

COMMENDING CLEAR LAKE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Clear Lake Elementary School for being named a Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School. This award is given to those elementary schools that exemplify educational excellence. It is designed to identify and give public recognition to outstanding schools that achieve high academic standards, to make available a comprehensive framework of key criteria for school effectiveness, and to communicate best practices for educational success among Michigan schools.

Through hard work and dedication, Clear Lake Elementary has met the criteria for this award. It is committed to instilling, "Competence, Confidence, and Character" in all students. Through partnerships with parents, encouragement of critical thinking and cooperation, and character education, the staff at Clear Lake Elementary provides these excellent educational principles.

Mr. Speaker, Clear Lake Elementary is to be recognized for earning the Michigan Blue Ribbon Exemplary School Award. They are an example of the tremendous potential elementary schools have to make a difference in the lives of their students. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking the teachers and administration at Clear Lake Elementary for their commitment to excellence and their desire to provide students with a high-quality education. I would also like to ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them good fortune in the future.

CELEBRATING TUNISIA'S 47TH AN-  
NIVERSARY OF ITS INDEPENDENCE

**HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Republic of Tunisia and its people on the 47th Anniversary of their National Day of Independence. Over the last 47 years, Tunisia has been an outstanding model for developing countries. It has risen from a fledgling democracy to a nation that is at the forefront of instituting an aggressive North African free market economy.

The United States and Tunisia have maintained a strong relationship throughout Tunisia's history. During the Cold War, Tunisia was a crucial partner in the Mediterranean region. In our struggle against terrorism, dating back to the early 1990s, Tunisia has been a steadfast ally. As early as 1993, Tunisia condemned forms of Islamic extremism and terrorism. In 1994, Tunisia warned the West of terrorism's evils and spoke of the need to fight terrorism on a global level.

The relationship between our countries has only been strengthened over the past two years, as we both act to confront the scourge of terrorism. Tunisia's unwavering opposition to terrorism is no more evident than in its re-

sponse to the tragic terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Immediately following the attacks, Tunisia's President, Zine El Abidine Bel Ali, offered his country's heartfelt condolences to the American people and strongly condemned the attacks and those behind them. President Ben Ali also offered his country's steadfast support for our efforts to bring those responsible to justice. Tunisia's steadfast cooperation and support continues today.

As a friend of Tunisia, I again congratulate the Tunisian people on 47 years of independence and would like to share with my colleagues the insightful words of President Ben Ali, describing the reasons for Tunisia's success in building a democratic society:

"Tolerance is at the heart of our social traditions as well as a characteristic of Tunisia's history. Pluralism, whether religious, cultural, or political, is ingrained in our society. Tunisian Moslems and Jews have lived together under the same sky and same state for many centuries. Each contributed to the building of [Tunisia], whose greatness is based on the tolerance of its people—a tolerance which has been among the highest values governing relations between the two parties, as there was no room for hatred."

CELEBRATING THE ANNIVERSARY  
OF TUNISIA'S INDEPENDENCE

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the celebration of Tunisian Independence Day, a historical occasion that occurred forty-seven years ago today when the people of Tunisia officially declared independence.

Since that time, the people of Tunisia have begun building the foundation for a great democracy, a process that continues to move forward. The almost ten million citizens of Tunisia now live in a country that shares many of the democratic values that make our own nation great, including civil rights, a more open political process and a thriving culture that highlights the history of the Tunisian people.

The quality of life for the Tunisian people has been greatly improved in recent decades, largely due to trade agreements and economic development in the nation's urban areas and elsewhere. There are great economic strides still to be made, but much progress has been made in a relatively short period of time, and that progress will continue.

Tunisia has been an important friend of the United States throughout history, including serving as an important ally in the ongoing war on terrorism. Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that our relationship will continue to strengthen as Tunisia continues building onto its democratic foundation.

HONORING EMMITT SMITH

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the living legend of Emmitt Smith, the

NFL's all-time leading rusher. I was among the legions of Dallas Cowboys fans who were saddened to see Emmitt leave the Cowboys after thirteen seasons with America's Team. I would like to take this opportunity to honor this future Hall-of-Famer for both his professional success and for his tireless community service efforts. Emmitt served as the Cowboy's representative to the United Way from 1994–1995 and is the founder of Emmitt Smith Charities, providing educational scholarships to his hometown of Pensacola, Florida.

While Emmitt is only 5'10" tall, his giving heart is the size of Texas. I was only too happy to be able to watch Emmitt rush for his NFL record of 17,162 yards. When Emmitt was drafted by the Cowboys in the first round of the 1990 NFL Draft, he had left the University of Florida as a junior without his college degree. Today, many pro athletes leave college early without a degree, or don't even go to college and leave high school straight for professional sports. To his credit, Emmitt went back to the University of Florida and received his Bachelor's degree in 1996.

I will miss not being able to see #22 suit up for the silver and blue. However, I wish Emmitt Smith all the best, and sincerely thank him for all that he has done on the field, and off the field for the greater Dallas community.

IN MEMORY OF CECILIA ELEANOR  
HADLEY

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 20, 2003*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the memory of Cecilia Eleanor Hadley, a warmhearted and generous woman who dedicated her life to others.

I have known Cecilia Hadley since I was a boy and her husband, Al "Skipper" Hadley, served as my Sea Scout, BSA, Scoutmaster. Cecilia died last month at age 96. Skipper died in 2000, also at age 96.

Cecilia Hadley was born in Milwaukee and moved to California as a child. She graduated from the Los Angeles Conservatory of Music and Arts and, after 6 years of courtship, married Al Hadley in 1935.

Cecilia Hadley remained active long after retirement. She volunteered as a third-grade teacher's aide for nearly a decade, tutored students in reading and math after school, and taught countless children to play the piano.

She belonged to many women's clubs and was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Community for more than 20 years. She volunteered for the Fallbrook Hospital Auxiliary, working in the gift shop and hand-crocheting baby blankets for newborns. She also made baby blankets for Birth Choice, a crisis pregnancy center she actively supported.

Mr. Speaker, Cecilia Hadley is survived her sons, Pete and David; five grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. I know my colleagues will join me in sending condolences to Cecilia's family, and in thanking her for making her community and our country a better place through her passion and compassion.