

A full curriculum of aeronautics, communications, physical fitness and moral leadership was taught to each cadet. They also participated in several volunteer and community service projects over the last year.

Cadet Sergeants Osborne and Allen were honored over the Wright Brothers Award, passing the first of four phases in the cadet program.

The Wright Brothers Award is earned after completing Phase I, "The Learning Phase," consisting of the first three achievements of the cadet program. In addition, the cadet must pass a challenging examination, testing leadership, knowledge and proficiency in drill and ceremonies.

"These cadets have really grown since they first started the program and they have come a long way," said Deputy Commander Ellen Maternowski, who presented the awards to each cadet.

Once a cadet earns the Wright Brothers Award, they are promoted to the grade of cadet staff sergeants. They begin service as cadet non-commissioned officers and continue to participate and advance as cadets in the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol.

Mark Thomas, Chautauqua County executive, gave a message at the event, saying, "During World War II, the civil air patrol became famous for coastal control, where civilians volunteered to use privately owned aircrafts to spot enemy submarines along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Recognizing that America's entrance into the war was imminent and general aviation would be needed to succeed, the Civil Air Patrol then expanded rapidly into an army of more than 100,000 civilian volunteers committed to protecting America."

The Civil Air Patrol has marked over 60 years of service and remains a thriving program across America.

In the graduation ceremony on Thursday, Cadet Captain David Fehlman was honored with the Amelia Earhart Award which is earned after completing the Phase III with 11 credits and passing an arduous 100-question examination testing aerospace topics, leadership theory and staff topics.

"Once a cadet earns the Earhart Award, they are promoted to the grade of cadet captain," Mrs. Maternowski said. "These cadets who later enter CAP's Senior Member program are eligible for immediate promotion to CAP 1st Lieutenant at age 21. They are also eligible to apply to the International Air Cadet Exchange."

The cadet program provides opportunities for the learning, maturing, accepting, and nurturing of leadership to over 27,000 young Americans from 12-20 years of age. For further information about the Civil Air Patrol, contact Ellen Maternowski at 763-2743.

"For more than half a century the Civil Air Patrol has taken an active role in carrying out non-combat missions on behalf of the United States Air Force, performing more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions in the continental U.S.," Thomas said. "It is a great opportunity to honor these young men today for their achievements and for being role models for the younger generation."

I am honored Mr. Speaker, to have an opportunity to honor Zachary Osborne, Mike Allen and David Fehlman for their completion of cadet training.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3057) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Sanders-Rohrabacher Amendment which cuts funding for the Export-Import Bank. While one may argue that this amendment will simply prohibit the Export-Import Bank from approving federal loans or loan guarantees for the construction of nuclear power plants in China, this amendment sends a bad message. This amendment is one more step in the attempts of some in the House to shut down Ex-Im completely.

Now I respect the sponsors of this amendment who are true opponents of Ex-Im, but we cannot be fooled by thinking that one can vote for this language and still be a supporter of the Export-Import bank or free trade.

The Export-Import Bank was created to help U.S. exporters match competition from foreign export credit agencies in Japan, Germany, France, Canada, and other countries. Ex-Im is also required by law to work toward securing international agreements to reduce government-subsidized export financing, thereby promoting a level playing field for U.S. exporters—which means jobs for Americans in America.

Ex-Im finances approximately two percent of U.S. exports annually. Among Ex-Im financed exports were U.S. civilian aircraft, electronics, energy-related products, engineering services, medical equipment, vehicles, and agricultural equipment.

Even the sponsors of this amendment acknowledge that the funds for this project will go towards creating jobs in the U.S. They can claim that Westinghouse is a British owned company, and thereby something that does not deserve U.S. support, but using that same argument, Chrysler Motors is now a German owned company—should we not have any dealings with Chrysler and the thousands of American workers and UAW employees employed there. Nonsense—oppose this amendment and support U.S. jobs and free and fair trade.

IN HONOR OF VETERAN JOURNALIST GERSHON JACOBSON

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the life and achievements of Gershon Jacobson, the veteran Yiddish journalist, who founded and published the *Algemeiner Journal*. I am saddened to report

that Mr. Jacobson passed away on May 29, 2005. He is survived by his loving family and his many friends, who have established the Gershon Jacobson Jewish Continuity Fund to serve as an anchor for the perpetuation of Mr. Jacobson's legacy.

Mr. Jacobson was one of our Nation's most respected and influential journalists. He was born in Moscow in 1933 and soon emigrated to France, where he began his writing career. He then moved to America and immediately began working for the *New York Herald Tribune*. In the 1960s, Mr. Jacobson replaced Eli Weisel as the U.N. correspondent for Israel's largest daily, *Yediot Achronot*. During this time, Mr. Jacobson became renowned for excellent reporting on the capture of German war criminal Adolf Eichmann and for his interviews with world leaders and other notable figures. In 1972, Mr. Jacobson founded the Yiddish-English weekly, *Der Algemeiner Journal*. For the next 33 years, Mr. Jacobson served as its editor and publisher, and made it into a vital source of information for the Jewish community.

Mr. Jacobson stood at the forefront of Jewish life in America for close to 60 years and served the public as an indispensable guide to the post-World War II period. The prominent Israeli daily *Haaretz* stated, "Gershon Jacobson created a revolution in the Yiddish Press. Till his day, the Yiddish press occupied itself primarily with memories of the Shtetel, with romantic tales, and Yiddish literature and prose. Mr. Jacobson introduced into Yiddish journalism an acute awareness of the reality of Israel and the burning issues of contemporary Jewish life."

The Gershon Jacobson Jewish Continuity Fund will honor Mr. Jacobson's legacy and continue his work to battle for spiritual integrity and moral clarity. The fund's overall goal is to create a broad range of vehicles that will serve as a voice for Jews in the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in honoring the late Gershon Jacobson, whose keen insight into international and domestic affairs made him a strong and courageous voice on behalf of the Jewish people and the State of Israel. With his passing, the community has lost one of its true heroes. My heart goes out to his family and friends who will miss him deeply.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT G. WILMERS FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WESTERN NEW YORK COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Robert G. Wilmers, a man whose business expertise and community compassion has made a significant difference in Western New York.

Since 1983 Mr. Wilmers has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of M&T Bank Corporation. At that time, M&T was a local, Buffalo based bank with holdings of approximately \$2 billion.

Over the last 22 years, under Mr. Wilmers leadership, the company has grown to one of the 20 largest banks in the United States with