

S. O. 31

Vaughan Blaney and New Brunswick Deputy Premier Marcelle Mersereau for their contributions.

Canadians want to debate public policy. I am grateful to the more than 40 volunteers and over 400 participants who contributed their time and talent to making this possible in Fredericton—York—Sunbury.

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LITERACY

Mr. Pat O'Brien (London—Middlesex): Mr. Speaker, congratulations go out to Katie Johnson, the grade one pupil at Centennial Central elementary school in Arva who recently placed first in a CBC radio story writing competition with her story entitled "Henry". Katie exemplifies the importance of the ability to read and write and the personal rewards they can bring.

As an educator, I recognize there are people in every walk of life who, through no fault of their own, may not be able to read to their children or be able to fill out a job application.

I wish to commend the work of the organizers of the National Adult Literacy Database which is located in my riding of London—Middlesex. I praise the efforts of all of the individuals who are working hard to provide literacy training to thousands of Canadians. Their work and the restoration of the national literacy fund by the government will significantly improve literacy skills.

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JULIETTE CATELANI CORSINI

Mrs. Eleni Bakopanos (Saint-Denis): Mr. Speaker, recently Centraide of Montreal honoured one of my constituents with the Antoinette Robidoux prize for her outstanding volunteer contributions. I rise in the House today to pay tribute to Juliette Catelani Corsini who has dedicated the past 40 years of her life to volunteer work. She is one of the unsung heroes of our society.

• (1405)

[Translation]

For over 40 years, Juliette Corsini has combined her family obligations with her ongoing commitment to the community. She continues to work actively for the Moisson Montréal food bank which she helped found. Mrs. Corsini also devotes her time to Jean-Talon hospital and to L'Arche-Montréal.

As a volunteer, Mrs. Corsini performs numerous tasks, from taking part in food drives to compiling data and handling accounting and secretarial duties.

[English]

I wish to congratulate Juliette Catelani Corsini for her constant commitment and enthusiasm. She is a fine example we should all follow. I wish her continued success.

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[Translation]

ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE-FRANÇAISE DE L'ONTARIO

Mr. Gérard Asselin (Charlevoix): Mr. Speaker, according to Mr. André Lalonde who will take over at the helm of the Association canadienne-française de l'Ontario next month, ACFO intends to reach out and grasp the hand extended to it last Friday by the Leader of the Bloc Québécois.

We congratulate ACFO for its courage and determination and for refusing, in spite of the pressure put on it by Liberal franco-ontarian members and ministers, to allow a partisan line to be dictated to it and for its desire to remain faithful to franco-ontarian interests.

We encourage leaders in the rest of Canada to follow ACFO's example and to come to the realization that their relations with Quebec are about to take on an entirely different complexion.

The Bloc Québécois hopes that this gesture is the first step to achieving greater co-operation between francophones in Quebec and those in the rest of Canada.

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[English]

BETTY LARKE

Mr. Jake E. Hoepfner (Lisgar—Marquette): Mr. Speaker, I rise in the House today to pay a special tribute to one of my constituents, Betty Larke of Morden, Manitoba.

Betty has recently been awarded the 1994 Kinsmen community service award. She has been a member of the Royal Canadian Legion auxiliary for 50 years. In 1985 she was awarded the jubilee medal and the meritorious award. Betty has also worked extensively with the Salvation Army's Red Shield Appeal, Meals on Wheels, the United Way, the community's senior home and her local church.

In this, the Year of the Family, it is very appropriate that we recognize Betty's dedication to her community and her respect for family and values.

Betty Larke has enriched the lives of many people in our community through her strong desire to help others. All Canadians can learn from her example.