

Drug-Free Community's Advisory Commission. Thank you, Jessica. (Applause.) And Henry Lozano, Californians for Drug-free Youth, a member of the DFCAC, a graduate from Teen Challenge. (Applause.)

I'm pleased to announce that as of today, the federal government is waging an all-out effort to reduce illegal drug use in America. (Applause.) And I'm proud to nominate John P. Walters as my Director of National Drug Control Policy, where he will serve as a valuable member of my Cabinet. (Applause.)

Mr. Walters has had a distinguished career in government. He served as the chief of staff to Bill Bennett, and later served as Deputy Director and Acting Director of the Office of National Control Policy. John will bring tremendous skill, knowledge and good judgment to this job. He's an articulate advocate, an able administrator, and a man of deep and reasoned convictions. He has repeatedly been called on to provide guidance to the United States Congress. John cares passionately about this issue and he is the right person to lead America's antidrug efforts.

Our effort rests on the firm belief that by focusing more of our nation's attention, energy and resources, real progress will be made. From the early 1980s until the early 1990s, drug use amongst high school seniors was reduced every year. We had made tremendous strides in cutting drug use. This cannot be said today. We must do, and we will do, a better job. (Applause.)

Fortunately, today we know more about what works in prevention and education, treatment and law enforcement. We will put this knowledge to use. But above all, our efforts rest on an unwavering commitment to stop drug use. Acceptance of drug use is simply not an option for this administration.

Illegal drugs impose a staggering cost of more than \$100 billion every year, principally from lost productivity. Yet this dollar figure does not capture the human tragedy of drug use—lost lives, educational and job opportunities unmet, families torn apart, health care costs, school dropout rates, and more. Drug use harms people of every economic class. But drug use is doing the most damage to the poor.

John Jacob, former President of the National Urban League, has said that drugs are destroying more children and more families than poverty ever did. John Walters and I believe the only humane and compassionate response to drug use is a moral refusal to accept it.

We emphatically disagree with those who favor drug legalization. (Applause.) Drug legalization would be a social catastrophe. Drug use and addiction would soar. Hospitals would be filled with many more drug emergency cases. Child abuse would increase. The cost of treatment and social welfare would rise. There would be more drug-related accidents at work and on the road. And legalizing drugs would completely undermine the message that drug use is wrong.

A successful antidrug effort depends on a thoughtful and integrated approach. Mr. Walters understands this as well as anybody in America. During his career, he's worked to improve the effectiveness of drug education and prevention programs. He played a key role in ensuring a record commitment of resources to drug treatment and research in a previous administration. He helped ensure that the federal government did its part in source countries, on our borders and on our streets.

My administration will continue to work with nations to eradicate drugs at their source, and enforce our borders to stop the flow of drugs into America. This will make working in close cooperation with Mexico a priority. It will make having strong rela-

tions in our hemisphere a priority, a priority which I will keep. (Applause.)

However, the most effective way to reduce the supply of drugs in America is to reduce the demand for drugs in America. (Applause.) Therefore, this administration will focus unprecedented attention on the demand side of this problem. We recognize that the most important work to reduce drug use is done in America's living rooms and classrooms, in churches and synagogues and mosques, in the workplace, and in our neighborhoods. (Applause.)

Families, schools, communities, and faith-based organizations shape the character of young people. They teach children right from wrong, respect for law, respect for others, and respect for themselves. They're indispensable. And my administration stands ready to assist them in every possible way. Joe Califano is the President of the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, and a man whose research has helped shape my thinking. Joe has said that teens of parents who eat, talk, pray and play together are not likely to be lured into the world of drugs. A child who reaches age 21 without using illegal drugs is virtually certain never to do so. And children cite parents as the number one reason they don't use drugs.

And so we'll energize the parents movement by creating a parent drug corps, which will provide needed support to educate and train parents in effective drug prevention. (Applause.) We must increase funding for drug-free communities programs, and for the drug-free workplace program. (Applause.) And within 30 days, Professor John DiJulio will compile a complete inventory of existing federal antidrug partnerships with local faith-based and community groups, and work with John Walters to strengthen those efforts.

Despite every effort, however, some individuals will become addicted to drugs. There are around 5 million hardcore users of illegal drugs in America today. And while they represent one-third of the drug users, they consume two-thirds of all drugs. It is estimated that more than half of them are not receiving any treatment.

I am, therefore, asking Secretary Tommy Thompson to conduct a state-by-state inventory of treatment needs and capacity, and report back within 120 days on how to most effectively close the treatment gap in this country. (Applause.) In order to close that treatment gap, we will provide \$1.6 billion over the next five years.

We want to advance our understanding of drug abuse and addiction, so we're planning to significantly increase funding for the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. (Applause.) We also recognize the benefits of coerced abstinence, and so we will support drug courts and drug testing for prisoners, probationers and parolees. (Applause.)

We know that inmates receiving drug treatment are 73 percent less likely to be re-arrested, and 44 percent less likely to use drugs than those who receive no treatment at all. I'm, therefore, asking the Attorney General, John Ashcroft, to come up with a comprehensive plan within 120 days to ensure our federal prisons are drug-free, to expand drug testing for probationers and parolees, and to strengthen our system of drug courts around the nation. (Applause.)

We must reduce drug use for one great moral reason—over time drugs rob men, women and children of their dignity and of their character. Illegal drugs are the enemies of innocence and ambition and hope. They undermine people's commitment to their family and to their fellow citizens. My administration will send a clear and consistent message that drug use is dangerous and drug use is wrong. (Applause.)

John Walters will lead that effort with firm resolve and a caring heart. He will do an exceptional job. I am proud to submit his name to the United States Senate, and I look forward to working with members of the House and the Senate from both political parties to reduce drug use in America. (Applause.)

I'm honored to welcome so many people who devote their lives to the well-being of others to the Rose Garden here in the White House. I want to God bless—thank you for your work, and ask God's blessings on your work and this great nation of ours.

It's my honor to welcome John Walters. (Applause.)

MR. WALTERS. Thank you, Mr. President, for honoring me with this nomination. I look forward to the confirmation process in the Senate, and the opportunity to work with Congress again in reducing the problem of illegal drug use.

As the President has mentioned, our country has made great progress in the past in reducing drug use, and we will do it again. We will especially protect our children from drug use. We will help the addicted find effective treatment and remain in recovery. We will shield our communities from the terrible human toll taken by illegal drugs. We will stop illegal drug use and the drug trade from funding threats to democratic institutions throughout our hemisphere.

Most of all, Mr. President, as you have stated so clearly, and as symbolized by those of us here today who represent—with us here today who represent millions of Americans working effectively every day to reduce drug use, addiction and crime, our efforts rest on the knowledge that when we push back, the drug problem gets smaller. This fact is beyond question today, even if it is not always beyond denial.

Mr. President, thank you for nominating me to be Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, at this important time. If the Senate permits, it will be my privilege to support the outstanding individuals represented here, who work every day to combat the drug problem throughout our nation.

Thank you.

THE PRESIDENT. Thank you all for coming.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES DR. ROBYN AGRI FOR HER SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

MR. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Robyn Agri's installation as the 121st President of the Mercer County Medical Society. Although Dr. Agri is the 121st President, she is the first woman to hold this office since the establishment of the Society in 1848.

Dr. Agri's active interest in politics and community service began during her studies at the University of Pennsylvania. In the summer of 1979 Dr. Agri served as an intern in the U.S. House of Representatives.

After receiving her BA in Biochemistry from the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Agri went on to attend the Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, New York where she would receive her medical degree in 1985. Throughout her time at Upstate Medical Center, she continued to be active in politics by becoming an officer in the American Medical Student Association. Due to her steadfast efforts to establish a

school wide counseling program for students and residents Robyn would receive the Ciba-Geigy award for community service.

Robyn would later return to Pennsylvania to complete her residency in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. She would use this time to continue her study of movement through her research work in multiple sclerosis. In 1989, Dr. Agri would continue her work on MS when she joined the staffs of St. Lawrence Rehabilitation Center and Capital Health System.

Dr. Agri continues to maintain a private practice in Lawrenceville and remains active within the community through her work with various associations' and societies. I applaud the installation of Dr. Robyn Agri as President of the Mercer County Medical Society and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her steadfast commitment to our community.

MAY SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have named Floral Park Memorial High School as School of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for May 2001.

Gloria M. O'Connor is Principal of Floral Park, and Dr. George Goldstein is the Superintendent of Schools for the Sewanhaka Central High School District.

Floral Park has incredible student outreach programs. A student at Floral Park is destined to be a well-rounded, community-minded, educated young person by the time they graduate.

Floral Park has long been known by the parents, students and community as a jewel in the Sewanhaka Central High School District—as a school of exceptional excellence among public high schools.

Floral Park has an excellent reputation in Nassau County. They can be especially proud of their past, recent and future recognition which shines as an example of the quality education provided at the school.

Floral Park waves its school flag high as a Nationally Recognized School of Excellence, and is designated by Redbook magazine as one of America's Outstanding Schools. Also, Floral Park has received the New York State Blue Ribbon School of Excellence and the Department of Education National School of Excellence Award. Furthermore, Floral Park is one of the outstanding schools in a prestigious high school district which received the New York State Governor's Excelsior Award.

Floral Park is a junior/senior high school comprised of 1,472 students and is one of five high schools in the Sewanhaka Central High School District. In order to ensure all of our students meet new regents standards, Floral Park offers a broad range of extra help sessions in all academic areas before and after school, such as Operation Success, Homework Helper, Regents Prep and Review classes, Peer Tutoring and one on one tutoring with members of the faculty in each department.

Students excel at Floral Park. The Class of 2000 was comprised of 207 students where 75% attended four year colleges, 20% attended two year colleges and 5% enrolled in

technical programs, employment or the military. In addition to the outstanding academics, the wealth and diversity of extracurricular activities and athletics are fostered.

The School of the Month program highlights schools with outstanding students, teachers and administrators. Each month, I will recognize a different school that demonstrates a unique contribution to Long Island education.

I will honor Schools of the Month with a speech on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as bestowing a Congressional Proclamation of Distinction award.

TRIBUTE TO DR. THOMAS T. HAIDER, "PRIDE IN THE PROFESSION" AMA HONOREE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to pay tribute today to Dr. Thomas T. Haider, a constituent of mine from the 43rd congressional district, who was recently recognized with the American Medical Association's (AMA) top national honor, the inaugural 2001 Pride in the Profession Award. The award highlighted the work of six physicians nationwide who have not only healed patients, but enriched the communities and inspired the colleagues with whom they come into contact.

I once heard a quote that goes, "It seems to me that a doctor's is the most perfect of all lives; it satisfies the craving to know, and also the craving to serve." I can think of no better words to describe the incredible devotion and duty that Dr. Haider has shown in his lifetime career as a physician.

Spurred to become a physician at the age of 12, Dr. Thomas Haider intended to use his medical skills to help people in his home country of Afghanistan. Ultimately, political turmoil has prevented that, but he has still managed to touch and improve the lives of thousands all over the world.

In 1994, Dr. Haider established the Children's Spine Foundation in the United States to provide free comprehensive spinal care for children without health insurance. And across the globe he sponsors a children's hospital in Afghanistan by supporting the salaries of 40 physicians and providing funds for all medication and food supplies.

Additionally, Dr. Haider's philanthropy includes: development of a new polyaxial pedicle screw for use in spine fusion surgeries, increasing their success rate; establishment of the first Spine Fellowship Program at the University of Colorado Medical Center; volunteer work to train doctors; creation of the American Board of Spine Surgery; and, endowment to the Biomedical Sciences Program at the University of California at Riverside, which bears his name.

Mr. Speaker, in my district of Riverside, California we are fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated individuals who give unselfishly of their time and talents to ensure the well-being of our city, state, nation and—in Dr. Haider's case—world. These individuals work tirelessly to enrich and brighten the lives of so many. Therefore, it is my distinct pleasure to take to the House of Representatives' chamber today to personally honor and commend

Dr. Thomas T. Haider for all of his dedicated service to our community.

NATIONAL GUARD PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC AND SMALL ARMS COMPETITIONS

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2001

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, the Member rises to give a brief explanation of H.R. 1705, which will authorize members of National Guard units to use appropriated funds to conduct and participate in athletic competitions and small arms competitions. This Member introduced H.R. 1705 on May 3, 2001.

The National Guard Competitive Events Program provides National Guard members with an opportunity to hone their training-related skills, such as running, swimming, and marksmanship, in a competitive atmosphere. As the National Guard actively recruits new members, this can be another feature in recruitment and retention programs for certain members of the National Guard. Through these competitions, National Guard members can qualify for higher level national and international competitions, including the Pan Am Games and the Olympics.

Also, National Guard members who compete in athletic and small arms competitions can now do so with members of the Active Duty military. Bringing Active and Reserve components together in this fashion builds better appreciation among the various components and overall force cohesiveness.

Additionally, some of the National Guard-sponsored competitions, including the Lincoln Marathon held in this Member's district, are open to participation by the entire civilian community for participation. The high visibility and the community interaction that such events provide is key for continued support for local National Guard units.

For the National Guard Competitive Events Program to continue to thrive, greater funding flexibility must be granted to the National Guard units sponsoring competitions and sending members to those competitions. Currently, only non-appropriated funds from post exchanges and other activities and from competition entry fees can be used to cover operating expenses for the events and all health, pay, and personal expenses for participating National Guard members. This funding system places National Guard members at a disadvantage.

Unlike Active Duty military personnel who have all health, pay, and personal expenses covered while competing, National Guard members are not on duty while competing and thus are not covered. For example, if National Guard members suffer injuries while competing at the marksmanship competition in North Little Rock, Arkansas, they must pay for the incurred health costs although they were competing with their Guard unit. And, unfortunately, placing National Guard members on orders is not a solution to the coverage issue for National Guard members placed on active duty cannot compete with their National Guard unit's team.

Mr. Speaker, the distinguished gentleman from Rhode Island, Mr. LANGEVIN, and this