

No. R-311. House concurrent resolution congratulating the 2009 Rutland Gift-of-Life Marathon.

(H.C.R.222)

Offered by: Representatives Obuchowski of Rockingham, Andrews of Rutland City, Courcelle of Rutland City, Fagan of Rutland City, Howard of Rutland City and McNeil of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Carris, Flory and Mullin

Whereas, since 2003, the Gift-of-Life Marathon in Rutland, a joint collaboration of Central Vermont Public Service (CVPS), Rutland radio station WJJR 98.1 FM, the city of Rutland, and the American Red Cross, has been a highlight of the local winter holiday season, and

Whereas, the marathon, conducted at the Paramount Theatre in downtown Rutland, is the largest blood drive in all of New England, and

Whereas, seeking to increase the number of pints of blood collected at the Paramount Theatre, CVPS spokesperson Steve Costello and Rutland Mayor Chris Louras each pledged to have his hair cut in a Mohawk style if 1,000 pints were collected, and

Whereas, a new feature of the 2009 marathon was the introduction of a double-red cell donation option, and

Whereas, on December 23, 2009, donors started to stream into the theater at approximately 10:00 a.m., and blood contributions continued until 8:30 in the evening, and

Whereas, after the last donor had contributed blood, a tally of the number of pints collected commenced, and

Whereas, when the counting was concluded, marathon officials were thrilled to announce to the many spectators who had gathered at the Paramount that a new record 1,024 pints had been collected, far exceeding the record 856 pints donated in 2008, and

Whereas, true to their commitment, before they left the theater, both Steve Costello and Mayor Chris Louras, along with American Red Cross official Amor Ostojic, submitted their heads to a barber who trimmed their hair in the Mohawk style, and

Whereas, of far greater importance than the haircutting frenzy, many individuals will be the grateful recipients of the blood donated at the 2009 Gift-of-Life Marathon, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly congratulates the organizers, volunteers, and donors associated with the spectacularly successful 2009 Gift-of-Life Marathon, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Mayor of Rutland City, Steve Costello at CVPS, to WJJR Radio General Manager Debbie Grembowicz, and to Amor Ostojic at the American Red Cross.