

after leading a long and distinguished life of public service and civic duty.

Ed Harris devoted his professional and private life to serving his home state of Texas. After graduating from Southwestern University in 1941, Ed entered the United States Navy to bravely fight for his country for six years during World War II.

After devoting his energy towards completion of both his law degree and master's degree, Ed joined the law firm of Martin, Carmona, Cruse, Micks & Dunten in 1956. Ed was admired by his colleagues for his devotion to the law and constant strive for excellence, and within two years he became senior partner. He distinguished himself as a respected leader and accomplished attorney for the next 21 years.

Ed spent thirty-three years of his extraordinary professional career as an elected public official, which in of itself is a testament of his outstanding leadership capacity and desire to serve the community he loved. He won the first of his 17 successful elections in 1961 when he was elected as Galveston City Councilman, where he served for three years. In 1962, Ed's devotion to service led to his election to the Texas Legislature as a State Representative, where he honorably served for fourteen years.

After Ed completed his tenure as State Representative, he became State District Judge, where he presided over the administrative, civil, and criminal dockets until his 1993 retirement. Ed is remembered by all he encountered for his kindness and his dedication to the law.

Ed lead a rich and active civic life that enhanced the lives of the people in his community. He was a devoted parishioner of Moody Memorial First United Methodist Church in Galveston and was a board member of McMahan's Chapel, the oldest protestant church in Texas. He continued his long dedication to the law through his activity in many county and state bar associations and in the American Judges Association. Ed also maintained his Navy ties through his participation in the Retired Officers association and VFW. Ed's desire to help those less fortunate than he was a constant force in the community. In fact, in 1986 and 1987, Ed rode in the 175 mile, two-day Houston Muscular Dystrophy Bike Tour, where he earned \$14,000 in pledges for this cause. In 1991, Ed received the 1st Annual Independence Award from North Galveston County Democrats for his lifetime of devotion to this community.

The death of Ed Harris is a blow to all that loved and respected him. His years of public service and devotion to his community touched thousands of lives. Those who were fortunate enough to have known Ed will never forget his kind spirit, his leadership in the community, and his dedication and understanding of the law. He has left a legacy that will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, please join us in paying tribute to the life of Ed Harris. Those of us fortunate enough to have known him are truly blessed.

HONORING OUR NATION'S BEST
AND BRIGHTEST

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate four outstanding high school students from my Congressional District, who were recently named as finalists in the Intel Science Talent Search. The talent search has given each of these students an opportunity to demonstrate their unique talents and capacity for innovation. The students will be honored this week in Washington with the thirty-six other finalists. Indeed, it is both humbling and inspirational to listen to the accomplishments of these dynamic individuals.

Trevor Bass, of Great Neck, used a genetic algorithm to analyze the theory of evolution. At Great Neck South High School, Trevor is the coach of the math team and has won several awards in math, computer science and physics. He hopes to attend Harvard University in the fall.

Lauren Cooper, of Roslyn, studied how gender based language influences our perceptions of Presidential candidates. At Roslyn High School, Lauren is active in student government and president of the math club. Lauren plans to attend Duke University in the fall.

Lisa Schwartz, of Roslyn, examined patterns in two-way sequences of positive integers for her project. At Roslyn High School, Lisa is the captain of her forensics team and the editor in chief of both her yearbook and newspaper. She is currently ranked first in her class of 221 students and hopes to attend Harvard University in the fall.

Eric Stern, of Great Neck, has studied the nature of Alzheimer's disease. At Great Neck South High School, Eric has led the marching band and science club and has won many music, math, and science awards. Next year, David hopes to attend Yale University.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all the schools in the Fifth Congressional District of New York. These students' achievements underscore our community's commitment to excellence in education. These four scholars truly embody the ideals of innovation, perseverance, and leadership. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating these young men and women, on their many accomplishments, and extending to them our best wishes for continued success in what appears to be a very bright future.

TRIBUTE TO BOB LIVINGSTON,
REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE
FIRST DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, Today I would like to extend my best wishes and prayers to BOB LIVINGSTON and his family as he retires from the House of Representatives. I know he has put the best interests of the family ahead of politics and I respect him deeply for that.

Chairman LIVINGSTON's leadership skills and productive energy will be sorely missed on appropriations and in the House. I know that others have praised BOB for his humor and his intellect. I want to echo those words while I add that BOB LIVINGSTON is also a very good friend.

Since I came to Congress, he has been a mentor and much more. He has provided campaign support when I needed it, but more importantly he has assisted me with professional guidance as I learned the ropes in the Appropriations Committee.

The House of Representatives has been affected positively by the work of our colleague BOB LIVINGSTON. I know his future endeavors will be equally successful. I hope he will remember us as fellow combatants in a fight to cut government waste and return control to the American people. It is a great honor to have served during this period with BOB LIVINGSTON and I know his work will be a testament to his dedication to public service for many, many years to come.

INTRODUCING THE FAMILY
EDUCATION FREEDOM ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 1999

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Family Education Freedom Act of 1999, a bill to empower millions of working- and middle-class Americans to choose a non-public education for their children, as well as making it easier for parents to actively participate in improving public schools. The Family Education Freedom Act accomplishes its goals by allowing American parents a tax credit of up to \$3,000 for the expenses incurred in sending their child to private, public, parochial, other religious school, or for home schooling their children.

The Family Education Freedom Act returns the fundamental principal of a truly free economy to America's education system: what the great economist Ludwig von Mises called "consumer sovereignty." Consumer sovereignty simply means consumers decide who succeeds or fails in the market. Businesses that best satisfy consumer demand will be the most successful. Consumer sovereignty is the means by which the free market maximizes human happiness.

Currently, consumers are less than sovereign in the education "market." Funding decisions are increasingly controlled by the federal government. Because "he who pays the piper calls the tune," public, and even private schools, are paying greater attention to the dictates of federal "educrats" while ignoring the wishes of the parents to an ever-greater degree. As such, the lack of consumer sovereignty in education is destroying parental control of education and replacing it with state control.

Loss of control is a key reason why so many of America's parents express dissatisfaction with the educational system. According to a recent study by The Polling Company, over 70% of all Americans support education tax credits! This is just one of numerous studies and public opinion polls showing that Americans want Congress to get the federal