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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 162

Offered February 5, 2008

Commending Dr. David T. Clark and the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation.

Patron—Herring

WHEREAS, the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation was founded by Dr. David T. Clark, a Loudoun resident and professional archaeologist of long standing, on January 26, 2007, as a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the Commonwealth to specifically conduct public archaeological investigations on a "whole community" basis in the greater Loudoun County community, fulfilling the county's and town's previously unmet needs for a community-based professional and ethical public archaeological organization; and

WHEREAS, the concept for the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation arose from the classroom and field training efforts of the unique historical preservation certificate education program founded by Dr. Clark at the Loudoun Campus of the Northern Virginia Community College; and

WHEREAS, the conduct of professional and ethical archaeological investigations allows a community to recapture from the earth, in the form of artifacts, its buried treasures and provides that community with an opportunity to gain a fuller sense of its historical and cultural past; and

WHEREAS, the County of Loudoun and its county seat, the Town of Leesburg, have in recent years undergone rapid residential and commercial development without the accompanying financial or physical resources to establish professional archaeology units within their governmental structures or to conduct professional and ethical archaeological investigations, beyond the important goal of identifying a number of historically and culturally significant sites; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, the County of Loudoun observed the 250th anniversary of its establishment; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation, in cooperation with the County of Loudoun, actively participated in the county's observance of the 250th anniversary of its founding by conducting archaeological excavations at three separate sites in Loudoun County during 2007 at which nearly 300 trained volunteer diggers participated and nearly 5,000 youth and nearly as many adults either screened, washed, cleaned, and helped classify artifacts recovered from the sites or participated in other archaeological education activities; and

WHEREAS, the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation, in cooperation with the Town of Leesburg, will actively participate in the town's observance of the 250th anniversary of its founding by conducting archaeological investigations at three separate sites in Leesburg during 2008, as well as continuing the conduct of archaeological investigations at several other historic and prehistoric sites outside of Leesburg; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Dr. David T. Clark and the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation for their spirited efforts to assist the greater Loudoun County community and the Town of Leesburg in recapturing from the earth their buried treasures of the past, thereby granting the community a fuller sense of its historic and cultural past; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Dr. David T. Clark and the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for their individual and collective contributions to the cultural history of Loudoun County, the county seat of Leesburg, and the Commonwealth.

INTRODUCED

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