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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The Centralia Business and Professional Women  
3 (BPW) were recently named Club of the Year for clubs with over  
4 25 members by the National Business and Professional Women  
5 organization; and

6           WHEREAS, Last year, the Centralia BPW saw membership growth  
7 with 15 new members and one transfer; new members are assigned  
8 a mentor, encouraged to attend the mentoring gatherings held  
9 prior to the general meetings, and they are spotlighted in the  
10 monthly newsletter; five-year through 35-year members are  
11 awarded a pin at the annual guest night, and nine percent of  
12 the club's members are part of the BPW USA Red Purse Society;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, The group is active in the community; the club  
15 participated in the Community Clean-Up Day, worked at the  
16 Recycle Center, placed American flags along major streets to  
17 honor Independence Day, participated in the American Heart  
18 Walk, marched in the Annual Halloween Parade, served as ushers  
19 for the Annual Candlelight Concert, rang Salvation Army Bells,  
20 donated canned goods and toys and made cash donations to the  
21 Food Pantry, made monetary contributions to the local library,  
22 donated items to Persons Against Violent Environments and  
23 Sexual Assault Family Emergencies, collected donations for  
24 Hurricane Katrina, and held its Third Annual Womenomics Forum;  
25 in October, pink tulip bulbs were planted in the "Garden of  
26 Hope" in a local park to remind people about breast cancer; and

27           WHEREAS, The organization works to benefit young people;  
28 the group's Choices program was a huge success as approximately  
29 250 seventh and eighth graders heard speakers talk about the  
30 dangers of teen smoking and participated in a presentation on  
31 divorce and the effects it has on today's youth; seven  
32 scholarships will be awarded in April totaling \$3,500; and

1           WHEREAS, The Centralia members are not only active in their  
2 BPW club but they participate in many service organizations  
3 such as Jaycees, the Optimist Club, Sunrise Rotary, the Junior  
4 Women's Club, Afternoon Rotary, the Lady Elks, Lioness, the  
5 Salvation Army Board, the VFW Auxiliary, the American Legion  
6 Auxiliary, the Ladies of the Moose, the Healthcare Foundation,  
7 the Red Cross, the Literacy Council, the Chamber of Commerce  
8 Ambassadors, church affiliations, and many more; therefore, be  
9 it

10           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11 NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
12 we congratulate the Centralia Business and Professional Women  
13 on being named Club of the Year for clubs with over 25 members  
14 by the National Business and Professional Women organization;  
15 and be it further

16           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
17 presented to the Centralia Business and Professional Women as  
18 an expression of our esteem.