

## 2008 SESSION

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### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 447

Offered February 21, 2008

*Commending the Christiansburg Rescue Squad on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.*

Patrons—Nutter; Senator: Smith

WHEREAS, the Christiansburg Rescue Squad, founded as the Christiansburg Life Saving and First Aid Crew, celebrated 60 years of outstanding service to the citizens of the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County on July 14, 2007; and

WHEREAS, on April 3, 1947, at a meeting at Harrison-Hancock Hardware, Lions Club member Evans L. King suggested to the club's board of directors that they should cosponsor a first aid crew with the Christiansburg Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, at the first aid crew's first organizational meeting, J. Cullen Murray was elected captain and other officers chosen were Hugh Edwards as secretary, Frank Robinson as first lieutenant, Clyde King as second lieutenant, Edwin Chrisman as sergeant, and Frank Lawrence as treasurer; and

WHEREAS, the formal name of the crew became the Christiansburg Life Saving and First Aid Crew and the new organization was served by two medical advisors, Dr. Lee Cole and Dr. R. H. Grubbs, and S. C. Richardson was elected president to assist in organizational matters; and

WHEREAS, in June 1947, the Christiansburg Life Saving and First Aid Crew joined the Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads, and the Christiansburg Fire Department loaned the crew an ambulance and lighting equipment, which began the close working relationship that still endures between the rescue squad and the fire department; and

WHEREAS, in 1950 the Ladies Auxiliary of the Christiansburg Life Saving and First Aid Crew was established, providing much needed support to the crew as well as assistance in many projects; and

WHEREAS, in the early years, emergency calls were handled by Richardson's Funeral Home; with the support of the community, the Christiansburg Life Saving and First Aid Crew was able to purchase a Packard ambulance, a one-ton panel truck, two boats for water rescues, and a crash truck to respond to the scenes of automobile accidents; and the crew moved into the old fire department quarters on Pepper Street; and

WHEREAS, in 1963 the Christiansburg Life Saving and First Aid Crew purchased a lot on Stone Street and built a new facility with meeting, office, and sleeping quarters; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Christiansburg Life Saving and First Aid Crew, now operating as the Christiansburg Rescue Squad, has become a vital partner with the community, teaching first aid classes, assisting with blood donations, and working every day to ensure the safety and security of the Town of Christiansburg; and

WHEREAS, today, the Christiansburg Rescue Squad has 34 hardworking and well-trained members led by Captain Kelly Walters, a dedicated member for 40 years, and in 2003 was honored as a member of the Virginia Life Saving and Rescue Hall of Fame for his outstanding service; and

WHEREAS, the Christiansburg Rescue Squad moved into its new home on Depot Street on May 1, 1997, where the crew can continue its long tradition of exemplary public service and commitment to saving lives and promoting health and safety; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend and congratulate the Christiansburg Rescue Squad on the occasion of its historic 60th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to Captain Kelly Walters on behalf of the members and auxiliary of the Christiansburg Rescue Squad as an expression of the General Assembly's gratitude for the squad's commitment to the citizens of the Town of Christiansburg and Montgomery County.

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