

County World War II Veteran's Project participants and organizers.

I would like to begin by thanking all veterans for their service to our country. From the beaches of Normandy to the mountains of Afghanistan, our men and women in uniform have overcome and continue to overcome tremendous adversity to fulfill their missions.

Our nation's veterans have helped keep us safe, and helped keep us free.

It is important that our community remembers and honors the sacrifices made by the men and women who have served in our military, as well as their families and supporters.

Although future generations may never meet a veteran of World War II, the book assembled by Janell Wood and Christina Moore, "War and Sacrifice," will help all of us understand how our neighbors in and around Snohomish County contributed to this nation's largest war effort at home and abroad.

I thank Janell and Christina for their work recording the individual histories of this diverse group that came together to defeat the Axis Powers. I also recognize the following individuals whose experiences during World War II comprise this book, and honor them for their service:

Lois Auchterlonie, Elwood Barker, William Brayton, Donald Brown, Lawrence "Maggie" Bryant, Joseph Burkard, Dan Burris, H.B. "Chris" Christie, Paul Cormier, Herbert Courtney, William Dean, Ted Dufour, Roy Eastman, Fred Ensslin, Earl Horn, William Huested, Frank Hutchins, Leo Hymas, Stanley Innes, Edwin Kirchgessner, Grace Kortbein, Arthur Langdon, Marcelle "Honey" Langdon, Arthur Larson, Eleanor Leight, Leonard Martin, Harold McMahon, Truman Merritt, William Miller, William Moore, Robert Otto, David Pesznecker, Wallace Pesznecker, Art Poier, Paul Schaus, Ervin Schmidt, Allen Stewart, Jack Terhar, George Thorleifson, William Tygret, Louise Vandervanter, Maurice Vincent, Mick Wagelie, Jack Walter, Maynard Wege, Theodore West, Lonnie Williams, and Robert Willingham.

Our nation's triumph in World War II could not have occurred without the hard work and sacrifice of these men and women and millions of others who gave up ordinary jobs as teachers, factory workers, and businessmen to fight enemies of freedom around the world.

Upon returning to the United States and civilian life, these brave men and women helped America achieve an era of unprecedented economic prosperity.

To the veterans of World War II, and those that supported them, thank you for service to our country, and your involvement in our community.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR
JOHN TAYLOR'S SERVICE

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of John Taylor and honor his more than 40 years of service with the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Refuge Manager John Taylor began his career with the National Wildlife Refuge System

in 1969 as a GS-3 Student Trainee. For three years he worked with the Mattamuskeet, Piedmont, and Back Bay National Wildlife Refuges. In 1971 he was promoted to his first assistant manager's position.

His career has taken him across the continent, from North Carolina to Alaska. He has worked with 15 refuges across 9 states. He worked with several refuges just as they were being set up, including the Becharof and Alaska National Wildlife Refuges.

While working with the Alligator River and Currituck National Wildlife Refuges he was instrumental in the Red Wolf Reintroduction Program. Red wolves were nearly extinct ten years ago. Now, thanks to his efforts, they can once again be seen in their natural environment.

John Taylor also supported the establishment of the Clarks River National Wildlife Refuge, the first Refuge in the state of Kentucky.

John Taylor has worked selflessly for more than 40 years to protect and preserve the beauty of our country's natural environment for future generations. For the last 19 years, he has served as the Refuge Manager of the Tennessee Natural Resource Refuge. He has been noted for his leadership abilities and his eagerness to get the public further engaged in conservation efforts.

Tennessee's natural beauty and amazing diversity of plant and animal life remain one of its most treasured endowments for future generations.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in thanking John Taylor for his years of service both to the public and to the environment. He will be missed, and we wish him well on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING NAVAJO ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL—LEGO ROBOTICS
TEAM ROBOBUFFS

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 18, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Navajo Elementary School's Lego Robotics Team, in Scottsdale, Arizona. Building upon their STEM focused education, nine extraordinary students made it to the semi-finals at the FIRST LEGO League State Championship which I attended at ASU's Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering this past winter.

As a teacher for almost 28 years, I understand the importance of hands-on learning experiences and real-life scenarios that help students connect learning in the classroom to the real world. I believe that Navajo's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) curriculum is key to creating a learning environment that fosters innovation and creativity.

The kind of teamwork and creative thinking that was shown in the RoboBuff's design is going to help return our country to economic prosperity. Any one of these students might be the next Bill Gates.

Navajo Elementary is giving its students a head start, preparing them for college and beyond. In this competition, they are not only taking math and science curriculum to the next level through problem-solving and experimentation, but are learning life skills.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the extraordinary achievement of the Navajo Elementary School Lego Robotics Team: Tatianna Walker, Hailey Freeman, Nick Lowry, Tino Velez, Michael Majercin, Chad Bonfanti, Wade McEachern, Abby White and TJ Smith, along with the exceptional leadership of their coaches Cathy White and Chip Bonfanti, and their mentors Dr. Christine Loots, Dr. Bill Johnson, Jim Deng, Alicia Payne and David Schaeffer.

AMERICA COMPETES
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5116) to invest in innovation through research and development, to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of this first amendment en bloc to the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act of 2010. I support this legislation because I believe a substantial investment in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics translates to innovation and good-paying jobs. As a member of the Education and Labor Committee, it is clear to me how federal grant opportunities for colleges provides for a strong American workforce.

Mr. Chair, included in this en bloc amendment is language I authored which seeks to give every higher education institution, regardless of funding history or its location, a fair shot at receiving funding.

I have concerns that a disproportional amount of the funding authorized under this bill would end up being awarded to large institutions, which may eclipse small colleges and universities, many of which are located throughout rural America.

Let me be clear—I strongly support, and encourage, all institutions of higher learning to pursue federal STEM funding opportunities. What my provision does is simply express the sense of Congress that when the grant-making authority is evaluating two or more applications of equal merit, that additional consideration should be given to applicants in rural areas and those that have no history of federal STEM grant funding.

Mr. Chair, because there are many bigger schools which have an entire staff dedicated to searching for grant opportunities, I believe that we must ensure there is a level playing field so that all areas of this nation and schools of all sizes and resources are able to benefit.

I believe the language I authored will benefit the overall legislation by enabling unprecedented STEM funding access to schools all across this nation.

I would like to close by thanking and congratulating Chairman GORDON and Ranking Member HALL for their extraordinary work in crafting the underlying bill. I was proud to support the 2007 COMPETES legislation, and I am proud to support its reauthorization.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in supporting both en bloc amendment number