

2009 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 896

Offered February 12, 2009

Commending the New Hope Ruritan Club.

Patrons—Landes, Cline, Gilbert, Lohr and Saxman; Senator: Hanger

WHEREAS, the New Hope Ruritan Club celebrates its 70th year of service to New Hope in 2009; and

WHEREAS, since 1928, Ruritan Clubs have dedicated themselves to improving communities and building a better America through fellowship, goodwill, and community service; and

WHEREAS, the New Hope Ruritan Club had its first meeting on April 13, 1939, with 30 charter members; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, the New Hope Ruritan Club was busy supporting bond drives, giving blood, and holding first-aid classes; the Club also had an acre garden from which it canned 726 cans of food for the school lunchroom; and

WHEREAS, the New Hope Ruritan Club was instrumental in key improvements to New Hope during the late 1940s and 1950s, including working for street lights and purchasing a lot and constructing a building for a medical center for the community; and

WHEREAS, the New Hope Ruritan Club organized a Little League and Babe Ruth team in the 1960s and added lights and a concession stand to the school grounds to help promote youth and community activities; and

WHEREAS, involved in Weekday Religious Education (WRE) since the Club's beginning, the New Hope Ruritan Club installed electricity in the WRE trailer and became involved with recycling and county trash for cash clean-up programs in the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, in the 1980s, New Hope village was added to the Virginia Department of Highways road map and the New Hope Ruritan Club dedicated a new Boy Scout hut, replaced the WRE school bus classroom with a house trailer, and assumed responsibility for the daily management of the New Hope waste disposal site; and

WHEREAS, a major project for the New Hope Ruritan Club during the 1990s was the acquisition through a lease with the Augusta County Board of Supervisors of the former New Hope School property to use as a community center; and

WHEREAS, the new century brought continued expansion of services to the community, including assisting with hazardous waste collection, and contributing to the D-Day Memorial at Bedford; and

WHEREAS, the New Hope Ruritan Club has provided an extraordinary amount of service to the New Hope community over the past seven decades, enhancing the quality of life of its citizens; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the New Hope Ruritan Club on the occasion of its 70th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the New Hope Ruritan Club as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for the Club's community service.

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