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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. NORMAN).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
September 26, 2018.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RALPH NORMAN 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 11:50 a.m. Each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, shall be limited to 5 minutes.

RECOGNIZING SUSAN SWANSON ON HER RETIREMENT FROM AHUG

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

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding career of Susan Swanson, who has been the executive director of the Allegheny Hardwood Utilization Group, or AHUG, since 1996.

She began her career 25 years ago as an administrative assistant with the organization. Soon, she became the ex-

ecutive director. Since then, Susan has championed numerous initiatives for the hardwood industry, including Penn's Woods curriculum, the PA WoodMobile, the wood products curriculum for high schools, and other forest-related educational products.

Members of AHUG have joined forces successfully to present a united front whose primary objective is expanding and diversifying the forest products industry while maintaining a sustainable, high-yield forest within a 14-county region in northwestern and north central Pennsylvania.

Known for the quality and quantity of its hardwoods, the region of the Commonwealth contains some of the finest forest resources in the world. With a well-developed, primary-processing industry and experienced workforce in place, the area has excellent opportunities for investment. AHUG has been leading this cause since its inception in 1984.

Under Susan's leadership AHUG set out to create new economic growth, promote the expansion of existing industry, and foster the creation of jobs. At the same time, the group recognized the need to promote safe logging and processing practices while maximizing prudent and sound forest management.

AHUG is the lead organizer for the Kane Area Loggers Safety Committee, which hosts the longest running safety meeting for loggers in the United States. In conjunction with the safety meeting, Susan initiated the Women in Timber ladies luncheon, which also is held annually.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Susan has left a lasting impression on AHUG and the industry itself. She said: "Pennsylvania hardwoods have long been recognized around the globe for their premier quality. Here in the Allegheny hardwood region, we produce 80 percent of all of the cherry hardwood in the world. This does not happen by accident, but because we take the time

to manage our forest resources for optimum production for today, sustainability for the future generations, and unequalled environmental consciousness."

I know Susan has left AHUG in an excellent place to accomplish its goal for a thriving forestry industry in northwestern and north central Pennsylvania. She has proudly led AHUG by partnering with other organizations and entities in the delivery of services to the hardwood industry, such as workforce initiatives, training, and professional forestry development, all of which have been important to the industry's survival.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Susan the best as she enters her well-deserved retirement. She will get to spend more time with her husband, who is a proud Pennsylvania logger; her three grown children; and her grandchildren.

Her impacts on AHUG will last generations. We are grateful for her leadership, dedication, and commitment to the Pennsylvania hardwood industry.

HONORING WARREN LIONS CLUB ON 95TH
ANNIVERSARY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Warren Lions Club on 95 years of service to northwestern Pennsylvania.

Founded in 1923, the Warren Lions Club is a fellowship of community-oriented and service-minded men and women dedicated to helping the citizens of their city, nation, and the world realize their full potential.

The Lions Club of Warren has provided assistance to people who are challenged by sight or hearing impairment, as well as other health- and economic-related issues.

The Warren Lions Club meets twice a month at the Conewango Club for presentations, fellowship, lunch or dinner, and business and project discussions. They host several projects and fundraisers throughout the year, including

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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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