

Göttingen where he earned his Masters in Chemistry and, later, his Ph.D. in Natural Sciences. In 1964, he began his career with Degussa working for various plants in the Cologne region of Germany. Then, in 1971, he went on to the Degussa AG headquarters in Frankfurt where he worked in Project Management for Research, Development and Production Projects. Two years later Dr. Mannsfeld was put in charge of finding a site for a plant in the United States, and soon thereafter, Mobile welcomed Dr. Mannsfeld into the community.

In 1973, Dr. Mannsfeld became president of Degussa Alabama, Inc. and also served as Plant Manager for Degussa's Theodore Plant operations. Later, in 1977, he became the executive vice president of technology, engineering, and plant services for all Degussa sites in the United States. Finally, in 1999, Dr. Mannsfeld became the executive vice president and chief technical advisor to the CEO and a member of the Board of Directors of Degussa-Huls Corporation. It is from this position that Dr. Mannsfeld has recently retired.

Bringing Degussa to Mobile was the singular vision of Dr. Mannsfeld and for nearly 30 years, Degussa and the citizens of south Alabama have benefited from this mutually beneficial relationship.

In addition to his service and leadership in Degussa, Dr. Mannsfeld has greatly contributed to the city of Mobile and all of Alabama. Shortly after becoming a United States citizen in 1989, Dr. Mannsfeld became chairman of the Business Council of Alabama in 1990. Following his Distinguished Service Cross award (in which the president of the Federal Republic of Germany presented him with the ribbon of the Distinguished Service Medal of the Republic), he was named Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany for Alabama. Dr. Mannsfeld was a participant from 1994 to 1997 in the Mercedes Alabama Project-Tuscaloosa, which ended up successfully bringing Mercedes-Benz to Alabama.

From 1995 to 1998, he was involved in the Mitsubishi Polysilicon Project in Mobile and from 1997 to 2000, with the Phenolchemie Mobile/Theodore Project. Additionally, he was instrumental in moving forward the important Theodore Industrial Park Dock Project. Finally, from 1998 to 2000, he participated in the Alabama Power Theodore Cogeneration Project. In 1999 Dr. Mannsfeld was named to the Board of Directors of Atlantic Marine Holding Company.

Dr. Mannsfeld's accomplishments and contributions do not end there, however. He additionally serves as a member of distinguished organizations such as the Mobile College Fellows, the American Chemical Engineers, the Midgulf Business Roundtable, the Alabama Chemical Association, the Board of Regents of Spring Hill College, The University of Alabama at Birmingham Advisory Council, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Alabama School of Math and Science. In addition to this already impressive and exhaustive list, Dr. Mannsfeld has served on the Board of Directors of Degussa Corporation, the Ultraform Company, Nilok, Inc., Compass Bank of Mobile, and the Board of Directors of the Business Council of Alabama.

Dr. Mannsfeld is also a former member of many other Boards of Directors. These include the National Association of Manufacturers, the Associated Industries of Alabama, the Ala-

bama Chemical Association, the Doctors Hospital, the YMCA-Chandler Branch, Mobile, WHIL Gulf Coast Public Broadcasting Company, the Mobile United Way, the Mobile United-Civic Organization, the Independent Colleges of Alabama, the Better Business Bureau, and the Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Mannsfeld has added to the social aspect of Mobile and elsewhere through other noteworthy organizations. He belongs to the Corps Teutoni Hercynia Göttingen (a university fraternal organization), the Mobile Country Club, Ducks Unlimited, the Degussa Hunting Club, the Alabama Wildlife Federation, the Gulf Coast Conservation Association, the Audubon Society, the Mystical Carnival Society, and the U.S. Chess Federation.

Dr. Mannsfeld's contributions, both civic and business, have greatly impacted the citizens of south Alabama. While he has formally retired from the Degussa Corporation, it is my sincere hope and wish that south Alabama and the constituents I represent will continue to benefit from his presence and engagement in civic and business affairs.

Thank you, Dr. Mannsfeld, for all your many contributions to our community. May your retirement bring you many challenging, relaxing and enjoyable years.

#### CONGRATULATING HON. LEE TERRY ON THE BIRTH OF HIS SON

#### HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Republican freshman class, I would like to congratulate Congressman Lee Terry of Nebraska on the birth of his baby boy, Jack William Terry.

On the fourth of July, at 11:40 p.m., Mr. Terry and his wife, Robyn, welcomed an eight pound, seven ounce child into this world. We sincerely congratulate both Mr. and Mrs. Terry on this joyous occasion as they enter into their new life as parents. May God bless the gentleman from Nebraska and his new family, and may Jack Terry live a long and prosperous life.

#### A TRIBUTE TO DAVID KATZ, MUSIC DIRECTOR AND PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR OF ADRIAN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

#### HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. Smith of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 22, 2000, David Katz will conduct his final performance as music director and principal conductor of the Adrian Symphony Orchestra and OPERA! Lenawee. It is with great pleasure that I congratulate him on his past twelve seasons of service.

Under his leadership the Adrian Symphony has grown into one of Michigan's top five orchestras, has built its own professional opera company, OPERA! Lenawee, hosted Itzhak Perlman as the most famous of dozens of ex-

ceptional solo artists, been cheered in dozens of venues in four countries and two states, and has made us more proud of our orchestra and more excited about great music than we ever thought possible.

David Katz worked to break down the barriers which often separate classical music and opera from many people, instituting educational programs for both adults and children. His programming of concerts continually challenge the musicians, as well as the audience, through presentation of a broad variety of music and through increasing the breadth and scope of programming offered, adding opera, ballet and chamber music to the Adrian Symphony Orchestra during his tenure.

David's devotion and determination to both the Adrian Symphony Orchestra and his community is to be applauded and I am honored to recognize him and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

#### BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL WINNER

#### HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. Cunningham. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mesa Verde Middle School in Scripps Ranch and its leaders, Principal, Sonya Wrisley and Superintendent, Dr. Bob Reeves. Mesa Verde has been designated by the U.S. Department of Education as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2000. I am proud to inform my colleagues that my district had an amazing record of eleven schools selected for that prestigious honor this year. I would also like to note that the Academy of Our Lady of Peace right outside my district in San Diego County was also named a Blue Ribbon School. I applaud the educators, students and communities in each of the San Diego County schools who pulled together in pursuit of educational excellence.

Blue Ribbon Schools are recognized as some of the nation's most successful institutions, and they are exemplary models for achieving educational excellence throughout the nation. Not only have they demonstrated excellence in academic leadership, teaching and teacher development, and school curriculum, but they have demonstrated exceptional levels of community and parental involvement, high student achievement levels and strong safety and discipline.

After schools are nominated by state education agencies for the Blue Ribbon award, they undergo a rigorous review of their programs, plans and activities. That is followed with visits by educational experts for evaluation. Ultimately, those schools which best demonstrate strong leadership, clear vision and mission, excellent teaching and curriculum, policies and practices that keep the schools safe for learning, family involvement and evidence of high standards are selected for this prestigious award. I am pleased that they are now receiving the national recognition they are due.

As school and community leaders head to Washington for the Department of Education awards ceremony, I want to thank them once again for a job well done. More satisfying than any award, these leaders will have the lifelong satisfaction of having provided the best education possible and a better future for thousands of children. I am proud of what they

have achieved, and want to share their achievements so that more people benefit from their accomplishments. I ask that a summary of Mesa Verde Middle School's superior work be included in the record:

Mesa Verde Middle School, located in Rancho Penasquitos, a suburb of northern San Diego, California, exemplifies the educational heights that can be attained when a solid partnership exists between school and community. All members of this team are completely committed to their philosophy of "doing everything possible to help each student succeed", while maintaining strong academic integrity. Their school vision for 2002 states that "Mesa Verde Middle School will create an enhanced learning experience and a unique community environment for all students." The success of Mesa Verde's rigorous curriculum is evidenced by consistently high performance on standardized tests and underscored by earning the maximum six-year Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation. Among their noteworthy accomplishments are two wellness programs. Mesa Verde's wellness budget enables them to have a teacher on special assignment (TOSA), devoting a full period each day to drug, alcohol, and tobacco prevention education. The second program, "Names Can Really Hurt You" was nationally recognized in Washington D.C. and fosters tolerance of diversity in the classroom and on campus. A 50% drop in negative name calling infractions best illustrates the success of this program.

Mesa Verde provides an excellent education to culturally and ethnically diverse middle class population. Their site is designed to accommodate students with a wide range of academic abilities and physical challenges. Designed with technology in mind, Mesa Verde has become Poway Unified School District's model school. Four computer labs are housed at Mesa Verde and each classroom is networked to the Internet and e-mail. A distinct feature of the campus is the village concept design. Classrooms are grouped together and house a single grade level.

And added strength of Mesa Verde is the varied "safety nets" in place to ensure that students progress and succeed socially as well as academically. Innovative programs such as Peer Mediation, Natural Helpers, Eagle Groups, and Student Outreach Services (SOS) teach students to deal effectively with their emotional needs and to interact successfully with their peers. A commitment to excellence is the cornerstone for all of Mesa Verde's programs. Providing excellence in all they do, Mesa Verde is exemplified by a dedicated, hardworking staff, who truly love children. They base all decisions on what is best for their students. The entire school community: staff, students, parents and community, works together to provide the best possible education for all students.

#### 2000 PARALYMPICS

### HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, as the eyes of the world are fixed on Sydney, Australia, and the games of the 27th Olympiad, I rise to

ask this House to glance closer to home, to Western New York, to share in an inspiring story of personal triumph and the spirit of athletic competition.

On Wednesday, September 20, 2000, friends and supporters will gather at the Rochester Yacht Club to lend their support to sailors Keith Burhans, Paul Callahan and Richard Hughes and their quest for gold at the 2000 Paralympics to be held next month in Sydney, Australia.

Burhans of Monroe County lost both legs in a 1995 boating accident. Callahan, of Newport, Rhode Island, has been a quadriplegic since college. And Hughes is an amputee from Philadelphia. The three formed a world-class team that finished second in last year's World Disabled Sailing Championship.

But their story is even greater than their ability to tack around the tetrahedrons faster than their competitors. They have used their personal experiences to teach others to overcome barriers and test their limits.

Callahan reorganized and became CEO of the Shake-A-Leg program for the disabled in Newport. And Burhans joined the board of the Rochester Rehabilitation Center, which organizes SportsNet, a similar program that allows those with physical disabilities to participate in the able-bodied sports world.

In what became the first race of one of the oldest competitions in sport, the America's Cup, a young Queen Victoria watched as the yacht "America" plowed across the finish line. When she asked her courtier to search the sea and identify which boat was second, he took a long look through his telescope and replied: "Your majesty, I regret to report, there is no second."

To Keith Burhans, Paul Callahan and Richard Hughes, I am pleased to report that your personal courage, your triumph over adversity, and your devotion to athletic competition has already made each of you, like the 1851 crew of the "America," a winner.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House of Representatives join me in saluting the achievements of these three extraordinary men, and that we further extend to them the best of luck at the games of the 2000 Paralympics.

#### IN HONOR OF RUSSELL BINNEY

### HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to a man who positively influenced the lives of many people. Earlier this month, Mr. Russell Binney of Ulysses, Kansas passed away. Russ fulfilled many important roles in his life—each of them with integrity, compassion, and dedication.

Russ proudly served his country in the United States Navy during World War II and as a lifelong member of the American Legion. Upon returning to Ulysses, he founded Binney Better Foods, Inc. For more than 40 years, Russ and his wife Virginia provided retail grocery service to the citizens of Grant County. In that time, Russ's business experienced and adapted to change. However, one thing remained constant: Russ's commitment to providing a quality product with first-rate customer service.

Russ served his community in additional ways. He was past president of the Ulysses Rotary Club and earlier this year received the Rotary 2000 Distinguished Service Award. Russ was a leader and former chairman of the Grant County Republican Party. He was a member and elder of the Shelton Memorial Christian Church. His devoted involvement in Gideon International strengthened his faith. In 1990, Russ' friends and neighbors recognized his many years of accomplished service by selecting him as the Grant County Citizen of the Year.

I have walked Main streets of many Kansas communities. In Ulysses, my objective was always to walk the business district with Russ Binney. Everyone liked you if you were with Russ. Always a smile and handshake for the men and a kiss for the women. He brightened everyone's day. No person in any Kansas town ever received a warmer reception than when Russ met one of his customers or neighbors.

Most important to Russ was his family. Over the course of their 54 years together, he and Virginia raised their son Cary and daughters Janet, Rhonda, and Tammy. They also devoted endless love and attention to seven grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Russell fulfilled many important roles in his life—each of them with integrity, compassion, and dedication. I join his many friends and admirers in extending my deepest sympathies to Virginia and her family during their time of loss.

#### CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1654, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION AU- THORIZATION ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

### HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 14, 2000*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express very serious concerns about this legislation that we are considering on the floor today. Section 205 of this conference report prematurely directs NASA—and I stress the word "directs"—to establish a nongovernmental organization to manage microgravity research and commercialization activities aboard the International Space Station.

Mr. Speaker, in this Body the International Space Station does not have a stronger supporter than myself. While I sat on the Science Committee, I fought to fence-off microgravity research funds from hardware cost overruns and preserve the benefits of the Station for our taxpayers. Year after year, I'm on this floor defending the Space Station against various wounding and killing amendments. But I'm concerned that unless we're careful, this language in Section 205 may move the taxpayer investments in Space Station backwards, rather than forwards.

This language was not considered during the normal House subcommittee or full committee markup process, but was added into the bill in conference. The House hasn't held any hearings on this matter. It's not even clear to me where NASA will get the funding for this initiative. What will happen to the government