

when the actions of our shared, American heroes overshadow the treasonous acts of a group of traitors whose actions would have destroyed our nation."

RECOGNIZING 25 SAN MATEO
COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
FOR OVERCOMING OBSTACLES
AND SERVING AS ROLE MODELS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this morning at a breakfast in Redwood Shores, California, the Family Service Agency of San Mateo County honored 25 high school students at a "Winners Breakfast," an annual recognition of high school seniors who have overcome great odds and are role models for their peers. Some six hundred people joined in celebrating the achievements of these outstanding students.

The Family Service Agency of San Mateo County is a private, non-profit social service organization which has established and supported programs throughout the County for children, seniors and families, and the Agency started the Winners Breakfast five years ago together with local businesses, the San Mateo County Office of Education and community leaders.

Mr. Speaker, this year the Family Service Agency is recognizing students who have faced a wide range of challenges, from homelessness, poverty and family and gang violence to chronic illness, personal tragedy, substance abuse and single parenthood. The students were chosen by personnel at the schools which they attend, and each honored student received a scholarship of \$500 paid for by sponsors of the program.

Heather Angney of the San Mateo County Times has written a series of excellent articles which appear in today's issue of the newspaper paying tribute to those students being honored today, and the Times is one of the supporters of the effort to provide funds for these students.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the Congress to join me in paying tribute to these outstanding students who were honored today for their perseverance in overcoming the tremendous difficulties they faced. These students are as follows:

Alexandra Chiles of Atherton was diagnosed with cancer at age 12 and endured endless rounds of chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Many years, she was too sick to enjoy Christmas. When she was able to go to school, she often went with thin hair and her face swollen by drugs. Through all this, Alex achieved more than most students, qualifying for the National Honor Society, gentling a nervous horse and volunteering in soup kitchens. In Alex's case, the recognition is bitter-sweet. She died March 22. Her parents, Anita and Robert Chiles of Atherton, will attend the breakfast and join in recognizing other students who are succeeding in spite of great challenges. As Alexandra's mother said, "She was a wonderful model of how we should all confront our problems in life."

Maria Ruth Alvarado of Woodside High School prevailed over abuse, homelessness and poverty to become an activist at school

and in her East Palo Alto neighborhood, tutoring at community centers and starting a support group for gay and HIV-positive people.

Albert Balbutin of Oceana High School faced his father's death, his mother's depression and financial hardship and decided to turn his life in a positive direction. He raised his grades from Ds and Fs to As and Bs, became co-president of his class and started Unity 2000, a campus organization dedicated to stopping teen violence.

Sarah Carr of Pescadero High School was considered a discipline problem with a bad attitude who wouldn't graduate. But she turned herself around with the encouragement of school staff and has improved her grades, stopped using bad language and started smiling. She plans to attend college next year.

Karen Cerri of Westmoor High School was abused by her biological and foster families until she was adopted into a loving home at age 10. She now coaches a swim team and serves as a peer counselor, and she hopes to become a paramedic or firefighter and adopt a foster child.

Rosalyn Curincita of Redwood High School and Sequoia High School was distracted from her school work while caring for relatives and marrying at an early age. She entered Redwood and made up two-and-a-half years of work in just one year. Although she works to support her family, she maintains excellent grades, enabling her to return to Sequoia to finish her senior year.

Jared Frias of Carlmont High School was in an automobile accident in which he lost a leg and two people died, including a friend who was like a brother to him. While in the hospital, Jared organized a Holiday Toy Drive for children in the hospital. And last fall, with the aid of a prosthetic limb, he returned to his favorite sport — football.

Renee Frost of Aragon High School has worked hard despite lifelong family disruptions and financial disadvantages. She attends the Regional Occupational Program, where she is described as "best in her class" in a Travel and Hospitality Careers course. As the school's receptionist, she greets the public, organizes the career center bulletin board and helps students enroll in classes.

Robert Gomez of Mills High School has been in a wheelchair since childhood because of cerebral palsy. With divorced parents, he has relied on himself to achieve his academic goals. Despite physical limitations, Robert participates in school activities, attends ball games and supports other students. He hopes to attend college and become a lawyer.

Diana Gonzalez of Community School North lived the life of a gang member from age 11 to 16. She attributes her transformation to the help of God, her best friend and her boyfriend. She graduated from the Gateway Center program with straight A's and enrolled in Community School North. She is on schedule to graduate with a GED by June and will attend Bryman College in San Francisco.

Robert "Tito" Gonzalez of Terra Nova High School is deaf in one ear, which affects his school performance. He was placed in special education in fourth-grade but worked so hard he switched to mainstream classes by sixth-grade. Robert has a 3.2 gpa, was voted "best artist" by his senior class and is considering a career in microbiology and genetics.

Emily Jaime gives credit for her achievement to a fourth grade tutor who encouraged

her to read, and that moves her to volunteer at an elementary school twice a week, and now 12 years after failing first grade, she's heading to Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Emily's father left the family when she was four, and she hasn't seen him much since, but her mother and grandmother encouraged her to make the most of opportunities, gap and told her to get a college diploma, something neither of them was able to do.

Lauren Kass of Pilarcitos High School had struggled in school starting in junior high. But after transferring to the Cabrillo district's independent study program, she thrived academically and personally. She received her diploma in February and now works at a preschool and rides and trains horses. She hopes to eventually open her own preschool.

Linda Khiev of Sequoia High School has held her family together since her mother's illness last year, working part-time and handling household duties. Despite the stress, she remains at the top one percent of her class academically. Linda hopes to become a physician.

Victor Lopez of Aragon High School has been largely independent since his mother returned to Mexico to care for his grandmother when Victor was 14. Victor has been a Peer Helper for three years and is a member of student government. He doesn't let negative peer influences deter him, and his dream is to become a pediatrician.

Wendy Maravilla of Thornton High School had a baby in her junior year and had to work part-time and enroll in an independent study program. She is training to become a certified nurse's assistant and working part-time at Marshall's. Wendy firmly believes she can accomplish her dreams, including her goal to become a registered nurse.

Osvaldo Munoz of El Camino High School faced his father's long illness and death this past October. Throughout this difficult time, he has remained a strong, mature and constant support to his mother and family and volunteered at Family Service Agency's Club Leo J. Ryan after-school program. Osvaldo plans to attend Skyline College and study computer science.

Daniel "Dan" Nawahine of Hillsdale High School has a "can do" attitude despite the challenges of having speech and language delays and various learning and motor challenges. He is a student in the Disorders of Language Program and plans on working at San Francisco International Airport in the Ramp Service after he completes the ROP Airport Training Program.

Sulia Pale of Capuchino High School was in an extremely traumatic car accident in 10th-grade, leaving her with deficits in learning, memory, attention and problem solving, along with emotional and personality changes. In June, Sulia will be the first in her family to graduate from high school. She plans to attend community college and have a career in the air and travel industry.

Amanda Peacock of South San Francisco High School has dealt with tragedy twice in her life. When she was seven, her baby sister died of leukemia. In March of this year, she lost her 8-year-old sister to leukemia. Despite this, Amanda completed ROP's Hotel and Hospitality Services Class and plans to attend a junior college after graduation.

Jason Shaughnessy of Hillsdale High School was abandoned by his father when he

was two years old. His mother disappeared when he was in fifth-grade. The support of his grandfather, aunt, uncle and cousins has enabled Jason to have a sense of belonging, to build confidence and to have maturity beyond his years. He plans on attending a four-year college and majoring in psychology.

Amelia Tauataina of Peninsula High School was chronically truant and her parents day laborers who spoke little English, had difficulty providing the academic support she needed. Through an interpreter, her parents connected with her teachers and counselors, and Amelia is now a star student. She completed a 125-hour internship at Alaska Airlines and was hired there. She plans to enroll in San Francisco City College.

Meghan Walsh of El Camino High School has had to bear more responsibility than usual for a person her age. When she was four, her mother was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and must use a wheelchair. Her father became her mother's full-time caretaker, putting financial strain on the family. Meghan maintained a positive attitude and is a peer tutor, maintains a 3.7 gpa and is on the yearbook staff.

Ricky Whitfield of Sacred Heart Preparatory Academy was one of only eight students of color enrolled in Sacred Heart Preparatory Academy. Learning difficulties made school challenging. Then, on Dec. 26, 1999, his mother died after a battle with cancer. Ricky maintained his academic goals and stayed active in school drama and choral activities. He is considering becoming a minister or educator and wants to make a difference in his East Palo Alto community.

Tiffany Williams of South San Francisco High School moved to California during the summer of her sophomore year with hopes of attending a college in the University of California system. Without her parents and friends, she was homesick, scared and lonely, but she joined school clubs, tutored after school and became copy editor of the yearbook. She hopes to major in biology in college and later attend medical school.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRED
LIPPMAN AND WILL TROWER

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fred Lippman and Will Trower, soon to be awarded the Tree of Life Award given annually by the Jewish National Fund in recognition of outstanding community involvement and dedication to the cause of American-Israeli friendship. The extraordinary vision that these men share make them exemplary citizens, and I congratulate them both on this well deserved award.

The State of Florida as a whole has greatly benefitted from Fred Lippman's vision and leadership: Fred represented much of South Broward County in the Florida House of Representatives 1978 to 1998. A fervent supporter of the preservation of Jewish history, Fred received an award in 1997 for his efforts in cre-

ating and adopting Holocaust education curricula in Florida. He is also known as the "father" of the State of Florida's Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program, a joint federal and state program that seeks to improve the supply and distribution of primary care health providers in medically underserved areas.

A 30 year veteran of the healthcare industry, Will Trower is currently President/CEO of the fourth largest public hospital system in the nation, the North Broward Hospital District. He has tirelessly worked to fulfill the North Broward Hospital District's mission of providing healthcare to Broward County residents through an integrated system, emphasizing community-based health programs. By advocating the expansion of services for primary care, mental health, and care for the chronically ill, Will has demonstrated his intense desire to better the lives of those around him in the South Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to convey Fred Lippman and Will Trower a heartfelt congratulations for this wonderful honor. Indeed, we owe both of these distinguished individuals a tremendous debt of gratitude, and I would like to thank both Fred and Will for their efforts on behalf of the entire South Florida community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON THEIR WNIT CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the University of Wisconsin women's basketball team for their outstanding season which recently culminated in their WNIT Championship victory.

The Badgers, led by Coach Jane Albright, advanced to the WNIT Championship for the second year in a row. However, this time their persistence was rewarded when they defeated Florida by a score of 75-74 and won the Championship!

The Badgers started the tournament by defeating both Fairfield and DePaul. They then went on to the third round and easily handled rival Michigan State. With three solid victories in hand, the Badgers could see the WNIT Championship in sight and did not look back. The team then advanced to the semifinals and dominated Colorado State through the entire game. In the Final, the Badgers were in championship form and pushed through to beat Florida and take home the WNIT Championship Title!

The Badgers are a role model for teamwork. The challenges they overcame would be difficult in the best of circumstances, but they overcame those challenges and achieved their goals in the high pressure atmosphere of the WNIT Tournament! I commend Coach Albright and the entire team for their exemplary performance. They represent well both the University of Wisconsin and the city of Madison. I would like to thank them for a very exciting season and congratulate them on their victory.

HONORING STATE REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD LEE "DICK" LIVINGSTON

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to a remarkable man, State Representative Richard Lee "Dick" Livingston, who passed away on Tuesday, March 28, 2000, following a six week battle with cancer. "Dick," as he was affectionately called, was a lifelong resident of Scott County, and a Democrat who served in the Mississippi Legislature for more than 29 years. He represented parts of Rankin, Scott, and Smith Counties. He followed in the footsteps of his father, the late Elwin Livingston, who also served in the Mississippi House of Representatives.

"Dick" was a native of Morton, MS. He was a graduate of Morton High School, East Central Community College, and Millsaps College. At Morton High School and Millsaps College he was a star athlete in football and baseball. In 1998, he was named Alumnus of the Year for East Central Community College. He was a former teacher and coach in the Scott County School System and owned and operated Dick Livingston Real Estate Company. He was a member of the National Guard, the Mississippi Wildlife Federation, the Morton Lions Club, the Morton Chamber of Commerce, and the Independence United Methodist Church, where he served as Church Lay Leader, Chairman of the Administrative Board, and taught in the Adult Sunday School.

In the Mississippi Legislature, "Dick" served as Chairman of the Game and Fish Committee, and was a member of the Appropriations Committee, the Public Buildings and Library Committee, and the Education Committee. As Chairman of the Game and Fish Committee, he strongly believed in promoting scenic streams legislation, developing a strong state park system, and providing the necessary leadership on all hunting and fishing matters. "Dick" was a firm believer in leading by example. He was an avid outdoors man, and in 1999, he received the Wildlife Federation's "Conservation Legislator of the Year" Award.

"Dick" Livingston had a passion for God's creation, and nothing thrilled him more than being in the outdoors and enjoying the beauty of the trees, streams, and woods. He was extremely dedicated to his family, which included his wife, Martha W. Livingston, his daughters Lee Ann Palmer, Jennifer Miles, Marsha Barnes, Rori Bridges, his son David, and his grandchildren, Blake and Bethany.

The legacy Richard Lee "Dick" Livingston leaves behind is one of service to his God, his country, his state and his community. I extend my deepest sympathy to his family, and at the same time, express my appreciation, and that of all citizens of the Third District, for his life of service to his fellow man.