

The City of Anaheim has recognized this organization and has welcomed it into the community. I would like to do the same.

I would like to personally thank The Eli Home Cariño Walk-In Center staff for their hard work and dedication to the community and for creating a positive environment for my district.

SCOTT DETROW: REACHING TO
AMERICA'S FUTURE

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize Scott M. Detrow from my district, a talented young man who recently won the 2002 Voice of Democracy Broadcast Scriptwriting Contest. Sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), this competition provides an opportunity for high school students to voice their opinion on their responsibility to our country. More than 85,000 secondary school students participated this year, with only 58 winning a national scholarship.

Mr. Detrow's essay on the American response to the September 11 terrorist attacks captured the contest's theme of "Reaching to America's Future." He channeled his feelings and emotions to create an inspirational piece upon which everyone can reflect. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Scott M. Detrow for his special achievement, and I submit to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the complete text of Mr. Detrow's piece:

A hush fell over the students as they entered the plaza. Their joking and fidgeting suddenly stopped as their eyes came upon the massive sculpture before them. It was a sunny and cool autumn day in lower Manhattan, perfect for a field trip to the World Trade Center Monument. The high-schoolers found it hard to believe that some fifty years before, two of the tallest buildings in the world had stood there, and that they had been destroyed in a matter of minutes.

"Imagine the terror New Yorkers and Americans must have felt that day," the tour guide began. "No one knew what to expect, who had done it, or why. For the first time since the War of 1812, mainland America had been attacked; for the first time since Pearl Harbor, flung headlong by surprise into war."

"How did the country react?" piped up one of the more outgoing students. "Excellent question," replied the tour guide. "From the ashes of the Trade Center and the Pentagon rose the Phoenix of Patriotism, of courage, of will. Americans rushed to blood centers, waiting for hours to give the gift of life. Hundreds of millions of dollars were raised to help the victims. Millions more prayers were offered, as Americans flocked to their mosques, synagogues and churches. Rescue teams were overwhelmed by the crush of volunteers, and the support of the entire nation was heaved upon their president and leaders, wholeheartedly trusting in the American system of democracy."

"Soon you could not go a block without seeing Old Glory. From the steps of the Capitol—still standing thanks to courageous passengers who fought off suicide hijackers—to the playing fields of professional sports, to

schools all across the country came the sweet sound of 'God Bless America.'"

By now many students had their hands up. "But I read that the economy went into a recession, and that soon afterward biological terrorism began arriving by mail. How could this spirit be maintained in such a dark time?"

"That's a paradox that helps make America such a great country," answered the guide. "It seems that throughout our history, our darkest hours were also our finest. In 2001 we refused to let the terrorists win. People continued with their regular lives, but a bit more mindful of what was really important. Friendships were bonded, old rifts erased, and the country truly became one nation under God. The country felt up to any challenge, and took it one day at a time. Every time a new problem arose, Americans simply dealt with it and continued to march forward. Everyone rose to the occasion, from the President to the firefighters, to the average Joe."

The students gazed at the monument, reflecting on the greatness of the generation past. They had never seen their grandparents and great grandparents in this light, and were stunned by the character they showed and the actions they took in the face of adversity. Faced with pure evil, they had stood up to it and won. These were the true heroes, these men and women who stood on the very spot where they were now, working non-stop for months on end sorting through the rubble, hoping against all odds to find survivors.

As a distant clock struck twelve, the sun shone directly upon the monument. The students saw the memorial in its full splendor, a firefighter, a police officer, old man, and young girl, all gazing and pointing off into the distance. The reflecting pool cast a glimmer of hope in the statues' faces: the promise of a new tomorrow.

HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, while our nation recovers from the tragedy of September 11 and turns its focus toward hemispheric defense, we should also realize that crucial human rights issues are in jeopardy in our own backyard. Unbeknownst to many in this country, the situation in Guatemala is worsening by the day. During the Cold War, a 36-year civil war raged in this Central American nation, resulting in an estimated 200,000 civilian deaths. Now, the infamous architect of Guatemala's most intense period of genocide against the Maya indigenous population, ex-director General Efraín Ríos Montt, has staged a political renaissance thanks to a climate of intimidation and violence produced by the military's death squads.

Andrew Blandford, Research Associate at the Washington-based Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA), has recently authored a press memorandum entitled "Ríos Montt's Political Resurgence in Guatemala Coincides with Increase in Violence with Impunity." This important analysis, which was released on July 26, will shortly appear in a revised form in the upcoming issue of that organization's estimable biweekly publication, *The Wash-*

ington Report on the Hemisphere. Blandford's research findings spotlight the developing Guatemalan human rights tragedy and examine the role played by that nation's government and military in violently covering up its sanguinary past.

The inauguration of a second cycle of death squad activity in Guatemala was brought to the world's attention in 1998 when Bishop Juan Gerardi was bludgeoned to death in his garage just two days after delivering his report itemizing the army's responsibility for thousands of massacres during the 1980s. This year, human rights activist Guillermo Ovalle de León was shot at least 25 times while eating lunch at a restaurant in Guatemala City, and a June 7 fax signed by Los Guatemaltecos de Verdad labeled 11 prominent Guatemalan human rights activists as doomed enemies of the state because of their cooperation with UN Special Representative Hina Jilani during her May visit. Clearly, Mr. Speaker, Guatemala's militant regime is willing to commit whatever atrocity is necessary to shield its murderous past from the eyes of the international community.

COHA researcher Blandford calls for the renewal of the 12-year U.S. ban on International Military Education and Training (IMET) to Guatemala. This resolution would illustrate the desire of the United States to attain peace and justice, as well as security, in Central America. By denying funds to the Guatemalan military, the U.S. would inherently be guarding civilians from political intimidation and violence. Consequently, the article is of great relevance since the need to constructively engage Guatemala is likely to grow in intensity in the coming months, given the nation's mushrooming trend of death squad killings.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PARKVIEW
HOSPITAL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you, this body of Congress, and our nation to recognize Parkview Medical Center of Pueblo, Colorado. For the past eighty years, Parkview Hospital has provided medical care to the community in a kind, friendly, and dedicated manner. It is hard to match the kind of integrity and honesty provided by the staff of Parkview, and I thank the staff for their extraordinary contributions.

Parkview Hospital first emerged because of the influence of six prominent physicians in 1921 after a disastrous flood in 1921. Parkview was officially established in 1923 and had great success from its inception, which required the facility to expand and renovate every ten years. Today, several additional wings have been added to create what is today a state-of-the-art medical center in Southern Colorado. Parkview offers the citizens of Pueblo and surrounding communities a radiological cancer treatment department, obstetrical floor, surgical section, Psychiatric and Chemical Dependency Unit, Neurological Intensive Care Unit, Computer Axial Tomography Whole Body Scanner, Same-Day Surgery Wing, and Kidsville Pediatric Unit. Moreover, Parkview fulfilled requirements to classify

their Emergency Room as a Level II Trauma Center.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the hard work and determination of the staff of Parkview Medical Center. The compassion illustrated by staff members will be reflected in the hearts of patients for years to come. I would especially like to recognize Chief Executive Officer C.W. Smith and former Chief of Staff Dr. Janice Elaine Kulik for their unrelenting dedication to the medical treatment of patients and coordination of all Parkview activities. Congratulations to Parkview Medical Center on your recent milestone and I wish all the best to the staff.

JIM CIRILLO, MANAGER OF THE RAYBURN BUILDING SPECIAL ORDERS DELI, WINS HOSPITALITY MANAGER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, the House has an award winner amongst its workforce. Mr. Jim Cirillo, an employee of one of the House food service contractors Guest Services, Inc. (GSI), won the 2002 Capital Restaurant & Hospitality Award for "Hospitality Manager of the Year." Jim is manager of the Rayburn Building Special Orders Deli and Pazzos Pizza. This annual award given by the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington and the Washington, DC Convention and Tourism Corporation was presented to Jim at the industry's annual Awards Gala on Sunday, June 23, 2002 in Washington D.C.

One of five nominees from facilities in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area, Jim won top honors for his superior service and extraordinary management skills as the manager of two facilities in the U.S. House of Representatives. Guest Services' President/CEO, Gerry Gabrys commented, "Members of Congress and their guests and staff have gone out of their way to recognize Jim's attitude and superior service on many occasions."

In a survey of customer satisfaction last fall, the Rayburn Special Orders deli was found to have the highest satisfaction rating amongst GSI's eleven business locations within the House. Recently, Jim developed two innovative websites where Members of Congress and their staff can conveniently and effortlessly place their food orders.

On behalf of the House of Representatives, I'd like to recognize Jim for this outstanding and well-deserved award, and for Jim's service to the House and his customers. Thank you Jim and keep up the great work!

RECOGNIZING THE WORTHINGTON, OHIO POOCH PARADE

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the Pooch Parade held in Worthington, Ohio. The Pooch Parade is an annual event

dedicated to the strengthening and educating of the unique relationship between dogs and the people who love them. In addition, the Parade helps create awareness of the growing number of homeless pets, the groups who work to find homes for them to end pet overpopulation and the valuable work of the hundreds of dog rescue groups and their volunteers.

In 1989 Robert Haas had the idea of organizing a parade of dogs and their people in Worthington, Ohio. He envisioned an event that would draw thousands, provide a fun time for all, and be a great vehicle for increasing public awareness of homeless pets and pet overpopulation.

In 2000, that idea became the Pooch Parade. In April of that year, approximately 800 dogs and 5,000 people participated in the Parade. Rescue groups were there with dogs looking for a "forever home." There were vendors with an assortment of dog-related items. People and dogs had a great time and an annual event was born. In 2001, the Pooch Parade attracted approximately 2,500 dogs and 8,000 people as well as more rescue groups and vendors. The 2002 Pooch Parade was attended by over 3800 dogs, 9000 dog-lovers and 50 rescue groups making the Worthington Pooch Parade the largest official Pooch Parade in the country.

The theme for the 2002 Parade, held in April, was "America's Best Friend." Ohio search and rescue dogs that worked in New York after the 9/11 terrorist attacks were honored.

I congratulate all of those involved with the Pooch Parade for their dedication to the issues of homeless pets, pet overpopulation and rescue dogs, and wish the Parade many more years of success.

HONORING BILL LAIRD FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO YOUTH

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak today about a distinguished member of my district who is being honored by an organization that has had an immeasurable impact on America. Bill Laird, a retired employee of Willis Corroon, is Junior Achievement's National Middle School Volunteer of the Year.

He has volunteered for nine years and taught 25 JA classes in that time. Mr. Laird always goes above and beyond his classroom duties, using his work and life experiences as a way to educate young people about business, economics and the free-enterprise system.

The history of Junior Achievement is a true testament to the indelible human spirit and American ingenuity. Junior Achievement was founded in 1919 as a collection of small, after school business clubs for students in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Today, through the efforts of more than 100,000 volunteers in classrooms all over America, Junior Achievement reaches more than four million students in grades K-12 per year. JA International takes the free enterprise message of hope and opportunity even further to nearly two million students in 113 countries.

Junior Achievement has been an influential part of many of today's successful entrepreneurs and business leaders. Junior Achievement's success is truly the story of America—the fact that one idea can influence and benefit many lives.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Bill Laird of Franklin for his outstanding service to Junior Achievement and the students of Tennessee. I am proud to have him as a constituent and congratulate him on his distinguished accomplishment.

HONORING TAKIRA GASTON

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Takira Gaston of Hartford, Connecticut. On July 4, 2001, Takira was playing at her family's Fourth of July cookout like any 7 years old would be on hot summer afternoon. However, this typical American scene was shattered in an instant by the sound of gunshots. Two drug dealers were exchanging gunfire when one of the bullets struck Takira in the face.

Takira survived and has faced numerous surgeries, with more to come. She has handled the pain and fear with courage that is rare in such a young person. Her brave fight was chronicled by Tina Brown of the Hartford Courant on the one-year anniversary of the shooting. This moving story describe Takira's perseverance and I wish to submit it for the RECORD.

No child should have to go through the ordeal that Takira has gone through. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring Takira's courage and continuing to work to rid our cities of the violence that plagues them.

[From the Hartford Courant, July 4, 2002]

THE COURAGE TO HEAL

(By Tina A. Brown)

NEW HAVEN.—After riding the toy cars and playing "Donkey Kong" on the computer, Takira Gaston flashes a bright smile that makes others in the pediatric surgery center forget the protruding scars on her face.

She's having a good day on this sunny Thursday despite being at Yale-New Haven Hospital for her second round of reconstructive surgery. She's thinking about splashing in her family's above-ground pool and jumping on the trampoline in her backyard, a safe place in a new neighborhood where gunfire is seldom heard.

After playing, Takira takes time to think of someone else. Someone like her, who was shot in the face.

Takira tells her adoptive mother, Delphine Gaston-Walters, that she wants to visit New Haven police Officer Robert Fumiatti, who's recovering at Yale-New Haven after being shot last month by a suspected drug dealer. They talk briefly with Fumiatti, whose head is stabilized by a metal halo. He calls Takira "courageous" and reaches out to shake her hand. But her good mood vanishes. She's scared. She refuses to shake his hand and backs out of his hospital room.

"They are not going to touch my face," she says, with anger in her eyes, as she returns to the surgery center. Deep down, she knows she has no choice, but that doesn't stop her from launching into an hour-long temper tantrum.