

the best thing about America: our freedom. As President Bush said in his State of the Union Address, we all need to donate our time to promote democracy all over the world, and this contest is a good way for young people to get involved. I congratulate the students who participated in this year's contest, and I encourage them to continue to be active citizens of this great democracy.

METHAMPHETAMINE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, methamphetamine use continues to be a chronic problem in the United States and especially in the Central Valley of California. This product, better known as "Meth," is produced by a very intricate cooking process that uses a number of chemicals like red phosphorus, acetone and pseudoephedrine. All of the chemicals that are used in the cooking process are easily obtained over-the-counter at almost any store in the United States. While most of the chemicals in the cooking process can be substituted with similar products, pseudoephedrine is the one chemical that is required to make Meth.

Over the last couple of years, the federal government working in cooperation with narcotics agents and the private sector have tightened the control of pseudoephedrine in the United States. Today, pseudoephedrine can only be purchased in small quantity bottles or blister packs.

However, last year, investigators in the Central Valley found several very large 23,000 pill-count bottles of pseudoephedrine tablets at Meth labs. Unfortunately, these bottles were found with English and French words on the labels. Because of this, as well as statements from confidential sources, investigators believe much of the bulk pseudoephedrine comes from French-speaking areas of Canada. And, it is now known that criminal organizations are using tractor-trailers to haul pseudoephedrine pills from Canada to the United States.

Currently, Canada lacks a comprehensive legislative framework for addressing the pseudoephedrine trafficking problem. Without cooperation from Canadian authorities, the illicit diversion of pseudoephedrine tablets will continue unabated and the pills will continue to find their way to ready meth-producing markets in the Central Valley.

Today I introduced a bill that will specifically address this problem. This legislation will urge President Bush to open a dialogue with the Canadian Government to discuss the large influx of pseudoephedrine from Canada.

TRIBUTE TO WILMA DELANEY

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wilma Delaney for her exemplary personal accomplishments and exceptional professional achievements as she prepares to retire as Vice President of Federal and State

Government Affairs for The Dow Chemical Company.

A woman of incredible talent and energy, Wilma joined Dow in 1975 as an analytical chemist at company headquarters in Midland, Michigan. After holding several positions in Dow laboratories, she began her rise through the management ranks. Throughout her career, Wilma has demonstrated both an unparalleled proficiency in the technical know-how that began with her job as a "bench" scientist and the diplomatic finesse that has been a key to her success as a senior executive at Dow.

Wilma has held key leadership positions with Dow since early in her career, including Vice President of Environmental and Regulatory Issues. Her work has been a major force in securing Dow's reputation as a company on the cutting edge of environmental improvements. Moreover, Wilma's leadership of the company's efforts to address minority workplace issues earned her the 2000 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Recognition Award for exemplifying Dr. King's dream to galvanize diverse groups of people to achieve a common goal.

In addition to Wilma's professional success, she has freely given her time and talents to enhance those less fortunate by doing charitable work with various community and volunteer organizations. Her strong work ethic and kind heart have certainly benefitted the entire community and many lives are indeed better for her efforts. Her husband, Jack, and their five children, also should be commended for their unselfish support of Wilma's endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Wilma Delaney for applying the right elements of hard work, enterprising spirit and contagious enthusiasm to her career and her community. I am confident that Wilma's legacy will endure at Dow and beyond for many years and that she will continue to discover even more ways to improve the world around her.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SEQUOIA AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, every year the City of Redwood City, California, recognizes three of its citizens for outstanding volunteer work in the community with the Sequoia Award. This prestigious award is given to one student, one non-student citizen and one business each year in recognition of their outstanding service. This year's award winners are Emilia Cerrillo, a student at Menlo-Atherton High School, Vincent Truscelli, a Redwood City resident for over fifty years, and Electronic Arts, the world's largest creator of interactive electronic software.

Mr. Speaker, all of this year's award winners are extraordinary citizens and are truly deserving of recognition. I would like to share with my colleagues a brief review of each Sequoia Award winner and highlight their achievements.

Ms. Emilia Cerrillo, a senior at Menlo-Atherton High School, has been described as a "dynamo." An excellent student and musician, she also serves as Senior Class Vice-Presi-

dent and has been involved in the planning of several school events, including a candlelight vigil to commemorate the victims of the tragic events of September 11th, the freshman orientation and the homecoming dance.

Emilia Cerrillo was also responsible for setting critical school policies. As a student representative to the Shared Decision-Making Site Council, Emilia worked with administrators, faculty, staff, parents and other students to ensure that all necessary voices were heard while the group formulated school policies. Emilia has also had a major role in the Compass Success program and served as a mentor and role model to encourage other minority students to stay in honors classes.

Emilia's success has not been confined to the halls of Menlo-Atherton High School. As a participant in the Amigos de Las Americas program in Brazil, she met with health workers and participated in important infrastructure building in Brazil. Emilia was also a participant in the Global Visionaries program in Guatemala where she helped to build a house with the Common Hope Project.

Emilia's achievements are just the beginning of what we can expect from this extraordinary talented and dedicated student. As the student recipient of the Sequoia Award, she has been awarded a \$5,000 scholarship.

Mr. Speaker, the second Sequoia Award winner is Mr. Vincent Truscelli. A lifelong resident of California, Vincent has lived in Redwood City for the past 50 years and has been involved with numerous community organizations. He was recently awarded an Honorary Life Membership by the Roosevelt School's Parent Teacher Association for his outstanding volunteer work with the school's annual carnival and for his dedication in introducing young students to baseball, basketball and track. Vincent was also the one of the first volunteer lunch yard supervisors at Roosevelt, allowing the teachers of the school to have a real lunch break, while children played after lunch.

Vincent Truscelli has also been involved in numerous organizations including the YMCA, the St. Pius Church Men's Club and the Redwood City Transportation Committee, where he received the Distinguished Service Award for his proposal on how to lay out the bus routes in Redwood City.

Vincent is best known for producing large-scale fund raising dinners. He and his wife have cooked for the Native Daughters of the Golden West Plaque Program, the Rotary Club's Irish night, Pets in Need, The American Legion, the Sons of Italy, the Redwood City Parks, Recreation and Community Service Department, and the Red Morton Fund raising project.

Mr. Truscelli has been a member of numerous clubs and organizations that aid the community including the AARP, the American Legion, the Kiwanis Club, the Lions Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the Fun After Fifty Club, Sons of Italy, and many more. He was also the Chairman of the Veteran's Memorial Senior Center Advisory Board and still serves on its board. Vincent was also the Bingo Manager for the Senior Center, which funds the Senior Center's nutrition program, computer classes and their exercise program. He also donates his time to assist needy senior citizens with home repairs. Vincent has continuously given selflessly of himself for many years and is a deserving recipient of the Sequoia Award.

Mr. Speaker, the final Sequoia Award recipient this year is Electronic Arts, a firm that is recognized for its role as a good corporate citizen. Generous contributions from Electronic Arts have helped strengthen communities in Redwood City and throughout the Bay Area. In just this past year, Electronic Arts provided grants and charitable donations to Redwood City totaling more than \$70,000. Among the organizations benefitting from Electronic Arts' generosity were The Day Top Family Association (a residential therapeutic community for drug-addicted teens), Sequoia YMCA, the Redwood City Drug Abuse Resistance Education, the Redwood Family House, Sandpiper Elementary School and the Heron Court Neighborhood Network in Redwood Shores. Electronic Arts is also a proud sponsor of the Sequoia Hospital Foundation donating both money as well as video and computer games to the Hospital.

The good works of Electronic Arts are supported by the hardworking employees. Several of Electronic Arts' executives serve on volunteer boards for the Sequoia YMCA, Community Gatepath, Mid Peninsula Boys and Girls Club, Day Top Family Association and the Chamber of Commerce, to name a few. Electronic Arts also assists the Special Olympics by providing coaches, timekeepers, and scorers for the various events, and host an annual fund raiser. Over 100 employees of the company and their families donated their time to help build a new fence and paint the Redwood House group home in Redwood City. The charitable acts of Electronic Arts are greatly appreciated throughout the Bay Area.

Mr. Speaker, these two outstanding individuals, and this corporation are recipients of the Sequoia Award because of their continued selfless efforts in our community. I hope that their actions can be a guide for all of us. I urge my colleagues to join me in paying in tribute to Emilia Cerrillo, Vincent Truscelli and Electronic Arts, recipients of Redwood City's 2002 Sequoia Award.

AFGHANISTAN TRIP REPORT— JANUARY 2002

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2002

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I recently returned from a visit to Afghanistan with Congressman FRANK WOLF and Congressman TONY HALL. We were greeted with warm, friendly smiles wherever we went, from meetings with Interim Administration officials to hospitals, schools and orphanages. There is a hope in Afghanistan that the country will be different and new opportunities and life will emerge out of the terrible suffering the Afghan people have endured.

The visit was a highlight, but it was also sobering. The best children's hospital in the nation, the Indira Ghandi Pediatric Hospital, lacked basic medicines to treat the children, two children and their mothers shared each bed, one of three children in the malnutrition ward died each night, there is a lack of basic medical equipment, and no hospital employees have been paid for six months. Yet, the doctors and nurses worked valiantly to save the lives of the children in their care.

We visited a girls school, the Dorkhanai High School, that had re-opened one week earlier after being shut down for over five years. The concrete building was full of bullet holes from the Soviet invasion, one room had no roof, and no rooms had glass in the windows. The girls sat on blankets on the concrete or dirt floor as their were no desks or chairs. Yet, the students were so motivated to learn they raised the money from the meager earnings of their families to buy thick plastic to cover the window holes and pay for kerosene heat to keep out some of the biting cold in the schoolrooms. The girls greeted us with big smiles and chants of "Welcome, welcome." They were delighted to be back in school. Teachers need to be re-hired, 80 percent of the teachers were women, and the government needs assistance with providing basic supplies such as paper, pens, chalk and books.

The Allaiddin Center Orphanage has 900 children in their care—800 boys and 100 girls. The children, many obviously suffering from malnutrition and trauma from the violence of the war and the loss of their loved ones, gave us huge smiles and recited and sang for us. A delegation of firefighters from New York City had visited recently and donated enough food for the children for the next three months, but after that, it will again be a struggle to feed these young children. The firefighters also provided warm blankets for these children who, in the winter due to lack of adequate heating facilities, sleep three to a bed with three rooms of children crowding into one room—this way they can all be in rooms in which there are heat sources.

We also visited a women's bakery with the United Nations World Food Program Women's Bakery Project that has been vital in helping women, particularly widows, support and feed their families. During our visit, we learned that one woman had been a doctor at the hospital, but she left to work at the bakery so that she could earn money to actually support her family.

There is an almost overwhelming humanitarian crisis that continues today. Food, medicine and shelter are lacking for much of the country's population. Yet, there is hope—hope that the American people will cement their friendship with the Afghan people by remaining engaged in their country through various avenues. Government aid to Afghanistan is vital, but people to people diplomacy, sister relationships between schools and hospitals in the U.S. partnering with schools and hospitals in Afghanistan, will be invaluable in helping to rebuild the nation and the historic friendship between our nations.

Our meetings with government officials also gave us hope. The Chairman of the Interim Administration, H.E. Hamid Karzai, is an impressive, capable, straightforward man who has the capacity to lead his country to establish a coalition that will last through the historic transitions the nation is experiencing. The Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) in June will mark a key transition for the people of Afghanistan and Hamid Karzai appears to be the one who can lead the people through that transition.

In response to our visit, there are several key points that must be addressed as our nation, government and people remain engaged with the people of Afghanistan:

1. The United States and the international community must continue to support Chairman

Karzai and the Interim Administration in Kabul as well as the Administration's clarifying to the various regions of Afghanistan that federal authority rests in Kabul. In addition, it is vital that the international community ensure that the Bonn Agreement is fully implemented and culminated in the Loya Jirga to be held on June 22, 2002. The Loya Jirga is the traditionally accepted Afghan method of solving problems and reaching consensus. We must continue our support for the new government, otherwise lack of stability could create the opportunity for another pre-September 11 environment of factional fighting, violence and upheaval, and a central power vacuum that would have severe implications for our national security.

2. Humanitarian Aid must continue. The UN World Food Programme and U.S. and other NGOs serving the people there are doing a great job. But the need remains high. The UN estimated that they would be feeding 8 million people within Afghanistan, not to mention refugees in neighboring countries, in the next three months to help avert an even greater crisis. Food aid is needed, as is medical and educational assistance. People to people diplomacy can be conducted through Chairman Karzai's office in Kabul.

3. U.S. assistance must be deliberate. Security is the primary need, mentioned in every meeting and site visit we had. Unless there is security, no amount of effort will ensure that the new government leaders can implement the very necessary changes in the country. Second, the economy must be developed, primarily through developing the agricultural sector of society.

Prior to the 1997 Soviet invasion, Afghanistan was self-sufficient and even exported agricultural products to neighboring countries. Studies show that before 1979, 80 percent of the society was in farming. The skills are there, but the opportunity needs to be developed. Unfortunately, the four-year drought in the country has drastically affected the output of farms and the ability of animal herders to keep animals alive. Irrigation systems and drought assistance need to be constructed and provided as soon as possible. In addition, development of the agricultural sector with alternative crops is a proactive avenue of fighting against narcotics production.

Third, development of the education system is one of the primary needs. An overwhelming portion of the population has been affected by lack of access to education. As reflected in our visit to the girls' school, the people have a desire to pursue an education as they view this as the primary avenue for bettering their lives. Studies from around the world support this: the development of educational systems changes nations. The Afghan people may lack the basic materials for education, but not the desire to learn.

Mr. Speaker, there are tremendous needs in Afghanistan, but there also is a tremendous amount of hope and an expectation that this time will be different. I look forward to visiting Afghanistan in the future and seeing these hopes and expectations lived out. As Chairman Hamid Karzai said during our meeting together, "Think of the help as help to our children. The families will do well if the children do well." As we look forward to the hopes and expectations of a new Afghanistan, I will be working with the generous people of Pennsylvania and others across this nation to extend a hand of friendship, partnership and care