

been honored with a variety of awards. Just this past year, he was given the Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Award. In 1996 she was named Florida Art Educator of the Year, and the year before Florida State University School also named her Teacher of the Year.

Debi is also the National Art Education Association Secondary Division Director and was one of the first art teachers to obtain the status of National Board Certified Teacher. Her commitment to advocating the importance of art on the national level has been impressive throughout her career. She has successfully written numerous grant requests, and has brought in over \$400,000 in additional funds for her school district. Conducting over 300 workshops and being invited to speak on the state, national and international level certainly distinguishes her remarkable career.

The greatest reflection of an educator's career is when they are recognized by their peers and students. Countless colleagues, parents and students have eagerly stepped forward to praise the work of Debi Barrett-Hayes. They are impressed with her rapport with students and with her ability to integrate art into the lives of those she teaches. She uses history, science and culture to bring about a greater understanding of the visual arts. Other impressive attributes to her career are the successes her students experience through the awards and scholarships they have received for their talents. The need for caring and effective educators in today's society is extremely important, and honoring those who have dedicated their lives to reinforcing a system of quality education is why we honor them.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, we join Debi Barrett-Hayes' family, colleagues, students and friends in honoring her as she is inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING REVEREND MICHEAL ELLIOTT

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Reverend Micheal Elliott, President of Union Mission, Inc. and a recipient of this year's Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Community Health Leadership Program award. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation ranks as one of the largest philanthropies in the country and their mission is devoted to improving the health and health care of all Americans. Let me take a moment to applaud the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's efforts to fund projects that seek diversified solutions to the challenges of health care. This national foundation invests in our futures by supporting training, education, research and projects that demonstrate the effective delivery of health care services. All of us benefit from their commitment to improving health and health care. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation honors ten individuals each year who have found creative solutions to bring health care to communities whose needs have been ignored or unmet. This award is considered the nation's highest honor for community health leadership and includes a \$100,000 program grant. I am pleased that they have recognized Reverend Micheal Elliott.

Recognizing that poor health care prolongs homelessness, Reverend Elliott developed partnerships among the diverse private and public organizations serving the homeless to create a shelter based clinic. Reverend Elliott established the J.C. Lewis Health Center of Union Mission, a 32-bed respite center which provides care to the homeless who are too sick to recover in shelters, but not sick enough to remain in hospitals. This well-conceived project provides much needed care to the homeless as well as saves the country's three major hospitals millions of dollars annually in the costs of unnecessary hospitalizations. By integrating services for this vulnerable population, Reverend Elliott and his organization bridged the gap in service and helped to reduce homelessness in Savannah.

Reverend Elliott's efforts confirm that innovative approaches and collaborative efforts are very effective tools in resolving the health care challenges that many communities face. Finally, the real strength of these creative programs is the compassion of Reverend Elliott. I've known Mike for years—he is energetic, dedicated and bold. He mixes idealism with practicality, and assembles a group of personalities and talents together to make things happen. I believe it is his "outside of the box" thinking that makes the difference.

A RESOLUTION HONORING COURTNEY McFETERS, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF HORTON, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Courtney McFeters, winner of the 2000 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Courtney is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Courtney is an exceptional student at Hanover-Horton High School and possesses an impressive high school record.

Courtney has received numerous awards for her excellence in academics as well as her involvement in band. Outside of school, she is an active member of her church community.

Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Courtney McFeters for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOAN A. GOREE OF DECATUR, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. "BUD" CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Joan A. Goree of Calhoun Community College. Dr. Goree, known throughout my home state of Alabama as "the lady with the golden voice", is retiring after thirty years of dedicated instruction. I wish to join her many grateful students, faculty colleagues, family and friends in honoring her for sharing her talents and skills with our community.

Dr. Goree also graces Decatur and the entire state with her frequent performances as a soloist, recitalist and numerous musical theatre performances. Dr. Goree's love of music is evident as she spreads her love of melody and harmony to her students. Several of them have achieved fame crediting their knowledge and skills to their beloved teacher.

At Calhoun Community College, Dr. Goree wore many hats including professor of voice, theory, piano, Director of the College Chorus, Assistant Director of The Madrigal Singers and the Chorale and Editor of the first newsletter for Alabama Junior and Community College Association. But her talents have traveled beyond Alabama. She has toured Central America three times as a concert artist and has established schools of music there as well. She authored the book "Basic Theory" in Spanish and English and then set up a corresponding video course also.

For her extraordinary service to the musical students of Calhoun and the arts community in Alabama at large, I feel that this is an apt honor. Her love of learning is infectious, a scholarship has been established in her honor. On behalf of the United States Congress, I pay homage to Dr. Goree and thank her for a job well done. I congratulate her on her retirement and wish her happiness in her future endeavors.

GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the need for common-sense gun safety legislation.

Today, Democrats and local million mom marchers and other representatives from organizations like Handgun Control Inc. will convene a vigil for the victims of gun violence as we call upon this Congress to take up reasonable gun safety legislation. The Houston Chronicle reported that a Houston police officer's 3-year-old son accidentally shot himself in the leg on June 12th. The boy is OK, however, investigators say the boy found the loaded gun in a linen closet. June 8, a 12-year-old middle school student here in Chesapeake, Virginia was charged after he brought a gun to school.

The overall rate of firearm-related deaths for children younger than 15 years of age is nearly 12 times greater than that found for 25

other industrialized nations. The United States has the highest rates of firearm-related deaths among industrialized countries. Between 1980 and 1997 three out of four murdered juveniles ages 12 or older were killed with a firearm. The American Academy of Pediatrics even predicts that by the year 2003, firearm-related deaths may become the leading cause of injury-related death.

It is imperative that we act now and not allow Republican leaders to dismantle the vital gun safety provisions contained within the current juvenile justice bill. Simply passing a bill without any gun safety provisions would be irresponsible and a terrible mistake on the part of this Congress. We must let the American people know that we are not afraid to take the steps necessary to enact responsible legislation. We cannot allow the NRA to determine how this Congress acts at the expense of our children. We are holding this vigil to continue the push for this Congress to pass gun safety legislation that would close the gun show loophole and include common-sense gun safety measures that prevent felons, fugitives and stalkers from obtaining fire arms and children from getting access to guns. The American people have waited long enough for us to act on this legislation. We can no longer delay and wait for the next tragedy in order to take action.

CURRENT HEADLINES

Sunday, June 11, in Harris County, a 14-year-old girl shot and killed another teen, James Stampfli. Evidently, the two teens were arguing over a motorcycle and the girl took a semi-automatic .22 rifle and shot the other teen.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RAY JENNINGS KEMPFER

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Kempfer family lives and works on the lands of Deer Park Ranch, which has belonged to the family since 1889.

Today I salute Ray Jennings Kempfer and honor the life of this young man who was born January 15, 1974, and died in the early hours of April 3, 2000. The cause of his unexpected and untimely death is still unknown.

Ray is the son of Reed and Charlene Kempfer. Reed and his brother Billy are the great-grandsons of William Hopkins who pioneered the ranch. Ray recently completed his Masters in Reproductive Physiology and graduated with honors from the University of Florida, and following the family tradition took his place on the ranch.

My condolences go out to the family, local ranchers, and the community that were shocked by his untimely death.

A RESOLUTION HONORING JOSEPH NORTHRUP, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF TECUMSEH, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known, that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Joseph Northrup, winner of the 2000 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Joseph is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Joseph is an exceptional student at Tecumseh High School and possesses an impressive high school record.

Joseph has received numerous awards for his excellence in academics as well as his involvement in band. Outside of school, he has been involved in Tecumseh Youth Theater and the community chorus and orchestra.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Joseph Northrup for his selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES PERINO, SUPERINTENDENT, ACALANES UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a very special leader in my district. Dr. James Perino has served as the Acalanes Union School District Superintendent for over a decade. As Superintendent, Dr. Perino has successfully worked for the betterment of the entire school community.

Dr. James Perino emphasized challenging academic programs and electives, established benchmarks and standards, stressed professional development programs, increased the use of technology as a learning tool, campaigned for modernization and new construction funds, worked for win-win employee relationships, implemented the strategic planning process, and developed strong business and community partnerships.

I take great pride in honoring Dr. James Perino's dedication and leadership. His hard work has created high standards, rigorous curricula and excellent teachers throughout the District. Under his direction, Acalanes Union School District has served as a model for

schools in Contra Costa County and throughout the State of California. I believe that school districts across the country should follow Dr. Perino's example and take the opportunity to learn from his successful and innovative ways.

THE ELDERLY HOUSING + HEALTH SUPPORT DEMONSTRATION ACT

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Mr. Speaker, elderly and disabled Americans in the United States currently face a dire problem—inadequate public housing. Approximately 40% of HUD's 1.3 million public housing units are occupied by the Elderly and the Disabled who are paying in excess of half their income towards rent. Public housing apartment buildings have amassed a back-log of \$5.7 billion in needed repairs. Nearly two-thirds of the buildings were constructed prior to 1970 and have frequently been passed over for modernization due to inadequate appropriations. Many of these public housing units need significant upgrading to meet basic safety and comfort standards in order to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Upgrading these units creates opportunities to bring supportive health and other services to help residents age with mobility and avoid costly and depressitig institutionalization.

The Elderly Housing + Health Support Demonstration Act seeks to meet these aims by providing competitive awards to Public Housing Agencies (PHAS) for the most innovative proposals to address the soaring needs of the Elderly and Disabled to have access to health-related supportive and congregate housing services. Specifically, the bill provides: (a) \$250 million of capital funding for physical rehabilitation of the building and installation of facilities for health-related services; (b) a pool of up to \$10 million (maximum grant to a selected PHA is \$400,000) for service coordinator funds; and (c) \$15 million (maximum grant to a selected PHA is \$750,000) for congregate housing services. The total cost of this demonstration grant program is \$275 million.

Please join me in co-sponsoring The Elderly Housing + Health Support Demonstration Act. Upgrading public housing and providing a continuum of care will enable Elderly and Disabled public housing residents to have a quality assisted-living environment, a viable health care system, and an independent life. This program has the additional benefit of providing much needed cost savings and preventing premature institutionalization of one of our most vulnerable populations.

TRIBUTE TO SUSIE HAAS—2000 NATIONAL TEACHER'S HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2000

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, today I commend Kindergarten Teacher Susie Haas, one