them with an educational environment that is conducive for productive learning. Among their scholastic accomplishments, this past year Key Largo School scored above average on the Stanford Achievement Test in Reading and Math, scored an average of 3.9 on the Florida Writes Exam with 98 percent of the eighth grade students scoring three or above, and, since 1972, has received consecutive accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In addition, the school has written and received many large and small grants including a Customer Focused School Grant, Retrofit Grant, Home School Connection Grant, and Learn and Serve Grant. The grants have helped to make the school a model technology school for the district and the State; initiate the research, development and implementation of a block scheduling program; develop a theme based alternative education program for at risk students from grade 4 through 8; and service more than 300 exceptional students ranging with disabilities from pre-school handicapped to severely emotionally disturbed to gifted. The support of the community, business partners, teachers, and parents has been instrumental to the successful learning behaviors of the students at Key Largo Elementary and Middle School.

I commend Key Largo Elementary and Middle School on receiving the distinguished 1996-97 Blue Ribbon School Award. I know that the leadership and faculty will continue to exceed beyond their scholastic abilities and continue to be a model for schools throughout the country.

IN MEMORY OF HENRIETTA LACKS

HON. ROBERT L. EHR LICH, JR.
OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. EHR LICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Henrietta Lacks, a woman whose contributions to medical science and research have gone relatively unnoticed for the past 40 years. Ms. Lacks provided a crucial sample of cells that has furthered our knowledge of medical science and disease prevention, and for this contribution, we are all grateful.

Henrietta Lacks was born in 1920 in Clover, VA. At the age of 23 she moved to Turner’s Station, near Baltimore, MD, joining her husband David. She had five children, four of whom—Deborah, David Jr., Lawrence, and Zakariyya—still survive. Ms. Lacks was known as pleasant and smiling, and always willing to lend a helping hand.

After the birth of her fifth child, Ms. Lacks was admitted to the hospital at Johns Hopkins University where she was found to have cervical cancer. Before her death, she donated a tumor biopsy section which became the first human cell line to survive outside the body. This cell line has proven instrumental to medical research.

Due to traditional patient confidentiality requirements, Ms. Lacks was not acknowledged as the donor of the cells. Instead, the donor remained anonymous, and the cell line was known simply as the HeLa cells. Under the care of Dr. George O. Gey, the cells flourished due to his innovative methods of preserving them. Dr. Gey went on to cultivate more cells which could be used for a variety of medical research. These cells proved instrumental in polio research, and they helped establish the fields of molecular biology and virology. Henrietta Lacks’ cells are still used in research today, more than four decades after her death.

This cell line has proven instrumental to medical research by providing a human cell line to survive outside the body. It has been instrumental to countless scientists, providing a tool for research that has led to major medical breakthroughs.

The celebration of the 50th anniversary of the pilot club of York, Inc.

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Pilot Club of York on their 50th anniversary. This international organization, comprised of executive, business, and professional leaders, has worked for many years to improve the quality of life in local communities.

I am proud to say that the York Chapter, chartered on May 2, 1947, has one of the largest memberships. Since 1947, it has truly upheld its motto of “Friendship and Service” through extraordinary service to the York community. The organization has received many local and national awards for their volunteer activities which include sponsoring highway rest stops during the holiday season, financial contributions to the York Hospital, the York County Historical Society, Access York, the Moul Home and the James Halfway House, and the establishment of a scholarship program. Their financial support and commitment to education has enabled 35 young people to attend college and pursue their dreams in fields such as medicine, engineering, and teaching.

On behalf of the residents of the 19th Congressional District, I want to thank each member of the Pilot Club for their years of service toward improving our community and enabling so many individuals access to the American dream. I hope the next 50 years are as fruitful as the past 50.

Statements by Tom Doughtat and Kevin Belanger, Montpelier High School regarding international relations.

HON. BERNARD SANDERS
OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the record this statement by high school students from Montpelier High School in Vermont, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people:

Mr. DOUTHAT. I would like to thank you for coming to our school, Congressman Sanders, and we are going to be talking about some of the U.S. drug policies in South America. I am proposed to write a book about this year on the War on Drugs. This figure is up from $10 billion spent during the 1980s over the 10 years it nearly doubled. The money spent on drugs is spent on actual prevention and keeping it out of the country, whether that be through South American programs or Border Patrol and 30 percent is spent on drug rehabilitation.

During the Bush Administration he proposed a five-year, $2.2 billion program for Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in 1993 he granted $716 million to the South American nations and Mexico as long as they committed themselves to reducing their product production and respect for human rights.

The U.S. also helped to train local police in the process the government is considering drug trafficking and the destroying of cacao. Also, we sponsored their rates in any of these countries.

Expenditure this policy has been in effect for a long time it really hasn’t worked in curbing the influx of drugs into this country or the use of them once they are in, and during this period cocaine production has ballooned and the amount of drugs hasn’t gone down. Basically, the only thing that has affected a little is 1% of the money 400,000 Americans in the jail on drug possession charges and trafficking charges.

Our question is do you think this policy could be used more effectively in the zero tolerance policy or do you think there is a better philosophy in and attacks at curbing drug production and use in the United States if you think that is a significant program?

Mr. BELANGER. Well basically got together and when we were talking, actually it was a little bit ago, we were thinking of proposals in which in order to cut the spending that the government could possibly use, so we thought of—what we think it might be actually doing that, but we are thinking like what happens, instead of spending like the $16 million—billion I mean, fighting like the so-called War on Drugs and like cutting off the supply from the drugs coming up, maybe the government controlled as in they would—how would you say?

Mr. DOUTHAT. They sell—the government would be sort of the handler of drugs, sort like methadone clinics but modified more than that, not quite suppliers but something near to that. We think that is a good idea because really the only thing that our drug policy has affected in the last ten years, it is really gotten a lot of South American drug dealers and drug producers and drug traffickers in this country quite wealthy.

Mr. BELANGER. What we were thinking is if the government was basically like the pharmacists, like if you had any addiction whatsoever, you would go to them and like the government would actually sell you the goods, like what happens, we thought of—what happens, we thought of proposals in which if you would make money off this, so that is one aspect, but they also would lower the street value so that the drug dealers couldn’t make a business.

Mr. DOUTHAT. It wouldn’t be quite like methadone clinics and it wouldn’t be completely medical. If the government sold drugs to non-addicts it would virtually—for one thing, it would take away the AIDS threat from IV drug users and also it would make it a thing that doesn’t happen that I think as long as humanity has existed, so I really do not think it is realistic to completely curb recreational drug use and it has been shown through prohibition like liquor, marijuan and other things that just doesn’t work.
So I think that the government sponsoring it would make it clean, would make the drugs safer and it would make people who are occasional users, they wouldn’t have to be criminals and they would be living much more normal lives.

Mr. BELANGER. Legalize drugs in the form like the U.K. and I think it is Denmark hashish bars, stuff like that and Holland has basically tested and I think the ones that are really addictive would have to be treated differently than the drugs like marijuana.

Mr. DOUTHAT. And I think some drugs would have to be treated differently and I think cocaine and meth and heroin are especially the ones that are really addictive would have to be treated differently than the drugs like marijuana.

Mr. BELANGER. And maybe as a suggestion to you and the people you work with, treat like the U.K. and I think it is Denmark hashish bars, stuff like that and Holland has basically tested and I think the ones that are really addictive would have to be treated differently than the drugs like marijuana.

Most of the experts have endorsed the idea of national standards generally, pointing out that the new math standards have shown that standards can be done at the national level without federalizing the educational system. At the same time, the experts are cautious, saying that the standards should steer clear of too many specifics.

My view is that it would probably be useful to have more national standards of what students should be expected to know at given points along the educational path. Student advancement ought to be more or less the same thing in California or Indiana or Mississippi. It is difficult for me to see how we achieve both equity and excellence in education without high standards.