

When we look to the future we look for the charisma and political perseverance which is characteristic of Mr. O'Hanlon's leadership.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 1997 WESTINGHOUSE SCIENCE TALENT FINALISTS

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Long Cai, Daniel James Durand, Jonathan William Plaue, and Katheryn Joanna Potenza, all of Long Island, NY. Competing against the most talented young scientific minds that America has to offer, these outstanding high school scholars from Eastern Long Island have all been recognized as Finalists in the 1997 Westinghouse Science Talent Search.

With the guidance of their teachers, the love and support of their parents and each with their own talent and work ethic, these four students have successfully conducted breakthrough scientific experiments while just in high school. Those experiments so impressed the judges at the Westinghouse Science Talent Search that they named Long, Daniel, Jonathan, and Katheryn one of 40 finalists, among 1,652 entrants nationwide.

Three of these students—Long Cai, Jonathan Williams Plaue, and Katheryn Joanna Potenza—attend Ward Melville High School in Setauket, Long Island, where the demanding and competitive WestPrep research program produces Westinghouse science scholars on a yearly basis. Daniel James Durand attends Shoreham-Wading River High School, just a few miles east of Setauket along Long Island's North Shore.

For his Westinghouse project in biotechnology, Daniel Durand of Shoreham, Long Island developed what could be a more effective and cost-efficient method for extracting radioactive uranium from contaminated soil. A 4-year varsity wrestler and the vice president of the Physical Fitness Club at Shoreham-Wading River, Daniel plans to study biomedical engineering at Rice University.

Long Cai, of East Setauket, deduced that there are mathematical relationships that describe the effects of rotating Fresnel Zone Plates, magnifying glass lenses, on x-ray focusing, which will help scientists understand the effects of misaligned plates. Born in China, 16-year-old Long mastered the English in just the ninth-grade. He plans to study biomedical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Jonathan Plaue, of Stony Brook, collected materials and services worth more than \$125,000 to create his environmental studies project. Landfilling is no longer a permissible waste disposal method on Long Island, so waste-to-energy incineration has become more prominent. Jonathan devised an effective method for replacing sand and gravel with incinerator ash in the manufacture of asphalt, which he calls ASHPHalt. Jonathan hopes to attend Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to study chemical engineering.

Katheryn Potenza, of Setauket, examined the effects of parents' marriages and mothers' socialization practices on the romantic rela-

tionships of adolescents for her Westinghouse project in psychology. Katheryn collected data from 57 mother-adolescent pairs, then completed her research at the nearby State University of New York at Stony Brook. She hopes to pursue studies in psychology at the University of Virginia.

During the week of March 5, all of the Westinghouse finalists will visit Washington, DC, where they will compete for \$205,000 in scholarships. I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to extend their congratulations to all of the 1997 Westinghouse Science Talent Search finalists.

TRIBUTE TO GWENDOLYN BROOKS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor and reverence that I offer this tribute to a fellow Chicagoan, Poetess Gwendolyn Brooks.

Her writings have painted the picture of African-American people. A picture that is often filled with deep emotion, resounding character, and gallant triumphs. The depth of her talent has allowed her writings to reveal the character and experiences of America as a whole.

The quality and importance of her poetry to this Nation is evidenced by the fact that in 1950 she became the first African-American to win the Pulitzer Prize for poetry. As further evidence of her contribution to American letters she has been awarded two Guggenheim Fellowships, has served as a poetry consultant to the Library of Congress, and currently serves as State of Illinois poet laureate.

My words of praise cannot convey the depth of my gratitude for her contribution to her community and her Nation. The writings of Gwendolyn Brooks have the quality of a hand that rocks a baby's cradle. For the hand that soothes a baby by rocking it to and fro is also the same hand that disciplines the child—both done with love. Her style of writing welcomes and embraces. It is this characteristic of her work that allows her to address difficult if not disturbing issues we have addressed as individuals, as a people, and a nation without being haughty or magnanimous.

Gwendolyn Brooks is an American treasure. A treasure whose brilliance will never fade. It is with deep affection that I offer this tribute.

WORLD NEEDS FAMILY PLANNING FUNDS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member highly commends to his colleagues the following editorial regarding funds for international family planning which appeared in the Omaha World Herald on February 5, 1997.

WORLD NEEDS FAMILY-PLANNING FUNDS

The United States government's commitment to population control and support for family-planning services around the world is headed for another test in Congress. Anti-

abortion forces have slowed and reduced the U.S. role in the past. We hope they don't do so again.

A vote is approaching on whether to release \$385 million to provide family-planning services to women in the world's poorest countries. The funds were allocated last year but tied up by anti-abortion congressmen who demanded stronger restrictions on using the money to promote abortion.

U.S. funding for family-planning programs around the world hit a record \$547 million in 1995 but was slashed by 35 percent last year. Ironically, the cut demanded by anti-abortion leaders, which denied access to modern contraceptives to seven million couples, resulted in an estimated 1.6 million more abortions, the Alan Guttmacher Institute has said. The U.S. Agency for International Development, which handles the family-planning programs, said the funding delays have "resulted in programmatic disruption, inefficiencies" and an estimated \$1 million in extra administrative costs.

President Clinton has submitted a report to Congress summarizing the negative impact the lack of funding is having. The report notes the unintended consequences of more abortions and more infant and maternal mortality Congress must act on that report sometime this month, either reaffirming its decision to delay the money or allowing it to be paid out.

Since 1973, Congress has forbidden the use of U.S. tax dollars for abortions or abortion-related services overseas. Money sent to the United Nations for family planning and contraceptive services is clearly and unequivocally segregated from any abortion-related expenditures.

But anti-abortion forces have demanded that Clinton return to what is known as the Mexico City policy of the Reagan and Bush administrations. That policy barred funding for any organization that performs or promotes abortion as a means of family planning, even though U.S. money would not be used for those activities. Clinton canceled the policy when he took office.

Werner Fornos, president of the Population Institute, has suggested that the wider availability of family-planning services in developing nations could actually reduce abortions, which now number 32 million a year.

Further delays in family-planning funding would result in even more unintended pregnancies and more abortions. Anti-abortion forces will have caused the very thing they say they abhor most if they continue to delay the release of family-planning money.

Population control is vital. Fast population growth underpins most of the worst problems facing the world—pollution, erosion and soil depletion, loss of the rain forests and a growing shortage of fresh water for domestic and agricultural use. Modern, easily available family-planning services can make a big difference. Congress ought to release the funds needed to keep the international programs going.

INDEPENDENT FACT FINDERS NEEDED TO STRENGTHEN HOUSE ETHICS PROCESS

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join my distinguished colleague, Representative LEE HAMILTON, in introducing House Resolution 61. This resolution would for the first time give private citizens a meaningful

role in the House's ethics process. Our fundamental goals are to further enhance the openness of the House to make this institution more responsive to the public, and to bolster citizen confidence in Congress.

LEE HAMILTON and I developed this proposal during our service as House co-chairmen of the 1993 Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress. Our resolution is based on the testimony of many Members and outside experts about the strengths and weaknesses of the current ethics process.

Let me first make a comment about LEE HAMILTON's recent announcement that this will be his last term in Congress. LEE's retirement will be a big loss to this institution and the American people. He has been a model legislator for us all, and I wish him all the best in whatever activity he chooses to pursue when he leaves the House. In the meantime, I am delighted to join with LEE once again in our mutual interest to improve the work and reputation of the legislative branch.

Specifically, House Resolution 61 would make several important changes in the House ethics process. First, it would authorize the Speaker and minority leader to appoint jointly 20 independent fact finders at the beginning of each Congress. These private citizens could then be called upon to conduct ethics investigations for the Standards of Official Conduct Committee. The definition of private citizens includes, among others, former Members, staff aides, and officers of Congress, but not lobbyists.

Second House Resolution 61 grants discretionary authority to the Ethics Committee to decide, on a case-by-case basis, when to request that private citizens be used to conduct investigations involving allegations of ethical misconduct. Our resolution provides that an even number of fact finders—four or six—shall be appointed jointly from the standby pool by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Standards Committee. Daily pay, travel, and per diem costs are provided the fact finders when they are engaged in ethics investigative work. Staff aides of the Standards Committee are authorized to assist the fact finders in carrying out their responsibilities.

Third, the job of the fact finders is to conduct a preliminary review of the ethical complaint. They are to make the detailed inquiries, accumulate relevant background materials, gather pertinent evidence, and so on—all activities that usually consume enormous amounts of time. A benefit that inheres in the Hamilton-Dreier approach to ethics reform is that it will alleviate time burdens on members who will not have to do this pick and shovel investigative work. Another benefit is to increase public confidence that allegations of ethical misconduct are being fully and independently explored.

Fourth, after the preliminary review of the ethics complaint has been completed, the private citizens would report their finds and recommendations to the full Ethics Committee. If the fact finders determine that their findings justify further formal action by the Ethics Committee, they may, by majority vote, transmit a statement of alleged violations to the ethics panel.

Finally, in the event that a statement of alleged violations is sent to the Ethics Committee, that panel will then act as an adjudicatory subcommittee as provided in the Committee's rules. The full Ethics Committee will then con-

duct its own review of the information transmitted to it by the fact finders, including, if required, the convening of public hearings.

In our judgment, House Resolution 61 provides an innovative and flexible approach to revamping the House's ethics process. On those high profile and complex cases, the Ethics Committee can turn to a pool of private citizens to conduct the investigations. For ethics complaints that appear minor, the committee can continue to appoint its own subcommittee to conduct the preliminary inquiry.

Everyone who serves in Congress understands that public trust in the legislative branch is not especially high. To be sure, many factors have contributed to this development, such as heightened cynicism in the body politic, but public misgivings about how Congress handles ethical charges against its own Members also contribute to the lack of citizen confidence. This institution must devote more time and attention to congressional ethics, which is why I strongly endorse the recent establishment of a bipartisan House ethics task force to revise and improve our ethics process. This initiative by our Republican and Democratic leaders deserves everyone's support and encouragement.

Members and citizens alike have a large stake in an improved ethics process. The strength of representative government rests fundamentally on public confidence in the integrity of our proceedings. In our view, there is an inherent conflict-of-interest when only members are involved in evaluating ethics complaints against their peers. House Resolution 61 will address this issue by allowing private citizens to assist in ethics investigations on a case-by-case basis. Adoption of our resolution will further demonstrate that the House and its Members care deeply about improving and strengthening their ethical processes and responsibilities.

FOR THE RELIEF OF FRANK NOTREM

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY II

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the assistance of all my colleagues in aiding a constituent in my district, Mr. Frank Notrem.

Mr. Notrem is now 82 years old. Before World War II he was in the National Guard; when the war broke out he went to Europe to fight. In all, he served in the Army for 40 years.

In civilian life he has dedicated his life to his community, serving as a member of the Chelsea Fire Department for 32 years.

Seventeen years ago, Mr. Notrem was injured on the job, breaking both his legs. He was forced to retire due to those injuries.

At that time, Mr. Notrem's wife, concerned about the hospital bills that would soon come due, hid 10 of Mr. Notrem's veteran's checks, totaling \$8,242.20. She hid them so well that she forgot where they were. It was only recently that they were discovered after Mrs. Notrem passed away and her children were cleaning up the house.

Though the money is owed, the checks are no longer valid. Nonetheless, I believe this Na-

tion owes Mr. Notrem a debt of gratitude for his service. Therefore, I have introduced legislation requiring the Treasury Department to pay Mr. Notrem the \$8,242.20 he is owed.

Please join me in meeting our obligations to Mr. Notrem.

SAN DIEGO HOSPICE: 20 YEARS OF EXEMPLARY SERVICE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to pay tribute to San Diego Hospice. In 1977, local citizens, clergy members, and medical professionals, motivated by a shared concern for the plight of terminally ill patients, joined together to create the San Diego Hospice.

As one of the first hospice programs in the country, San Diego Hospice set the standard by which we provide care for the terminally ill and their families. Now caring for more than 1,600 people a year, San Diego Hospice is not only an integral part of our regional health care system, it is an innovator, constantly working to better its outreach and care.

San Diego Hospice has effectively employed San Diego's large medical community to foster education, and it was the first hospice to bring palliative medicine into the curriculum of a medical school—the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine.

San Diego Hospice continues to develop cutting edge programs that serve as an example to other hospices. These include the Acute Care Center, the Center for Palliative Studies, and exceptional programs in pediatrics and bereavement support.

Mr. Speaker, each and every day the San Diego Hospice brightens the lives of terminally ill patients and their loved ones. San Diego has been blessed by the care provided by the San Diego Hospice, and I am sure that it will continue to serve as an excellent model of people helping people and working together for the betterment of their shared community.

SALUTING BEVERLY BRITTON FRASER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 13, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the many years of invaluable community service of Beverly Britton Fraser, Esq. Ms. Britton Fraser, an attorney, has committed her life to winning justice for the poor. Despite numerous opportunities offered by corporate law firms and government agencies, Ms. Britton Fraser, a University of Buffalo School of Law graduate, has zealously worked as a trial attorney for the Legal Aid Society.

This native Brooklynite was also a "Partner in Education." As such, she visited inner-city schools and talked with students of all ages about her profession, substance abuse avoidance, and attaining personal goals through education. As a person who has always been