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By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF CINCINNATI

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati. The federation has a proud history. Its predecessor organization was founded in 1896 to help those many immigrants from Central and Eastern Europe who fled repressive policies and practices of their native countries. Its efforts to help refugees and immigrants continued through the events leading up to and following the Holocaust in Europe in the 1940's and have been renewed in this decade as a result of the opening of the borders of the former Soviet States and the Eastern bloc countries. As Jewish immigrants stream out of Eastern Europe, the Jewish Federation has helped local agencies provide relocation and resettlement services in the Cincinnati area and in Israel. Since 1989, the federation has assisted with the resettlement of more than 1,200 Jewish immigrants and refugees in Cincinnati alone. During the same period, the federation has supported programs to help over 600,000 Jewish immigrants who have taken refuge in Israel.

Over time, the Jewish Federation has expanded its activities to include educational, cultural, and humanitarian programs for all members of the community. For example, it works with community organizations to provide services for Jewish youth and the elderly. The federation should also be commended for its commitment to improve interfaith and intergroup relations in Cincinnati and around the world.

I would like to offer my warmest congratulations to the Jewish Federation for 100 years of excellent and meaningful contributions to the Jewish community and to the promotion of international human rights. I wish the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati and all its members continued success in the coming century.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL PIEKARSKI AND DARLENE SOBCZAK

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to two outstanding guardians of public safety from Cicero, IL. Firefighter Michael Piekarski and Police Detective Darlene Sobczak, who were recently recognized by the Cicero Lions Club on Lions Club World Service Day.

Firefighter Piekarski and Detective Sobczak were honored for their outstanding contributions as part of the Lions Clubs' effort to recognize those who risk their lives to protect their fellow citizens.

Mr. Speaker, I, too, congratulate these two fine public servants on this award and extend thanks on behalf of all my fellow citizens for their efforts and those of their colleagues who protect our lives and property.

SCOTT KNUDSON, GUAM'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE 1996 GEOGRAPHY BEE

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I have always considered myself an educator first and foremost. This is why I always welcome with great pleasure students who take the time to visit my office. Sometime this month, I highly anticipate meeting a student from Guam. He is Scott Knudson, the winner of this year's Guam Geography Bee.

On March 29, finalists from 12 elementary and middle schools competed in this event open to students from grades four to six. Since Scott was the winner of the competition, he will be representing the island of Guam in the National Geography Bee competition that will be held here in Washington on May 28 and 29.

Scott, the son of Marilyn Knudson and the late Kenneth Knudson, is a sixth-grade student at Inarajan Middle School. His achievements have brought much pride to his family, school and community. I am sure that all his hard work will once again be exhibited in the national competition.

I would like to congratulate Scott for winning the Guam Geography Bee competition and wish him the best in the national competition. In addition, I would also like to commend all who participated in the competition and recognize the efforts of Mr. James Szafranski for organizing this year's event. I urge everyone to keep up the good work.

THE SOUTHEASTERN POWER ADMINISTRATION

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the Georgia State Senate recently adopted a reso-

lution that urges the Congress of the United States to reject the proposal to sell the facilities used to generate electric power marketed by the Southeastern Power Administration. For the RECORD I submit a copy of the resolution adopted by the Georgia State Senate on February 13, 1996.

A RESOLUTION

Urging the United States Congress to reject the proposal to sell the facilities used to generate electric power marketed by the Southeastern Power Administration; and for other purposes.

Whereas, a proposal has been made to the United States Congress to sell facilities used by the Southeastern Power Administration (SEPA) which is headquartered in Elbert County, Georgia; and

Whereas, these facilities, which include nine hydroelectric dams, provide electric power and reservoirs for Georgia; and

Whereas, all of these facilities, operated by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, also provide the public with needed fish and wildlife resources, municipal, industrial, and agricultural water supplies, flood control, reservoir, and downstream recreational uses, and river water level regulation; and

Whereas, such proposed sale would give too little assurance that these assets will be administered with due consideration to the purposes of the facilities not related to power production, such as water supply, flood control, navigation, recreation, and environmental protection; and

Whereas, the revenue from the electricity generated by the hydroelectric dams exceeds the retirement obligations of the construction bonds and costs of operation and maintenance for these facilities; and

Whereas, many Georgians served by these facilities could likely experience significant rate increases in electricity and water as a result of this sale.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate that the members of this body urge the United States Congress to reevaluate the negative impacts of this proposal and avoid any transfer of federal dams, resources, turbines, generators, transmission lines, and related power marketing association facilities.

Be it further resolved that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the presiding officer of the United States Senate, and members of the Georgia congressional delegation.

HONORING THE FAIRVIEW VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Fairview Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civil-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for other while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars

where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. JOEL COTTON

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives the accomplishments of Mr. Joel Cotton, a high school teacher in Rifle, CO.

Mr. Cotton is 1 of 100 teachers and 100 students from across the United States to be awarded a Tandy Technology Scholar prize. These scholars were chosen for the excellence in computer science, math, and science.

Mr. Cotton has worked diligently to educate his students by using innovative classroom techniques. He has written his own math programs, including Design a Ranch and Gliding Through Algebra on Mountain Bikes. He has also been named Colorado Teacher of the Week twice, and also teaches computer science at the Colorado Mountain College.

He plans to unselfishly use his prize money to purchase a more powerful computer and software, to design new programs for teaching computer science and math.

Mr. Cotton is a dedicated professional, and the children of the Third Congressional District will be better off because of him.

TRIBUTE TO THE ALL-PUERTO RICAN 65TH INFANTRY REGIMENT

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the all-Puerto Rican 65th Infantry Regiment that fought in the Korean war.

The 65th regiment, nicknamed the "the Borinqueneers" became one of the most decorated units during the Korean conflict. One hundred twenty-five soldiers of the 65th were awarded the Silver Star and four received the Distinguished Service Cross.

The heroism of the 65th brought the unit admiration and accolades from our Nation's highest-ranking military officers. The most famous and important letter came from General Douglas MacArthur.

The 65th had been ordered to do reconnaissance behind the enemy front lines and re-

cated to the command post of the Third U.S. Infantry Division. One night the command post was attacked by more than one thousand North Korean regulars who had penetrated U.S. lines without detection. The 65th was alerted to the threat and went into action to protect vital U.S. supply lines. Their quick reaction enabled them to counter and destroy the North Korean force, thereby saving the Third Division Commander, staff and troops from being captured or killed.

In response to the actions of the 65th, General MacArthur, who had rejected the 65th for combat in World War II, wrote in 1951:

The Puerto Ricans forming the ranks of the gallant 65th Infantry on the battlefields of Korea by valor, determination and a resolute will to victory give daily testament to their invincible loyalty to the United States and the fervor of their devotion to those immutable standards of human relations to which Americans and Puerto Ricans are in common dedicated. They are writing a brilliant record of achievement in battle and I am proud indeed to have them in this command. I wish that we might have many more like them.

Other triumphs of note for the 65th were the rescue of the First Marine Division from Hagaru-ri where the division had been surrounded by Chinese military forces. The 65th provided a safe corridor for the Marines to escape and formed the protective rear guard on their road to Hungnam.

In his book, "Puerto Rico's Fighting 65th Infantry," Brigadier General W.W. Harris (Ret.) writes:

I have not encountered any people more dedicated and zealous in support of the democratic principles for which the United States stands. Many Puerto Ricans have fought to the death to uphold them.

General Harris commanded the 65th during the Korean War.

On March 29, 1996, at Puerto Rican Affirmation Day ceremonies in Washington, thousands of people gathered at the Vietnam Memorial to pay tribute to veterans of Puerto Rican heritage and in particular to the 65th Infantry that fought so courageously in the Korean war. Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown praised the 65th, much as Generals MacArthur and Harris had in the 1950's.

So today, I rise to pay tribute to these valiant soldiers for democracy and freedom and to honor their contributions to our Nation and to the people of Puerto Rico. The memory of the 65th Infantry should never be allowed to fade.

HELP DECISIONMAKERS UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING ANOTHER LANGUAGE

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following excerpts from essays by Colorado students who participated in the first essay contest sponsored by the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers. Their theme was, "Help Decisionmakers Understand the Importance of Learning Another Language." Students from kindergarten

through university level participated. I commend these students for their efforts.

"Learning a foreign language weakens barriers that some use to justify resentment."—Karin Wangberg, grade 11, Aurora

"By learning another language, you can discover a whole new world."—Anne Cook, grade 8, Littleton

"Many of today's stereotypes and hostilities between nations lie in a misunderstanding and lack of appreciation for cultures outside of one's own. Learning a foreign language inspires a respect and an understanding of each other's uniqueness."—Tiffany Shea Wine, college student, Federal Heights

"It is good to know how to speak another language to help others who don't know your language. You can teach other people too and they could help other people."—Heaven Tapia, grade 2, Denver

"I think kids should get a good education, and foreign languages are part of a good education. It is just as important as math, writing and spelling, etc. It is fun, interesting, exciting and educational."—Caroline Lea, grade 4, Lakewood.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RIGHT REVEREND FATHER MOUSHEGH MARDIROSSIAN

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday May 3, 1996, in Los Angeles the Right Reverend Father Moushegh Mardirossian, Locum Tenens was elected as Prelate of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America. I wish to add my sincere congratulations to Prelate Mardirossian upon his elevation.

Prelate Mardirossian studied at the Armenian Seminary of the Great House of Cilicia in Antelias, Lebanon. Upon graduation from the clerical college of the seminary in June 1974 he was ordained deacon.

He served in the Catholicosate as vice sacristan-sexton and secretary to Catholicos Khoren I and Catholicos Karekin II in the chancery. In the seminary he served as administrator and an educator, while teaching courses.

In 1979, he was assigned pastor to the Armenian Community of Thessalonika of Greece. When in Thessalonika, he attended classes in Greek language and philosophy at the Aristotelian University.

For his thesis on a translation and critical analysis of John's Gospel, he earned a doctorate of the Armenian Church, in December 1979.

Beginning in 1982, he served as assistant to the Prelate and held pastoral positions in the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of North America. In recognition of his service, in 1987, he was elevated to the rank of Father Superior and was ordained. In the same year, he was assigned to the post of dean of the Forty Martyrs Armenian Apostolic Church of Orange County.

With the Western Prelacy he has been a member of the National Representative Assembly and member and chairperson of the Religious Council. Since 1991, he has served as vicar general to the Prelate.