

TRIBUTE TO DEBBIE WILDE—
ATHENA AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker. It is at this moment that I would like to congratulate Debbie Wilde for receiving the ATHENA Award, in recognition of her commitment to helping women reach their full leadership potential. Mary is currently the director of Garfield Youth Services and her professional accomplishments, community efforts and youth activities deserve the recognition of this body.

Mary has played an important role in Garfield Youth Services' road to success. During her time with the organization, GYS has seen a tremendous growth in their staff and their membership. Currently, the youth organization provides more than 10 programs in which area youth and parents play an active role. One of Mary's most notable undertakings is the "Kiss-A-Pig" Contest, a contest that has seen an increase in proceeds for the organization from \$3,000 to \$100,000.

Mary has not only been instrumental in developing the Garfield Youth Services into a renowned organization, but she has also been very active in other facets of her community. As a resident of Glenwood Springs, Colorado, Mary involves herself in church, school, and various recreational activities. She believes it is important to "be a servant" and credits her devotion and faith as the backbone to her public service.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I congratulate Mary for receiving the ATHENA Award and I commend her on her public involvement. It is a real pleasure to honor people of Mary's character. We are all very proud of you, Mary. Congratulations!

GEORGE PALKO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. George Palko upon receiving the Alumni Emerging Leadership Award from Cleveland State University. Mr. Palko is being recognized for his great engineering work and for his dedication as an educator at the Cleveland State University.

Mr. George Palko earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the Fenn College of Engineering in 1988 and a master's of business administration from the College of Business Administration in 1993. Mr. George Palko is currently a resident of North Royalton.

Mr. George Palko has been engaged in the Cleveland State University's cooperative education program through which he has received training at the Great Lakes Construction Company. Upon graduating from college, Mr. Palko continued working for the Great Lakes Construction Company. As an in-house engineer and project engineer, Mr. Palko worked on many projects in the city of Cleveland. He has been superintendent of many ODOT projects, including the construction of interstate 90. In August 1997, Mr. Palko became president of the Great Lakes Construction Company.

Since Mr. Palko became president of the Great Lakes Construction Company the number of co-op students that the firm employs has quadrupled. In addition, Mr. Palko is teaching Construction Planning and Estimating at the Cleveland State University's Civil Engineering Department and he is a member of the College of Engineering's Visiting Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. Palko's impressive career and wish him all the best as he continues his work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to a family health emergency, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes 292 through 321. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 292, 293, 294, 296, 297, 298, 300, 301, 304, 307, 313, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320 and "nay" on rollcall votes 295, 299, 302, 303, 305, 306, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 314, and 321.

CHURCH PLAN PARITY

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, today I support S. 1309, the Church Plan Parity and Entanglement Prevention Act. The purpose of this legislation is to clarify the status of church plans under state law and the status of a church welfare plan as a plan sponsored by a single employer. It also addresses the problem of health insurance issuers refusing to do business with church plans because of concern that church plans could be classified as unlicensed entities.

Most major religious denominations in the United States have established health, disability and pension plans for the employees of churches and church-controlled institutions. These church plans provide benefits that are critical to the welfare of the clergy and lay workers of each denomination. All Americans should have access to a viable health insurance plan. Just as the clergy plays a vital role in maintaining the spiritual health and well-being of our nation, it is equally important for us to give churches the tools they need in order to maintain the physical health and well-being of their clergy.

It is imperative that we pass this much needed piece of legislation. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to join me today in supporting and preserving church health plans.

HONORING THOM PEABODY, L.S.
WOOD TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor Thom Peabody, a

man that has devoted his life to the community and to teaching. Mr. Peabody has been named the L.S. Wood teacher of the year. In recognition of this outstanding achievement, I would like to pay tribute to him today.

Mr. Peabody has been a seventh grade science teacher at the Riverside School, in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, for twenty years. His enthusiasm for teaching is apparent when you only look at his students, and you see how much he has affected their passion for learning. One former student, Audrey Hughes, recalls Mr. Peabody in this way: "Mr. Peabody is an inspiration to me and many others as a teacher, coach, and a personal role model. This seventh grade science teacher had a way of teaching the material in an exciting, interesting way that made learning easy. Students have a great deal of respect for this man because he shows respect for them. Mr. Peabody emphasizes how hard work and perseverance pay off in the end and how education is a crucial part of life. Mr. Peabody is an example of the person I hope to become someday. He has touched so many lives and means so much to all that know him. I feel privileged to have had this man as such a large part of my life. Mr. Peabody is truly my hero".

After 20 years of dedicated service, Thom recently retired. Students, staff and the community will miss this man who has touched their lives in so many ways. During his tenure, he went above and beyond the teachers call of duty, serving his community and its youth well.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to pay tribute to Mr. Peabody and his efforts to make his community a better place to live. We are all grateful for his service.

WILLIAM DENIHAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. William Denihan who is being awarded by Cleveland State University with the Alumni Award for Civic Achievement. Mr. Denihan is being recognized for his community leadership and his dedicated work for the betterment of his community.

People call Mr. Denihan a "leader's leader" because of his ability to anticipate major issues, to work as a "change agent" and conduct constructive process in order to handle major issues. For the past twenty years, Mr. Denihan has helped many prominent public leaders in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County and Ohio solve the toughest public problems.

Mr. Denihan has been selected by the Board of Cuyahoga County Commissioners to serve as executive director of the Department of Children and Family Services. Previously, Mr. Denihan has been appointed by Cleveland's Mayor Mike White to be Police Chief and Director of Public Safety. Former Governor Richard Celeste appointed Mr. Denihan to be director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Throughout his career, Mr. Denihan has been director of the city's Department of Public Safety and the Ohio Department of Highway Safety, chairman of the Nuclear Power

Emergency Evaluation Committee, director of the Ohio State Employment Relations Board and Cuyahoga County personnel director.

Furthermore, Mr. Denihan is serving on the advisory boards of the Levin College's Local Officials Leadership Academy and Public Works Management Program.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. Denihan's tremendous career and wish him healthy and productive continuation of his career.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE COMPLETION OF THE HUMAN GENOME PROJECT

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the tremendous accomplishment of our world's scientific community under the leadership of the United States' private and public research resources at their completion of the historic Human Genome Project's mapping of human Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA).

The complete map of human DNA, which is a collection of 100,000 genes, marks the beginning of a new era for mankind. This momentous day may seem ordinary to those who do not know what the world was like without the wheel, penicillin, electric light bulb, radio, television, or computers. Because of the work done by the laboratories and researchers primarily in this country in conjunction with partners in other nations have completed the diagram for the human body's operating instructions.

Today, when the sun rose in the East the world was fundamentally no different than it had been from the start of the previous century. However, at the setting of the sun in the West, the world now has bold new horizons in human health improvements and medical breakthroughs, because of the President's announcement that the Human Genome Project had assembled a working draft of the sequence of the human genome.

Today's announcement means that 97% of the human genome is now known, which precedes the process of finding out what are proper and improper arrangements of DNA links for health persons. We know that keys to cures of dreaded human illnesses such as cancer, diabetes, and degenerative brain disorders reside in the DNA of human beings. However, along with the crippling physical debilitating conditions caused by spinal cord injury and brain trauma can now at long last not be seen as an end to promising lives.

I would like to make special mention of the contributions of Dr. Richard A. Gribbs and his colleagues at the Human Genome Project at the Baylor College of Medicine Human Genome Sequencing Center, located in the City of Houston, Texas. Through their collaborative work with hundreds of other researchers around the country the meticulous process was begun that created by concatenation cDNA sequencing the blueprint for human DNA. The blueprints for human DNA. The blueprints were reproduced in the form of clones that could represent segments of human DNA to create maps. After the study of

sections of DNA the process has begun to understand how each of us is different. The critical questions of survival and death can be found in those links, which form human DNA.

More than anything else today's announcement gives each of us hopes that our children's tomorrow will be brighter than all of our yesterday's. We must be sure that we legislate the proper application of the medical achievements, which come from this effort, which must also remain within the reach of the poor of our nation. This goal should be a centerpiece of the continued federal support of the Human Genome Project and spin off medical technologies.

Therefore, I encourage my colleagues to join me in celebrating a momentous accomplishment and offering well wishes for the work, which must follow.

SUPERINTENDENT LARRY WILE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to come today before this House and the American people to formally recognize and honor Superintendent Larry Wile of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency for his 40 year dedication to educating Michigan's children. He has been a friend of mine and a steady friend of education. He has always had the interests of the students first.

Superintendent Wile began his career as a teacher and administrator in the Climax-Scotts Schools, a community in my district. This June, after 40 years of service, he will retire as Superintendent of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency.

Larry Wile has had a distinguished professional life. He served as an administrator in Michigan's Comstock Public Schools. For twenty-eight years, he has served southwest Michigan first as the Assistant Superintendent and then Superintendent of the Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency.

Mr. Speaker, I'm here to acknowledge Superintendent Wile as a brilliant example for many young Michiganders. Throughout his service, Larry Wile has exemplified leadership, perseverance, and above all, hopefulness for the future of our great country.

In addition to serving as an educator, Larry Wile has also served as the Chairman of three notable organizations: the State Association of Intermediate School District Administrators, the Regional Principal's Organization, and the Kalamazoo County School Officers Association. He continued his tradition of excellence as a member of the Kalamazoo County Chamber of Commerce Legislative Committee. Superintendent Wile personifies what it means to be a true public servant in today's society. For forty years, and indeed, his entire life, Larry Wile has shown a concern and a proactive attitude in regard to his community, a passion for instilling ethics and knowledge into his students, and ultimately, a love for his family.

Mr. Speaker, I believe I speak for every member of this Congress and all those who have been touched by Superintendent Wile's care and intellect when I extend to his wife Rosie, his children and grandchildren our congratulations and best wishes for a retirement

filled with happiness and productivity. I now respectfully ask you to make these remarks a part of the permanent record of the Congress in order to ensure that future generations of educators, students, and the American public have the opportunity to be inspired by the contributions of Superintendent Larry Wile of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND
MONSIGNOR CLYDE HOLTMAN

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the Rev. Msgr. Clyde Holtman on the occasion of his retirement. The Reverend Holtman was born in Westphalia, Texas. He was also baptized, made his First Communion, was confirmed, was ordained to the priesthood May 15, 1949, and offered his first Mass in the Church of the Visitation in that same community.

Msgr. Holtman has served in eleven parishes in the Austin Diocese for over 50 years. He has also served as Dean of the LaGrange Deanery, Judge of the Marriage Tribunal, Diocesan Resettlement Director, Diocesan Consultant and President of the Infirm Priest's Fund.

On May 30, 1985, Msgr. Holtman was invested as a Prelate of Honor in the Church by Pope John Paul II.

Msgr. Holtman has touched thousands of lives in the central Texas area. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Reverend Holtman on his retirement.

HONORING ROY AND JUDY
TRIVETT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 26, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with personal privilege that I enter this tribute in acknowledgment of Roy and Judy Trivett, great Americans and superb business leaders.

The Trivetts' family business was recognized by the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce as the Small Business of the Year. The Trivetts were recognized for their tireless efforts developing a successful electrical business. In 1994, the Trivetts started Royal Electrical from one room in their home. Today, Royal Electrical is a successful business with 23 employees and \$1.5 million in gross revenues.

The depth of this family goes far beyond the business community. They have been equally active in trade and community organizations. Their company, in conjunction with Electrical Contractors, Inc., provides training for select employees, and they also work with Pueblo Community College providing various other types of training.

In addition, Roy is also the current President of the Rock Mountain chapter of the Electrical Apparatus Service Association, and both the Trivetts are active leaders in the Trinity Lutheran Church and serve on the board of the Rare Breed Foundation.