

State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation

WHEREAS, Colleen Thomas Haag was born on November 13, 1948 one of twin girls to Gerald and Ruth Packard Thomas; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Haag spent her childhood years on the family's dairy farm on Thomas Road in Shelburne surrounded by a large loving family where she learned dedication, resourcefulness and the value of hard work. She was educated in Shelburne schools and graduated from CVU in 1966; and

WHEREAS, family, faith and community are central to Colleen Haag's life. In her early 20's, upon the death of her parents, she became the guardian of her youngest brother. This role of caretaker has followed her throughout her life giving family members and residents support when it was needed; and

WHEREAS, in October 1982, Colleen Haag became the Town Clerk/Treasurer for Shelburne, a job she has held for 34 years and a profession that has suited her outward personality and passion for serving others. She is also the School Treasurer, the Chief Election official and the Clerk for the Board of Civil Authority; and

WHEREAS, Colleen Haag dedicated her time to many other Town related committees - the Interfaith Affordable Housing committee; the Shelburne Craft School Board; Shelburne Business and Professional Association; Shelburne Historical Society; founding member of the Schip Interfaith Projects and resale shop; worked with the Shelburne Food Shelf; chaired the Shelburne 250th Celebration; and serves on the Veterans Monument Committee to name a few. For over 12 years, she also mentored Shelburne Community School students so they could receive a hands on civic lesson, and mentored students who served as summer interns in her office; and

WHEREAS, it was also important to Colleen Haag to help other Town Clerks on their professional journey. She helped found the Vermont Certification program for Town Clerks/Treasurers; attended the New England Institute for Town Clerks in Newport, Rhode Island for 22 consecutive years and served on its board for several years - two as its director; she was President of the Vermont Clerks Association in 1990, President of the New England Clerks Association in 2003 as well as serving on several committees at the International level; and she received the Town Clerk/Treasurer of the Year award in 1994 for her dedication and leadership to her profession. In addition, Colleen Haag served on the Town Officers Connectivity Project, the State Rabies task force, the Governor's Ethics committee, Land records committee and lobbied in the legislature on behalf of the town clerks; and

WHEREAS, through her own continuing education, Colleen Haag obtained the Certified Vermont Clerk and Certified Vermont Treasurer designation. She also obtained the International Institute of Municipal Clerk's designation as a Certified Municipal Clerk and further as a Master Municipal Clerk (MMC) a distinction only a few Vermont Clerks have achieved; and

WHEREAS, it has been noted that it is the everyday interaction with those who come into her office that gives Colleen Haag the most joy;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor of the State of Vermont, and do hereby proclaim September 15, 2016

COLLEEN HAAG DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 12th day of September, A.D. 2016



Peter Shumlin
Governor

