

socio-economic class, every child can learn and can succeed, given dedicated teachers, able and supportive administrators, and a manageable class-size that affords teachers the opportunity to devote more time to diagnose each student's individual learning needs and problems and, thereby, enable them to teach each child accordingly.

I believe strongly in solid classroom management . . . if the class is not under control, the teacher cannot teach," was her honest answer when asked recently about her secret of success.

Above all, however, I am particularly pleased that Ms. Stinson seized the challenge of putting an inner-city school in my district in the highest ranking of achievement in the Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the fourth largest school system in the nation. While teaching and learning continue within the halls of Lillie C. Evans Elementary School under the auspices of its dedicated and highly motivated faculty, Ms. Stinson has reached out to the community by ensuring that the parents are also schooled in the basic skills of reading, math and the sciences through regular sessions at night. Simply put, Ms. Stinson has literally bridged the gap between her school and her students' homes, making parental involvement an essential part of the teaching and learning process.

In spite of the odds, Ms. Stinson has truly demonstrated to all those called upon by public service that excellence and achievement are never beyond the reach of those willing to make the sacrifice and dare the impossible on behalf of tomorrow's leaders. This recognition truly honors her leadership and defines the nobility of her profession as an educator. I extend to her my heartfelt gratitude for a job superbly done and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING BRETT AGEЕ FOR
ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE
SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brett Agee of Liberty, Missouri, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brett has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years that Brett has been involved with scouting, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Patrol Leader, Patrol Leader on two occasions, Librarian, Quartermaster, Chaplain Aide, Senior Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, and Instructor. Brett has earned 31 merit badges, the 12 Month Camper Award, the 100 Nights Camper Award, and the religious award: Ad Altare Dei. Brett is an Ordeal Member of the Order of the Arrow and a Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. His Tribal Name is Swift White Tail Buck Standing in Clover.

For his Eagle Scout project, Brett led a group of Boy Scouts that built room dividers for use at the Earnest Shepherd Youth Center in Liberty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in commending Brett Agee for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING KYLER PAUL MARES

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of Kyler Paul Mares. He was born on December 27, 1995 to Greg and Verna Mares of Brush, Colorado.

The Mares had three children before Kyler was born: Jessica in 1989, Krista in 1991, and Gregory in 1994. Later, his parents would come to realize that Kyler was truly, "Heaven's Very Special Child."

Soon after Kyler's birth, his parents were told he needed to be tested to determine if his small head size was normal. It was determined to be abnormal and after more tests it was evident that Kyler had Cerebral Palsy.

As Kyler got older and bigger his parents were told he had an extreme case of Cerebral Palsy. It was difficult for his family as they came to realize that he would never communicate or be able to walk like a normal child. As he grew, they saw him endure many needles, many surgeries, and multiple broken bones.

But through all of this pain, Kyler was a happy baby; he never fussed and gave big smiles to his mommy, daddy, sisters and brothers.

Kyler's parents surrounded him with love and care and rose to the enormous challenges of raising a child with severe disabilities, and three other children.

His parents both worked full time to make ends meet and to provide health insurance for their family. His mother worked nights because they had no one to care for Kyler during the day. His parents never chose to put him in an institution even though it would have been much easier on them financially.

On the evening of September 1, 2004 Kyler's precious life ended. He was loved and adored by his family and they were told after his death and autopsy he should have only lived one day, instead he lived 8 and a half years.

They cherish those years and know that Kyler enriched their lives in so many ways. In God's infinite wisdom, he chose this special child for the Mares family.

They would be the first to say that they would not trade the experience for anything and they cherish every moment they had with Kyler. He was blessed to be born into this family and they were blessed to have him for 8½ years.

Sometimes things in life would not be chosen by us, but God who always knows best gives us a beautiful gift that would have been passed over. Kyler Paul Mares was a beautiful gift from God and he will forever live in the hearts of his family and friends.

We remember Kyler today and acknowledge that all children are precious and that scripture reveals to us that Jesus said, "If you've done it to the least of these, you've done it unto me."

Kyler was truly one of "the least of these." He will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING PATRICK NOVAK
FOR BEING HONORED WITH THE
CONGRESSIONAL AWARD GOLD
MEDAL

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Patrick Novak of Carbondale, Illinois, for receiving the Congressional Gold Medal.

The Congressional Award Program, established in 1979, recognizes initiative, achievement and service in young people. It began as a bipartisan effort in both the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. The program recognizes community service, achievement, and personal development. The Award builds confidence and self-esteem in countless young people as they grow into productive citizens in all walks of life. The program is considered America's award for the youth of our country.

The Congressional Award Gold Medal has been presented to Patrick for his service to others. He earned the Gold Medal while serving active duty in the United States Air Force. While stationed at Kadena Air Force Base, Japan, Patrick volunteered with the 18th Services Squadron. His work in the squadron as an "Ambassador" allowed Patrick to raise funds for Okinawa's Misata Children's Home. I applaud his hard work and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Patrick Novak who has received the Congressional Award Gold Medal. The outstanding work done by this dedicated young man has been truly influential in not only his community but to the people of Okinawa, Japan and I congratulate him as he is recognized among the Nation's most outstanding young people.

RECOGNIZING JUMBO'S RES-
TAURANT IN MIAMI, FLORIDA ON
ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 6, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise proudly to pay this tribute to Jumbo's Restaurant, a legendary business establishment in Miami's Liberty City community. On Saturday, January 8, 2005, it will celebrate its Golden Anniversary.

This place is more than just a restaurant located along the corridor of Seventh Avenue by 75th St. in Miami. It has been and continues to be the "gathering place" where both celebrities and ordinary folks come and congregate—and partake of the sumptuous meals that this storied establishment serves its faithful clientele. Since its inception 50 years ago, Jumbo's Restaurant has provided the magnificent backdrop of the struggles and triumphs of an inner-city trying to rise from the ashes of