAS, between 50 and 85 percent of infants and children who have a Pediatric Stroke will have serious, permanent neurological disabilities, including paralysis, seizures, speech and vision problems, attention, learning and behavioral difficulties, and may require ongoing physical therapy and surgeries; and

WHEREAS, the life-long health concerns and treatments resulting from Pediatric Stroke result in a heavy financial and emotional toll on the child, the family, and society; and

WHEREAS, very little is known about the cause, treatment and prevention of Pediatric Stroke; Pediatric Stroke risk factors, symptoms, prevention efforts, and treatment are often different in children than in adults; only through medical research can effective treatment and prevention strategies for Pediatric Stroke be identified and developed; and

WHEREAS, an early diagnosis and commencement of treatment of Pediatric Stroke greatly improves chances of recovery and prevention of recurrence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May, 2015 as

PEDIATRIC STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont and urge all citizens to join me in supporting the efforts, programs, services, and advocacy the Children's Hemiplegia and Stroke Association provides as they strive to enhance public awareness of Pediatric Stroke.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, as many as 15 million Americans have food allergies; nearly 6 million are children under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the prevalence of food allergy is increasing among children; and

WHEREAS, eight foods cause 90% of all food allergy reactions in the U.S.: shellfish, fish, milk, eggs, tree nuts, peanuts, soy, and wheat. Symptoms of a food-allergic reaction can include hives, vomiting, diarrhea, respiratory distress, and swelling of the throat; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, food allergy results in more than 300,000 ambulatory care visits a year involving children under 18. Reactions typically occur when an individual unknowingly eats a food containing an ingredient to which they are allergic; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for food allergy, and scientists do not understand why. Strict avoidance of the offending food is the only way to prevent an allergic reaction; and

WHEREAS, anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction that is rapid in onset and may cause death; and

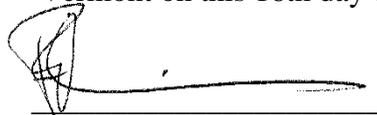
WHEREAS, Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE) is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life and health of individuals with food allergies, and to provide them hope through the promise of new treatments;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 10-16, 2015 as

FOOD ALLERGY AWARENESS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 16th day of April, A.D. 2014



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis or ALS is better known as Lou Gehrig's disease; and

WHEREAS, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horns of the spinal cord; and

WHEREAS, the initial symptom of ALS is weakness of the skeletal muscles, especially those of the extremities; and

WHEREAS, as ALS progresses the patient experiences difficulty in swallowing, talking, and breathing; and

WHEREAS, ALS eventually causes muscles to atrophy and the patient becomes a functional quadriplegic; and

WHEREAS, ALS does not affect a patient's mental capacity, so that the patient remains alert and aware of his or her loss of motor functions and the inevitable outcome of continued deterioration and death; and

WHEREAS, on average, patients diagnosed with ALS only survive two to five years from the time of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, ALS has no known cause, means of prevention, or cure; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs implemented regulations to establish a presumption of service connection for ALS; and

WHEREAS, a national ALS patient registry, administered by the Centers for Disease Control, is currently identifying cases of ALS in the United States and may become the single largest ALS research project ever created; and

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month increases the public's awareness of ALS patients' circumstances and acknowledges the terrible impact this disease has not only on the patient but on his or her family and the community and recognizes the research being done to eradicate this horrible disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

AMYOTROPHIC LATERAL SCLEROSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of April A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, April marks the 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 took the further step to ensure fair housing in 2012 by enacting a law prohibiting discrimination against housing developments in land use and planning decisions based on the income of intended residents; 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, only through the continued cooperation, commitment and support of all Vermonters can barriers to fair housing be permanently removed from our state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April, 2015 as



FAIR HOUSING MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, it is in everyone’s best 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 an individual’s documents immediately available to 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;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim April 12-18, 2015 as

ADVANCE DIRECTIVE WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 16th day of April, A.D. 2015



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, public works infrastructure, facilities and services are of vital importance to sustainable communities and to the health, safety and well-being of the people of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, public works facilities and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of the public works professionals, engineers, managers and employees from State and local Government and the private sector who plan, design, build, operate, and maintain the transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings, and other structures and facilities essential to serve our citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for Vermonters to understand the importance of public works and public works programs in their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, 2015 marks the 55th annual National Public Works Week sponsored by the American Public Works Association;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 17-23, 2015 as

NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK

in Vermont, and I encourage all Vermonters to recognize the contributions of our public works professionals, engineers, managers and employees.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 27th day of April, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, in Vermont, trees and forests are a way of life and are integral to our economy and well-being; and

WHEREAS, trees and forests can create jobs and increase home values; keep our air clean to breathe and our water safe to drink; promote physical fitness and improve mental health; mitigate the impacts of climate change and provide habitat for native animals; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's trees and town forests make our communities a better place to live, work and play; and

WHEREAS, 2015 is the Centennial Anniversary of Vermont's Municipal Forest Act, the enabling legislation authorizing the purchase of land by towns for all the benefits they provide; and

WHEREAS, on Arbor Day, Vermonters are encouraged to celebrate and recognize the valuable contribution of trees and forests, particularly Vermont's 349 town forests; and become active stewards in their care; and

WHEREAS, the first Friday in May is the day Vermonters come together to celebrate our deep tradition in and commitment to trees and forests;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2015 as

ARBOR DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 28th day of April, A.D. 2015

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, every five minutes, a woman in the U.S. is told she has lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, lung cancer is the #1 cancer killer of women in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, the lung cancer death rate in women has almost doubled over the past 37 years; and

WHEREAS, advocacy and increased awareness will result in more and better treatment for women with lung cancer and other lung diseases and will ultimately save lives; and

WHEREAS, LUNG FORCE is the national movement led by the American Lung Association, with the mission of making lung cancer history-uniting women to stand together with a collective strength and determination to lead the fight against lung cancer and for lung health;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 10-16, 2105 as

WOMEN'S LUNG HEALTH WEEK

in Vermont, and encourage all residents of Vermont to learn more about the detection and treatment of lung cancer.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of April, A.D. 2015

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS**, the State of Vermont is dedicated to improving the quality of life of all Vermonters and visitors through physical fitness and sports; and
- WHEREAS**, 63% of Vermont adults and 29% of Vermont youth are overweight or obese and poor nutrition and lack of physical activity are leading to epidemic rates of obesity; and
- WHEREAS**, it is estimated that medical expenses attributable to adult obesity in Vermont total \$291 million annually; and
- WHEREAS**, physical activity reduces risk, at all ages, of obesity, heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes; and
- WHEREAS**, three quarters (75%) of Vermont's youth do not participate in at least 60 minutes of physical activity every day, and 20% of Vermont adults participate in no leisure time physical activity; and
- WHEREAS**, physical activity is necessary to support normal growth in children and is essential to the continuing health and well-being of youth and adults; and
- WHEREAS**, participation in sports and all kinds of active pastimes can help improve physical and mental wellbeing; and
- WHEREAS**, we have the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, the Vermont Department of Health, other state agencies, and private and non-profit organizations establishing opportunities for physical activity in worksites, early childcare, schools, and communities throughout the state and providing opportunities for all people to enjoy physical activity on a regular basis; and
- WHEREAS**, the month of May is traditionally recognized as National Physical Fitness and Sports Month to encourage the broad promotion of and participation in physical fitness activities;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Governor Peter Shumlin, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

NATIONAL PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS MONTH

in Vermont, and I ask everyone to move more every day.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of May, A.D. 2015

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, National Rosie the Riveter Day is a collective national effort to raise awareness of the 16 million working women during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Rosie the Riveter is the embodiment of these women—many of whom left their homes to work or volunteer fulltime in factories, farms, shipyards, banks and other institutions in support of the military overseas; and

WHEREAS, by working with the USO and Red Cross to drive trucks, rivet airplane parts, collect critical materials, roll bandages, serve on rationing boards and other instrumental tasks, the female workers were instrumental in ensuring Allied victory; and

WHEREAS, it is right and proper to recognize and preserve history and the legacy of the working women of World War II to promote cooperation and fellowship among such members and their descendants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 23, 2015 as



NATIONAL ROSIE THE RIVETER DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 4th day of May, A.D. 2015

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, investors are the foundation of a strong, sound, growing economy; and

WHEREAS, trust, ethical practices, and fair treatment are paramount to the investment profession; and

WHEREAS, the investment profession is an important employer across the State of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, the Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA) Society Vermont and the CFA Society Vermont are committed to professional excellence in the investment profession, and are champions for ethical behavior and integrity in investment markets, and of fair treatment for all investors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 15, 2015, as

PUTTING INVESTORS FIRST DAY



in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of May, A.D. 2015

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, May 16th, 2015 is the fifth Kids to Parks Day organized and launched by the National Park Trust; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 16, 2015 as

**KIDS TO PARKS DAY
in Vermont.**



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of May, A.D. 2015.

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, the month of May 2014 has been designated as Disability Awareness Month to celebrate the achievements and contributions of individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Vermonters with disabilities demonstrate every day the skills and talents they contribute to our communities and businesses; 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; and

WHEREAS, all Vermonters are entitled to an accessible workplace, a level playing field, and the same privileges, pursuits, and opportunities as any of their family, friends, and neighbors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May, 2015 as

DISABILITY AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont and urge all Vermonters to celebrate the contributions and achievements of citizens of all abilities



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of May, A.D. 2015

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, National Rosie the Riveter Day is a collective national effort to raise awareness of the 16 million working women during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Rosie the Riveter is the embodiment of these women—many of whom left their homes to work or volunteer fulltime in factories, farms, shipyards, banks and other institutions in support of the military overseas; and

WHEREAS, by working with the USO and Red Cross to drive trucks, rivet airplane parts, collect critical materials, roll bandages, serve on rationing boards and other instrumental tasks, the female workers were instrumental in ensuring Allied victory; and

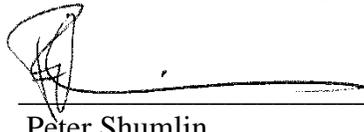
WHEREAS, it is right and proper to recognize and preserve history and the legacy of the working women of World War II to promote cooperation and fellowship among such members and their descendants; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 23, 2015 as

NATIONAL ROSIE THE RIVETER DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 5th day of May, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, generations of immigrants from every corner of the globe have built our country's economy and created the unique character of our nation; and

WHEREAS, immigrants continue to grow businesses, innovate, strengthen our economy, and create jobs in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, immigrants have provided the United States with unique social and cultural influence, fundamentally enriching the extraordinary character of our nation; and

WHEREAS, immigrants have been tireless leaders not only in securing their own rights and access to equal opportunity, but have also campaigned to create a fairer and more just society for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, despite these countless contributions, the role of immigrants in building and enriching our nation has frequently been overlooked and undervalued throughout our history and continuing to the present day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June, 2015 as



IMMIGRANT HERITAGE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of May, A.D. 2015

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, X & Y chromosome variations are common, but frequently undiagnosed genetic conditions that can differ from the normal sex chromosome pairings of XX for females and XY for males.

WHEREAS, due to a chromosome mistake that produces additional X or Y chromosomes to the normal complement of 46, the resulting total of 47 or more chromosomes may impact a child's developing central nervous system and his or her body condition; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 500 children in the United States have X & Y chromosome variations that cause complex learning disabilities, including language impairment motor planning deficits reading dysfunction, and attention and behavioral disorders; and

WHEREAS, there are many variations of SCA, but the most common and familiar is 47, XXY, otherwise known as Klinefelter syndrome; and

WHEREAS, although healthcare professionals are taught that genetic anomalies can impact a child's development, more information about X & Y chromosome variations is needed; and

WHEREAS, widespread misinformation about X & Y chromosome variations may cause unnecessary distress to families dealing with such a diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, with greater national awareness about the existence of X & Y chromosome variations, children with these disorders can be diagnosed and provided with the syndrome-specific medical care and academic intervention they need;

Now, Therefore, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

X & Y CHROMOSOME VARIATION MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of May, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the nearly 3.1 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession; and

WHEREAS, the depth and breadth of the registered nursing profession meets the different and emerging health care needs of the American population in a wide range of settings; and

WHEREAS, a renewed emphasis on primary and preventive health care will require better utilization of all of our nation's registered nursing resources; and

WHEREAS, professional nursing has been demonstrated to be an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care of hospitalized patients; and

WHEREAS, the demand for registered nursing services will be greater than ever because of the continuing expansion of life-sustaining technologies and the explosive growth of home health care services; and

WHEREAS, more qualified registered nurses will be needed in the future to meet the increasingly complex needs of health care consumers in this community; and

WHEREAS, the cost-effective, safe and quality health care services provided by registered nurses will continue to be an important component of the U.S. health care delivery system in the future; and

WHEREAS, the week of May 6-12 has been declared National Nurses Week with the theme - "Ethical Practice. Quality Care." in celebration of the ways in which registered nurses strive to provide safe and high quality patient care and map out the way to improve our health care system;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 6-12, 2015 as

NURSES WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of May, A.D. 2015



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, cystic fibrosis, commonly referred to as "CF," is a genetic disease affecting approximately 30,000 children and adults in the United States and nearly 70,000 children and adults worldwide, 145 of whom live in Vermont as of 2011; and

WHEREAS, a defective gene causes the body to produce an abnormally thick, sticky mucus that clogs the lungs, and these secretions produce life-threatening lung infections and obstruct the pancreas, preventing digestive enzymes from reaching the intestines to help break down and absorb food; and

WHEREAS, more than 10 million Americans are symptomless carriers of the defective CF gene, and CF occurs in approximately one of every 3,500 live births in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the median age of survival for a person with CF is 41.1 years; and

WHEREAS, with advances in the treatment of CF, the number of adults with CF has steadily grown, and approximately 1,000 new cases of CF are diagnosed each year; and

WHEREAS, nearly 50% of the CF population is 18 years of age and older, and people with CF have a variety of symptoms attributed to the more than 1,800 mutations of the CFTR gene; and

WHEREAS, infant blood screening to detect genetic defects is the most reliable and least costly method to identify persons likely to have CF; and

WHEREAS, early diagnosis of CF permits early treatment and enhances quality of life and longevity and the treatment of CF depends on the stage of the disease and the organs involved; and

WHEREAS, clearing mucus from the lungs is an important part of the daily CF treatment regimen, and other types of treatments include inhaled antibiotics and pancreatic enzymes, among others; and

WHEREAS, there are two world-class treatment centers in Vermont which specialize in the diagnosis of CF and the care of persons with CF; and

WHEREAS, a critical component of treating patients with CF includes access to innovative medicines, which can play a crucial role in the lives of patients with CF; and

WHEREAS, improving the length and quality of life for people with CF starts with awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

CYSTIC FIBROSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of May, A.D. 2015



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 1,240 children and youth in traditional, kinship or specialized foster care who are being provided safe, secure and stable homes, along with the compassion and nurturing of foster and kinship foster families; and

WHEREAS, there are over 1,060 dedicated licensed foster and kinship 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, we honor the enduring and valuable contributions of foster, kinship foster and adoptive parents and so many others who make the foster care system the supportive network that it is;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim May, 2015 as



FOSTER CARE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of May, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'P' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Susan Dedell has, for 25 years, been the artistic director of the Brattleboro Concert Choir, a large choir of singers from a wide area of Southern Vermont and New Hampshire, known for its dynamic choral performances to packed audiences; and

WHEREAS, Susan Dedell has introduced legions of area singers to the great choral masterpieces and rarely heard or newly commissioned works, including world premieres of works written for the Brattleboro Concert Choir; and

WHEREAS, Susan Dedell has collaborated in her musical productions with local organizations such as Brattleboro Area Hospice, the Brattleboro School of Dance, the Brattleboro Retreat, Brattleboro Union High School, Hilltop Montessori School, Girls on the Run, and with countless local artists, not only to enrich the music and the experience of the singers, but to embrace the richness of the greater Brattleboro community; and

WHEREAS, Susan Dedell has seen to it that a percentage of proceeds from Choir concerts benefit local organizations such as the Windham County Humane Society and the Brattleboro Area Drop-In Center; and

WHEREAS, Susan Dedell has brought great joy through music to a wide range of people throughout the Brattleboro area:

- to children, through the Jubilee Girls Choir, the Bach Festival Children’s Chorus, and the St. Michael’s Episcopal Church Choir School;
- to seniors, through her “Singing Strong” program, offered through the Brattleboro Music Center’s Music School, and with seniors at Holton Home in Brattleboro; and

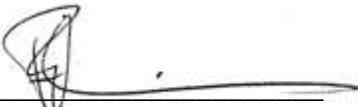
WHEREAS, Susan Dedell has, through her love of life and music, and through a passion for teaching, created vibrant musical communities and enriched the lives of students, singers, musicians, and audiences throughout the area;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 7, 2015, as

SUSAN DEDELL DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of May, A.D. 2015



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 17-23, 2015 as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

in Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 19th day of May, A.D. 2015



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, the second week of June is Vascular Nurses Week; and

WHEREAS, there are 3.1 million licensed registered nurses in the United States and vascular nurses comprise an important part of this healthcare Group; and

WHEREAS, in addition to providing excellence in direct patient care, vascular nurses participate in vascular research and serve as a valuable resource for policy makers; and

WHEREAS, the Society of Vascular Nursing (SVN) is a professional community of vascular nurses, who advance the care for those persons living with vascular disease through excellence in clinical practice, education, and research; and

WHEREAS, the core values of SVN are to advocate for both vascular nurses and for those persons who live with complex vascular disease; and

WHEREAS, PAD (Peripheral Arterial Disease) is a vascular disease in which the arteries supplying a limb (typically one or both legs) are obstructed. Sixty percent of PAD patients have coexisting coronary artery disease (CAD) or cerebrovascular disease, and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 8 million people in the United States with PAD; 12 to 20 percent of American people older than 60 have PAD; and

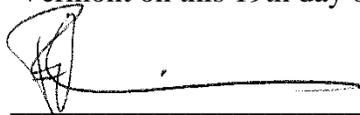
WHEREAS, people with vascular disease require an interdisciplinary team approach and the vascular nurse is an integral part of this team. The specialized vascular nurse is able to identify the resources required by the vascular patient population and to assist in providing optimal care and compassion.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim the second week of June, 2015 as

VASCULAR NURSES WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 19th day of May, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, despite advances in medical technology and research, men continue to live an average of five years less than women with African-American men having the lowest life expectancy; and

WHEREAS, by educating the public and health care providers about the importance of a healthy lifestyle and early detection of male health problems, it is possible to reduce the rate of mortality from disease; and

WHEREAS, Vermont Men’s Health Week will focus on a broad range of men’s health issues including prostate, testicular and colon cancer, heart disease and diabetes; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Vermont are encouraged to increase awareness of a healthy lifestyle, regular exercise and medical checkups;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 15-21, 2015

MEN’S HEALTH WEEK

in Vermont and encourage men to celebrate Father’s Day by pursuing preventative health practices and early detection efforts.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 19th day of May, A.D. 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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, 2015 as

SCOLIOSIS AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont, and encourage awareness of the spinal condition of Scoliosis,
and recognize the need for increased research to reduce the
pain and suffering it causes.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 19th day of May, A.D. 2015

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,** 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 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, 2015 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 26th day of May, A.D. 2015.

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, Shallow Water Blackout is caused by prolonged breath holding preceded by hyperventilating (also known as Hypoxic Training), which prevents the brain from receiving the signal that it is time to take a breath, resulting in the brain blacking out and then taking a natural breath underwater causing the swimmer to drown; and

WHEREAS, ending Shallow Water Blackout drowning through educating swimmers of all ages about the life-threatening dangers associated with Hypoxic Training, or prolonged breath holding practice, is the central cause of the Live Like Benjo Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the Live Like Benjo Foundation is a Vermont based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the memory of Benjamin C. Haller, a Vermont sailor, SCUBA Instructor and Rescue Diver who drowned in seven feet of water on August 1, 2014 as a result of Shallow Water Blackout (SWB); and

WHEREAS, the Live Like Benjo Foundation's mission is to save lives and prevent families from having to experience the pain of such needless and avoidable tragedies as those caused by Shallow Water Blackout; and

WHEREAS, the Live Like Benjo Foundation is committed to working with Vermont State Agencies, schools and all swimming facilities and swimmers to raise awareness about the causes of Shallow Water Blackout and their associated and deadly dangers; and

WHEREAS, June is the ideal month for this designation as the summer swimming season begins throughout our great state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 2015 in the State of Vermont as

**SHALLOW WATER BLACKOUT AWARENESS MONTH
IN HONOR OF BENJAMIN C. HALLER**



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 20th day of May, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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

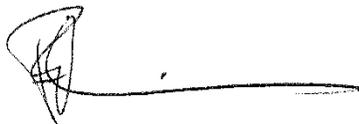
WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is pleased to celebrate Correctional Employees Week and is urging all citizens to pay special tribute to these women and men who serve so faithfully;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 14-20, 2015 as

CORRECTIONAL EMPLOYEES WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 26th day of May, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, June 30, 2015 will be the sixth annual Arthrogyrosis Multiplex Congenita Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, Arthrogyrosis is defined as multiple congenital (from birth) joint contracture or multiple joints that are stuck in one position and have very little flexibility; and

WHEREAS, Arthrogyrosis is an umbrella diagnosis with many syndromes and subtypes and occurs in approximately 1 in 3,000 live births; and

WHEREAS, Arthrogyrosis is caused by an unborn baby not moving properly during fetal development; and

WHEREAS, Stretching, various therapies (physical, occupational, speech etc.) and some surgical interventions can help improve someone's independence level and quality of life; and

WHEREAS, AMC Awareness Day is sponsored by Arthrogyrosis Multiplex Congenita Support Inc. (AMCSI), a fully volunteer based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that hosts yearly conferences and maintains a free online message board system;

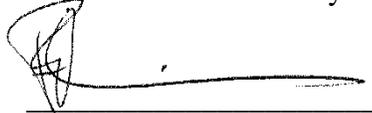
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 30, 2015 as

ARTHROGRYPOSIS AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 4th day of June, A.D. 2015





Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, solar energy represented 99% of new electrical capacity in the state in 2014 and more than 5,000 Vermont customers have installed solar through Vermont's net metering program; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont clean energy industries employ over 15,000 Vermonters and Vermont is among the top states for solar jobs per capita in the country; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont solar industry provides a broad spectrum of employment opportunities, helping retain and attract Vermonters working in manufacturing, installation, and sales, among other careers; and

WHEREAS, solar energy is helping Vermont home owners, businesses, schools, towns, and other institutions save money and stabilize energy costs, while keeping our energy dollars local; and

WHEREAS, solar is part of creating a more resilient, smart, and efficient electrical grid of the future; and

WHEREAS, solar is helping save ratepayers money and is contributing -- **along with energy efficiency** -- to the local distributed generation which has allowed the deferment of more than \$400 million in transmission upgrades; and

WHEREAS, solar at state facilities is projected to save taxpayers more than \$2.5 million with no public investment; and

WHEREAS, climate change poses an enormous threat to our state and the emissions associated with photovoltaic (PV) solar panels, including all life cycle manufacturing, transportation, installation, and operation are on average approximately 95% less than coal-fired power plant emissions and 90% less than natural gas-fired power plant emissions; and

WHEREAS, many Vermont farmers and communities are hosting solar projects to support the renewable energy production we will need as a state in the future; and

WHEREAS, the third week of every June marks the Summer Solstice, the longest day of the year, making available the most sun shining on our state to cleanly and affordably generate solar energy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim the third Saturday in June as

CELEBRATE SOLAR DAY

in Vermont, and encourage Vermonters to visit, tour and learn about solar energy systems at open houses throughout the state



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of June, A.D. 2015

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, good jobs in Vermont are vital to the economic future of this beautiful state; and

WHEREAS, the employers of Vermont are committed to connecting talented workers with great jobs as the key to keeping our best and brightest working and living in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, over 90 Recruiting professionals have come together from 40 companies to form the Vermont Recruiters Association; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Recruiters Association undertook the effort to connect job seekers in and out of state with exciting available job openings in Vermont businesses; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Recruiters Network organized the Career Connections Job Fair, a free event for job seekers that will focus on connecting job seekers with career opportunities offered by Vermont employers; and

WHEREAS, June 12, 2015 marks the 2nd annual Vermont Career Connections Job Fair organized and sponsored by the Vermont Recruiters Network;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim June 12, 2015 as

VERMONT CAREER CONNECTIONS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 5th day of June, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Karen Burnell has dedicated her adult life to improving the lives of children and families; and

WHEREAS, Karen Burnell has served the Southwest Supervisory Union as Director of Early Childhood Programs and previously as an educator; and

WHEREAS, Karen Burnell will retire this year after 38 years of service; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, Karen Burnell received the Bennington County Child Care Association's Annual Award for Outstanding Support to Young Children and Their Families in Bennington County; and

WHEREAS, Karen Burnell is a tireless volunteer, working each year with the community to offer a high quality conference for early childhood providers, serving as a board member of the Bennington County Child Care Association, and volunteering with Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, Karen Burnell has served on numerous state committees and has contributed to the Vermont Early Learning Standards and the Vermont Professional Development Standards; and

WHEREAS, Karen Burnell's tireless commitment to community-based childcare settings has brought recognition to Bennington's preschool options for children;

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

KAREN BURNELL

for her outstanding service to Vermont's children.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 11th day of June, A.D. 2015

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, Dick and Ginny Walters have been instrumental in organizing and advocating for end of life choice since the incorporation of Death With Dignity Vermont in October 2002; and

WHEREAS, since 2002, Dick and Ginny Walters have been leaders in the organization that became Patient Choices Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Patient Choices Vermont has continually advocated for end of life choice legislation in Vermont, beginning in February 2003 with the Vermont Death With Dignity Act [SB112/HB318] which was introduced in the House and Senate and was modeled on the Oregon law; and

WHEREAS, undeterred by setbacks, Dick and Ginny Walters continued to advocate for adopting the law; and

WHEREAS, in May 2013, after extensive testimony from both experts and the public, and after hours and hours of respectful floor debate, the Senate and then the House passed The Patient Choice and Control at End of Life Act (SB 77); and

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2013, Act 39, the Patient Choice and Control at End of Life Act, was signed into law; and

WHEREAS, Vermont made history by being the first state to pass a Death With Dignity law through the legislative process;

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

DICK AND GINNY WALTERS

for their tireless efforts and successful advocacy for end of life choices for Vermonters and congratulate them on the celebration of their 90th birthdays and 70th wedding anniversary.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 4th day of June, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Shumlin', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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, 2015 as

BATON TWIRLING WEEK

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 17th day of June, A.D. 2015

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, the Game of Logging (GOL) is a highly respected training regimen that is recognized as the premier chainsaw safety and productivity training program; and

WHEREAS, GOL requires precise chainsaw techniques and safety practices in a competitive environment; and

WHEREAS, there are seven training organizations engaged in GOL training, including Northeast Woodland Training in Chester, Vermont; and

WHEREAS, GOL instructors teach chainsaw safety, productivity, conservation and cutting techniques while combining demonstration with participation; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Game of Logging (GOL) Nationals were held on June 6, 2015 in State College, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, competitive events included precision notching, boring, aiming, bucking, limbing and felling; and

WHEREAS, Hugh Davis of Westminster West, Vermont took first place in the competition, and Mark Raishart of Rutland, Vermont placed third.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby recognize the success of

HUGH DAVIS AND MARK RAISHART

at the Game of Logging Nationals.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 24th day of June, A.D. 2015



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, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama is the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness has stated that his life is guided by three major commitments: the promotion of basic human values or secular ethics in the interest of human happiness, the fostering of inter-religious harmony, and the preservation of Tibet's Buddhist culture, a culture of peace and non-violence; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness the Dalai Lama travels the world sharing his wisdom, and his message of tolerance, kindness, and peace for all; and

WHEREAS, His Holiness the Dalai Lama will celebrate his 80th birthday on July 6, 2015; and

WHEREAS, I join people around the world in honoring the Dalai Lama and conveying my best wishes on the occasion of his 80th birthday; and

WHEREAS, I support continued dialogue between the Tibetans and the Chinese with hopes for a peaceful future for the people of Tibet and China;

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

HIS HOLINESS THE 14TH DALAI LAMA

on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 24th day of June A.D. 2015



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, for over half a century, beginning with the National School Lunch Program in 1946, the nation has steadily built an array of nutrition assistance programs to build a healthier generation of Americans; and

WHEREAS, during the school year, more than 73,000 Vermont students receive meals through the National School Breakfast and Lunch Programs; and

WHEREAS, when schools let out, children lose access to these healthy meals; and

WHEREAS, children need good nutrition all year long, and since 1975, the Summer Food Service Program has alleviated this burden by nourishing children and teens while school is out; and

WHEREAS, the Summer Food Service Program provides free, nutritious meals and snacks to youth 18 years of age and younger throughout the summer when school is out; and

WHEREAS, this month, we give thanks to the sponsors, site operators, volunteers, parents and communities that provide access to a healthy meal in a safe, supervised environment; and

WHEREAS, it is important to ensure that every child in the State of Vermont has access to nutritious meals during the summer as well as during the school year; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim July 2015 as



SUMMER MEALS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of June, A.D. 2015

Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Vermont’s landscape is home to more than 800 lakes, ponds, and reservoirs; and

WHEREAS, these lakes, ponds, and reservoirs are critical to Vermont’s environment and quality of life, providing sources of recreation, scenic beauty, and habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, these lakes, ponds, and reservoirs are valuable economic resources for Vermont’s businesses, tourism, and municipal governments, with uses ranging from transportation, to energy production, to drinking water supply; and

WHEREAS, maintaining the health of our lakes, ponds, and reservoirs is the responsibility of every citizen, Vermont recognizes the work of many community volunteers who monitor and improve the water quality of our lakes with support from lake associations, watershed associations, local municipalities, and statewide organizations; and

WHEREAS, in conjunction with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, our State commemorates the Clean Water Act and recognizes its importance to the safety and quality of Vermont’s waterbodies and watersheds; and

WHEREAS, Vermont protects and restores lake water quality through provisions of the 2014 Shoreland Protection Act and the 2015 Vermont Clean Water Act;

NOW THEREFORE, in special recognition of the vital role our lakes, ponds and reservoirs play in our environment and the well-being of our state, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont, do hereby proclaim July 2015 as

LAKES APPRECIATION MONTH

in Vermont.

I encourage my fellow citizens to participate in recreational activities and enjoy the benefits and scenic beauty of our lakes, ponds, and reservoirs.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of July, A.D. 2015



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, convicted murderers Richard Matt and David Sweat escaped from the Clinton Correctional Facility in Dannemora, New York on June 6, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont State Police were called on to assist in the manhunt and to keep Vermonters safe while the prisoners were on the loose and their whereabouts unknown for weeks; and

WHEREAS, members of the Vermont State Police coordinated closely with federal partners and law enforcement in New York to assist with the investigation in both New York and Vermont; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont State Police Tactical Support Unit was dispatched to New York to aid in on-the-ground operations that included searching rugged wooded areas and remote camps; and

WHEREAS, members of the Vermont State Police performed this duty with great distinction and remained on high alert until both prisoners were caught;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim July 2, 2015 as

VERMONT STATE POLICE APPRECIATION DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 2nd day of July, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, gastroschisis is a defect of the abdominal wall that occurs during pregnancy which may allow the intestines and sometimes other organs to stick outside the baby's body; and

WHEREAS, babies born with gastroschisis will require surgery to place the abdominal organs inside the baby's body and repair the abdominal wall; and

WHEREAS, each year, 1 in 2,229 individuals (approximately 4.5 / 10,000 births) are born with gastroschisis in the United States, and a similar proportion of Vermont births (approximately 3.3 / 10,000 births);

WHEREAS, infants with gastroschisis can have difficulty even after surgery with feeding, digestion of food, weight gain, and absorption of nutrients; and

WHEREAS, many Americans living with gastroschisis have serious conditions including failure to thrive/slow growth, short bowel syndrome, multiple organ transplants, and long term feeding issues; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) advises women to take steps before and during pregnancy to reduce the risk of having a baby born with birth defects like gastroschisis. These steps include taking a daily multivitamin with folic acid, not smoking or drinking alcohol during pregnancy, and most importantly, speaking with your doctor about how you may increase your chance of having a healthy baby; and

WHEREAS, the CDC is currently conducting the [National Birth Defects Prevention Study](#), one of the largest U.S. studies looking at possible causes and risk factors for birth defects like gastroschisis; and

WHEREAS, Avery's Angels Gastroschisis Foundation (AAGF) organized the nationwide observance of Gastroschisis Awareness Day on July 30, 2013, and every year thereafter, to commemorate those living with or deceased from gastroschisis;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim July 30, 2015 as

GASTROSCHISIS AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont, and encourage awareness of gastroschisis and the individuals and families impacted by the condition.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of July, A.D. 2015

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, muscular dystrophy is not a single disease or disorder that affects everyone the same way, but an umbrella term covering more than nine types of muscular dystrophy and more than 40 neuromuscular diseases which range in severity; and

Whereas, all muscular dystrophies result in progressive muscle weakness, from mild muscle weakness to complete paralysis of all voluntary muscles, including those used for breathing and/or swallowing; and

Whereas, more than one million individuals in the United States are affected by one of the different types of muscular dystrophy; and

Whereas, muscular dystrophy strikes people regardless of race, sex, age or ethnicity; and

Whereas, many new clinical trials are underway and many new drugs are expected in the next four years than in the previous five decades in the fight for a cure for neuromuscular disease; and

Whereas, raising public awareness of these diseases will continue to facilitate the discovery of treatments and cures, as well as bring support and services for those affected by muscular dystrophy and neuromuscular diseases;

Now therefore, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 2015 as

**MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY AWARENESS AND LIGHT
IT UP GREEN FOR MD MONTH**

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 7th day of July, A.D. 2015



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, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection report that cancer is the leading cause of death by disease among U.S. children between infancy and age 15. This tragic disease is detected in nearly 15,000 of our country's young people each and every year; and

WHEREAS, one in five of our nation's children loses his or her battle with cancer. Many infants, children and teens will suffer from long-term effects of comprehensive treatment, including secondary cancers; and

WHEREAS, founded over twenty years ago by Steven Firestein, a member of the philanthropic Max Factor family, the American Cancer Fund for Children, Inc. and 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 Vermont Children's Hospital at Fletcher Allen in Burlington, as well as participating hospitals throughout the country, thereby enhancing the quality of life for these children and their families; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Fund for Children and Kids Cancer Connection also sponsor Courageous Kid Recognition Award presentations, community get well cards, 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, 2015 as

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 7th day of July, A.D. 2015



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, breastfeeding is recognized globally as a safe, sound and sustainable practice benefiting mothers, children, and societies; and

WHEREAS, breastfeeding protects mothers' and infants' health and is a key health promotion and disease prevention strategy; and

WHEREAS, increasing evidence-based breastfeeding policies and practices in health care, communities, workplaces, and child care settings will change the landscape to be more supportive of exclusive breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, maternity practices in hospitals can influence breastfeeding behaviors during a period critical to the successful establishment of lactation. Mothers who give birth at Baby-Friendly® hospitals are more likely to initiate exclusive breastfeeding and more likely to continue exclusive breastfeeding to six months and sustain breastfeeding to at least one year of age; and

WHEREAS, hospitals that adopt the 10 Steps to Successful Breastfeeding and include referrals to community breastfeeding support will empower mothers to nurture their babies and increase rates of exclusive breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, primary care providers and lactation consultants are critical to successful continuation of breastfeeding. Supporting mothers to achieve their breastfeeding goals will increase duration and rates of exclusive breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, optimizing breastfeeding rates and duration has the potential to prevent chronic disease and illness for both mothers and children, and are an important part of Vermont's Model for Health and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, parental leave supports families to establish strong bonds, fosters establishment of exclusive breastfeeding, and results in improved long-term outcomes for children; and

WHEREAS, peer counselors can provide education and support, and evidence shows that mother to mother support increases the duration and exclusivity of breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, Vermont law supports breastfeeding in public and the workplace, and over 290 Vermont employers are recognized for creating family-friendly and breastfeeding-friendly worksites, supporting the health and wellness of their employees; and

WHEREAS, many opportunities exist in Vermont to protect, promote, and support breastfeeding mothers and infants.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 2015 as

BREASTFEEDING PROMOTION MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 7th day of July, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, manufacturing makes a significant contribution to the national, state and local economy; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing provides good employment opportunities and careers for skilled workers; and

WHEREAS, manufacturing companies produce and sell valuable products, bringing new wealth to our communities; and

WHEREAS, the existence of these companies in our community creates demand for other industry and services; and

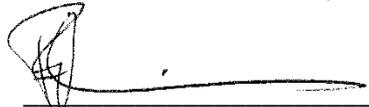
WHEREAS, Vermont is fortunate to be home to great manufacturing businesses, many of which are world leaders in their respective fields;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October, 2015 as

NATIONAL MANUFACTURING MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 7th day of July, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the Bennington Free Library will celebrate its 150th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, the Bennington Free Library was established in 1865 in a second floor room “fitted up as a library,” and was run by the Young Men’s Association, which for the fee of \$1.00 entitled its members to borrow one book at a time; and

WHEREAS, in 1897 the Town of Bennington voted to appropriate funds in support of the library, at which time library materials were made available free of charge; and

WHEREAS, over time the community outgrew its small library and in 1936 a new library was constructed adjacent to the original; and

WHEREAS, the current library attracts over 1,500 patron visits each week, and houses over 65,000 books, periodicals, and research materials in a variety of formats; and

WHEREAS, the Bennington Free Library has expanded and evolved in how they meet the needs of community members -- growing to include space for a children’s library, public meeting rooms, public Internet access and computer instruction; and

WHEREAS, the Bennington Free Library is dedicated to supporting the lifelong learning of its community;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Governor Peter Shumlin, proclaim June 23, 2015 as

BENNINGTON FREE LIBRARY DAY

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 1st of June, A.D. 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) is the leading genetic killer of children under the age of two, and one in 40 Americans carry the gene that causes SMA; and

WHEREAS, SMA is a motor neuron disease that affects the voluntary muscles that are used for activities such as crawling, walking, head and neck control, and swallowing, and there is currently no treatment or cure for SMA, which is known to cause degeneration in voluntary muscle movement for those that survive with this disease; and

WHEREAS, Spinal Muscular Atrophy crosses all racial, ethnic and religious boundaries, and can strike anyone of any age or gender; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness of SMA will lead to expanded knowledge and increased support for both disease and research and for families affected by the disease, hopefully leading to a cure; and

WHEREAS, Cure SMA is a non-profit organization founded in 1984 which has funded and directed over \$50 million for leading SMA research programs, and locally, its efforts are aided by Cure SMA New England; and

WHEREAS, Cure SMA and patient groups from around the nation have named August as National Spinal Muscular Atrophy Awareness Month in order to raise awareness and help promote research into this devastating disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 2015 as

SPINAL MUSCULAR ATROPHY AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 9th day of July, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, May 8, 2015 was 70 years since Victory in Europe (VE) Day; and

WHEREAS, August 14, 2015 marks 70 years since Victory in Japan (VJ) Day; and

WHEREAS, nearly 50,000 Vermonters answered our country's call after December 7, 1941 and served during World War II; and

WHEREAS, World War II veterans have been called "The Greatest Generation" for their heroic efforts to save the World from tyranny; and

WHEREAS, World War II veterans must never be forgotten; and

WHEREAS, as the number of World War II veterans grows smaller, we must renew our promise to remember their hard work and selfless efforts; and

WHEREAS, on this 70th anniversary we recognize our World War II veterans for their extraordinary service and thank them for enduring unthinkable hardships with the common purpose of protecting our liberties and making our world a safer place for future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 15, 2015 as

WORLD WAR II VETERANS REMEMBRANCE DAY



in the State of Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of July, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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, Rutland's Rally for Recovery is designed to remind all citizens 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 successful recovery experiences; and

WHEREAS, recovery from mental health and addiction not only improves the health of the person, but adds to the recovery of the entire community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim July 11, 2015

RUTLAND'S RALLY FOR RECOVERY DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 1st day of July, A.D. 2015



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, on August 14, 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Social Security Act into law; and

WHEREAS, Social Security is a social insurance program under which workers earn coverage for retirement, survivors, and disability benefits by paying Social Security taxes on their earnings; and

WHEREAS, Social Security provides vital financial protection for working men, women, children, those with disabilities, and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, the Social Security program is the cornerstone of economic protection on which workers can build a comfortable retirement through pensions, insurance, savings, and other income; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont recognizes the importance of Social Security benefits to the welfare of its citizens and joins the Social Security Administration in celebrating its past and in building its future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby recognize Friday, August 14, 2015 as the

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 13th day of July, A.D. 2015



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, 153,000 Vermonters were fed last year through a network of food shelves, meal sites, shelters, senior centers and youth programs that distributed 9 million pounds of food; and

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

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

WHEREAS, the solutions to hunger begin with education, advocacy, and action within every 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; and

WHEREAS, the Harpoon Point to Point bicycle ride was created in 2002 to raise funds and awareness for the Vermont Foodbank’s mission to end the growing problem of hunger in Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 8, 2015 as

RIDE TO FIGHT HUNGER DAY

in Vermont and call upon citizens of Vermont to join in the fight against hunger by participating in the Harpoon Point to Point presented by National Life Group to benefit the Vermont Foodbank.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of July, A.D. 2015

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, Community Health Centers, also known as Federally Qualified Health Centers, are nonprofit, community-based providers of comprehensive primary and preventive health care, including oral health and mental health services; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's 12 community health centers operate in more than 50 sites and provide care to one in four Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's Community Health Centers offer service regardless of insurance coverage or ability to pay; and

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

WHEREAS, Vermont's Community Health Centers are staffed by health professionals who have chosen to serve communities in need, helping to expand the reach of primary care and preventive health services; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's Community Health Centers help contain overall health care costs through integrated preventive and primary care health services, treating the whole person; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 America's Community Health Centers are celebrating 50 years of success in expanding access to quality and affordable primary and preventive health care services;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 9-15, 2015 as

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER WEEK

in Vermont and encourage Vermonters to visit a local community health center.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 3rd day of August, A.D. 2015.

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, Bobby and Holly Miller are two of Vermont’s greatest treasures; and

WHEREAS, Bobby and Holly celebrate milestone birthdays this year – Bobby, his 80th, and Holly, her 71st; and

WHEREAS, for 30 years Bobby and Holly have shared an incredibly loving and respectful marriage, and together have three children; and

WHEREAS, Bobby and Holly were raised in Rutland, and were self-made individuals who dreamed of better lives and worked tirelessly to achieve their goals; and

WHEREAS, having achieved tremendous success, Bobby and Holly generously shared the fruits of their labor with those in need; and

WHEREAS, Bobby and Holly Miller have given generously to the Boys and Girls Club, the Flynn Theatre, King Street Center, the Vermont Respite House, the Vermont Women’s Fun, the University of Vermont, Champlain College, the University of Vermont Medical Center, the Visiting Nurse Association, and countless other organizations and individuals; and

WHEREAS, the names Bobby and Holly Miller are as recognizable for their successful business ventures as they are for their incredible generosity as philanthropists; and

WHEREAS, together, Bobby and Holly Miller have improved the lives of countless Vermonters, and we as a state are forever grateful for the compassion and support they continuously show to others; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is extremely fortunate to count Bobby and Holly Miller among our finest citizens;

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

BOBBY AND HOLLY MILLER

for their service, generosity, and efforts
on behalf of others, and congratulate them on their
80th and 71st birthdays.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 27th day of July, A.D. 2015

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, Central Service Technicians are responsible for processing surgical instruments, supplies and equipment; and

WHEREAS, serving in settings ranging from hospitals to ambulatory surgical centers, Central Service Technicians provide support to patient care services; and

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

WHEREAS, the Central Service 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 Service Technicians play a very important role in patient care arenas, and are responsible for first-line processes to prevent patient infections; and

WHEREAS, International Central Service Week recognizes the contribution Central Service Technicians make to patient safety and the opportunities and challenges facing the profession;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 11-17, 2015

INTERNATIONAL CENTRAL SERVICE WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015



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, National Child Passenger Safety Awareness Week, September 13-19, 2015; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, over 125 children under age 18 were injured as passengers of cars, SUV, pickups and vans in traffic crashes in Vermont. For children age 1 to 13, it is a leading cause of death. It is hard to overstate the toll this takes on families, but together we can help put an end to this tragedy; and

WHEREAS, the best thing families can do to safeguard the health and well-being of our children is to establish safety habits that set a pattern for safety for the rest of their lives, this week must extend beyond child safety seats and seat belts to include good safety habits for young pedestrians and bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, parents and guardians must make sure that children age 13 and under always ride in the back seat, buckled up or properly installed in child safety seats, and a rear facing child seat should never be placed in the front seat of a motor vehicle equipped with a passenger air bag; and

WHEREAS, child passenger protection laws require proper restraints for younger children and safety belt use by older children;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2015 as

NATIONAL CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY WEEK

in Vermont, and I urge everyone to help reduce injuries and the tragic loss of life on our roads by buckling up every child in an approved restraint, in the vehicles back seat.

It is important these lifelong safety rules become habits and patterns for life. Let us all help spread these important child safety messages throughout our communities. By doing so, we can save many lives. I call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals, and schools in Vermont to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies. Please visit your local car seat fitting station this week to have your child's car seat checked - a listing can be found on the State Child Passenger Safety website www.beseatsmart.org



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015

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, the Centers for Disease Control and most national experts agree there is an epidemic of drug overdose deaths in America; and

WHEREAS, addiction is a disease, and in Vermont we are treating it as such; and

WHEREAS, in every corner of our state, drug addiction threatens the health, well-being and quality of life of all Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, addiction must be addressed by combining effective prevention, treatment and recovery support, rather than with only punishment and stigma; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) originated in 2011, and has become a global event held on August 31st each year; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day brings important awareness to the tragedy of overdoses and drug-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day provides an opportunity to recognize the grief felt by those who have lost loved ones to drug-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont remembers those who have been lost to addiction, and remains committed to increasing awareness of the effects of addiction and the value of long-term recovery; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2015 as

INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the American Payroll joins countless payroll professionals throughout the state of Vermont in observing National Payroll Week, September 7-11, 2015; and

WHEREAS, this awareness campaign is designed to help workers in America better understand issues related to our payroll and tax systems, as well as to educate payroll professionals and employers about important payroll-related regulatory and compliance issues; and

WHEREAS, payroll professionals in Vermont play a key role in maintaining our state's economic health, carrying out such diverse tasks as paying into the unemployment insurance system, providing information for child support enforcement and carrying out tax withholding, reporting and depositing; and

WHEREAS, payroll departments nationwide collect more than \$2.08 trillion annually, complying with myriad federal, state and local wage tax laws; and

WHEREAS, these funds go toward supporting important civic projects, including roads, schools and parks in communities across Vermont; and

WHEREAS, payroll professionals have become increasingly proactive in leading initiatives that help educate citizens on key payroll-related issues facing businesses and workers in America; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated professionals continually strive to meet the highest standards toward improving compliance with government procedures, reducing costs and improving the overall payroll process in Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 7-11, 2015 as



PAYROLL WEEK IN VERMONT

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015

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, pain is a major public health problem and the number one reason Americans seek medical care; and

WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine has found that 100 million adult Americans live with chronic pain as a result of serious illnesses and injuries; and

WHEREAS, chronic pain costs the nation an estimated \$635 billion annually in medical expenses, lost wages and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, pain negatively impacts almost every aspect of a person's life, including the ability to work, sleep and engage in social activities, as well as adversely impacts pain sufferers' families and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Pain Foundation's mission is to inform, empower and advocate on behalf of our 60,000 members throughout the country and all those who live with chronic pain; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Pain Foundation provides education on pain management skills and constructive ways to cope with pain and find fulfillment in life; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness about the effects of chronic pain result in better outcomes, increased access to good pain care and empowerment and validation for those living with pain;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of Vermont, do hereby proclaim September, 2015 as

PAIN AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015



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, an estimated 20 million American workers use respirators every day to protect against potential job hazards - from doctors and nurses to firefighters, first-responders, coal miners, and agriculture workers; and

WHEREAS, many of these workers depend on particulate filtering facepiece respirators when working in environments with hazardous airborne particles; and

WHEREAS, as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is the federal agency responsible for testing and approving personal protective equipment; and

WHEREAS, NIOSH has established N95 Day to emphasize the importance of properly using NIOSH-approved N95 filtering facepiece respirators; and

WHEREAS, NIOSH-approved N95 filtering facepiece respirators filter 95% of particles and significantly reduce the wearer's risk of inhaling hazardous airborne particles from dangerous chemicals, dust, metal fumes and many infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, the most effective emergency preparedness is proper use every day,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 4, 2015 as



N95 DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Vermont this 14th day of August,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Shumlin', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, direct support professionals, direct care workers, and in-home support workers are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term supports and services for individuals with disabilities in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals must build close, respectful and trusted relationships with individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide a broad range of individualized support, including meal preparation, bathing, dressing, maintaining employment, transportation, banking, and pursuit of personal interests; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential support to help individuals with disabilities remain connected to family, friends and communities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals assist individuals with disabilities in making choices that lead to meaningful, productive lives in the community; and

WHEREAS, direct support professional participation in health care delivery contributes to the ability of individuals with severe, chronic health conditions to live successfully in the community and when necessary, to successfully transition from acute health care settings back to long term community supports; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals help strengthen Vermont communities by facilitating inclusion for people with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2015 as

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

in Vermont and recognize the dedication and contribution of direct support professionals in supporting individuals with disabilities and their families.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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,** assisting land managers improves public lands for outdoor recreation, provides families and individuals with an opportunity to lead a more active lifestyle and reduces the incidence of childhood obesity; and
- WHEREAS,** an alliance between private citizens, land managers and community leaders improves the condition of publicly held lands for the greater enjoyment and enrichment of all Americans;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2015 as

PUBLIC LANDS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Vermont this 14th day of August,
A.D. 2015.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the United States is recognized as the global leader in aerospace safety, efficiency, and innovation; and

WHEREAS, the aerospace industry is an important contributor to the U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS, the aerospace industry is dependent upon a skilled workforce to maintain its exemplary level of quality;

WHEREAS, women have been involved in aviation since its earliest days, including:

- E. Lillian Todd, who designed and built aircraft in 1906;
- Harriet Quimby who, in 1911, became the first woman to earn a pilot certificate and cross the English Channel;
- Helen Richey, who became the first woman pilot for a U.S. commercial airline in 1934;
- Astronaut Dr. Sally Ride who, in 1983, was the first American woman in space;
- Jeana Yeager who copiloted the first non-stop, non-refueled flight around the world in 1986;
- Astronaut Eileen Collins who became the first female Space Shuttle Pilot in 1997 and the first female Space Shuttle Commander in 1999; and

WHEREAS, during the last two decades, although the number of women involved in the aviation industry has steadily increased, only 16 percent of people working in the aircraft, spacecraft, and manufacturing industry are female; and

WHEREAS, increased participation in the aviation industry can be achieved through quality aerospace STEM curriculum, exposing girls to positive female role models, and encouraging aerospace based goals; and

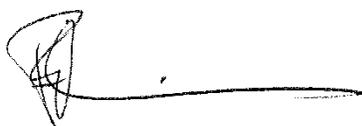
WHEREAS, September 20-26, 2015, has been designated National Girls in Aviation Week calling on all Americans to recognize the importance of promoting women in aerospace by supporting aerospace education activities during that week;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 26, 2015 as

GIRLS IN AVIATION DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, first responders risk their own safety and personal property in the execution of their duties to protect the public on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, first responders are the first line of defense for the public against threats, both domestic and foreign; and

WHEREAS, first responders stand at the ready to come to the aid of the citizens of the United States of America 24 hours a day; and

WHEREAS, first responders are a vital part of our communities, not only standing ready to deal with emergencies but also volunteering our schools and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, first responders are highly trained, specialized workers who undergo significant education and training, and contribute their excellent skills for the public good and often for no pay; and

WHEREAS, individuals, both career and volunteer, from police, fire, emergency medical services, search and rescue, and other organizations in the public safety sector, come together as a collective to aid the public in the event of an emergency;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 27, 2015 as

FIRST RESPONDER APPRECIATION DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015



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, sleep apnea is a sleep disorder in which breathing repeatedly stops and starts, and is often indicated by loud snoring; and

WHEREAS, there are three types of sleep apnea: obstructive sleep apnea, central sleep apnea, and mixed; and

WHEREAS, individuals with untreated sleep apnea may have one or more pauses in breathing or shallow breathing during sleep; and

WHEREAS, in many cases individuals are unaware that they sleep apnea; and

WHEREAS, for mild cases of sleep apnea, physicians may recommend lifestyle changes including losing weight and quitting smoking; and

WHEREAS, moderate and severe sleep apnea may be treated with positive airway pressure which supplies pressurized air through a breathing mask that prevents the airway from collapsing; and

WHEREAS, individuals diagnosed with sleep apnea should consult their physicians and inform caregivers of their condition as anesthesia and certain medications may be dangerous; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim August 20, 2015 as



SLEEP APNEA AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 14th day of August, A.D. 2015

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, substance abuse disorders are serious but treatable issues that impact Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Vermonters in need of substance abuse services could benefit from treatment; and

WHEREAS, Vermonters seeking treatment for addiction need affordable, individualized treatment programs that offer appropriate referrals as well as access to treatment services; and

WHEREAS, every \$1 invested in treatment results in a return of \$4 to \$7 in costs associated with drug-related crime, criminal justice, and theft; and

WHEREAS, every \$1 invested in prevention results in \$10 to \$18 in reduced costs associated with health care, criminal justice and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, with positive support and encouragement, people struggling with an addiction can recover and lead healthy and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, untreated substance abuse disorders negatively affect individuals, families, and communities while also impacting the criminal justice system, child welfare system, family and social service agencies, and faith-based and community organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Department of Health and the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, are participating in the National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month; and

WHEREAS, Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month is an opportunity to encourage those dealing with substance abuse disorders to seek treatment, and to recognize the work of those providing affordable treatment programs in Vermont and across the country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, do hereby recognize September 2015 as

ALCOHOL AND DRUG RECOVERY MONTH

in Vermont, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 18th day of August, A.D. 2015

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, from Thunder Road to Devil's Bowl Speedway and the many tracks in-between, Vermont has a rich racing history; and

WHEREAS, race fans in Vermont have close ties to NASCAR drivers and eagerly await the New England visits of Sprint Cup stars; and

WHEREAS, AJ Allmendinger is visiting the region to meet with fans, play some games, pose for pictures and enjoy all that the Champlain Valley Fair has to offer; and

WHEREAS, AJ notched his first Sprint Cup win not far from here at Watkins Glen, where many Vermont fans check out NASCAR stars; and

WHEREAS, we hope to cheer AJ on to a successful run at the SYLVANIA 300 on September 27, 2015 at New Hampshire Motor Speedway;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2, 2105 as

DINGER DAY

in Vermont, and encourage all those who live, work and play in our communities to celebrate this day and the spirit of NASCAR racing that is so prevalent in our state.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 25th day of August, A.D. 2015

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, Elsie Beard has generously served the town of Orange throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, even as a small child, Elsie Beard assisted her father, Frank Beard, longtime Clerk/Treasurer for the town of Orange; and

WHEREAS, added together, Elise Beard's work on boards and commissions equals 112 years of service to the town of Orange; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Library Trustee for eight years; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Justice of the Peace for ten years; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Town Treasurer for two years; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Auditor for 12 years; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as a member of the Planning Commission for four years; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Selectboard member for 18 years; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Service Officer for one year; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Agent to Deed Land for 16 years; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Recreation Committee member for six years; and

WHEREAS, Elsie Beard served as Assistant Town Clerk/Treasurer for 35 years

WHEREAS, I join with Orange residents and town officials in thanking Elsie Beard for her dedication and valuable work;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 14, 2015 as

ELSIE BEARD DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 25th day of August, A.D. 2015



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;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 14-20, 2015 as

KINSHIP CARE WEEK



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 25th day of August, A.D. 2015.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont is ranked 43rd out of 50 states in the nation for prevalence of falls by the United Health Foundation 2015 Senior Report; and

WHEREAS, approximately 22% of Vermonters are 60 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's fall rate for persons age 65 and older of 32% is significantly higher than the national rate of 27%; and

WHEREAS, falls are the most common cause of traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and account for 54.4% of TBI related deaths; and

WHEREAS, falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths and hospitalizations; and

WHEREAS, falls and the fear of falling can lead to depression and hopelessness, loss of mobility, and loss of functional independence; and

Whereas, the Vermont Departments of Health, and Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living in partnership with the Vermont Falls Free Coalition, Emergency Medical Services and Area Agencies on Aging, encourages use of a free screening and evidence-based falls risk management program offered in communities around the state; and

WHEREAS, older adults can remain independent and reduce their chances of falling through regular exercises, reviewing their medication with a health care provider, having their eyes checked annually and making their home safer by installing safety devices; and

WHEREAS, unless Vermonters commit to effectively addressing this serious public health issue, the impact and cost of fall-related injuries and deaths will increase dramatically, as the population ages;

WHEREAS, I further encourage professionals, older adults, caregivers and family members to raise awareness and prevent falls by supporting evidence-based interventions, community partnerships and education to substantially reduce the number of falls.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2015 as

FALLS PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont. I encourage all citizens in our state to join in this special observance.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 28th day of August, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, PANDAS/PANS was first identified in the late 1990's by the National Institute of Mental Health; and

WHEREAS, PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections) is a serious, clinically diagnosed illness that presents with the sudden onset of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) often displayed as severe anxiety and emotional disturbances along with other symptoms; and

WHEREAS, PANS (Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome) is the broadest of the related disorders. It includes symptoms associated with a preceding infection such as the dramatic onset of OCD, or severely restricted food intake with the concurrent presence of additional neuropsychiatric symptoms; and

WHEREAS, evidence suggests that PANDAS/PANS is initially caused by certain infections; and there is no cure for these illnesses as of yet, but numerous studies have demonstrated successes with the prolonged use of antibiotics and/or intravenous, immunoglobulin treatment or plasmapheresis; and

WHEREAS, these illnesses are frequently misdiagnosed, undiagnosed, or under-treated due to the lack of awareness, both in the public and the medical community; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of Vermont, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2015 to be

PANDAS/PANS AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 3rd day of September, A.D. 2015



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, in the midst of our struggle to free ourselves from the colonial rule of Great Britain, the Green Mountain Boys were established and were an integral part of the war against our country's first brush with tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the daughters of the men who fought that war fundraised for 25 years to erect a monument to commemorate that struggle; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 1915, the Green Mountain Boy Monument was dedicated and given to the City of Rutland; and

WHEREAS, since the monument's dedication, this Green Mountain Boy has stood at his post dutifully on watch for 100 years. He has served not only as a symbol of American pride and resilience, but also as a beacon of liberty and self-determination for the people of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, over the last one hundred years, He has watched our brave local soldiers march to two World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, Grenada, Lebanon, Kuwait & Afghanistan. The number of stars on the flag, symbolizing each of our states, has grown to fifty, but the underlying principles of justice and equality remain the same; and

WHEREAS, on this day in 2001, an act of terrorism against our country was brutally enacted; and

WHEREAS, Patriot Day, observed as the National Day of Service and Remembrance, occurs on September 11th of each year in memory of the 2,977 killed in the 2001 September 11 attacks; and

WHEREAS, we are grateful for the service and sacrifice of American Patriots throughout our country's history, and we, as they did, look to a peaceful and prosperous future for our families, city, state, and our country; and

WHEREAS, I encourage all Vermonter to remember what the Green Mountain Boy Monument represented to those who originally envisioned him, and to appreciate the courage of those who fought to make and keep us independent;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont, do hereby proclaim September 11, 2015

GREEN MOUNTAIN BOY MONUMENT DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of September, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, conflict resolution encompasses mediation, facilitation, collaborative decision-making, restorative processes and other dialogue-focused approaches to responding to differences; and

WHEREAS, conflict resolution processes empower individuals, families, communities, organizations, and businesses to foster communication and devise solutions that are responsive to the needs and interests of all parties involved; and

WHEREAS, conflict resolution is taught and practiced by many citizens in school systems, universities, and graduate programs throughout Vermont and the world as a way of solving disputes; and

WHEREAS, Vermont is a nationally recognized leader in the development of community based restorative justice and services to victims, and

WHEREAS, community based programs fairly and equitably resolve neighborhood and community conflicts, thereby strengthening local relationships; and

WHEREAS, professional associations of conflict processing specialists promote peaceful and creative resolutions to disputes, and

WHEREAS, Vermont's reputation for working across partisan lines to get things done has had a very real impact on health, education, and economic prosperity throughout the state;

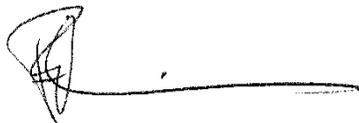
WHEREAS, the Vermont Judiciary has been a long-time supporter of conflict resolution processes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as

CONFLICT RESOLUTION MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 3rd day of September, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, October 11-17 marks International Plasma Awareness Week with observances throughout the United States and Europe designed to raise global awareness of the need for source plasma collection, recognize the contributions of plasma donors to saving and improving lives, and to increase understanding about life-saving plasma protein therapies and rare diseases; and

WHEREAS, life-saving plasma-derived and recombinant blood clotting factors, collectively known as plasma protein therapies are unique, biologic products for which no substitute therapies exist, save and improve lives of individuals throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, plasma protein therapies are used to treat many conditions including bleeding disorders, primary immunodeficiency diseases, Alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency and certain rare neurological disorders; and

WHEREAS, these therapies are also used in emergency and surgical medicine to save and improve lives; and

WHEREAS, these therapies have significantly improved the quality of life, markedly improved patient outcomes, extended life expectancy for individuals with rare diseases, specifically those with plasma protein disorders;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 11 - 17, 2105 as

INTERNATIONAL PLASMA AWARENESS WEEK

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 3rd day of September, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'P' followed by a long horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

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

WHEREAS, all too often healthcare professionals underestimate the malignant and metastatic potential of neuroendocrine tumors/tumors; 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, survival for NET cancer patients is further compromised by fragmented care and lack of access to treatment by networks of specialists; and

WHEREAS, although there have been advances in the detection and treatment of NET cancers, not all patients are benefiting 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, 2015 as

NET CANCER AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of September, A.D. 2015



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, an estimated 2,350 men in the United States are diagnosed with breast cancer each year and an estimated 440 men each year will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, the public commonly thinks of breast cancer as a disease affecting only women, a misconception that can delay diagnosis and treatment in men, often leading to death; and

WHEREAS, early detection of male breast cancer is critical, as men who are diagnosed when breast cancer is in its earliest stages have an increased chance of successful treatment and, ultimately, survival; and

WHEREAS, due in part to a lack of awareness that men can develop the disease, men are generally diagnosed with breast cancer at a later stage than women, which affects prognosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS, in order to facilitate early diagnosis and prompt treatment of male breast cancer, public education, awareness, and understanding of the disease is necessary; and

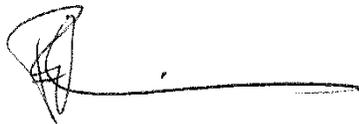
WHEREAS, in remembrance of the men who have lost their lives to breast cancer, and in support of those who are currently fighting this often overlooked disease, it is appropriate to designate October 18 through October 24, 2015 as "Male Breast Cancer Awareness Week";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 18-24, 2015 as

MALE BREAST CANCER AWARENESS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 3rd day of September, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, professional truck drivers are vital to the safe and secure delivery of life's essentials to homes, communities, schools, hospitals and businesses; and

WHEREAS, professional truck drivers travel billion of miles delivering a significant percent of total U.S. freight tonnage; and

WHEREAS, the more than 3 million professional truck drivers are dedicated to safety on our highways, in our workplaces, to the industry they work in, and to the citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the professional truck drivers of the state of Vermont safely deliver tons of freight each day to Vermont communities who depend on the professional truck drivers to receive their goods; and

WHEREAS, professional truck drivers keep the shelves of our local supermarkets fully stocked, deliver medicine and medical supplies to hospitals and clinics, and deliver goods at every stage of production - from raw materials to the store shelf; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the significant contributions of our professional truck drivers, and the efficiency and safety they demonstrate that enables businesses and private citizens to confidently ship goods across state lines and throughout America; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the importance of professional truck drivers to our well-being and the economic value of their industry to Vermont, we honor the men and women truck drivers for the past and future contributions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 13-19, 2015 as

NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK



in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 3rd day of September, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, in Vermont, improving the water quality of our streams, rivers, lakes and ponds and protecting public health are important shared values of all Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, over 55% of Vermonters dispose of the wastewater from their homes and businesses through the use of onsite septic systems; and

WHEREAS, in order to be permitted, Vermont's onsite septic systems must meet strict siting, design, and installation criteria; and

WHEREAS, septic systems that are not properly maintained can lead to the system's failure resulting in raw sewage polluting Vermont's land and waterways, contaminating drinking water and contributing excess nutrients to lakes, rivers and groundwaters, thereby creating environmental and public health hazards; and

WHEREAS, educating the public about water quality, septic systems and system maintenance will enable Vermonters to do their part in protecting Vermont's environment and public health for this and future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 21-25, 2015 as

SEPTIC-SMART WEEK

in Vermont and encourage all Vermonters to join in this observance.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 8th day of September, A.D. 2015.

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

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 2015 as

INDEPENDENT COUNTRY STORE MONTH

in Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 9th day of September, A.D. 2015

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, *The State of Marriage*, tells the story of how Vermonters Beth Robinson and Susan Murray formed Vermont Freedom to Marry, and partnered with Mary Bonauto of Gay and Lesbian Advocates, and Defenders (GLAD) to lead the fight for marriage equality in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, *The State of Marriage* celebrates and documents the courage and resolve of these individuals as well as hundreds of other Vermonters who worked towards marriage equality, and helped build the foundation for the national movement; and

WHEREAS, with the Vermont premier of *The State of Marriage*, we recognize the state's commitment to equal rights for gay and lesbian couples, and remember the decades long fight for marriage equality; and

WHEREAS, we proudly remember the 1999 Vermont Supreme Court decision that made Vermont the first state to grant same sex couples legal recognition; and

WHEREAS, we proudly remember that Vermont was the first state to provide equal state benefits to gay and lesbian couples when in 2000 the state legislature overrode a gubernatorial veto and passed civil unions; and

WHEREAS, we proudly remember Vermont's 2009 passage of the Vermont Marriage Equality Act, making Vermont the first state to enact marriage equality without a court mandate; and

WHEREAS, we proudly remember June 26, 2015 and the U.S. Supreme Court ruling ensuring that the right to marry can no longer be denied to any couple simply because of where they live; and

WHEREAS, the film, *The State of Marriage*, will stand as a record of the courage, hope, and social justice that prevailed in the State of Vermont and ultimately in the country; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont premier of *The State of Marriage* is hosted by Pride Center of Vermont, a community center dedicated to advancing community and the health and safety of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Vermonters; and

WHEREAS, as we celebrate *The State of Marriage* and Vermont's history, let us reaffirm our commitment to equality for all, and stand firm in our rejection of discrimination and hate;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 12, 2015 as

“THE STATE OF MARRIAGE DAY”

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of September, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Shumlin', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Vermont stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs and opportunities build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults; and

WHEREAS, afterschool programs and opportunities engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and

WHEREAS, the State of 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 22, 2015, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and

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

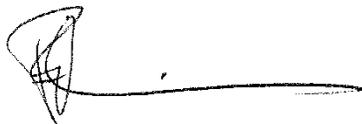
WHEREAS, the State of Vermont is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap, prepare young people to compete in the global economy;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of Vermont, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2015 as

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of September, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

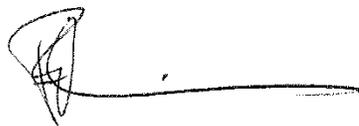
- WHEREAS,** the health and wellness of our citizens is a primary concern of the State of Vermont; and
- WHEREAS,** reducing obesity and diet-related diseases by promoting safe and healthy diets is a critical factor in improving citizens' overall health; and
- WHEREAS,** supporting sustainable family farms and local agriculture benefits the state's economy; and
- WHEREAS,** obtaining fair pay and safe conditions for food and farm workers, so that the food we produce and consume is safe and fair for all, is beneficial for both the producer and consumer; and
- WHEREAS,** expanding access to food and ending hunger is of critical importance to those who live in food deserts; and
- WHEREAS,** protecting the environment and farm animals is necessary to sustain future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2015 as

FOOD DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Vermont this 10th day of September,
A.D. 2015.



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, this year marks the tenth annual CHaD HERO in the Town of Hanover, NH, for the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock; and

WHEREAS, CHaD HERO benefits the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock (CHaD) and has become an important family focused, motivational, fundraising event for the community of Hanover, families, patients, caregivers and friends of the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock; and

WHEREAS, Over the first nine years the CHaD HERO has had over sixteen thousand participants run or walk over 112,829.3 miles and raised more than 3.6 million dollars to support the vital programs provided by CHaD to the children in the region; and

WHEREAS, Participants, volunteers, CHaD staff, families of CHaD patients and former CHaD patients have given of their time, their energy, their support and their belief in CHaD to make this a successful top fundraising event for the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 18, 2015 as

THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT DARTMOUTH-HITCHCOCK DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 10th day of September, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, nearly 1,630 Americans are still missing from the Vietnam War, and approximately 7,800 are unaccounted for from the Korean War, 120 from the Cold War and over 73,000 from WWII; and

WHEREAS, their families, friends, and other countless Americans still must deal with uncertainty concerning their fates; and

WHEREAS, the Obama Administration has recently reinforced its commitment to maintaining POW/MIA accounting as a priority of the United States; and

WHEREAS, U.S. service members continue to serve at significant personal risk, and we have profound gratitude for the courage, determination, and resolve of POWs and MIAs, and remain mindful of their families, friends, and fellow veterans who continue to wait for a resolution;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 18, 2015 as

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of September, A.D. 2015

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, the State of Vermont recognizes the value and capabilities of its workforce, including people with disabilities, and has a strong commitment to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens; and

WHEREAS, there are over 48,000 Vermonters of adult working age who have a disability, constituting over 11% of the state's working age population; and

WHEREAS, only 34% of working age Vermonters with disabilities are employed, as compared to 82% of Vermonters without disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Vermonters with disabilities want to work, and hiring people with disabilities is beneficial to the workforce, businesses and the state; and

WHEREAS: the State of Vermont is committed to an inclusive community, and recognizes the importance of expanding employment opportunities that will benefit both the business community and employees of all abilities, and

WHEREAS, we recognize the 70th Anniversary of the National Disability Employment Awareness Month and its commitment to raising awareness about disability employment issues and celebrating the many gifts, talents and contributions of people with disabilities to our workplaces and communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as

DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont and call upon employers, schools and other community organizations to observe this month with appropriate programs and activities, and to advance its important message of "My Disability is One Part of Who I Am" throughout the year.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of September, A.D. 2015.

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,** the state of Vermont has averaged approximately 465 new cases of prostate cancer annually and over 60 deaths from prostate cancer annually; and
- WHEREAS,** forty percent of new diagnoses of prostate cancer occur in men under the age of 65; and
- WHEREAS,** African-American males suffer a prostate cancer incidence rate up to 65 percent higher than white males and double the mortality rate; and
- WHEREAS,** one in seven Vermont men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in his lifetime, and one man in 39 will die of this disease. If a man in Vermont has one close family member (father or brother) diagnosed with prostate cancer, his risk of being diagnosed with prostate cancer doubles, and if he has more than one close family member diagnosed with prostate cancer, his risk is greater; and
- WHEREAS,** when diagnosed in its early stages, the chances of surviving prostate cancer for more than five years is nearly 100 percent, while only 28 percent of men survive more than five years if diagnosed during the late stages of the disease; and
- WHEREAS,** having frank and detailed discussions with a primary care provider about the potential harms and benefits of screening and treatment is essential in order to make an informed decision about screening for prostate cancer. Men at average risk should start talking to their doctors beginning at age 50. Men at higher risk (including African Americans and men who have a close relative with prostate cancer) should talk to their doctor about prostate testing as early as age 40;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2015 as

PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

and urge all men to talk to their health care professionals and become aware of the risks and benefits of prostate cancer screening and treatment.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 15th day of September, A.D. 2015

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, in the United States, an estimated 1,222,474 people are living with, or are in remission from, leukemia, lymphoma, or myeloma or another form of blood cancer; with an estimated 162,020 new cases expected to be diagnosed in 2015: and

WHEREAS, leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma and other blood cancers will kill an estimated 56,630 people in the United States this year alone: and

WHEREAS, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) exists to find cures and ensure access to treatments for blood cancer patients: and

WHEREAS, LLS maintains an office in Vermont to help improve the quality of life for blood cancer patients and their families 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 blood cancer patients and their families; and

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont encourages private efforts to enhance research funding and education programs that are saving lives not someday, but today;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 2015 as



BLOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 21st day of September, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'P' followed by a long horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Vermont has a rich and storied tradition of hunting and angling, that dates back further than the state itself and continues to this day; and

WHEREAS, Vermont sportsmen and women were among the first conservationists to support the establishment of the Vermont Board of Fish Commissioners in 1866 - which later became the Fish and Game Commission and eventually the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department - to conserve fish, wildlife and their habitats; and, through its license fees helped fund state efforts to provide for healthy and sustainable natural resources; and

WHEREAS, upon realizing that license fees alone were insufficient to restore and sustain healthy fish and wildlife populations, sportsmen and women supported excise taxes on firearms and ammunition, as well as hunting, fishing, archery and boating equipment to raise additional conservation funds; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department is funded primarily by sportsmen and women, through the American System of Conservation Funding - a "user pays - public benefits" approach that is widely recognized as the most successful system of fish and wildlife management in the world; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, Vermont's sportsmen and women generated \$13 million through this system to support the conservation efforts of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's 254,000 hunters and anglers support the state's economy by spending more than \$442 million each year to engage in their pursuits; and

WHEREAS, this spending supports over 6,800 jobs in Vermont and generates \$50 million in state and local taxes; and

WHEREAS, National Hunting and Fishing Day was established in 1972 to celebrate and recognize hunters and anglers for their immense contributions to fish and wildlife conservation, and to our society;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont, and do hereby proclaim September 26, 2015 as

HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

in Vermont, and recognize the social, cultural, economic, and ecological benefits of time-honored traditions of hunting and angling.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 23rd day of September, A.D. 2015

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 enhances our quality of life and serves to broaden our cultural and economic horizons; and

WHEREAS, 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 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 technology companies, and it will continue to be a destination for these innovative hi-tech companies; and

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

WHEREAS, 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; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as

TECHNOLOGY MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 24th day of September, A.D. 2015.



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

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

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

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

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 11-17, 2015 as



CASE MANAGEMENT WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 24th day of September, A.D. 2015

Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** all students, faculty and staff of the University of Vermont, are encouraged to speak with their physicians about how physical activity and exercise may help treat or prevent numerous chronic conditions such as hypertension, cardiac disease, and diabetes; and
- WHEREAS,** all campus physicians and other health care providers are encouraged to talk to their patients about the health benefits of exercise, and to strongly recommend that they engage in appropriate exercise; and
- WHEREAS,** regular, moderate-intensity exercise has protective health benefits; and
- WHEREAS,** the health benefits of physical activity and exercise can do so much to improve the quality of life for everyone on campus; and
- WHEREAS,** a healthier campus population means a campus culture geared toward health and wellness, greater participation in classes and campus activities and other benefits to the campus setting at large that include all students, faculty and staff; and
- WHEREAS,** regular physical activity and exercise is indeed a powerful prescription, with great potential to improve the health of all students, faculty and staff; and
- WHEREAS,** the American College of Sports Medicine calls on health care organizations, physicians and other professionals, regardless of specialty, to assess and review every patient's physical activity program during comprehensive visits;
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 2015 as

EXERCISE IS MEDICINE® ON CAMPUS MONTH

in Vermont and encourage all students, faculty and staff of the University of Vermont to participate in physical activity in the interest of better health and quality of life on campus.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 29th day of September, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'P' followed by a long horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, October 5-9, 2015 has been designated National Health Information Technology Week by the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society; and

WHEREAS, National Health IT Week is a collaborative forum and virtual awareness week that assembles key healthcare constituents dedicated to working together to elevate the necessity of advancing health through the best use of information technology and the exchange of clinical healthcare information; and

WHEREAS, Vermont Information Technology Leaders, Inc., which celebrated its tenth anniversary in July 2015, is a partner organization in National Health IT Week, and is the state designated entity to operate the Vermont Health Information Exchange; and

WHEREAS, Health Information Technology is recognized as an critical component of achieving better health care outcomes for Vermont's citizens

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 5-9, 2015 as

VERMONT HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY WEEK

in Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 29th day of September, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Shumlin', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the State of Vermont recognizes that it has a vital role in identifying, protecting, and responding to cyber threats that may have significant impact to our individual and collective security and privacy; and

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

WHEREAS, the Stop.Think.Connect.TM (www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect or www.stopthinkconnect.org) has been designated as the National Public Awareness Campaign, implemented through a coalition of private companies, nonprofit and government organizations, and academic institutions aimed at increasing the understanding of cyber threats and empowering the American public to be safer and more secure online; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute for Standards and Technology Cybersecurity Framework and DHS's Critical Infrastructure Cyber Community (C3) Voluntary Program have been developed as free resources to help organizations (large and small, both public and private) implement Cybersecurity Framework and improve their cyber practices through a practical approach to addressing evolving threats and challenges; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama signed Executive Order 13691, Promoting Private Sector Cybersecurity Information Sharing, to encourage and promote sharing of cybersecurity threat information within the private sector and between the private sector and government through the development of Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations; and

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

WHEREAS, the President of the United States of America, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (www.dhs.gov/cyber), the CIS/Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis enter (www.msisac.org), the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (www.nascio.org), the Council on CyberSecurity (www.counciloncybersecurity.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 <http://itsecurity.vermont.gov/> and the Stop.Think.Connect.Campaign website (www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect or 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 the State of Vermont is officially supporting National Cyber Security Awareness Month and the Public Awareness Campaign, Stop.Think.Connect.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of October, A.D. 2015

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, the week of November 8 – 14, 2015, has been declared National Elevator Escalator Safety Awareness Week; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this week is to increase public awareness of the safe and proper use of elevators, escalators and moving walkways; and

WHEREAS, the goal of this week is to reduce, through education and awareness, avoidable accidents; and

WHEREAS, the elevator industry greatly contributes to the quality of life; and

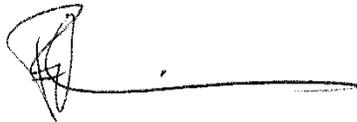
WHEREAS, this endeavor is worthy of support and cooperation to benefit the citizens, the general public and the short range vertical transportation industry;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 8 - 14, 2014

NATIONAL ELEVATOR ESCALATOR SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 1st day of October, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, stomach cancer is the fifth most common cancer worldwide; and

WHEREAS, stomach cancer is among the cancers with the lowest five-year survival rates (sixth lowest); and

WHEREAS, out of 24,590 new cases diagnosed a year in the United States, 10,720 will die in the first year of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, 35 percent of stomach cancer in the United States is diagnosed at a distant stage, which only has a five percent five-year survival rate and overall survival rate in the United States for stomach cancer is 29 percent; and

WHEREAS, in the United States it is estimated that more than 76,800 people are currently living with stomach cancer;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 2015 as

STOMACH CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 8th day of October, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the physical health and well-being of all children in the state of Vermont are primary and fundamental concerns; and

WHEREAS, increasing children's access to healthy breakfast and lunch as well as increasing physical activity are effective strategies to promote life-long health and success; and

WHEREAS, innovations in the promotion, menu, and delivery methods of school breakfast have resulted in significantly increased student participation; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that students who eat breakfast at school are ready to learn and those who do not eat breakfast frequently are unable to concentrate, often have headaches and stomach aches, and demonstrate decreased quality in academic performance; and

WHEREAS, schools that move breakfast after the bell in some form (classroom, grab and go, second chance, breakfast at snack time) see improvements in attendance, test scores, and behavior; and

WHEREAS, the dairy farm families of Vermont, New England Dairy & Food Council, Hunger Free Vermont, and the Vermont Agency of Education are challenging schools across the state to increase student participation in school breakfast and are launching the Vermont Breakfast After the Bell Challenge;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 19, 2015 as

VERMONT BREAKFAST AFTER THE BELL CHALLENGE DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of October, A.D. 2015



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, the U.S. Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade became the first major combat unit to serve in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, on October 22, 1965, PFC Milton Lee Olive III, a member of Company B, 3rd Platoon, threw himself on a hand grenade to save four soldiers; and

WHEREAS, on April 26, 1966, President Lyndon Johnson posthumously awarded PFC Milton Lee Olive, III the Medal of Honor; and

WHEREAS, PFC Milton Lee Olive III and all Medal of Honor recipients provided extraordinary service and endured unthinkable hardships to protect our liberties; and

WHEREAS, we will endeavor to honor and remember the hard work and selfless efforts of all veterans; and

WHEREAS, we thank PFC Milton Lee Olive III, the members of the U.S. Army 173rd Airborne Brigade and the veterans of the Vietnam War and other conflicts, for protecting our liberties and making our world a safer place for future generations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby recognize the contributions of PFC Milton Lee Olive III and those who service in the Vietnam War.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of October, A.D. 2015

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, the State of Vermont has a deep and proud tradition of military service; and

WHEREAS, at home and abroad, in war and peace, men and women in uniform have worked tirelessly, faced grave danger, and made the ultimate sacrifice for us and our country. For that we are eternally grateful; and

WHEREAS, those who have served and those who currently serve in the Armed Forces do so at great personal sacrifice in order to protect our liberties and make our world a safer place for future generations; and

WHEREAS, we must never forget the extraordinary service and unthinkable hardships endured by veterans and those currently serving our country; and

WHEREAS, on this Veterans Day, we honor our veterans, those currently serving in the Armed Forces, and those still Missing In Action for their extraordinary service; and we thank them for enduring unthinkable hardships with the common purpose of protecting freedom and liberty;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2015 as

VETERANS DAY

in the State of Vermont.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this ___ day of October, A.D. 2015

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, Warren Miller founded Warren Miller Entertainment in 1949 and produced his first film *Deep and Light* in 1950; and

WHEREAS, Warren Miller has produced a feature film annually for 65 years; and

WHEREAS, Warren Miller is recognized as a pioneer in the action sports industry; and

WHEREAS, in 1950 when Warren Miller produced his first film, there were less than 12 resorts and 30 lifts; and

WHEREAS, today there are more than 420 resorts and skier visits have exceeded 60,000,000; and

WHEREAS, Vermont boasted 4,503,269 skier and rider visits in 2014; and

WHEREAS, for many, the Warren Miler film signals the official start of the winter season; and

WHEREAS, film crews have visited every major resort around the world and exotic locations including Antarctica, China, India, Iran and Morocco.

WHEREAS, Warren Miller has promoted skiing and snowboarding in Vermont, across the country and around the world, and has encouraged a love for these lifelong sports; and

WHEREAS, Warren Miller will celebrate his 90th birthday on October 15, 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2015 as

Warren Miller Day

in Vermont, and encourage Vermonters to celebrate Warren Miller's 90th birthday throughout the 2015-2016 winter season.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 2nd day of February, A.D. 2015

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, diabetes can take the form of Type 1, Type 2, or Gestational Diabetes and affects 8% of the population of Vermont, 17% of Vermonters over 65 years of age, and is a serious but manageable disease for which there is no known cure, and which is the seventh leading cause of death in Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Type 1 diabetes (T1D) accounts for 5 to 10 percent of diabetes and is an autoimmune disease in which a person's pancreas stops producing insulin, a hormone that enables people to get energy from food. It comes on suddenly, causes dependence on injected or pumped insulin for life, and carries the constant threat of numerous complications when not well-managed. While its causes are not yet entirely understood, scientists believe that both genetic factors and environmental triggers are involved. Its onset has nothing to do with diet or lifestyle. There is no prevention for T1D, and – at present – no cure; and

WHEREAS, Type 2 diabetes approximately accounts for 90 to 95 percent of diabetes, 1 in 4 Americans who have diabetes do not know they have the disease and may experience damage to the heart, eyes, kidneys, and limbs without producing any symptoms and, if current trends continue until 2050, 1 in 3 Americans will develop Type 2 diabetes by the time they reach adulthood; and

WHEREAS, the prevalence among children nationally of Type 1 diabetes has increased 21 percent and the prevalence of Type 2 diabetes has increased 30 percent in less than a decade and continues to increase; and

WHEREAS, gestational diabetes, the onset of diabetes during pregnancy that can negatively affect the health status of both mother and baby, increases the risk of the mother developing type 2 diabetes later in life, and for which Vermont rates have nearly doubled since the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, diabetes has many faces, affecting everyone, young and old alike – Caucasians, African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, with minority populations in the United States having an increased risk for developing the disease; and

WHEREAS, an increase in community awareness of risk factors and symptoms related to diabetes can improve the likelihood that people with diabetes will get the attention they need before suffering the devastating complications of the disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November, 2015 as

**DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH
in Vermont.**



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of October, A.D. 2015

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, pharmacists are experts in the successful use of today's complex medications; and

WHEREAS patients in hospitals and outpatient clinics may receive better care when pharmacists are directly involved in medication management decisions; and

WHEREAS, pharmacists' direct involvement in patient care can help reduce unnecessary costs and burden on the health system; and

WHEREAS, pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who work in inpatient and outpatient care settings provide valuable services to help patients make the best use of their medicines; and

WHEREAS, the pharmacists and pharmacy technicians practicing in the hospitals and health-systems of Vermont contribute to the health and well-being of our citizens; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 18-24, 2015 as

HOSPITAL PHARMACY WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 14th day of October, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'P' followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the importance of nutrition in maintaining good health is well established; and

WHEREAS, excellent nutrition is even more critical to those individuals in health care facilities; and

WHEREAS, we rely on our foodservice professionals to create and deliver meals that are flavorful and nutritious; and

WHEREAS, foodservice and nutrition professionals in health care play a vital role in promoting recovery and maintaining the well-being of patients; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated individuals deserve our thanks for providing food and nutrition services in health care;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do proclaim October 5 – 11, 2015 as

HEALTH CARE FOODSERVICE WORKERS WEEK

in Vermont

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 19th day of October, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Lund is a multi-service agency offering integrated, family-centered treatment, education, adoption and family support services to help women, children, and families break cycles of poverty, abuse and addiction; and

WHEREAS, Lund opened in 1890 as "The Home of Friendless Women" and provided shelter and support for pregnant women and their children. Due to societal pressures at that time, nearly all of the mothers made adoption plans for their babies; and

WHEREAS, in 1927 the home became known as "The Elizabeth Lund Home" after a long term benefactor. In 1998, the name changed again to Lund Family Center to reflect the designation by the Vermont Agency of Human Services of Lund as a parent child center; and

WHEREAS, during the 1970s, the center opened a family resource and therapeutic childcare center to meet the needs of the mothers who were choosing to parent their children; and

WHEREAS, Lund was honored in 2009 with a Congressional Angel in Adoption award for outstanding advocacy in adoption and foster care, and a SAMSHA Award for exemplary delivery of residential care; and

WHEREAS, as of 2012, the center is simply known as "Lund;" and

WHEREAS, in its 125 years, Lund has evolved to meet the needs of society, helping thousands of Vermonters each year through a notable list of services including a 5 STARS early childhood education program for 50 children from birth to five years old, a high school completion program for pregnant and parenting young women, and a parent child center offering comprehensive parenting education and family support; and

WHEREAS, Lund is Vermont's oldest and largest non-profit adoption agency and Vermont's only residential treatment facility for substance abuse and mental health disorders where mothers can receive treatment while living with their children; and

WHEREAS, Lund celebrates its 125th anniversary with its doors wide open and ready to lend a hand to women, children and families in need of support.;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 19, 2015 as

LUND DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 19th day of October, A.D. 2015

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Lund is a multi-service agency offering integrated, family-centered treatment, education, adoption and family support services to help women, children, and families break cycles of poverty, abuse and addiction; and

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WHEREAS, Lund is Vermont's oldest and largest non-profit adoption agency and Vermont's only residential treatment facility for substance abuse and mental health disorders where mothers can receive treatment while living with their children; and

WHEREAS, Lund celebrates its 125th anniversary with its doors wide open and ready to lend a hand to women, children and families in need of support.;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 19, 2015 as

LUND DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 19th day of October, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, on October 6th the United States Coast Guard suspended its search for the survivors of the M/V El Faro; and

WHEREAS, there were a total of 33 personnel on board the vessel, 28 Americans and five Polish Citizens; and

WHEREAS, while no Vermonters were among those lost when the M/V El Faro foundered, there are many Vermonters that work as Merchant Mariners as crew for ferries, moving cargo around the world, and working for the U.S. Navy's Military Sealift Command to ensure our nation's security; and

WHEREAS, Vermont Merchant Mariners and their families feel the loss of the M/V El Faro; and

WHEREAS, we remember and honor the crew of the M/V El Faro and all American Merchant Mariners who help ensure our nation's economic and physical security;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby recognize Merchant Mariners in Vermont and throughout the United States.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 20th day of October, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Rotary International, founded on February 23, 1905 in Chicago, is the world's first and one of the largest non-profit service organization; and

WHEREAS, today, there are over 1.2 million Rotary Club members in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, Rotary International launched PolioPlus and spearheaded the Global Polio Eradication Initiative with the World Health Organization, United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and UNICEF to immunize the children of the world against polio; and

WHEREAS, polio cases have dropped by 99 percent since 1988, and the world stands on the threshold of eradicating the disease; and

WHEREAS, only two countries, Pakistan and Afghanistan, remain on the polio-endemic nations list; and

WHEREAS, to date, Rotary has contributed more than \$1 billion and countless volunteer hours to the protection of more than 2 billion children in 122 countries; and

WHEREAS, Rotary is currently working to raise an additional \$200 million toward a \$355 million challenge grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; and

WHEREAS, these efforts continue to provide much needed operational support, medical personnel, laboratory equipment, and educational materials for health workers and parents; and

WHEREAS, there are more than 1,000 Rotary club members throughout Vermont sponsoring service projects to address such critical issues as poverty, health, hunger, illiteracy, and the environment in their local communities and abroad;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 24, 2015 as

WORLD POLIO DAY

in Vermont and encourage all citizens to join Rotary International in the fight for a polio-free world.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont this 22nd day of October, AD 2015.

Peter Shumlin

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Jim Reardon will retire after thirty years of service to the State of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, Jim Reardon began his state service in 1986 with the Agency of Human Services where early in his career he served as Chief Accountant for the Human Services Division of Rate Setting; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, Jim Reardon became Financial Operations Manager for the Agency of Human Services, assisting in the development of agency goals, policies, and operational plans, and acting as a legislative liaison with respect to fiscal policy and budget management; and

WHEREAS, Jim Reardon was appointed Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Management, a position he held from 2003 to 2005; and

WHEREAS, Jim Reardon was appointed Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Management in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Jim Reardon was re-appointed Commissioner by Governor Peter Shumlin in 2011, and held the position until his retirement; and

WHEREAS, Jim Reardon has served under four Vermont Governors - Governor Peter Shumlin, Governor James Douglas, Governor Howard Dean, and Governor Madeleine Kunin; and

WHEREAS, as Commissioner, Jim Reardon has served the State of Vermont as the chief financial officer responsible for the oversight, development, and monitoring of the entire state budget; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's budget has been in the best of hands with Jim Reardon, and he has kept the state on a steady course in good times and in bad; and

WHEREAS, Jim Reardon has earned the respect of all who are involved in solving Vermont's budgetary and fiscal challenges; and

WHEREAS, Jim Reardon's no nonsense style, his ability to work effectively across party lines, and his commitment to smart fiscal policy clearly demonstrate that the well-being of the State of Vermont is his top priority:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2015 as

JAMES REARDON DAY

in Vermont, and thank him for serving the State of Vermont with the highest distinction
the last thirty years.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont
on this 22nd day of October, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Shumlin', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, quality public fire prevention programs directly affect the safety and well-being of the residents and visitors of the State of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, these fire prevention programs affect the overall quality of life and are an integral part of the Division of Fire Safety's mission statement in protecting lives and property within the State of Vermont; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Safety Calendar program is annually incorporated with the observance of National Fire Prevention Week; and

WHEREAS, the current Fire Safety Calendar program was created and designed as a collaboration between the Division of Fire Safety and our local schools to incorporate the artwork of third grade students that depict important fire safety messages into calendars that are distributed to thousands of households annually; and

WHEREAS, teachers and fire departments have used the Fire Safety Calendar program to reinforce essential fire prevention and home safety messages resulting in the saving of lives and property; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Safety Calendar program has received financial support from L. Brown & Sons Printing, Inc., the American Fire Sprinkler Association, several state of Vermont Fire Service organizations and associations, as well as numerous other individual sponsors over the past 25 years; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Safety Calendar program was created 25 years ago by Deputy Director (Retired) Robert Howe, with assistance from several dedicated Division Staff members, to reach out and educate the children of our state on the important and invaluable messages of fire safety and fire prevention; and

WHEREAS, Deputy Director Howe has made significant contributions to the health and well-being of our communities through his unwavering support for fire safety and fire prevention, and has worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the Fire Safety Calendar program since its inception;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim that as of the 6th day of November 2015 that the Fire Safety Calendar program shall now be officially named the

ROBERT HOWE FIRE SAFETY CALENDAR PROGRAM

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of October, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Shumlin', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, perioperative nurses specialize in the care of patients immediately before, during and after surgical and other invasive procedures; and

WHEREAS, serving in settings ranging from traditional hospital-based operating rooms to ambulatory surgery centers and physicians' offices, perioperative nurses work to provide the safest care possible for patients undergoing surgical and other invasive procedures; and

WHEREAS, perioperative nurses assess individual patient needs prior to and throughout the surgical or invasive experience, develop, implement, and continuously evaluate a plan for the care of the patient, and prepare the operating room and patient for their procedure; and

WHEREAS, perioperative nurses are responsible for monitoring all aspects of the patient's condition for the duration of each procedure and, through professional and patient-centered expertise, are responsible for care coordination after the procedure; and

WHEREAS, patients undergoing surgery and other invasive procedures and their loved ones rely on the skills, knowledge and expertise of perioperative registered nurses who uphold a long tradition of improving surgical safety and the quality of patient care; and

WHEREAS, Perioperative Nurse Week recognizes the contributions perioperative registered nurses make to patient safety and the opportunities and challenges facing the profession;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 8-14, 2015 as



PERIOPERATIVE NURSE WEEK

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 30th day of October, A.D. 2015

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, the state of Vermont recognizes the importance of giving children permanent, safe and loving families through adoption; and

WHEREAS, more than 107,000 in the United States foster care system are awaiting to be adopted; and

WHEREAS, approximately 213 children in Vermont are waiting for permanent families; and

WHEREAS, to help these children find permanent, nurturing families, courts across Vermont will open their doors on National Adoption Day, on Saturday, November 21, to finalize the adoptions of local children and join other organizations to celebrate all adoptions; and

WHEREAS, this effort, along with similar celebrations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, will offer children the chance to live with stable and loving families and encourage other dedicated individuals to make a powerful difference in the lives of a child through adoption; 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 all of those who work tirelessly to place them in loving families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 21, 2015 as

ADOPTION DAY

in the State of Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 2nd day of November, A.D. 2015



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, the Vermont Farm Bureau has served Vermont’s agricultural community for more than 100 years; and

WHEREAS, more than 4000 member families in 14 counties have joined together under the banner of the Farm Bureau to address issues of importance Vermont to agriculture; and

WHEREAS, agriculture is vital to Vermont’s economy, landscape, history, and communities; and

WHEREAS, for more than a century, the Farm Bureau has organized, advocated for, and represented the interests of Vermont farmers; and

WHEREAS, Farm Bureau members from across the state will gather to celebrate the proud centennial anniversary of this critical organization;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 6, 2015 as

FARM BUREAU APPRECIATION DAY



in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 4th day of November, A.D. 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter Shumlin", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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, 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 26, 2015 as



THANKSGIVING DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of
Vermont on this 2nd day of November, A.D. 2015

Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, Thomas Hark has generously served the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps (VYCC) for 30 years; and

WHEREAS; Thomas Hark advanced the VYCC's mission of teaching individuals to take personal responsibility for all of their actions; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hark is responsible for providing 6,000 Corps Members with the opportunity to serve their communities and public lands; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hark went above and beyond the call of duty to personally mentor, support, and challenge his staff and program participants; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hark built VYCC into an innovative, entrepreneurial organization that meets community needs through collaboration and partnership; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hark built VYCC into an organization that provides profound, transformative experiences for young people; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hark championed a long-term, highly successful relationship with a number of state agencies and departments including Forests, Parks and Recreation where he led VYCC in operating state parks and a variety of other recreation and conservation projects on FPR lands; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hark was instrumental in restoring a true gem of historic significance for the community and Corps - the West Monitor Barn; and

WHEREAS, the entire Hark family, Dana Hearn-Hark, Eli, Zachary, and Rosie gave of themselves for the betterment of the state and thousands of young people; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Hark is recognized nationally for his vision in making VYCC one of the nation's leading youth leadership, education, and training organizations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim November 7, 2015 as

THOMAS HARK DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 20th day of October, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor



**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, since 1965 the Vermont Arts Council has been charged with recommending to the Governor artists of national stature to receive the state's highest recognition in the arts. Since that time, nearly 50 recipients representing a variety of artistic disciplines, including painting, sculpture, circus arts, music, television, and others have been selected, but none, to date, in the field of rock music; and

WHEREAS, *Every Breath You Take* by The Police was the #1 song in the United States on June 20, 1983 followed by Irene Cara's *What a Feeling* from Flashdance; and

WHEREAS, it is now agreed that these facts pale in comparison to the birth of Grace Evelyn Potter on that same day; and

WHEREAS, Grace Potter attended public schools in Vermont's Mad River Valley where she enjoyed the company of her teachers, in particular her music teacher, Diane Phillips, who encouraged her musical talents; and

WHEREAS, after attending the Governor's Institute for the Arts and graduating from Harwood Union High School, she enrolled at St. Lawrence University for two years, during which time she met drummer (and future husband) Matt Burr, and with him and guitarist Scott Tournet formed Grace Potter and the Nocturnals in 2002; and

WHEREAS, after the release of only one album in 2005, which caught the attention of Hollywood Records, which re-released the album in 2006, followed by a second album in August, 2007, and during this time Grace Potter and the Nocturnals received multiple Boston Music Award nominations, including Best Local Female Artist, Best New Local Act, and Album of the Year; received a Jammy Award in New York for Best New Groove in 2006, and was eventually named "Best New Band" by Rolling Stone Magazine in 2010; and

WHEREAS, even as her fame and fortune has increased every year with the release of new recordings that capture the spirit, funk, rage, heat, and torment of this American life, she has given back to her home state in numerous ways, including writing and recording the theme music for "Vermont Edition" in 2007, establishing the Grand Point North Festival in Burlington in 2010, and returning almost every year to work with and inspire young artists and musicians in her beloved Harwood Union High School; and

WHEREAS, Grace Potter has expanded her musical accomplishments by performing with Country Music's Kenny Chesney, touring with the Black Crowes, opening for Dave Matthews Band, appearing with the Preservation Hall Jazz Band, and going legendary on her fans by singing with rock icon, Neil Young and

WHEREAS, 11 years ago she was headlining at the Proctorsville town green and just a few months ago sang "Gimme Shelter" with Mick Jagger and the Rolling Stones on tour; and

WHEREAS, Jon Caramanica of the New York Times has said of Grace Potter, "...for more than a decade the frontwoman of Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, a slick and ambitious Vermont roots-minded soul-rock band. In its early years especially, the band was boisterous but unchallenging, largely there to provide arrangements over which Ms. Potter's howl could soar free. [now she is]...a solo artist in full control"; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim that

GRACE POTTER

is the recipient of the Vermont Arts Council 2015 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 2nd day of November, A.D. 2015

Peter Shumlin
Governor

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Robert Frost was declared Poet Laureate in 1961 upon the adoption of Joint House Resolution 54 by the General Assembly, a position he retained for 25 years following his death in 1963; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Governor Madeleine Kunin, believing it was in the best interests of poetry in Vermont to celebrate poets who were alive, established a new position by signing Executive Order No 69 and, in 1989, subsequently named Galway Kinnell as the first State Poet for a term of four years; and

WHEREAS, every four years since, then the Vermont Arts Council has convened a distinguished panel of humanists, poets, historians and citizens to nominate a new poet to the Governor; and

WHEREAS, the criteria for selection of the Vermont Poet Laureate is that he or she be a person with a long association with the State of Vermont, maintains a primary residence in Vermont, and his or her work should manifest a high degree of excellence and be critically acclaimed; and

WHEREAS, Chard deNiord grew up in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Bedford County, Virginia, where, as a boy on the banks of the James River he considered his escape and journey into the heart of America like Huck Finn, and so attended Lynchburg College, majoring in religious studies; and

WHEREAS, before attending the prestigious Iowa Writers Workshop in 1983, from which he graduated in 1985 with an MFA, he attended Yale Divinity School, and graduated in 1978 with a master's degree divinity; and

WHEREAS, during his stint teaching philosophy and comparative religion at the Putney School in Vermont he learned to ski its mountains by crashing into barriers and exploring the depths of gorges before retreating to the relative safety of Providence College, where he is Professor of English and Creative Writing to this day; and

WHEREAS, he has received much recognition as a poet and teacher, including the 2012 recipient of the Joseph R. Accinno Teacher of the Year Award at Providence College, the Pushcart Prize XXII, 1998 for "What the Animals Teach Us," and the Poetry Society of America's Gustav Davidson Sonnet Prize for "Fairy Tale;" and

WHEREAS, he has written five books of poetry dating back to his first in 1990, a book of essays and interviews with seven senior American poets titled "Sad Friends, Drowned Lovers, Stapled Songs: Conversations and Reflections on 20th Century Poetry;" and

WHEREAS, his poems and essays have appeared in The Kenyon Review, The Southern Review, Salmagundi, The Antioch Review, Best American Poetry, The American Scholar, Harvard Review, The New England Review, among many others; and

WHEREAS, he co-founded the New England College MFA in Poetry in 2002 and directed it until 2007; and

WHEREAS, he currently lives on a dirt road in Putney with his wife Liz, where he continually hones his woodsman skills and knows of no other exchange but by tins of Vermont maple syrup,

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

Chard deNiord

Vermont Poet Laureate

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 2nd day of November, A.D. 2015



Peter Shumlin
Governor

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, the advancement and well-being of the United States of America depends upon the continued development of workers skilled in their chosen fields; and

WHEREAS, apprenticeship training programs fill this need by providing the means for the development of skilled workers and the cultivation of pride in their work; and

WHEREAS, the Vermont State Apprenticeship Council has taken the lead in advancing this program, with the result of thousands of Vermonters trained for skilled job through registered apprenticeship training.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont, do hereby proclaim the November 8-14, 2015 as

VERMONT REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

in Vermont, and call upon all citizens and employers to recognize the value of apprenticeship training and to support its further expansion.



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of November, A.D. 2015

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, 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 Vermont and in the United States are growing alternatives 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, palliative care, hospice and support to thousands of Vermonters in need of quality home health and hospice 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 home health and hospice agencies in Vermont and thousands of home care agencies across the United States have declared the month of November 2015 as Vermont 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 2015 as

VERMONT HOME CARE AND HOSPICE MONTH

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 12th day of November, A.D. 2015



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Peter Shumlin', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Peter Shumlin
Governor