

Legion Post 72 Commander, Jerry M. Mitchell, opened our ceremony with a brief welcome and the Pledge of Allegiance. Legion Chaplain Dennis Farmer gave an invocation and then turned the ceremony over to Martha Bosley, Auxiliary Vice President who gave a short speech in remembrance of the victims and heroes of that fateful day. Auxiliary Unit 72 member, Jan Feldman closed our service with the singing of "God Bless America".

The more than fifty participants then took their American flags to the side of Route 37 to wave in a show of patriotism and were greeted by passing motorists who waved back. Later the members lighted all the luminaries the students had provided and placed them by the side of Route 37 as dusk fell. Again the passing motorists signaled their approval and appreciation by blinking their lights and honking their horns.

MULBERRY POLICE, FIRE/RESCUE, CITY
HONORED FOR SERVICE BY LEGION FAMILY
CHIEF DAVE HAMLIN POLICE OFFICER OF YEAR,
MIKE TEAM IS FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Prime rib dinner all of the trimmings was served to a large turnout Tuesday evening in the Mulberry Memorial American Legion Post Home.

This was an annual Mulberry Police and Fire/Rescue salute and awards dinner given by the local American Legion Post in cooperation with the Legion Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion.

The hall was filled with Mulberry Police and Fire/Rescue personnel and guests, a number of City officials, Legion family members and guests.

The annual Mulberry Police Officer of the Year award was given to Chief Dave Hamlin. Alan P. Hall, long-time Legionaire officer who has served five times as Post Commander, and as Department of Florida Commander, noted Chief Hamlin has been with the Mulberry force for many years, coming up through the ranks.

Alan P. Hall recalled some funny incidents over the years, remember growing up in Mulberry when the City had just one police car with one red light on it. He remembered the old Mulberry police station and when Dave Hamlin first came on the Mulberry force.

Chief Hamlin noted Mulberry is starting to grow, and quickly, and the City of Mulberry is working to be prepared with services for the growth and to serve present Mulberry needs. Last year's award went to Police Lt. Randy Tagliarini.

Mike Team, likewise, was named Mulberry Firefighter of the Year. He and other Mulberry Fire/Rescue and Police employees were thanked for what they do. Last year's winner of the award was Fire Chief Mitch Carmack.

Alan P. Hall noted these public servants work around the clock in Mulberry, working evenings, nights, weekends and holidays to help keep the City safe.

He said life is short and we need to respect each other and the job each other has to do.

Among Legion family officers helping thank Mulberry Police and Fire and City officials were present Commander of the Legion, Jerry Mitchell, Barbara Caruthers, Legion Auxiliary Chaplain, John Jennings of the Mulberry SAL, and Frank Pierce sang patriotic music to add to the occasion.

Among City officials in attendance recognized were ex-Mayor Sam and Lou Eva McLaughlin, City Manager Patricia Jackson, Commissioner Jerry and Judy Woods; Commissioner Jim and Flo Splaine and Commissioner Julian and Felicia Mullis.

SHERIFF CROW WAS FEATURED SPEAKER

Main dinner speaker was Polk County Sheriff Lawrence Crow Jr. who spoke about how "everything changed" in law enforcement and in this country on September 11.

He noted new measures being taken locally, including machine guns that will soon be in hundreds of area patrol cars.

Sheriff Crow talked about two helicopter duty deputies who died in the crash of their Polk County Sheriff's helicopter just after 9-11 on Oct 22, 2001. They hit a fog patch and the chopper crashed when infrared night vision must have led to a misperception of the craft's altitude.

The Sheriff noted Polk County is part of a nine-county group dealing with terrorism. The Sheriff's job is risk assessment.

He noted this phosphate area, the port of Tampa, the nuclear power plant near Crystal River and other points are targets in this part of Florida. He noted fertilizer elements may be used as explosives and this is a local concern with terrorism.

Sheriff Crow said there is a very real threat, in his opinion, if we go to war against Iraq we will have a backlash here against the United States.

In closing Alan P. Hall noted Mulberry Police and Fire/Rescue personnel should be respected and thanked, noting they deal firsthand with some things many people don't want to even see.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JENNY ELLIS

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker,

Whereas, Jenny Ellis has devoted herself to serving others through her membership in the Girl Scouts; and

Whereas, Jenny Ellis has shared her time and talent with the community in which she resides; and

Whereas, Jenny Ellis has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Jenny Ellis must be commended for the hard work and dedication she put forth in earning the Girl Scout Gold Award;

Therefore, I join with the Girl Scouts, the residents of Chillicothe and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Jenny Ellis as she receives the Girl Scout Gold Award.

TRIBUTE TO NORTHWEST GUILFORD HIGH SCHOOL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, Northwest Guilford High School has a reputation throughout North Carolina as an excellent academic institution. As the winner of North Carolina's "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" competition, Northwest Guilford has once again proven itself as a first-rate academic institution. Upon winning the North Carolina competition, a group of Northwest students instructed by Mr. Ray Parrish went on to compete at the national competition held in Washington, DC. The "We the People" program provides a forum in which high school students are tested and challenged on their

knowledge of the United States Constitution. The Northwest team demonstrated an outstanding comprehension of the issues and the fundamentals of American government and represented the Sixth District with courage and pride.

Congratulations to Mr. Parrish, Michael Bowles, Blair Brooks, Lauren Campbell, Marnie Cheshire, Jenny Cimaglia, Josh Clark, Kelly Crocken, Melati Crook, Nadia Eksir, Ricky Elmore, Kristin Forrest, Ken Gangong, Elias Hage, Shelly Hanks, Martha Heise, Haley Hoffman, David Holst, Taylor Johnson, Adam Kincaid, Heidi Kunkle, Carson Leach, Leigh Anna Pittman, Matt Rothkopf, Andrew Shoffner, Naresh Sundaresan, Anne Marie Wittmann, John Yeago, and Eliana Ziri. We would also like to thank State Coordinator Carleen Wray and District Coordinator Barbie Creech for their tireless efforts in supporting such a valuable program.

The Sixth District would like to extend its congratulations to Principal Mrs. Anne Murr, the students, faculty, and families at Northwest Guilford High School. Your hard work and dedication are admirable and set an example for all of us. Once again, congratulations and "Go Vikings".

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE VIENNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the 100th Anniversary of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department.

Established in 1903 at the behest of Vienna Town Councilman Leon Freeman, the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department has a long and distinguished history. Councilman Freeman served as the Department's first chief and remained active in the Department until 1936. Starting with his tenure and continuing to the present, the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department has consistently set the standard for fire safety in Fairfax County, having implemented a laundry list of groundbreaking fire safety initiatives. At the time of its founding, no other volunteer fire department existed in the region, making the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department the first of its kind in Fairfax County. It also acquired the first motorized fire protection in Fairfax County: a 1919 Model T Ford truck.

The Vienna Volunteer Fire Department exemplifies the success that can be achieved by volunteerism. Working together with Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department career staff, volunteers provide professional emergency response capabilities to the Town of Vienna and surrounding Fairfax County. Supported primarily by citizen donations and departmental fundraising activities, the department was able to stay up-to-date by purchasing over \$500,000 worth of equipment in 2002. The volunteers attend fire and medical training courses and host public education events during Kids Safety Week and Fire Prevention Week.

In our nation's time of need on September 11, 2001, the Fairfax County career staff assigned to Vienna were deployed to the Pentagon to assist with fire and rescue operations.

To help cover both Vienna and other areas in Fairfax County during their absence, the volunteers staffed additional emergency medical units, playing a vital role in helping our community to cope with the crisis.

Today, the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department consists of over 50 active volunteer firefighters, EMTs and administrative personnel. The membership also includes 13 Life Members, each having served 20 years or more, and some having served more than 60 years. Their dedication to public service has been selfless, consistent, and invaluable to the region. Fairfax County is truly indebted to the assistance provided by the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating these outstanding individuals on their century of service.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING SONYA McLAUGHLIN

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Sonya McLaughlin has devoted herself to serving others through her membership in the Girl Scouts; and

Whereas, Sonya McLaughlin has shared her time and talent with the community in which she resides; and

Whereas, Sonya McLaughlin has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Sonya McLaughlin must be commended for the hard work and dedication she put forth in earning the Girl Scout Gold Award;

Therefore, I join with the Girl Scouts, the residents of Chillicothe and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Sonya McLaughlin as she receives the Girl Scout Gold Award.

SALUTE TO DR. GREGORY SPIRAKIS

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, when Dr. Gregory Spirakis' 14-month-old baby, Petey, developed meningitis, the child was given antibiotics and recovered fully. When 14-month-old Andre Chionizilli of Balti, Moldova, developed meningitis, he lost his hearing because he had no access to antibiotics.

To help children like Andre, Dr. Spirakis, a constituent of mine from Lakeland, Florida, began a humanitarian mission in Moldova, one of the former Soviet Republics. Dr. Spirakis has made two more trips to Balti, one of the cities of Lakeland's Sister Cities.

During the second trip in August 2000, Dr. Spirakis, with financial support from the First Aviation Sertoma club of Lakeland, brought 115 hearing aids and 90 pounds of antibiotics and started a mobile audiology program.

Dr. Spirakis began traveling to Moldova to treat hearing-impaired children in 1997 after meeting Dr. Iurii Lobeev, his Moldovan coun-

terpart, in a medical exchange program in the United States. Dr. Spirakis and his wife, both audiologists, have made several visits to Moldova, consulting and treating more than 170 children.

In 2001, Dr. Spirakis founded the Moldovan Children's Audiology Foundation (MCAF) and provided financial and technical support for the establishment of the Hearing Protection Center in the city of Belts, Moldova.

The Center provides hearing and medical services for children with disabilities and operates a medical care unit fully equipped, through Dr. Spirakis's support, to solve children's hearing problems.

Dr. Spirakis has personally provided training to his Moldovan counterparts at the Center, Dr. Iurii Lobeev and Dr. Victor Vrabie, and has assisted them in traveling to Lakeland and throughout the State of Florida to learn American techniques for treating disabled children, developing their capacity to perform audiograms for children, choose treatment strategies, and provide other operations that were previously only available in a specialized hospital in Chisinau, the capital.

Through the combined efforts of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. Department of State, the MCAF, and Counterpart International, a container of medical equipment, consumables, school supplies, and furniture, valued at nearly \$48,000, was delivered to the Hearing Protection Center on October 1, 2002. With this delivery, the Center now has a state-of-the-art audiology clinic and provides services to the city of Belts and throughout the surrounding rural areas. The Center provides services to a larger number of constituents including newborn children, veterans, and pensioners with hearing disabilities.

The U.S. Agency for International Development's Bureau for Europe and Eurasia will be honoring Dr. Gregory Spirakis at a dinner on Tuesday, June 17, 2003 to recognize his efforts to improve the lives of people around the world and salute his continued commitment to foreign assistance. I would like to congratulate Dr. Spirakis for his work and express my thanks to him for his dedication and commitment to children around the world.

RECOGNIZING SAMUEL WELSH JOHNSEN FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Samuel Welsh Johnsen, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Sam has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities such as the H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation for six years. Over the six years he has been involved in scouting, he has earned 29 merit badges. Additionally, Sam has held numerous leadership positions in his troop and has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-o-Say.

For his Eagle Scout project, Sam organized a project to clean and paint fire hydrants in Kearney, Missouri. He painted them bright yellow to improve appearance and most importantly, so they could be easily seen in a time of emergency.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Samuel Welsh Johnsen for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING HANNAH AVERY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Hannah Avery has devoted herself to serving others through her membership in the Girl Scouts; and

Whereas, Hannah Avery has shared her time and talent with the community in which she resides; and

Whereas, Hannah Avery has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Hannah Avery must be commended for the hard work and dedication she put forth in earning the Girl Scout Gold Award;

Therefore, I join with the Girl Scouts, the residents of Kingston and the entire 18th Congressional District in congratulating Hannah Avery as she receives the Girl Scout Gold Award.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONGREGATION B'NAI ABRAHAM

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2003

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 100th anniversary of the founding of Congregation B'nai Abraham in Butler, Pennsylvania. Such a landmark event exemplifies a foundation based on both strength and unity. I wish the B'nai Abraham Congregation growth and prosperity.

In the year 1903, 25 Jewish families residing in the Butler community elected Abraham H. Goodman to serve as their spiritual leader and guide them in the Jewish traditions. That same year, the first service was held to commemorate the first Jewish High Holiday, Rosh Hashona, at the Knights of Pythias Hall, now the Reiber Building in Butler.

The congregation was officially deemed Congregation B'nai Abraham after obtaining a charter from the Common Pleas Judge James M. Galbreath in 1906. Over time Butler's Jewish community flourished and eventually established a large sanctuary and school facilities on Butler's North Main Street, which remains its home today.

During the 4th of July weekend, Congregation B'nai Abraham will celebrate its 100th anniversary and renew the relationships of both past and present members.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Congregation B'nai