

guard carries the national and state flag as well as many revolutionary artifacts. The flag corps performs routines with flags that represent each of the original thirteen colonies and the majorette squad performs precise routines with flags in synchronization with the band.

In 2003, the band introduced a new aspect to their ensemble, the Bugle Corps. The Buglers have many responsibilities, most importantly calling to the band to formation and playing taps.

The Brandywine Heights High School Marching Band has made quite an impact on their community and has been given the opportunity to perform in numerous local and national parades. In 2002, the band was awarded 1st place in the King Frost Parade and 2nd place in the Miss America Parade. The Five and Drum Corps was given the prestigious honor to perform at the ceremony marking the movement of the Liberty Bell to a new location in Philadelphia and the Band Front won first place at the Ephrata Fair parade.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the Brandywine Heights High School Band for their unique style, hard-work and dedication, and great enthusiasm that have made the band one of the most successful and unique bands in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN DON REDD

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of Captain Don Redd, who was presented with the General Douglas MacArthur Army Leadership Award on May 26, 2004. The MacArthur Leadership Award is presented to 27 recipients each year to company grade officers and warrant officers who show exceptional leadership in command and embody the principles of duty, honor, and country that are central to the Army tradition. Captain Redd's selection recognizes his proven ability to motivate and inspire his fellow soldiers, and to provide leadership at critical moments.

Captain Redd currently serves as commander of Headquarters and Support Company, 3rd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (A) in Fort Carson, Colorado. He has served in combat tours in Kosovo and twice in Iraq. He also has a Master's Degree in National Security Affairs from Georgetown University.

I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Captain Redd for his achievement and to thank him for his exceptional service in defense of our country.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COURTNEY HUTTON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I stand to pay tribute to Courtney Hutton for her poem

voicing the resolve of the American people in support of our troops and our country. Courtney is a student at Riverside Middle School in New Castle, Colorado. I wish to share this poem with you:

DEAR SOLDIER

Do you sing the Star Spangled Banner before you head out to war? Are the Star Spangled Banner's words held close to your heart as you serve our country and it's beliefs? Your eyes have witnessed so much devastation because of your dedication to America. But yet citizens continue to take for granted our lives. Dear Soldier you have so much integrity so much honor. Thank you dear soldier.

Can you see as you gaze into the horizon at dawn a bright and hopeful flag waving diligently in the breeze? Frances Scott Key could, on a morning during the war of 1812 he jotted down a poem as he remembered the Star Spangled Banner that had waved there just the night before. It was transformed though, into the flag that Americans would honor and love for years to come. He asked himself through the next few verses, whose stars and stripes could last through so many rockets and bombs that flew from the forts below? Only the flag of America could stand true through so much hardship. The red glare of the bombs gave him proof that the American flag stood. It waved valiantly over the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I remember 9/11/01 the first time this song ever meant anything to me. Though I'm sure has always meant so much to you Dear Soldier. It, I'm sure, inspired your love for the service and your country; our country's national anthem, a symbol of America, the majestic Star Spangled Banner. It stands for our lives, Dear Soldier. Your memories are filled with guns, flags, blood, fights between great people and enemies, and acts of integrity. That is how your life is the Star Spangled Banner in action. Americans alike turned to the words of the Star Spangled Banner for hope and wisdom during 9/11, and because of its special place in the hearts of citizens around the country we will continue to act with the same love and honor as you Dear Soldier. Although the rise and fall of people and their beliefs will always be constant in the US, the meaningfulness of our dear anthem will never change.

I once read, "To follow the path of an American, is to honor the words of the Star Spangled Banner," and I believe that to be true because you have shown me how Dear Soldier. You honor the Star Spangled Banner with your devotion, patience and love to the USA and your job. In doing this you, Dear Soldier, you see destruction beyond the thinkable. You have followed the American path and have been strong. Yet I am concerned, during the days of 9/11 America was brought together, but now everything is back to normal, we fight and compete. Citizens forget or even ignore the words of the Star Spangled Banner and take our lives for granted. They forget the many treacherous battles both won and lost in Iraq, Korea, and Afghanistan. I have hope though that the few good acts of kindness and compassion will expand to millions over the years and the Star Spangled Banner will be kept in mind when making choices.

So my heart, my soul, my feelings, about the Star Spangled Banner, and its definitions, to me and to America have been poured out to you dear soldier, my gratitude for your service and devotion. Your life is the Star Spangled Banner in action. Strong feelings arise in my heart when those verses are sung. Thank you Dear Soldier for the service and love you so freely give America, the world, and me.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to share Courtney's poem with you. Her support is indicative of the strength of our proud nation, and I want to thank her for voicing this support.

IN SUPPORT OF THE TEACHER TRAINING ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern over the fact that we are taking the time to once again vote on legislation that is good, but not great. I would like to ask my colleagues why, if we are going to do the same job again, we are not taking the opportunity to do it better?

I support the Teacher Training Enhancement Act, H.R. 4409, and I voted for this legislation the first time it was offered on the House floor as H.R. 438, the Teacher Training and Recruitment Act. By extending loan forgiveness for up to \$17,500 for qualified math and science teachers in secondary schools and special education and reading teachers in elementary schools who work for five years in low-income areas, H.R. 4409 will help those schools attract qualified teachers. But, this legislation could be significantly improved by expanding loan forgiveness to all teachers in high poverty schools, head start teachers and teachers in extremely rural school districts.

When we passed the No Child Left Behind Act, we made a promise to parents and children that there would be a qualified teacher in every classroom. In the 1999-2000 school year, over a fifth of secondary school students took at least one class from a teacher who neither majored nor minored in the subject they are teaching; over a third received instruction in at least one class from a teacher who was not certified in the subject taught and did not have a major in that subject. There is an extreme shortage of qualified teachers across all of the academic disciplines, especially in areas that are economically depressed. Unfortunately, this legislation only provides assistance to math, science and special education teachers. While there are shortages in these fields on a national basis and they need and deserve our support, our most disadvantaged school districts and communities need highly qualified teachers in all subjects and early education.

We should be taking advantage of our second chances. As long as we are going to take the time to re-vote on legislation, I urge my colleagues to take the time to ensure that we are passing the best legislation possible. Our constituents deserve nothing less.

TRIBUTE TO A DIPLOMAT

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute today to Taiwan's top representative in the United States, Ambassador C.J. (Chien-Jen) Chen who is planning to return to