

2009 SESSION

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 897

Offered February 12, 2009

Commending the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club.

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

WHEREAS, the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club celebrates its 70th anniversary of service to the Mt. Sidney community 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 Middle River, later the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club, was organized on December 29, 1939, with 23 members joining at that meeting and seven others joining later; and

WHEREAS, during the 1940s, several members of the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club were called to serve in the military while those at home supported the war effort by having their blood typed in the event blood would be needed for the war effort; after the war, the club sponsored Boy Scout Troop 52 of Mt. Sidney in 1948 and has continued to do so for the past 60 years; and

WHEREAS, the next decade brought many improvements to Mt. Sidney as the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club worked to install street lights and support projects to help local schools; and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club started a new fundraiser in the 1960s, making apple butter, which it continued to do until 2006; the apple butter was shipped all across the United States, sold along the Skyline Drive, and even shipped to Iraq with the troops from the Staunton National Guard; and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club began a Turkey, Ham, and Oyster Supper in the 1970s that would draw between 700 and 1,000 people; the Club helped several students with medical needs, planted 21 white pines at Verona Elementary School, and donated money for new tennis courts at Fort Defiance High School; and

WHEREAS, in 1988 the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club received its 13th consecutive Blue Ribbon Award, the only Club in the nation with that honor; the Club also purchased 3.85 acres of land to be used as a community center; and

WHEREAS, the 1990s saw the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club expand with the addition of a picnic shelter, playground equipment, and a BBQ pit; and the Club began its Memorial Day Poster contest with local elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club donated to the D-Day Memorial Fund and made arrangements for D-Day veterans, including four veteran members of the Club, to attend the special memorial dedication; and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club has provided 70 years of service to Mt. Sidney, helping individuals and other organizations and programs in the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly commend the Mt. Sidney 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 Mt. Sidney Ruritan Club as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration and gratitude for the club's community service.

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