

of only five, who will be inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in 2000. I am particularly proud, because Susie teaches at one of my own hometown elementary schools in Corona, California—the John Adams Elementary School. In fact, I went to school with Susie. Susie, I promise not to tell any stories if you'll do the same for me!

Susie says, and I quote, that her "philosophical beliefs concerning how children make sense of the world around them are the foundation of the instructional program I have created for my students. I believe all children deserve to be taught in an environment that will promote, value, and nurture their natural desire to learn."

Susie's own teaching philosophy seems like common sense—straightforward and easy. However, it is the hands-on practice of her philosophy that has made such an incredible impact on all of the children and parents with whom she has come into contact. As a result, Susie has been recognized numerous times by her students, colleagues, community, state and nation. In 1999 alone, Susie was a Disney American Teacher of the Year Honoree, California Teacher of the Year, one of the Inland Empire Magazine's "Teachers Making a Difference," Walmart Teacher of the Year, Riverside County Teacher of the Year and Corona-Norco Unified School District Teacher of the Year.

And Susie has not stopped her work at the door of her own classroom. She has written a variety of documents and books and given seminars across the United States to share her expertise in teaching, most significantly in literacy instruction. The Lap-Reading program created by Susie has educated thousands of parents across the nation on how they can boost their own child's school performance by offering monthly ideas on how parents can increase reading at home. For her students, she has created Spot, a stuffed classroom mascot, who travels home with each child two nights each year. Spot has done almost everything from birthday parties to dentist visits. All of the adventures have been recounted in drawings and writings by each child into Spot's personal journal.

Mr. Speaker, as we debate the need to reform our education system this year and years to come, I ask my colleagues to look in their own backyard for advice from teachers, parents and students. They are living and breathing the adventures of literacy, the key to success for all future generations. To Susie Haas, I offer my deepest appreciation. Her passion and commitment to teaching America's next generation is truly awesome and inspiring.

A RESOLUTION HONORING SARAH ZIEGLER, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

**HON. NICK SMITH**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 14, 2000*

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Sarah Ziegler, winner of the 2000 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults

who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Sarah is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Sarah is an exceptional student at Litchfield High School and possesses an impressive high school record.

Sarah has received numerous awards for her achievements in academics as well as her involvement in athletics. Outside of school, she is an active member of the Hillsdale County Community Foundation as well as her community church.

Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Sarah Ziegler for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING 225TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

SPEECH OF

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2000*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.J. Res. 101, commemorating the 225th birthday of the United States Army.

As a proud supporter of the Army, of its men and women in uniform as well as the many civilian employees who work alongside them, I am pleased that we are taking time today to recognize their contributions to our national security.

Since the War of Independence was fought to first gain our nation's liberty, the Army has been there to protect and defend that freedom, and to fight to extend that right to other nations as well. The Army reinforced our fledgling country's freedom during the War of 1812, fought with valor in the Civil War, and charged up San Juan Hill with Teddy Roosevelt and his Rough Riders. The Army fought in the trenches of Europe in the "War to End All Wars," then returned to storm the beaches of Normandy a generation later. The Army fought the "Cold Wars" of Korea and Vietnam, and the conflicts and insurgencies that followed, and stormed the deserts of Kuwait. And, every day, our Army guards our borders and keeps our nation strong and secure.

Only recently have we begun to learn some of the stories of the brave men and women who defended our nation's freedom during World War II because of movies like "Saving Private Ryan," books such as "Citizen Soldier," and the recent opening of the D-Day Museum in New Orleans, Louisiana. They are the stories of the soldiers who watched the shrapnel "come down like rain" in the Hurtgen Forest in Germany, and who "grew up overnight" on the beaches of Normandy.

But we should not forget the stories of the other men and women who served in the

Army, including the estimated 480,000 who wear the uniform today. Every day these men and women put their lives on the line for us, asking little in return. It is because of these men and women, and the countless ones who served before them, that we enjoy the many benefits of freedom and liberty today. And we should take the opportunity to thank them for their service and dedication to our nation.

But I also want to take time today to recognize the contributions of one Army base in my district, Picatinny Arsenal, which pre-dates our Army! The "Middle Forge" that was established at the base of Picatinny Peak in 1749 evolved into an iron works which provided cannon shot, bar iron, shovels and axes for General George Washington's Revolutionary Army.

Designated as the Picatinny Powder Depot in 1880 by the War Department, the installation began producing explosives. During World War I, Picatinny produced everything from rifle ammunition to large caliber Navy projectiles.

The "modern" facility dates back to a massive explosion at Picatinny in 1926, after which the arsenal was rebuilt and expanded. As a result, during World War II, the government turned to Picatinny and its nearly 20,000 military and civilian employees to produce bombs, explosives, fuzes, artillery ammunition and other critical ordinance needed to support our forces who were fighting for freedom around the world. And, ultimately, the Army consolidated all weapons system research at Picatinny in 1977.

Today, Picatinny is a premier research and development facility which has produced the Crusader Self-Propelled Howitzer, the Lightweight 155mm Towed Howitzer, the Objective Individual Combat and Crew Served Weapons, the Precision Guided Mortar Munition and the Wide Area Munition. In addition, Picatinny's researchers have developed fuzes, pyrotechnics and non-lethal systems in use by the Army and other services as well.

Despite reductions in personnel, and funding, to Army R&D installations across the country, Picatinny Arsenal continues to excel and exceed all expectations. Last month, I was honored to attend a ceremony at the Pentagon where Picatinny Arsenal was presented with this year's Commander in Chief's Award for Installation Excellence. This is an elite honor, bestowed upon the top Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine installations in the nation, and Picatinny Arsenal just received that award for the second time in five years!

The men and women of Picatinny Arsenal are a unique and special group, military and civilians alike. Year after year, as we have seen overall defense spending decrease, they have been asked to do more with less, and have risen to the challenge by continuing to excel at their missions. The ammunition and weapons systems developed at Picatinny Arsenal are used by every soldier in the Army, every day. Many of the new technologies engineered at Picatinny have no equal in the world.

By winning this award, Picatinny has proven to all what I have long known—that they are the best of the best in the Army. And today, I pay tribute to those men and women, and to all they have accomplished behind the scenes to secure our nation's liberty.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer my support to H.J. Res. 101, and urge all my colleagues to do the same.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE EARL T. SHINHOSTER—FREEDOM FIGHTER, HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST, GREAT AMERICAN

**HON. CARRIE P. MEEK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 14, 2000*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of our nation's unsung heroes, the late Earl T. Shinhoster, one of the noblest among the NAACP's indefatigable leaders. His untimely demise in a car accident suffered some 25 miles away from historic Montgomery, AL on Sunday, June 11, 2000 leaves a gaping void in our nation's quest for simple justice and equality of opportunity.

My State of Florida and most specifically, Miami-Dade County, will surely miss him for the longevity of his genuine commitment to our well-being under the aegis of the NAACP. When I think of Mr. Shinhoster's work in Florida, it is clear that it parallels much of our State's history as it struggled through the countless challenges of racial equality.

I first came to know him during the beginning of the 1980's when Liberty City was the scene of an unprecedented police brutality as it went up in flames in the aftermath of the killing of an innocent insurance executive, Arthur McDuffie, at the hands of the police. In his role as Southeast Regional Director of the NAACP, Mr. Shinhoster helped to restore calm and sanity to what was then a thoroughly besieged community.

Prior to this heartrending episode that gripped my community, this young crusader came in our midst to give hope and courage to countless parents from the innercity, challenging them to be involved with their children's schools and urging them to keep the faith toward helping them achieve mastery of the basic skills and academic excellence. He managed to return again and again, espousing the same message upon which the success of minority schoolchildren could be forged.

Then in 1983, when Miami was yet again embroiled for 3 days in racial disturbance in the Overtown area, it was Mr. Shinhoster who brought calm by urging the immediate suspension and investigation of two Miami police officers accused of killing two Overtown residents.

When 34 Haitian bodies washed ashore in Miami, this young leader came back to commiserate with our Haitian community, helping to bury the dead and calling for the authorities to investigate the circumstances surrounding the tragedy. Given the magnitude of our community's trauma from multiple sources, it was Mr. Shinhoster's creative genius and utmost understanding that gave rise to the creation of the NAACP's Office of Urban Affairs to support the healing of a community torn asunder by severe urban turbulence.

And when in the mid 80's tensions came to rip apart relations between the Black and Jewish communities, it was again Earl Shinhoster who came to the rescue, urging and facilitating a dialogue between the groups.

The decade of the 80's marked Mr. Shinhoster's defining moment as he unabashedly spoke out at meetings, radio talk shows, TV programs and countless forums and conferences, espousing the NAACP's stance on a myriad of issues verging on school busing and

fair housing. He was forthright in putting banks and insurance companies on notice for covertly and overtly resorting to redlining and mortgage discrimination practices, and questioning the use of deadly force by the police under the guise of maintaining law and order. He was brutally frank in assessing the unfairness of the death penalty and decrying the rise of youth crime among Blacks on one hand, while applauding the merits of minority set asides, affirmative action and a fair immigration policy for all on the other.

When in 1992 Hurricane Andrew unleashed its awesome destructive power upon our community, making it the nation's costliest natural disaster, once again Mr. Shinhoster came to our rescue by orchestrating the NAACP's response to those whose lives and spirits were drastically dislocated.

Under Earl Shinhoster's leadership, Florida's barriers to Black access to political representation and voter participation were removed. And for the first time in the 20th century, African-Americans were able to run and serve on elected boards, city councils, school boards, county commissions, the State Legislature. Finally, in the 1990's as a result of his indefatigable leadership, I along with my colleagues ALCEE HASTINGS and CORRINE BROWN became the first African-Americans from Florida to be elected to the U.S. Congress since the Reconstruction Period almost a century ago.

Blessed with a lucid common sense and quick grasp of the issues at hand, Mr. Shinhoster was also imbued with the rare wisdom of recognizing both the strengths and limitations of those who have been empowered to govern. The acumen of his intelligence and the timeliness of his vision were felt at a time when my community and this nation needed someone to put in perspectives the simmering agony of disenfranchised African-Americans and other minorities yearning to belong.

I vividly recall that when government and community leaders met to douse the still-burning embers of the Liberty City and Overtown racial disturbances, his was the firm voice of reason and conscience, wisely articulating his credo that we have got to learn to live and understand each other, or we run the risk of shamefully reaping the grapes of wrath from those who have been left out.

Mr. Earl T. Shinhoster truly exemplified a calm but reasoned leadership whose courage and wisdom appealed to our noblest character as a nation. While he will be missed by all of us, we will celebrate the gift of his life and thank God for sending him to grace our paths at a time when we most needed him.

My pride in sharing his friendship is only exceeded by my eternal gratitude for all that he has sacrificed on our behalf. This is the magnificent legacy by which we will honor his memory.

**RECOGNIZING 225TH BIRTHDAY OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY**

SPEECH OF

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 13, 2000*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, it is with a tremendous sense of pride that I rise to congratulate the United States Army on its 225th

birthday. For 225 years, our men and women have answered the call and served this Nation, where they were needed and when they were needed. For over two centuries members of the Army have fought and died on distant shores to ensure that not only Americans remain free, but more importantly, to also protect the freedoms of other people.

I've felt the camaraderie, been part of the tradition, and felt the hardship of service in the Army. There is no more noble profession, and there are no words that can suitably honor the men and women of the Army who served in the past and continue to serve today. Today members of the Army serve in Europe, Korea, Bosnia, Kosovo and a hundred other locations far away from their homes, friends and families.

However distant, whatever the challenge, for 225 years, the United States Army has fought the Nation's wars and served its country honorably in peace. I commend the men and women of the Army, and again, congratulate them on this very special birthday.

**GRAPHIC INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS**

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 14, 2000*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, June 23, 2000 the Graphic International Communications 2000 meeting will commence in Orlando, Florida. Graphic International Communications is an international marketing organization representing pioneering companies in seventeen nations around the world.

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Florida Congressional Delegation, it is my honor to welcome those participating in the Graphic International Communications annual conference to Florida.

Serving as the host of this event is Merchandising & Marketing Corporation. As a corporation located in my Congressional District, I am proud that they have been chosen to host this important conference. In fact, this is the second time that the Merchandising & Marketing Corporation has been chosen to host this event.

I congratulate them on their selection, and I am sure that the Graphic International Communications annual meeting will be a major success.

**DEBT REDUCTION ACT**

**HON. PHILIP M. CRANE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 14, 2000*

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, deficit spending has run rampant for too long. The federal debt has ballooned to nearly \$6 trillion. With this legislation for the first time since 1917 we are reversing this trend.

Uncle Sam will actually begin to pay off our \$6 trillion credit card bill. Paying off our huge debt should be a top priority, not an afterthought.

Under current law, any money left over at the end of the year is used to reduce the debt.