

Town of Winchendon

109 Front Street Winchendon, MA 01475 Office of the Board of Selectmen

Telephone (978) 297-0085 Fax (978) 297-1616

LIBERTY TREE DAY- August 14, 2010

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1964 PROCLAIMED August 14th, Liberty Tree Day; and

WHEREAS, the early settlers of Boston planted an elm on Boston Neck in 1646 which grew tall and stately and subsequently became known as the "Liberty Tree;" and

WHEREAS, it was under this tree that colonists, about a century later, had many meetings and spoke out against British tyranny in preparing the groundwork for the independence of this nation; and

WHEREAS, in one such event, on August 14, 1765, the colonists resisted the Stamp Act by hanging in effigy Lord Bute, as the author of the act; and

WHEREAS, the "Liberty Tree" became so well known as a rallying place for the leaders of the country in search of national independence the British authorities, in 1775, ordered it to be cut down; and

WHEREAS, the "Liberty Tree" from its original planting in 1646 grew to be a symbol of freedom for people everywhere;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF WINCHENDON officially proclaim August 14th LIBERTY TREE DAY and urge all citizens of Winchendon, Massachusetts to recall the significance and role of the "Liberty Tree" in the formation of our country's independence and to rededicate themselves to the tradition of our ancestors, to the principles of freedom under which our country has grown and prospered.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the Town of Winchendon in the State of Massachusetts this 9th day of August in the year

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