

many years Charles has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Charles Wilson Andrews for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING THE FIRST GRADUATING CLASS OF THE D.A.R.E. PROGRAM AT FOREST HILL ELEMENTARY

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April, 28, 2009*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the first graduating class of the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program, or D.A.R.E., at Forest Hill Elementary.

I am truly proud of the 50 students who participated in this important class that equips our young people with the support and knowledge they need to say no to drugs, underage drinking and gang violence.

In 1983, D.A.R.E. began as a small program in Los Angeles. Today, it is implemented in more than 75 percent of our country's school districts and in more than 43 other nations.

To mark the success of these students, Forest Hill Elementary will hold a graduating ceremony on May 4, 2009. I am glad these students will be recognized for taking this step toward leading positive and productive lives.

Moreover, I applaud the efforts of the police officers, faculty and families who helped support this accomplished group as they worked to complete the D.A.R.E. program this school year.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the first graduating class of the D.A.R.E. program at Forest Hill Elementary. Your success is a true testament to the strong community values of Forest Hill.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF STEVEN BILLMAIER ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 2009*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Steven Billmaier of Bowling Green, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Steven's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming midshipmen Class of 2013. Attending one of our Nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education while placing de-

mands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Steven brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of midshipmen. While attending Central Catholic High School in Toledo, Ohio, Steven attained a grade point average which placed him fourth in his class of 257 students. During Steven's high school career, he was inducted into the National Honor Society and the Insignis Society; distinguished as a Regents Scholar; and received a National Merit Commendation.

Outside the classroom, Steven demonstrated his dedication and service to his community and peers by being active in the Boy Scouts of America in which he obtained the rank of Eagle Scout, in addition to earning four Eagle Palms. Steven utilized his leadership skills during his participation in Central Catholic High School's German Club, Environmental Club, Spiritual Commission, and he was a class officer. Athletically, Steven has been an active member of Crew, participating in both the fall and spring sessions during the past four years. I am confident that Steven will carry the lessons of his student leadership to Annapolis.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Steven Billmaier on his acceptance of appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the forest military training and education available. I am positive that Steven will excel during his career at the Naval Academy and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA HONORAIR VETERANS

**HON. JOHN FLEMING**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 2009*

Mr. FLEMING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from Northwest Louisiana.

On April 11, 2009 a group of 104 veterans and their guardians flew to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these Louisiana veterans to visit Washington, DC on a chartered flight, free of charge. For many, this will be the first and only opportunity to visit the memorials created in their honor. These brave men and women, from my home state of Louisiana, deserve the thanks of a grateful nation for everything they have sacrificed for our freedom.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thank them for their unselfish service.

Dan D. Adcock, John R. Alexander, Bennie R. Alley, John T. Anderson, Dempsey D. Bankus, Charles R. Bedgood, Henry J. Bird, Edd J. Bordelon, Arnold L. Braddock, Robert I. Brown, Cecil H. Brumley, Charles L. Bryant, James Buggs, Aubra T. Bunn, Curtis E. Chaffin, James Eugene Chowns, Jack Coursey, Jack Creighton, Howard A. Curtis, Edward D. Dark, John Duco, Albert J. Dunn, Merrille D. Dunn, Robert M. Duvall, Orlando A. Easterling, Kenneth B. Eaves, Guy M. Farley,

John P. Fields, Edward R. Franks, William D. Franks, Dellon K. Fulton, William M. Gaston, Frank A. Genova, Ethan Allen Gillispie, Oben D. Greer, Garland D. Gregory, Walter H. Harbour, Eugene Harvey, James M. Henderson, Roy Gene Hicks, William V. Hines, John L. Hinton, Robert E. Holladay, Loin F. Jacob, Orville H. Jensen, Alton B. Kay, William B. Kinman, Anton Koloc, Andrew J. LeBlanc, Thomas B. Ledford, Ottis Littlejohn, Marshall H. Lyles, Rudolph E. Lyon, Paul H. Madden, Norman L. Mauroner, Lucius D. McGehee, Edgar C. Morris, Raymond L. Owens, Raymond K. Pecanty, Danny L. Phillips, Joe A. Phillips, Arthur R. Pietsch, Alfred B. Potter, Aubie L. Powell, James A. Powell, Melvin A. Powell, Kindred C. Priest, Robert C. Rinehart, Robert D. Roach, Robert G. Robertson, Floyd Cecil Robinson, Carol Wilson Rogers, Rollins B. Rosenzweig, Frank A. Serio, Melvin L. Shirey, Donald C. Sidak, Orvis U. Sigler, James C. Smith, Ernest L. St. John, Edward E. Stevenson, Clyde T. Stovall, Otis L. Strong, Jack F. Taylor, Tiny A. Temple, William M. Temple, Oscar Thornton, Dewey C. Thurmon, Floyd R. Turley, Coy E. Upshaw, Ray U. Urban, Thomas H. Vincent, Emmitt W. Walker, Dillon D. Wallace, Thomas A. Watson, Jack L. Whitfield, William C. Wilkins, Kenneth C. Wood, and Neill A. Yarborough.

HYDROCEPHALUS AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 28, 2009*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, hydrocephalus, or water on the brain, is a medical condition that results in an abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) in the ventricles, or cavities, of the brain. Sadly, the prognosis for individuals afflicted with hydrocephalus is difficult predict and often fatal. Moreover, while this condition affects approximately 1 in every 500 births, very few people are aware of it.

Indeed, the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) is currently conducting research related to hydrocephalus prevention and treatment. However, more must be done at the community level to educate individual Americans about this surprisingly prevalent disorder. Recognizing September as National Hydrocephalus Awareness Month will bring this disease to the public's attention and encourage the discussions necessary to more effectively address the devastating effects of this disease and provide support to families who live with it each day.

For example, currently, the most common form of treatment for hydrocephalus involves the insertion of a shunt in order to maintain the flow of CSF from the brain. This outdated practice often results in complications that can jeopardize the life of the, often very young, patient. Through increased awareness and education, we will take the steps needed to modernize the treatment of hydrocephalus and move toward a cure. As one parent summarized, "My son, and all the other children who suffer from Hydrocephalus, are literally 12-15 hours from irreversible damage, if not death, if a shunt failure was to go undetected or left