

became the first principal in September 1927, Whitmore-Bolles has only had six principals, each of whom have maintained an excellent educational environment. These principals include: Jack Rabe (1949–1967), Walfrid Toma (1967–1971), Roy Raymer (1971–1984), Bernard Boyle (1984–1989), John Tobin (1989–1999), and the current principal Dawn Eule.

Over the years the hard work and commitment of the Whitmore-Bolles faculty has been apparent in the elementary school's accomplished students. Whitmore-Bolles continues to place first in citywide championships for track, volleyball (boys and girls), and chess. The fourth and fifth graders are involved in annual concerts given by the band and select choir programs. Also, the elementary students have received many art awards for excellence. In addition, the students this year at Whitmore-Bolles have expanded their educational environment by developing a school newspaper, the "Whitmore Times." The publication includes articles and stories written and researched by students. Furthermore, this year four students and two former students were honored in Law Day Essay. Before graduating from Whitmore-Bolles, all students are rewarded for their efforts. This year the fourth graders at Whitmore-Bolles are traveling to Mackinaw Island, and the fifth graders are off to camp. Although the teachers play a significant role in the development of Whitmore students, this energetic and talented student body would not be possible without the active PTA and parent volunteers that plan the students' various functions throughout the year.

Whitmore-Bolles is a well-respected school known for its achievements in education. This past fall Whitmore-Bolles elementary was awarded the Golden Apple Award by former Governor John Engler. Whitmore elementary was one of two in Dearborn to receive this recognition for success and achievement. In addition, this elementary school recently received accreditation through the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation. Whitmore-Bolles counts among its prestigious alumni Representative Gary Woronchak, former Lions quarterback Gary Danielson, and Channel Seven news anchor Erik Smith. With 75 years of exceptional students, an outstanding staff, supportive parents and prestigious alumni, Whitmore-Bolles has much to celebrate.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me and all of my colleagues in congratulating Whitmore-Bolles Elementary on its 75th Anniversary.

COMMENDING RABBI SHALOM J.
LEWIS

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rabbi Shalom Lewis on his 25th Anniversary at Congregation Etz Chaim in Cobb County.

Rabbi Lewis was installed as the first full-time Rabbi of Congregation Etz Chaim in September of 1978, and during his years of service has grown the membership to more than 800 families.

Rabbi Lewis has served not only his Synagogue and Congregation with distinction, but

also the entire Cobb County Community. It has been my personal privilege to participate with Rabbi Lewis at numerous Baccalaureate Services for the graduating seniors of Cobb County High Schools. He is a positive influence on the youth of our county.

The Churches and Synagogues of Cobb County contribute to the fabric of our community, and the quality of life of all our citizens. To that end, no one offers more personal enthusiasm and spiritual leadership than Rabbi Lewis.

It is my pleasure to recognize Rabbi Shalom Lewis on this the 25th year of his service to Congregation Etz Chaim and the Cobb County Community.

WALTER SISULU

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit a resolution paying tribute to Walter Sisulu, a mentor, friend, and critical leader in the movement to free South Africa from apartheid.

The People's 'servant,' Walter Sisulu helped free both Black and White people from the bondage of segregation while driving home the concept of equality for all. He, along with Nelson Mandela, was imprisoned at Robben Island for 26 years for his role in seeking true democratic representation.

In 1910, the Union of South Africa established a whites only government that limited voting rights and implemented South Africa's segregation policy. In 1948, the National Party won an all-white general election on a campaign promise to introduce a system of "apartheid" to totally separate the races. Opposition to the apartheid system by the black majority was ruthlessly suppressed, and a system based on white supremacy remained until 1994.

Sisulu fought tirelessly against the policy of apartheid, sacrificing his life to free black South Africans and to demonstrate the power of representative democracy. In the words of Nelson Mandela, "He was blessed with that quality that always saw the good in others, and therefore he was able to bring out the goodness. He had an inexhaustible capacity to listen to others, and therefore he was able to encourage others to explore ideas."

After the victory over apartheid, Mr. Sisulu worked to advance the quality of life for the average man and woman that the former government had so long ignored and oppressed.

In closing, Walter's vision of a united and representative government that serves the needs of all its people remains a model for us all. For that he commands and deserves our respect.

Walter Sisulu, will be sorely missed. Please join me in honoring and remembering his dedication to true democracy.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce legislation that will elevate the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to the Cabinet and redesignate the EPA as the Department of Environmental Protection.

The United States is one of the few industrial nations that does not place environmental protection at a cabinet-level position. I believe that environmental protection is as important as other cabinet functions, and is critical to the health and well-being of this nation's environment and people.

During the 107th Congress, the Subcommittee on Energy Policy, Natural Resources and Regulatory Affairs, which I chair, held three hearings to explore the merits of elevating EPA to department-level status. These hearings addressed two EPA elevation bills introduced by Congressman SHERWOOD BOEHLERT and former Congressman Steve Horn. Several experts, representatives of the regulated community, Federal and State officials testified not only about the merits of elevating EPA to department-level status, but also about current organizational problems at EPA that hinder effective environmental protection.

Currently, each EPA Regional office, Program office and division reports directly to EPA's Administrator and Deputy Administrator. The Subcommittee discovered that this "stovepipe" organization results in EPA's inability to effectively address cross-media environmental protection. I believe that EPA's structure, as it currently exists, lacks adequate oversight and coordination of its offices to ensure that science, policy and implementation are integrated throughout EPA.

The Subcommittee also found that EPA lacks scientific leadership and critical science for decisionmaking. The Subcommittee found that many of the problems with EPA's science stems from the fact that scientific activities take place in both the Office of Research and Development and the Program offices without sufficient coordination and intraagency dissemination of information. My bill creates an Under Secretary for Science and Information that will advance environmental protection by conducting peer-reviewed scientific studies of the highest caliber.

Several departments have their own statistical agencies to provide independent and reliable data for decisionmaking and analysis. These include: the Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census; the Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics; the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration; the Department of Health and Human Services' National Center for Health Statistics; and the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

EPA lacks a similar function, resulting in unreliable statistical data on current environmental conditions necessary to measure whether EPA's policies and regulations efficiently and successfully protect the environment. My bill creates a Bureau of Environmental Statistics that I believe will provide the Department with the tools it needs to meet its responsibilities.

EPA, as it exists today, does not have the institutional ability to meet the environmental challenges of the 21st century. My bill reflects the recommendations of several expert witnesses at the Subcommittee's hearings about how to make the EPA a more effective protector of the environment.

A RESOLUTION HONORING STEPHANIE SMITH, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF WALDRON, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Stephanie Smith, winner of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Stephanie is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Stephanie is an exceptional student at Camden-Frontier High School, and possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. Stephanie has received numerous awards for her excellence in academics and athletics, as well as her volunteer activities with Student Council, coordinating sponsorships for seven needy families for Christmas. In addition, Stephanie has participated in 4-H for 10 years, winning a State Gold Public Speaking Award and being chosen as Regional Star Farmer in FFA.

Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Stephanie Smith for her selection as winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY KAY KOSA

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to Mary Kay Kosa, a community leader and dear friend. On Sunday, May 18, 2003 a plaque will be dedicated in Mrs. Kosa's memory for her service to the Monroe County Mental Health Board.

Born in Monroe County in 1928, Mary Kay Kosa spent her life helping others. She served 22 years on the Monroe County Mental Health Board, from her appointment in 1980 until 2002, acting as Chairperson from 1994 on.

During her tenure Mrs. Kosa helped facilitate the growth of the program by endorsing cooperation with the Washtenaw County Health Organization. She also helped to turn the former county department into an authority, an accomplishment that aided the development of mental health services in the area.

In addition to her service on the Mental Health Board, Mary Kay Kosa was renowned for lending a helping hand to anyone in the community. During her 25 years as a teacher in the Monroe public schools and another 25 years as an administrator, she touched the lives of thousands of children and teachers alike. Moreover, Mrs. Kosa aided in the advancement of minorities by participating in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and chairing the Monroe branch of the American Association of University Women.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring the life of Mary Kay Kosa. She often said, "if you live in a community, you owe that community and I have a commitment to Monroe." Mrs. Kosa and her husband of 50 years, Edward Kosa, lived by this philosophy in addition to encouraging others to do the same.

RECOGNIZING HIV VACCINE AWARENESS DAY

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the sixth annual HIV Vaccine Awareness Day. As we all know, HIV/AIDS is the deadliest epidemic in medical history. Twenty million people globally have died and another 40 million are infected. Significant advances have been made in the treatment of HIV/AIDS, however the number of lives lost is a clear indication that much more must be done. The development of an effective vaccine to prevent HIV remains science's greatest hope in halting the epidemic.

The HIV Vaccine Trials Network (HVTN) is a network of clinical sites in the United States and abroad dedicated to the development of an HIV vaccine through testing and evaluating candidate vaccines in clinical trials. The network includes 18 sites in the United States and 11 international sites, including those in Africa, Asia, South America and the Caribbean. Two of the domestic sites are located in my congressional district. Fenway Community Health Center and Brigham and Women's Hospital are members of the Harvard HIV Vaccine Trials Unit, under direction of the National Institutes of Health.

As we commemorate the Sixth Annual HIV Vaccine Awareness Day, we honor the thousands of volunteers who have literally rolled up their sleeves to receive an experimental vaccine designed to prevent this disease. Without clinical trials of HIV vaccines and the support of these volunteers, community leaders, researchers and educators, HIV will continue to devastate communities throughout the United States and the world. Communities in my district and around the nation will hold a variety of activities today to raise awareness about preventive HIV vaccine trials, why a vaccine is the best hope for stopping the spread of HIV, and how ordinary people can

be a part of the international effort to stem the pandemic. I urge my colleagues to participate in these events and learn more about the work being done to find a vaccine for HIV/AIDS.

REV. RICHARD POLMOUNTER CELEBRATES 25 YEARS IN PRIESTHOOD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I call the attention of the House of Representatives to the 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood of Reverend Richard J. Polmouter, pastor of Saint Mary, Help of Christians Church and Saint Mary's Assumption Church, and administrator of Saint Mary's Assumption School, all located in Pittston, Pennsylvania.

Father Polmouter, the son of Catherine B. Maduro Polmouter and the late Frederick S. Polmouter, is a 1970 graduate of Hazleton Senior High School. He attended Saint Pius X Seminary in Dalton and the University of Scranton, where he graduated with honors in 1974 with a bachelor of arts in history. His extensive education also includes a master of science degree in religious education, which he received from Marywood College in 1983. He was ordained to the priesthood by the late Most Reverend J. Carroll McCormick, Bishop of Scranton, on May 6, 1978, at Saint Peter's Cathedral in Scranton. He celebrated his first Mass the next day at his home parish, Holy Rosary Church, Hazleton.

As Father Polmouter marks his silver sacerdotal jubilee, he is being honored for his service at several events this month. Bishop James Timlin of Scranton celebrated a Mass of Thanksgiving with Father Polmouter and all the jubilarians of the diocese on May 12 at Saint Peter's Cathedral.

A parish celebration will take place the weekend of May 17 and 18. On May 17, a Mass will be celebrated at Saint Mary, Help of Christians Church with the children of the parish, and on May 18, a Mass will be celebrated at Saint Mary's Assumption Church with the children of the parish school. A parish testimonial is planned for May 18 at the Saint Anthony of Padua Parish Center.

Before being appointed to his first and present pastorate in 1990, he served as an assistant pastor at Saints Peter and Paul Church in Plains, Saint Anthony of Padua Church in Dunmore, and the Church of Saint Mary of the Assumption, Old Forge. He also served for four years as the spiritual moderator of the Diocesan Council of Catholic Men and served as chaplain of the Hazleton Heights Volunteer Fire Company #4. He also served for six years each on the Board of Education Committee of the Diocesan Schools Office and the Priests Retirement Advisory Board. He is a member of the Board of Pastors of Seton Catholic High School and served two terms as the board secretary. He is currently serving a four-year term on the diocesan College of Consultors and the Presbyteral Council and is a member of the Greater Pittston Ministerium.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Reverend Richard J. Polmouter on his 25th