

as well as the formation of continents, mountains, ocean basins and other surface features. It also underlies nearly all current research into deposits of petroleum and other natural resources and the evolution of the Earth's climate and life.

The theory of plate tectonics he published in 1968 is one of the major milestones of U.S. science in the 20th century, said Anthony Dahlen, chair of the Princeton Department of Geosciences.

Essentially all of the research in solid-earth geophysical sciences in the past 30 to 35 years has been firmly grounded upon Jason Morgan's plate tectonic theory, Dahlen said. The scientific careers of a generation of geologists and geophysicists have been founded upon his landmark 1968 paper.

The second area of Morgan's work cited in the award explains how heat within the Earth forces columns of solid, but ductile material through the Earth's mantle creating "hot spots" at the surface. This rising material, known as a mantle plume, causes ridges and volcanoes to form when oceanic plates pass above it. Morgan first reported his findings regarding mantle plumes in 1971 and has published first-hand on the subject over the last three decades.

I am thrilled to see Jason Morgan honored so appropriately, said Princeton University President Shirley M. Tilghman. He is not only a remarkable scientist, but a skilled and enthusiastic teacher. He has mentored generations of students, often taking them into the field to experience first-hand the power of science to explain the most basic workings of our planet.

After receiving a bachelor's degree from the Georgia Institute of Technology, Morgan came to Princeton as a graduate student in physics and studied under Robert Dicke, a renowned mentor of many important 20th-century physicists. Morgan received his Ph.D. in 1964 and joined the geosciences department the same year. In 1988, he was named to Princeton's Taylor professorship. He has received numerous awards, including the Japan Prize, the Maurice Ewing Medal, the Leon Lutaud Prize, the Alfred Wegener Medal and the Walter Bucher Award. He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1982. Morgan has announced he will retire in February 2004.

I congratulate Mr. Morgan on his award, and I thank him for the contributions he has made to better our society.

TRIBUTE TO BETHEL BAPTIST
CHURCH OF KANSAS CITY, KAN-
SAS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Bethel Baptist Church of Kansas City, Kansas, on reaching its 84th anniversary, which will occur on November 23rd. This church was organized in 1919 under the leadership of the first pastor, the late Reverend Harris. While many ministers have served this church, none has meant more to the church than the current pastor, Reverend R.C. Higgs. Pastor Higgs has led Bethel Baptist Church for 43 years, over half of the years of the church's existence.

During the last 84 years, the Bethel Baptist Church has helped hundreds in the church and in the community of Kansas City, Kansas. I know the House joins me in wishing Pastor Higgs and his congregants our very best on this anniversary, and for many more years of spiritual and community leadership in Kansas City and the Third Congressional District of Kansas.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and pay tribute to America's heroic veterans. I am proud to represent over 34,000 veterans who live in the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois. As we observe Veterans Day this year, perhaps there is no greater time in American history to reflect on what it means to be a veteran.

Our country's sense of security is being defended by the soldiers fighting the global war on terrorism in Iraq and Afghanistan. Through the example of the brave men and women in uniform who fought during World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War or the Gulf War, today's troops know they can and will persevere even as they face extended tours of duty and grueling and frightening conditions on a daily basis.

There is no better way to honor those who sacrificed their lives for our country than by ensuring that today's veterans are treated with dignity and respect. We must do that with more than words and symbolic gestures of patriotism. We must honor the soldiers, marines, sailors and airmen of wars past and present by ensuring that the covenant they entered when they donned the uniform and served our country is maintained. Regardless of the economic climate, this nation must keep its promises to veterans to provide the health care, education, and financial benefits our veterans have earned.

Mr. Speaker, next week when I join veterans in the 5th District at the Franklin Park U.S. Military Armed Forces Veterans Memorial, the Northcenter Flag-Raising Ceremony, and the Mayfair Community Veterans Memorial, I will thank our veterans for their service, sacrifice and commitment to duty to protect the freedom that we enjoy. I will also thank the families of those brave men and women in uniform who will become our nation's newest veterans upon their return. We will always remember their valor and service to America.

I thank our veterans one and all for their service, sacrifice, and commitment to duty, which has been to stand vigilant and strong while protecting the freedom that we enjoy. I also thank the families of those brave men and women in uniform who will become our Nation's most recent veterans upon their return. We will always remember the valor and service to America.

CONGRATULATING THE CONCORD
HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING MIN-
UTEMEN ON THEIR CLASS B
STATE BAND CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 2003

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Concord Marching Minutemen on their Class B Indiana State School Music Association Championship. The young men and women of the Concord High School marching band, located in my District in Elkhart, Indiana, competed in the ISSMA championships on Sunday, October 26, in the RCA Dome in Indianapolis, Indiana. On this day, Mr. Speaker, Concord marched out of the RCA Dome as champions.

Concord was the final band to compete in the class, proving the old adage "Save the best for last." I've been told the band delivered a flawless performance of its colorful "Guitarras Espanoles," which includes "La Fiesta Mexicana" and "Malaguena."

This was the band's second championship. They won their first in 1992. I'd like to congratulate drum majors Ryan Tahara, Sarah Nagy and Patrick Doherty for leading their band to victory.

The 2003 Class B champs include: Piccolo: Amanda Bechtel, Brynne Bourdon; Flute: Kelly Aaron, Peter Boshart, Alyssa Byrum, Ashley Hardy, Danielle Hudkins, Anita Kaoma, Renae Kerwood, Mindy Lux, Rachel McKenzie, April Miller, Erica Moskowitz, Luke Overton, Emily Parks, Amber Parsons, Cassie Rhude, Erica Schmucker, Whitney VanHook, Brittany Victor, Brandi Walters, Libby Watson, Kim Yoder; Clarinet: Audrey Acosta, Marisa Amos, Kate Barghahn, Christine Cameron, Heather Collins, Lacey Conwell, Daniela de la Reza, Diana de la Reza, Kimberlie Dina, Dustin Doherty, Julie Elmore, Amy Guarnuccio, Megan Gunn, Jenni Hillyer, Mandy Himes, Michelle James, Alarice Johnson, Kylie Kern, Kayla Killian, Catie Lynch, Nicole Lynch, Kaitlin McClure, Holly Meyers, Jessica Miller, Larisa Murray, Laura Pauwels, Jordan Reyes, Erin Shroyer, Mark, Smith, Nicole Smith, Monica Torres; Bass Clarinet: Ana Rodriguez, Kimberly Berndt, Logan Bourdon, Carl Byler, Cora Christophel, Amy Fager, Jon Rhoades, Andrew Troyer, Brian Zimmerle; Alto Saxophone: Cameron Bradley, Megan Cikara, Deb Elliott, Lizzie Fish, Celby Hadley, Dustin Knight, Mike Koscielny, Ryan Perkins, Matthew Schmucker, Stephanie Stevens, Aaron Yoder; Tenor Saxophone: Josh Cranmer, Ian Faigh, Ryan Shroyer, Kayleigh Shurtz, Daniel Weaver; Trumpet: Blake Baker, Missy Barton, Megan Bortner, Mark Brown, Andrew Christophel, Vanessa Clark, Thomas Davidhizar, Andrew Davis, Ryan Detwiler, Colin Doherty, Daniel Fischer, Evan Jarvis, Bradley Kime, Grant Longenbaugh, Richie Lutes, Tyler Maxey, Julie McCarty, Keith McCrorey, Jason Miller, Justin Moore, Jared Nymeyer, Jeremy Parker, Ross Sawyer, Kelly Schaffer, Laurie Schalliol, Jim Schoeffler, Craig Searer, Sam Shafer, Nakia Simpson, Andrew Smole, Bryce Victor, Justin Watts, A J Willett, Ellen Wilson, Adam Yoder; Mellophone: Melanie Gingerich, Genni Housman, Stephen Kauffman, Mike Kennel, Amy Kronemyer, Kathy Lambright, Samantha Nagy,

Megan Shaw, Melissa Toby; Trombone: Sean Allison, Jeremy Crawford, Katie Dina, Derek Eller, Sean Emmons, Chad Hoiem, Brandy Jackson, Steven Karanja, Brent Lehman, Kevin Lipp, Veronica Meade, Betsy Ritchie, Alec Sanderson, Brandon Schenk, Andrew Stout, Kenneth White, Teneen Zimmer; Baritone: Jeffrey Eads, Bryan Eichorst, John Kauffman, Matthew Lanouette, Derek Lipp, Ryan McCarty, Trenton Prieshoff, Robert Stout, Alan Tack, Paul Tucker; Tuba: Aaron Bowser, Jonathan Freel, Suzanne Holcomb, Jared Klingler, Brandon Long, Jeremy Rowe, Andrew Trosper; Guitar: Jordan Swartzendruber, Matt Tompkins; Snare Drum: Lisa Bennett, Jennifer Bollero, Eric Rhude, Nick Stubbs; Quad Drums: John Bibbee, George Wright; Bass Drum: Justin Miracle, Derek Richard, Michael Johnson, Susie Bower, Brandon Dascoli; Cymbals: Bryce Canen, April Mascola, Dustin McLain, Bryant Quist, Sarah Runswick; Percussion Pit: Cory Allison, Amy Clark, Jonathan Faloon, Eric Foley, Matthew Schnaars, Andrew Stevens, Mark Wyrick; Color Guard: Elise Arvidson, Alicia Baer, Tiffany Baker, Mandy Beer, Karen Berndt, Ashley Bunch, Heather Dean, Hillary Durie, Mikala Ellsworth, Ashley Faloon, Ashley Guerra, Olivia Guevara, Chrissy Hoover, Jessica Hoover, Brittney Houston, DeAnna Jackson, Danielle Johnson, Leanne Johnson, Audrey Lanning, Allison Matthews, Jessica Meade, Amber Miller, Kourtney Mumaw, Kelly Perkins, Jessica Scott, Tara Scott, Jill Sheldon, Rachel Sirinek, Sierra Smith, Kristen Weaver.

I would also like to congratulate Director of Music Max Jones, Associate Band Director Scott Spradling, Assistant Band Directors Scott Spradling, April Duffey, Bryan Golden and Steve Peterson, Dance & Color Guard instructor Colleen Piekarz, Sound Technicians Aaron Ulrich and Scott Preheim, and Percussion Specialist Amy Davis for developing an award-winning program. Shirley Dyer, Dianne Jones, Matt Hall, Kelly Novy, and Katie Shouffer also deserve a note of thanks for helping make things run smoothly.

Mr. Speaker, you have to admire the dedication of the students, instructors and parents. It takes a lot of long hours and hard work to be a champion and the young men and women at Concord High School have proven they have what it takes to be champions.

Again, on behalf of the citizens of the Second Congressional District, I would like to congratulate the Concord Marching Minutemen on their Class B state championship. We are all proud of you.

IN SUPPORT OF OUR NATION'S
VETERANS

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 7, 2003

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of our nation's veterans. These brave men and women risked their lives for their country—for our country. We owe it to them to live up to all of the promises that we made when they entered the military.

I go home every weekend, and I hear from the veterans in my community. These veterans don't have a multi-specialty clinic; they

don't have a hospital, and they don't have a long term care facility. But southern Nevada does have one of the fastest growing veterans populations in the nation.

Because of this growth, the VA predicts that the number of annual visits by veterans in the Las Vegas Valley to their primary health care clinic will rise from 200,000 now to more than half-a-million by the end of the decade. And the number of hospital beds needed to serve the veterans in my community will increase by over 50 percent.

The VA is already struggling to address and meet the current demands on the VA health care structure in the Las Vegas Valley, and these demands will only continue to grow.

Last year, 1500 southern Nevada veterans were sent to neighboring states because we could not provide the needed services locally. This is an unfair burden on these veterans and their families. They should not have to travel hundreds of miles for care.

To make matters worse, the VA evacuated the Guy Clinic—the Las Vegas Valley's only ambulatory care clinic after only 5 years of service—forcing veterans to rely on a string of temporary clinics scattered across the community.

Imagine what it is like for an 80-year-old veteran waiting in the desert heat to be shuttled from clinic to clinic to receive the health care he needs. For example, a veteran may have to shuttle from a temporary site for a CT scan, then to another site to obtain a prescription for a controlled narcotic, and then to a third site for mental health services.

And female veterans who need mammograms will have to shuttle to a different clinic just for that service.

As one 81-year old World War II veteran described the situation, "You're going from one place to another and it gets confusing." Don't our veterans deserve a permanent facility to meet their health care needs?

In short, southern Nevada is facing a veterans health care crisis and my community is not alone. But here in Washington, Republicans have refused to provide an additional \$1.8 billion for veterans health care this year.

As a nation, we promised our veterans that we would meet their health care needs, but we have not. We promised to provide them with affordable housing and access to a college education, but we have fallen far short. We have broken one promise after another to those who have put their lives on the line to serve their country. Consider the Disabled Veterans Tax. Under this unfair tax, disabled veterans who retire from the military lose one dollar from their military retirement pay for every dollar they receive for a service connected disability.

When a retired Marine Corps major from Nevada was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease, he lost more than \$2,000 in monthly retirement pay because of the Disabled Veterans Tax. To make up for that loss of income, his wife had to work overtime just to make ends meet at home.

I support the Democratic plan that gives our veterans full payment of both retirement pay and disability pay. It is unconscionable that Republicans, who say they support our country's veterans, still have not allowed Members of this body to vote on ending the Disabled Veterans Tax.

Instead they have offered a plan that will take 10 years to enact and penalizes those

veterans with a 40 percent or less disability rating. But it isn't just honoring the commitments to our men and women who fought for this country, it is also about their families. Whether it is income lost because of the Disabled Veterans Tax or the financial burden a family faces when they lose their loved one.

That is why I introduced legislation that would increase the benefits to cover veterans' burial costs. Since 1973, when burial benefits were enacted, these benefits have seriously eroded due to inflation. For example, in 1973, the burial allowance for veterans with service connected injury covered 72 percent of funeral costs. Now, the benefit covers only 39 percent of the funeral costs.

Our veterans' families are forced to make up the costs. And for a widow or widower struggling with the loss of a loved one, this financial strain can take a tremendous emotional toll.

Our veterans not only deserve better, they deserve the best we have to offer. It is time for all Members of Congress to honor the commitments we made to those who fought and are currently fighting around the world for our nation. Support for our veterans is more than rousing rhetoric on Veterans' Day, it is doing what is fair and moral to fulfill our duties and promises to them.

HONORING AFRICAN AMERICAN
VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 6, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Few people realize that even before there was a Declaration of Independence or a Constitution, African-Americans could be counted among our most dedicated revolutionaries. In the fall of 1775, the Continental Army tried to appease large landholders in the South by barring all slaves and most freemen from enlisting or re-enlisting. But by the end of the year the war took a turn for the worse, and the order was rescinded. So on Christmas night, in 1776, African-American soldiers made that famous crossing of the Delaware River with Washington to help him capture the Hessians at Trenton. All told, some 5,000 African-Americans served for the cause of Independence, and their sacrifices have been little remembered but should never be forgotten.

There has never been any war fought involving America, whether in time of slavery or freedom, segregation or integration, that African Americans did not serve and become major contributors in serving their country. African American veterans have a long honor roll in serving America. During World War II more than one million African Americans in uniform distinguished themselves as P-40 fighter pilots and Navy Seabees, Sherman tank drivers, orderlies and engineers. Let us remember Dorie Miller, a steward aboard the USS *Arizona* at Pearl Harbor, who saw his captain fall wounded and pulled him to safety and then despite the fire, he manned a machine gun and downed several enemy planes.

At the Battle of the Bulge the men of the 3496th Truck Company hauled weapons, soldiers and prisoners down roads that the rain