

Dragin, and freshmen Lauren Aulds, Erika Steele, Callie Nealon and Jackie Pappas. And of course, special recognition must be extended to Coach Dick Bliss for his inspirational leadership.

Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous pride that I recognize the exceptional student-athletes of the Hopkinton High School Girl's Varsity Basketball team for an unforgettable season. I congratulate them on their accomplishment and wish them the best of luck in years to come.

HEATHER HAGAN—AMERICAN HERO

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, in a time of crisis, many of us choose not to get involved. Mr. Speaker, we've all read the newspaper headlines when someone has witnessed a crime or even saw someone get injured and they chose not to get involved because they didn't want to complicate their lives.

Today, I rise to pay tribute to someone who acted differently, bravely. Heather Hagan personifies a hero's life. She chose to get involved and in the end saved a woman's life. At 15 years old, Heather showed incredible intuition, caring, and determination for one so young.

On March 12, as she was doing her daily rounds delivering *The Herald* to her customers on her paper route, she noticed something different at the home of Josephine McCutcheon. The newspapers were piled up against the door, unclaimed for several days. Additionally, Heather realized she had not seen the 81-year-old woman in days.

Heather completed her route. She thought about how odd it was that Mrs. McCutcheon had not picked up her newspaper or even stopped delivery if she was going out of town. Worried, she called the elderly woman's house but the line was busy.

Heather chose not to let it end there. She knew something was not right so she returned to the home of the former Mercer councilwoman and county commissioner. There was no response when she knocked at the door. Sensing something was wrong, Heather contacted the local authorities, who found Mrs. McCutcheon lying on the floor of the house after a fall, unable to summon help.

Mr. Speaker, in a time when the news is full of stories of insensitive and selfish people, they have not been introduced to teens such as Heather Hagan. She broke the mold. She gives me hope for the coming generations.

The easy thing to do would've been for Heather to do her job and leave it at that. But she, in the immortal words of Robert Frost, took the road less traveled by, going out of her way, having a dramatic impact on someone's life. I would like to say thank you to Heather—she is truly a treasure to our community.

HONORING THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF VOLUNTEERS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the International Year of Volunteers. The United Nations General Assembly has designated the year 2001 to encourage and advance the concept of volunteer service.

In Humboldt County, California, the North Coast Regional Network for Service and Volunteerism was founded to facilitate and improve effective volunteer efforts. The North Coast Regional Network joins other volunteer groups throughout the nation in working to promote and strengthen volunteerism. Hundreds of California's North Coast residents enthusiastically volunteer their time to enhance the quality of life in our community. They work in a wide variety of non-profit organizations, educational institutions, senior and youth programs, the arts and health services.

Mr. Speaker, the International Year of Volunteers recognizes and honors the voluntary commitment of individuals and groups who contribute their time and resources and share their skills to build better communities. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor the efforts of the North Coast Regional Network, and all volunteers, for their dedication to community service.

GOODBYE MRS. CULLEN

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, as we in Congress and in the Executive Branch intensify our efforts better to support public education in this country, we should be sure to continue to focus on teachers as the central element in this effort. The dedicated men and women who have entered the teaching profession over the years deserve far better treatment than we have given them. Too often they are inadequately compensated, and given too little to work with in the way of resources. Despite that, large numbers of talented, intelligent, creative individuals have continued to go into the teaching profession because of their love of learning and their concern for young people.

In June, one individual who is an excellent example of this tradition will be retiring.

Patricia Cullen is a sixth grade teacher at the Wareham Middle School in Wareham, Massachusetts and she will be enjoying a well deserved retirement after 33 years of dedicated teaching at the end of this year. In the words of Judith Bruno of the Wareham Middle School staff, speaking on behalf of the faculty and staff of the school, "Mrs. Cullen is a dedicated, caring and loving teacher to all of her students. She focuses on her student's strengths and positive attributes instead of the negatives. Pat helps her students to strive, to achieve, and to be successful in their endeavors. All her students love and respect her. The faculty and staff have the same feelings for her and trust me when I say we have mixed

emotions about her leaving. We are happy for the new chapter beginning in her life but saddened to see her leave us."

Ms. Bruno continues, "Mrs. Cullen is truly a remarkable woman and a credit to the teaching profession. Pat Cullen truly personifies what a teacher should be."

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply committed to providing more resources at the federal level so that Patricia Cullen, her colleagues, and those who will join this profession can do an even better job than they have been doing. But in addition to the material resources which we owe these dedicated public servants, we owe them better recognition as well for the job they do in often difficult circumstances. I am delighted to join Patricia Cullen's students and colleagues in recognizing her excellent work, and wishing her well.

HONORING THE 270TH BIRTHDAY OF PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Prince William County, Virginia, which will be celebrating its 270th birthday on March 20, 2001.

Prince William County was established by the Virginia General Assembly on July 9, 1730, when the population increased to a point that the formation of a new county was necessary. It took several months for the legislation to become law. In 1731, Prince William County was recognized as a county and included Fairfax, Arlington, Alexandria, Loudon and Fauquier. Named for William Augustus, the second son of King George II, the county was cut to its current size in 1759. Within the county there are also two independent cities, Manassas and Manassas Park.

The citizens of Prince William County are continually contributing to the country's history and cultural heritage. The county was home to some of the nation's first European settlements. Many of the first arrivals to the county were of Irish descent. They settled on vacant plots and began to farm, aided only by convicts who had been sent from England. It also played an important role in the American Revolution by aiding in the formation of the new country.

Prince William County was the site of many Civil War battles. One of the most notable of the Civil War conflicts was the Battle of First Manassas, which was the first major encounter between the North and South. The Manassas Battlefields are now National Parks visited by thousands every summer.

Prince William County continues, to this day, to have a close connection to our military. In fact, the town of Quantico is completely surrounded by a Marine Corps Base. The military history of this town goes back to the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, when the land was used for Virginia Naval Operations. The Marine Corps Base was established there in 1917.

Today, Prince William County is the second most populous county in the Commonwealth. The rich history in this county makes it one of

the most historical counties in the nation. The citizens are proud to keep this history alive and are continually reminded of the past by the collective knowledge of those who live and work there. Moreover, Prince William County is a leader in a new Virginia revolution, a technology revolution. I am certain that her citizens will continue their role as leaders of Virginia's and America's futures.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish continued prosperity for the County of Prince William and I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in applauding this remarkable milestone. I am proud to represent a portion of Prince William County in the House of Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO FRANK E.
MCCARTHY

HON. DON SHERWOOD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mr. SHERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform my colleagues of the recent passing of Frank E. McCarthy, the President of the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA). Frank died on February 25 as a result of complications from his battle with kidney cancer.

Before my election to Congress, I was a franchised new car dealer and a member of NADA, so I can personally attest to the role that Frank McCarthy played as an automotive industry leader for more than three decades. Dealers, automotive executives, and policymakers alike will miss his determination, reasoned voice, and knowledge of the industry. NADA is the Voice of the Dealers and for 33 years Frank McCarthy was the heart of NADA.

Frank had been the chief executive of NADA since 1968, making him one of the deans of the trade association community in the nation's capital. To put his service in perspective, Frank assumed the helm of NADA when Lyndon Johnson was President and the 1968 Ford Galaxie was the best selling car in America. During his entire tenure, Frank enjoyed the utmost respect among Members of Congress, professional staff, and his colleagues in the private sector.

On behalf of dealers, Frank built strong relationships with the automobile manufacturers. He had a unique ability to convey the concerns of the franchised dealers directly and concisely without sacrificing civility or professionalism. Under his leadership, NADA has become one of the largest trade associations in the United States, providing a wide variety of services to dealers and their more than one million employees. In all of these efforts, Frank was the consummate team player, always seeking credit for others rather than himself.

Despite Frank's extraordinary professional accomplishments, he never lost sight of what is truly important in life. During the eulogies delivered at his funeral earlier this month, his family and colleagues spoke eloquently about the balance in Frank's life. His deep faith was a guiding force in his approach to life, and his professional responsibilities never overshadowed his commitment to his wife, Pat, and their five children and 12 grandchildren. In that regard, Frank McCarthy was a role model to working men and women in all walks of life.

At this time, we all feel a tremendous sense of loss, but also reflect with great affection and

gratitude for his contributions to the industry and his community.

TEACHER SABBATICAL LEAVE
GRANTS ACT

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Teacher Sabbatical Leave Grants Act.

Without a quality teacher in the classroom, it is impossible for us, as a nation, to provide the education our children deserve. It is essential that we ensure quality teachers are in every classroom in every school.

Professional development helps ensure our teachers' skills grow and change as our students grow more diverse and as our technology changes. However, our teachers will never get the in-depth development training they need to stay on top of their field from one-day workshops.

Recent findings have shown that 99 percent of our teachers have participated in at least one professional development activity in the past year. However only 12 percent of teachers who spent only 1 to 8 hours in professional development said it improved their teaching a lot. That is a dismal figure. We must work to provide teachers with intensive professional development, so 100 percent of teachers who receive the training feel that it improved their teaching. Without it, we will never be able to ensure our children are being taught by quality teachers.

My bill will give teachers the opportunity to receive intensive professional development training. This bill creates a program to provide grants for public school teachers who take one or two semesters of sabbatical leave to pursue a course of study for professional development. The grant covers one-half of the salary the teacher would have earned if the teacher had not been granted a leave of absence. Teachers are eligible if they have been approved for sabbatical leave and if they have enrolled in a course of study at an institution of higher education designed to improve classroom teaching.

By providing teachers with financial resources, they will be free to pursue an intensive course of study that can greatly improve their teaching skills.

And studies have shown that the more qualified a teacher is, the better the students' performance will be.

For instance, in Boston, students assigned to the most effective teachers for a year showed 18 times greater gains in reading and nearly 16 times greater gains in math than those students who were assigned to the least effective teachers.

In Tennessee, similar students with 3 very effective teachers in a row scored 50 percentile points better than students who were assigned 3 very ineffective teachers in a row. All of our students deserve to achieve these same gains.

By providing teachers with the opportunity to receive intensive professional development, my bill will help put more effective, qualified teachers in the classroom.

I urge my colleagues to support the Teacher Sabbatical Leave Grants Act.

CONGRATULATING THE OUR LADY
OF LOURDES WARRIORS

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a group of hard working women who have given their all in order to continue one of the Hudson Valley's greatest dynasties. On Sunday afternoon, the 14 members of the Our Lady of Lourdes women's basketball team cruised to their third consecutive Class B State title, the Warriors' eighth crown in the past 15 years.

Under the guidance of 18th year coach Brian Giorgis, Our Lady of Lourdes won their final 27 games en route to a 27-1 record and a 22nd place ranking in USA Today's national poll. After defeating Garden City, 57-37 to reach the championship games, the Warriors put the crown jewel on their season by setting down Iroquois, 57-28 in the final.

Throughout the year, the Warriors embodied the American ideal, working together as a team to accomplish a goal. From seniors who had played on two previous State championship teams to first year players getting their first taste of interscholastic competition, the team formed a cohesive unit under coach Giorgis and steamrolled the competition, outscoring its opponents by a whopping 1,905 to 978. At the same time they showed dedication to their sport and their teammates, they held the same high standard towards their education and the local community, making it easy to understand their near invincibility.

While Our Lady of Lourdes is not a large school, it looms large in the annals of women's basketball. My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating coach Brian Giorgis, the Most Valuable Player of the Tournament, Kristin Keller, all-tournament team members Jenna Viani and Kristen Vilardi, team members Kelly Barnum, Kim Boone, Sue Clanci, Kathy Duffy, Jocelyn Kelly, Vicki Koster, Lauren Martinez, Aimee Meyer, Kelly Roche, Natalie Serkowski and Julianne Viani and all who assisted the Our Lady of Lourdes Warriors in building the latest empire in the Empire State.

IN HONOR OF DENNIS WEBER FOR
HIS SERVICE TO DISABLED
AMERICAN VETERANS AND OUR
NATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2001

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Dennis Weber, Commander of the California chapter of the Disabled American Veterans for his service to his community, his country and as a proud member of the Armed Services.

Mr. Weber, a true Californian, was born on February 21, 1948 in Los Angeles, California. Upon graduating from high school Mr. Weber enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. While serving with the 3rd Marine Engineer Battalion near An Hoa, Mr. Weber's platoon was ambushed by the Viet Cong. As platoon