

Bruce A. Magnuson, John D. Mahonet, J.M. Mangano, Donald E. Mannig, A. Marcha, W.W. Marragos, William L. Marshall, Daniel L. Martin, William M. Martin, J.P. Martinez, R.S. Martinez, David A. Mayzlik, G.E. McCrillis, Jr., William S. McCune, Roger W. McDonald, Charles A. Mcduffle, R.T. Mcgettigan, Duckey McKnight, John P. Mcniel, Thomas Mesa, William G. Meyer, R.C. Mickels, B.J. Mihneski, F.M. Miller, Jr., N.J. Minucci, K.L. Mokern, C.F. Momillen, James Money, Salvador Montes, Jr., E. E. Montor, Lindy N. Moore, James N. Morgan, Kenneth D. Morgan, T.R. Morley, Franklin F. Morris, Jr., Carl J. Morton, W.D. Moss, Danny L. Murphy, David R. Murphy, Monty D. Murphy, and D.L. Myers.

F. Nagy, P.E. Nance, Phillip E. Nash, F.F. Nives, and George C. Noland,

R.A. O'Conner, Michael L. O'Mary, and Richard D. Ortega.

Richard B. Palmer, James A. Parker, J.W. Peavy, J.L. Pell, Joseph E. Peters, D.V. Phillips, Paul C. Phillips, W.L. Phillips, P.L. Phipps, David K. Pickard, R.E. Pierson, Gale V. Pinkston, P.L. Plander, Michael J. Polly, A. Potter, D.C. Powell, A. D. Prater, T. A. Press, M.E. Price, Marvin E. Price, and C.J. Pummel.

W.E. Queale.

Edward E. Raiche, Bertrand Randolph, T.G. Ray, Malcolm S. Read, K.R. Reed, Jackie L. Replogle, L.B. Reynolds, Franklin Rhodes, Vincent A. Richardson, James Riley, R.J. Risk, W.T. Ritenour, Joseph P. Rizzi, E. Robertson, Jr., J.F. Robertson, Jr., Isaac R. Robinson III, Lewis W.L. Robinson, Eugene J. Ruthman, and William F. Ryder.

G. Sanchez, M. Sanchez, J. Santiago, R.J. Schimes, R. Schlaier, W. Schlipf, S.D. Sears, Lonie S. Sedlacek, C.F. Seiler, L.H. Sewell, H.A. Shafer, J.J. Sheridan, David S. Sherrad, R.A. Shoemaker, Loreece Sigler, Jack W. Simmons, R.L. Simpson, R.B. Sims, Robert R. Slusher, Charles L. Smith, F.F. Smith, G.T. Smith, Gary A. Smith, Michael L. Smith, Robert L. Smith, Richard C. Smoldt, R.D. Spalding, Lyleh Spear, L.M. Spears, Larry A. Stedenburg, R.B. Steinberg, Phillip M. Steiner, Stephens, William H. Stewart, E. Strange, James L. Stowell, and G.R. Suter.

Raul Tamez, Jerry L. Taylor, William D. Tedhow, E.M. Telenko, Bruce R. Thomas, David J. Thomas, Donald Thomas, Edward L. Thompson, Al V. Tindell, Bobby W. Todd, D.A. Toomai, Julias A. Torrence, D.J. Traina, Ainulfo P. Torres, Fred E. Trueblood, and Jeffrey S. Tucker.

Vern F. Vannier, W.L. Vanryzin, W.S. Vetter, Zane C. Vinton, and Wayne A. Volk.

W.E. Wakefield, E.P. Walbridge, Barry L. Walker, J.C. Walker, D.C. Wallace, Jacob Jr. Wallace, J.L. Waller, J.F. Ward, Rocky D. Washburn, Tin Watts, R.H. Webb, Robert L. Weddington, Terrence G. Weller, S. Westmorelan, M.H. Wharton, Joseph D. White, M W. White, K.E. Wihtmer, Russell P. Wild, Richard A. Wiler, George W. Williams, Richard J. Willsher, Donald P. Wilson, Robert M. Wilson, R.E. Wingrove, A.L. Winslow, J.L. Wood, B.E. Woodman, Phillip E. Woronick, and Christolar Wright.

Bruce S. York, Matthew L. Zechmeister, Hal F. Zehr, Michael J. Zent, and J.J. Ziros.

and Joetta Mial on being named Women of Distinction by the Girl Scouts of the Huron Valley Council of Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Cynthia and Joetta were awarded this distinguished honor for their excellence in business ethics and volunteerism through a philosophy which parallels that of the Girl Scout movement. Currently Cynthia is the Vice President of Government Relations at the University of Michigan. Joetta is a retired Ann Arbor Huron High School principle, and began her career as a teacher in the school system. Both women are intensely involved as leaders in the community, serving as members of numerous organizations to enhance the well-being of the Ann Arbor population. Their dedication should serve as inspiration to the entire community, reminding us that service is an important part of American life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Cynthia Wilbanks and Joetta Mial on being named Women of Distinction. We wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN OPERATION APPRECIATION

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the contributions of Operation Appreciation, an organization whose hard work has helped improve the lives of those entrusted to protect our nation.

Operation Appreciation was the direct result of a loving mother, Diana Low, and her two sons, Cody and Casey, wanting to show their gratitude for the men and women in charge of keeping this great nation safe. Diana wanted to teach her children the importance of voicing their thanks and admiration. She has no idea that this lesson would unite people from all over the country in the simple goal of saying thank you.

After September 11th, I launched a similar program known as Letters from the Homeland. This program called on the people of Minnesota to write letters to the soldiers overseas. The outpouring of support was remarkable.

Operation Appreciation took the idea to the next level. Through the efforts of the Low family, Operation Appreciation began with the heartfelt words of appreciation from children and then expanded to include classrooms in Minnesota. Now, similar letter writing campaigns have started in California, Illinois, Arizona and, Wisconsin. Thousands of children have voiced their gratitude for the men and women serving our nation in Afghanistan.

Initiatives such as Operation Appreciation and Letters from the Homeland are an excellent way to tell the men and women in the armed forces their efforts are not going unnoticed. From the kids in the classroom to the soldiers in the field, everyone benefits.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the individuals involved in Operation Appreciation for their exceptional work in conveying the nation's support for our military personnel.

BILL AND CAROL ELLIS CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF NEWS WORK IN PARMER COUNTY

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleagues' attention to the remarkable careers that Bill and Carol Ellis have accomplished in the newspaper business in Parmer County. This year marks the 40th year that Mr. and Mrs. Ellis have served news consumers in Parmer County.

Mr. Ellis' newspaper career began on the West Coast before he moved to Parmer County. He has served as news editor of the Friona Star. He later became managing editor of the publication. He and his wife, Carol, now own the publication through which they have served Parmer County residents well for 40 years. Bill and Carol Ellis also own the Bovina Blade, another publication that serves Parmer County residents.

Bill and Carol Ellis, throughout their careers, have kept Parmer County residents informed about important issues affecting them, their communities and beyond. They have given their readers a better understanding and a greater appreciation for their communities. Although their talents could have taken their careers to larger-circulation publications, Parmer County remained home, which has been to the benefit of the readers of the Bovina Blade and Friona Star.

I would like to extend to Bill and Carol Ellis my thanks for their dedication to Parmer County residents, and I wish them well in their continued service to the public through providing informative and insightful coverage of Parmer County communities.

ASSAULT ON INDEPENDENT MEDIA IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express concern for the fate of an independent media in Kazakhstan. On May 21 several unidentified men forcibly entered the offices of the Sol-Dat newspaper—one of the few remaining independent opposition papers in Kazakhstan. The men severely beat two journalists in the office, destroyed and stole equipment and told the beaten journalists that this was only a warning. Police who arrived on the scene further confiscated equipment and files.

The very next day, another independent newspaper in Almaty, "Delovoye Obrozreniye" was firebombed.

What did these newspapers do to deserve this fate? They dared to criticize President Nazarbayev. In recent years President Nazarbayev has made a concerted effort to shut down his opposition by denying dissent voices any means of expression. He has also put political opponents in jail and driven others into exile. All this, despite repeated assurances to President Bush and the international community that he would preserve an independent media and free expression for the citizens of Kazakhstan.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CYNTHIA WILBANKS AND JOETTA MIAL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cynthia Wilbanks

Mr. Speaker, the importance of Kazakh oil fields to the U.S. cannot blind us to President Nazarbayev's ongoing assault against the liberties of the men and women of Kazakhstan. I call upon President Nazarbayev to live up to his stated commitments to human rights and an independent media. And I call on this Administration to press for a resumption of a free press and tolerant government in Kazakhstan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present to cast my votes on rollcall votes 230, 231, and 232 on June 17, 2002. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcalls 230, 231, and 232.

THE FIRST TEE RESOLUTION

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution recognizing the efforts of The First Tee, a youth character building organization with programs located throughout the country that provides young people of all backgrounds an opportunity to develop, through both the game of golf and character education, values and character traits that will positively impact their lives and experiences in school.

The First Tee programs are community-based and are implemented through a partnership of parents, civic and corporate leaders, state and local governments, youth-serving agencies, schools, and the golfing community.

This week, President and Mrs. Bush are hosting a conference at the White House on the importance of character education to our Nation's youth. This resolution reflects the House's continuing commitment to ensuring that positive values are instilled in all children at a young age, and recognizes one community-based program that is making a real difference for disadvantaged children across the country.

Many children throughout the United States face difficult circumstances in their lives. Broken homes, poverty, drugs, alcohol, and violence are everyday factors that many of today's youth continually face. A structured activity, the enjoyment of sport, and the teaching of positive values and character traits can be a tremendous experience and welcome respite in the lives of these young people.

The First Tee, an innovative model of public-private partnership, is working to make the game of golf more affordable and accessible to young people throughout the Nation by opening up golf courses and providing instruction for free and reduced rates to children of all socioeconomic backgrounds. By the year 2005, The First Tee will serve more than 500,000 children in 250 programs throughout the United States. In my state of Ohio, there are currently four First Tee facilities that serve more than 1,500 hundred children.

And just as importantly, the golf-related exercises are paired with The First Tee Life Skills program, through which young people learn the importance of maintaining a positive attitude, considering the consequences of their decisions, setting and achieving objectives, holding themselves to high standards, and applying to their everyday lives values such as responsibility, honesty, integrity, respect, confidence and sportsmanship.

One student in particular, Amber Davis, has been involved with The First Tee of Atlanta since April of 2000. Her dedication and enthusiasm has helped her progress through the first three levels of The First Tee certification process. She has participated at both of The First Tee Life Skills and Leadership Academies at Kansas State University over the past two summers, and received the Renee Powell Award for Female Leadership during the inaugural academy. She currently spends her spare time volunteering as a mentor for 13 of the young female participants in The First Tee program. An accomplished golfer, she has competed in several local, regional, state and national tournaments and was the only freshman to make the golf team at Woodward Academy in Atlanta. She credits The First Tee program with helping her to develop her strong leadership skills.

Again, I am pleased to bring attention to The First Tee and am grateful for its work in our Nation's communities. I ask for my colleagues support and urge them to join me as a cosponsor of this resolution.

FRANK H. DAVENPORT: A LIFE-LONG ADVOCATE FOR PUBLIC EDUCATION

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank H. Davenport as he prepares to close the chapter on his 24 years of service as a member of the Essexville-Hampton Public Schools Board of Education. Frank's devotion to children and his dedication to improving the quality of education in Essexville will serve for many years as a model for all who choose to volunteer their time and talents to their community.

Frank's passion for education began in 1954 as a civics teacher at Essexville Schools, where stayed for 10 years before heading to the Bangor School District to work with Special Education students. After eight years, Frank again was ready for a new challenge, spending the next 13 years at the Bay Arenac Skill Center, now known as the Career Center, from which he retired in 1985 as Curriculum Coordinator. His work earned him a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Vocational Industrial Clubs of America.

Frank was elected to the Essexville-Hampton Board of Education for the first time in 1967, where he served until 1971. He returned in 1982 and has been a board member ever since, including terms as Board President during the 2000-01 school year and as Board Secretary from 1996 to 2000 and again during the 2001-02 school year. He also has served on the Bay-Arenac Intermediate School District Board of Education since 1989.

Frank's enthusiasm for starting young people off on the right path led him to become the first President/Manager of the Essexville-Hampton Little League. He also was the original President of the Garber Athletic Association. His eagerness for improving his community also prompted Frank to serve on the City Commission and the City Planning Commission in the 1960s.

Naturally, the magnitude and longevity of Frank's community service required the encouragement and support of his family. Gloria, Frank's wife for 51 years, and their seven children, Frank III, Thomas, Charles, David, James, Beverly and Daniel also deserve our gratitude for having been an integral part of his efforts.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I wish to applaud Frank Davenport for his years of commitment to young people. He has served our community well. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing thanks to Frank for his many years of service and in wishing him the best in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI IRWIN GRONER

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 18, 2002

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, June 20 there will be a celebration of the 70th birthday of Rabbi Irwin Groner and the 40th anniversary of his service to Congregation Shaarey Zedek in Southfield, Michigan.

Shaarey Zedek has a long and distinguished history in the Detroit metropolitan area. It has served as a spiritual home for tens of thousands of families, including my own beginning with my beloved grandparents and so many others after their arrival from Europe and continuing with our parents of blessed memory and their generation.

Rabbi Groner came to the leadership of Shaarey Zedek after the tragic death of Rabbi Morris Adler. He continued, indeed deepened, the tradition of meeting the needs of individual spirituality and serving both the Jewish community and the broader community of metropolitan Detroit.

During his 40 year tenure, Rabbi Groner has responded to the needs of all whether in times of joy or moments of bereavement, whether encouraging the young in search of knowledge, new families seeking guidance and support for their aspirations, or older persons. His sermons over the years have been marked by their insightfulness, wisdom, and wit, delivered with the brilliance of his unique oratory. As said by his colleagues, he is "a brilliant orator and original thinker."

Even more significant still has been Rabbi Irwin Groner's endeavors one on one. For thousands, he filled gaps when there was a deep vacuum and provided strength at times of weakness.

He has reached out to the broader community on national issues, on state issues, serving as the Chairman of the Michigan Judicial Tenure Commission, and on metropolitan Detroit issues, having been active in programs of interfaith dialogue and honored at the annual Dove dinner, along with Detroit Cardinal Adam Maida.

It is an honor to be able to present in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, on behalf of so