



HR0962

LRB100 21419 ALS 37932 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives wish to congratulate the Oxford American
4 Legion Post #1197 in Alpha on its post's rededication to be
5 held on April 14, 2018; and

6 WHEREAS, The Alpha community, with the support of 26
7 veterans, formed the Oxford American Legion Post on September
8 1, 1949; the following slate of officers was elected: Commander
9 Franklin Wirt, Vice Commander T.L. McKee, Adjutant Forest
10 Failey, Sergeant of Arms Max Lutrell, Finance Officer Leo
11 Raisbeck, Chaplain Jack Bugos, and Historian Richard Rutledge;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, In March 1950, the Oxford Post #1197 was
14 nationally chartered; 51 veterans signed the Post Charter;
15 monthly meetings began at Alpha Town Hall and the Oxford Fire
16 Station to prepare for engagement in community programs,
17 including helping the Alpha Lions Club with their community
18 Christmas programs for area children; and

19 WHEREAS, After several years of successful efforts to build
20 a servicemen's monument and to engage in additional community
21 events, an effort to create a home post began in 1953;
22 construction began in July 1953 and was completed in January

1 1955; membership had grown from 50 members to 65 members, and
2 on May 22, 1955, a Post Dedication Ceremony was held; and

3 WHEREAS, The number of programs benefitting the community
4 and sponsored by the Legion Post continued to grow and included
5 sponsoring the local Cub Scout pack, summer sports programs,
6 and allowing the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts to utilize the
7 building; in 1962, growth necessitated an addition to the
8 building, which was completed between 1962 and 1963; and

9 WHEREAS, Many community programs were offered through the
10 years at the Post and many continue to be offered today; the
11 Post sponsors the Spirit of Alpha Street Dance, community
12 organization raffles, benefits, memorials and other events of
13 community significance, as well as sponsoring a boy for Boys
14 State and, for the Auxiliary, a girl for Girls State; and

15 WHEREAS, the Oxford American Legion Post #1197, which
16 currently boasts 65 members, and 21 members in its Sons
17 Squadron, is working hard at a three-phase renovation plan and
18 has recently completed the first two phases, which included a
19 new roof, a remodeled interior, and a remodeled kitchen; and

20 WHEREAS, The tireless work of the Legion Post members and
21 the Auxiliary over the past 70 years has created something
22 great for the community; they continue to honor the memory of

1 veterans and their families while also planning for the
2 community that will be left to the future generations;
3 therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
5 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
6 join the many friends of the Oxford American Legion Post #1197
7 in congratulating them on their rededication ceremony, and we
8 wish them continued success; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
10 presented to the Oxford American Legion Post #1197 as an
11 expression of our esteem and respect for their many
12 accomplishments.