

# Proclamation

## by the Mayor and City Council of Rock Hill, South Carolina

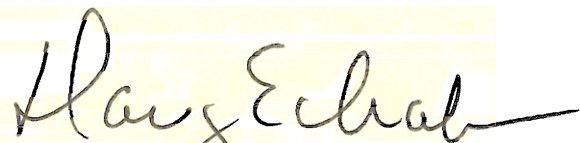
- WHEREAS,** the City of Rock Hill, as the host community of Winthrop University, has a strong and dynamic history of pursuing and supporting opportunities for civic partnership with this distinctive and outstanding institution of higher education; and
- WHEREAS,** for the sixth consecutive year, incoming Winthrop University freshmen will read a Common Book this summer and be prepared to discuss the implications of its story for their own lives; and
- WHEREAS,** these discussions will include explorations of challenges and opportunities awaiting them as they enter the realm of higher learning as well as expectations of them as maturing citizens; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Rock Hill actively seeks and encourages opportunities to involve members of the community of all ages in literacy, life-long learning, and pursuit of individual and community dreams and aspirations; and
- WHEREAS,** these same themes and issues are presented by the Common Book selected this year by Winthrop University, Russell Baker's *Growing Up*; and
- WHEREAS,** this non-fiction account of Mr. Baker's successful navigation through a depression-era youth is inspiration to many because his success depended on both personal strength and family support; and
- WHEREAS,** Winthrop University has planned a wide range of related programs at which community members are welcome; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Rock Hill encourages book clubs and other organizations to adopt and discuss the Common Book and to engage in joint discussions with Winthrop University students and faculty; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Rock Hill hopes that members of the community of all ages will be encouraged to read the book and participate in discussions about its message of hope and perseverance.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Doug Echols, Mayor of the City of Rock Hill, South Carolina, and the Rock Hill City Council do hereby proclaim September 2009 to be:

## Rock Hill Community Common Book Month



**IN WITNESS THEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Rock Hill to be affixed.

  
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Doug Echols, Mayor