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No. 79

House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KUSTOFF of Tennessee).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
May 15, 2018.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID KUSTOFF to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 8, 2018, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties. All time shall be equally allocated between the parties, and in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

IRONTON-LAWRENCE COUNTY MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOHNSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Nation's oldest, continuously running Memorial Day parade, the Ironton-Lawrence County Memorial Day Parade.

In 1868, the Grand Army of the Republic established May 30 as Decoration Day, later changed to Memorial Day, to commemorate soldiers who died during the Civil War. It was in 1868

that Ironton held their first parade, and 2018 marks 150 straight years of honoring America's fallen heroes.

Ironton and Lawrence County have a long association with America's military. Lawrence County was named for James Lawrence, a naval hero who commanded the USS Chesapeake. It was Lawrence's dying command during a naval conflict against the British that is still remembered today: "Don't give up the ship."

The 40 members of the parade committee work year round to organize the event, which has 12 separate divisions and draws tens of thousands of visitors annually. I commend the committee and the people of Lawrence County for their steadfast commitment to remembering and honoring American heroes over the last 150 years.

HONORING THE 2018 EDUCATIONAL AWARD PROGRAM WINNERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. HILL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 2018 winners of my office's Educational Award Program.

Each year, my office recognizes students who have shown their continued dedication to excelling academically, leading in their schools, and improving in their communities. Since 2015, we have recognized 91 juniors and seniors from 29 high schools across Arkansas' Second Congressional District. These students have continuously demonstrated a strong commitment to community service, leadership, teamwork, and high academic achievement.

It is my sincere hope that the receipt of this award serves not only as an honorarium for these exceptional students, but also as motivation for other central Arkansas students to strive for the highest levels of excellence both in and out of the classroom. I wish them all the best as they continue their studies.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF EDWARD POLETTI

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Edward Poletti, chief of learning resources at Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System.

The Library of Congress' Federal Library and Information Network has awarded Mr. Poletti with its Federal Librarian of the Year Award. Along with this honor, his name will be added to a perpetual plaque listing each year's recipients. Mr. Poletti is being awarded for his skill in survey designs, statistics, and for providing his statistical talents to many other librarians needing assistance with data interpretation and survey design.

He is also receiving the Lois Ann Colaanni Award for Excellence and Achievement in Hospital Librarianship from the Medical Library Association.

I honor Mr. Poletti's 36 years of service as a Federal librarian, assisting so many throughout Arkansas and the Nation.

RECOGNIZING SUSAN COOKUS, NATIONAL FEMALE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Susan Cookus of the Central Arkansas Veterans Healthcare System for being named National Female Volunteer of the Year.

The National Advisory Committee of the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service named Ms. Cookus the National Female Volunteer of the Year after reviewing nomination letters from the Central Arkansas VA and from our veterans in central Arkansas.

Susan's dedication and service to veterans and their needs have earned her a great deal of appreciation, recognition, and respect over the years.

Ms. Cookus is also a member of the Soldiers' Angels, a Texas-based nonprofit that provides aid and comfort to the men and women of the U.S. armed services, their families, and an expanding veteran population. Ms. Cookus

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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