

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

AWARD-WINNING STUDENTS OF CAESAR RODNEY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, on April 27 to April 29, 1996, outstanding young people from 50 schools throughout the Nation came to our Nation's Capital to compete in the national finals of the We the People... The Citizen and the Constitution Program. I am proud to announce that the class from Caesar Rodney High School in Camden represented Delaware. These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals by winning local competitions in their home State.

The distinguished members of the team representing Delaware are: Nick Amalfitano, Mark Balfantz, Sondra Bell, Pauletta Brown, Jennifer Cajthum, Allison Chippie, Will Cordeiro, Blair Craven, Ryan Dixon, John Dodd, Tom Dodd, Lee Dunham, Shannan Foskey, Joy Ginter, Ron Hartnett, Kristie Hertz, Bonny Hodges, Jason Hutchins, Nikki McBride, Sean McGinty, Peter Morisseau, Tim Rudis, Dan Schoettinger, Andrew Towle, Jennifer VanHorn, Matt Walsh, and Jeff Whisler.

I would also like to recognize their teacher, Bill Windett, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the team. The district coordinator, Diane Courtney, and the State coordinator, Lewis E. Huffman, also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the team reach the national finals.

The We the People... The Citizen and the Constitution Program, supported and funded by Congress, is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The 3-day national competition simulates a congressional hearing in which students' oral presentations are judged on the basis of their knowledge of constitutional principles and their ability to apply them to historical and contemporary issues.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People... program, now in its eighth academic year, has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle, and high school levels for more than 60,000 teachers, 22,000 schools, and 22 million students nationwide.

The We the People... program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective about the history and principles of our Nation's constitutional government. I wish these young constitutional experts the best of luck and look forward to their future participation in politics and government. Congratulations again to the team from Caesar Rodney High School of Camden, DE.

A TRIBUTE TO P.S. 230, THE RECIPIENT OF THE STATE-WIDE TITLE 1 AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND ACHIEVEMENT

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate P.S. 230 as the recipient of the Title 1 Distinguished School Award—one of the highest honors given to a New York school for their demonstrated commitment to academic excellence. The administrators and teachers of P.S. 230 have been dully recognized for their hard work in exceeding the State's standard performance level in both reading and mathematics. Almost every grade level has earned above-average scores in reading. I am particularly impressed by the specialized instruction and attention given to third graders, as they have successfully learned how to read at the sixth level. When recognized these results, it is no wonder that P.S. 230 has been selected for the Title 1 Distinguished School Award.

I am especially honored to pay tribute to the teachers and administrators of P.S. 230 for providing a solid academic base for each student. The entire student body is as culturally and ethnically diverse as New York, which has often created a unique set of hurdles for many elementary school teachers whose primary job is to provide basic reading and communication skills. Yet, P.S. 230 has established a nurturing environment in which to learn, ensuring the future success of every student. As a parent whose daughter is currently enrolled at P.S. 230, I am extremely proud of the entire faculty and PTA for enabling each child to receive a worthwhile learning experience that will stay with them their entire lives. I hope the families and supporters of P.S. 230 will continue its legacy in educational achievement for future generations.

TRIBUTE TO LOWANDA EMMONS DEEGAN

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, we all have extraordinary people in our districts, but there is one incredible lady in the 22nd District of New York who stands apart.

Her name is Lowanda Emmons Deegan, and she is 90 years young. Last Sunday, she received her bachelors degree from the State University at Albany. In other words, Mr. Speaker, she was 68 years old when most of her fellow graduates were born. She truly earned the right to lead the graduation procession.

Lowanda Emmons Deegan could say, as the song goes, "I did it my way." She took

one course a semester for the last 20 years. In recent years, since a fall injured her knee, she has had some trouble getting around and has done much of her studying over the phone.

But that's been one of the few concessions she had made to her age. In fact, the remarkable thing about her, as far as I'm concerned, is her attitude. She is truly young at heart, and spends her time dwelling on the future, not on the past.

It isn't though her past isn't interesting, Mr. Speaker. She graduated from high school in the early 1920's, finished fifth in the "Miss Schenectady" contest shortly after graduation, and then worked in a number of positions until retiring in 1975. She was a social worker during the Depression, a switchboard operator and accountant for General Electric Co., and, finally, a clerk at the New York State Library. Her husband and only son are both deceased.

She was determined to make the most of those retirement years. She remembered getting good grades in writing projects in high school, so she began writing a family story titled "Susie's Chronicles," named for her grandmother, Susie Emmons. Her ancestors included some of New York State's earliest settlers. Her English teachers have been impressed by the first drafts of the book, and have expressed confidence that the book will find a publisher. I'm looking forward to its publication, and I'm sure it will be popular with the general reading public.

Lowanda Emmons Deegan reads two newspapers a day and often writes to me about issues of interest to older Americans.

Mr. Speaker, her attitude is what has made this the greatest country on Earth. Many people stop trying to improve themselves after a certain age and settle into a comfortable routine. She has not, and her story is an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and this entire body to rise with me in tribute to an extraordinary lady and great American, Lowanda Emmons Deegan of Ballston Lake, NY, on the occasion of her long-awaited graduation from college.

HONORING THE ALLONS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Allons Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire-fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

A TRIBUTE TO JACK MERELMAN

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jack Merelman. Mr. Merelman is retiring from his position as director of Federal Research Membership Services to the California Counties Foundation.

Jack Merelman was raised in our Nation's capital, served in the U.S. Army and attended the University of Maryland for his bachelor and law degrees. He embarked on his public service career in 1953 when he joined the staff of the Organization of City Attorneys. In 1958, he became the general counsel for the National Association of Counties.

Mr. Merelman has participated in the development of major program policies in Sacramento and Washington, DC. He was legal counsel for the County Supervisors Association of California and the director of legislation for the National Association of Counties in Washington, DC. The California State Association of Counties engaged his service as both executive director and Washington representative, through which he received the California State Association of Counties President's Award.

Jack Merelman is closing a career of public service that spans five decades. His many accomplishments are to be commended, and best wishes extended for a rewarding and gratifying retirement.

EXCELLENCE IN ARTS EDUCATION—A LEGACY OF INTEGRATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to be able to add my congratulations for the recent naming of Dallas' Booker T. Washington High School

for the Performing and Visual Arts as a "Blue Ribbon" school. In addition to the "Blue Ribbon" designation, this special school has also received national acclaim as a prototype for subsequent magnet schools through the United States.

The Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts was created about 20 years ago, as a result of a court order mandating that the Dallas schools desegregate and the realization by the Dallas Independent School District of the specific need to educate gifted artists with both the potential and aspiration for careers in the arts. Located in the Dallas Arts District, near the heart of the city, the magnet school attracts students from throughout the metropolitan Dallas area. The multiethnic student body includes approximately 650 students in grades 9 through 12. The instructional staff consists of 54 teachers. Approximately 88 percent of the faculty have more than 10 years of teaching experience while more than 83 percent have advanced degrees. The school is accredited by the Texas Education Agency and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The arts school was created to provide a program of excellence in the arts which meets the needs of the students and the community. Intensive training in the performing or visual arts allows students to explore the demands of an artistic career. A rigorous academic program offers all courses required for the State's three graduation plans. Students are selected through audition, interview, portfolio, or other demonstration of artistic aptitude.

Congratulations to the Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas on the 20-year evolution of a great idea.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 178) establishing the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for fiscal year 1997 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002:

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong opposition to House Concurrent Resolution 178, the Fiscal Year 1997 Republican Budget Resolution. The American people must clearly understand that the Republicans' Fiscal Year 1997 Budget Resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 178, which eliminates 130 programs and the Department of Commerce and the Department of Energy, is a continuation of their attack on the most vulnerable among us, children, seniors, veterans, and hard working families across the country.

My colleagues on the other side of the aisle have decided to ignore the message of the American people to protect the quality of life, to protect the environment, and to protect education.

Instead, they have intensified their attack on those in the dawn of life, our children and those in the twilight of life our seniors. Programs and services that are critical to helping to ensure a reasonable quality of life for the most vulnerable are being gutted, once again, so that the GOP can give a tax cut to the wealthy.

Medicare is cut \$158 billion threatening access to quality health care for millions of seniors. Provisions that were designed to help control the escalating cost of health care services for seniors are being repealed. Medicaid is cut \$72 billion. Poor children, disabled persons, and low-income seniors are at risk of losing their health care coverage. Medicaid is converted to a block grant, and States are left to determine eligibility, and the duration and scope of health services to be provided. In addition, State funding match requirements are reduced.

By cutting over \$4 billion from financial aid, the Republican budget reduces the opportunity for hard working families to help their children get a college education. In addition to eliminating, student aid funding provided by the State incentive grant program, and fellowships and scholarships, the direct lending program is also eliminated.

By dramatically cutting funding for housing and the earned income tax credit, the Republican budget will make it increasingly difficult for low-income hard working families to make ends meet. These families are already struggling, the added burden could destroy them.

Banking and housing programs are cut \$5.3 billion. Welfare-related programs are cut \$53 billion and converted to a block grant. The job opportunities and basic skills program and the child care services program are among the programs slated for elimination.

Mr. Chairman, the Republican budget threatens the stability of families across the country. Families do not want a handout, all they need, from time to time, is a helping hand to help them get back on their feet.

Mr. Chairman, these GOP budget tactics and misplaced priorities should come as no surprise to the American people. The Republicans touted last year that if they did not get the cuts in funding that they needed in the fiscal year 1996 budget, to give a \$245 billion tax cut to the rich, the crown jewel in the GOP's Contract With America, they would shut the Government down. And, as each of us recalls, they did just that, our Republican colleagues held the American people hostage, shut the Government down, and denied them access to critical services. That GOP tantrum cost the American people \$1.5 billion, and it needlessly increased the deficit.

The GOP touted last year that if they did not get the cuts they wanted in fiscal year 1996, they would cut programs and services further in fiscal year 1997, and they are doing just that. You may also recall that our Republican colleagues emphasized throughout the fiscal year 1996 appropriations process, that the fiscal year 1996 cuts were just a downpayment on their budget gutting mission to give a tax cut to the rich.

This outrageous fiscal year 1997 budget is extremely harmful to America's families and citizens, no one is safe from the tre-

mendous pain and suffering that would result if this measure is passed.

Mr. Chairman, on behalf of our Nation's children, working families, veterans, and seniors, this bill must be defeated. I ask my colleagues to join me in voting no, on House Concurrent Resolution 178.

HONORING THE ALGOOD
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Algood Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

HEROISM IS ALIVE AND WELL

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I've got some good news for you, and for all of America.

Heroism is alive and well and, I'm proud to say, it's alive and well in my own hometown of Queensbury, NY.

Mrs. Cecilia L. Parker of Meadowbrook Road, a few miles north of my own street, is alive today because of the heroism of two neighbors, Jenny Lortz, and high school student Theodore "Ted" Turner III.

Last month, the Parker car burst into flames in her carport. Neighbor Jenny Lortz, alerted by a daughter, dialed 911 and ran to investigate. Across the street, the young Turner saw the flames and ran to the house. He and Lortz determined that Mrs. Parker was inside the house. With the noise from exploding car tires in his ears, Turner kicked in a back door and pulled a stunned Mrs. Parker out of her chair and through the smoke to safety.

Witnesses said that a few minutes later it would have been too late.

Mr. Speaker, it's all too easy to fall into the trap of thinking that all kids these days are ill-mannered brats, but that is obviously far from the truth. A grateful Mrs. Parker later remembered young Turner as the good kid across the street who used to help her with chores. But let us acknowledge, Mr. Speaker, that Ted Turner III is not a "kid" but a young man already assuming his duties as a responsible citizen and neighbor. We find such heroes in neighborhoods in towns and villages and cities all over America, and it's what makes this the great country what it is.

Let us also, Mr. Speaker, acknowledge the quick thinking of Jenny Lortz, who first called 911, and joined Turner both in his rescue and later in staying with Mrs. Parker as Queensbury Central, my old volunteer company, put out the flames.

Mrs. Parker, I might add, used to work for my father's store, M. Solomon's, in Queensbury, and I certainly am glad she survived this ordeal.

We have two heroes to thank for that, Mr. Speaker, so let us rise in tribute to those two fine Americans, Theodore Turner III and Jenny Lortz of Queensbury, NY.

A TRIBUTE TO EVAN HALE

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend Evan Hale. Evan is retiring after nearly 40 years of professional and civic service in various agricultural related positions.

Growing up on a farm near Pocatello, ID, instilled in Evan an understanding and sincere commitment to agriculture at an early age. In 1959, he became Director of Communications for the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation and then served as Secretary of the Board and Treasurer of the affiliated Farm Bureau Insurance Company.

Evan continued his public service to the agricultural community as executive assistant to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Earl Butz and served as chief of staff of the U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA] in the 1970's. While at USDA, Evan also acted as liaison to farm organizations, Congress, the White House and foreign embassies. He worked with a number of foreign trade missions, including six countries behind the iron curtain.

Currently, Evan is President of the Western Water District Farm Credit Council and Vice President of Legislative Affairs for the Western Farm Credit Bank. He will be retiring at the end of this month, and he and his wife Audrey plan to move closer to their children and grandchildren. I commend Evan on his successful career and thank him for his dedicated public service. I wish my friend a rewarding and gratifying retirement.

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL WINS
REDBOOK DISTINCTION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a great school in the heart of Dallas as the recipient of a recent award for unparalleled excellence. The Lincoln Humanities/Communications Magnet High School recently received the distinction of being a "Redbook" school for overall excellence, and it is a well deserved honor for a school which has worked hard to improve and excel in education. Lincoln attracts students from all parts of Dallas and surrounding communities despite being in the center of the city.

Many times I have visited Lincoln High School and each time I see the excitement on the students' faces as they study and participate in the learning process. The teachers and administrators are equally inspired as they instruct and counsel the students. Under the direction of Dr. Napoleon B. Lewis, Sr., the principal, this unique high school has outshone other schools in academics, the arts, music, and sports.

Lincoln Humanities/Communications Magnet High School opened as Lincoln High School in January 1939. The school was built to serve Dallas' black children in the South, East, and Oak Cliff communities of the city. Recently, Lincoln High School has lived up to its commitment to students in the areas of communications and humanities with impressive showings in the National Merit and National Achievement Scholarship Program.

The Redbook award for unparalleled excellence is another feather in Lincoln High School's cap, and it will give them even more incentive to continue to offer the best education in the arts, music, and humanities for students all over the Metroplex. Congratulations Lincoln High School. Keep up the great work.

HONORING THE ALMAVILLE
VOLUNTEER DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Almadale Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro

where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON
THE BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 1996

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 178) establishing the congressional budget for the U.S. Government for fiscal year 1997 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002:

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of the Congressional Black Caucus and Progressive Caucus substitute budget for fiscal year 1997. This alternative reflects the vision of a caring majority. Unlike the Republican majority budget which dramatically threatens the health of millions of Americans, the CBC and Progressive Caucus' substitute protects the health of those in the dawn of life, our children, and those in the twilight of life, our seniors.

The Republican measure continues their assault on the health of the weakest among us by gutting \$158 billion from Medicare, gutting \$72 billion from Medicaid, forcing seniors to pay more for less health care, denying health care services to children aged 13 to 18, and eliminating the guarantee of coverage for all low-income seniors who cannot afford Medicare. The list of pain and suffering goes on and on.

Mr. Chairman, the Congressional Black Caucus and Progressive Caucus alternative budget overturns the assault on the health of the American people, while also balancing the budget. The CBC budget increases funding for the program authorized under the Disadvantaged Minority Health Improvement Act in an effort to ensure an adequate supply of health care professionals in medically underserved areas; provides the resources necessary to adequately address the toxic waste disposal problem as outlined in the Environmental Justice Act and provides funding for historically black colleges' hospitals which have traditionally provided health care services for disadvantaged populations. To further progress in addressing the Nation's substance abuse problem, the measure increases funding to provide for a more comprehensive substance abuse treatment and prevention initiative.

With respect to Medicare and Medicaid the Congressional Black Caucus and Progressive Caucus substitute ensures that current coverage of Medicaid and Medicare is preserved and strengthened. All savings generated from

these programs are reinvested into strengthening these critical health care programs, not destroying them.

To ensure continued improvements in the health of the American people, the measure also retains strong support for funding initiatives to further advances in the early detection, diagnosis, and prevention of disorders and diseases, from cancer, to diabetes, to aids, by enhancing funding for the Centers for Disease Control and the National Institutes of Health.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on the Congressional Black Caucus and Progressive Caucus caring budget. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this substitute budget which strengthens the Nation's fiscal policy and priorities in a responsible and compassionate manner.

A TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JOHN F. INGRO

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, after 20 years of distinguished service for the State of California, the Honorable John F. Ingro is retiring. His dedication and tireless commitment to the pursuit of justice as a San Bernardino Superior Court Judge has been well regarded and appreciated. Not only has the Honorable John F. Ingro served admirably as a judge, but also as an outstanding member of his community. With his involvement on the board of directors of various community organizations, Judge Ingro has become a valued asset to the San Bernardino area.

Judge Ingro first began his career in law after receiving his doctor of jurisprudence degree from the University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, in 1959. Upon receiving his degree, Mr. Ingro was subsequently admitted to the California State Bar in 1960. From 1960 to 1964, he served as deputy district attorney for the County of San Bernardino, and then as a deputy public defender for the county from 1964 to 1965.

After his brief tenure for the county, Judge Ingro maintained a private law practice for 9 years. On May 6, 1976, he was appointed to the San Bernardino Superior Court by Governor Edmund G. Brown. Following his appointment, Mr. Ingro was reelected for three consecutive terms, in 1978, 1984, and 1990.

His service to the county of San Bernardino will be missed, and I wish the Honorable John F. Ingro a prosperous and happy retirement.

WELFARE REFORM

HON. TIM JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, President Clinton delivered a speech which I believe significantly advances the national debate over reforming our welfare system.

The President applauded and endorsed the general idea behind the welfare reform plans

in the States of Wisconsin and Maryland. In doing so, the President has, in his own words, given "us hope that we can break the vicious cycle of welfare dependency."

I'm heartened by this move and the clear evidence that the White House, Congress, and the States are finally coming together on the best possible way to take people off the national dole and put them to work at the same time strengthening families and protecting innocent children.

Most of us agree that the Federal Government still has an indispensable role to play in the welfare system by setting guidelines that ensure able-bodied citizens work for their checks and that children are fed, clothed, and cared for while their parents are on the job.

But most of us also agree that it makes good fiscal and common sense to give the States and their Governors greater flexibility and incentives to find the most effective and efficient local solutions to problems in the welfare system.

I've long supported reforming our welfare system in a way that promotes work, protects children, and empowers States. That's why I'm so encouraged by the initiative of States like Maryland and Wisconsin and the President's approval of welfare system waivers for 38 States—including one for my home State of South Dakota.

States are demonstrating that we can move forward in reforming our welfare system without too heavy a hand from the Federal Government. Their ingenuity should be praised and their plan should be used as an example for all of us to finally come together and find a sensible, effective approach to taking care of our kids, putting people to work, and moving Americans out of poverty.

If we put our children first and partisan politics aside, I believe we can do this.

HONORING THE CORNERSVILLE
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Cornersville Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their services and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO LESTER RIGGINS

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, we rise before you today to pay tribute to Mr. Lester Riggins of Sacramento who is retiring after an outstanding career of more than 40 years as a manager, educator, administrator, entrepreneur, community, and political activist and serviceman in the U.S. Air Force.

Mr. Riggins was born in Marshall, TX and moved with his family to Fresno, CA at the age of 8. In his early academic career, he strived for excellent grades in preparation for college and pursued a number of sports, as well as success in the California Cadet Corp., where he rose to the rank of First Sergeant.

In 1946, Mr. Riggins joined the U.S. Army and served for almost 2 years, earning the rank of Buck Sergeant and obtaining 4 years of education through the GI bill. He then returned to Fresno, enrolling at Fresno State College, where he played football on scholarship and completed his AF ROTC. He graduated from Fresno State College in 1951 with a BA in history and earned awards for outstanding AF ROTC cadet, three varsity letters, a Blue Key Honor Society scholarship, Phi Gamma Mu and listing in Who's Who in College, 1951.

Shortly after graduating, he was called to active duty during the Korean war, serving from 1951 to 1971 in a number of assignments which took him throughout Asia, Europe, and the United States. During this period of service, he earned a number of medals and awards and pursued his academic interests, earning an MBA from Indiana University and a masters in science, counseling, and psychology from DC University, he has since completed all course work for DPA at the University of Southern California.

After leaving the military, Mr. Riggins became active in politics, community activism, and civic interests. Professionally, he settled at California State University in Fresno where as Assistant Professor, he served as chairman of the black studies program, increasing enrollment from 200 to over 2,000 students. In 1976, he was appointed by Governor Jerry Brown as Chief Deputy Director of the Department of General Services for the State of California. There, he was responsible for over 5,000 employees and a budget exceeding \$50 million. In 1983, he left the State and founded California Matrix, Inc., a consulting firm.

He later served for 1 year as director of youth training program for IMPACT, a California National Guard program in Modesto, CA. In 1985, he took a position as counselor/night administrator at the Grant Skills Center of the Grant Join Union High School district. In this capacity, he provides counseling services and resources to the more than 1,000 students attending each semester.

Apart from his professional careers in the USAF and in education, Mr. Riggins has distinguished himself as a consummate activist

devoting outstanding service to a number of organizations including the National Education Association, California Teachers' Association, NAACP, Urban League and the Retired Officers Association. In addition, he has served a number of local organizations including the Sacramento City Civil Service Board, the Harry S Truman Club, the Sacramento City Affirmative Action Committee, and the California Conference on the Black Family.

Mr. Speaker, we ask our colleagues to join us in recognizing the great spirit of this committed individual and in wishing him many years of continued success, happiness, and prosperity of his retirement.

SALUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY VICTORY IN THE NCAA FINAL FOUR

HON. SCOTTY BAESLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. BAESLER. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the great State of Kentucky, it is my honor and privilege to rise to salute the University of Kentucky basketball team. As you are aware, the U.K. Wildcats are the 1996 National champions in college basketball. Yesterday, May 20, they were the toast of Washington and feted at the White House.

The University of Kentucky seized the NCAA crown with a combination of speed, defensive prowess, unparalleled depth, 3 point accuracy, team cohesiveness, and its unblinking poise under incredible pressure.

The victory in this year's tournament represents the sixth time the University of Kentucky has won the top honor in the NCAA basketball tournament. This season also puts Kentucky back on top with the most all time wins in the annals of college basketball.

It has often been said that basketball is a religion in the State of Kentucky. The skeptics were scarce in the state from the moment the team laced up its sneakers for the first time this past season.

Our fans had good reason to dare to dream. The Wildcats were placed on the top of many preseason polls and during the season, they vanquished many opposing teams by more than 20 points. The Big Blue team came through, and fulfilled the hoop dreams of Wildcat fans, young and old, during the NCAA Final Four.

I encourage my colleagues to join me in saluting coach Rick Pitino, the members of the U.K. team, both individually and collective, the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the fans of U.K. basketball everywhere.

1996 AAA SCHOOL SAFETY PATROL LIFESAVING MEDAL

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce to the House today the names of the three youngsters who are winners of the 1996 American Automobile Association Lifesaving Medal.

This is the highest award given to members of school safety patrols throughout the United States. It is presented to students who, while on duty, took heroic lifesaving actions to save the life of a fellow student from imminent danger.

One of the young people being honored today is William "Willy" D. Mace, 10, who is from my district. Willy is a safety patrol member at Borland Elementary School, located in Canonsburg, PA.

The other winners are Shane Lee, 11, of Cherry Run Elementary School in Burke, VA, and Esther Daniel, 11, of Trapnell Elementary School in Plant City, FL.

Willy Mace, the young man from my district, was on his safety patrol job just 2 days last September when an emergency situation arose. Out of the corner of his eye, Willy spotted a Rambunctious 6-year-old dashing out into traffic to greet his father and brother who were standing across the street.

Willy noticed a fast approaching car and screamed at the little boy to stop. Willy raced after the boy and, fortunately, grabbed the 6-year-old and pulled him back out of the path of the on-coming car. The driver slammed on his brakes, narrowly missing the boys.

Being the father of four children and the grandfather of six, I can almost hear the sighs of relief. Willy was an instant hero!

Shane Lee also took heroic action, this time to save a 6-year-old boy who had darted back to a stopped school bus last October and was laying down in the road in front of one of the bus's front tires. It was unclear what the child was doing, but Shane, who was in charge of rear patrol for the bus, suddenly saw the child's legs, ran to the front of the bus and pulled the little boy back over the curb just as the bus was starting to move forward. Needless to say, the bus driver was very startled to suddenly see two faces pop up on the side of the bus and quickly stopped.

It was a dark, rainy morning last October in Plant City, FL when Esther Daniel quickly recognized danger and raced to save a 5-year-old girl. The little girl, who had just left her bus, suddenly started crying. Thinking she had left her backpack on the bus, the little girl abruptly turned around and ran after the bus which by this time was about ready to turn back onto a main road. Thankfully, Esther chased the little girl and caught her and held her back just before the child reached the bus's rear wheel. Again thank goodness for clear-thinking safety patrol students!

I also want to take a moment to thank the American Automobile Association for honoring these outstanding safety patrol members.

In the 1920's AAA began organizing safety patrol programs whereby older students assist younger students with crossing streets to and from school. Today, more than 500,000 students across the country serve as AAA safety patrol volunteers and more than 50,000 schools have safety patrols.

AAA supplies training materials, belts, badges and other items needed to operate the safety patrol programs. Importantly, AAA promotes and recognizes patrol efforts each year through a series of awards, newsletters, summer camps, and scholarships.

On behalf of my colleagues, and parents all across the country, I want to thank AAA for its work in helping to keep our youngsters a little safer on their way to and from school.

I am very proud of Willy, Shane, and Esther and know their parents and communities are also very pleased that three young people

showed the courage necessary to save another's life. God bless each of you.

HONORING THE CHAPEL HILL
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Chapel Hill Volunteer Fire De-

partment. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming

a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee fire training school in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.