

and concern of Americans everywhere. Our Nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, the patrons and organizers of the Southside Fall Festival have raised and contributed more than \$1,500 to assist the grieving families and rescue workers. The patriotism and persistence of the patrons and organizers of the Southside Fall Festival is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the Nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our Nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great Nation and may God bless America.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF ART COOK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, when someone is stranded in the backcountry and a search and rescue team is called into action, dedicated and brave individuals respond to the call of those in need. Today I would like to rise and honor the service and contributions of Art Cook, a 14-year veteran with the Mesa County Search and Rescue, whose service has led him to be one of the most respected members of his squad and who was recently recognized by the Lions Club in Grand Junction, Colorado for his selfless acts.

In the vast terrain of Colorado, the vehicles needed for search and rescue differ from region to region. However, the need for four-wheel drive vehicles always seems to be a necessity and Art established the four-wheel-drive division of the Mesa County Search and Rescue. Not only did he implement this crucial component to the service, Art also created a unique and very effective mechanism for rescuing someone out of the backcountry. His innovation has been appreciated tremendously and has served to make the Mesa County Search and Rescue a better operation.

Art began his volunteer service in 1987 after retiring from Mountain Bell. Now 67 years of age, Art has helped to save numerous lives and has extended a warm and helping hand in numerous instances. At times, his dedication worries his family but that does not halt his volunteering. This award from the Lions Club was accompanied with a check to be given to the Search and Rescue team.

Mr. Speaker, Art Cook has offered himself and his expertise to others on many rescues. His honorable and commendable service is greatly appreciated. I would like to take this moment to congratulate Art on his recent recognition and extend my warmest regards and best wishes to him and his family in many years to come.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES G. OFIESH

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring this great chamber's attention to a distinguished decorated military veteran recently elected state commander of the Department of Pennsylvania Disabled American Veterans (PADAV). Mr. Charles G. Ofiesh, a resident of Altoona, Pennsylvania, located in the 9th Congressional District, served honorably during WWII and the Korean War. After his return from the Korean War, Mr. Ofiesh enlisted with the 341st Medical Company, Army Reserve, Altoona, and quickly rose to the rank of first sergeant—a position to held for years. Mr. Ofiesh was then transferred to the 99th Army Command where he was soon promoted to command sergeant major where he served until his retirement in November 1984.

During his distinguished military career, Mr. Ofiesh received over 24 awards and decorations, most notably the Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster. Mr. Ofiesh is a member of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, has served as a member of the Altoona City Zoning Appeals Board for over 24 years and is very active in the Civil Air Patrol program.

The tragic incident of September 11th reminds all of us to honor our military, both past and present. Mr. Ofiesh is a person who believes in America and fought admirably to protect our country. Mr. Ofiesh deserves the recognition from Congress and we should take notice and acknowledge all of heroes like Mr. Ofiesh. I look forward to working with him in his new role as state commander of PADAV and joining the fight to ensure that all veterans and their families receive the respect and benefits that they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place a copy of the article from the Altoona Mirror into the RECORD.

[From the Altoona Mirror, Sept. 30, 2001]

LOCAL MAN ELECTED TO HEAD PA. DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
(By Mark Leberfinger)

Charles G. Ofiesh has worn many hats over the years: government official, parade marshal, businessman and decorated military veteran.

Now he has a new hat to wear as state commander of the Department of Pennsylvania Disabled American Veterans.

"He's a guy whose feet never stop," department adjutant John W. Neeves said. "He's always on the go. "He has all the attributes a leader should possess."

Ofiesh was elected to his new role during the Disabled American Veterans' Pennsylvania convention in June. DAV was founded in 1920 and chartered by Congress in 1932. It is the official voice of America's service-connected disabled veterans.

Ofiesh said he joined the organization because he felt he could do more directly helping veterans than he could in other organizations.

"The DAV takes care of members of the Legion and VFW, everybody," he said. "You don't have to be a DAV member to be served."

"I couldn't do near what I could do in the other organizations what I can do in the DAV," Ofiesh said.

He has been working on several goals for the organization including improving the transportation system that takes veterans to area VA medical centers and doctor appointments and increasing membership in the nearly 53,000-member organization.

"The DAV is lobbying all the time for veterans," the new state commander said. "We're trying to tell them 'you made promises and you need to keep those promises'—to take care of the veterans for life after they came home."

In addition, the state Disabled American Veterans is seeking more grant money from the Commonwealth to purchase more vans for the James E. VanZandt VA Medical Center and the seven other VA centers in the state.

Before taking the reins of the state DAV, Ofiesh served as the organization's junior vice commander and senior vice commander.

He already has represented the state organization at various statewide veterans meetings.

"There are so many organizations and they're all working toward one goal: to support the veterans," he said.

Ofiesh served in the 24th Infantry Division during World War II and the Korean War. After his return from Korea, he enlisted with the 341st Medical Company, Army Reserve, Altoona. Ofiesh rose to the rank of first sergeant, a rank he held for 16 years.

He was transferred to the 99th Army Command in Oakdale, where he was promoted to command sergeant major. He retired at that rank in November 1984.

During his military career Ofiesh received many military awards including the Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

Ofiesh and his wife, Helen, have three children and three grandchildren.

He is a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Ofiesh has served as a member of the Altoona City Zoning Appeals Board for 42 years. He is also a member of the Altoona Blair County Development Corp. and Blair County Industrial Development Authority.

Ofiesh has been grand marshal for parades in Altoona during the past 20 years.

"I would call the commander's honor the crowning glory, my final salute," he said, "because all the other things I've done aren't of the magnitude of state commander of an organization like the DAV."

TRIBUTE TO LEONARD WADE FAULK

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Leonard (Wade) Faulk of Julesburg, Colorado. Wade was one of only 51 high school students nationwide selected for a \$20,000 Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation Scholarship. For this, Mr. Speaker, the United States Congress commends him.

Wade is a recent graduate of Julesburg High School in Julesburg, Colorado. He and

117,000 other high school seniors representing over 16,500 high schools competed at the annual Coca-Cola Scholars Weekend in Atlanta Georgia. As a result of the competition, Wade was chosen to be a 2001 Coca-Cola National Scholar. The Coca-Cola Scholarship is one of America's most prestigious scholarship awards.

In a recent edition of the *Julesburg Advocate*, Sandy Williams, Chairman of the Board of Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation said, "Wade Faulk has demonstrated a commitment to educational achievement, leadership and service to his school and community. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is proud to name him as a 2001 Coca-Cola National Scholar." Wade's strong work ethic and leadership remind us about the strength of America's youth. It is reassuring to know we have people like Wade to lead us into the future.

As a constituent of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Leonard Wade Faulk is truly a positive role model for the youth of America. He not only makes his community proud, but also his state and country. I ask the House to join me in extending our warmest congratulations to Mr. Leonard Wade Faulk.

[From the *Julesburg Advocate*, Aug. 23, 2001]

FAULK SELECTED AS 2001 NATIONAL COCA-COLA SCHOLAR

NATION'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AWARDS JULESBURG STUDENT \$20,000 FOR COLLEGE

Leonard [Wade] Faulk, a 2001 graduate of Julesburg High School is recognized as one of the country's most outstanding high school seniors as Coca-Cola awards him with a \$20,000 National Coca-Cola Scholars college scholarship.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation, a joint effort of Coca-Cola Bottlers across the United States and The Coca-Cola Company, is one of the largest corporate-sponsored, merit scholarship programs of its kind in the United States. The program recognizes a diverse group of exemplary high school seniors who have demonstrated academic and civic excellence in their schools and communities.

"Wade Faulk has demonstrated a commitment to educational achievement, leadership and service to his school and community. The Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation is proud to name him as a 2001 Coca-Cola National Scholar," said Sandy Williams, Chairman of the Board of the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation and President of Corinth Coca-Cola Bottling Works in Corinth, Miss.

Faulk is one of 51 National Scholars to receive a \$20,000 college scholarship and one of 252 students across the country benefiting from the Coca-Cola Scholars Program.

Faulk competed for 51 National scholarships of \$20,000 or 200 Regional scholarships of \$4,000 when he joined 201 of America's most impressive high school students in Atlanta for Coca-Cola Scholars Weekend, April 27-29, with the theme, "Transitions." The 2001 Class of Coca-Cola Scholars interviewed with several education, business, government and arts leaders from across the country. Scholars were evaluated on their academic achievements, school and community leadership and the desire to succeed. Scholars were chosen from an initial applicant pool of more than 117,000 high school seniors representing more than 16,500 high schools nationwide.

While in Atlanta, the students were also recognized at a banquet held in their honor. In addition, the Scholars received surprise recognition when Coca-Cola, in partnership with the Corporation for National Service, presented each of them with the President's

Student Service Award—an additional \$500 scholarship, certificate and gold pin. The President's Student Service Award honors high school juniors and seniors who have contributed at least 100 hours of service during the last year. The President's Student Service Challenge is designed to reward and encourage activities that have a significant impact in meeting the needs of local communities.

During Scholars Weekend the students also visited the World of Coca-Cola, the Atlanta History Center, CNN and the Martin Luther King Jr. Center. The Scholars also participated in a community service project, working to beautify a local elementary school and tutoring students.

The Coca-Cola Scholars Program is the most-recognized and respected corporate sponsorship in America. The program was created in 1986 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Coca-Cola establishing a lasting legacy for the education of tomorrow's leaders through college scholarships. There are more than 2000 Coca-Cola Scholars who have benefited from nearly \$17.7 million in scholarship awards. The Foundation is supported by the financial commitment of local Coca-Cola Bottlers including Denver Coca-Cola Bottling Company and the Coca-Cola Company.

HONORING MITCHELL WRIGHT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the bravery of a remarkable young man. Until last May, Mitchell Wright was a joyful, healthy nine-year-old boy without the burdens of a serious illness. Today, he lives with a rare strain of cancer called rhabdomyosarcoma that most nine-year-old children could not even imagine, or yet, overcome.

Mitchell discovered the cancer himself and approached his mother about it. They went to see doctors and their worst-case scenario was soon realized. Experts say that this type of cancer is usually not found until it is too late, but luckily Mitchell discovered the tumor when treatment was possible. Mitchell has been traveling from Grand Junction to undergo chemotherapy and radiation therapy in Denver every three weeks and will continue to do so for another year. Mitchell has a tough road in front of him including numerous doctor check-ups for the next five years. It is a well-known fact that the treatments that Mitchell is receiving have extremely uncomfortable side effects, but Mitchell is courageously enduring these struggles and his friends and family are standing by him.

It is my honor to stand up with Mitchell's family and friends to support him during this time and recognize the bravery this young man has demonstrated. Mitchell is a courageous individual, but he is not alone in his struggle. He is surrounded by a community that provides strength and support in Mitchell's battle to overcome rhabdomyosarcoma. My thoughts and prayers along with those of this Congress are with Mitchell and his family during these difficult times.

RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS TROOPS ON THEIR RETURN FROM BOSNIA

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize and express my sincere appreciation to the National Guard Troops from southern Arkansas, our men and women in uniform, who have just returned to the United States from staging operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

These selfless individuals and their families made great sacrifices, including spending time away from their homes and jobs, to serve our country and to help the people of Bosnia in this time of need. They did so with honor and dignity, and I am grateful for their service.

In May, several members of my staff traveled to Bosnia to visit our National Guard units from Magnolia and Sheridan, Arkansas, in my district, including my legislative assistant for military affairs, Toby Stephens, a former member of the Magnolia unit. I regret that I was unable to accompany them due to my congressional responsibilities in our Nation's capital, but I was pleased to hear that our troops were admirably representing Arkansas and the United States in a foreign land.

As they return to their loved ones, their homes, and their daily lives in this current time of uncertainty, I want to personally thank each of these men and women for their invaluable servitude at home and abroad.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF DONALD J. COHEN, M.D.

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness, in a time of national sadness, to pay tribute to an extraordinary man. Dr. Donald Cohen was a friend of the New Haven community and friend of mine. He left an indelible mark on all he touched and a legacy that will touch many he never knew.

For almost thirty years, he brought an unparalleled dedication to the Yale School of Medicine. Most recently he served as the Chairman of Child Psychiatry at the Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital and was the Sterling Professor of Child Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Psychology in the Yale School of Medicine. Donald has been the Director of the Yale Child Study Center, internationally renowned for its multi-disciplinary programs and advocacy for children and families, for nearly two decades. Under his leadership, the Center has grown to be one of the most respected research and development institutions in the world. Within the Center, Donald also founded the very successful Yale-New Haven Child Development Community Policing Program which helped teach law enforcement officers how to respond to children and families. The program has since been duplicated in communities throughout the country.

In a letter I recently received from Donald, he wrote, "the Child Study Center has been at the core of my intellectual and personal development. All of my work has been nourished by