

Powered only by volunteers, the B.F. Hoxie Engine Co. No. 1 is responsible for founding Mystic's first ambulance service, providing EMT service and responding to highway accidents and other emergencies, as well as hosting a weekly fish frying fund-raiser during a portion of the year to benefit the activities of the department.

Volunteer firefighters are true American heroes. They give their time and their energy to protect our families, our homes and our treasures. Some brave volunteers make the supreme sacrifice every year to save their neighbors and to make our communities safer.

Mr. Speaker, the members of the B.F. Hoxie Engine Co. No. 1, past and present, exemplify these qualities every day. I join with residents throughout Mystic and southeastern Connecticut in congratulating the B.F. Hoxie Engine Co. No. 1 on the occasion of its 125th anniversary.

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REGARDING THE NATIONAL DAY  
OF TAIWAN

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 6, 2000*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I take a moment to congratulate our friends and allies in the Republic of China on Taiwan as they prepare to celebrate their National Day on October 10. As a Member of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, it gives me special pleasure to mark this occasion.

As my colleagues know, the Taiwanese people recently made history as they successfully and peacefully held their second democratic presidential election and chose Mr. Chen Shui-bian, the candidate from the opposition party, as their head of state. President Chen and the people of Taiwan are to be commended for that landmark achievement.

Like his predecessors, President Chen continues to seek a proper role for Taiwan in the international community. President Chen also has sent goodwill messages many times to resume a dialogue with the People's Republic of China. In the meantime, he exhorts his countrymen to make Taiwan a strong, peaceful, and worthy ally of ours in a region that is so important to our national interest.

I join with my colleagues in the Congress and many Taiwanese-American friends in the United States in congratulating the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan on this 89th anniversary of their National Day.

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A POINT OF LIGHT FOR ALL  
AMERICANS: REV. DR. JAMES S.  
BULLOCK, PASTOR, HOLY SA-  
CRED BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. MAJOR R. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 6, 2000*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rev. Dr. James S. Bullock, the distin-

guished Pastor and Spiritual leader of Holy Sacred Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York.

Dr. Bullock, the former Pastor of Mars Hill Baptist Church of Coney Island, New York, was called to Holy Sacred Baptist Church in August of 1999 and was installed on December 19, 1999 by The Metropolitan Interdenominational Ministers Conference, The Eastern Baptist Association, The Pastors and Churches Union and the Holy Sacred Baptist Church family. Presiding over the installation ceremonies was the Rev. Dr. B.T. McCollum, Vice-Moderator of the Eastern Baptist Association, the Moderator D.H. Dovore Chapman, Co-President.

The installation service was heralded by countless community leaders, including officials of the African American Clergy and Elected Officials of Brooklyn, the Rev. Joe L. Parker, President and many other clergymen and women along with school officials, teachers, and officers of the various PTA groups.

Rev. Dr. James S. Bullock is a community minded clergyman. He participates in many community-based organizations. He is involved with the following organizations: Secretary of the Association of Brooklyn Clergy for Community Development, Secretary of the African American Clergy and Elected Officials of Brooklyn, Vice President of The Metropolitan Interdenominational Ministers Conference, Parent Body Member Eastern Baptist Association, President of the North Bay Tenant Association of Coney Island, and President of The Men and Women's Interdenominational Ministers Conference of Brooklyn, New York.

Rev. Dr. Bullock is a man of vision. He is a multi-talented person who is considered an excellent Preacher and Teacher, a builder of ideas and developer of community motivation, and a master decision maker. He is steadfast in his beliefs and a loyal supporter of the missions of the organizations to which he belongs. He consistently endorses the politics of community empowerment and the practical projects which bring the benefits of empowerment to the poor.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute Rev. Dr. James S. Bullock as a distinguished "Point of Light" for all Americans.

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HONORING A HOOSIER HERO:  
KATHY ALFKE

**HON. DAVID M. McINTOSH**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 6, 2000*

Mr. McINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a very special Hoosier who has been chosen to receive the Patrick Groff Teacher of the Year Award. This national award will be presented by the National Right to Read Foundation, an organization devoted to increasing literacy in America through scientifically-based reading research. Only one award is given each year, and this year the award will go to Indiana's own Kathy Alfke.

In addition to teaching reading skills to fourth and sixth graders at Riverside school in Indianapolis, Kathy teaches other teachers, parents, aides, tutors, and principals the Direct Approach Method, a reading instruction tech-

nique which brings amazing results. Since last February, she has taught teachers at 12 Indianapolis Public Schools and is currently instructing educators in at least 15 other schools. In her home town of New Palestine, she provided training for the reading tutors and the Director for Instruction at the town's newest school. In all, Kathy trained over 60 teachers this summer and has taken on more students this fall.

Her efforts are making a difference. Having taught the Direct Approach to Reading and Spelling teachers at Switzerland County schools, they scored sixth in the state on the Indiana Statewide Testing for Educational Progress (ISTEP). Kathy has contributed to her own school's dramatic progress leading to its removal from double probation status. Kathy received a National Literacy Award from the James Flannigan Foundation and UPS last year.

Kathy's success as a teacher was built on the determination to go beyond the status quo for the sake of children. Kathy graduated from Indiana State University with a B.A. in Education and a reading endorsement in 1983. She completed her Masters Degree at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) three years later. For many years, Kathy taught at Indianapolis Public Schools. After transferring to a school near her home, Kathy faced a situation which tested her resolve as a teacher. The teaching philosophy embraced by the administration rejected formal learning. Teachers were forbidden to have text books or skills charts in the classroom.

Of this experience, Kathy says, "The principal made sure you did what she said or you stood the chance of being on the 'hit list.' I withstood this environment for three years until I started feeling oppressed. I was losing my creativity and did not want to come to school. I felt like I was dying inside. I knew I was a good teacher and that God put me on earth to fulfill that position, but was I to continue to be in a building where things were so stressful and were not allowed to teach isolated skills? I was supposed to be a reading specialist, but I didn't know how to teach phonics."

Deeply discouraged with a system which was leaving kids without the most basic skills, Kathy

Mrs. Russow gave Kathy the skills and the hope she needed to return to the classroom. Since then, her success as a reading teacher has drawn the attention of teachers and principals alike. She divides her time between teaching children and other teachers.

Her workshops are full. Speaking of last year's fall seminar, Kathy states, "The meeting room was packed with teachers from all over Indianapolis who attended the training sessions in May and June to brush up on their phonics and word attack skills. Private school teachers, recently graduated "prospective" teachers, tutors, parents, principals, and Indianapolis Public school teachers and assistants from schools 14, 21, 37, 42, 48, 68, 81, 93, and 103 learned how to supplement their existing curriculum with the simple yet effective techniques of Direct Approach Phonics."

Kathy's success is an inspiration. Rather than accept a system that left some children behind, she sought the skills that were needed for a successful reading program, and now she is passing these skills on to others. Sound reading instruction is needed in Indiana. Kathy