

to have the greatest possible impact on the students they serve. To encourage such strength, it is important to note the individual PTAs and PTSAs that excel in this mission as well as the individual Volunteers of the Year.

I am pleased to congratulate the following on being recognized by the National PTA and Virginia PTA for 2009–2010 school year:

\$1,000.00 National PTA Healthy Lifestyle Grant: Laurel Hill ES PTA

\$300.00 Virginia PTA Family Fitness Grants: Samuel Tucker ES PTA and Haycock ES PTA

2010 National PTA Phoebe Apperson Hearst Family-School Partnership Awards of Merit: Fairview ES PTA, Lake Braddock SS PTA, Mosby Woods ES PTA, and White Oaks ES PTA

2009–2010 Virginia PTA Superior Membership Achievement Awards: Falls Church ES PTA, Nottingham ES PTA, Flint Hill ES PTA, and Langley HS PTSA

2009–2010 Virginia PTA Outstanding Membership Achievement Award: Peyton Randolph ES PTA

2009–2010 100 percent Membership Awards: Chesterbrook ES PTA, Falls Church ES PTA, Flint Hill ES PTA, Langley HS PTSA, Nottingham ES PTA, and Waynewood ES PTA

2009–2010 New Unit Charters: Cedar Lane School PTSA, Laurel Hill ES PTA, Lutie Lewis Coates ES PTA, Drew Model School PTA, and Arlington Special Education PTA

2009 Virginia PTA Volunteer of the Year: Sue Bernstein, Hollin Meadows ES PTA

2010 District Volunteer of the Year Nominees (Secondary): Kathy Conrad, Patricia Fausser, John Long, Janet Robinson and Greg Brandon.

2010 District Volunteer of the Year Nominees (Elementary): Karen Hildebrand, Teresa Willebeek-Lemair, Jenniefer Schantz, Jana Hollis, Ellen Giblin, Jill Chastain and Christa Soltis.

Congratulations to Sue Bernstein for being named the 2009 Volunteer of the Year and best of luck to the 2010 Volunteer of the Year Nominees.

A special note of appreciation is deserved by the following individuals for their service as elected officers of the Northern Virginia PTA Executive Board as they complete their term in office; District Director Debbie Kilpatrick, 1st Asst. District Director Nina Austin, 2nd Asst. Director Rob Horvath, Secretary Angela Nesley and Treasurer Donald Cantwell. Thank you and those who serve as Committee Chairs for your tireless efforts during the 2008–2010 term in office.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the outstanding achievements of the individuals and the PTA/PTSA organizations being recognized. Dedicated involvement from so many parents reflects a strong commitment to public education and community service that students in our schools are fortunate to experience. I offer my strong support for these organizations and their dedicated volunteers.

THE OCCASION OF FIRST ANNI-
VERSARY OF UNVEILING OF SO-
JOURNER TRUTH MEMORIAL

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, what does the unveiling of the Sojourner Truth Memorial in the U.S. Capitol mean to me?

I feel extraordinarily proud to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the unveiling of the memorial to Sojourner Truth in the United States Capitol. I am inspired by the legacy of Sojourner Truth, who was born a slave and overcame daunting odds to become one of the most influential figures in both the women's rights movement and the African-American struggle for equality.

The existence of such an eloquent memorial statue in her honor in the U.S. Capitol ensures that her legacy will never be forgotten. Lawmakers and visitors alike will be reminded of her spirit, dedication and courage each time they pass by her memorial. Just as Sojourner Truth paved the way for so many who came after her, this memorial reminds all visitors and those who work and serve here that the fight for freedom is hard fought but worth the victory.

HONORING UNITED WAY OF LONG
ISLAND FOR THEIR EXTRAOR-
DINARY WORK IN THE COMMU-
NITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, United Way of Long Island.

United Way has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. The continuous selfless efforts of those involved with the United Way of Long Island are admirable.

I am proud to honor United Way of Long Island for their extraordinary work in the community.

INTRODUCING THE INSTRU-
CTIONAL LEADERSHIP ACT OF 2010

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Instructional Leadership Act of 2010, which will strengthen schools by helping principals to become instructional leaders.

With the passage of No Child Left Behind, NCLB, school principals often find themselves with greater responsibilities. They are accountable for student achievement and the broader goals of NCLB but they lack the appropriate training and resources needed to accomplish

these goals. It is time to bring equal attention to developing programs that train principals on the best practices to guide teaching and learning in schools.

The Instructional Leadership Act of 2010 provides grants to State and local educational agencies to drive gains in academic achievement for all children by: (1) Creating innovative programs and sites to train principals in instructional leadership skills including developing a school vision, staff development, and effective instructional practices; (2) Developing pilot programs to evaluate the incorporation of standards of instructional leadership into State principal certifications; and (3) Establishing state-of-the-art principal induction programs that provide mentoring and on-the-job training for new principals.

This legislation is strongly supported by the National Association of Secondary School Principals, NASSP. It represents a necessary first step towards developing the next generation of school leaders who are committed to, and effective in, increasing student achievement. I urge support for this important piece of legislation.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS
AWARENESS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1116, which expresses support for the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week. I want to thank my friend and colleague Representative BARBARA LEE for introducing this resolution, which brings attention to a disease that affects an estimated 400,000 people living in the United States.

Because I was diagnosed with MS in 2003, I know the importance of research into treatments and a cure for the disease. I support additional funding for research regarding MS, Parkinson's disease, and other neurological disorders. MS is a serious disease, but I am lucky to have insurance that pays for most of the cost of the expensive drugs that slow its progression and help prevent disability. However, many people diagnosed with MS often find their necessary medications financially out of reach. The 111th Congress has taken historic action to make health care affordable and accessible, to end discrimination against those with pre-existing conditions, and to help people control and live well with chronic illness—keeping them out of wheelchairs or nursing homes. However, we must continue to work on behalf of our constituents who every day are dealing with serious health conditions.

I am pleased that included in the health insurance reform law recently signed by the president is the Community Living Assistance Services and Supports (CLASS) Act. The CLASS Act will create an insurance program for the 10 million adults with disabilities in America to help them obtain the services and supports they need to stay functional, independent, and active in their community. It is a disgrace that millions of Americans with disabilities are forced to live a life of poverty just so they can qualify for long-term benefits offered by Medicaid. The CLASS Act will allow

people with disabilities to remain functional and independent while giving them an opportunity to receive an education, maintain a job, or join a community group.

I also want to acknowledge the work of the National MS Society, which works tirelessly on behalf of persons living with MS. Just this past weekend I participated in the Columbus MS Walk with my many friends in the Ohio Buckeye Chapter. This walk was just one of many across the country to raise money for research into MS.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to the day when the world is free of MS. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in finding the causes, improving the treatments while lowering their costs, and fighting for a cure for MS and other diseases, so that all Americans can live fully active and healthy lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, yesterday I was unable to vote during rollcall No. 226 because of illness. If I would have been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING FAMILY SERVICE LEAGUE FOR THEIR EXTRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Family Service League.

Family Service League has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. The continuous selfless efforts of those involved with Family Service League are admirable.

I am proud to honor Family Service League for their extraordinary work in the community.

TRIBUTE TO MS. PAM McCUE

HON. PARKER GRIFFITH

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Ms. Pam McCue. Ms. McCue is the Director of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center (MSIC), which is headquartered at Redstone Arsenal in my district.

Ms. McCue has spent her entire career in the field of intelligence analysis of foreign missile and air defense systems. She assumed her current position upon her appointment to the Defense Intelligence Senior Executive Service in May of 2007. She is responsible for planning, organizing, and directing an organi-

zation of 400 people in analyzing intelligence information on foreign missile and space systems and related technology.

The work done at MSIC under Ms. McCue's direction delivers integrated, timely, and high confidence intelligence assessments to our warfighters, weapons system developers, and policy makers.

Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate Ms. Pam McCue on a spectacular career and wish her continued success.

REMARKS RECOGNIZING THE YWCA OF BERGEN COUNTY RAPE CRISIS CENTER AND THEIR ADVOCACY OF DENIM DAY

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the New Jersey Legislature's declaration of April 28th as Denim Day and to thank advocates across the state for their tireless efforts to promote sexual assault awareness and provide assistance to victims of sexual assault. Recently, New Jersey became the newest state to adopt Denim Day as an annual event to raise awareness for acts of sexual assault. The establishment of Denim Day across the state of New Jersey is an important call to action reminding us that we must do everything possible as a community and as a nation of laws to stop rape and sexual assault and help survivors.

Denim Day originated in 1998, when a decision to overturn a case of sexual assault by the Italian Supreme Court caused outrage among Italian legislators and the public. A statement released by the Head Judge of the Court stated, "Because the victim wore very, very tight jeans, she had to help him remove them . . . and by removing the jeans . . . it was no longer assault but consensual sex." The women in the Italian Parliament protested by wearing jeans on the steps of the Parliament building and the protests that followed eventually spread to the United States.

The movement that originated in Italy reached New Jersey in 2008 and 2009 when several county-based Sexual Violence Programs in New Jersey launched Denim Day. I am proud to say that the YWCA of Bergen County Rape Crisis Center, located in my district, has been a champion of this cause. Today, they will be hosting the third annual "Denim Day in NJ" in Bergen County. This is also the first year that Denim Day will be observed officially throughout the state of New Jersey thanks to a New Jersey State Legislature resolution designating April 28 of each year as Denim Day to promote rape awareness throughout the state.

I commend the ongoing efforts of the YWCA of Bergen County Rape Crisis Center to provide free and confidential assistance, counseling, and medical and legal services to survivors of sexual assault. I stand united with the YWCA, survivors of sexual assault, and their loved ones in observing this important day.

HONORING HEALTH AND WELFARE COUNCIL OF LONG ISLAND FOR THEIR EXTRAORDINARY WORK IN THE COMMUNITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a nonprofit organization that serves my district, Health and Welfare Council of Long Island.

Health and Welfare Council has demonstrated an overwhelming amount of commitment to serving the Long Island community. My constituents rely on our nonprofits for the vital services they offer. Health and Welfare Council's continuous acts of selfless efforts are admirable.

I am proud to honor Health and Welfare Council of Long Island for their extraordinary work in the community.

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING STUDENTS IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of several students in Northern Virginia. These students have participated and excelled in programs administered by their local Parent Teacher Associations and Parent Teacher Student Associations.

Parent Teacher Associations, PTAs, and Parent Teacher Student Associations, PTSAs, serve a critical role in helping to provide the best possible educational environment for our students. The Northern Virginia District PTA consists of a region with more than 220 schools. Schools located throughout northern Virginia are consistently recognized as being among the very best schools in our country. I strongly believe one factor in the excellent education received by our students is the high level of involvement and encouragement provided by parents through the PTA and PTSAs.

I am pleased to congratulate the following students on being recognized by the National PTA and Virginia PTA for their outstanding achievements:

2010 District PTA Citizenship Essay Awards—High School Division: Trisha Hajela (10th Grade, Centreville High School), and Katherine DeFazio (12th Grade, James Madison High School).

2010 District PTA Citizenship Essay Awards—Middle School Division: Bennett Casciano (7th Grade, South County Secondary School), and Cali Willcockson (8th Grade, Liberty Middle School).

The 2010 PTA Reflections National PTA Nominees are:

Dance Choreography: Primary Division—Claire de la Paz (2nd Grade, Herndon Elementary School PTA) for her dance performance titled "Free Bird."

Literature: Middle/Junior Division—Eliza Malakoff, (7th Grade George Washington Middle School PTA) for her insightful essay titled "No Beauty?"