

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform their Representative of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In mid-December, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of 2 days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

Last year, the board interviewed over 30 applicants. Nominations included 12 to the Naval Academy, 11 to the Military Academy, 5 to the Air Force Academy, and 2 to the Merchant Marine Academy—the Coast Guard Academy does not use the congressional nomination process. The Board then forwards their recommendations to the academies by January 31, where recruiters review files and notify applicants and my office of their final decisions on admission.

It is both reassuring and rewarding to know that many of our military officers hail from our hometowns or close by. When we consider the role of these officers in peace or war, we can rest easier knowing that the best and brightest are in command. Wherever they are sent, be that Bosnia, Somalia, Haiti or Vietnam, many of these officers have academy training.

And while a few people may question the motivations and ambitions of some young people, the academy review process shows that the large majority of our graduates are just as highly motivated as the generation before them. They still seek guidance from loving parents, dedicated teachers and schools, and from trusted clergy and rabbis. Indeed, every time I visit a school, speak at a college, or meet a young academy nominee, I am constantly reminded that we as a nation are blessed with fine young men and women.

Their willingness and desire to serve their country is perhaps the most persuasive evidence of all.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 1999—11TH
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT NEW JERSEY

AIR FORCE

Donald Cardell, Sparta, Sparta High School; Eric Dekelbaum, Basking Ridge, Ridge High School; Corrie Morris, Landing, Roxbury High School; Matthew Steenman, Mendham, St. Charles Prep; Sarah Willson, Rockaway, Morris Catholic High School.

MERCHANT MARINES

Patricia Larkin, Long Valley, West Morris Central High School; Matthew Sloodmaker, Lincoln Park, Mountain Lakes High School.

MILITARY ACADEMY

Joseph Barchetto, Rockaway, Morris Knolls High School; Jonathan Cozens, Basking Ridge, Ridge High School; Brandon Devlin, Livingston, Livingston High School; Radford Fagan, Basking Ridge, Ridge High School; Bryan Gallagher, Rockaway, Morris Knolls High School; Janet Howson, Madison, Madison High School; Michael Kay, North Caldwell, Newark Academy; Charles Larsen, Hopatcong, Hopatcong High School; Christopher MacDonald, Sterling, Watchung Hills

High School; Peter Steciuk, Convent Station, Oratory Prep; John Jiger, Basking Ridge, Immaculata High School.

NAVAL ACADEMY

John Ascione, Whippany, Whippany Park High School; Guy Budinsak, Jr., Bridgewater, Bridgewater/Raritan High School; Katherine Comer, Basking Ridge, Academy of Saint Elizabeth; Monica Haba, North Caldwell, West Essex High School; Damien Harder, Sparta, Sparta High School; Thomas Kennedy, Pompton Plains, Pequannock High School; Edana Kleinhans, Long Valley, West Morris Central High School; Thomas Mancinelli, Pompton Plains, Pequannock High School; Erin Marshall, Kinnelon, Kinnelon High School; Christopher McFadden, Chatham, Chatham High School; James Poggio, Long Valley, West Morris Central High School; Brian Ritter, Florham Park, Bayley-Ellard.

IN HONOR OF ZULIMA FARBER
AND JOAN VERPLANCK, WIN-
NERS OF THE BARBARA BOGGS
SIGMUND AWARDS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Zulima Farber and Joan Verplanck for being awarded the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey's Barbara Boggs Sigmund Award for their outstanding contributions to New Jersey and their trailblazing efforts on behalf of women.

For over 20 years Zulima Farber has faithfully defended and been an advocate for New Jersey's neediest citizens. From 1992 to 1994, Ms. Farber was appointed Public Advocate and Public Defender for the State of New Jersey. As a member of Governor Florio's cabinet, she faithfully advocated the interests of the public in all policy matters. Specifically, she led efforts to regulate utility rates and protect the developmentally disabled, consumers of mental health services, and abused children. She also oversaw a major overhaul of the management of Public Defender Offices.

Being New Jersey's Public Advocate was Ms. Farber's most public position, but many are not aware of the other aspects of her remarkable career. As a young woman, her family fled Castro-controlled Cuba and settled in New Jersey. In order to support her family and fund her college education, Ms. Farber got a job as a secretary in a law firm of my hometown of Union City, New Jersey. After completing an undergraduate and masters degree from Montclair State, Ms. Farber received her JD degree from Rutgers Law School in Newark. At Rutgers Law she became a founding member of and vice-president of the Association of Latin American Law Students.

After law school Ms. Farber pursued a successful career as a prosecutor in Bergen County, was named Assistant Counsel to Governor Byrne and then became the first female partner of the renowned firm Lowenstein, Sandler.

Zulima Farber is a member of the State Court Advisory Committee on Ethics, the Fairleigh Dickinson University Board of Trustees, the Meadowlands Hospital Board of Trustees and the State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

Joan Verplanck was elected the first ever female president of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce in December, 1994. In this position she has served as a powerful advocate for our state's business interests and through her leadership, local and regional chambers of commerce have coordinated their efforts to form a grass-roots network in support of business issues.

Ms. Verplanck was also instrumental in the creation of the State Chamber Education Foundation which is facilitating science and technology training for New Jersey's schools. Prior to her election as president of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce, she accumulated 18 years of experience managing local chambers of commerce, including 8 years as the president of the Morris County Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Verplanck is also a member of the board of directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to her outstanding service through the Chamber of Commerce, Joan Verplanck also twice chaired the State's conference on women and she currently serves on the Board of Advisors for Management Education at Rutgers University, the New Jersey Employment Security Council and the Dredging Project Facilitation Task Force.

These women, Zulima Farber and Joan Verplanck, exemplify the principles which Barbara Boggs Sigmund stood for as a Mayor, a freeholder and a public servant. For these tremendous contributions to New Jersey and their incredible example as public servants, I cannot think of two people more deserving of the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey's Barbara Boggs Sigmund Award. I salute them and congratulate them on this accomplishment.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR KARL KUBB

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Mayor Karl Kubb for his dedication and commitment to the people of Fairview Park, Ohio.

Karl Kubb has dedicated his life to helping people. He served as Ward 4 Councilman for four years and Council President for six years. Mayor Kubb has also served on various political and civil committees during his career. He has served as Community Council President and initiated and became the first president of the Chamber of Commerce in Fairview Park. Mayor Kubb was the President and Vice President of the Democratic Club and an Executive Commander of the American Legion.

Mayor Karl Kubb is a proven public servant. He has dedicated his life to improving the lives of the citizens of Fairview Park. He is a man of enormous talent and vision. His contributions to the citizens of Fairview Park have been noteworthy.

My fellow colleagues, join me in saluting a man who has dedicated his life to improving the lives of the people of Fairview Park.

HONORING MR. DON S. MCCLURE FOR HIS PROMOTION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH THE 28 DAYS OF FEBRUARY PROGRAM

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Don S. McClure of Memphis, Tennessee, for his continual promotion of Black History Month with the 28 Days of February Program, Calendar and Black History Awards Ceremony.

Mr. McClure's consulting and marketing company has successfully developed and implemented the 28 Days of February Program in honor of Black History Month. The program and calendar are now used across the nation to educate young people about the vital role of African Americans throughout history. The program has also been used by Professors at the International University in Tokyo, Japan, and other sites around the world.

Mr. McClure's vision included launching the 28 Days of February Program from Memphis, Tennessee, and eventually reaching the entire world with his message of courage and strength from the African American community. He works each year to change the way individuals view African Americans in our society, and provides valuable information which broadens our knowledge of history.

Don McClure concludes Black History Month each year with a special awards banquet to honor outstanding individuals in Memphis. The Black History Awards Banquet culminates the annual Black History Month celebration. For these contributions, today I honor Mr. McClure and wish him continued success in all of his endeavors.

CONGRATULATING THE STATE OF QATAR ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR HISTORIC ELECTIONS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to sponsor a concurrent resolution congratulating the State of Qatar and its citizens for their commitment to democratic ideals and women's suffrage on the occasion of Qatar's historic elections of a Central Municipal Council scheduled for March 8, 1999. Particularly, I thank the co-chairs of the Congressional Women's Caucus, Rep. CAROLYN MALONEY and Rep. SUE KELLY, for their support and co-sponsorship of this resolution.

His Highness, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar, issued a decree a number of years ago creating the Central Municipal Council. In the past year additional decisions about the elections were made, and Qatari women were granted the right to vote in this historic first municipal election and to run for office.

Our colleagues agree that the United States highly values democracy and women's rights. Accordingly, the resolution applauds the Emir of Qatar, for his leadership, and commends the citizens of Qatar for participating in this im-

portant civic function. Clearly, this election will demonstrate the strength and diversity of the State of Qatar's commitment to democratic expression.

The resolution also reaffirms that the United States is strongly committed to encouraging the suffrage of women, democratic ideals, and peaceful development throughout the Middle East. I request that the text of the resolution be printed at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for our colleagues' review, and I urge their support for this initiative.

H. CON. RES. 35

Whereas His Highness, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar, issued a decree creating a central municipal council, the first of its kind in Qatar;

Whereas on March 8, 1999, the people of the State of Qatar will hold direct elections for a central municipal council;

Whereas the central municipal council has been structured to have members from 29 election districts serving 4-year terms;

Whereas Qatari women were granted the right to participate in this historic first municipal election, both as candidates and voters;

Whereas this election demonstrates the strength and diversity of the State of Qatar's commitment to democratic expression;

Whereas the United States highly values democracy and women's rights;

Whereas March 8 is recognized as International Women's Day, and is an occasion to assess the progress of the advancement of women and girls throughout the world; and

Whereas this historic event of democratic elections and women's suffrage in the State of Qatar should be honored: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the Congress—

(1) commends His Highness, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, the Emir of Qatar, for his leadership and commitment to suffrage and the principles of democracy;

(2) congratulates the citizens of the State of Qatar as they celebrate the historic election for a central municipal council on March 8, 1999; and

(3) reaffirms that the United States is strongly committed to encouraging the suffrage of women, democratic ideals, and peaceful development throughout the middle East.

PERMANENT PROTECTION FOR AMERICA'S RESOURCES 2000

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 1999

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, together with 33 House co-sponsors and our colleagues Senator BARBARA BOXER and Senator ROBERT TORRICELLI in the other body, I am introducing today the Permanent Protection for America's Resources 2000 Act, historic and sweeping legislation to restore our national commitment to America's resources.

Resources 2000 is designed to redeem the solemn pledge made over 30 years ago to reinvest the profits from offshore energy production in our public resources. Billions of dollars have been produced from those offshore lands; and yet Congress and past Administrations have failed to live up to the initial bargain that pledged a sizable portion of those dollars to resource protection for future generations.

Not surprisingly, those resources have deteriorated over the years.

The bill we introduce today—with the enthusiastic support of our nation's leading environmental, wildlife and historic preservation organizations—fulfills that promise of steady, certain and adequate funding.

Resources 2000 will provide permanent, annual allocations for high priority resource preservation goals; acquisition and sound management of public lands, parks and open space, marine and coastal resources, historic preservation, fish and wildlife, and urban recreation facilities. Our bill provides states, local communities, farmers and others with the resources they need to plan and manage our irreplaceable assets.

Funding for our legislation is taken from part of the over \$4 billion currently provided annually to federal taxpayers in revenues from offshore oil and gas drilling. The legislation does not increase revenues from oil and gas drilling and does not impose any new taxes or royalties. And unlike the other OCS revenue bills under consideration, Resources 2000 creates no incentives for additional leasing or development of offshore oil and gas: not in current areas, and certainly not in areas covered by legislative moratorium.

Our bill also contains a far more equitable distribution of revenues than other bills which lavish more than half percent of the public's money on a half dozen states and short-change the rest of America.

I am delighted that we are joined in introducing this bill not only by over 20 members of Congress, but also by many of the most broad-based, grassroots environmental, parks, and wildlife organizations throughout this country, including The Sierra Club, The Wilderness Society, Natural Resources Defense Council, Defenders of Wildlife, National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, National Parks & Conservation Association, Preservation Action, National Audubon Society, Center for Marine Conservation, US PIRG, National Recreation & Park Association, Police Athletic/Activities League (P.A.L.), National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, and Scenic America.

The effort to provide these funds on a permanent basis in an idea whose time has come. Five years ago, I called for permanent, full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund to preserve our parks and public lands for generations to come. If we can do it with Social Security and with the Highway Trust Fund, we should be able to do the same with the fund the American people were promised to protect our national environmental treasures.

I particularly commend the Clinton Administration for recognizing the importance of this initiative in its budget request for the fiscal year 2000. We are committed to working with the Administration and with the sponsors of other congressional initiatives—Senators MARY LANDRIEU (D-LA) and FRANK MURKOWSKI (R-AK), and my own chairman Congressman DON YOUNG (R-AK) and his co-sponsors—to craft legislation that restores our resources' legacy, preserves our national environmental heritage, protects our coasts, and is enacted on behalf of the American people during the 106th Congress.