

RESOLUTION NO. R2011-8

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING JEFF SIMMONS FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY AND THE DISCOVERY OF A NEW SPECIES OF CRAWFISH, *BARBICAMBARUS SIMMONSI*, NAMED IN HIS HONOR.

WHEREAS, Jeff Simmons grew up in Birnam Wood and spent his boyhood exploring the woods and streams of Signal Mountain where he became intrigued by unusual insects, fish and other critters; and,

WHEREAS, as a teenager, Jeff Simmons achieved the rank of Eagle Scout under Scoutmaster John Glass whose troop he still helps with such projects as the recent installation of 27 bluebird houses and wood duck nesting boxes on TVA property; and,

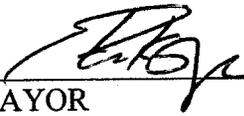
WHEREAS, as a young man, Jeff Simmons graduated from McCallie School and received a degree in Wildlife and Fisheries from the University of Tennessee and a Masters in Biology from Tennessee Tech where he became fascinated by crawfish; and,

WHEREAS, Jeff Simmons' career eventually led him back to Signal Mountain when he returned to go to work as an aquatic biologist for the Tennessee Valley Authority; and,

WHEREAS, two years ago, Jeff Simmons, as a member of TVA's River Assessment Team, discovered an unusually large crawfish with distinctive bearded antennae in a Lawrence County, Tennessee creek, one of 700 creeks and streams TVA samples to track trends in water quality and biodiversity; and,

WHEREAS, investigation and research by the nation's top crawfish scientists proved Jeff Simmons' extraordinary find was an entirely new species of crawfish that according to Professor Christopher Taylor of the University of Illinois "... has never been seen by scientific eyes before" and, who, as a result, named the new crawfish species "simmonsi" in honor of its discoverer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of Signal Mountain, Tennessee recognizes and commends Jeff Simmons, husband of Jenni, father of Finn and Mitch; founding member of the Signal Mountain Tree Board; member of Signal Crest Methodist Church; supplier of firewood to needy mountain families; and, accomplished 50K trail runner for his contributions to his community and his discovery of a new species of crawfish, *Barbicambarus simmonsii*, which has attracted the interest of scientists around the globe, and encourages the citizens of the town to do the same.


MAYOR

2/14/11
DATE


RECORDER

2-14-11
DATE