

holds a master's degree in learning disabilities from Fairleigh Dickinson University, where she graduated summa cum laude. She has taken graduate courses at William Paterson College, Syracuse University, the University of Auckland and Adelphia University. She has attended lectures, workshops and other special programs at Harvard and Yale universities.

Recognizing the need to prepare others to carry on after her retirement, Cathy has been active in sharing her knowledge with fellow and future educators through a variety of forums. For more than a dozen years, she has served on panels at the annual Renaissance Weekend Program in Hilton Head, SC, including the landmark "A Nation at Risk" panel with president Clinton. She has spoken at Columbia University, the State University of New York, and before the New Jersey Kindergarten Teachers Association, to name a few. She has led countless staff development programs in the Ridgewood school system and in other school systems as well. She is the author of *The Wonderful World of Kindergarten: A Handbook for Parents and Connections, Problem Solving and Thinking Skills for Young Children*.

Cathy has been the recipient of a large number of awards and honors, including the Governor's Award for Outstanding Teachers. She was chosen as a member of the President's National Teachers Advisory Council during the Reagan administration.

Throughout her years of innovative teaching, Cathy was always looking ahead to keep education contemporary and relevant to the current needs of families and the community—she was a true pioneer.

Recognizing the changing responsibilities that challenged working families and putting her knowledge of the developmental needs of children to use, Cathy in 1982 founded New Jersey's first child care program for infants and toddlers. In partnership with Valley Hospital, this school-based program was open to workers in the local community. Cathy staffed the facility with highly qualified personnel trained to serve the needs of children from the earliest months of life. This was not merely "custodial" child care. This was an early childhood education center before most communities were aware of these innovational needs and long before the Federal Government adopted Early Start as an adjunct to the much-heralded and well-established Head Start.

Recently, extensive documentation has been advanced by the National Institute of Mental Health and other research centers that proves the importance of proper care and development during early childhood. Proper nurturing during the first few months can improve IQ and academic performance later, for example. Positive playtime activities lead to an improved ability to make friends and function socially as an adult.

So you can see why I call Cathy not only a role model for American educators but "an educator for all seasons."

Cathy and her husband, Ben, make their home in Ridgewood. They have a loving and close-knit family that includes their children, Michael, Christopher, and Stephen, and grandchildren, Mitchell and Katherine.

Members of the Ridgewood school system staff, members of the community and count-

less former students and their parents all have fond memories and are deeply indebted to the dedication of this outstanding educator. I wish her much-deserved health and happiness in her retirement. But, knowing Cathy's inquiring mind and sense of dedication to children, I doubt that this will be a true retirement. I am certain she will continue to find ways to serve children and make our world a better place for all.

STATEMENT OF THE HON. EARL POMEROY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 84

HON. JOHN R. KASICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 1997

Mr. KASICH. Mr. Speaker, I am submitting the views of Representative EARL POMEROY for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Representative POMEROY submitted his views in a timely manner and in accordance with the provisions of House Rule XI, clause 2(l)(5). Unfortunately, the Government Printing Office inadvertently omitted his name from the views that he submitted, which were printed on page 123 of House Report 105-100, the report to accompany House Concurrent Resolution 84. To remedy this oversight, the views of Representative POMEROY are submitted for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

THE HONORABLE EARL POMEROY FISCAL YEAR 1998 CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET RESOLUTION ADDITIONAL VIEWS—MAY 17, 1997

I want to commend the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee for their outstanding efforts in forging this bipartisan balanced budget agreement. I am pleased to support this agreement that balances the federal budget in five years while protecting important national priorities including the education of our children and quality health care for our senior citizens. Importantly, the agreement also provides tax relief for middle income working families.

While I support this budget resolution, I am seriously concerned about the lack of funding allocated to the discretionary account for agriculture, function 350. The resolution assumes a cut of \$1.4 billion below a freeze for agriculture over the next five years. Without adjusting for inflation, agriculture spending will be \$400 million lower in 2002 than in 1997. In real dollar terms, discretionary funds for agriculture will be cut by more than 22 percent under this budget agreement. Unfortunately, several additional factors will constrain agriculture investment even further.

In 1994, Congress enacted sweeping reforms of the federal crop insurance program by providing catastrophic crop failure coverage to all producers and deleting the authority for congressional provision of ad hoc disaster assistance. As part of this crop insurance agreement, the federal reimbursement to private companies for the sales and service of crop insurance was to be provided for three years from the crop insurance fund, a mandatory expenditure account in the federal budget. Previously, half of the reimbursement had been provided in the agriculture appropriations bill as a discretionary expenditure.

Under the 1994 agreement, provision of the traditionally discretionary half of the deliv-

ery cost reimbursement was to be resumed by the Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee in the 1998 appropriations bill. The problem we now face is that the Congressional Budget Office baseline contains no projection for this delivery cost reimbursement because it was not provided in the 1997 appropriations act.

The Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee is further burdened in 1998 with requirements to offset \$350 million of expenditures in the food stamp program that was displaced by prior enactment of last year's welfare reform bill. In addition, there is an expectation that \$375 million more will be required for the WIC program.

Adding together the \$350 million for foods stamps, \$375 million for WIC and \$200 million needed to provide the sales and service of crop insurance, the Agriculture Subcommittee is expected to be \$900 million over their 1997 allocation, which would be the basis for establishing the 1998 allocation. To reflect the 1994 crop insurance agreement, the discretionary expenditure in function 350 would have to be increased by \$200 million in FY98 and by \$1.1 billion through FY02.

Agriculture programs have already been reduced more than any other function of government. I would like to remind my colleagues that American agriculture provides this nation with the safest, most abundant, and most affordable food supply in the world. In addition, agriculture exports contribute more toward a positive trade balance than any other sector of the economy. It is vitally important that we not abandon federal investment in agriculture research, trade and other programs to the detriment of American farmers, consumers and our national economy.

A GREAT PLACE TO CALL HOME

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 5, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to express my congratulations to the residents of a beautiful municipality, the Village of Pinecrest, for its first successful year of incorporation. Over a year ago, on March 12, 1996, the Village of Pinecrest became the 29th municipality of Dade County.

As a result of this anniversary, the Village of Pinecrest is celebrating many firsts this year, including the first anniversary of its first mayor, Mayor Evelyn Greer, and the first meeting of the Pinecrest Village Council. The council members include Cindie Blanck, Barry Blaxberg, Leslie Bowe, and Robert Hingston. In addition, the citizens of the Village of Pinecrest recently inaugurated the Village Hall of Pinecrest.

I was pleased to be a participant in the Founders Day Parade of the Village of Pinecrest on March 15 of this year where I witnessed the pride of the residents of the village, as well as the unity and cooperation that they possess as a community.

My sincerest and deepest congratulations to the Village of Pinecrest, its mayor, village council, and most of all, its residents, for making the village a great place for many to call home.