

Mr. Speaker, an excellent model of a TRIO Program can be found at an institution in my home district. At Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, participants in the Student Support Program have a remarkable track record of success. Their achievements include the following:

95% of all students who receive program services for two consecutive semesters return to school for a third semester.

More than 75% of undergraduates in the Student Support Program had grade point averages at or above 2.5 during the 1997–98 school year.

More than 98% of Student Support Program students who apply for graduation during their junior year graduate.

Statistics are a useful measure of the Student Support Program's success at Western Michigan University. However, stories of students' personal accomplishments in the face of adversity also testify to the program's impact on individuals lives. Consider, for example one shy and uncertain young woman who entered the Student Support Program three years ago as a freshman.

Unfamiliar with the academic world and undecided about her direction, she gradually gained confidence in her own potential and ability. Eventually she was inspired to help other students adjust to the demands of college life by becoming a Peer Mentor in the program. She is now knowledgeable and secure enough to offer others the support she once needed herself. Next year she will graduate with a bachelor's degree in Social Work.

Another bright and promising student in the program struggled with a learning disability that affected the way he processed information. In spite of this, he was determined to earn a degree in business. As he battled on through math and accounting, often repeating courses, his Peer Mentor provided unwavering support and encouragement. This young man overcame countless challenges and, in December 1998, realized his dream when he was awarded a bachelor's degree in business.

Mr. Speaker, thanks to the Student Support Program at Western Michigan University, these two students are examples of the thousands of students in a position to make their best contributions to our society.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES NAVAL RESERVE ON ITS 84TH BIRTHDAY

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the United States Naval Reserve on their 84 years of dedicated service. Comprised of 94,000 men and women, the Naval Reserve is an integral part of the United States military force.

Authorized on March 3, 1915 by the Naval Appropriations Act, the U.S. Naval Reserve is one of the world's largest and most well trained forces. Originally intended to be comprised of former active duty sailors, the Naval Reserve now consists of former officers, former enlisted men and women and volunteers. This gives them their reputation of being the military force that brings the best "Bang for the Buck."

Mr. Speaker, our Naval Reserve brings tremendous contributions to our Armed Services and our Nation. As a former Naval Reserve Officer, it is with great pride that I extend my most heartfelt thanks for their 84 years of dedication and service.

THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH ACCESSIBILITY ACT

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, today, Congressman DAVID PRICE and I are introducing the Congressional Research Accessibility Act to make Congressional Research Service (CRS) products available to the public on the Internet. Senators MCCAIN, LEAHY, LOTT, ABRAHAM, ENZI and ROBB are introducing similar legislation in the Senate.

Under this bill, CRS will post Issue Briefs, Reports, and Authorization and Appropriation products to a centralized web site no earlier than 30 days and no later than 40 days after the information is made available to Members of Congress through the CRS web site. Through a link on their own web pages, Members of Congress and Committees may provide the public with access to the information stored on this centralized site. The 30-day delay will ensure that CRS has carried out its primary statutory duty of informing Congress before making the information available for public release. Also, it will allow CRS to verify that its products are accurate and ready for public release.

The bill requires the Director of CRS to make the information available in a practical and reasonable manner that does not permit the submission of comments to CRS from the public. The Director of CRS is responsible for maintaining and updating the information made available on the centralized site and shall have sole discretion to edit that information for the purposes of removing references to employees of CRS, removing information which may cause copyright infringement and ensuring the information is accurate and current. Members of Congress will still be able to make confidential requests which will not be released to the public.

Congress has worked to make itself more open and accessible to the public. The Congressional Research Accessibility Act will enable us to further engage the public in the legislative process and fulfill one of our missions as legislators to better educate our constituents.

A TRIBUTE TO DENNIS BYDASH, CUYAHOGA COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, Dennis Bydash is proud to note that he has risen from the very bottom of the office of Gerald E. Fuerst, Clerk of Courts, who nominated him for this award, to the very top. Starting in 1972

as a filing clerk, hired for a 90 day period, he has, in almost 27 years, been given 6 promotions and now serves in a key leadership position as the Office Manager of the Civil Division, where he supervises over 100 employees and acts as the liaison between the Clerk's office and the 57 judges who depend on the Clerk's office and the offices of the County Prosecutor, the County Sheriff and the County Auditor.

To Dennis, the most rewarding aspects of his service in the Clerk's office is to see a smile on the face of an individual or to receive a thank you directly or through a letter to Mr. Fuerst. He recognizes that the Justice Center can be cold and intimidating to the average citizen and works hard to see that the Clerk's office helps that average citizen when it can or that it directs the individual to the appropriate office in the justice system.

Dennis is also active in his local community. He has participated in insuring that the Broadway neighborhood received a new fire station. He has served as President of his Ward's Democratic club for 16 of the last 18 years. He has volunteered in many political campaigns from the Congressional to the local level.

Beyond that, Dennis is an avid photographer and student of railroading, with a large collection of memorabilia, including thousands of his own pictures of railroads, some of which have been published. He is happy also to grow vegetables in his garden and can them.

Dennis recalls fondly a 1977 inquiry on the filing of a divorce from a young lawyer during the midst of accusations by some lawyers that the Clerk's office's employees, in helping the public, was practicing law without a license. Despite his fear that the question might be part of that effort, he helped the lawyer, in his own words "in a somewhat hard way." Just over two years later, he and that lawyer, Michael Tyner married, and they recently celebrated their 18th anniversary.

COMMEMORATE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MARCIA YUGEND

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today. Marcia Yugend, a well respected leader in the Twin Cities Jewish community, lost her life February 3, 1999. A native of Little Falls, Minnesota, Yugend was a remarkable community leader who will be missed dearly by many in the Twin Cities' religious communities with whom she worked tirelessly to promote interfaith harmony across the globe.

Yugend founded Feminists in Faith, a group of Jewish, Catholic, Protestant and Muslim women who worked together to promote women's religious issues and interfaith understanding. In 1985, Yugend created the Jewish Women-Palestinian Women Dialogue and later created the Black-Jewish Women's Dialogue. A lifelong student and scholar, Yugend recently received a master's degree in liberal studies from St. Paul's Hamline University. She earned her bachelor's degree from Metropolitan State University.

Yugend was also the first female president of the Jewish Community Relations Council of

Minnesota and the Dakotas. It was during her tenure at the Jewish Community Relations Council that I had the good fortune to work with Marcia. At that time, the Soviet government was actively oppressing people of Jewish faith. Marcia and I worked together to secure the emigration of Soviet Jews and the reunification of families in the Twin Cities. Her spirit and dedication to the cause was truly remarkable.

Shortly after Yugend's passing, the Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu made his first trip to the Twin Cities to inaugurate the first Immortal Chaplains Prize for Humanity. The Humanity prize is given as a living memorial to the Immortal Four Chaplains—a Jewish Rabbi, a Catholic Priest and two Protestant Ministers—who courageously rescued an estimated 230 men from drowning in the sinking of the U.S. Army Transport *Dorchester* during World War II. The Archbishop's historic visit to Twin Cities in celebration of those who have fought to protect others of a different race or religion underlined exactly the type of service and dedication Yugend put forth and could be a fitting tribute to her life and her tireless commitment to promoting interfaith understanding. Although her boundless energy cannot be replaced, her spirit will live on through those she inspired.

Yugend is survived by her husband, Jerome Yugend, daughters Dana Yugend-Pepper of Minneapolis and Julie Yugend-Green of Oak Park, Illinois and five grandchildren.

CELEBRATING THE 81ST ANNIVERSARY OF LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 81st anniversary of the declaration of Lithuanian independence.

For nearly 55 years, Lithuania was occupied by Soviet military forces. But in the past six years, the people of Lithuania have been able to finally enjoy and celebrate the freedoms and privileges of an independent nation.

The United States and Lithuania have now formed a significant partnership between our leaders, our governments, and our people. We have close trade relations with Lithuania. We are mutually committed to the security of the Baltic region.

I believe we can say with great confidence that Lithuania has become a full partner in the effort to build democracy and promote freedom around the world. I am proud to say that Lithuania has "graduated" from the U.S. program to build democracy in Eastern Europe.

I commend the Lithuanian-American community for their perseverance and hope through the many challenging decades. The 81st anniversary of Lithuanian independence was celebrated by the Lithuanian-American community in Southeast Michigan on Sunday, February 7th, at the Lithuanian Cultural Center in Southfield.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Lithuania's independence.

TRIBUTE TO GABRIELLA QUIRINO

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen of Florida's 17th Congressional District, Gabriella Quirino, who has helped hundreds of breast cancer victims in Dade County.

Gabriella Quirino was born in Tunisia, North Africa, in 1941. Miami, Florida, became her home during the mid-1950's. In 1960, she graduated from North Miami High School and furthered her education at Miami Dade Community College.

In 1981, Gabriella was diagnosed with breast cancer and underwent successful surgery. A year later, she became a "reach to recover" volunteer for the American Cancer Society. From that time on, she has devoted her life to helping women cope with the trauma of mastectomies or other breast cancer surgeries. She is a true humanitarian.

Through hard work and dedication, Gabriella Quirino became the coordinator of the county service group, "Volunteers". In this position she helped women in the Miami-North Dade area deal with their mastectomies and other breast surgeries. She has also been the coordinator of another community service group called "Getting Mothers To Volunteer," which is based at St. Rose Lima School, and now serves as president of the parent's council at Archbishop Curley High School.

Gabriella has demonstrated a strong character and has devoted countless hours to the American Cancer Society. She has provided comfort to countless women faced with one of the most traumatic experiences of their lives—breast cancer.

I ask that my colleagues please join with me in acknowledging this outstanding individual.

IN HONOR OF BRENDA SESSIONS COURT OF COMMON PLEAS, PROBATE COURT DIVISION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for over 28 years, couples seeking a license to marry in Cuyahoga County have likely encountered Brenda Sessions, Judge John Donnelly's nominee. Starting as a deputy clerk, Brenda now supervises this important office which, in addition, to issuing marriage licenses, corrects birth records and assists genealogists seeking family documents.

A Cleveland Heights resident and the mother of Myah, she prides herself in following her mother's advice to work hard, be self-sufficient and to help others. She only regrets that her mother failed to teach her how to cook.

Brenda is a life-long member of Morning Star Baptist Church and has been active in many of that church's programs. During her daughter's attendance at Christ the King School, she served on the Parent Executive Board. She enjoys her collection of porcelain elephants (a symbol of good luck), reads, lis-

tens to gospel and jazz music, attends movies and theatrical events, plays racquetball and rides.

Among the many, many marriage license applications Brenda has prepared, with both bride and groom present, she remembers, with amusement, two particular instances. In one, a woman admitted to four prior marriages and denied the Court's apparent record of an additional three marriages. Her groom left, and that couple was never seen again. In another, a rather aged groom, accompanied by a young intended bride, denied the existence of a much earlier marriage which the Court's records revealed, but mysteriously knew the last name of the bride in the earlier marriage, when Brenda had only mentioned the first name.

TO PERMANENTLY EXTEND THE EXCEPTION FROM SUBPART F FOR ACTIVE FINANCING INCOME

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to associate myself with the remarks of my colleague, Mr. MCCRERY. Today, Mr. MCCRERY and I are introducing legislation to permanently extend the exception from subpart F for active financing income earned from overseas business. The growing interdependence of world financial markets has highlighted the need to rationalize U.S. tax rules that undermine the ability of our financial services industry—such as banks, insurance companies, insurance brokers, and securities firms—to compete in the international arena.

The provision permits financial services to act like other U.S. industries doing business abroad and defer tax on the earnings from the active operation of their foreign subsidiaries until such earnings are returned to the United States. The permanent extension of this provision takes an important step towards making the U.S. financial services industry more competitive in international markets.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and to address this issue prior to the expiration of the temporary provision.

TRIBUTE TO LOS ANGELES SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE ROBERT ROBERSON, JR.

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Robert Roberson, Jr. On January 3, 1999, Judge Roberson officially retired from the bench capping an illustrious career spanning more than forty years. On Saturday, February 27, 1999, Robby's family, many friends and colleagues will gather to honor this distinguished Los Angelean at a Retirement Reception and Dinner at the Regal Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. As a long-time friend of Judge Roberson's, it is a particular pleasure to have this opportunity to publicly acknowledge his exemplary contributions to Los Angeles and the judiciary.