

and its overall economy. During his 16 years with the association, Bob rose through the ranks as a member of the board of directors and eventually as president.

Bob also maintained an active involvement with the promotional activities at Sandy Hook, the Gateway National Recreation Area facility adjacent to Highlands, known and loved by people from all over New Jersey. He could always be counted on to help any cause to promote New Jersey. He participated in Governor Whitman's Sampling in Atlantic City prior to her inauguration, frequently hosted Bayshore Development Office meetings for the Department of Commerce, and offered his restaurant for any event to advance tourism in New Jersey. He was a long-time member of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce, and brought a special passion to maintaining the lively waterfront business community. In his home town of Rumson, Bob coached Pop Warner football, served on the zoning board of adjustment, was treasurer of the Republican Club and was a Republican committeeman for many years. Notwithstanding his Republican affiliation, Bob maintained close ties with officials from both political parties—always willing to work with anyone who shared his devotion to improving the economy and quality of life on the Jersey Shore.

Mr. Speaker, it is a truly an honor for me to pay tribute to Bob Hunter, a good man and a great leader who made a difference for our community.

IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL GUN CONTROL LEGISLATION

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 1995

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, March 30 was the 14th anniversary of the assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan and the wounding of his press secretary, Jim Brady. To commemorate that date, 82 national organizations, representing more than 88 million members, joined together in a campaign to protect sane gun laws.

Mr. Speaker, we commemorate this anniversary because the extreme Republican majority has vowed to overturn the Federal firearms laws that we have enacted, including the Brady law, the assault weapons ban, and other firearms provisions of last year's crime bill.

These laws have begun to make America safer. A poll conducted by the International Association of Chiefs of Police and Handgun Control, Inc. on the effectiveness of the Brady law found that background checks in 115 State and local jurisdictions stopped 19,000 felons and other prohibited persons from obtaining handguns.

The American people also continue to show strong support for gun control legislation. A 1993 Time/CNN poll showed that 92 percent of Americans supported the Brady law.

Mr. Speaker, this Republican attack on our gun laws is senseless. Letting more criminals buy guns will not reduce gun violence and putting more guns on the streets of America will not make our streets safer.

Let us not weaken the gun control legislation that has begun to make our country a safer one.

I urge my colleagues to work against Republican attempts to undo the laws that have already reduced gun violence and saved lives.

TRIBUTE TO ELIZABETH RAUCH

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 1995

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Elizabeth Rauch, a resident of St. Charles, MO, who on March 11, 1995, was honored by Youth in Need as their 1995 Celebration of Youth Honoree.

Elizabeth Rauch has faithfully served her community, and her outstanding leadership abilities have contributed to the continued growth and development of her community. She has dedicated her time as an active participant in countless community efforts to assist the young people of St. Charles. Mrs. Rauch serves as a member of the Lindenwood College Board of Directors and as chairwoman of the Academy of the Sacred Heart Board of Trustees Endowment Fund. She has also been appointed to a 4-year term on the Archdiocesan Development Appeal Council.

Elizabeth Rauch promotes many civic and charitable groups. She supports such noble causes as the Academy of the Sacred Heart Mother's Club, American Red Cross Junior Program, St. Joseph's Hospital, Alliance for Regional Community Health, United Way of St. Charles, Meals on Wheels, Salvation Army, and St. Charles Historical Society.

Elizabeth Rauch is a role model for community service, and in fact the St. Charles Chamber of Commerce recognized her dedication and leadership by awarding her its Humanitarian Award in 1984. She is indeed an inspiration to us all, and is rightfully honored for her continued service as Youth in Need's 1995 Celebration of Youth Honoree.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Elizabeth Rauch on this outstanding achievement and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MICHELLE DOUGLAS, VOICE OF DEMOCRACY WINNER

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 1995

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to congratulate Ms. Michelle Douglas of Agana, Guam, for winning this year's Pacific Area Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest.

Ms. Douglas is a senior at John F. Kennedy High School and hopes to pursue a career as a music or drama teacher. She has been honored repeatedly for her scholastic and extra-curricular achievements and is a leader in school offices. Her patriotic essay, titled "My Vision of America" represents a vision of America as a place dedicated to the principles of equality and opportunity. I am proud to announce that as a result of her hard work, Ms. Douglas has been awarded \$1,000.

This monetary award comes from the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program. The

Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program was started 48 years ago with the endorsement of the U.S. Office of Education and National Association of Broadcasters, Electronic Industries Association and State Association of Broadcasters.

Starting in 1958, the program was conducted in cooperation with the Veterans of Foreign Wars [VFW], with the broadcasters still serving as sponsors. In 1961, the VFW assumed sole sponsorship responsibility. At that time, the national scholarship award consisted of a single \$1,500 scholarship for the first place winner.

During the past 35 years, under VFW sponsorship, the annual national scholarship have been increased to 47 totaling \$109,000 with the first place winner receiving a \$20,000 scholarship to the college of their choice.

This past year, more than 126,000 students participated. Over 8,200 schools participated, over 4,400 VFW posts and over 4,200 auxiliaries sponsored the program. The total monetary value of scholarships, bonds, and awards provided by VFW posts, auxiliaries, districts, county councils, departments, and national amounted to over \$2.5 million this past year. I commend the VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary for this program and their role in promoting scholastic achievement in our Nation.

I am proud that the VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary have honored Ms. Michelle Douglas with this year's award. I wish Ms. Douglas all the best in her chosen career path and in her college years. I encourage my colleagues to take the time to read her thoughtful and inspiring essay.

"MY VISION FOR AMERICA"

(BY MICHELLE DOUGLAS)

Nearly everyone has a view of how America ought to be; even I have a dream. Most of us would probably imagine a future where all injustices are righted, where peace reigns. It would be a country without problems: a paradise for everyone. But this idea alone is vague. In order for a vision to materialize, there must be something concrete.

I am not saying it is necessary to have the blueprint laid out in front of us, or even to have a clear idea of the final vision. I am only saying that each of us contributing in our own way, whether large or small, will make a unique vision of America become reality. Imagine each of us holding a piece of a puzzle, and none of us knowing what the final picture will be. Yet as each of us connects our piece—our individual vision—with the others, a picture emerges, becoming clearer as more pieces are added.

Perhaps the first part of America's vision was placed by Thomas Jefferson in the early summer of 1776 as he pondered over the wording to the Declaration of Independence. His ideas not only challenged the oppression that stifled the daily lives of the colonists, they also changed the course of history and continue to guide us into the future. If Jefferson were asked where his vision would take this great nation two hundred years later, he would have hardly imagined the results. He could not have known how the vision would grow, or how important his piece would be. Nor did he have to.

When Abraham Lincoln delivered the Emancipation Proclamation to a war weary nation, he probably did not realize he was setting the stage for future equal rights. In fact, ethics was not the issue. He had decided, right or wrong, that freeing the slaves would hold the nation together. This does