

The staff and students of Levey Middle School are proud of its history as a leading middle school, and the fact that it has been a catalyst for change inside the district and beyond. The staff and the community continue to set higher standards and hold greater expectations. With supportive parents, hardworking students, and a skilled and dedicated staff, I am confident that Levey Middle School will continue to set the precedent for years to come.

I applaud the students, parents, faculty and administration of Glenn W. Levey Middle School, for I believe this is an award which speaks more to the effort of a united community than it does to the work of a few individuals. With that having been said, I would like to recognize Dr. Linda Paramore-Ford, the Principal of Glenn W. Levey Middle School, whose dedication to making her school one of the finest in our Nation has been instrumental in creating this community. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate Glenn W. Levey Middle School on being named a Blue Ribbon School for 1999-2000, and wish the school continued success in the future.●

LAKE ORION HIGH SCHOOL NAMED 1999-2000 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, in 1982, the United States Department of Education initiated its Blue Ribbon Schools Program. In each year since, the Department has recognized schools throughout the country which excel in all areas of academic leadership, teaching and teacher development, and school curriculum. In other words, Blue Ribbon Schools are recognized because they are the finest public and private secondary schools our Nation has to offer. They are the schools that set the standard for which others strive. I am very proud to report that nine of the 198 Blue Ribbon Schools named by Secretary Richard W. Riley for 1999-2000 are located in the State of Michigan, and I rise today to recognize Lake Orion High School in Lake Orion, Michigan, one of these nine schools.

In fall of 1992, Lake Orion High School set about to create school improvement that was purposeful to the lives of teachers and students. Their goals included a desire to maintain high academic standards, engage the learner, relieve stress, facilitate networking, expand curricular opportunities, curb attendance problems, and raise the responsibility of the student for his or her own learning. Ultimately, the mission was to reach the students of today and help them become the leaders of tomorrow.

All this required an enormous amount of time and extensive research. First, a staff committee devised a minimum restructuring of their normal six period days by allotting three hours on Wednesday morning for professional development, a program which was implemented in the fall of 1994. In Feb-

ruary of 1994, the Vision of Hope staff committee was formed to investigate the restructuring of the school day. Extensive research, visitations, debate and discussion followed and, in the fall of 1996, a 4 by 4 block schedule was adopted. The block system has resulted in better teacher cooperation, greater flexibility in scheduling, increased student choices and a more meaningful and relevant curriculum for Lake Orion High School students.

Lake Orion High School moved into a new building in the fall of 1997, a state of the art facility which has become an ideal setting for the many innovative changes that have become a part of the curriculum. More importantly, the new building stands as the perfect representation of the overall growth that has occurred at Lake Orion High since the fall of 1992, growth which is a tribute to the shared goals and shared vision that administration and faculty together committed themselves to eight years ago.

I applaud the students, parents, faculty and administration of Lake Orion High School, for I believe this is an award which speaks more to the effort of a united community than it does to the work of a few individuals. With that having been said, I would like to recognize Dr. John S. Kastran, the Principal of Lake Orion High School, whose dedication to making his school one of the finest in our Nation has been instrumental in creating this community. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate Lake Orion High School on being named a Blue Ribbon School for 1999-2000, and wish the school continued success in the future.●

L'ANSE CREUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL— NORTH NAMED 1999-2000 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, in 1982, the United States Department of Education initiated its Blue Ribbon Schools Program. In each year since, the Department has recognized schools throughout the country which excel in all areas of academic leadership, teaching and teacher development, and school curriculum. In other words, Blue Ribbon Schools are recognized because they are the finest public and private secondary schools our Nation has to offer. They are the schools that set the standard for which others strive. I am very proud to report that nine of the 198 Blue Ribbon Schools named by Secretary Richard W. Riley for 1999-2000 are located in the State of Michigan, and I rise today to recognize L'Anse Creuse Middle School - North in Macomb, Michigan, one of these nine schools.

The mission of L'Anse Creuse Middle School—North, MSN, is for each student, with the support of staff, parents and the community, to "attain measurable growth intellectually, physically, and socially in a safe, positive environment." Being recognized as a

Blue Ribbon School is a tribute to the success that MSN has achieved in this regard.

Increased staffing, thoughtful scheduling and a dedicated staff have been the primary keys to this success. They have also been the keys to MSN completely "teaming" its students, the only school in its district to have done so. Teachers also work as parts of instructional teams—most academic teachers have been teammates for at least three years. This fact illustrates one of the greatest strengths of the school, which is the high level of cooperation that exists between members of the faculty, cooperation which in turn facilitates student learning.

The administration and faculty at MSN quickly realized the advantages that technology offered to their new learning program and made a strong commitment to improving the ability of their students to access computers. Indeed, this commitment to technology has revolutionized the teaching process and the management of the school. Two computer laboratories are now available to staff and students. Students can also sign out laptop computers for overnight use to help them with their homework. In addition, telephones have been placed in each classroom, which allow teachers to better communicate with parents and school offices, as well as with one another.

The administration and faculty of MSN recognize that a truly successful middle school is one that takes elementary school students and prepares them to succeed in the adult world of high school. Their philosophy is represented in this statement from the book *The Middle School—and Beyond*: "High quality middle schools result from the creative balance between elementary and secondary perspectives, between specialization and generalization, between curriculum and community, between equity and excellence, between teaching the mind and touching the heart." This is the core belief of all MSN faculty and administration, and the programs they have adopted, which have been so successful, reflect their commitment to this belief.

I applaud the students, parents, faculty and administration of MSN, for I believe this is an award which speaks more to the effort of a united community than it does to the work of a few individuals. With that having been said, I would like to recognize Mr. Erick Alsop, the Principal of MSN, whose dedication to making his school one of the finest in our Nation has been instrumental in creating this community. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate L'Anse Creuse Middle School—North on being named a Blue Ribbon School for 1999-2000, and wish the school continued success in the future.●

RETIREMENT OF THE HONORABLE ROMAN S. GRIBBS

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Honorable

Roman S. Gribbs, who will retire this year after a long and successful career of service to the State of Michigan. As Sheriff of Wayne County, Mayor of Detroit, and, for the last 18 years, a judge on the State of Michigan Court of Appeals, Judge Gribbs has been a statewide leader for over 30 years, and he has led with a strong and fair hand.

Judge Gribbs was born on December 29, 1925. After graduating from Capac High School in the Michigan Thumb area, he enlisted in the United States Army, from which he received an honorable discharge in 1948, having attained the rank of Sergeant. In 1952, he graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Detroit with a degree in Economics and Accounting, and in 1954 he graduated from the University of Detroit Law School with a Juris Doctor degree.

Following graduation, Judge Gribbs remained at the University of Detroit Law School for two years as an instructor. He then spent two years as Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor before moving into private practice with the firm of Shaheen, Gribbs and Shaheen. In 1966, he was named Presiding Traffic Court Referee for the City of Detroit, and in June of 1968 he was appointed Sheriff of Wayne County.

In November of 1970, Judge Gribbs was elected Mayor of the City of Detroit. In his four years as Mayor, he became known not only as a solid leader, but a solid man, who was willing to work with individuals from both sides of the aisle to get things done. He played a large role in helping the city put the unruliness of the late 1960's behind it, and once again begin to move in a forward direction. During this time, he also served as President of the National League of Cities, a fact which illustrates that his leadership capabilities were well recognized by his colleagues.

Following his term as Mayor, Judge Gribbs briefly returned to private practice before being appointed to serve as a Judge for the Third Judicial Court in 1976. In 1982, he was elected to the State of Michigan Court of Appeals, and he has served in this position ever since. Judge Gribbs brings to the bench a keen understanding of the law. More importantly, he carries with him an approach to its application that is deeply rooted in common sense. He makes many difficult decisions each year, and he makes these decisions with his first and foremost priority being to find a just solution to the problem at hand. It is for this reason that he has become a well respected Jurist.

Judge Gribbs is a member of numerous organizations, which will allow him to remain an active member of society following his retirement. These include the Michigan Judicial Institute, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Michigan Judges' Association, and the Friends of the Archbishop of Detroit. He has also been very active in the Boy

Scouts of America, the American Judiciary Society, the Family Conciliation Court, the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, the Michigan Youth Commission, the World Trade Club of Detroit and the Slavic American National Foundation. In addition, he is presently on the Board of Directors of the Thomas M. Cooley Law School, the Public Administration Foundation and the Northville Township Community Foundation.

Mr. President, Judge Gribbs' contributions to the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan are truly immeasurable. I would like to thank him for his dedication and his many efforts throughout his career. His leadership during this time has been exceptional, and it will be dearly missed by the State of Michigan. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate the Honorable Roman S. Gribbs on a wonderful and successful career, and wish him the best of luck in retirement.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a treaty and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:36 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4461) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes.

At 12:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution; in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 111. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution; without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 133. Concurrent resolution to correct the enrollment of S. 1809.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1809. An act to improve service systems for individuals with development disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 2686. An act to amend chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code, to modify rates relating to reduced rate mail matter, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message also announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1236. An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for commencement of the construction of the Arrowrock Dam Hydroelectric Project in the State of Idaho.

S. 1849. An act to designate segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

H.R. 2833. An act to establish the Yuma Crossing National Heritage Area.

H.R. 3676. An act to establish the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument in the State of California.

H.R. 4063. An act to establish the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in the State of California, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4226. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange all or part of certain administrative sites and other land in the Black Hills National Forest and to use funds derived from the sale or exchange to acquire replacement sites and to acquire or construct administrative improvements in connection with the Black Hills National Forest.

H.R. 4285. An act to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain administrative sites for National Forest System lands in the State of Texas, to convey certain National Forest System land to the New Waverly Gulf Coast Trades Center, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4613. An act to amend the National Historic Preservation Act for purposes of establishing a national historic lighthouse preservation program.

H.R. 5362. An act to increase the amount of fees charged to employers who are petitioners for the employment of H-1B non-immigrant workers, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

At 2:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that House has agreed to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2415) to enhance security of United States missions and personnel overseas, to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal year 2000, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, October 12, 2000, he had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 1236. An act to extend the deadline under the Federal Power Act for commencement of the construction of the Arrowrock Dam Hydroelectric Project in the State of Idaho.

S. 1849. An act to designate segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, Delaware