

ancestry includes Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

The founding of the United States of America was predicated on the idea that all men are created equal and that America would be a place where anyone could achieve and succeed. That success should know no boundaries.

This year's theme for National Hispanic Heritage Month recognizes the role Hispanic Americans have played in making that dream a reality. Their strength and hard work, anchored by a deep love for family and country, has helped shape our society for the better.

I commend the proud history of all Hispanic Americans and ask that all Americans honor National Hispanic Heritage Month. The richness of Hispanic culture and the contributions of Hispanic Americans have made our country a better nation.

STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3221—the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 2009. This bill makes the single-largest investment in student aid in our nation's history and will increase opportunities for our workforce to expand their skills through community colleges. I would like to thank Chairman MILLER for working with me to include in the bill legislation that I offered to expand the mission of community college computer labs as a hub for training our nation's workers. Specifically the addition of Section 503 (f)(8) allows funds for community college reform to be used for the purpose of "providing information technology training for students and members of the public seeking to improve their computer literacy and information technology skills through public accessibility to community college computer labs and information technology training providing on weeknights and weekends by an employee of a community college who is capable of basic computer instruction."

I am a strong supporter of our nation's community colleges and believe they represent an invaluable and untapped information hub within our communities. By participating in the program set forth by the bill and simply keeping their computer labs open to the public for 20 hours a week on weeknights and 10 hours a week on weekends, our community colleges would provide individuals the ability to gain the skills they need to move into a new job or advance in their current job. Further, to ensure that the time spent in the computer labs will help build those information technology skills, the community colleges should be required to have an instructor from the college present to provide basic computer instruction during those hours. Access to this instruction should also be free of charge and accessible to students and members of the public.

In order to provide this access to the computer labs my intent when drafting this language was to allow community colleges to access funds for the maintenance, administration and improvement of computer labs, which includes: staffing facilities; purchasing computer equipment, which includes hardware and software; maintaining, repairing, and replacing technology equipment; maintaining and securing facilities; and providing utilities for the facilities and computer equipment.

Once again, I thank Chairman MILLER for his hard work on this legislation and urge its passage.

IN HONOR OF KEVIN WILSON, INCOMING PRESIDENT OF THE DELAWARE VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Kevin Wilson, the incoming President of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association (DVFA). President Wilson began his career at the Clayton Volunteer Fire Company No. 1, beginning as a junior member, and moving up to Chief before taking on leadership roles in Kent County and the State of Delaware.

President Wilson's life has been dedicated to protecting others. Along with his distinguished career in the Fire Service, President Wilson served with the Delaware State Police as a Trooper Medic. He is currently an investigator for the Delaware State Police's Sex Offender Division.

During the four decades that President Wilson has served his community, he has been recognized by his peers for heroic work. These honors include being named Clayton Fire Company Fireman of the Year in 2006 and co-winner of the State Fireman of the year in 1997.

I commend President Wilson on his exceptional career of tireless dedication and selflessness. DVFA is fortunate to have such a man filling this important role. I am confident that President Wilson's experience and leadership will help DVFA continue on the path of exceptional service for which they are known across our State.

CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF MAUMEE VALLEY COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 125th birthday celebration of Maumee Valley Country Day School in Toledo, Ohio. As noted in the school's history, "While the world has changed dramatically since the founding of our School in 1884, essential characteristics of our school have remained constant."

Since its founding in 1884, Maumee Valley has seen itself as "a warm, family-centered,

comfortable environment that encourages passion and creativity in our exceptional student body." The school is built on the foundation of a visionary board, supportive parents, and the dedication and commitment of our talented faculty and staff, and has never lost focus on its core purpose, to provide the best educational opportunities for its students.

Maumee Valley Country Day School's original school was on North Summit Street in downtown Toledo and known as the Smead School for Girls. The school soon moved to the Judge John Fitch Homestead in Toledo's Old West End. The current school's Smead building was completed in 1934. Beginning in the 1950s, the school saw increasing construction and expansion to its present day. Now in the 21st Century, Maumee Valley embarks on new transformations to further develop education in the new century.

Maumee Valley Country Day School's mission is "to enable students to become enlightened, compassionate and contributing citizens of our global community, while preparing graduates for their best opportunities in higher education." Over three centuries, the school and its leadership, parents and students, have carried forth this mission. As they pause to mark this milestone 125th year celebration, I join the school families past and present in looking toward a bright future.

TRIBUTE TO ANNE WHITEMAN

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 25, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a brave American; Anne Whiteman. Anne was born September 5, 1956 to parents who met and married in Tubingen, Germany. Her father was born and raised in Germany and fought as a soldier in the German Army during WWII and was later held captive by the American Forces. During Anne's childhood, he recounted many fascinating stories that led to his love for America and his becoming a U.S. citizen.

Though Anne was born in Virginia she completed high school in Germany and worked at the American Consulate in Frankfurt. After college and various jobs she applied with the FAA in 1981 and was the first woman certified Air Traffic Controller to work at El Paso. In those days, pilots were not used to speaking with a female controller but she quickly earned their respect. She was selected for a position at DFW in 1984 where she started in the Tower but later moved downstairs to work in the Terminal Radar Approach Control, TRACON, radar room. Anne believes that her move to the TRACON gave her the best gift as it was there that she met her husband. No one thought they could survive working together every day but not only did they survive but they thrived. Anne was certified on all positions in February of 1986 and became the first female controller to certify at DFW TRACON.

Anne has worked many aircraft in distress and has assisted pilots as she grew in her knowledge of aircraft and skills. As a result, she was encouraged to bid on a supervisor's position and after much encouragement bid on a temporary supervisor detail and was selected for the 120 days in August 1985 and