

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

Member introduced H.R. 1705 to provide the necessary funding flexibility. By authorizing the use of appropriated funds in addition to the non-appropriated funds, National Guard units face fewer budget constraints when hosting competitions and when sending teams and individuals into competition. Health, pay, and personal expenses could be covered for participants who otherwise might not be able to afford costs stemming from physical injuries.

This bill levels the funding playing field so that National Guard units are not at a financial disadvantage when sponsoring competitions and participating in these valuable competitions. It should be emphasized that the legislation does not create participation incentives for National Guard members which are greater than those incentives for Active Duty military.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, this Member encourages his colleagues to review H.R. 1705 and to favorably consider co-sponsorship and legislative action on the measure.

A TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF ALAMEDA COUNTY, AFL-CIO

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2001*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Central Labor Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. The Central Labor Council of Alameda County has a long history of organizing, advocacy, activism and progressive leadership over the past century. I would like to highlight some of their many accomplishments and contributions.

The Central Labor Council was one of the first labor organizations in the country to take a high profile position in support of the Civil Rights Movement. Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Groulx joined Martin Luther King, Jr. in the march in Selma, Alabama in 1964.

The Central Labor Council was in the forefront in the demand for divestiture in apartheid South Africa. Long before the issue captured national attention, the Central Labor Council of Alameda County joined with religious, community and student groups to demand divestiture by the University of California. Secretary-Treasurer Groulx spoke to a rally of over 20,000, vowing labor's support for the divestiture.

The Central Labor Council of Alameda County was one of the first labor bodies to recognize the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee and Cesar Chavez by lending money and physical support to the fledgling organization.

When the Port of Oakland was locked in a year-long bureaucratic quagmire in its attempts to dredge the shipping lanes to accommodate the new larger container ships, it was the Central Labor Council of Alameda County and its Secretary-Treasurer Owen Marron who brought the stalemate to an end. He brought business, labor, elected officials and the Port together in a coalition. As a result, the impasse was broken and dredging within an acceptable environmental plan is underway.

Thanks to the political clout of the Central Labor Council in partnership with a coalition of

local unions, community and religious organizations, Living Wage ordinances have been passed by the cities of Oakland, Berkeley and Hayward as well as a major employer, the Port of Oakland.

A collaboration of the Central Labor Council, under the leadership of the present Secretary Judy Goff, and the Labor Immigrant Organizing Network, has lead to the passage of a resolution of immigrant's rights. The immigrant rights resolution was sent to the California Labor Federation and the AFL-CIO leading to a change in the AFL-CIO's position on immigrant worker's rights.

Congratulations Central Labor Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO on your centennial birthday and best wishes in your continued successful efforts to organize for justice in our community.

HONORING DR. KENNETH L. MATTOX

**HON. KEN BENTSEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2001*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent, Dr. Kenneth L. Mattox, on the occasion of his receiving the 2001 Distinguished Houston Surgeon Award by the Houston Surgical Society on May 15, 2001, in Houston, Texas. I believe this is an honor that is well deserved, and I want to congratulate Dr. Mattox for this accomplishment.

Dr. Mattox is an internationally recognized cardiovascular, thoracic, and trauma surgeon who has saved many lives in the Houston area. I believe he has contributed much to our community through his career of direct patient care, teaching and research.

Dr. Mattox was born in Ozark, Arkansas and attended high school in Clovis, New Mexico. He graduated with a B.S. degree from Wayland College in Plainview, Texas and a M.D. degree from Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. Dr. Mattox currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Department of Surgery and Professor of Surgery at Baylor College of Medicine. In addition, he has served as the Chief of Surgery and Chief of Staff of Ben Taub General Hospital since 1990. During his tenure at Ben Taub, he has made significant contributions in trauma resuscitation, trauma systems, thoracic trauma, complex abdominal trauma, and multi-system trauma. The "Mattox Maneuver" for abdominal aortic injury is used internationally. His recent research in preoperative fluid restriction for penetrating trauma is shaking the foundation of surgical doctrine in this area.

Dr. Mattox is a dedicated teacher and has contributed to the education of thousands of physicians. In total, Dr. Mattox has published more than 500 articles on research that he has conducted and has expanded the medical knowledge of our nation. In addition, Dr. Mattox is well known for serving his community in leadership positions both locally and internationally. In the past, he has served as president of nine organizations and received numerous awards for his dedicated service to the surrounding community.

Dr. Mattox has also served our country in numerous ways. He was a Flight Surgeon Captain in the United States Medical Corps

from 1965 through 1967. In 1967, he received the Legion of Merit, United States Army Presidential Citation for his dedicated service to the nation. He also served as Aeromedical Consultant to the Department of the Army from 1967 through 1970. He currently supervises trauma training of Armed Forces personnel at Ben Taub Hospital in Houston as Clinical Professor of Surgery and Adjunct Professor of Military/Emergency Medicine of the Uniformed Services University for the Health Sciences.

Again, I want to congratulate Dr. Mattox for receiving this Award. I wish to extend my congratulations to him and his family upon this important acknowledgment of his service to the Houston area.

THE MELISSA FROELICH MEDICAID CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT WAIVER ACT

**HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 10, 2001*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I come before you to introduce the Melissa Froelich Medicaid Congenital Heart Defect Waiver Act. This legislation would permit a State waiver authority to provide medical assistance in cases of congenital heart defects.

My interest in sponsoring this legislation stems from contact with a special constituent, Melissa Froelich. Melissa is a five-year old who has undergone numerous painful procedures and operations because she was born with multiple congenital heart defects. The medical expenses for Melissa's family during the first 18 months of her life totaled more than one million dollars. More than \$270 thousand of those dollars were not covered by the family's two health insurance policies. The family discovered that carrying two health insurance policies was of little help due to a Coordination of Benefits provision, which prevents a family from taking advantage of the benefits of both combined health plans. Even though the family has been paying for two separate health plans they can only receive the best benefit from each policy. This bill would help middle-class families with children like Melissa whose only current options are unacceptable.

More than 32,000 American babies are born each year with cardiovascular defects, which translates to 1 out of every 115 to 150 births. To put these numbers into perspective, 1 in every 800 to 1,000 babies is born with Downs Syndrome. Congenital heart defects make up 42 percent of all birth defects, making Congenital Heart Disease the most common of all birth defects. The American Heart Association estimates that there are approximately 1 million people living with heart defects in the United States today.

Prior to 1960, most children with heart defects died within the first year of life. In the subsequent decades of the 1960's, 70's and 80's, research produced by skilled surgeons and cardiologists led to a variety of different treatments and interventions which allow the vast majority of infants with heart defects to survive. However, these medical procedures place an enormous burden on the families of children born with congenital heart defects. In addition, many of these children who survive