

RESOLUTION NO. R2010-29

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING  
THE SIGNAL MOUNTAIN CHESS CLUB

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WHEREAS, the United States Chess Federation, located in Crossville, Tennessee, has a very active chess regional and state organization, which sponsors two scholastic tournaments a year for both individual players and team players; and,

WHEREAS, in 2004, at the request of Jean Trohanis, principal of Thrasher Elementary School, Bill Cheal created a chess club that developed into a thriving extra-curricular activity for Thrasher students; and,

WHEREAS, four years later, chess club member Sam Harrelson's grandfather, Dr. Jim Dodd, became so impressed by the creative thinking skills his grandson was learning by playing chess at Thrasher that he decided to join Mr. Cheal and help out; and,

WHEREAS, eventually Jamie Brock, a teacher at the old Signal Mountain Middle School, and Ken Barker, principal of Nolan Elementary, requested Mr. Cheal and Dr. Dodd create chess clubs for their students; and,

WHEREAS, club members who began playing chess six years ago are now students at Signal Mountain Middle High, the Chess Club is active in all of Signal Mountain's schools, and,

WHEREAS, on January 12<sup>th</sup> this year the first Signal Mountain Inter-Scholastic Chess Tournament occurred between Thrasher and Nolan, supervised by SMMHS players; and,

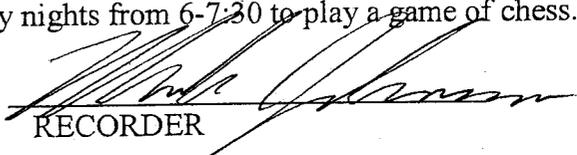
WHEREAS, at the regional tournament on January 17<sup>th</sup>, out of 64 players Brock Herring placed 18<sup>th</sup> and his brother Ian placed 31<sup>st</sup> in the individual event, and in the team event Sam Wickhizer, Hunter Martin, David Holder and Hudson Burke finished in the top 4, which qualified them to participate in the March 27<sup>th</sup> Tennessee state tournament in Cookeville; and,

WHEREAS, because of the ever-expanding success of the Chess Club, it is creating a non-profit entity, the Signal Mountain Foundation of Scholastic Chess, to support its mission to attract and encourage not just students, but everyone to play chess not only for the critical thinking skills it develops, but for just plain fun too;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of Signal Mountain, Tennessee recognizes and commends Bill Cheal, Dr. Jim Dodd, and the Signal Mountain Chess Club for their extraordinary success over the years and encourages all citizens of the mountain to drop-in at the Signal Mountain Library on Monday nights from 6-7:30 to play a game of chess.

  
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MAYOR

3/15/10  
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RECORDER

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