

rise and pay tribute to the Flanders Elementary School in celebration of 30 years of unwavering service and dedication to the children and families of Southington, CT. The school's commitment to the education and well-being of children is worthy of distinction.

On May 2, 1997, the Flanders Elementary School celebrated its 30th anniversary in its current building. The school, its students, their parents and the Flanders School PTA celebrated this joyous occasion and I am proud to recognize their achievement.

For the past 30 years, the faculty of the Flanders Elementary School have excelled in their efforts to educate the children of Southington, CT. They have helped to create a foundation of learning that will stay with the children throughout their lives. It is a testament to the enduring values of education and 30 years have passed and the school has not wavered from its original mission. The teachers have forged ahead with the same commitment and dedication as when the school was founded. They deserve our appreciation and admiration, for it is the continuing success of their students that makes us all proud. I would like to commend the Flanders Elementary School for its service and wish it continued success in the years to come.

HONORING HEBRON VOLUNTEER
FIRE COMPANY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, this is a very special year for the Hebron Volunteer Fire Company in the southern part of Washington County in upstate New York.

Earlier this year, the company celebrated its 50th anniversary. On August 29, the Hebron Fireman's Auxiliary will celebrate its own 20th anniversary.

Mr. Speaker, I'm an old volunteer firefighter myself, having served with Queensbury Central in my hometown for 20 years. Volunteer firefighters are special people to me. In my rural areas like ours, they save countless lives and billions of dollars worth of property every year. They're increasingly well-trained and dedicated to the protection of their neighbors. They come from all walks of life, and make many sacrifices and run many risks. This, Mr. Speaker, is the American spirit of voluntarism at its finest.

And the Hebron Volunteer Fire Company is typical in this regard. I've had a chance to meet many of their members, and they are real heroes. So are the women involved in the auxiliary, who offer vital support in a number of ways. Under the leadership of Alice Coldwell, auxiliary president, working closely with fire company president David Getty, the people of Hebron continue to be well-served.

Mr. Speaker, today let us rise to wish both the firefighters and auxiliary of Hebron a happy anniversary and many more years of outstanding service.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH E. SCOTT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kenneth E. Scott, a Kiowa, CO, rancher and farmer who made many contributions to his community before passing away at the age of 93.

Ken was born in Missouri and came to Colorado as a young man where he met and married Lyndall Deming. They ranched and farmed on Comanche Creek for over 50 years, raised their four children there and also ran a family owned truck company.

Ken took a lifetime interest in education and served on the local school board. He was vice president of the Elbert County Historical Society and was very active in agriculture organizations. He was a member of the Comanche Creek Grange, the Elbert County and Colorado Farm Bureaus, the Elbert County Livestock Association, Colorado Cattlemens Association, and the Wheat Growers Association.

Additionally, Ken cared very much about this great country and its politics. Because he believed in protecting the many freedoms Americans enjoy, he became actively involved in the Republican Party and served as Elbert County chairman for more than 20 years. He worked tirelessly to elect good people who would protect those freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to this very hardworking, humble man who gave so much to his family, the many friends he made over the years, and the community in which he lived. He embodied the true American spirit.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE LINTON
LEWIS AS A HERO

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. NEY Mr. Speaker, in a historic decision, the Ohio Supreme Court recently upheld the Perry County court case in which Perry County common pleas judge, Linton Lewis, ruled that Ohio's current education financing system is unconstitutional due to the inequity of funding between wealthy and poor school districts.

The court gave the Ohio General Assembly 1 year to enact a better and constitutional system of providing funding for public schools. The court also gave Judge Lewis responsibility for, and veto power over, the final legislative product. Judge Lewis did not ask for the job he was assigned and the State's top judges anticipated the criticism he would receive. In his concurring opinion, Justice Andrew Douglas praised Lewis for the magnificent job he did handling the case and credited him with being "unswayed by partisan interests, public clamor, or fear of criticism."

Mr. Speaker, I have a long personal history of supporting the Perry County court case, and I am extremely pleased with the Ohio Supreme Court's ruling upholding Judge Lewis' decision. However, after reading what some news sources from Ohio had to say about the ruling, it is obvious that not everyone agrees

on the court's decision or the school funding issue. One news source stated that "education policy for 11 million Ohio residents will be dictated in a rural fly speck on the State map—by a county judge who answers to less than one-thousandth of our population."

Mr. Speaker, I take strong exception to these comments. Ohio's children from poorer areas in the State deserve the same educational opportunities as the children in wealthier school districts, and it is about time that Ohio address the inequities that exist in the current school funding formula. This formula was challenged by a student in Perry County who was forced to sit on the floor to take a test because his school could not afford enough chairs for all of its students. There was an elementary school which is in my district that did not have running water. For the longest period of time, the students had to walk across the street to a gas station when they needed to use the restroom.

This list of funding inequities could go on. When you have a situation where children in wealthy school districts receive up to three times as much funding for education as those in poor school districts, something needs to be done to rectify the situation, and I applaud Judge Lewis and the supreme court's courage in making this ruling and standing by Ohio's less fortunate children.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I firmly believe that Judge Linton Lewis is a hero for Ohio's schoolchildren and should, therefore, be recognized by the U.S. House of Representatives for his heroic stance on behalf of Ohio's children.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JON CHRISTENSEN

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 1997

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 102, a Jackson amendment to H.R. 2. Had I been present, I would have voted "no," and I would like the record to show that I would have voted against the amendment.

PROGRESS REPORT ON WOMEN'S
HEALTH

SPEECH OF

MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 1997

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I would first like to thank Representative CONNIE MORELLA, Representative LOUISE SLAUGHTER, and the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues for holding this special order on women's health and for raising the awareness of women's health issues through the past 20 years.

I also come to you today to address issues of great concern to me as a husband, father of two sons and two daughters, concerned citizen, and diligent representative of east Texans. We have made tremendous strides in the area of women's health this century, but we have far to go. Women's health is more vulnerable than men's health for a number of