

positive growth continues, we must work along side the Small Business Association and with the Small Business Development Centers and Women's Business Centers around the nation to increase accessibility to business counseling, startup packages, and loans.

Now more than ever, it is vital that we in Congress support the small business community so that in the wake of September 11th these businesses can continue to flourish. As Small Business Week 2002 comes to a close, let's remember to take time to acknowledge these Main Street businesses in our own towns and the important roles they play in maintaining a sound economy.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE RUPP

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize the distinguished service of one of the nation's foremost leaders in higher education, Dr. George Rupp, who is retiring after nine years as the President of Columbia University, my alma mater.

His stewardship of this world-renowned institution has been truly commendable. He has enhanced the University's already extraordinary level of achievement across all of its mission areas: in teaching; in research; and in service. Columbia is poised to celebrate its 250th anniversary in 2004 as a leading light in the renaissance of American higher education and as an exemplary model of the creation and spread of knowledge in the service of humanity.

Through the initiatives Dr. Rupp oversaw, Columbia has become one of the most sought after universities in the world, for scholars seeking to join its world class faculty, for recent graduates seeking to enter one of its many leading graduate and professional programs, and for high school students hoping to be amongst the one in seven applicants gaining admission to Columbia College. Some of this vitality can be seen in the physical environment of the University, which has benefited from a revitalization effort widely praised for its sensitivity to the architectural history of Columbia's campuses and to the needs of their surrounding communities.

But in my opinion, Dr. Rupp's true achievement is less immediately visible. He has helped not just to assemble one of the most distinguished groups of scholars and researchers and one of the most gifted student bodies in the world; his has been one of the foremost voices reminding us that the strength of America's institutions of higher education stems from the connections they enable, between ideas and between ideas and applications. At Columbia, he has helped build the linkages that make the University a whole that is more than the sum of its parts.

A hallmark of Dr. Rupp's leadership has been the creation of innovative structures to meet the challenges posed by the increasingly multidisciplinary and interdependent nature of scientific research. In recent years, Columbia has drawn together scholars from different departments, schools and even outside institutions to develop new ways to organize the search for knowledge. These new centers in-

clude The Earth Institute, The Columbia Genome Center, The Center for Biomedical Engineering, The International Research Institute for Climate Prediction, and The Center for New Media Teaching and Learning. Such efforts will certainly further Columbia's already major role in a strong and successful partnership between the federal government and university-based research.

Under Dr. Rupp's tenure, Columbia's remarkable pool of talent and resources has been increasingly directed to the service of good citizenship. The University, the third largest employer in New York City, has been active in helping foster economic growth in its neighboring communities. For instance, Columbia helped develop the proposal for the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone (UMEZ), provided ongoing technical support to the UMEZ and opened the first biomedical research and development park in New York City. The University also established a program that hires and helps train community residents, and offers "forgivable" loans to employees as an incentive for home-buying within the Empowerment Zone. Columbia also administers academic, professional and service programs that assist thousands of upper Manhattan residents, school children and businesses.

The son of German immigrants, Dr. Rupp has also emphasized the global dimension of Columbia's work and sought to develop its role in international education and research. A number of new academic programs have been created with institutions abroad including the Law School's faculty exchange program with Tokyo University and its four-year double-degree program with the University of Paris; the first American undergraduate program with the Free University of Berlin; and the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation's programs with universities in Brazil, Indonesia and Belize.

Dr. Rupp's retirement closes 25 years of service as dean or president at a major university. Before assuming the presidency of Columbia in 1993, he led Rice University for eight years of successful growth, a period which saw the tripling of applications for admissions and a doubling of federal research support. Earlier, Dr. Rupp was the John Lord O'Brian Professor of Divinity and dean of the Harvard Divinity School. Under his leadership, the School's curriculum was revised to address more directly the pluralistic character of contemporary religious life. Further developments included new programs in women's studies and religion, Jewish-Christian relations, and religion and medicine.

Dr. Rupp's accomplishments place him in the company of such other illustrious presidents of Columbia as Nicholas Murray Butler and Dwight Eisenhower.

As a Columbia alumnus, I feel a heightened pride in my alma mater. As a New Yorker, I applaud Columbia's role in the cultural, intellectual and economic life of my city. I thank George Rupp for his masterful and dedicated service to one of the greatest institutions of one of the greatest cities of the world.

TRIBUTE TO THE COLLEGE OF MARIN

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The College of Marin (COM) on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. Established in 1926, the College has a long history of providing vocational, career, enrichment, and community education programs to Marin County.

From its beginning as a small campus in Kentfield, the school has added a second campus at Indian Valley in Novato and serves more than 27,000 students annually. COM offers an Associate Degree and prepares students for transfer to the most prestigious universities. With more than 70 undergraduate majors in humanities/liberal arts, science, and technical and vocational fields, the College services a student body ranging in age from 9 to 80 years old and from 80 different countries. With other activities like a Breakdance Club and the Student Nurse Association, students can participate at many levels.

Throughout its history the community college has demonstrated its responsiveness to the changing needs of Marin, fulfilling its role as a true college of the community. The faculty and staff are committed to providing a quality educational experience for all. And today, under the leadership of President James Middleton and a dedicated Board of Trustees, College of Marin is a thriving institution at the heart of the County.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize College of Marin for its many achievements during its 75 years.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING LUKE P. HIGH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Luke P. High has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America Troop 548; and

Whereas, Luke P. High has shared his time and talent with the community; and

Whereas, Luke P. High has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Luke P. High must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Luke P. High for his Eagle Scout Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2002

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, due to a serious illness in my family, it was necessary for me to request a leave of absence