

congratulating Mathew Lobas on his election as National Commander of the Polish Legion of American Veterans, U.S.A. I thank him on behalf of the Cleveland community for his lifetime of commitment to service and volunteerism.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER  
PHILADELPHIA HEALTH ACTION,  
INC.

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Greater Philadelphia Health Action as it celebrates three decades of providing dedicated health and human services to economically disadvantaged and medically underserved Philadelphians.

Founded in 1970, GPHA has grown to offer a full spectrum of accessible and affordable medical and behavioral health care services.

In 1990, GPHA opened the Woodland Academy Child Development Center. Today it offers quality comprehensive day care for more than 100 infants and pre-school and school-age children. It also offers low income and child development programs for teen parents, working families and those enrolled in vocational training programs.

Currently GPHA has five full service medical centers, an expanded behavioral health care program, and a day care and child development center. It serves over 28,000 patients as it continues to expand. That expansion includes plans to launch a new youth program that would provide music, arts and computer instruction and life skills instruction.

As it celebrates 30 years of service, GPHA remains committed to continue its tradition of providing outstanding service to the Philadelphia community.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
POLLUTION PREVENTION WEEK

**HON. ROB PORTMAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of National Pollution Prevention Week, which is being observed this week, September 18–24, by many in the Second District of Ohio and across the nation.

Originating in California in 1992, Pollution Prevention Week gained widespread popularity in states like Ohio before becoming a national effort in 1995. This week it continues its valuable role in raising awareness about pollution prevention.

Stopping pollution before it starts is one of the most cost-effective ways to conserve resources and keep our environment clean. Often, these goals are best achieved locally, and, for a number of years, the Greater Cincinnati Earth Coalition has recognized the environmental and economic benefits of preventing pollution at its source. The Coalition strives to protect our environment with cooperative action between businesses, individuals, environmental and community groups and

government agencies. This past year, the Coalition successfully worked with a number of groups through the City of Cincinnati Office of Environmental Management to increase the use of recyclable material at public events.

Mr. Speaker, Pollution Prevention Week reminds us that the best way to conserve our resources and have a clean environment is to keep problems from developing in the first place. It encourages us to work for a cleaner environment while maintaining a competitive, prosperous business climate. These are goals we can all support. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Pollution Prevention Week.

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES  
AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK

SPEECH OF

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2000*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join with my colleagues in honoring this country's Historically Black Colleges and Universities, three of which are located in my district, the 5th district of Tennessee. These schools are: Fisk University, Meharry Medical College and Tennessee State University. For well over a century, HBCUs have made their mark as vital institutions of higher learning. After the Emancipation Proclamation, the continuing legacy of racism in the 19th century barred African Americans from most higher education opportunities. As a result, colleges and universities devoted to educating African Americans were established, mostly in the South, where the majority of freed slaves remained after the Civil War.

Generations of African American educators, physicians, lawyers, scientists and other professionals found at HBCUs the knowledge, experience and encouragement they needed to reach their full potential. Over the years, HBCUs have compiled an enviable record of achievement, educating almost forty percent of our Nation's black college graduates. They have educated millions of young people and have prepared African-Americans students for the challenges and opportunities of this new century.

The faculty and staff of HBCUs have created a nurturing environment for their students, set high academic standards and expectations and served as inspiring role models for the young people around them. HBCUs have accomplished this in the face of daunting challenges including limited financial resources.

HBCUs' limited pool of private financial contributors have denied many of the institutions the opportunity to meet their capital needs. That is why I was pleased to join with Congressman JAMES CLYBURN in 1996 to secure the authorization of \$29 million for HBCU historic preservation.

Historic structures that attest to the contributions HBCUs have made in education our students are at risk of being lost forever. At the close of the 104th Congress, the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act was signed into law. This legislation earmarked twelve schools to receive desperately needed funds to preserve their campus' historic struc-

tures. These funds have been used to repair numerous buildings on Fisk University's campus in Nashville and return the campus to its former beauty. This is the last year of that authorization and I am hopeful that we will be successful in securing the remaining \$7.2 million in appropriation funding in this year's Interior appropriations bill.

I am extremely proud of the success Nashville's HBCU's have had in educating African-Americans from across the country. Fisk University, Meharry Medical College and Tennessee State University have all made deep marks on the Nashville community and have enriched all of our lives.

In addition to educating many of our Nation's most distinguished African American professionals, HBCUs reach out to improve the quality of life in surrounding communities. Fisk's world-famous Jubilee Singers originated as a group of traveling students in 1871. The singers struggled at first, but before long, their performances so electrified audiences that they traveled throughout the United States and Europe. The Jubilee Singers introduced much of the world to spirituals and, in the process, raised funds that preserved their University and permitted construction of Jubilee Hall, the South's first permanent structure built for the education of black students.

From its earliest days, Fisk has played a leadership role in the education of African-Americans. Fisk faculty and alumni have been among America's intellectual, artistic and civic leaders in every generation since the University's beginnings. Among currently practicing black physicians, lawyers and dentists, one in six is a Fisk graduate.

Today, Meharry Medical College is the largest private, historically black institution exclusively dedicated to educating health care professionals and biomedical scientists in the United States. Meharry has graduated nearly 15 percent of all African American physicians and dentists practicing in the United States. Since 1970, Meharry has awarded more than 10 percent of the Ph.D.'s in biomedical sciences received by African Americans. Today, the majority of Meharry's graduates practice in medically underserved rural and inner city areas. As Meharry takes its place among the leading institutions preparing health professionals to meet the challenges of the 21st century, the College remains true to its heritage of serving the underserved of all origins, while maintaining an uncompromising standard of excellence.

Tennessee State University, which is also located in Nashville, continues the tradition of educating African-Americans and preparing future leaders of our communities and country. Oprah Winfrey and the late Olympic track star Wilma Rudolph are among its long list of distinguished graduates. TSU has recently been acknowledged as one of the 100 "most wired" universities, ranking 55th this year. I applaud TSU's achievement in bringing 21st century technology to all of its students and classrooms. This is quite an accomplishment and one of which the entire TSU community should be proud. TSU is doing its part in closing the digital divide by ensuring that all of our students, regardless of socio-economic class, have access to computers and the Internet. This training is vitally important to ensuring their academic success in the future. TSU continues to meet the challenges and demands of a 21st century education.