

as he leads the National Association of Health Underwriters into the twenty first century.

GUAM'S YOUTH MONTH ISLAND LEADERSHIP DAY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, each year, Guam's Department of Education celebrates April as Youth Month with several activities, including an oratorical contest, a student exchange program, a school showcase, a youth conference, and the much-anticipated Island Leadership Day, during which students assume the roles of Guam's public, private, and military leaders for a day. In coordination with these sectors of our community, the activity gives middle- and high-school students the opportunity to play "boss" at participating offices and agencies. From senators and company accountants to military colonels and hospital nurses, selected students shadow such career men and women to experience an entire day's work.

On the morning of April 26, 2000, three high school students looking sharp and studious, ready to take on the challenge, walked in my office. They were Guam's student Washington Delegate William B. Jones, a senior from George Washington High School, Jonathan Pador, also a GW senior, who was my student District Director, and Madelene Marinas, a senior from the Academy of Our Lady of Guam, who was my student Communications Director. Their eagerness—tempered by a not surprising bit of nervousness—took me back to my own high school days and to the very first Island Leadership Day, for which I earned the privilege to be a senator for a day.

After arriving at the legislative session hall on that day in 1964, I made a bee line for the desk of my hero, Senator Antonio B. Won Pat, who, in 1965, was elected as Guam's first delegate to Congress. In 1972, Congress recognized the Guam delegate and Mr. Won Pat served in that office until 1984. Perhaps without realizing it, I took my dreams a step further and began setting my goals on that first Island Leadership Day in 1964. To the extent that Island Leadership Day is intended to introduce and inspire students to leadership positions in the community, I am proud to say that I was among many over the years who were inspired.

With the enthusiastic support of Guam's public, private and military sectors, more than 300 students from nearly every public, private and DoDEA middle and high school took part in Island Leadership Day 2000. At the Office of the Governor, in the pre-existing official order of precedence, Student Lieutenant Governor Ellen Randall, an Academy of Our Lady of Guam senior, had the opportunity to double as the Acting Governor of Guam. Her student special assistant that day was Bishop Baumgartner Middle School student, Maya Lujan. Meanwhile, at the Guam Legislature, the Student Speaker, Lourena Yco, also of Bishop Baumgartner, was also Guam's Student Acting Lieutenant Governor. In all, thousands of Guam's students participated in the various activities of Youth Month, each planned and coordinated by student leaders

themselves. In particular, the Youth Month Central Planning Committee, was made up of students from Southern High School, specifically Cherika Chargualaf, president; Jermaine Alerta, vice president; Erwin Agar, secretary; Joseph Cruz, treasurer; and Angela Tamayo, activities coordinator. In having planned and executed a very impressive and successful schedule of varied events, our youth genuinely embodied in this year's Youth Month theme, "I Manhoben i Isla-ta, i Fuetsan i Tiempo-ta—The Youth of Our Island, the Strength of Our time."

Our youth are the stepping stones toward a bright future. Oftentimes we hear that children are our future. And indeed they are. Today they play our roles, but tomorrow those roles will be theirs. Seeing these success-bound students taking roles in the different career areas gives me a wonderful vision of Guam's future.

HONORING DR. R. DOUGLAS YAJKO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I consider it a personal privilege and honor to offer this tribute in acknowledgment of Dr. R. Douglas Yajko, an avid hunter and great humanitarian. Recently, Dr. Yajko was recognized by the Safari Club International as the recipient of the highest award given to hunters, the Hunting Hall of Fame Award. The award is given to a member of the SCI who has had noteworthy contributions to the organizations.

Dr. Yajko has spent a lifetime working on behalf of hunters from around the world. His contributions to the hunting community have helped hunters everywhere educate the public about the nuances of hunting and wildlife. Dr. Yajko has participated in an array of associations, including the Foundation for North American Wild Sheep, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, International Sheep Hunters Association, Boone and Crockett Club, and the National Rifle Association. In addition, the good doctor founded the SCI's Upper Colorado River Chapter in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, and served as president for five years. Dr. Yajko has been an avid hunter since his early childhood and has traveled to six continents in which he has successfully taken over 16 dozen distinct big game animals, many of which qualified as SCI records for trophy animals.

Although Dr. Yajko hunting exploits are formidable, his contributions to the medical community are probably more impressive. A general, vascular and thoracic surgeon, Dr. Yajko has been a committed surgeon in my district for more than 25 years, and has been published in various medical journals during that time.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you and congratulations to Dr. Yajko for his life of service and success. Colorado is proud—and fortunate—to call him its own.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, last night I missed two votes on procedural motions numbered 255 and 256. I was attending my son's graduation from high school. If present, I would have voted "aye" on both motions.

IN HONOR OF LARRY AND BARBARA MEISTER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Larry and Barbara Meister, whose many years of volunteer service to the people of Ventura County, CA, in my district, will be recognized this weekend at the Interface Children Family Services' Tribute Dinner.

Larry and Barbara Meister have dedicated their lives to the values of education, charity, and compassion and have served as role models by leading and supporting many charitable causes.

Some of the organizations that have benefited from their dedication are Interface, Ventura Education Partnership, Jewish Family Service, Casa Pacifica, Rubicon Theatre Company, New West Symphony, Ventura Boys & Girls Club, Foster Library, and several local hospitals.

Through their commitment to their Jewish Heritage, Larry and Barbara Meister have received Temple Beth Torah's highest honor. The Meister Scholarship Fund—Youth Trip to Israel has sent 18 students to Israel in the past 13 years.

The social hall at Temple Beth Torah, the boardroom at Casa Pacifica, and the lobby at the Rubicon Theatre Company have been named in honor of Barbara and Larry Meister.

Barbara Meister has served on the board of Casa Pacifica and is a cofounder of its Angels program. She also has served on the boards of Community Memorial Healthcare Foundation and United Jewish Appeal Women's Division. She was chair of the Rubicon Theatre Company's Education Outreach Program. She is a member of Hadassah, National Council of Jewish Women, the National Women's Political Caucus, and the Ventura County Community Foundation's Women's Legacy Fund Grants Advisory Committee. The latter organization recently established the Barbara Meister Fund for Women.

Larry Meister is a successful business leader as President and CEO of Barber Ford/Volkswagen/Isuzu and Barber Recreation Vehicles. He has received the Ford Distinguished Achievement Award for 32 years and the North American Customer Satisfaction Award for the past 5 years. He was recently awarded the prestigious President's Award from Ford Motor Co. for the second time. He has also supported a host of charitable organizations' events.

Mr. Speaker, I have been a strong supporter of Interface Children Family Services for more than 20 years. The work of the organization

and its volunteers has bettered the lives of countless families in my community. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Larry and Barbara Meister for the honor they so richly deserve and thank them for decades of dedication to others.

HOGAN FAMILY REUNION

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor and recognize the descendants of the city of Hogansville, GA, as they set aside June 15–18, 2000, to have the second, ever, Hogan Family Reunion. The founding father, William Hogan, established a one-man plantation in the 1930's which encompassed much of the current town of Hogansville.

William Hogan's efforts to stimulate the local economy began by ceding the right of way to the Atlanta and West Railroad, which eventually led to the town being chartered in 1870.

William had 18 children, accounting for 11 lines of descendants. Representatives of nine of those lines from 11 states, along with the entire town of Hogansville are invited to share in the festivities as Hogansville remembers its founding father, William Hogan.

Frances Hogan Moss, following in the footsteps of her father, William Hogan, Jr., has been instrumental in coordinating the reunion and is looking forward to the momentous occasion.

**TRIBUTE TO RANDOLPH D. SMOAK,
JR., M.D.**

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Dr. Randolph D. Smoak, Jr., a renowned surgeon from Orangeburg, South Carolina. Tomorrow, June 14, Dr. Smoak will be inaugurated as 155th President of the American Medical Association (AMA) at its annual convention in Chicago, Illinois. A member of the AMA Board of Trustees since 1992, Dr. Smoak has been a member of its Executive Committee since 1994. Dr. Smoak currently chairs the American Medical Accreditation Program (AMAP) Governing Body, and is lead spokesperson for AMA's anti-smoking campaign. He served as AMA Commissioner to the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) from 1996–1999 and as the AMA's official representative to the National Health Council since 1994.

Born in Bamberg, South Carolina, Dr. Smoak received a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of South Carolina (USC) in Columbia, and his medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in Charleston. After completing his internship at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, and residency training at the University of Texas Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas, he returned to his home state to establish a surgical practice.

Dr. Smoak's dedication to organized medicine has been evident through his years of service on the state and national level. He has served in virtually every leadership capacity in the South Carolina medical community, including President of SCMA, Chair of the SCMA Political Action Committee, and President of the South Carolina Medical Care Foundation. He is a founding member of the South Carolina Oncology Society and served from 1992 to 1998 as Governor to the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Smoak is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and a diplomat of the American Board of Surgery. He is a clinical professor of surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina and clinical associate professor of surgery at the USC School of Medicine. Dr. Smoak's involvement in civic activities includes service as President of the South Carolina Division of the American Cancer Society, a member of the Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College Foundation Board, and Lt. Governor of Carolina's Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Randolph D. Smoak for his meritorious service, indelible leadership, and unparalleled devotion in the field of medicine, and his continued success as the President of the American Medical Association.

**IN HONOR OF RICHARD DIBARI ON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
JERSEY CITY POLICE DEPART-
MENT**

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Di Bari on his retirement from the Jersey City Police Department after 29 years of serving and protecting the public.

Officer Di Bari began his career in 1971 as a foot patrolman. Since then, he has served with distinction and honor in a variety of positions, including scooter patrol, motorcycle radar instruction and enforcement, breathalyzer operator, grant writer, patrol officer, staff member of Support Services, Chief's office staff, and day tour desk assistant.

For three decades, Officer Di Bari has worked tirelessly to serve his community. His career reflects the character and dedication police officers require to succeed at meeting the considerable challenges of police work. This degree of dedication is based on a simple truth: the police have an obligation to serve and protect; and a community only prospers when its citizens are enabled to work and live in safety. Officer Di Bari understands this truth, and he lives by it.

He has received a commendation, a valor award FOP, a Motorcycle Unit Citation, and has been awarded four times for excellent police service.

I ask my colleagues to join me as I honor Richard Di Bari for his distinguished 29-year career as a police officer.

THE RETIREMENT OF JOHN BURKE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of our colleagues the retirement of an outstanding teacher who dedicated his life to helping his students.

John Burke has influenced the lives of so many and is a man of great character and notoriety. He is looked upon with great respect and honor in the teaching profession.

Since 1967, John has served the Nanuet School District in Nanuet, New York, beginning his career as a Business Law Teacher. After serving as a business teacher for six years, he then became Nanuet's Assistant Principal from 1973–1978. From 1978 to the present he has served as Principal of Nanuet High School.

In 1994, John Burke was awarded the Robert J. Drennan Administrator of the Year Award from Rockland School Administrators Association. In addition to that John has other outstanding accomplishments such as the M.B.W.A., a degree in administration, known as Management By Walking Around, and two degrees. In addition to being principal, John has been involved in the school's extracurricular activities. He established the L.E.N.S (Leadership Exchange for Network Students) program.

John's students have said: "Through the years you have always come to our games to cheer us on, to applaud our plays, to sing along with us at our concerts; wherever we look you were there to support us. If we were involved, you were involved. You have shown this affectionate concern with us and the Nanuet community. Our parents trust you and believe that we children are safe with you. We thank you for your invisible warm hands."

Mr. Speaker, I invite our colleagues to join in extending a warm thank you to John Burke for his dedication, his support, faithfulness, and love for his students, community, and his job. Well done John!

**RABBI DR. H. JOSEPH SIMCKES
AND CHANA SIMCKES**

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2000

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and honor Rabbi Dr. H. Joseph and Chana Simckes on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of their association with the Hollis Hills Jewish Center. It is with great pride that I pay tribute to two people who I have known closely, and with whom I have worked with on numerous issues critical to the Jewish community and beyond. Joseph and Chana Simckes have made the Jewish sage Hillel's ancient dictum, "Do not separate yourself from the community," a living guide for their lives and the basis for their continuing efforts to promote social justice and human dignity from within and beyond the walls of the synagogue.

Rabbi Simckes has been an exemplary spiritual leader, teaching Jewish values and providing moral guidance by his personal example, and I confidently expect that he will continue to be a source of leadership, learning