

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.

Prelate Mardirossian is currently pursuing a master's degree at Fuller Theological Seminary.

On November 17, 1995, the Joint Session of the Religious and Executive Councils of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America unanimously elected the Right Reverend Moushegh Mardirossian Locum Tenens of the Prelacy.

On May 3, 1996, in Los Angeles, he was elected to the position of Prelate of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America and for this honor I sent my sincere congratulations. I wish Prelate Mardirossian every continued success in his new position serving the Armenian Church and the Armenian people, many of whom I have the honor of representing in California's 19th District.

WOMAN OF SPIRIT: CAROL ANTON MURPHY

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Carol Anton Murphy, a life-long resident of the Pittsburgh community, who was recently recognized as a Carlow College Woman of Spirit.

Carlow College created the Woman of Spirit Award to highlight women in the Pittsburgh area who personify the college's ideals of a Catholic liberal arts education: to involve young women in a process of self-directed, life-long learning which will free them to think clearly and creatively, to challenge or affirm cultural and aesthetic values, to respond reverently and sensitively to God and others, and to render competent and compassionate service in personal and professional life. The college has certainly fulfilled the purposes of the award in the admirable life of Carol Anton Murphy.

Carol Anton began a career of service after graduating from Carlow College in 1957 as a speech therapist for the Allegheny County School System and later for the Dioceses of Pittsburgh. Carol Anton married Maurice "Mossie" Murphy in 1959. Together, they started a family in 1964. Today, Carol and Mossie Murphy are the proud parents of 7 children and 15 grandchildren. A model family woman, Carol was the first recipient of the Commitment to Family Award by Carlow College in 1974.

Carol Murphy has demonstrated constant commitment to community and church through volunteer work. At St. Philomena, Carol delivered communion and prayer on Sundays. Along with fellow St. Philomena parishioners, Carol started Eucharist Ministers for the Sick and House Bound. She has also volunteered at Presbyterian Hospital as an Eucharistic Minister delivering communion to hospital patients.

A strong supporter of education and the right of every child to a quality education, Carol has been an active fundraiser for many Pittsburgh schools. She has worked on the behalf of St. Philomena's Guild, Central Catholic Mother's Guild, and Duquesne University Women's Advisory Board. She has also had an active history on the Carlow Col-

lege Alumnae Board, serving as chair of the student alumnae parties, board president, and co-chair of the annual fund.

Carol Anton Murphy knows her Carlow College education prepared her to be an active Christian woman and taught her the importance of service and commitment to her community and the city of Pittsburgh. Carol Anton Murphy has led an exemplary life and is unquestionably a Woman of Spirit. I want to congratulate Carol Anton Murphy for receiving this prestigious award.

A TRIBUTE TO BARBARA GIBILISCO

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Barbara Gibilisco, a student at Neumann College in Aston, PA. Ms. Gibilisco is the recipient of the Pennsylvania Association for Adult and Continuing Education 1996 Award Recognizing Outstanding Adult Students in Higher Education.

Criteria for judging undergraduate nominees are: contributions to institution and community; clearly defined goals; grades; innovative approaches to meeting educational needs; overcoming difficult circumstances in order to pursue higher education; sensitizing the institution to the needs of adult students; success in coping with numerous roles; support of others returning to school; and strength of nomination material.

Those criteria, while impressive and difficult to meet, do not capture the courage, the commitment, nor the generosity of this woman. Barbara Gibilisco is a wheelchair mobile student graduating from Neumann College in May 1996, with a bachelor's degree in liberal studies. Even though Barbara lives independently with her mother, she attends classes at Inglis House, a wheelchair community in West Philadelphia which serves as an extension site campus for Neumann College. She has maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average throughout her career.

In addition to being a student, Barbara Gibilisco owns and operates a home-based answering service; tutors the residents of Inglis House on the pre-GED and adult basic education level in reading, math, and computer literacy; is a certified Gateway tutor for the mayor's commission on literacy; is a part-time learning therapist for the Department of Education; and acts as a spokesperson for the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the Orleans Vocational Center. As a hobby, she is a licensed class amateur radio operator.

After graduation, Barbara Gibilisco plans to work full-time to support herself and her mother. Her personal objectives are to design computer software programs related to compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act; to serve as a consultant to small businesses and firms that seek to comply with the mandates of the Americans With Disabilities Act; and to work in an educational setting as a mentor, teacher, or small group leader with students in need of adult basic literacy education.

Obviously, Barbara Gibilisco is deserving of this award. The courage and commitment she has brought to fulfilling her goals for a college

education combined with a generosity of spirit reflected in her efforts to bring education to others makes Barbara Gibilisco a role model for all.

TRIBUTE TO VFW POST 7337 OF CASTLETON, NY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, as you know, one group I have a particular admiration for is our veterans. It was one of the reasons I asked for a seat on the Veterans Affairs Committee in my first term, and it's one of the reasons I fought so hard to have the Veterans' Administration elevated to a full, Cabinet-level department.

And one group was always right beside me in such efforts, Veterans of Foreign Wars. I can think of no group has done more to promote the interests of our Nation's veterans. Today, I'd like to single out one VFW post, a very special one which is typical of VFW posts across the country.

VFW Post 7337 of Castleton, NY, is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Think of that, Mr. Speaker. It's first members were, of course, the boys just returning from Europe and the Pacific and every other theater of World War II. Then, in the early fifties, they were joined by veterans from the Korean war. In another 15 years, the veterans of the Vietnam war arrived on the scene. And finally, in this decade, we've seen those who served in the Persian Gulf join their older comrades.

From its beginning, Post 7337 was made up of citizen heroes, who left their homes and loved ones to undergo incredible hardships and sacrifices, including the supreme sacrifice, in defense of our freedoms. But the majority survived to return home, complete their educations, find jobs, raise families, and become the most respected members of their communities.

I've met many of the members of Post 7337. I was thinking of them and of other veterans like them when Ronald Reagan signed into law my measure making the Veterans' Administration a Cabinet department in 1988. With that signature, we made sure the interests of veterans would always have the ear of the U.S. President.

It is to those same interests that Post 7337 has so faithfully applied itself for 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, with the approach of Memorial Day, that special day for all veterans, I ask you and all members to join me in a special salute to VFW Post 7337 of Castleton, NY, as it celebrates its 50th year.

POST-COLD-WAR COOPERATION

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 1996

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House to praise the spirit of unity and cooperation between two nations, the United States and the Republic of Lithuania, whose peoples just a few short years ago knew very