

I commend the City of Montclair for this innovative approach to educating and promoting heart-healthy lifestyles.

TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA TUFARO

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a real hero from my District, Virginia Tufaro. As a life long resident of Long Island, Virginia has dedicated her life to helping others. For over 27 years, as a registered nurse and through her volunteer work as a member of the Mineola Volunteer Ambulance Core, the New York Disaster Medical Assistance Team, and the Safe Kids Coalition—Virginia is truly one of our unsung heroes on Long Island.

In addition, Virginia can be found teaching junior volunteers, working at the first station at the Olympic Swim Team Trials, and at the local county fair's first aid station.

Virginia's daily heroism came into the public's eye on December 30, 1999, when Virginia saved Michael Geier's life. Michael had been riding at the North Shore Equestrian Center in Brookville, New York. When Michael's horse returned to the barn without Michael, Virginia jumped off her horse and into her jeep in search of Michael. She found him face down in the dirt. He was flaccid and unresponsive. He had a pulse, but his breathing was agony and it was clear the situation was desperate.

Fortunately, Virginia's expertise is in critical care and trauma, thus she was able to quickly assess her patient's condition and intervene to save his life. She stabilized Michael's airway and cervical spine and administered artificial respiration. Virginia then mobilized a helicopter rescue and were both airlifted to Nassau County Medical Center, a level one trauma center, where he was immediately incubated and placed on a ventilator. Michael slipped into a coma for about a week, but thankfully today Michael has regained consciousness and is doing great at St. Charles Rehabilitation Hospital.

As we begin to celebrate National Nurses Week, I want to thank Virginia for going above and beyond the call of duty for the people of Long Island.

HONORING DR. LEE AND KATHY BERMAN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to two exceptional people, Dr. Lee and Kathy Berman, as they receive this year's Spirit of Life Award from Temple Bat Yahm. Their dedication and commitment to their temple and community serves as an example to us all.

A practicing optometrist for the past 25 years, Lee Berman has a long history of distinguished service to the Jewish community and the greater community. His religious lead-

ership positions include Vice President of Membership and Treasurer at Temple Israel in Long Beach. At Temple Bat Yahm, Lee has also held various Vice Presidential positions, including Membership, Facilities, and Long Range Planning. Currently, he is serving his second term as President of the Temple Bat Yahm Board of Trustees. He has also served on the Board of Directors for the Jewish National Fund. Lee's ongoing commitment to the Boy Scouts of America is evidenced by his service as a Cub Master and as an Assistant Scoutmaster for the past four years. Kathy Berman has also long been active in scouting, having served as a Cub Scout leader, Girl Scout leader, and Troop Organizer for the Greater Long Beach Girl Scout Council. Along with her husband, Kathy has dedicated herself to Temple Bat Yahm, where she served as Sisterhood Co-President for three years. She has also served as Scrip Chair, Gala Reservation Chair, Campership Chair, and as a singer in the Temple choir.

Together, Dr. Lee and Kathy Berman worked diligently to create a new expanded campus and Torah learning center at Temple Bat Yahm. Their dedication to the realization of this goal has not gone unnoticed and, through their leadership, their dream will soon become a reality. In recognition of their invaluable service, Kathy and Lee will receive the distinguished Spirit of Life Award from Temple Bat Yahm at its annual Gala Dinner Dance, Vision 2000. This honor represents the exemplary dedication of Lee and Kathy to improve both Temple Bat Yahm and our community.

Mr. Speaker, may we ask our distinguished colleagues to join me in extending our gratitude and appreciation to Dr. Lee and Kathy Berman for their dedicated service to our community.

HONORING THE 2000 BEST OF RESTON AWARD WINNERS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor those residents of Reston, Virginia who have been awarded the Best of Reston Community Service Award, which is presented annually by the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and Reston Interfaith to honor businesses and individuals that have gone above the norm in their service to others in the Reston community.

Dan Amato and the Hyatt Regency Reston—for their strong work ethic, invaluable customer service and commitment to the community. Both Dan Amato and the staff of the Hyatt Regency Reston have taken enormous strides to host a quality facility in Reston. Throughout their years in the Reston Town Center, they have been more than willing to donate time, resources and money to the many organizations that patronize their hotel. Whether it has been hosting an event for the Reston 2000 Task Force, donating gift certificates for countless charities and community organizations, or supporting the Greater Reston Arts Center's (GRACE) gallery and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, Dan Amato and the Hyatt have made continuous strides to be involved in every aspect of the

community. Many charities and organizations have benefited from their generosity. Their services—whether it is as host for a meeting or sponsor of an event—are highlighted by their quality of work and impressive work ethic.

Willie Bush—for his desire to help the less fortunate. Willie Bush is a well known figure within the family of Reston's Martin Luther King Christian Church. As Chairman of the Church Outreach Center, he has spent 14 years providing holiday food baskets, serving as a member of Reston Interfaith, the Reston Jaycees and the Church Bible Study/Choir/Deacon Board, and serving as a member of the "Works Sunday Project," an outreach activity in support of the homeless, abused women and senior citizens. Throughout his long history of providing assistance to others, he has exemplified his Christian living by working for the poor, visiting the sick and feeding the hungry. Whether a member has needed food or clothing, money to pay utility bills or simply support, Willie Bush has given of himself and worked for the betterment of the Reston community.

Nancy Burke—for her tireless efforts and support of athletics in the community. Nancy Burke currently serves as a Health and Physical Education, Sports Medicine and Driver's Education teacher at South Lakes High School. As the school's head athletic trainer, she oversees medical assistance to athletes and trains student assistants to administer help. As a teacher, she has gone above the call of duty by working to improve the school's athletic training facility and taking her students on numerous trips to learn about sports medicine. Outside of the classroom, she continues her role by volunteering with the Reston youth football and softball teams and donating her time and efforts to help students with counseling and advice. Nancy Burke has had a positive influence on the lives of the countless students she has known during her years at South Lakes, whether it is through athletics or her role as a teacher and friend.

Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE)—for promoting the importance of arts and enriching individual and community life in Reston. For 25 years, GRACE has strived to foster and promote excellence in contemporary visual arts. GRACE has worked directly with the youth of Reston in many ways, including providing arts experiences through its volunteers for more than 15,000 students in more than 30 area elementary schools; offering free Saturday workshop for area children; hosting a summer art program; and awarding scholarships to students to pursue post-graduate arts education. GRACE also produces gallery exhibits at the Town Center gallery and present a series of exhibitions of contemporary art at Market Street Bar & Grill. GRACE's key event of the year is its Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival, which brings nationally known fine artists and craftspeople for a weekend of art and music. Now in its ninth year, more than 70,000 people attend the festival. GRACE plays a large role in the lives of Reston's citizens and contributes to the quality of life.

Michael Guthrie—for his inner drive to make Reston the best possible place to live and to raise a family. Michael Guthrie is an active member of the Reston community in every way. Whether as a representative on the Reston 2000 Task Force, a supporter of the American Cancer Society, a coach in the

Reston Youth Athlete Association or a member of the Reston Rail Scope of Work, he has given his all to ensure success. Along with his work as office manager of the Long & Foster Wiehle Avenue Office, Michael Guthrie has wasted no time supporting many organizations in Reston. He has volunteered to serve on numerous committees and has always taken a leadership role. From spearheading the public relations campaign for the 2000 Martin Luther King Celebration, to arranging for motivational speakers for students at Langston Hughes Middle School and South Lakes High School, to creating an opportunity for realtors to donate to Reston Interfaith through a deduction on commission checks and many more, Michael has put his heart into support of all walks of life in Reston. His energy and enthusiasm for Reston has not gone unnoticed by his co-workers and fellow citizens, who are often inspired to serve along with him. Michael Guthrie has gone beyond what is expected of any citizen and continues to make a contribution to the community.

Joe and Marcia Stowers—for their continued work to improve transportation in Reston. Joe and Marcia Stowers have been involved in almost every land use and transportation projects in Reston. Through their service on the Reston Community Association Planning and Zoning Committee, Reston on Foot, Reston 2000 and more, the Stowers have shared their expertise to benefit every resident and transient, worker, bicyclist, and pedestrian. The Stowers have had a hand in countless transportation issues in Reston, including creating the Reston Transportation Committee, assisting in the formation of LINK, advocating for HOV lanes on the Dulles Toll Road, and more recently, supporting rail to Dulles. The Stowers arrived among the first settlers in Reston in 1965 and have both lived and worked—now at Sydec Inc., a transportation consulting firm—around the Lake Anne Village Center. After 30 years of community service, they have succeeded in encouraging a new generation to become active in Reston civic affairs and to play roles as emerging community leaders.

Vicky Wingert—for her steadfast effort as a community volunteer. Vicky Wingert has gone well beyond her role as Executive Vice President of Reston Association (RA) in working for a better Reston, where her personal contributions go far beyond her job related duties. She uses her talent in firm-making to maximize the visual image of Reston for residents, visitors and employers. She has volunteered her services in the production of The Difference is Reston; Reston Interfaith's 25 Anniversary celebration, a presentation that stressed the importance of its program; and Pals, the Movie, a firm created for PALS, Reston's early learning center, to assist parents in selecting a quality care facility. Vicky also volunteers for countless other programs, including the Reston Festival, Character Counts! Coalition of Reston, the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival, the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and more. Throughout her 23 years of community service, her volunteer efforts have been to the advantage of the entire community and have affected thousands. She is a strong advocate for the community and seeks to provide the leadership necessary to further implement the goals on which Reston was founded. She is a wonderful steward and acts from the conviction that Reston, on her watch, will be an extraordinary community.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring the Best of Reston award winners for all of their hard work in making their community a better place to live.

BUSINESS CHECKING MODERNIZATION ACT

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives yesterday passed H.R. 4067, the "Business Checking Modernization Act" by voice vote. As this legislation goes to the Senate and possible to a conference, I would like to urge my House colleagues who will be conferees to insist on the inclusion of two important provisions in any conference report. One key provision currently not part of this legislation is language that would allow the Federal Reserve to pay interest on "sterile reserves." The last time the House of Representatives passed similar legislation on October 9, 1998, such language was included. This language is still needed. The measure that passed yesterday will impose new costs on banks, according to the Federal Reserve, without any provision for offsetting these costs. The Federal Reserve has expressed its support for the payment of interest on sterile reserves to offset these costs, and I understand that House Banking Committee Chairman Leach has indicated that he supports the provision as well. I would urge my colleagues to include that language in any conference report prepared on this bill.

One other provision that I would urge the House conferees to retain is language providing a three-year transition period before the payment of interest on commercial checking accounts becomes effective. This transition period is shorter by half than the transition period included in the legislation adopted by the House in 1998, and yet it is still the case that banks will be required to unwind and restructure long-standing relationships with their customers. Due to the current prohibition against the payment of interest on commercial checking accounts, many banks have developed a menu of other services that they provide to their customers. These will need to be restructured. With yesterday's vote the House has already reduced the transition period available to banks from the earlier 1998 legislation. It is very important that this transition period of three years not be reduced further. I would urge the House conferees to maintain the House position of a three-year transition period in any conference report on H.R. 4067.

TRIBUTE TO THE NORTHEAST REBELS CHEERLEADERS

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, today I honor and pay tribute to the Northeast Rebels Cheerleaders for their efforts and contributions in the USACF National Competition held at the Charlotte Coliseum, in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Northeast Rebels is a self-supported league and has four cheerleading teams, averaging approximately 300 children, from the ages of 7–15 years of age. Cheerleaders try-out for the team based on their age group, with a maximum of 20 girls per squad. Each year all four divisions of cheerleading squads compete against other county leagues in the same classification for the NBFL Cheerleading Competition. They also compete in the Broward County Fair Competition and in 1999, all four teams won 1st place in their division.

In particular I would like to recognize their accomplishments of the A&B Team in the Junior Recreation Division and the C-Team in the Youth Recreation Division at the USACF National Competition held at the Charlotte Coliseum, Charlotte North Carolina on April 1 and 2. The A&B Team placed 2nd in the Junior Recreation Division and the C Team won the National Championship in the Youth Recreation Division.

To prepare for competition, the managers and coaches spend many hours making up dances, cheers, formations, stunts & choreography. They volunteer not only for community hours, but they also have the satisfaction that they have inspired and impacted the girls they coach. The admiration of the cheerleaders for their coaches, is evident in their performances.

I know the House will join me in paying tribute to this outstanding team of people and wish them continued success in their endeavors: Lori Thompson, Stacy Guy, Shannon Troyer, Amanda Nutter, Gina Mariatti, Katie Birge, Rachel Maggi, Paige Becerra, Angelina DiCandia, Melanie Dhaveloose, Stephanie Ely, Heidi Friedman, Samantha Gasperic, Melanie Gent, Joanne Maglorie, Julie McGaha, Jamie McMillan, Lauren Mitchell, Elizabeth Montero, Lexy Spellacy, and Samantha Tomaro.

NATIONAL READING PANEL SUPPORTS PHONICS

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 2000

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, a parent in Indiana shared with me this touching story, "When my son was in first grade, he used to say, 'I hate school, how old do you have to be to quit.' He was so frustrated because he couldn't read. The school did not 'believe' in phonics. When my son learned the Direct Approach, he got the 'tools' he needed to read. The logical approach made sense to him. He started reading on his own instead of me reading to him. With only one year of the smart chart, in second grade, he scored 4th grade reading equivalency on the Stanford Achievement test. Pretty amazing!"

This success story could be repeated again and again if schools took the initiative this caring parent took to help her child learn to read by teaching him phonics. Unfortunately, many elementary schools do not teach phonics and more than a few teacher colleges do not teach teachers this instruction technique.

Recently, however, I became optimistic that many more schools will choose to adopt phonics. My optimism stems from the release of the National Reading Panel's report on successful reading strategies. On April 13, 2000, the Congressionally mandated National Reading Panel released its findings which support