



New York State Assembly Citation

Whereas, we join on Independence Day in celebrating the independent *Highlands Current's* 15th anniversary, an important milestone for this local paper, and

Whereas, formerly known as *Philipstown.Info*, the organization was founded by a Philipstown resident Gordon Stewart and started as an online resource that reported on local news and events in the Town of Philipstown, and

Whereas, this valued online newsletter became a print newspaper in 2012, and was renamed to *The Highlands Current* in April of 2016, when it began covering other surrounding communities like Beacon, and

Whereas, in 2014, founder Gordon Stewart took measures to transition the paper to a not-for-profit, community supported organization, and later that year, he stepped down as publisher and handed control to a newly formed *Philipstown.Info* board before sadly passing away two months later; the paper also joined the Institute for Nonprofit News (INN) in 2015 which is an organization dedicated to supporting public-service and investigative journalism, and

Whereas, true to Gordon's memory, *The Highlands Current* continues to work hard to maintain its reputation as an independent, nonpartisan, and trusted source of information to its readers, also as a member of the Trust Project, and its position as a reader-funded model, it helps to engage readers in the material published and plays a crucial role in keeping residents and readers engaged, and

Whereas, *The Highlands Current* covers a wide range of topics such as community, business, education, crime, government and social issues reflecting the diverse interests, concerns and experiences of its readers, and has received consistent recognition for its excellence including numerous awards from the New York Press Association (NYPA), the National Newspaper Association, and the New York News Publishers Association, and was most notably named NYPA Newspaper of the Year in 2022, 2023, and 2024, now therefore let it be

Resolved, that as a duly elected Member of the State Assembly of New York, I recognize that, on the occasion of its 15th Anniversary.

The Highlands Current

is a vital community resource, one that deserves to be honored by both this community and the Great State of New York.

July 4, 2025

Dana Levenberg
Member of Assembly, 95th District