

departments of so many neighboring towns," said Kulik, who will be retiring from the legislature in January of next year. "It's been a tremendous honor to be the Grand Marshall of this parade."

He said he loved living in Worthington and he said he was grateful for the "amazing" outpour from the community at the potluck the night before, where he was handed an award by the town for his work as an elected official.

Worthington resident Leonard Beaudry, who served 35 years in the Air Force, said the congressman "has always been for the people since his first day in office."

"He's done a lot for western Massachusetts and I hate to see him stepping down, but he's getting older," Beaudry said.

Beaudry's wife, R.J., lays wreaths across town during the holidays at places like Town Hall, the library, and corner stores to liven up public areas.

"It's a very charming town," R.J. said. "If anyone ever needs anything, we are there for them."

Local communities were represented by a number of fire departments including from Peru, Windsor, Plainfield, Williamsburg, Goshen, Chester, and Huntington.

"There's a lot of fire departments, a lot of wonderful floats... it's a great hometown parade," Worthington Fire Captain Michael Dondiego said. "It's a great opportunity to celebrate the town's 250th."

Bob Dodge, who served as chair of the Parade Committee, said everything went "above and beyond" what he hoped for.