

The father of the Green Revolution, and one of only six people in history to have won the Nobel Peace Prize, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the Congressional Medal of Honor, Dr. Borlaug may just be the most underappreciated genius in human history. In the annals of our species' time on Earth, he stands like a Colossus. It is no exaggeration to say—indeed it is said often—that Dr. Borlaug saved more lives than anyone else who has ever lived, and that he quite literally changed the fate of our world.

Born in 1914 in Saude, Iowa, Norman Borlaug spent his formative years working on the family farm, leaving, Borlaug said later in life, only because of some sage advice offered by his grandfather—"You're wiser to fill your head now if you want to fill your belly later on." With the help of a gift for wrestling—and Franklin Roosevelt's National Youth Administration—Borlaug enrolled in the University of Minnesota in 1933, supplementing his meager resources with stints in the Civilian Conservation Corps and the United States Forestry Service. He graduated in 1937 with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry, following it up with a Masters of Science in 1940 and a Doctorate in plant pathology and genetics in 1942.

After serving the World War II effort as a microbiologist at DuPont, Borlaug moved to Mexico in 1944 to take part in a Rockefeller Foundation project aimed at boosting wheat production. There, the true work of his life began.

At the time, Mexican farmers were able to raise less than half of the wheat they needed to feed their population, mainly due to a debilitating fungus known as rust. For the next 13 years, Borlaug experimented with and cross-bred strains of wheat from all over the world to develop a grain that was rust-resistant. When that success was finally achieved, other problems emerged. The new blend of wheat, while resistant to rust and many other diseases, was top-heavy and would break easily. So Borlaug looked to shorter Japanese dwarf strains, and the Green Revolution began in earnest.

By 1956, thanks to Dr. Borlaug's efforts, Mexico grew two to three times more wheat than before, and was self-sufficient in wheat. From there, spurred on by the Rockefeller Foundation and the United Nations, Borlaug brought his extraordinary insights to the rest of the globe. In India and Pakistan, North Africa and Southeast Asia, the Middle East and the Philippines, where scientists followed Borlaug's pioneering vision to create a new strand of rice, Borlaug's hard work and amazing insights transformed agriculture and allowed for incredible new yields all over a hungry world.

In 1970, Norman Borlaug won the Nobel Peace Prize for the transformation he had achieved. In an age that was greatly concerned about the dire consequences of exploding population, Borlaug utilized science, innovation, and his "Iowa-stubborn tenacity" to lead the whole world forward. He remains the only agricultural scientist to have ever won the Nobel Prize—Indeed, in part to correct this oversight, Borlaug later helped to found the World Food Prize, to encourage agronomists of later generations to follow in his footsteps.

Borlaug was not only a pioneering scientist but a pioneering humanitarian. I had the pleasure of meeting with Dr. Borlaug several times over the past few years, and he was a

consistent and forceful advocate on global food issues. He dedicated his days not only to feeding hungry people and helping them achieve self-sufficiency, but to improving their lives in any way he could. A professor at Texas A&M University for many years, Borlaug also served as an important advisor to governments around the world and a compelling advocate for the many virtues of agricultural science. To say nothing of his continuing stints as Boy Scout Troopmaster and Mexico's first Little League Baseball coach, and of his life as a husband and father.

After his passing on September 13, 2009, Borlaug's children asked that he be remembered as "a model for making a difference in the lives of others and to bring about efforts to end human misery for all mankind." And so he was, and so he shall. The world has lost one of its great men in Norman Borlaug, and we are all the poorer for it. Nonetheless, his remarkable contributions to our people and our planet will last longer than any of us.

COMMENDING YIXIAO WANG OF
WESTFIELD, NEW JERSEY

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Mr. LANCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptionally talented student, Yixiao Wang of Westfield, NJ. Yixiao, along with three other teammates representing the United States, recently participated in the 41st International Chemistry Olympiad, winning one gold and three silver medals in Cambridge, England.

The U.S. Team competed against 250 students from 65 countries in a battery of exams including theoretical and practical applications. Yixiao placed in the top 10 percent earning him a gold medal. The four students were selected from over 11,000 talented high school chemistry students who had participated at the local level, and are representative of the brightest chemistry students in the Nation.

The International Chemistry Olympiad was created in 1968 to enhance friendly relations among young people from different countries. Since then, thousands of students have participated in this rigorous competition to recognize the most talented students in the world.

I would like to congratulate Yixiao for his exemplary performance, which undoubtedly required disciplined, diligent studies. His is a shining example of the dedication the faculty at Westfield High School have towards helping their students achieve greatness. Yixiao will surely have a bright future in any of his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. R. SANDLIN
LOWE III

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. R. Sandlin Lowe III, a fac-

ulty member of the New York University School of Medicine.

Dr. Lowe was born in Tallapoosa County, Alabama and grew up on the family farm in Coosa County, the poorest county in Alabama. He was influenced greatly by his grandfather, Braxton Hughes Smith, who as a Christian man taught him much about faith and patience, hard work and perseverance; a farmer lives out these things every day. The work on the farm was done by hand with mules pulling the ploughs through the earth and men coming to pick the cotton and corn that grew. It was a life out of Faulkner—trips to the blacksmith's shed to reshape and sharpen ploughshares, killing hogs in the winters, the spring plantings and the eventide hymns as men finished the day's work—a wondrous grounding.

The College and Medical School at Tulane University in New Orleans followed where the interests in human nature and all things human found outlets in anthropology and then later medicine, sparked interest in Dr. Lowe. While attending medical school, Dr. Lowe came to New York City to Bellevue Hospital in the fall of 1986—he has been affiliated with Bellevue either as a student, intern, resident or attending physician ever since.

Currently a member of the Faculty of the New York University School of Medicine, Dr. Lowe's interests and work in brain injury and autism are personal. His research at the Brain Research Laboratories with his recently deceased friend, Roy John, and his work with his mentor and friend, Rodolfo Llinas, in the Department of Physiology and Neuroscience have led to an innovative theory of coma and vegetative states that is strangely enough applicable to autism spectrum conditions. Dr. Lowe continues his work on this issue in hopes that this work will continue to bear fruit.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. R. Sandlin Lowe III.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
AARON HANEY FOR WINNING
THE BOYS' DIVISION III STATE
BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Aaron Haney showed hard work and dedication to the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, Aaron Haney was a supportive coach; and

Whereas, Aaron Haney always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the field; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Aaron Haney on winning the Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 baseball season.