

Prep of Chicago, IL. She was sponsored in the contest by Chicago VFW Post 1612. She aspires to pursue a career in the Foreign Service. Her hobbies include tennis, bowling, reading, baking, dancing, roller skating, and enjoying music. She has been the vice president of her sophomore class and an executive board member of the Black Organization of Students and a student council representative.

It is with deep pride that I submit for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the winning essay written by Ms. Felicia Bell of Chicago, IL.

ANSWERING AMERICA'S CALL

Answering America's call. That's an interesting challenge. Very thought-provoking, very metaphorical, very complicated. What is America's call? Is it a call to exercise our civil obligations or a call to improve our educational system? Is it a call to volunteer our time for worthy causes or is it a call to go out and have fun?

After much thought (and a lot of snack and cartoon breaks), I have come to the conclusion that it is a mixture of all four. America is calling us to participate in the political arena, the academic world, the recreational field and the social service sector of society. America calls us to share the wealth of skills and talents we have as proud young Americans in order to perpetuate our strong points while improving upon our weaknesses. The most effective way to advance as a nation is by answering America's call.

America is a country built on the inalienable rights of man. We have the constitutional rights to vote, to free speech, to peacefully assemble, to petition our grievances. Not only are we encouraged to exercise these rights, as American citizens, we are expected to. We fulfill America's expectation by vociferously making known our opinions through letters and petitions written to officials, by boycotting and protesting against actions that run counter to our beliefs, by running for office (instead of passively complaining about the incompetent incumbents). Most importantly, America calls us to vote for the people who will best serve the nation. Citizens will play an integral part in the political process next November at the ballot box because voting is the loudest way we as citizens have to answer America's call.

Only with a sound education can people make the most informed choices. Education is the backbone of all societies. Right now America is experiencing a grave educational crisis in need of immediate repair. America is calling us to improve Head Start programs so that the young will be instilled with a love of learning early in life. America is calling us to pursue technical and vocational training so that we will have the skills necessary to excel in this increasingly technological world.

America is calling us to reform our lagging school system so that all children will have the opportunity to learn the two most fundamental lessons in life: how to think and how to recognize their fullest potential. We must all continue to educate ourselves because an educated citizenry is the mark of a truly great civilization. America is calling us to help attain that goal.

We must go out into the communities, tutor school children, become mentors, work in soup kitchens, help renovate abandoned buildings for the homeless, donate blood, plant trees, clean parks, and contribute to active charities. Social service should be a part of every person's daily routine. Not only does community service help restore our deteriorating society, it helps us as individuals improve our own lives. America implores us to help each other as we help ourselves.

Now anyone can spend their entire life writing letters to Congresspeople, doing homework and volunteering their time for a worthy cause, but that can get quite grim. If there is no fun in life, we will all go crazy. Hobbies and recreation sharpen our minds while sports and dance keep us physically fit, preventing us from cracking under the strain of answering America's other calls. America urges us to bake some chocolate chip cookies or read a novel, go fly a kite on a windy day or jump in puddles when it is raining. America encourages us to rest, relax and just "kick it".

Throughout history, America has had many calls. We have been called to bear arms during times of war, called to protest grave injustices, called to mourn during times of tragedy and sorrow. We have even been called to switch long distance phone companies. We are bombarded with calls. I believe that answering America's call enables us to live life to the fullest, to become the most fully engaged citizens possible. America challenges us to become involved politically, to improve our educational system, to volunteer our talents to worthy causes and to enjoy living the good American life. We must answer America's call so that we can lead our country into its glory and grandeur in the 21st century.

TRIBUTE TO THE SUMMIT PARK DISTRICT ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the Summit Park District on the 50 successful years of its providing recreation to the people of its community.

Like so many other organizations that are celebrating their golden anniversaries this year, the Summit Park District was born when a dedicated group of local residents came together to plan and provide services for veterans returning from World War II ready to start new families.

In the case of the park district, a local physician, Dr. Paul Rush, and 12 residents came together to provide open space and recreational activities for their fellow residents. After selecting four sites in the village for playgrounds, Dr. Rush and his associates turned to the Des Plaines Valley News newspaper for assistance. The paper printed ballots asking the children of Summit what they wanted in their new parks, and, five decades later, the park district is still listening to the residents in developing new facilities and programs.

In fact, the park district recently added hiking and biking trails, a jogging track, fitness stations, a mini golf course, and batting cages in response to the recreational needs of Summit residents.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the Summit Park District on its 50th anniversary and wish the district many more years of success.

ANGELO BROTHERS CO. 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 1996

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Angelo Brothers Co. as it celebrates its 50th anniversary in Philadelphia this month and to commend the creation of Stan and Tim Angelo for its 50 years of distinguished service to the community.

The company began in 1946 as a small paint and lamp store in south Philadelphia. Stan and Romolo "Tim" Angelo soon realized that there was a better market for lamp parts than for portable lamps. In response, the brothers created a wholesale mail order business that catered to the lamp industry. They also expanded their company to include the sale of lamp parts as well as light bulbs and hardware. The family business was passed on through generations of Angelos, with Stan's son, Stanley, Jr., John, and Tim's son, Raymond, taking over as leaders of the company. As the company continued to thrive, other locations were opened in Santa Fe Springs, CA, Chicago, IL, and Jacksonville, FL.

In the past 50 years, the Angelo Brothers Co. has grown to become the largest privately owned seller of light bulbs in the country. The company has kept abreast of new technological developments by designing the Smart Bulb™ and Spectralite™ lamps to meet new energy standards. It has won awards for its advances in incandescent lighting technologies. Today the company has 600 employees and is one of the most recognized names in light bulbs.

Mr. Speaker, I am well aware of the leading role that the Angelo Brothers Co. has taken in the "Do-It-Yourself" market. In 1970, it entered the home center marketplace. Soon, the company began to sell lighting fixtures as well as electrical hardware and door chimes. The company has also expanded into the sale of decorative light bulbs.

The company has come a long way since its origins as a small, family owned business. It has become one of the leaders in the field of light bulb and fixture manufacturing, and it continues to grow today. Now, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Angelo Brothers Co., a scholarship foundation for the children of employees has been created in the name of Stan and Tim Angelo, the brothers who opened the small store in Philadelphia 50 years ago.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Angelo Brothers Co., and its second generation of leaders, including John, Tim, Ray, and Stanley Angelo, Jr., for its successes and contributions to the community and wish it continued prosperity in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 1996

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Resource Conservation and