

in the construction of industrial plants, road bridges, and underground utility systems. Last year, the company ranked 67th in a listing of the top 400 national contractors. Employing more than 2,500 Ohio workers, Kokosing operates five divisions and five subsidiary companies.

Bill has conducted his entire career with dedication to integrity and excellence. All five of his children have voluntarily joined the company, which says even more about Bill's character than the numerous community awards he has garnered over the years. His hard work and entrepreneurial spirit make him an obvious choice for induction.

This year, the Hall of Fame is also paying tribute to a 2005 inductee: Michael M. Vucelic of Ideal Electric in Mansfield. Ideal employs nearly 500 people at its Mansfield and Minneapolis facilities.

Mike acquired a passion for engineering while flying gliders during his youth in Yugoslavia. This fascination with mechanics led him to Germany—where he served as a design engineer for Mercedes-Benz and the Ford Motor Company—and then to the United States, where he worked for Cessna.

By the age of 30, Mike was in charge of overseeing 300 NASA engineers on the Apollo program; Mike himself was at the control panel for both the Apollo 8 and Apollo 13 missions. Mike left NASA in 1975 for a 20-year career at Rockwell International, where he rose from engineering manager to corporate vice president.

In 1986, Mike purchased the nearly bankrupt Ideal Electric Company, quickly transforming it into the industry leader for diesel engines and medium-power generators. His ingenuity and selfless labor make him worthy of this recognition.

I know my colleagues join me in honoring these three exceptional business leaders as they are recognized by the North Central Ohio Entrepreneurial Hall of Fame.

WE THE PEOPLE: THE CITIZENS AND THE CONSTITUTION PROGRAM

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the students of East Brunswick High School for winning the national finals of the 2006 We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution program. Their unwavering commitment to mastering of our nation's most sacred document is truly laudable.

The students from East Brunswick traveled a long road before claiming national victory. They developed their knowledge of a wide range of topics, from the philosophical origins of the Constitution to its modern-day interpretations. They spent long hours studying primary and secondary sources. On April 29 through May 1, they appeared on Capitol Hill before simulated Congressional committees made up of constitutional scholars, lawyers, journalists, and government leaders, who tested their knowledge of both historical and contemporary constitutional issues.

As the foundation upon which our great democracy rests, the Constitution is a document

that all Americans should understand, appreciate, and defend. I applaud the students from East Brunswick High School for acting on these values. They are indeed our future leaders, and have proven that they are able to defend and nurture our democracy and our Constitution. While I certainly admire their wealth of knowledge, I admire even more their passionate dedication to our American ideals.

The participating students competed against more than 1,500 students from 49 other high schools. Since its founding by the Center for Civic Education in 1987, over 28 million students have participated in this program, whose goal is to educate high school students on the importance of continued civic involvement. East Brunswick High School won last year's competition, and it is a great achievement to have defended their title.

I would like to congratulate each of the students of East Brunswick High School: Brian Boyarsky, David Chu, Nelson Chu, Dana Covit, Megan DeMarco, Ben DeMarzo, Craig Distal, Deborah Elson, Dana Feuchtbauer, Munira Gunja, Melinda Guo, Shelby Highstein, Evan Hoffman, Jayasree Iyer, Ryan Korn, Michael Martelo, Carol Ann Moccio, Jeffrey Myers, Ari Ne'eman, Daniel Nowicki, Aditya Panda, Sherwin Salar, Gil Shefer, Aaron Sin, Lauren Slater, Eric Smith, Merichelle Villapando, Amy Wang, and Jason Yang. Congratulations also go to their teacher, Alan Brodman, for inspiring his students to excel in their study of the Constitution.

I am proud to have such fine Constitutional scholars in my district, and I am myself inspired by their dedication our nation's most sacred ideals. I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE BOROUGH OF MENDHAM COMMUNITY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2006

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Borough of Mendham in Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant community I am proud to represent. On May 15, 2006 the good citizens of Mendham Borough are celebrating the Borough's Centennial Anniversary.

Mendham Borough, a country village some 6 miles square, was once a stop for stagecoaches traveling on the old Washington Turnpike. The area is hilly, well wooded and its springs and small brooks are feeders for the Passaic and Raritan rivers.

The Borough of Mendham was created out of an urgent need to install a public water distribution system to fight fires and protect the lives and the property of its citizens. This it has done for 100 years, since its establishment as an incorporated municipality on May 15, 1906. Before incorporation, it was part of Mendham Township. The borough's village center (largely unchanged from the 1800s) serves as the hub of commercial activity for the Mendhams.

Mendham Borough is the site of five Historic American Buildings and a registered National Historic District. The leading landmark building and the borough's icon is the classic Federalist style Phoenix House, a former genteel

and fashionable roadhouse. Most famous amongst its regular guests was GEN Abner Doubleday, best known as the inventor of baseball. This majestic building, recently restored, serves as the Borough Hall.

Today, Mendham Borough is comprised of modest homes, small estates, and individual retail stores with some remaining open space. Its population exceeds 5,000.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the residents of Mendham Borough on the celebration of 100 years of rich history of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

HONORING 5TH AND 6TH GRADE STUDENTS AT LAKE HARGROVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2006

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an amazing group of students. The fifth and sixth graders of Lake Grove Elementary School in Lake Oswego, Oregon, have taught us all a lesson about helping those in need.

When these students learned about that many people around the world, and right in our own backyards, go hungry every day, they decided that they wanted to do something about it. They spearheaded an event called the Empty Bowl Project to raise awareness about hunger in their community and to benefit the Oregon Food Bank.

The idea behind the Empty Bowl Project is simple. Participants create ceramic bowls, and then serve a meal of soup and bread. Guests choose a bowl to use that day and to keep as a reminder that there are always Empty Bowls in the world. In exchange for a meal and the bowl, the guest gives a donation to a local hunger organization.

The Empty Bowl Project at Lake Grove consists of three parts. The fifth and sixth graders led their schoolmates in a food drive that has collected over 1,500 food items. Each class from pre-Kindergarten through sixth grade designed their own empty bowl to be raffled at the Soup Supper. And the culminating event will be held tonight with the fifth and sixth graders serving a meal of bread, soup, and water so that people gain a better understanding of what a real soup kitchen is like.

I want to take this opportunity to honor these students for the efforts that they have made on behalf of the hungry of Oregon. With students like these, the future in Oregon is bright indeed.

RECOGNIZING THE 58TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 2, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con Res. 392, recognizing the 58th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel.