

Trumbull, Monroe, Bethel, Fairfield, and Danbury have joined Newtown in this program. There has been a great deal of national interest in the program this year as well. There are clubs, groups, churches, senior centers, professional offices, and schools from such diverse locations as Colorado, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, Texas, and New York City lending their support to the program.

I conducted a similar program called Holiday Cards for Heroes this holiday season. School children in northwestern Connecticut made hundreds of cards for veterans staying in the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and the State of Connecticut Veterans' Home in Rocky Hill. So I know what these small tokens of appreciation can do to lift the spirits of a veteran.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that we can all agree that the Valentines for Troops program deserves recognition for their efforts to show the admiration that this nation has for its troops. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the Valentines for Troops program for the service it provides to the men and women of our Armed Services.

CONGRATULATING LONGFELLOW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA, FOR BEING RECOGNIZED AS ONE OF THE FIRST "GREEN RIBBON SCHOOLS" IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise proudly to congratulate Longfellow Elementary School located in my hometown of Long Beach, California, and the 37th Congressional District which I am proud to represent, on its designation by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the first-ever Green Ribbon Schools.

According to Education Secretary Arne Duncan, Longfellow Elementary School was recognized for its outstanding achievements in the areas of environmental curriculum, energy reduction, campus recycling and water efficiency.

The Green Ribbon Schools program is a federal recognition program that began in September 2011 under the leadership of President Obama, Education Secretary Arne Duncan, and Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lisa Jackson. Honored schools embrace and exercise a comprehensive approach to creating "green" environments, which includes taking remedial action to reducing adverse environmental impacts, promoting health, and providing high-quality environmental instruction that prepares students with the skills and sustainability concepts needed to compete and win in the global economy of the 21st century.

Green Ribbon Schools promote environmental education and learning as well as protect our children's health.

Under the leadership of Principal Laurie Murrin, Longfellow Elementary School has successfully gone "green" by reducing energy use by 17 percent since 2004, has a 34 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions

since 2003, and an increased recycling rate of 46 percent. Also, 100 percent of the landscaping at the school is water-efficient, and the District uses Compressed Natural Gas School Buses.

Additionally, Longfellow Elementary School actively promoted environmental learning by implementing environmental programs on campus like Energy Star Recycling program, Water Quality and Efficiency program, Green Cleaning program, Safe Routes to School, School Garden, School Integrated Pest Management Program, Indoor Air Quality Program, as well as Environmental Education.

This is a remarkable record and is all the more impressive given the economic background and demographic diversity of the Longfellow Elementary School student body. The student body is comprised of 1,080 students, 30 percent of whom are Hispanic, 17 percent are African American, 5 percent Asian and Pacific Islander, and 28 percent Caucasian. Four in ten students receive free or reduced lunches.

Despite their challenging backgrounds, the students at Longfellow Elementary School have shown that great things can happen if you are motivated, committed, and have the right leaders like Principal Murrin. As King Henry V exhorted his comrades in arms at the Battle of Agincourt, "all things are ready if our minds be so."

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Lions of Longfellow Elementary School, Principal Laurie Murrin, The Green Team, and the entire Longfellow Elementary community for being at the forefront of improving our environment and helping prepare our students to be competitive and succeed in an emerging green economy.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TAMBURITZANS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Tamburitzans, a group which has been promoting Eastern European arts and culture for 75 years.

Established by Dr. A. Lester Pierce in 1937, the Tamburitzans are a multicultural song and dance group. The group consists of students of Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Duquesne University Tamburitzans are dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the cultural heritage of Eastern Europe and its neighbors through performance, while awarding scholarships to talented and deserving student performers.

The Duquesne University Tamburitzans have grown from an original group of 12 men to today's company of more than three dozen performers. Since 1988, the Tamburitzans have been under the direction of Mr. Paul Stafura, a former member of the Tamburitzans during the late 1960s. Each year, the Tamburitzans travel throughout the United States to put on an average of 80 concerts. They have also held concerts in numerous Latin American countries, Canada, Bulgaria, France, Italy, Poland, Romania, the former Czechoslovakia, Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the Duquesne University

Tamburitzans, the longest-running live stage show of its kind in the United States.

ANJELICA HARRISON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anjelica Harrison for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Anjelica Harrison is a 7th grader at Mandalay Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anjelica Harrison is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Anjelica Harrison for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II veterans who traveled to Washington, DC, on April 4, 2012 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II veterans the opportunity to visit the World War H Memorial on The National Mall in Washington, DC. This memorial was built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on April 4 answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorial. I am proud to submit the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Leonard David Adler; David S. Albert; Donald John Anderson; Richard J. Andrew; Theodore Arey; Harold L. Autrey; Asa Melville Bacon; Rudolf Balek; Stanley C. Bartecki, Jr.; Robert L. Barz; Victor J. Biasetti; Otto R. Bobysud; Raymond J. Brejcha; Joseph P. Brooks; Walter H. Burtan; Joseph S. Buttice; Jack R. Cerniglia; Ranson Coleman; John M. Conway; James J. Corolis; James M. Cribbs;