

HONORING LARKING HIGH SCHOOL
IN ELGIN, IL

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2001

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, the GRAMMY Foundation recently announced that Larkin High School, located in my district, has been named a GRAMMY Signature School. Determined on the basis of a scoring system applied by a panel of top music educators and professionals, Larkin High School was chosen as one of 100 high schools from across the country to receive a certificate of recognition based on its high level of commitment to music education. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on this outstanding achievement.

As a former high school teacher, I can attest that music education enhances intellectual development and enriches the academic environment for children of all ages. In addition, music educators greatly contribute to the artistic, intellectual, and social development of American children, and play a key role in helping children to succeed in school.

Larkin High School has done an exceptional job of cultivating their arts programs and I applaud them for their commitment to music and arts education programs. These make a positive difference in the lives of young adults.

IN HONOR OF HELENE HYLAND

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2001

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Helene Hyland, on the occasion of her retirement, as Vice President for the Institutional Advancement at Queensborough Community College.

As both an undergraduate and graduate alumna of St. John's University in Queens County, NY, Ms. Hyland achieved her Bachelor of Arts in English and Secondary Education, Masters of Science in Counselor Education, Professional Diploma in Counselor Education, and Doctoral in Administration and Supervision.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Hyland began her career in public education as both a teacher of English and a Guidance Counselor in 1968, at the Diocese of Brooklyn. Since then, she has held positions on the Staff of the New York State Senate, in the Office of Development at St. John's University, and in the Institutional Advancement Office at Queensborough Community College. She began her work at Queensborough Community College as the Director of Development and Grants, and 15 years later, Ms. Hyland has achieved the position of Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Helene must also be recognized for her achievement as President and owner of Sand Dollar Associates. Sand Dollar is a comprehensive consulting firm that offers direction and services in the area of fund-raising, institutional advancement, public relations, grant writing and publications. Clients include many churches and seminaries in the Queens com-

munity, as well as schools and public service organizations.

I am proud to represent such an exceptional individual and commend Ms. Hyland for her life long dedication to educational institutions and community service. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in wishing Helene Hyland many years of success as she celebrates her well deserved retirement.

HONORING HELEN THYE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2001

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker. I'd like to take this opportunity to honor Mrs. Helen Thye for her response to a need with such loving generosity.

My nieces, Gracie, Annika, Ellie, and Lucy through the efforts of their parents Carmie and Bruce Raam, recently broadcast a challenge to other elementary students to donate their own hair for children who have lost theirs due to illness. Once donated, the hair is made up into wigs and given to children in need, free of charge.

Mrs. Thye responded to this challenge with a wrapped package of beautiful, long, dark brown hair. Along with the hair was a note that read: "This is my first hair cut in 1944 at the age of eleven. I tied it with the string and wrapped it with this white tissue paper and held onto it all these years. Now I want to donate it to Locks of Love." This beautiful hair came from a beautiful heart.

Mrs. Thye is an avid Braves fan and a mother of seven, of which six survive. One of her daughters has multiple sclerosis and Mrs. Thye suffers from cancer. Both face the possibility of losing their own hair as a result of their diseases but this did not deter Mrs. Thye from her act of love.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I point out this act of compassion by Mrs. Helen Thye. Acts of generosity such as this should not go without recognition. Thank you Helen for your generosity and kind heart, I'm sure the recipient of your selfless act will be grateful.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL LEHTO, RECIPIENT OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY'S PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED CITIZENSHIP

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2001

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an individual in my congressional district, the 1st District of Michigan. This individual personifies the best qualities of community volunteers—vision, dedication, leadership, and humility. He has served as a coach for youth sports, as a local elected official with three decades of service, and he has headed up the citizens's advisory board for one of our newest national parks since the panel was formed. Truly, Paul Lehto of Cal-

umet Townships has served his community and his country well.

I salute Paul Lehto today, Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of his having received from Northern Michigan University the President's Award for Distinguished Citizenship.

But for you and our House colleagues to really understand the accomplishments of Paul Lehto, Mr. Speaker, I need to review a little bit about the unique area where he has worked and served for so many years.

The Keweenaw Peninsula, which sticks far out into Lake Superior, is the only place in the world where commercially abundant quantities of elemental cooper have been found. From the 1840s to 1968, more than 11 billion pounds—80 percent of the cooper in the world today—was extracted from mines as deep as 9,000 feet and shipped all around the world.

The history of this process and region is so unique and so important to the growth of this nation that in 1992 Congress passed a bill creating the Keweenaw National Historical Park.

Paul was raised and schooled in Kearsarge, a small village in the Keweenaw, where he still lives today. As a lifelong resident of the area, Paul was a personal witness to the demise of mining. After graduating from local schools he went to work for the Calumet and Hecla Mining Co. As a laborer and truck driver, and he served as treasurer of a local union until the mines closed in 1968.

He was elected supervisor for Calumet Township in 1972, and he has been re-elected every term since then. He has faced major challenges, not the least of which were economic. In the mining heyday, Calumet was so prosperous and progressive that it came within one vote of being named Michigan's capital. By the late 1970s, however two-thirds of the storefronts in Calumet were vacant and 67 percent of the welfare recipients in Houghton County were in Calumet's zip code. A key to the vitality of the township, Calumet was in danger of being a ghost town.

The end of the mining industry allowed homeowners for the first time in the region's history to purchase the land on which their homes sat, and during Paul's time in office township neighborhoods were platted.

Paul recognized the importance of protecting the region's historical heritage by leading his township to be the first in the western Upper Peninsula of Michigan to enact the historic preservation and land-use ordinances. When the Keweenaw National Park was created and Paul assumed the post of chairman of the park's Advisory Commission, a task he continues to this day. Capitalizing on the region's history and natural beauty are keys to economic survival, and Paul has been on the cutting edge of this effort. A 16-acre lakeshore community park is another of his accomplishments.

Amidst his other tasks, Paul Lehto has found time to coach youth hockey on several levels, and he has served as a commissioner on the Western Upper Peninsula Planning and Development Regional Commission. This planning and re-granting agency has worked for years to assist with housing infrastructure and economic redevelopment projects in the region hit hard by the end of the copper business.

I'd like to add a few personal comments, Mr. Speaker. Paul Lehto's accomplishments are great, but in many respects he is a true man

of the region—a “Yoooper” as we in the U.P. of Michigan style ourselves. As a typical Yoooper, he does what needs to be done without looking for any award, and he accomplishes his tasks without fanfare. He will fight for what he believes in, but he will accept his victories with humility.

In therefore gives me special pleasure to call your attention and that of our colleagues to the great honor from Northern Michigan University that has been bestowed on my friend, Paul Lehto.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. KANA BARKER-MABON

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2001

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and extend well-deserved recognition to Mrs. Kana Barker-Mabon who was awarded the prestigious Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award for her dedication, compassion and diligence as an educator in the Memphis City Schools.

Being only one of two educators ever awarded this distinguished award in Tennessee, Mrs. Barker-Mabon has always had a passion for working with children. While pursuing her bachelors in political science at Rhodes College, she also took education classes under Dr. Watson, the chair of the Education Department at Rhodes College and current Superintendent of Memphis City Public Schools.

During her student teaching, Mrs. Barker-Mabon was determined to teach where she believed the children needed her the most, so she requested placement at Cypress Middle, one of the lowest performing schools in the state. She continues to teach there today. Mrs. Barker-Mabon is a product of Memphis City Schools and has been a success story since she was placed at Cypress. The results of her hard work are seen through the lives of the children she touches.

Mrs. Barker-Mabon earned her M.Ed. in curriculum and instruction from Freed-Hardeman University and is currently working on her Ph.D. at the University of Mississippi. She continues to embrace her students in their academic endeavors and strives to meet their immediate needs by offering students study sessions in addition to providing them with food on the weekends.

In her teaching career, Mrs. Barker-Mabon was promoted from classroom teacher to school facilitator after only five years at Cypress, and she teaches other educators how to be more effective. Her steadfastness and undying devotion manifests itself in the attitudes of her students and their test scores. She is held in very high esteem by her students, faculty and administration.

This recent award only further highlights a career committed to educating and caring for the well-being of our children. Mr. Speaker, I hope that you and my colleagues will join me in honoring Mrs. Kana Barker-Mabon, a model educator whose kindness and dedication continues to change the lives of countless youth in Memphis, Tennessee.

SHAME ON THE HOUSE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 30, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am disappointed, but not surprised, by what took place in the House of Representatives last week. By the narrowest of margins, the tired old agenda of tax cuts for the rich and giveaways to the corporate interests and big business scored another victory in the Republican-controlled House.

Bob Herbert described it best when he wrote in *The New York Times*, on Monday, October 29, 2001: “The Republicans who control the House thumbed their noses at the ordinary Americans who will absorb the brunt of the economic downturn and shamelessly gift-wrapped yet another bundle of tax cuts for the very well-to-do.”

He added: “With Americans fighting and dying both at home and abroad, we are understandably in a season of patriotism. That patriotism should not be soiled by wartime profiteering.”

The Republican so-called economic stimulus package is described by Mr. Herbert as having “. . . very little to do with economic recovery. It's about using the shield of war and economic hard times as a cover for the perpetual task of funneling government largesse to the very rich.”

It should come as no surprise that there are some in Congress who will push their one-track agenda no matter what. If our nation is experiencing an economic downturn, then the answer is tax cuts for the top. If our nation is recovering from a terrorist attack, then the solution is more Treasury money to the big corporations. And if our Armed Forces are engaged in battle half way across the world, then a tax cut for the wealthy and well connected is the patriotic thing to do.

Since 9/11, the American people are holding their government to a higher standard, and are placing extraordinary trust in their elected officials. Shame on those public servants who abuse that trust.

I hope my colleagues will carefully read Mr. Herbert's op-ed and consider his arguments.

[From the *New York Times*, Oct. 29, 2001]

SHAME IN THE HOUSE

(By Bob Herbert)

“Ask not what your country can do for you. . .”

It has been 40 years since John F. Kennedy, standing hatless and coatless in the bitter cold of a snow-covered capital, delivered the lines that turned out to be the most stirring and most famous of his presidency.

If you listened closely last week, you could hear an echo of that moment on the Senate floor. On Wednesday morning, in an address to his colleagues, Senator Edward M. Kennedy said: “Now we have seen, perhaps more clearly than ever before in our lives, how we are all in this together—how if even one of us is hurting, all of us hurt. Our first thoughts on September 11 were about others, not ourselves.”

Senator Kennedy, now 69 years old, spoke movingly of the acts of extraordinary bravery and selflessness exhibited by Americans

both at home and abroad in this sudden war against terrorism. And he called on the nation as a whole to adopt that spirit of selflessness as the new standard “by which we measure everything we do.”

“The standard is clear,” he said. “To seek what is right for our country, and not just for ourselves.” He said it is essential that Americans not “strive for private advantage in a time of national need.”

Not everyone is listening.

Senator Kennedy's speech was, specifically, a call for fairness and common decency as Congress moves ahead with its effort to help revive an economy that was faltering before Sept. 11, and has since been thrown into very serious trouble by terrorism and war.

But last week, as the House narrowly passed its version of an economic stimulus package, the dominant motive at work appeared once again to be greed. The Republicans who control the House thumbed their noses at the ordinary Americans who will absorb the brunt of the economic downturn and shamelessly gift-wrapped yet another bundle of tax cuts for the very well-to-do.

In Senator Kennedy's words, the House proposal, which contains more than \$100 billion in tax cuts for corporations and individuals, “merely repackages” old, partisan, unfair, permanent tax breaks—which were rejected by Congress last spring—under the new label of economic stimulus. The American people deserve better.”

With Americans fighting and dying both at home and abroad, we are understandably in a season of patriotism. That patriotism should not be soiled by wartime profiteering.

The House package is a breathtaking example of cynicism and chutzpah. The bill's primary author, Representative Bill Thomas, a Republican from California, piously proclaimed that there is an urgent need to help businesses because they are the nation's employers. “They're the hardware store,” he said, “the diner down the street, the gas station on the corner.”

And then you look closely at the legislation and find that it overwhelmingly favors the giant corporations, with tax breaks approaching \$1.4 billion for I.B.M., more than \$800 million for General Motors and \$670 million for General Electric.

It's a stimulus package in name only because the Americans who are the most strapped—the consumers who would take any relief that they received and immediately pump it right back into the economy—get the least. The package has very little to do with economic recovery. It's about using the shield of war and economic hard times as a cover for the perpetual task of funneling government largesse to the very rich.

Nearly \$2 trillion in tax cuts were passed just a few months ago, but that was not enough. True greed knows no bounds.

The political analyst Kevin Phillips, in a commentary on National Public Radio, said: “Neither house of Congress has ever passed this kind of major tax bill in wartime, and no one in the House assumes that the Senate will accept it in whole. But the more extreme the House bill, the further that will drag the eventual compromise in that same inexcusable direction. The only real solution is a public outcry, tens of millions of pointing fingers and voices saying, ‘Shame.’”

Forty years after the inauguration of President Kennedy, the most favored and least needy among us are proving themselves to be masterful at finding what their country can do for them.