

awards including the National Common Cause Public Service Award, the National Council of Negro Women "Women in Excellence" Award, the Colorado Black Women for Political Action "Tribute to Black Women" Award, and the American Association of University Women "Trailblazers" Award.

Please join me in commending Faye Boyd, Anna Jo Haynes, Councilwoman Edna Mosley, State Senator Gloria Tanner and Hazel Whitsett for their courage, dedication and invaluable service to our community. It is the strong leadership they exhibit on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans. Their lives serve as examples to which we should all aspire.

#### HONORING ELSIE COFIELD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

##### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join with the West Haven Black Coalition as they honor my dear friend, Elsie Cofield, with the Distinguished Citizens Award. Elsie, as founder of AIDS Interfaith Network, has demonstrated a unique commitment and dedication to the comfort and care of those members of our community living with AIDS and facing the many challenges of this terrible disease.

An educator for 31 years, Elsie founded AIDS Interfaith Network, an organization dedicated to providing care to New Haven residents afflicted with HIV and AIDS, after her retirement in 1987. Elsie, recognizing the need, focused her attentions on the inner-city. AIDS Interfaith Network provides a full circle of assistance with social service agencies, support groups, individual counseling, transportation, food and clothing—offering both physical and spiritual comfort. Elsie's enthusiasm and passion has improved the quality of life for many residents of New Haven. Beginning with a few volunteers, Elsie built a solid foundation and for eleven years has assisted hundreds of families as they face both life and death simultaneously.

What began as a small, volunteer-staffed program in a small church basement has flourished into a national working model for church-based AIDS programs. Under Elsie's strong leadership and endless faith, AIDS Interfaith Network has grown to hold nine full-time and six part-time employees. "Putting a face to people with AIDS" has been her enduring philosophy and it is this personal approach that has made this program so successful. It is rare to find an individual that demonstrates the personal touch the way Elsie has—every man, woman and child she sees is special to her. She has traveled to hospitals at midnight to hold a hand, attended the funerals of clients she has served, and written commemorative poems memorializing those she has known best.

A myriad of awards and citations adorn her walls—testimony to her undaunted spirit and inspirational dedication. Devoting their attention to predominantly minority families and neighborhoods, AIDS Interfaith Network has

caught the attention of local, state, and national organizations. Honors from the Yale Divinity School, State of Connecticut, the National Organization for Women, and an invitation to join President Clinton at his announcement for programs aimed at stemming the spread of AIDS in minority communities all speak to her success. Elsie's commitment to her work is well-known throughout the community and was further affirmed as former New Haven Mayor John Daniels declared October 11, 1990 Elsie Cofield Day.

It is with sincere thanks and appreciation that I stand today and honor Elsie Cofield for her outstanding and invaluable service to our community. She has made a difference in so many lives and has truly distinguished herself as a community member and citizen.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LATE PATRICIA HILLIGOSS

##### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to pay tribute to the Honorable Patricia Hilligoss, a community leader, who after years of fighting for Petaluma, California, recently lost her battle with Lou Gehrig's disease.

It's hard to think of Petaluma without thinking "Madam Mayor," as Patty was called.

During my eight years as Petaluma City Councilwoman working with Madam Mayor, I came to respect her hard work on behalf of our city. Even when we didn't see eye to eye, I knew that Patty was doing what she thought was right and what she considered best for the city.

Two of her legacies to our city include affordable housing for seniors and an award-winning general plan. These will continue to make a difference for Petaluma well into the future.

For 12 years, Madam Mayor pounded the gavel at City Council meetings and made numerous trips to Sacramento and Washington to advocate on behalf of our city.

Outside Council Chambers, Madam Mayor continued her advocacy for the residents of Petaluma. She was active with the Petaluma Valley Hospital Foundation, Boys and Girls Club, Committee on the Shelterless, and the Petaluma Visitors Bureau.

Whenever there was an event in Petaluma, you knew Madam Mayor was part of it. From parades to ribbon cuttings to Eagle Scout ceremonies, Patty Hilligoss was a part of Petaluma's life.

She may be gone, but her work for the residents of Petaluma will survive for many years to come.

You will be missed, Madam Mayor.

#### CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GUNNISON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

##### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the 60th Anniversary of the Gunnison County Public Library.

The library assembles, preserves and administers collections of books and related educational and recreational materials to promote the communication of ideas and enrichment of personal lives. It serves as a center of reliable information, supports the Gunnison community and encourages education and recreation through the use of literature, music, media and other forms of art.

The library began as an idea in 1939. The American Association of University Women, AAUW, placed 2,000 volumes of books in the basement of Webster Hall. The community contributed books, magazines, money and manpower to support the organization. Now the Gunnison County Public Library consists of two buildings, reading programs and many other opportunities for community involvement.

When space began to run out for the existing library, efforts to fund raise took priority. Between grants and contributions from the Community, the new library opened in 1974. In 1982, a donation was made to the library to add a music room and a story telling room. The library was formally dedicated and named after Ann Zugelder, the library's main supporter.

Throughout the past sixty years, the Ann Zugelder Public Library has undergone many changes. AAUW continues its support of the library, as it has from the beginning.

The library has also expanded to include a branch in Crested Butte. This branch of the Gunnison County Public Library was originally housed on the second floor of the Crested Butte Elementary School. The library is now located in the Old Rock Schoolhouse, a building that was renovated after many years of vacancy. Public and private funds were raised to make the renovations possible. In 1993, former Colorado Governor Roy Romer dedicated the Old Rock Community Library.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute in honor of the 60th Anniversary of the Gunnison County Public Library. It has served its community well.

#### MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO JOHN "JACK" RAHDER

##### HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with deepest sympathy that I pay a special tribute to my constituent John "Jack" Rahder, of Whittier, who passed away in an automobile accident on February 10. With his passing, Whittier lost an exemplary citizen—a great husband, father, grandfather and community volunteer.

Jack will be remembered for the tremendous support he gave his wife throughout her career and in her current position as the City of Whittier's Planning Commissioner. Helen was by his side in that tragic car accident and luckily she survived, though with many injuries. We pray for her speedy recovery.

Publicly, Jack will be widely remembered for his tremendous efforts as a volunteer—an endeavor to which he dedicated himself full-time after his retirement in 1990. Through his involvement with community programs at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Jack delivered tons of surplus food and supplies each week from a

regional food bank in Los Angeles to low income families in Whittier.

It was fitting that Jack gave so much of his time and energy to a community that was deeply interwoven with his own life. He was born in Whittier on October 17, 1939. His mother, Doris Burton Rahder, was a longtime Whittier resident and 1927 graduate of Whittier High School. As a child, Jack moved to the Central Valley with his family and graduated from Bakersfield High School and the Northrop Institute of Technology. He then worked as an aerospace designer for Boeing and Northrop, and later became a pilot for United Airlines.

Even though he lived in Bakersfield, Jack strengthened his ties with his hometown when he married Helen McKenna, also of Whittier, in 1978. Five years later, they returned to Whittier with their six children.

Jack is survived by his brother Keith, his children David, Robbie, Teri, Chris, T.K. and Katie and ten grandchildren. His family and friends will miss him greatly and to them I extend by sincerest heartfelt sympathy and pray that they will receive God's comforting graces in abundance.

CONGRESSMAN KILDEE HONORS  
SISTER KATHERINE SEIDENWAND

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to an outstanding educator, Sister Katherine Seidenwand. Last year, Sister Katherine, or "Sister Kate" as she is known to friends and family, celebrated her 80th birthday on February 1st, 1999. This year, Sister Kate will attain another milestone, as on March 5, she will celebrate 60 years of service to God, the Catholic Church, and her community.

As a member of The Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Sister Kate has devoted her entire time toward the field of education. Not only did she function as a teacher and administrator, but by the nature of her position, she was a counselor, spiritual advisor, and friend to many.

Sister Kate's educational ministry began in 1941 at St. Cecilia's Parish, and from there she went on to spread her influence throughout the Southeastern Michigan area, including St. Patrick in Wyandotte, Holy Name in Birmingham, St. Mary of Wayne, St. Mary of Redford, and St. John of Monroe. In 1959, Sister Kate became the founding principal of St. Regis School, and held that position until 1970. After leaving St. Regis, Sister Kate returned to work with the IHM order, as their Community Education Supervisor, but soon found herself returning to an administrative role, as in 1972, she began a 23-year tenure as Co-principal of St. Mary of Redford.

In 1995, Sister Kate changed roles, stepping down as Co-Principal, and becoming an Administrative Volunteer, thereby allowing others to grow and improve based on her personal experiences and insight.

Mr. Speaker, Sister Katherine Seidenwand has inspired many in the field of education. More importantly, she has instilled in them the importance of faith and the joy of God's love.

As a former seminarian, studying with her late brother Father Eugene Seidenwand, and as a teacher it is indeed an honor and a privilege for me to pay tribute to Sister Kate. I know that I am a better person for having known her, and our community is certainly a better place because of her presence. She has served our Lord and our community with the greatest devotion and is deserving of our praise.

HONORING THE REMARKABLE  
CAREER OF LIZ BENNETT

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable career of one of the best teachers in the state of Tennessee—Liz Bennett. Mrs. Bennett will retire in April from the Rutherford County School System after 30 years as an educator.

Mrs. Bennett not only taught students, she also taught young teachers how to help their students learn more effectively. After 17 years in the classroom teaching second graders, she took on another role as the coordinator of elementary education. In this capacity, she advised young teachers on the best techniques for helping children to learn.

A whole generation of educators and students have benefited through their association with a person so caring, devoted and energetic to her profession. Her uncanny ability to transfer her knowledge to others has made the Rutherford County School System one of the best anywhere. Mrs. Bennett is, without a doubt, absolutely one of the best teachers I have ever known.

Mrs. Bennett will leave a big void inside Rutherford County's classrooms when she retires in April, but we all can be satisfied in knowing that she has left an indelible mark on the teaching profession. I congratulate Liz Bennett on her admirable and distinguished career and wish her well in her much-deserved retirement.

HONORING A MEMBER OF THE AD  
100, ILLYA HENDRIX

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize one of Architectural Digest's top one hundred interior designers and architects for the year of 2000. The AD 100 is an international guide profiling outstanding and talented designers and architects from around the world. Architectural Digest publishes this list once every five years. The gifted designer being honored is Mr. Illya Hendrix.

Mr. Hendrix and his partner, Tom Allardyce, founded their design firm in Los Angeles in 1980. For the past twenty years, they have specialized in residential estates. Their innovative designs for architectural structures, their customized interior surfaces, and their choice of exquisite antique furnishings have earned

them numerous awards and published features of their projects both in national and international magazines. Their most recent endeavor has been the creation of their own line of furniture and accessories. Their firm employs a full-time support staff to provide quality craftsmanship for each project.

The firm's international clientele is varied and includes notable names from the entertainment and business industries. They take pride in their ability to incorporate into the design the preferences and individual style of each of their clients. This enables the client to make an easy transition when their home is completed. Mr. Hendrix and Mr. Allardyce travel frequently to Europe with their clients in search of the unusual and fine furnishings and objects to create and complement the classic and timeless style that is their trademark.

It is with this outstanding achievement, Mr. Speaker, that I offer this tribute in honor of Illya and his contribution to the international community of architecture and interior design.

SALUTE TO D.C. UNITED,  
"AMERICA'S SOCCER TEAM"

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 29, 2000*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and applaud D.C. United as "America's Soccer Team," which won its third Major League Soccer (MLS) championship while Congress was in recess. It is a well-deserved title, not only because the team is located in the nation's capital, but especially because D.C. United has won three of the four MLS championships offered by the league. Rarely, if ever, has an American team so dominated its sport or displayed greater skill and sportsmanship. Both were in full view last November, when United snared its latest championship in a two-to-nothing victory over Los Angeles.

We, who live in the District of Columbia, are proud that D.C. United took our hometown name. Our hometown soccer team has become the District's version of a triple crown champion that does not know how to lose. D.C. United's victories over the past several years have paralleled the continuing revitalization of the team's hometown. After what our city went through in the 1990s, the team's championship means much more to D.C. than it would to Baltimore or New York, or Atlanta or Los Angeles. D.C. United has taught this town that we, too, can be winners. Now, when Americans and people from around the world visit the nation's capital, they come not only to see our monuments. They want also to see our monumental team.

Our team reflects the nations of the world in a sport that is played by virtually every country in the world. Across the nation and throughout the soccer world, D.C. United fans applaud the team's determination to fight and to win. Today, we salute D.C. United for a job well done and send best wishes to "America's Soccer Team."