

HONORING DANIEL J. BADER, RECIPIENT OF THE 1999 COMMUNITY SERVICE HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD

HON. GERALD D. KLECKZA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 1999

Mr. KLECKZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Daniel J. Bader, recipient of the 1999 Community Service Human Relations Award from the Milwaukee Chapter of the American Jewish Committee.

Mr. Bader is president of the Helen Bader Foundation, which has awarded more than \$50 million in grants since 1992 with the express aim of advancing the well-being of people and promoting successful relationships with their families and communities. As president, Mr. Bader leads the foundation's day-to-day interaction with projects and programs in the United States, mainly in Wisconsin, and also Israel.

He is a member of the foundation's seven-member board of directors, which evaluates grant proposals and provides strategic oversight of the foundation's grants programs, mainly in the areas of Alzheimer's disease and dementia, early childhood development in Israel, economic development, education, Jewish life, and learning and supporting programs for central city children and youth.

It is noteworthy to recognize the leadership of Mr. Bader and the foundation in the establishment of the American Jewish Committee's Hands Across the Campus program, which was given its "jump-start" in Milwaukee. The program's innovative curriculum and leadership development program now operates in five school districts in southeastern Wisconsin. Each year hundreds of high school students are given hands-on experience in bridge building, conflict resolution, anti-bias activities and the deconstruction of prejudice. The Bader Foundation enabled the Milwaukee Chapter of the American Jewish Committee to provide teacher training for practitioners of the Hands program.

Mr. Bader is partner in Granite Microsystems, Inc., a Mequon-based computer hardware firm. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from the Rochester Institute of Technology. A Milwaukee native, he and his wife, Linda, reside with their son on Milwaukee's east side.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I commend Daniel J. Bader for his outstanding and innovative contributions to the community, and congratulate him as a most deserving recipient of the 1999 Community Service Human Relations Award from the Milwaukee Chapter of the American Jewish Committee.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. PAULETTE DALE OF MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 1999

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Paulette Dale of

Miami-Dade Community College in Miami, Florida, for her contributions as a speech-pathology professor towards the emotional betterment of all people. Dr. Dale is the director of the Speech and Hearing Clinic at Miami-Dade Community College's Kendall Campus, where she has taught for 23 years.

Previously, Dr. Dale was a bilingual speech pathologist in Dade and Broward County public schools. She holds a Ph.D. in speech pathology and linguistics.

Recently, Dr. Dale published a book on assertiveness which she hopes will help women to develop self-esteem. Dr. Dale believes that low self-esteem is far too pervasive in America, particularly among women. Based on anecdotes from her own life, the book is titled, "Did You Say Something, Susan? How Any Woman Can Gain Confidence with Assertive Communication."

It is a privilege to pay tribute to Dr. Paulette Dale, who uses her vast knowledge and her own life experiences to help others.

HONORING MISS AFTON STANFORD

HON. GENE TAYLOR

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 1999

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure today to honor Miss Afton Stanford of Poplarville, MS. Miss Stanford is the Mississippi winner of the 1999 Voice of Democracy broadcast script-writing contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. As reward for her script, she received a VFW scholarship and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, DC to compete with other national finalists.

The VFW's Voice of Democracy Program is a national essay competition that allows high school students the opportunity to share their opinions on service, sacrifice and responsibility to their country. The 1998-99 competition theme was "My Service to America," in which students reflected on their individual involvement in local communities. Out of the 80,000 participants, Miss Stanford was one of fifty-four finalists, and it gives me great pride to share her winning essay with you.

MY SERVICE TO AMERICA
(By Afton Stanford)

As I stand looking through the thick glass protecting the faded blue uniform, and the yellowed photograph I wonder how old this boy was. If it were not for the fact that he was in the military, I'd say he were my age. He looks like a boy in my chemistry class, you know the silent type that grins a lot but really never says much. I'm not sure if that is what he really was like, but I'd like to think so. Who would ever believe that this young kid would ever have the chance to save others. When I look into his eyes, I don't see a kid who wants to be a hero, I see a kid ready to experience life. Maybe he was a little uncertain about his future, or even wondering if he made the right decision in joining the military, whatever it was I can imagine a mixture of emotions swirling through his dark eyes. At 18, many people might think a kid knows nothing about sacrifice. But this boy, this young boy, made the ultimate sacrifice.

A few summers ago, I volunteered for a women's crisis shelter. At the time I thought it was fun, meeting new people, helping oth-

ers in the process. But, only after it was all over did I grasp the concept of "service." Service to my God, service to my country. When I got home I found other places to volunteer; I help Red Cross, if any disasters happen and they need help collecting food or handing out blankets, I'll be there. I also help at the food bank, sorting cans that people donate so the families less fortunate can eat. Giving up Saturdays and spending a week helping others seems trivial, in comparison to this boy who gave his life to save others, but it's a beginning.

I got a great start at home. My parents have instilled in me the desire to help other people improve their lives. My parents stressed the need for helping others, because in helping others everyone lives better. They also taught me to take pride in what I do, the jobs I hold and what I believe. National pride is something sacred. All Americans have lost family and friends to have these rights, and the least I can do is maintain the life they fought for.

Sometimes my life gets too hectic and chaotic to think about anyone but myself. That's why every day I try to make it a point to do something, however little for someone else. From sweeping leaves for an elderly neighbor to working at the food bank I try to pitch in. Helping is contagious. When I have volunteered, my friends have seen how much I loved the people I helped and the work and they have begun to volunteer too. If each American has this attitude it will make a big difference. Part of my service to America is encouraging others to help in any way they can and knowing that every kindness honors the people who've gone before us.

I believe that being an American citizen means helping others in need. This is one of the strongest values of Americans. For a young man to throw himself on a land mine to save his platoon exemplifies the ideals of self-sacrifice and service that is the cornerstone of America. While I'm standing here looking at this display of congressional honor, I wonder how his mother felt. The last time she ironed his uniform and picked off the little stray threads for this display, was she aware of how much I appreciate what her son gave up and what she gave up through him? I only hope that my little sacrifices and services will be able to honor his death and all deaths that make the quality of life that I enjoy possible. I can only hope that one day I'll be able to give a service of this magnitude to my country.

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends." (John 15:13) As I walk away I hope to take a little inspiration from this boy who selflessly embodied these values.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 1999

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on May 13, 1999, I was unavoidably detained during a rollcall vote: number 129, on the Sanders of Vermont amendment, as amended, to H.R. 1555, Intelligence Authorization. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO TERMINAL PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 1999

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate Terminal Park Elementary School in Auburn, Washington, for their selection as a Blue Ribbon School. It is an honor to have this school, located in the Ninth Congressional District, as one of only 266 schools nationwide awarded this prestigious honor.

The Blue Ribbon School award is given to schools that do an outstanding job of meeting local, state, and national goals, and display the qualities of excellence that are necessary to prepare our young people for the challenges of the next century. More specifically, to receive the award, schools must have strong leaders; a clear vision, and sense of mission that is shared by all connected with the school; high-quality teaching; challenging, up-to-date curriculum; policies and practices that ensure a safe environment conducive to learning; a solid commitment to parental involvement; and evidence that the school helps all students to achieve high standards.

I commend the staff, students, and parents of Terminal Park Elementary School for their hard work in building an effective community for learning. The focus on literacy and assuring students obtain the essential skills needed for life is absolutely necessary and I am glad we have Terminal Park Elementary School as an example for how we need to work toward educating our children.

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 1999

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan, known as the Republic of China, will be marking its President's third anniversary in office on May 20, 1999. President Lee Teng-hui, a Taiwan-born statesman, should be commended for his leadership and vision for his country.

President Lee's leadership lies in his ability to rally his 21 million compatriots into understanding that the course Taiwan has chosen, both economically and politically, is right for them. President Lee has convinced them that their future lies in free trade and private enterprise as well as in full democracy. With the help of his compatriots, President Lee will lead the Republic of China to ever greater economic prosperity at home, while achieving international recognition abroad.

On the occasion of the President's third anniversary in office, I wish President Lee God-speed and good fortune.

TRIBUTE TO BROOKE GROVE ELEMENTARY

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute to the faculty, parents, and students of Brooke Grove Elementary School in Montgomery County, MD, for winning the Blue Ribbon Excellence in Education Award from the Department of Education.

Students, parents, and teachers at Brooke Grove have forged a partnership dedicated to excellence and committed to the belief that success is attainable for all students. Participation and involvement is of paramount importance and evident throughout all aspects of learning and teaching.

Brooke Grove has implemented The William and Mary Language Arts Program for Highly Able Learners; Reading Recovery Program, which is an internationally recognized intervention program. The school uses Math and Science Clubs, Science Hands-on kits, Math Content Connections, funded by the National Science Foundation, computer labs, and a research/learning hub to enable children to acquire skills and learn how to problem solve for the future.

At Brooke Grove staff training is essential to the instructional process. New teachers participate in 1 week of training prior to joining the staff and have a coach-mentor throughout their first year of service. A large number of teachers were trained in numerous staff development initiatives, which include The William and Mary Curriculum; AEMP, Science and Expository Reading; and Gifted and Talented Instruction.

The faculty at Brooke Grove has demonstrated innovative and creative avenues for acknowledging and motivating students. The environment is one in which children want to achieve, are supported in their efforts to achieve, and are recognized for their accomplishments.

As a former teacher, I am pleased that Brooke Grove Elementary School is being recognized for its fine educational and extracurricular programs. I congratulate its fine faculty, its supportive parents, and its excellent administrators and wish them continued success in achieving excellence in education.

LACKENMIER RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extremely well-respected community leader, educator, and close personal friend, Reverend James R. Lackenmier. On May 20th, Father Lackenmier will step down as President of King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania after twenty-five years of distinguished service to this fine institution. Father Lackenmier combines the rare traits of having the executive acumen of a Fortune 500 CEO, the devotion to young people of a life-long educator, and the warmth of community spirit of a man who has truly embraced "The

Valley with a heart." I am pleased and proud to join in a community-wide salute as Father Lackenmier leaves Northeastern Pennsylvania for new pursuits.

The eldest son of Harold and Margaret Murphy Lackenmier, Father Lackenmier was born in Lackawanna, New York. He graduated from Canisius High School in Buffalo, New York in 1956, entered the congregation of Holy Cross in 1957, and was ordained in Rome in 1964. Father Lackenmier earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Stonehill College in Massachusetts and his S.T.L. from the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome. Father Lackenmier went on to receive a master's degree in English from the University of North Carolina in 1968 and a master's degree in Religion and Literature from the University of Chicago in 1970. He has subsequently been awarded six honorary degrees from Our Lady of Holy Cross College in New Orleans, University of Portland, Wilkes University, College Misericordia, Luzerne County Community College, and the University of Scranton.

Education has been Father Lackenmier's focus; he served first as an English teacher in Notre Dame High School in Connecticut and later as the chair of the English department at St. Peter's High School in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Father Lackenmier served as the chaplain at St. Xavier College in Chicago and later as the director of the Collegiate Formation program at Notre Dame's Moreau Seminary in Indiana. In 1974, Father Lackenmier arrived at King's College in Wilkes-Barre to serve first as the Director of Campus Ministry, then later as Director of Development, and finally as President.

Mr. Speaker, Father Lackenmier has had a distinguished career while here with us in Northeastern Pennsylvania. He serves on a long list of Boards and belongs to the prestigious Pennsylvania Society, the Knights of Columbus, and the Rotary Club, where he is a Paul Harris Fellow. He has been awarded the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award and the Wyoming Valley Interfaith Council Citation for Devoted Service to the Cause of Human Welfare and the Boy Scouts named him their Distinguished Citizen for 1994.

Mr. Speaker, I have had the opportunity to work closely with Father Lackenmier during my tenure in Congress on various projects, including the Earth Conservancy, an ambitious community effort to clean up thousands of acres of mine-scarred land in the Wyoming Valley. Father Lackenmier, along with his academic colleague Dr. Christopher Breiseth of Wilkes University, provided great leadership and courage in guiding what is now an award-winning organization, especially during its tumultuous early days. I will be forever grateful for his steadfast devotion to making this dream a reality.

I will also be forever grateful for the many thoughtful gestures he provided to me personally over the years, especially his kindness to me and my family during the period following the loss of my mother.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have had the opportunity to bring the accomplishments of this fine community leader to the attention of my colleagues. In August, Father Lackenmier will go to Salzburg, Austria to direct the University of Portland's foreign studies center. He will carry with him my sincere gratitude for a job well done and my very best wishes for continued success and fulfillment.