

teachers. Teachers are on the front lines everyday, preparing our children for the future. Teachers also bestow upon students the intellectual tools they need to become successful and productive members of society.

There is nothing that impacts America's social, economic and political future more than the quality of learning that happens in our schools. We should recognize the countless hours of selfless service that teachers devote to the most valuable resource in this country—our children.

Let me, again, express my appreciation and thanks to the millions of educators who impart their wisdom and knowledge to future generations.

HONORING EMMA JANE
BLOOMFIELD

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Emma Jane Bloomfield, who recently won an award from the Concord Rotary Club for her paper on Mongolian Culture. This paper was brought to my attention by her proud grandmother, Blanche Bloomfield, who resides in my district in Kings Point, NY. This essay contest demonstrates how our communities can work with our schools to further the educational goals of all of our nation's children. I hope all of my colleagues will have an opportunity to review this insightful and cogent essay and I would once again like to congratulate Emma on her outstanding work.

Under the control of Genghis Khan, the Mongolian people once had a forceful army, exploding with wrath and rage. However, the mounting tension between other countries and the Mongolians, caused by so many battles, resulted in the shattering of the Mongol empire. Since the 1300s, they have struggled to rebuild their society. Now that the strength and anger have faded from their community, many Mongols today believe in a strong emphasis on politeness and hospitality. Mongols live on the seeping grasslands of Asia and they use their environment to satisfy many needs. In the rural areas of Mongolia, many men are herdsmen who supervise the wild horses and yaks that roam the Mongols' homeland. The history of the Mongolian people has influenced their present culture, and their beliefs, styles of life, and natural environment are still contributing to the formation of their society and identities.

Mongolian history is traced back to the days of power when Genghis Khan ruled the Mongol empire. Genghis Khan was a wild horseman and a strong warrior who inspired the bravery of his people. He had great accuracy and distance when shooting a bow and arrow, and he had a keen mind that conjured up strategies he used to win battles. Khan was widely known for ruthlessly attacking towns and cities for the rewards of victory. Genghis Khan conquered more territory than anyone in Mongolian history, and he imposed his reputation on the world. Despite the cruelty that Khan showed toward other countries, the Mongols praised him and viewed him as the founder of their nation, creator of their people. The Mongols called Genghis Khan the "Supreme Ruler Over the Ocean" and "Emperor of Emperors."

A large portion of Khan's success was due to his solid armies, both his soldiers and his horsemen. Genghis Khan's armies were vast, and he grouped his men into units of tens, hundreds, thousands, and ten-thousands, so they could move in to battle quickly. Khan's powerful armies were often forced to cover 225 miles of land within a day. Most of the warriors were horsemen, and they each owned three to twenty horses, which they alternated daily to give each horse sufficient time to rest. Weapons carried by the warriors were strong bows, lances, and swords. The soldiers wore heavy leather called lamellar to shield them from the fierce swipe of a sword.

Many of Genghis Khan's words provoked a feeling of force and fury. "The greatest pleasure is to vanquish your enemies and chase them before you rob them of their wealth and see those dear to them baked in tears, to ride their horses," he once said. Khan was fueled by experiences of the many bloody battles that his armies fought. Genghis Khan relished seeing those inferior to him suffer, and he fought only to claim power and to satisfy his dreams. Khan's dream was to establish a network of riders, used as a spy system, all over Asia. His armies did succeed in taking over parts of China, Middle Asia, and Europe. Khan's empire stretched from Europe to Russia in the north, and from Vietnam to Iraq in the south. With their equipment, strength, and intelligence, the Mongol Empire led by Genghis Khan seemed immortal.

Unfortunately for Mongolian society, the red heat of their empire soon faded to a covering pink. Because they fought so many battles, the rivalries and conflicts between Mongolia and other countries brought misfortune and an unexpected end to the Mongol Empire. At that time, Russia and China began to expand and they claimed most power that the Mongols had once held. The collapse of the Mongol empire in 1505 scarred its people and society. The power supplied by Genghis Khan was humiliated, and the next centuries were filled with tragedy and struggle. While the Mongols tried to rebuild their economy, Russia and China prevailed over them and took parts of Mongolia under their control. In 1990, the break-up of the Soviet Union provided a blessing to the Mongols, and it offered freedom to some. However, problems still remain in Mongolia. To survive, the people have been forced to roam the grasslands, hunting with bow and arrow, taming horses, and raising livestock. The Mongols' strength has only re-emerged through their formation of a government while they have squirmed out of the reach of Russian and Chinese power.

Having rebuilt their society, natural and spiritual things now claim a higher rank among the Mongols. Mongolians believe that heaven, a home to the gods, holds an abundance of power. The Mongols honor heaven and all of nature under it. In fact, earlier Mongol tribes blessed and proclaimed their leaders as the "sons of heaven."

In their households, Mongols have always strongly emphasize politeness and hospitality. In pre-modern times the Mongols' homes were spread out all over the Mongols' land. This caused many people to travel from camp to camp, who would need a home for one night. Mongols provided shelter for visitors who later would face a hike across the windswept grasslands. With the arrival of a guest at a Mongolian's home, the host would traditionally offer a hospitality bowl, which would hold chunks of pungent cheeses, sugar cubes, candies, and bordzig pastries deep fried in yak and mutton fats. Using the hospitality bowl was the style in which the Mongols welcomed their guests. Mongolians believed in treating visitors as old and be-

loved friends, and in turn, the guest of a household would offer kind words to the hosts, and would express respect and gratitude by accepting foods at the table with customary gestures.

The traditional religion observed by the people of Mongolia is Tibetan Buddhism. Pedestals, in a Mongol's home, hold statues of Buddha, a symbol that is prominent in Tibetan Buddhism. After freedom of religion was introduced to Mongolia in 1990, Buddhism became the most commonly practiced religion. The government of Mongolia offered money to support the restoration of a sacred Buddhist Monastery.

Religion holds importance to the Mongols, yet it only occupies one level of Mongolian life. In the rural areas of Mongolia, the people's lives revolve around hunting or herding livestock. The semi-wild horses who graze in the mountains that enclose the grasslands, are for riding and training purposes. A Mongolian horse herdsman typically makes decisions as to where to let the horses graze, and when to move them to the next camps. Herders of any animal must eventually sell or butcher the livestock. Herdsmen efficiently use parts of the animals for fuel, warmth, and shelter. The job of a herdsman may also be to breed rarer animals, and sell them.

Traditionally, hunting occupies a large portion of Mongolian life. Many Mongol hunters use ancient archery techniques to hunt birds. Keen dogs and cheetahs are also used to track down a hunter's game. Occasionally, in earlier times, large-scale hunts would be organized where beaters would drive entire herds of antelope into the lurking hunters' bows. Falcons, too, were used to lead large game to the hunters.

In the rural places of Mongolia, the rural life of a Mongol is chiefly filled by the needs of the flocks of sheep, goats, herds of horses, cattle, or camels. Springtime is the season in which herdsmen have the most commitments to the livestock. The births of animals occupy great spans of time, and often an entire family comes to the fields and helps the herder with a difficult birth. Herdsmen scurry around tending to the needs of animals, trying to establish a health start to the herding season. Summertime is less busy, for herds of animals resort to pasture land and the livestock doesn't demand assistance from herdsmen. Yet in the summertime there is still some work to attend to: sheep are shorn for their dense wool and camels and goats are combed for their velvety under-wool. The autumn winds dry the moisture from the grasslands, and as winter approaches groups of herdsmen collect their livestock. The animals are confined to graze in small pens and barns, and hay becomes their main diet. In late autumn equipment and tools are replaced or mended for the new births of livestock in the springtime. Mongolian winters come to the land quickly and last for a long amount of time. Temperatures stay low for weeks, which make each day harder for Mongols to endure. Herdsmen stay loyal to the penned animals and help them through the months of winter, so the cycle can repeat.

On the grasslands outside of Ulan Bator, the capital of Mongolia, the Mongols live in tent-like gers (see appendix D). These homes have rounded walls that slope upward to form a point at the top. These traditional homes provide the Mongolian people with warmth and protect them from blizzards that may storm the grasslands. Gers are covered with felt, usually made by women. The process of felt-making typically takes two weeks for enough cloth to cover an entire ger. Because many Mongols are followers of animal herds, the ger satisfies the needs of their culture, for the ger is easy to dismantle and is designed to be transported from place

to place. A ger is most commonly moved by a team of camels or oxen, the strongest animals that can support a heavy weight. The placement of a ger has been influenced by Mongols' traditions. Throughout Mongolian history, the door of the ger has always faced southeast. Mongols believe that because winds gust from the southeast and the sacred sun rises in the east, gers that face in this direction are blessed.

The most common animal to be seen roaming the land of Mongolia is the yak. Mongols use the abundance of these animals to benefit their culture by herding them and using the animals as a source of trade. The Mongolian people also dine on meat from yaks and use their fat to fuel stoves. The Mongolian government trades yaks to other countries for oil, manufactured goods, and machinery, which are all conveniences that Mongols cannot process themselves.

The Mongols' land is a tangle of many different environments. A portion of Mongolia includes a vast mountain range locking in bleak and rocky grasslands. The most prominent mountain range is the Altai. This cluster of mountains holds the only glaciers in Mongolia, which makes for a nipping, frigid climate. The Mongolian grasslands also border the Gobi Desert, where the climate is arid and hot. Mongol culture, therefore, has adapted to living among extreme temperatures, but it revolves mostly around the more temperate grasslands. The Mongols have proven, in the survival of their culture, that to this day they still have the spark and the strength that the great Genghis Khan possessed.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF HARMONY MASONIC LODGE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of our colleagues and the American people the achievements of the Brothers of the Masonic Harmony Lodge #199 F.&A.M. of Sparkill, New York, on their 150th anniversary of fraternity and service to their community. The Harmony Lodge has continued the Masonic tradition of promoting "morality in which all men agree, that is, to be good men and true." Together with the nineteen other Masonic Lodges of the Manhattan District, the Harmony Lodge has continued to support the charitable endeavors of the Masons by raising and donating millions of dollars to hospitals, homes for widows, the elderly, and orphans as well as numerous scholarship funds.

The Harmony Lodge held its first meeting with nineteen Brothers on October 12, 1849, and ever since then the language of their meetings has always been German. The Brothers of Harmony Lodge have actively participated with the other Masonic Lodges of New York to raise funds to build the German Masonic Lodge in Manhattan, purchase land for a Masonic Park and Masonic home for the elderly as well as aiding in the foundation of two other Masonic Lodges in the state of New York. The brothers of the Harmony Lodge take great pride displaying German heritage, and do so by inviting thousands of visitors each August to the German Masonic Park to enjoy German culture, food and music entertainment in their annual "Oompah Fest and Steer Roast."

The Masons, officially titled the Free and Accepted Masons, are one of the world's oldest and largest fraternal organizations, dating back to its foundation in England in the early 1700's. Throughout history the Masons have sought to bring men together of all race, religions and political ideology under the ideas of charity, equality, morality and service to God. Today the Masons have millions of members worldwide, including more than 2.5 million in the United States. They have earned a reputation as highly respected businessmen, ministers and politicians. Great men such as American statesman Benjamin Franklin, Composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, French philosopher Voltaire and U.S. President George Washington have all been Brothers in the Masonic order.

My own association as a Brother with the Masons has been a great influence on me throughout my career and in public life. Their moral values and ethical code have been an immeasurable help to guide me in making fair and just decisions in my responsibilities as a Member of this chamber.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that under the leadership of Worshipful Master Arnold Geisler, Secretary Jack Williams and Treasurer Reinhard Kabitzke that the Harmony Lodge will continue its good works as a model organization and will continue to help those in need as well as continue to be an exemplary example of fraternal service to community for another 150 years.

TRIBUTE TO THE BELLARMINE COLLEGE MOCK TRIAL TEAM

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to honor constituents from Louisville, Kentucky. Recently, the Bellarmine College Mock Trial Team competed in the American Mock Trial Association's National Championships in Des Moines, Iowa and brought back to Louisville the National Championship. The Knights of Bellarmine overcame the efforts of Stanford and Rhodes in their march to victory.

This was a redeeming victory for Bellarmine which had finished second in the competition the previous four years. While compiling a record of 7-0-1 during the competition all of the members of the championship team were named All-Americans. Meanwhile, the second team for Bellarmine gained valuable experience, several individual awards and finished in fifth place overall. I also am pleased to honor one of team's coaches the James Wagoner, who was honored for his outstanding service to the American Mock Trial Association and the legal profession outside of mock trial.

The Bellarmine championship team is made up of: William Armstrong, Amanda Bennett, Jason Butler, Nathaniel Cadle, Ryane Conroy and Vanessa Cox. The second team included: John Balenovich, David Chamberlain, Cheryl Danner, Heather Jackson, Matt Rich, Christi Spurlock and Sarah Wimsatt. These two fine squads were led by James Wagoner, Ruth Wagoner and Jason Cooper. Again, I am so proud to honor this team, as Louisville celebrates its National Champion.

CONGRATULATING BILL AND BEV FARNSWORTH ON THEIR SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill and Bev Farnsworth as they celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary.

Bill and Bev Farnsworth were married on May 4, 1974 in Elgin, Illinois. They moved to Fresno, California in 1978 and reside there today. Bill owns Valley Drywall Systems, a construction company. Bev is a department manager at Gottschalk's department store in Fresno. Together they have raised four children, Sherrie, Bryon, Kelly and Larry.

Bill and Bev Farnsworth have exemplified true family values in their family and love for each other. They have been involved in their community with various volunteer organizations. Bev was a volunteer for the Clovis Community Hospital Guild. Both Bill and Bev were a part of the Fresno County Republican Central Committee.

Bill and Bev have a saying that they hold dear, "More than yesterday, less than tomorrow."

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Bill and Bev Farnsworth on their Silver Wedding Anniversary. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing them many more years of happiness.

BAY MEDICAL CENTER AUXILIARY: A VITAL PARTNER FOR VITAL SERVICES

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, there are many organizations that make a huge difference in our lives, and their successes are made possible by their support mechanisms. Bay Medical Center in my Congressional District provides outstanding health care to my constituents, and its ability to provide this wonderful care is a direct result of the activities of the Bay Medical Center Auxiliary.

Since 1973, the members of the Auxiliary have consistently acted as ambassadors for the hospital. Their good will and confidence has been a key factor in the many successful fund-raising campaigns over the years. In fact, the Bay Medical Center Auxiliary has provided nearly one million dollars to the Health System since 1990 through Gift Shop profits, proceeds from the annual Charity Ball, and other fund-raising activities.

Proceeds provided by the Auxiliary have been used for many essential activities. Courtesy vans have been provided for patients convenience. Infant and adult ventilators, the first electric birthing bed-chair, state of the art mammography equipment, an advance life support ambulance, Life-Pac resuscitation equipment, fetal monitors, and cardiac rehabilitation equipment are only some of the medical devices provided by the Auxiliary's efforts that help maintain an outstanding quality of care. A number of facilities, including the women's resource library, waiting lounges in