

attended elementary school and high school in Eagle, a small town of 200 citizens at the time. Laurene has witnessed many changes in her hometown. Growth can be a good thing, but Laurene misses the days of knowing everyone in town.

After high school Laurene attended Junior College in Grand Junction, then Teacher's College in Greeley, Colorado (now University of Northern Colorado) where she majored in elementary education. She earned enough credits to teach for one year. She continued to teach and go to summer school for years. She confesses that it took 18 years to earn her degree.

Laurene was teaching in Oak Creek in 1941 when the United States entered World War II. She decided to take the place of the Deputy County Clerk in Eagle when the clerk was drafted. During that time she met and married Donald Knupp. She put work and teaching aside for nine years to start a family. When she returned to teaching, she taught for 25 more years. She retired in 1981.

Even though Laurene is retired, she is still very involved in her community. She maintains a keen interest in school and community affairs. She serves on the building committee for the Methodist Church, secretary/treasurer for the board of directors for Eagle Valley Medical Center and on the Retired Teachers Association. She has lunch regularly at the Eagle Senior Center and enjoys playing bridge with her friends.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute in honor of a staple in the Eagle community. Laurene Knupp is a great woman who has given endlessly to her community.

#### HONORING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ILLINOIS PTA

### HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 2000*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Illinois Parent Teachers Association (PTA).

The Illinois PTA was founded May 30, 1900 and is part of the largest child advocacy organization in the United States. PTA is a not-for-profit association of parents, educators, students, and other citizens active in their schools and their communities. PTA is a leader in reminding our Nation of its obligations to children. In the United States, PTA has over 6.5 million members working in 26,000 local chapters in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and in Department of Defense schools in the Pacific and in Europe.

The mission of the PTA is three-fold: to support and speak on behalf of children and youth in the schools, in the community and before government bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children. Second, they assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children, and third, to encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools. PTA's objectives include promoting the welfare of children and youth in the home, school, place of worship, and in the community. PTA strives

to raise the standards of home life and secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children. PTA also brings a closer relationship to the home, school, and work to develop cooperative efforts between parents and teachers.

During the past 100 years, whenever children's issues are jeopardized, the PTA has responded promptly, taking a leadership role in identifying solutions and advocating change. PTA knows the benefits of parent involvement. This is why parent involvement is central to all PTA programs. The Illinois PTA is involved in developing before and after school programs, block grants, charter schools, class size reduction, health services, nutritional issues, professional development, reading programs, tobacco and violence prevention. The Illinois PTA has been at the forefront of children first and that is why they are hosting the national PTA convention this year.

PTA's within my congressional district are involved with many activities that support the needs of children and youth. From before and after school programs to after prom parties, PTA has provided a leadership role in our local educational support system.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100 years of service of the Illinois PTA organization.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT S. JOE, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

### HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 2000*

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, Southern California owes much of what it is today to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps built our ports—now the largest port complex in the Americas—it protected us from flooding, it helped us rebuild from earthquakes and other disasters, and helped give us water to drink. Today, the Corps is even helping repair our schools. Southern California would be a very different place had it not been for the work of the Corps of Engineers over the past century.

For the past 30 years, one person in particular has stood out among the many excellent members of the Corps in California. For 30 years, Robert Joe has played an integral part in the myriad activities the Corps is involved in. This month, Bob is retiring from the Corps and his position as Deputy District Engineer for Programs and Project Management for the Los Angeles District of the Corps. We will miss him sorely.

Bob is retiring from a position in which he directed a \$300 million operational budget. Before serving in his current position, Bob ran the planning division for 11 years. He managed the vital projects that helped people stretching from Los Angeles to Phoenix and Las Vegas. In my own area, Bob has been a key to the success of keeping the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles the leaders in the country and restoring flood control protection to 500,000 people in southern Los Angeles County. All of my colleagues from the Southwest can point to their own examples of how Bob Joe and the Corps helped the people they represent.

Mr. Speaker, Bob Joe has been a professional colleague and a good friend to me

since I was elected to Congress. He has provided immeasurable help to the people I have the privilege to represent. I join my other colleagues in wishing Bob much happiness and success in the future.

#### IN HONOR OF MR. JUSTICE MICHAEL MORIARTY

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Justice Michael Moriarty, pillar of the legal community in Ireland and a man who has dedicated his life to justice.

Mr. Moriarty was born in Belfast, later relocating to Dublin, Ireland in 1960. He attended college in Dublin, completed his legal education in Kings Inn, and was called to the Bar in 1968. In 1982, he became a senior counsel, and four years later he was appointed Chairman of the Employment Appeals Tribunal. In 1987, he embarked on his judicial career when he became a Circuit Court Judge. He was then appointed to the High Court in 1996.

Recently, Justice Michael Moriarty was appointed as the head of the tribunal of Inquiry, a body responsible for investigating and reporting financial irregularities involving government officials in Ireland. The scope of the investigations and the zeal Mr. Moriarty has shown for his work has caused the media to rename the Tribunal of Inquiry the Moriarty Tribunal.

Justice Michael Moriarty is married to Ms. Mary Irvine, Senior Counsel. He is the father of a son and two daughters. Currently, he and his family reside in Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in welcoming Mr. Moriarty to Cleveland as the honored guest at this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 17, 2000.

#### HONORING THE STATE CHAMPION GRAND JUNCTION HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE BOWL TEAM

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to congratulate the Grand Junction High School Science Bowl Team on winning the state competition for the sciences.

The team from Grand Junction High School won first place in the state competition for the Colorado Science Bowl in Golden, Colorado. As a result of this victory, the team will travel to Washington, DC to compete at the national level in the United States Department of Energy's National Science Bowl.

The students on this team have demonstrated remarkable talent and knowledge in the areas of physics, chemistry, astronomy, earth science and mathematics. The students are to be commended for their dedication to learning the finer points of these fields.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute to all the members of the team and their faculty sponsor. Congratulations, Tony Arcieri, Brianna Blume, Ariane

Chepko, John Frazer, Michelle Hays, and sponsor, Jim Rexroad. They have made us all very proud!

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF J. BRUCE MCKINNEY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT HERSHEY ENTERTAINMENT & RESORTS COMPANY

**HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 2000*

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. J. Bruce McKinney on the announcement of his retirement as Chairman of the Board of Directors at Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Mr. McKinney, who turned 63 in February, held a wide variety of positions in his long and exemplary career. He attended Milton Hershey School, Dickinson College, Dickinson Law School, and the Pennsylvania State Executive Management Program. In 1966, Mr. McKinney began working as an executive staff assistant for Hershey Foods Corporation. Five years later, he joined the Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company team (HERCO) as the assistant general manager for HERSHEY PARK, only to become general manager a mere one year later. Throughout the seventies and eighties, Mr. McKinney went on to hold various challenging, exciting, and prestigious senior officer positions in the Hershey area. Some of the most notable positions include: group vice president of Sports and Entertainment in 1974, senior vice president of HERCO's Commercial Group in 1981, and corporate executive vice president in 1985. Throughout his tenure at HERCO, Mr. McKinney is remembered chiefly for leading the team that brought the corporation out of near financial ruin to an extremely high level of prosperity, saving the company from certain failure. Because of his honorable services, a year later, on March 1, 1986, Mr. McKinney became the chief operating officer at HERCO, later assuming the role as chief executive officer on August 10, 1987, and then taking the position of chairman of the board on October 24, 1989. Mr. McKinney remained at HERCO for another eleven years, eventually becoming chief executive officer and chairman of the board. On September 22, 1999, after seven consecutive record-breaking years from 1993–2000, Mr. McKinney decided to respectfully retire from HERCO. Assuming Mr. McKinney's responsibilities is Mr. Scott J. Newkam, who was named president and chief executive officer.

Following his retirement, Mr. McKinney will continue to serve on the board of directors of the Hershey Trust Company and the M.S. Hershey Foundation. He will also tend to his duties on the board of managers for the Milton Hershey School, and serve as a director on the Team Pennsylvania Board, where he is instrumental in the promotion of regional cooperation. Even in his retirement, Mr. McKinney will continue to serve the community through his tireless efforts in ensuring the future prosperity of Hershey.

Mr. McKinney will continue to reside in Hershey, Pennsylvania with his wife Sally, two daughters, Kelly McKinney-Brakewood and

Kathleen McKinney-Gavazzi, and three grandchildren, Harrison, Eleanor, and Grace.

Mr. Speaker, I recognize Mr. McKinney for his tremendous career and life work in Hershey, and wish him the best of luck, in all his future endeavors.

HONORING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF VFW POST 8677

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 2000*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 40th anniversary of Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post 8677 in Fairview Heights, Illinois. Started on March 5, 1960, Post 8677 continues to lead efforts to support veterans and their needs in their community.

While VFW Post 8677 celebrates its 40th anniversary, the VFW organization itself celebrates the 100th anniversary of its existence. In 1898, several veterans of the Spanish-American War gathered together to form the basis of the VFW. Since then, the VFW organization has proven to be a driving force for veterans and their issues.

The VFW is considered to be one of the most powerful and influential force in the halls of Congress. Their efforts resulted in the creation of the House Veterans' Committee, the WW I bonus, the Veterans Day holiday, various GI bills, creation of the cabinet position of Veterans' Affairs and support on many veteran's health issues, such as Agent Orange and Persian Gulf related illness.

The VFW is 2 million members strong and represents a great cross section of our society. They work to promote citizenship and provide information about our national flag. They are actively involved in disaster relief efforts raising over a million dollars in assistance. They are a leading force in the creation of a WW II memorial and support ongoing efforts of our troops abroad by providing our troops with phone cards, gift packages and coordinating USO shows.

I cannot mention the VFW and not speak of the "Buddy Poppy" program. Since 1922, the poppy program has raised millions of dollars annually to support national and local veteran's service programs. As a means of rehabilitation, the poppies themselves are assembled by patients in VA and State veterans homes.

VFW Post 8677 in Fairview Heights has been a leader in the local community by providing leadership on veterans issues in my congressional district. They, along with the other posts in the area, create a firm footing for veteran's assistance, advocacy and service. Post 8677 works with Pontiac and William Holiday schools for Red Ribbon Drug Awareness Day. They sponsor Khoury teams and Boy and Girl Scout troops. The post holds flag raising ceremonies on Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Flag Day. Each month, members of the Post volunteer their time and the necessary items to veterans at the John Cochran VA Hospital and finally, every year both the Post and its auxiliary place flags on the grave sites of 3000 veterans at the Lakeview Memorial Cemetery.

Let us reflect with pride on our country and remember with gratitude the contributions of

the many loyal and courageous veterans who have given so much of themselves both at home and around the world to protect our freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 40 years of service of the VFW Post 8677 and to salute the members of the Post and Auxiliary both past and present for their service to the people of southwestern Illinois.

THE "RE-ELECT AMERICA" BUS TOUR BY BALINT VAZSONYI

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 2000*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise in support of the Center of the American Founding's "Re-Elect America" bus tour. The tour will make one of its first stops in Atlanta, Georgia this Friday, March 3, 2000.

The tour is being led by Balint Vazsonyi, a man who first came to America as a refugee from communism, and is now one of our foremost constitutional writers. Despite his arrival as an immigrant and the fact that he is a classical pianist by training, Balint has made enormous contributions to his adopted nation as a student and writer on constitutional history and principles.

Not content with writing a wildly popular book, "America's Thirty Years War," and becoming a columnist for the Washington Times, Balint has now resolved to follow in the footsteps of Alexis de Tocqueville, and travel across our country to ignite a national discussion about those values that make America what it is—the beacon of freedom for the entire world.

As we continue an extended period of economic prosperity, our nation cannot afford to ignore very serious threats to our culture, society, and political systems. We have to keep people engaged in finding solutions to the problems facing our nation in the 21st century. The "Re-Elect America" bus tour aims to do exactly that, by reminding people about the great institutions of our history, government and society. Balint Vazsonyi knows that unless our citizens know, understand, and appreciate our nation's history and institutions, then when those institutions are under attack, people don't appreciate them enough to come to their defense.

Visiting all 50 state capitols in a few short months is something very few of us would attempt. However, I am confident that with Balint Vazsonyi at the helm, this tour will be a roaring success. I wish him all the best on his stop in Georgia, and look forward to following his progress from there, all across this great and glorious land.

MRS. MELISSA TREZISE, A PIONEER OF EDUCATION

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 1, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a woman that has