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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3 RHS Students Win Annual John M. Kingery Memorial Day Essay Contest

Three Rye High School students were named winners in the American Legion-sponsored Memorial Day Essay Contest. Ninth grader James F. Cronin took first place with a piece entitled, "What is the Real Significance of Memorial Day?," while 10th grader Jake Maquet and 9th grader MacKenzie Smith were selected as Runners-up. The winner receives a \$500 check and the other two students each receive \$250.

The Memorial Day essay contest is a long-standing Rye tradition named in honor of the late John M. Kingery, a WWII B-17 bomber pilot who went on to found Rye Ford Subaru. The dealerships, now under the leadership of John's son Jim Kingery, underwrite the prizes.

James, Jake and MacKenzie will receive their awards at the City of Rye's Memorial Day observance on Monday, May 25, beginning at 10:00 a.m. on the Village Green. James will read his essay aloud.

Rye Post Commander Tom Saunders said, "We were deeply impressed by the quality of the essays submitted to the Post this year -- we received 15 excellent submissions. Thank you to Judd Rothstein at Rye High School for his assistance with coordinating this year's contest."

Students were asked to submit 500 word essays, based on patriotic themes fitting to Memorial Day, to be judged by a committee of Legionnaires from Rye Post. The annual contest is open to all Rye High School students and is facilitated by Social Studies Teacher Judd Rothstein, along with other members of the Social Studies Department.

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