

set up training opportunities for America Reads tutors working with Head Start students and after-school programs for children in poverty.

Jason Lapeituu wanted to provide a safe and stable place for young people to feel accepted and to develop their hopes, dreams and goals for the future. As an AmeriCorps member, he made that happen in Pine Island, MN. He knew that in order for young people to be comfortable in the youth center of his dreams, they had to be a part of creating it. Working with local youth, Jason found a site, planned community events that raised start up funds and helped to renovate a laundromat into the Pine Island Union of Youth, Inc.

From the age of 15, Arthur White lived on his own, having grown up in poverty in an abusive home. After high school, he joined AmeriCorps and began serving with an environmental education program working with elementary aged students. With a dream of one day running his own environmental education center, Arthur was instrumental in the reactivation of the Nature Center at Bear Brook State Park in New Hampshire to provide park visitors with an opportunity to learn about the park environment.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the contributions of these terrific people and the benefits AmeriCorps service has had for the country.

#### HONORING ROBERT GILLETTE

#### HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Robert Gillette for his outstanding contribution to the community and his twelve years of public service as Commissioner of the Port of Houston Authority, an organization representing 26 cities in Harris County.

Mr. Gillette retired this year, but his contributions to Harris County and the Port of Houston Authority will surely endure. From the day he was sworn in as a Commissioner of the Port of Houston, Mr. Gillette pledged to join his fellow commissioners in making the Port more competitive in difficult times for the maritime industry. Truly a man of his word, Mr. Gillette made good on that promise. For 6 terms without pay, he faithfully conducted his duties awarding contracts, acquiring property, setting port tariffs and directing operations with a keen eye toward keeping the Port of Houston viable and thriving.

It was under Mr. Gillette's tenure as Commissioner that the project to deepen and widen the Houston Ship Channel was undertaken. Marking the largest expansion of the Ship Channel in decades, Mr. Gillette and his fellow commissioners were able to bring together the environmental and business communities to get the job done.

Mr. Gillette graduated cum laude from the South Texas School of Law in 1941. He also served his country as an Army Air Corps aviation cadet. Before establishing a law practice, Gillette was assigned to the Judge Advocate Section at Kelly Field in San Antonio, Texas.

He left the service in 1946 as a first lieutenant and moved to Baytown to begin law practice with Reid, Strickland and Gillette. It was a

partnership that spanned 41 years, with Mr. Gillette serving as managing partner for 30 years.

In addition to his law practice, he was president of Bay Title Company and a director of Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Baytown for 25 years. Robert Gillette's professional affiliations include the Texas State Bar Association; Houston Bar Association; Baytown Bar Association and the Texas Bar Foundation.

As a testament to the expertise that Mr. Gillette brought to bear in both his business and public dealings, in the late 1980s, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese appointed Gillette to the People to People Citizens Ambassador Program.

Mr. Gillette also has an extensive record of community involvement. He was a member of the Board of Managers of City-County Hospital and has served as board member and president of the Baytown Area Water Authority since 1973. He and his wife, Suzzane, have three grown children.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate my friend on his retirement and commend him on a job well done. As Port Commissioner, knowing that the fortunes of the Port influences the total employment picture of Harris County, Bob Gillette always strove to keep the Port a first-rate facility. We owe him a debt of gratitude for the work he has done addressing the concerns of our Port community, and thus the needs of all of Harris County.

#### CONGRATULATING PASCACK VALLEY HOSPITAL ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Pascack Valley Hospital on the 40th anniversary of its founding. Located in Westwood, Pascack Valley is one of the finest medical institutions in the State of New Jersey. Its story is one of a local community in desperate need of a hospital ready accessible to everyone and the people who worked through two wars and nearly two decades to achieve that goal.

Pascack Valley Hospital had its beginnings in May 1941 when Westwood resident Louise Bohlin was shocked that a Hillsdale friend died after waiting three weeks for admission to the nearest existing Bergen County hospital because of a shortage of beds. Mrs. Bohlin vowed that the Pascack Valley would have a hospital of its own and organized local physicians, mayors and concerned citizens into the Pascack Valley Hospital Association. The association held its first meeting November 27, 1941. Unfortunately, that meeting came only 10 days before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and plans for a hospital were put on hold for the duration of World War II.

The end of World War II brought an influx of returning veterans and expanding families, and intensified interest in the need for a community hospital. The Pascack Valley Hospital Association was reorganized in 1946 but the Korean War intervened it was not until June 1 1959—18 years after the idea was born—that the single-story, 86-bed hospital opened its doors and welcomed its first patients. The

hospital has grown tremendously since then. Today, it is a full-service, 291-bed hospital providing a wide range of the most advanced, technically sophisticated health care services available anywhere. The PVH medical team consists of nearly 450 physicians, 1,000 nurses and other health professionals and 1,000 dedicated volunteers. Pascack Valley Hospital serves 16,000 inpatients and 70,000 outpatients a year, yet maintains its strong dedication to personalized care—making each individual feel he or she is the most important patient in the hospital.

As part of Well Care Group Inc., Pascack Valley Hospital itself is supplemented by an outpatient dialysis center, a community health care center, a hospice, a preventative medicine institute, a reproductive assistance center, a psychiatric institute and an MRI facility, among other services. In addition, it is affiliated with Westchester Medical Center, Hackensack University Medical Center and New York Medical College, further enhancing the expertise and facilities available to benefit PVH patients.

I would like to take this occasion to enlist the Congress in giving special thanks and recognition to some of the extraordinary individuals who will be honored at the hospital's 40th anniversary celebration this weekend. Perhaps most prominent is philanthropist Lillian Booth, whose generosity has helped fund an oncology center and a dialysis center bearing her name—along with two ambulances and a specialized ultrasound scanner—during her 20-year involvement with the hospital. In addition, Bernice Alexander, widow of the late Dr. Stewart Alexander, one of PVH's best-known physicians, will be honored for her many contributions. Mrs. Alexander served as a lieutenant colonel and director of nursing in the Mediterranean Theater during World War II and was decorated for her wartime work in epidemiology. President of the Women's National Republican Club in the 1950s, she was a prime organizer of Project Hope, raising funds for medical supplies for crippled nations after the war. Also being honored is Richard Galgano, whose position as hospital janitor might make him seem an unlikely honoree. Mr. Galgano, however, is the only employee of the hospital who has been with PVH throughout its entire 40-year history. His long employment is a testimony to loyalty and he is well known to generations of patients, doctors, nurses and staff.

Also being honored are six physicians affiliated with PVH from the beginning and still on the active staff: Dr. Joan Barrett, Robert Boyer, Frank Ferraro, Theodore Goldberg, Anthony Salerno and Arnold Sobel.

Recognition must also go to all board members and PVH President Louis Ycre, whose extraordinary leadership skills and compassionate concern for the well being of the patients set the standard for the entire staff.

A local hospital is one of the most basic protections for health and safety a community can be expected to offer, as vital as police and fire departments, clean drinking water, good roads and good schools. Those of us who remember what life was like for the injured or ill before Pascack Valley Hospital was founded don't have to imagine what life would be like without it. Pascack Valley Hospital has made a tremendous difference in our community.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in expressing our appreciation for the work done by all associated with Pascack Valley Hospital and wishing them many years of continued success.

CONGRATULATING HENRY "HANK" AARON ON 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF BREAKING MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HOME RUN RECORD AND RECOGNIZING HIM AS ONE OF THE GREATEST BASEBALL PLAYERS OF ALL TIME

SPEECH OF

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 19, 1999*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the greatest baseball players in history—Henry "Hank" Aaron. During his major league career—a career which spanned nearly a quarter century—Hank Aaron broke more batting records than any other player in Major League baseball.

Twenty-five years ago, on April 8, 1974, Hank Aaron hit his 715th home run—breaking the Major League Record for career home runs held previously by Babe Ruth. Hank Aaron still holds a place in the heart of every baseball fan. Along with Ruth, Willie Mays, and Ted Williams, Aaron was recently elected by the fans to the MasterCard All-Century Team.

But Hank Aaron was more than just batting titles, All-Star games and home run records. He was an important part of my childhood, and the childhood of anyone growing up in Milwaukee in the 1950's. I remember going to Milwaukee County Stadium to watch the great Milwaukee Braves teams of the 1950s. The Stadium was always packed—even though Milwaukee was the second smallest city in the Major Leagues, the Milwaukee Braves were the first National League team to draw two million fans in a season.

Hank Aaron was the reason so many people came to watch the Braves. He began his career with Milwaukee in 1952, when a scout recruited him for a Braves farm team. Two years later, Aaron made his first major league appearance. He went on to spend 13 years with the Milwaukee Braves, hitting a total of 398 home runs and leading the Braves to two league pennants and a World Series victory in 1957. On September 20, 1965, Aaron became the last Milwaukee player to hit a home run in Milwaukee County Stadium.

Nearly a decade later, after a brilliant career in Atlanta, Aaron returned to Milwaukee—this time for the Milwaukee Brewers. He ended his career there, retiring in 1976.

Hank Aaron is an integral part of the history of baseball and the history of Milwaukee. I am pleased to join my colleagues in honoring Hammerin' Hank Aaron.

TRIBUTE TO THE CHAPIN HIGH SCHOOL NAVAL JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS UNIT

**HON. FLOYD SPENCE**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House that the Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) Unit at Chapin High School, in Chapin, South Carolina, has been selected as the "Most Outstanding NJROTC Unit in the Nation" by the Navy League of the United States. Recently, I had the great pleasure to present the Navy League Trophy to Chapin High School NJROTC Unit Commanding Officer David James Riser at a ceremony at the Chapin High School Stadium. This recognition was well received by those in attendance, and it was an obvious source of pride for the entire student body, as well as the faculty and the parents of the cadets.

The Chapin High School NJROTC Unit is composed of a dynamic group of cadets that should serve as a model for others to follow across our Nation. This Unit has a diverse cadet population that includes: a class president, a homecoming queen, Eagle Scouts, the leader of the State Championship SAT Team, the editor of the school newspaper, the captain of the football team, the captain of the soccer team, the captain of the cross country track team, All-State Athletes, 46 varsity athletes, 16 school band members, cheerleaders, and other dedicated students. The NJROTC Unit was established at Chapin High School in 1996, with 42 cadets. From the start, this Unit excelled, being named the "Best New Unit" by the Area Commander for its first year. Three years later, the Unit has grown to include 16 percent of the school enrollment, with a waiting list of 35 students.

The Chapin High School NJROTC Unit is led by two experienced Naval Science Instructors, Colonel Richard C. Slack and Senior Chief Petty Officer Charles W. Cook. Colonel Slack has had a distinguished career in the United States Marine Corps. Upon graduation from East Tennessee State University in 1967, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. In 1969, then-First Lieutenant Slack was designated as a Naval Aviator and he served in Southeast Asia for thirteen months. He progressed through the officer ranks for more than twenty years, also earning a Master of Business Administration degree from Webster University, in Saint Louis, Missouri, and a Master of International Strategy and Policy degree from the Naval War College, in Providence, Rhode Island. Colonel Slack served as the Chief of Staff for the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs) from 1989–1991, and he retired in 1996, as the Commanding Officer and Professor of Naval Science for the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps Unit at The University of South Carolina.

Senior Chief Petty Officer Charles W. Cook is the Associate Naval Science Instructor at Chapin High School. A native of Irmo, South Carolina, Senior Chief Cook attended Benedict College, The University of South Carolina, and DePaul University. He completed twenty years of active duty in the United States Navy, with

eight years of regular duty and twelve years of recruiting duty. Among the honors that have been received by Senior Chief Cook during his Naval career are the "Sailor of the Year Award," the "National Recruiter of the Year Award," the "Recruiter-in-Charge of the Year Award," and the "Zone Supervisor of the Year Award."

The Commanding Officer of the Chapin High School NJROTC Unit is David James Riser, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Wayne Riser, of Chapin. David Riser is an outstanding young man who has excelled in many areas as a student. He is the recipient of the "First Place Chapin NJROTC Academic Award," the "Certificate of Honorable (Cum Laude) Mention on the National Latin Examination," and the "Lieutenant Governor's Award for Excellence in Composition," among other awards. He also is a South Carolina Junior Scholar and he has been named to Who's Who Among American High School Students. Prior to his position as Commanding Officer, Cadet Riser served as the Supply Officer, and, then, as the Operations Officer of his NJROTC Unit.

Mr. Speaker, I was an NROTC Midshipman at The University of South Carolina, and that experience provided the foundation upon which I have built my career in public service. As the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, I am a strong supporter of the JROTC and the ROTC Programs. The fine cadets at Chapin High School are excellent examples of what the JROTC Program stands for. I am very proud of what this outstanding group of high school students has accomplished. Since being established in 1996, the NJROTC Unit at Chapin High School has doubled in size, and 51 percent of the Freshman Class have enrolled in the NJROTC Unit for the 1999/2000 academic year. The Chapin High School NJROTC cadets have worked tirelessly to prove that they exemplify excellence, and I would like to offer my congratulations to them for being named the most outstanding NJROTC Unit in the Nation for 1999 by the Navy League of the United States.

TRIBUTE TO BILL GARRETT

**HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, in 1990 during my race for Governor of Georgia I had the privilege to meet and get to know Heath Garrett, then a student at the University of Georgia. In the years since, Heath became my campaign manager, my Chief of Staff, and always my friend.

As our friendship grew, I came to know Heath's father, Bill. On the evening of October sixteenth, Bill Garrett passed away, the victim of a heart attack and a lifetime battle with diabetes. I rise today, to pay tribute to the life of Bill Garrett.

During the past year, Bill volunteered in my Congressional District Office 4 hours a day answering the phone and greeting constituents. He always answered the phone the same way, "Johnny Isakson's office, Bill Garrett how may I help you." Bill Garrett's voice was always pleasant, and his "how may I help you" assured the caller he really wanted to help.