

North America sponsored by the North American Beikoku Shido-kan Association. Iha is one of the top people practicing Shido-kan Karate in the world. The Grand Master, Miyahira Katsuya, who lives in Japan is the highest person participating in this type of karate.

Therefore, I would like to personally congratulate Iha for his accomplishments and for teaching many people the art of Shido-kan Karate for the past 25 years. He has brought another form of martial arts to the Lansing, Michigan area and has made a significant impact on the lives of my constituents.

PROVIDING RESOURCES AND EDUCATION FOR KIDS ACT (PRE-K)

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, today I re-introduced the Providing Resources and Education for Kids Act (Pre-K). This legislation would provide a financial incentive to schools to devote resources to establish pre-kindergarten programs. This is a critical step in helping states meet the difficult task of providing early learning services.

Pre-kindergarten programs are crucial for preparing young children for the rigors of the classroom as they begin school. The first five years of a child's life are critical for development. Pre-kindergarten programs during those years will contribute to children's long-term success in school achievement, lead to higher earnings as adults, and quite probably decreased involvement with the criminal justice system. Today, however, kindergarten teachers estimate that one in three children are not ready to take on the challenge of classroom learning. Many children simply do not have access to pre-kindergarten programs. It is time for us to assist states in tackling this important issue.

Good quality early education helps children develop, improves their learning skills, and prepares them to enter school ready to succeed. In fact, studies of several state pre-kindergarten initiatives offer convincing evidence of the benefits of early education, particularly for children at risk of school failure. These benefits include higher mathematics and reading achievement, increased creativity, better school attendance, improved health and greater parental involvement.

Furthermore, pre-kindergarten programs have proven cost-effective over time. The Rand Corporation along with a team of researchers at the University of Wisconsin estimates that the most effective pre-kindergarten programs create savings to the government of \$13,000 to \$19,000 per child. This savings is realized in higher school achievement, less retention in a grade, a reduced need for special education, and less crime.

The Providing Resources and Education for Kids Act will help states meet the challenge of providing quality pre-kindergarten programs. This legislation provides grants to state education agencies to help establish or strengthen pre-kindergarten early learning programs for children age five and under. To encourage states to participate and ensure their long-term investment, the bill creates a sliding scale over five years for the federal-state match. Because

of inadequate resources in many states, they cannot offer a pre-kindergarten program for young children.

While many states do not have extensive pre-kindergarten initiatives, I have been fortunate that in my own hometown La Crosse, Wisconsin there is an impressive pre-kindergarten program at the Red Balloon Child Care Center. In fact, my two sons are enrolled in this program. Every day my wife Tawni and I see tremendous growth in our sons and we are pleased that we have the opportunity to send our sons to such a wonderful place. Our wish is that every child is able to receive the quality education that this pre-kindergarten program provides for our sons.

Rarely have we had such a unique opportunity to push American education to a higher level. As a member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, I am committed to making the contributions necessary to advance our nation's education. Nationwide, families are demanding more from their schools, and educators, and elected leaders, are responding. That is why I introduced my Pre-K Act. Investing in our young children before they enter kindergarten is the first step in helping students meet their highest potential. We should not deny students this opportunity by denying them a good quality early education.

Mr. Speaker, educational preparation is crucial for all young children. I would encourage my colleagues to support the Providing Resources and Education for Kids Act (Pre-K).

ESTATE TAX RELIEF ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Estate Tax Relief Act.

The death tax is punitive in nature for all individuals, but it is particularly burdensome for closely-held, family-owned businesses that are the leading job creators in this country. The death tax rate of as much as 60% often means the difference between selling or keeping a family business intact. At a minimum, the death tax should be reduced. No targeted tax should force small businesses to sell or file bankruptcy.

While the House of Representatives has passed the Death Tax Repeal Act (H.R. 8), the measure simply does not provide enough relief soon enough. First, the measure provides no relief for next year, and provides very little for taxpayers until well into the second half of the next decade. We have no assurances that relief will ever be made available in successive Congresses.

The Estate Tax Relief Act ensures that we provide relief right away by converting the current structure to an exemption and ensuring that the first \$10 million of an estate (per person) are exempted from the tax. Additionally, it lowers the top rate to 45%. In addition, the bill maintains the current-law step up in basis. With regard to the gift tax, the legislation puts in place a \$50,000 per year, per taxpayer exemption.

Mr. Speaker, if we are serious about reducing this onerous tax, my legislation is the right way to do it. Please join me in cosponsoring

this measure so that we can ensure we reduce the difficulties this tax imposes on the transfer of assets.

FIGHTING AGAINST LEUKEMIA

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as the past chair of the House Science Committee's Technology Subcommittee, I am well aware that technology is improving our lives in immeasurable ways—including health care. I rise to bring to the attention of the House a recent development in the fight against leukemia, a matter of great concern to many of us.

The National Cancer Institute (NCI), located in my district, is engaged in a race to find a drug that may stop the development of leukemia. I am pleased to report today on some innovative research efforts that are now underway with the help of Intel Corporation, which is working in partnership with NCI to advance the search for a cure.

Leukemia is the number one cause of cancer-related death for children. In 1999 alone, over 30,000 new cases were diagnosed in the United States. Scientists have already discovered several proteins important to the growth of leukemia but they must evaluate millions of molecules to see which ones can fight this form of cancer.

A major problem faced by leukemia researchers is the lack of processing abilities. To combat this problem, just yesterday, Craig Barrett, President and CEO of Intel and Dr. John Seffrin, CEO of the American Cancer Society, announced the launch of Intel.com/cure. This website hosts a program which utilizes peer-to-peer technology to assist scientists in their search for a cure. By simply downloading a screensaver, anyone around the world can join this endeavor.

Peer-to-peer technology provides unused computing power of individual machines to be utilized. A screensaver downloaded from Intel.com/cure allows a program to run in the background without disturbing your normal computer usage. The program performs a few of the millions of calculations that can assist researchers in determining which molecules have the greatest cancer-fighting potential.

This program can be of great assistance to researchers to find a cure. The manner and speed of scientific discoveries could be fundamentally enhanced. All our otherwise unused processing power could create the world's fastest computing platform for great causes. Estimates show that this project would be operating at speeds of magnitudes faster than the world's fastest supercomputers at a fraction of the cost.

This program could be expanded to include other qualified projects. Universities and researchers could post their philanthropic projects on the website. PC owners could become part of collaborative research efforts. The potential of this project is potentially significant.

Intel Corporation would like this web site to become a focal point for people who want to help launch a new era of PC philanthropy, where computer owners lend their PC's "idle time" to a great cause. As a leader and innovator in peer-to-peer computing, Intel believes

that this method will accelerate scientific advancements. This leukemia project, developed by United Devices Incorporated, is endorsed by the American Cancer Society, the National Foundation for Cancer Research, and Oxford University.

April is Cancer Control Month, a time when we recognize our nation's long commitment to fighting cancer. Peer-to-peer technology can be a new frontier in how medical research is performed. I commend the efforts of this joint research partnership and hope this can be a substantial step that will lead to the cure for leukemia.

TRIBUTE TO THE OUTSTANDING NEIGHBORHOOD VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR AWARD NOMINEES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the nominees for the South Carolina Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteers of the Year. Many of these volunteers nominated for the award are from my district and well deserve the honor.

The Burton Heights-Standish Acres Neighborhood Association in Columbia, South Carolina is an organization devoted to the safety and cleanliness of their neighborhood; this association has four members who were nominated for the award. Mr. and Mrs. John Watson are dedicated volunteers who have been catalysts for a united, safe, and friendly community. Sylvester Jenkins, a charter member of the Burton Heights-Standish Acres Neighborhood Association, is a model citizen who also serves as President of the Retired Mail Handlers Organization. Venis J. Livingston is noted throughout the neighborhood for her rapport with the youth, a characteristic she utilizes in her role as a Parent educator.

"The Drama Team," a subunit of the Eau Claire Community Council Youth Organization, uses theatrical plays and artistic endeavors to educate community youth about issues ranging from HIV/AIDS to violence and drugs. "The Drama Team" has three fine women who have been nominated for the Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteers of the Year Award. Angela Cooper is a schoolteacher who provides mentoring to the students on the team, teaching self-esteem and reading skills. Community Advocate Angeline Morris ensures support from the business community to the ECCC so the operations of the team are properly financed. Rubye Finch is a team mentor who excels in the teaching of conflict resolution.

Neighborhood promotion, preservation, and improvement are the goals of the Bradley Community Council; the Council has three outstanding volunteers nominated for the award. Block Captain Sue Finch devotes her time on a regular basis to ensure the success of events such as the annual Hot Dog Night and Crime Out Night. Susan Hamm served as President of the Bradley Community Council from 1995 to 2000 and currently leads a neighborhood bible study. Stacey Shugart leads the Council in the production of a Community Directory and assists in the printing of newsletters and meeting minutes.

The Booker T. Washington High School Foundation nominated one of their founding members, Susan Brown Freeman, as the Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteer of the Year. Mrs. Freeman was the first African American consultant for Special Education teachers in Richland County, SC School District 1. Mary C. Short of the Bethel Bishop Tenant Association is another nominee for the award. Her dedication to the AmeriCorp organization along with her work as an Education Coordinator for Eau Claire Community Council have earned her a nomination. The HOPE volunteer organization nominated Samuel Gadegbeku for his work with the organization and in his community of the Colony Apartments. Mr. Gadegbeku selflessly gives his time to inspire self-esteem and hard work in the youth of his neighborhood.

The members of the Brandon Acres/Cedar Terrace Neighborhood Association are committed to preserving and improving the community in which they reside; they have nominated Dr. Ramona Lagos, professor at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Lagos organized the Association's first meeting with important city officials; she also serves as Secretary. The Seminar Ridge Neighborhood Organization organizes activities to provide the best living environment to its residents. Dr. Lois Fries served as President of this Organization for seven years, during which time she greatly increased its impact in the community. The Read Street/Edgewood Community Improvement Cooperative Council nominated Georgia Davenport for the Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteer of the Year Award. Mrs. Davenport worked extensively in the Read Street clean up, which led to a reduction in drug traffic and violence in the area.

The Booker Washington Heights Neighborhood Organization is dedicated to the improvement of the community of Columbia, South Carolina and has nominated three individuals. Johnnie Edmonds serves as Treasurer and is very active in this organization despite the fact that he moved out of the neighborhood years ago. The late Beverly Hampton left a legacy of community involvement and dedication to her neighbors when she departed this life on May 21, 2000. Kevin Speaks has worked to improve a poor section of the Booker Washington Heights neighborhood by giving his time and showing pride in his community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring each and every one of these wonderful volunteers. They show all of us what can be done if we give back to the neighborhoods and towns we call home. Every one of the nominees for the Outstanding Neighborhood Volunteers of the Year Award deserves the honor along with our appreciation.

HONORING GARY LEE TIMMER

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the loyal men and women of the Lapeer County, Michigan, Sheriff's Department. On May 11, the Department will honor one of its own, as friends, family, and colleagues will gather to celebrate the retirement

of Officer Gary Lee Timmer, after nearly 30 years of outstanding service.

Born in Almont, MI, in 1946, Gary Timmer's family moved to Imlay City, where he graduated from Imlay City High School in 1965. He entered the Police Academy in 1969 and joined the Imlay City Police Department soon after. He remained there until 1972, where he then became a member of the Lapeer County Sheriff's Department.

During his time with the Department, Gary has excelled in the proper use of firearms. In 1980, he was certified by the Detroit Firearms School as a gun range expert. The Washtenaw Firearms School bestowed the same certification upon him in 1991, along with an expert certification in semiautomatic weapon use. He has taken the responsibility to use these skills to instruct others. As a long time instructor at local gun clubs, as well as a member of the National Rifle Association, Gary teaches and promotes weapon safety and teaches a hunter's safety course.

Mr. Speaker, many people in the Lapeer area have greatly benefitted from Gary Lee Timmer's insight, experience, and commitment to preserving peace and order. He has helped make the streets safe for all its citizens, especially its children. I would also like to recognize his wife Amy, his children Curt and Shelley, and his six grandchildren. He has obviously been as strong a role model for them as he has for the people he protected for three decades. I ask my colleagues in the 107th Congress to join me in congratulating him for his dedication to justice.

HONORING THE HOPKINTON HIGH SCHOOL GIRL'S INDOOR TRACK TEAM

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the community of Hopkinton, Massachusetts in celebrating the achievements and accomplishments of the Hopkinton High School Girl's Indoor Track Team. On Saturday, February 24, 2001 at the Reggie Lewis Center in Boston, the Hillers won their second consecutive state championship.

This accomplishment is impressive in and of itself, but when one considers the obstacles that these outstanding young female athletes had to overcome in their season-long pursuit of the title, their victory is all the more remarkable. Despite construction delays at their practice venue that kept meets from starting until halfway through the season, they remained focused. Despite season-ending injuries to essential runners Vicky Henderson and Melissa Sprachman, they were able to remain positive. And despite illnesses that affected some team members at important meets, they were able to pull together and earn victories.

At the championship, senior co-captain Christine Moschella led the Hillers' charge. She not only won the 300-meter, but set a new state record in the event as well. Freshman Tiana Riel also earned critical points for placing third in the 55-meter high hurdles. Moschella and Riel then joined with senior co-captain Jen McCowan and sophomore Emily Campbell to win the 4x200 meter relay. These