CITY OF BARRE, VERMONT MAYORAL PROCLAMATION

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF GREEN UP DAY

- WHEREAS, Governor Dean Davis, a native son of Barre, appointed Robert Babcock and Ted Riehle to initiate a program to cleanup roadside in the State of Vermont; and
- WHEREAS, the first Green Up Day was inaugurated on April 18th, 1970 by closing Interstate Highways from 9am to 12pm for litter pick up and calling on citizens to help "by volunteering two hours of their time to rid the highways of litter and to green up their neighborhoods"; and
- WHEREAS, after almost a decade under the organization of the Governor's office, in 1979 a group of concerned citizens came together to form the nonprofit organization Vermont Green Up Inc., and became responsible for continuing the success of Green Up Day on the first Saturday in May; and
- WHEREAS, in 1980 the Green Up Poster Art Design Contest was launched to annually choose the artwork used on the Green Up Day promotional poster; and
- WHEREAS, the first Barre Green Up Week in 1993 was proposed by the student group Spaulding Action for the Environment (S.A.F.E.), and established by the Barre City Council; and
- WHEREAS, Board Chairman Sheldon Prentice hires Melinda Vieux in 1996 to lead the organization as Executive Director and changed the dba name of Vermont Green Up to Green Up Vermont; and
- WHEREAS in May of 2014, the State Legislature passed a bill adding Green Up Vermont as the fourth charitable giving organization on the Vermont State Income Tax Return increasing individual giving from 1% to 27%; and
- WHEREAS, Barre Green Up Week has successfully increased the participation of citizens of Barre in Green Up activities and the City Council supports activities including cleanups, education for litter prevention, beautification, recycling and community improvement; and
- WHEREAS, Green Up Day will celebrate its 50-year tradition of direct citizen involvement in caring for the Vermont landscape by removing litter and increasing our awareness about the world and environment around us; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Lucas J. Herring, Mayor of the City of Barre, Vermont, do hereby proclaim May 30th, 2020, as Green Up 50th Anniversary Day and encourage residents to participate in beautifying the Barre City landscape; recognize the positive health benefits of removing trash and sharps from properties within the community, and; to thank the volunteers who participate in this annual event.

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Lucas J. Herring, Mayor