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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 737

Offered January 15, 2013

Commending the King George Ruritan Club.

Patrons—Ransone; Senator: Stuart

WHEREAS, the King George Ruritan Club of King George County celebrates its 75th anniversary in 2013; and

WHEREAS, a group of men concerned with the well-being of King George County banded together to form the King George Ruritan Club in 1938; and

WHEREAS, sponsored by the Richmond County Ruritan Club, the King George Ruritan Club was granted National Charter No. 57 on October 31, 1938; the club had almost 30 charter members, with J.W. Bland as the first president; and

WHEREAS, in the club's early days, the King George Ruritan Club hosted dinners to raise money for their work with local church groups, parent teacher associations, the Daughters of America, and the Rebekah Lodge; and

WHEREAS, suspending operations during World War II, the King George Ruritan Club reorganized in 1948; the organization called for more sidewalks to safeguard school children and worked with the King George Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 1950s, the King George Ruritan Club was concerned with collecting clothes for the less fortunate, supporting the Ground Observer Corps, adding lights to the local high school football field, and organizing the King George Fall Fest; and

WHEREAS, in the 1960s and 1970s, the King George Ruritan Club continued to work with a variety of organizations, supporting the development of a community center, establishing a scholarship program, and working closely with the American Legion and local fire and rescue squads; and

WHEREAS, working with the King George Sheriff's Department in 1989, the King George Ruritan Club started the Rudy Ruritan Bear Program, an ongoing project that donates stuffed animals to children; and

WHEREAS, the King George Ruritan Club inducted its first female member in 1999 and elected its first female president, Mildred Rollins, in 2003; and

WHEREAS, recently, the King George Ruritan Club has instituted several new scholarships for students and teachers; provided dictionaries, thesauruses, or atlases to students in King George County schools; and still supports the King George Fall Fest; and

WHEREAS, the King George Ruritan Club has a long tradition of ongoing support for the Boy Scouts of America, chartering Boy Scout Troop 191 in 1954 and a Sea Scouting troop in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the King George Ruritan Club has had a profound effect on many aspects of life in King George County, working for 75 years to continually support and enhance the community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly hereby commend the King George Ruritan Club on the occasion of its 75th anniversary; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution for presentation to the King George Ruritan Club as an expression of the General Assembly's admiration for the organization's decades of tireless service to King George County.

INTRODUCED

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