

Currently, Aaron is a member of the Order of Arrow in the rank of Brotherhood. He is also an adult Assistant Scout Leader. He will be a senior at Central Dauphin East High School in the Fall of 1997 and plans to attend college and major in environmental science. He is also a member of the Central Dauphin East High School wrestling team, an avid canoeist, and an accomplished guitarist.

This multitalented young man received the Eagle Scout Award on February 4, 1997. His Eagle Project consisted of painting the concession building, bleachers, and a general cleanup of Crest Baseball Field, Swatara Township, Dauphin County, PA.

Please join me in congratulating Aaron Myers. He should be commended for this fine effort and encouraged to work with other youth to take such an active interest in the community in the future.

BETTER PHARMACEUTICALS FOR CHILDREN ACT

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague, JIM GREENWOOD, in sponsoring H.R. 1727, the Better Pharmaceuticals for Children Act. I support this bill because it focuses on a serious but little known problem in our children's health care, and can provide some additional tools to address it.

While dramatic progress has been made in the treatment and cure of diseases and chronic illnesses, it cannot be said today that our children have fully benefited from this innovation. As increasingly sophisticated medicines are developed, the knowledge needed to optimally treat children with these medicines has not kept pace. In crucial ways, our understanding of how to use these drugs for children is simply inadequate.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Food and Drug Administration [FDA] only a minority of prescription drugs in the United States with potential pediatric uses are actually labeled for use by children. Since 1962, 80 percent of all drugs have been approved for adult use with an explicit disclaimer that they are not approved for use by children. This is because the research necessary to prove the safety and efficacy of these pediatric uses is not being done, either before or after the drugs are marketed. Despite widespread recognition in Government, industry, and academia of this problem, little progress has been made to correct it.

I firmly believe that the FDA has been remiss in not taking action to conclusively remedy this situation. The agency has statutory authority to encourage and require the performance of pediatric clinical studies. It should exercise that authority and take every possible step to ensure that new drugs with potential pediatric uses are approved on the basis of data demonstrating safety and efficacy in both adults and children. The Government's failure to act in this manner is unacceptable and we pay for such a failure in our children's health.

It is also imperative to recognize that prescription drug manufacturers already have significant incentives to pursue research, development, and regulatory approval in the form of

patent protection and other forms of market exclusivity. Much of the responsibility for the absence of adequate pediatric drug information today can be laid at their feet.

However, I recognize that limited additional incentives may be appropriate in some instances to promote pediatric drug research, such as for some drugs which are currently marketed. It is my hope, however, that such incentives are only necessary in supplementing the FDA's use of existing statutory authority to ensure that adequate information is available about pediatric drug uses.

H.R. 1727 would help improve and increase the information available about pediatric drug uses by providing additional market exclusivity as an incentive to prescription drug manufacturers in limited situations. Under the bill, the Secretary of Health and Human Services would determine whether a new drug might provide health benefits for pediatric populations, and have the authority to request that pediatric studies be conducted by the manufacturer to establish these benefits. Upon completion of these studies and their acceptance by the Secretary, the manufacturer would be granted an additional 6 months of market exclusivity.

I am sure that many parents would be disturbed to learn that, when their infants and children receive a prescription medicine, there may not be clinical studies establishing the safety and efficacy of that treatment in children. In conjunction with independent and decisive steps by the Food and Drug Administration [FDA], I believe the Congress can change this situation for the better. H.R. 1727 can help do that, and that is why I am cosponsoring it today.

ARIZONA SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. JOHN B. SHADEGG

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, this week Arizona celebrates Small Business Week and honors one of its outstanding performers in the small business area. On June 6, Rhonda McKenzie, president and CEO of McKenzie Telecommunications Group, Inc. [MTG] will be honored as the SBA 1997 Arizona Small Business Person of the Year at the Small Business Week Awards Luncheon at La Posada Resort in Scottsdale.

Rhonda used her 20 years of technical, managerial, and sales experience in the telecommunications industry to build a company which generated over \$8.3 million in revenues last year. Founded in 1993 with McKenzie as the sole employee, MTG, Inc., provides total turnkey site development services to telecommunications companies throughout the Nation. Today, MTG has 125 employees in five States—California, Florida, Colorado, Nevada, and two locations in Arizona.

The primary services MTG provides include identification of suitable real estate for the construction of client systems; representing clients at zoning hearings and community meetings; coordination of all geotechnical and environmental studies; development of construction feasibility studies; and construction and management services.

MTG is recognized as fourth in the Nation among site development companies. Its clients are among the industry giants: AT&T Wireless, Sprint Spectrum, PCS PrimeCo, Pacific Bell Mobile Services, and Nextel.

Small Business Week is celebrated annually throughout the Nation by Presidential proclamation. Each year, SBA names one outstanding entrepreneur in each State and territory: from this group the national Small Business Person of the Year is chosen.

Selection criteria for Small Business Persons of the Year are: First, staying power—a substantial history as an established business; second, growth in number of employees—a benchmark to judge the impact of the business on the job market; third, increase in sales and/or unit volume—an indication of continued growth; fourth, current and past financial reports substantiating the improved financial position of the business; fifth, innovativeness of product or service offered; sixth, response to adversity; and seventh, evidence of contributions by the nominee to aid community-oriented projects through the use of personal time and resources.

Small business is the backbone of the American economy. In Arizona, 99.5 percent of our over 407,000 businesses have fewer than 100 employees. These are the companies that provide the growth in jobs and the vitality for our State. It is in these places of work where American dreams are made. I congratulate Rhonda McKenzie for making her American dream come true and for her well-deserved accomplishment in achieving Arizona's Small Business Person of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW A. HERNANDEZ, THE 1997 NATIONAL VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, each year for the past 34 years, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation call for the celebration of Small Business Week. I believe this celebration of Small Business Week, which is held from June 1–7 this year, recognizes its crucial impact on our economy and society. As we pay tribute to our Nation's entrepreneurs, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an exceptional veteran businessman from my district, Mr. Andrew A. Hernandez, who has been named the 1997 National Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year. We must never forget that small business is the engine that drives our economy and its people such as Mr. Hernandez that will continue to make America No. 1. He is an inspiration to small business persons not only in my congressional district, but also across the country.

Mr. Andrew Hernandez, president of Arid Construction Technologies, Inc., in San Bernardino, and a resident of San Bernardino, has been named the 1997 National Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. He was nominated for the award for his work in assisting veterans. Mr. Hernandez is a founding member and the current president of the California Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises

Alliance, a nonprofit organization established to assist and support disabled veterans. He was instrumental in securing procurement goals from the California Public Utilities Commission of 1.5 percent, and from the county of San Bernardino of 3 percent, which translates into over \$70 million being targeted for DVBE's.

Mr. Hernandez has dedicated a substantial amount of his own time and money lobbying for the advancement of DVBE's at both the State and national levels. He also serves on the county of San Bernardino's Contract Compliance Advisory Board, which has the responsibility of overseeing the county's efforts to increase procurement opportunities for women, minority and disabled veteran business enterprises. In 1995 he created a DVBE plan room at Arid Construction which receives plans and specifications from public and private agencies at no charge. This allows DVBE companies to increase the number of projects they can bid on since their capital will not be tied up in plan deposits.

Last year Arid Construction Technologies Inc. was also recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency as the 1996 Minority Construction Firm of the Year for seven southwestern States. Originally specializing in the waterproofing trade, the company has expanded into general contracting as well with emphasis on the design-build and construction of child care centers.

Through his company, Mr. Hernandez has demonstrated support for the local community by renovating a building located in an older section of town and participating in a community service project each year. These have included the repair of the exterior of a children's museum, the cleaning and sprucing up of the city's memorial to war veterans, and the sponsorship of a team for the March of Dimes Walk-a-Thon. Mr. Hernandez also sponsors youth sports teams.

In being named the 1997 National Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year, Mr. Hernandez set an example of dedication, integrity, and innovation which makes him a role model for small business persons in the United States. I am very pleased to have Mr. Hernandez being honored this week. It is my hope that he will serve as a model not only for other business men and women in my congressional district, but also entrepreneurs nationwide. In closing, Mr. Speaker, I wish Mr. Hernandez all the best in his future endeavors and I hope that others will follow the sterling examples he has set for all small businesses.

**SISTER JACQUELINE BURNS: LED
THE COLLEGE OF ST. ELIZABETH
INTO A NEW ERA**

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Sister Jacqueline Burns, S.C., upon her retirement as president of New Jersey's oldest Catholic college for women, the College of St. Elizabeth at Convent Station, Morris Township. During her tenure, Sister Jacqueline has expanded the college's mission while retaining its focus on offering

quality educational opportunities to young women in a Catholic environment. Sister Jacqueline has been successful in launching Saint Elizabeth's into the 21st century while retaining the values that have made the college a treasured institution since 1903.

A New Jersey native, Sister Jacqueline has devoted more than 50 years to Catholic higher education. In 1946, she became a member of the Sisters of Charity of St. Elizabeth and earned a bachelor's degree in history from the college in 1957. She continued her education at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC, earning a master of arts in 1963 and a doctorate in history in 1967. Upon returning to New Jersey, Sister Jacqueline began a 30-year career at her alma mater culminating with her appointment as president of the College of St. Elizabeth in 1981.

Sister Jacqueline Burns recognized early in her tenure the educational challenges presented by today's rapidly changing workplace and the promise the next century will offer to future alumni of St. Elizabeth's. In order to prepare for this challenge, Sister Jacqueline enlarged the college's endowment by more than 1000 percent, increased financial aid opportunities, opened the college to more minority and international students, worked to improve opportunities for faculty growth and leadership, and expanded coeducational programs in nursing and adult education. Additionally, St. Elizabeth's now boasts a coeducational graduate division and a campuswide computer information network.

Beyond her work at St. Elizabeth's, Sister Jacqueline has been a leader and an excellent spokesperson on educational issues through her membership on the board of directors of organizations such as the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of New Jersey, the Morris County Chamber of Commerce, and the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. In the past, Sister Jacqueline has also served on the boards of two area hospitals and a seminary, and she currently serves on the Presidential Advisory Council for Intercampus Telecommunications Network, the New Jersey Independent College Fund, and the board of directors of the Public Leadership Educational Network. Throughout the years, she has been recognized as a leader by Seton Hall University, Douglas College, the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs, the Northeast Coalition of Educational Leaders, and various local women's clubs.

However, even as she moves on to other challenges for the Sisters of Charity, Sister Jacqueline will be remembered, above all, by the 30 graduating classes of students that have passed through the College of St. Elizabeth during her time as a professor and as president of the institution. All of these women graduates take with them an element of Sister Jacqueline's thirst for knowledge, her desire to create a culture of giving and her hope for the future.

Mr. Speaker, again, I would like to commend Sister Jacqueline Burns for her tireless efforts on behalf of the students at the College of St. Elizabeth and for her selfless contributions to New Jersey and Morris County.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MSGR.
HAROLD J. BURKARDT

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay tribute to a long time servant of the people, Rev. Msgr. Harold J. Burkardt, who on June 1, 1997, celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Please join me in wishing him the best of luck on this wondrous milestone.

A native of Johnstown, PA, Monsignor Burkardt currently resides in Altoona, PA, which is located in my congressional district. He was raised in a strongly religious family and was joined by his brother and sister in pursuing a life with the church. He was ordained in 1947 at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, OH. After ordination he dedicated himself to a teaching career, focusing in math and the sciences at Josephinum, where he remained until 1971. Monsignor Burkardt then spent 2 years as an Assistant Pastor at Holy Name in Ebensburg, PA. In 1973 he moved to Immaculate Conception in Altoona where he became Pastor, dutifully serving the residents of Altoona until 1988.

Monsignor Burkardt continues to keep busy in his semi-retirement by assisting at St. Patrick's Church in Newry, PA. He continues to say Mass and enjoys keeping fit with his daily morning walk.

Mr. Speaker, I will close by once again asking you to help me pay tribute to Monsignor Burkardt on this, his 50th anniversary of Ordination. His life has been one of service and dedication to others and I am honored to have him as one of my constituents. I would like to thank Rev. Msgr. Harold J. Burkardt for his life long commitment to others and wish him well in all that he pursues.

REMARKS OF CHAIRMAN BENJAMIN GILMAN BEFORE THE
POLISH AMERICAN CONGRESS

HON. WILLIAM F. GOODLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 1997

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the recent address of Congressman BENJAMIN GILMAN before the Polish American Congress. Mr. GILMAN spoke to the Congress on the anniversary of the 3rd of May Polish Constitution of 1791. The address, received by Polish Minister Włodzimierz Cimoszewicz, was very insightful. Mr. GILMAN, the distinguished chairman of the House International Relations Committee, spoke of the past and future of Polish democracy and the democratic fate of all of Eastern Europe. I commend Chairman GILMAN's remarks to all of my colleagues.

CHAIRMAN BENJAMIN A. GILMAN'S REMARKS
ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE ANNIVERSARY
OF THE 3RD OF MAY POLISH CONSTITUTION
OF 1791

Good Morning.

I am pleased to be here with all of you this morning, and with our honored guest, Prime Minister Cimoszewicz of Poland.