HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 265

Commending Larry Chambers.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, February 7, 2014 Agreed to by the Senate, February 13, 2014

WHEREAS, Larry Chambers, career journalist, editor, and publisher of newspapers in Galax and Independence, retired on December 31, 2013; and

WHEREAS, Larry Chambers' career began when he was a teenager and was hired by the *Gazette* in Galax to deliver newspapers; he became a reporter soon afterward, discovering a passion for sports reporting; and

WHEREAS, in his early days in journalism, Larry Chambers covered the Galax High School football games, often riding the team bus to away games; in 1966, he was hired to be a full-time news reporter; and

WHEREAS, employees at small-town newspapers must do many jobs to ensure that the paper is published on schedule; Larry Chambers soon discovered that he was a talented photographer, and over the years his photographs have won many recognitions and awards; and

WHEREAS, Larry Chambers assumed other responsibilities at the *Gazette* as his career progressed, eventually becoming editor-in-chief; later, he was director of specialty publications and web printing; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, Larry Chambers became general manager of *The Declaration* newspaper in neighboring Independence, yet he never lost his love for breaking news, and frequently was found at the scene of accidents, fires, natural disasters, and other newsworthy events; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his retirement, Larry Chambers was publisher of *The Declaration*, and, with 47 years of service, he was the most senior employee of Landmark Community Newspapers, LLC; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Larry Chambers for his many years of outstanding journalism and service to the citizens of Galax, Independence, and the surrounding counties; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Larry Chambers as an expression of the General Assembly's respect and admiration for his service to Southwest Virginia and to the Commonwealth.