

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 635

Commending Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department.

Agreed to by the House of Delegates, January 14, 2019
Agreed to by the Senate, January 31, 2019

WHEREAS, for 50 years, Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department, located in Mechanicsville, has safeguarded the lives and property of generations of Hanover County residents; and

WHEREAS, Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department was formed in the spring of 1968 with approximately 30 members under the leadership of then-president Douglas Mantlo and the first chief, John Peace; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1969, the members of Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department constructed the original firehouse, which served as both a firehouse and a community gathering place until June 2011, when the new firehouse was built; and

WHEREAS, Black Creek Volunteer Fire Company has been a fixture in the community, making countless contributions to local life, most notably the creation of the Hanover Tomato Festival; and

WHEREAS, Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department started the Hanover Tomato Festival as a fundraiser at the firehouse in 1978 with a small parade, various fire department competitions and games, tomato judging contests, one food vendor, and about 10 craft vendors; and

WHEREAS, through the hard work and dedication of the members of Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department, the Hanover Tomato Festival has grown into one of the biggest annual events in Hanover County and celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2018 with record-breaking attendance, delicious Hanover tomato cuisine, over 150 vendors, live music, and a play area for children featuring rides, games, and contests; and

WHEREAS, Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department has approximately 15 active members who work alongside career firefighters in a combination approach to provide service to the citizens of Hanover County; and

WHEREAS, the members of Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department have generously sacrificed countless hours of their time and often put their own lives at risk to ensure the safety of their fellow community members; and

WHEREAS, Black Creek Volunteer Fire Company commemorated its 50th anniversary with a special celebration in October 2018; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department on the occasion of its 50th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Black Creek Volunteer Fire Department as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for its legacy of contributions to the Hanover County community.

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