

IN HONOR OF BUCKEYE-WOODLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Buckeye-Woodland Elementary School in Cleveland, Ohio for affording me the opportunity to visit with young students during my Third Annual Back-to-School Tour on Monday, September 23rd and Monday, September 30th of 2002. I would like to offer special thanks to Cleveland Schools Municipal District CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett, Superintendent Debra Brathwaite and Principal Barbara A. Kozak for their leadership and kind hospitality. The tour was an educational experience for all who were in attendance.

Buckeye-Woodland Elementary School has set forth major academic goals for the year, which include establishing a focus on literary implementation of a comprehensive reading program; developing high standards for mathematics and science skills concepts; assessing student progress on an ongoing basis; and providing focused, organized opportunities for professional development. Recent accomplishments from last year include measuring student progress on an ongoing basis using the information to help students learn; providing individual student support; and providing teachers with organized and focused opportunities for professional development.

I commend the Buckeye-Woodland Elementary School for its commitment to education and will continue to fight for increased funding to improve the quality of public education for all students.

A TRIBUTE TO MRS. GRACE WEST-PAYNE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mrs. Grace West-Payne, who was born in Portsmouth, Virginia, on September 4, 1902 in recognition of her 100th birthday celebration.

Once Mrs. West-Payne completed her elementary education, she worked as a domestic helper and married Mr. Thomas Payne. They moved to Brooklyn, New York over sixty years ago, where she continued her trade as a domestic worker.

Mrs. Grace West-Payne is an active member of Bethel Baptist Church. Her hobbies include singing and reading. Her favorite song is: "If it wasn't for him (God) I'd be nothing." Mrs. Grace West-Payne also has a favorite saying: "Let Good Girls Be Good and Boys Be Good".

Mr. Speaker. Mrs. West-Payne, who now resides at the Marcus Garvey Nursing Home, has devoted her life to serving her family and being a community leader, and as such, she is more than worthy of receiving recognition today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION'S "OPERATION RECOGNITION"

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a new program being implemented in California's Napa Valley. Operation Recognition grants high school diplomas to persons who were unable to complete high school due to World War II, the Korean War or Japanese American internment. Diplomas will be presented November 9, 2002 at the California Veteran's home in Yountville.

From September 16, 1940 to December 31, 1946 and from June 25, 1950 to January 31, 1955 millions of high schoolers were not thinking about the prom or their upcoming graduations. Instead these high school students were sleeping in fox holes, being shot at on foreign battle fields and fighting to defend the freedoms of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker there is no doubt that our veterans are heroes. When our country called on them for protection and dedication during war they answered the call and gave us all they had. Too often this included sacrificing their lives. For most of the veterans who did return home reenrolling in high school was not a plausible option, rather they entered the job force and were forced to accept that their educational pursuits had come to a screeching halt.

Mr. Speaker, Operation Recognition gives back to our veterans what they rightfully deserve—but never had the opportunity to attain—their high school diplomas. A diploma is more than a piece of paper it is a treasure, one no nation, military or individual can take away. More than anything, Mr. Speaker, Operation Recognition seeks to give back to our veterans a piece of their lives that was taken from them for a time. Thanks to this program, that time is over.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at a time when we are increasingly calling on our service men and women to protect America that we acknowledge Operation Recognition for the outstanding hope, joy and educational satisfaction it is bringing to our nation's beloved heroes by presenting them with the high school diplomas they so richly deserve.

SUPPORT FOR NATO EXPANSION

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for House Resolution 468, which this body overwhelmingly passed on October 7, 2002. This resolution expresses the support of the House for enlargement of NATO that will take place at the Prague Summit next month. The resolution endorses the candidacy of countries that satisfy the membership criteria of the alliance and are willing and able to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic community and the war against terrorism. An enlarged NATO that is prepared to grapple with the challenges presented by conventional

and unconventional threats is in America's vital interest.

Only a vibrant and strong NATO will be able to meet these formidable challenges. And this requires the candidate countries to remain committed to the shared democratic values of respect for the rule of law and minority rights. The full protection of minority rights of the ethnic communities of Central and Eastern Europe will extend the zone of democracy and ensure the security that is a direct consequence of genuine stability.

An important but not exclusive element of the respect for civil and minority rights is the restoration of religious and educational properties to those ethnic communities, such as the Hungarian minorities in Romania and Slovakia, where they had been confiscated by earlier totalitarian regimes. Restitution of these communal properties has been too slow.

I urge these new democracies to immediately and vigorously pursue the process of restitution until satisfactorily and fully completed. Resolution of this important question will constitute the kind of demonstrable commitment to democracy and shared Western values that will serve these countries well both before and after Prague. It will also be favorably received by the United States that deems fair treatment of religious and national minorities to be indispensable for a democracy.

TRIBUTE TO THE MONTROSE COLORADO STAKE RELIEF SOCIETY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor an organization of women that works to strengthen its members and their communities through compassionate and kind service. The women of the Relief Society in the Montrose Colorado Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints recently gathered together to complete humanitarian projects in conjunction with their annual worldwide women's conference. It is my privilege today to highlight the service efforts of these local women before this body of Congress and this nation.

Originally founded in Nauvoo, Illinois in 1842 as the women's organization within the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Relief Society today boasts a membership of over 4 million women worldwide. Recently, some 150 LDS women from of Montrose, Colorado and its surrounding communities gathered together to put into action the principles of charity and service that their organization seeks to embody. Seeking a way to contribute to society, the women made hand activity books to give Alzheimer's patients in nearby nursing homes—something to help keep their minds active in the face of a debilitating disease. They also made dolls, stitching some parts by hand and others by machine, for the Church's Humanitarian Services to distribute to children affected by disasters throughout the world.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the women of the Montrose Colorado Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and to their work in the Relief Society organization. The efforts of these women have

brightened lives throughout their communities, across our country, and around the world. Such organizations are the backbone of our society and deserve our praise and admiration. Thank you for your kind service. The communities around Montrose, and those living there, are better because of the efforts of their women, and they deserve our thanks.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES ORR
MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES
OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor the Charles Orr Middle School in Cleveland, Ohio for affording me the opportunity to visit with young students during my Third Annual Back-to-School Tour on Monday, September 23rd and Monday, September 30th of 2002. I would like to offer special thanks to Cleveland Schools Municipal District CEO Barbara Byrd-Bennett, Superintendent Kathy Wayne Carter and Principal Greg Henderson for their leadership and kind hospitality. The tour was an educational experience for all who were in attendance.

Charles Orr Middle School has set forth major academic goals for the year, which include offering outstanding opportunities for field testing and innovative learning strategies to turn students into life-long learners; becoming more apt at meeting the educational needs of a diverse student population through comprehensive, long-range data-based planning; and seeking to recruit and train a special team of educators to learn how to reach and teach students regardless of where they are academically. Recent accomplishments from last year include significant improvement in students passing one or more portions of the state proficiency test, and more than 60 percent of students being eligible for promotion by the end of the first semester.

I commend the Charles Orr Middle School for its commitment to education and will continue to fight for increased funding to improve the quality of public education for all students.

A TRIBUTE TO PASTOR JACOB N.
UNDERWOOD

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Jacob N. Underwood, Sr. for instigating many innovative programs to help the ones in need within his community.

Pastor Underwood answered the call to the Christian ministry in 1960. In 1962, he was ordained a Baptist minister at the Holy Sacred Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. He began to evangelize in the community doing outreach and persistently seeking unity of his community. He had a vision of a church in the community that would teach "God's Plan of Salvation" and relating this plan to the needs of the total person.

Encouraged by his church and family's support, he organized what is currently Grace

Baptist Church of Christ, located in the East New York section of Brooklyn. He also organized the Grace Housing Development Fund Inc., from which the church sponsored community housing which was built in 1972 to accommodate 168 families.

He has contributed to his community in several aspects by serving on local, state, and national committees. He has served on the local school board, and on the East New York Civil Rights Committee. Pastor Underwood was also the first elected Chairman of East New York Community Cooperation, and President of the New York Progressive State Congress.

He also twice served as Moderator of the N.Y.M.B.A.; as Chairman of the Brownsburg/East New York Clergy Association, as President of the New York Progressive State Convention from 1992-1995, as Corresponding Secretary of the Presidents' Department of the Progressive National Baptist Convention and he served as the President of the African American Clergy and Elected officials of Brooklyn from 1998 to 2000.

Pastor Underwood has also contributed by sponsoring housing and food programs in East New York. He was able to feed and provide clothing to 125 people in need by establishing a soup kitchen. In 1973, he instituted one of the first day care centers in East New York. Today, his vision has been expanded to an elementary and junior high school that currently serves approximately 300 students.

In 1995, Pastor Underwood led the church in a \$1.5 million bond drive to enlarge the Grace Baptist Church of Christ with 12 multi-purpose rooms for the benefit of the school and church. In order to increase the educational facilities to accommodate at least an additional 100 students, Pastor Underwood is presently leading the way for a \$2.5 million drive.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Pastor Jacob N. Underwood, Sr. for his leadership and contribution to his community. Pastor Underwood is a Doer of the Word. For over four decades, he has served as a preacher, teacher, leader, brother, mentor, friend, comforter, advocate, counselor, and innovator. His endeavors and accomplishments deserve our praise and appreciation.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD TUISKU ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS INDUCTION
INTO THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIA-
TION OF BROADCASTERS
HALL OF FAME

HON. BART STUPAK
OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a person whose voice is the sound of news for generations of radio listeners in Michigan's Upper Peninsula Copper Country. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Richard Tuisku, known to his listeners as Dick Storm, on the occasion of his recent induction into the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Richard Tuisku was born 59 years ago in a small town called Toivola in Houghton County Michigan. He graduated from Michigan Technological University in Houghton and also

went to broadcasting school in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In 1962 he began his broadcasting career at WSWW in Platteville, Wisconsin, using the name Dick Storm because he thought his Finnish last name, Tuisku, would be too difficult for his co-workers and listeners to pronounce correctly.

He chose the radio name "Storm" because it is a reasonably close English word for his given last name, Tuisku, which roughly translates to blizzard in Finnish. Two years later Dick Storm moved back to the Upper Peninsula and began working at a radio station in Hancock. He changed jobs but still did news at WCCY an AM/FM combo station in Houghton. Copper Country radio audiences have been getting their news from Dick for almost forty years.

In 1994 he and a partner purchased the Houghton AM/FM stations he worked at and they are now WCCY AM and WOLV FM. Despite being an owner of the stations, Dick continues to work six days a week doing the news and hosting a weekly public affairs program.

Dick is not the only public spirited member of the household. Mary Tuisku, his wife, served as mayor of Hancock from 1990 until 1995.

In recognition of his many years of radio news and public affairs broadcasting, Dick was inducted into the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in the summer of 2002.

Mr. Speaker, many people complain when they have to get up early to go to work, Dick Storm has been getting up before dawn for forty years to do radio news. I ask you and my House colleagues to join me in saluting a legendary broadcaster and a long time friend of mine, Richard Tuisku (a/k/a Dick Storm) on the occasion of his induction into the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES LEONARD
MILLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep respect that I recognize the life and passing of James Leonard Miller, who lived nearly his whole life in Center, Colorado for the many contributions he has made to his community and to his country. Mr. Miller recently passed away in September and, as his family mourns their loss, I would like to pay tribute to his life and memory.

Mr. Miller was born in 1943 in Monte Vista, Colorado where he grew up on his family's dairy farm. James attended Center High School and then received his Bachelor's degree from Colorado State University. He enlisted as a soldier in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War. After his service in our nation's military, James returned to the family business of farming. In 1985 while running his own farming business, James also worked as a sales agent for Lawson Products, Inc. His friendly demeanor and reputation for fair dealing won him the respect of his customers throughout the San Luis Valley.

Despite the constraints of a busy career, Mr. Miller also found the time to be active in his community. James was a member of Kiwanis