

of Lakeshore Public Schools for over 10 years. Behind the scenes, Gary has been extremely active within the communities of Southwest Michigan, becoming involved with such organizations as the Lakeshore Rotary Club, Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce, Council for World Class Communities, Community Partnership for Lifelong Learning, and the Lakeshore Excellence Foundation. Constantly working to contribute to his community, Gary has truly earned my admiration and the respect of the entire South West Michigan Community. Congratulations, Gary! We wish you continued success! Go Lancers!

HONORING AMERICA'S FATHERS
FOR THEIR DEDICATION TO
THEIR WIVES AND CHILDREN

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to America's fathers.

Mr. Speaker, we often hear negative comments about fathers and fatherhood. We hear a lot about "deadbeat dads" and absent fathers.

It's easy to forget that there are millions of American fathers who love their wives and their children. They get up every morning and go to work to support their families. They go to baseball games and ballet performances and school plays. They help their kids with their homework, chaperone proms and mow the lawn. They treat their wives with respect and model healthy relationships. They make sacrifices and invest in the next generation.

Current research shows that these daily acts of responsibility and faithfulness have a major impact on child well-being. We also know that marriage is the foundation of responsible fatherhood, and that fathers who are married to the mothers of their children are more likely to be involved in their children's lives.

According to the National Fatherhood Initiative:

The best predictor of father presence is marital status. Compared to children born within marriage, children born to cohabiting parents are three times as likely to experience father absence, and children born to unmarried, non-cohabiting parents are four times as likely to live in a father-absent home.

In a longitudinal study of 2,500 children of divorce, twenty years after the divorce less than one-third of boys and one-quarter of girls reported having close relationships with their fathers. In contrast, seventy percent of youths from the comparison group of intact families reported feeling close to their fathers.

But, we don't need statistics to tell us that committed, involved father's are essential to the preservation of the family.

Yesterday, thousands of families in my district celebrated Father's Day. Amid all the distractions of our society, many stopped, for just a minute, to honor "Dad."

It seems that politics and social change and the faddish nature of our culture have not been able to erase the enduring value of fatherhood and the imprint that father's have in my district and across this great nation.

TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY TYMKOVICH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to Timothy Tymkovich, who will soon become the next federal appellate judge for the Tenth Judicial Circuit. A Colorado native, Timothy has spent his career practicing law and serving the people of Colorado. I am proud to stand today and congratulate Timothy on his appointment.

Timothy began his distinguished law career at the University of Colorado School of Law, where he became the managing editor of the University's Law Review. Upon graduation in 1982, Timothy worked for Chief Justice William H. Erickson of the Colorado Supreme Court. He was appointed as Colorado's Solicitor General in 1991, working with both Republicans and Democrats effectively. He left that post in 1996, returning to practice law in the private sector. In addition to his time in the courtroom, Timothy has served on the Governor's Columbine Review Commission and currently chairs the Colorado Board of Ethics.

Mr. Speaker, Timothy Tymkovich is an outstanding member of the Colorado community who certainly deserves the praise of this body of Congress and this nation. The commitment he has given to Colorado and to the practice of law clearly shows his dedication to justice. Timothy will be a fantastic judge in the Tenth Circuit and it is my pleasure to congratulate him here today.

TRIBUTE TO SARAH SHANK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to pay tribute to a courageous and benevolent young woman from my district. Sarah Shank of Durango, Colorado was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer three years ago at the age of eleven. When the disease went into remission the following year, Sarah decided she wanted to dedicate her time and efforts to help other affected children and their families combat cancer.

With the help of her family, Sarah founded "Country Kids With Cancer," an organization that provides emotional support to kids battling cancer and financial help to their families. People who live in rural areas, such as Sarah's family, often have to travel long distances to get treatment. "Country Kids With Cancer" works with Children's Hospital in Denver to identify and help such families with travel related expenses, which can be very expensive and are rarely covered by insurance.

Even though Sarah still deals with health-related problems stemming from cancer, she works hard to raise funds by speaking to neighbors at the local mall, hosting chili cook-offs, and organizing a charity golf tournament. Her efforts have directly helped nine families so far, and she is working to help more.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to recognize Sarah Shank here today. That she would

work so hard on behalf of others—after all she has been through—speaks volumes about her character. Sarah embodies the spirit of sharing and service that helped build this great nation, and I commend her for her leadership, thank her for her community service, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE MCGUIRE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to Mike McGuire, a Colorado State Patrolman who will be retiring after eight years of distinguished service. Mike served in Durango, Colorado as a Community Resource Officer, where he worked with area schools to promote automobile safety.

Mike joined the State Patrol in 1995, and was quickly promoted to Community Resource Officer. It was there that Mike worked with organizations such as the Colorado Department of Transportation and Mothers Against Drunk Driving, teaching the virtues of seat belt use and driver safety. He works as an instructor in the "Alive at 25" program, which gives ticketed drivers the option of a lesser fine if they attend a safety class. Mike was also instrumental in the formation of the Victim Impact Panel for Drunk Drivers, a panel that consists of family and friends of people who have been killed by a drunk driver.

Mr. Speaker, Mike McGuire is the type of person whose dedication and commitment to improving safety has made a difference in the lives of many young Coloradans. The Durango community has greatly benefited from Mike's hard work and perseverance, and I thank him for his efforts. Good luck, Mike, in all of your future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE IRAQI
FREEDOM FROM DEBT ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today with my colleague Representative JIM LEACH, I am introducing the Iraqi Freedom from Debt Act. This legislation consists of 'findings' and two major initiatives. It requires the U.S. to negotiate in the IMF, World Bank and other appropriate multilateral development institutions for relief of the debts owed by Iraq to these institutions. Secondly, it includes a sense of Congress that the President should urge France and Russia and all other public and private creditors to relieve the debts owed to them by Iraq.

I will speak in more detail on the merits of the bill later this week. I urge my colleagues to support this worthy legislation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENSURING
COLLEGE ACCESS FOR ALL
AMERICANS ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to submit, with my colleagues Representatives KILDEE, OBEY, OWENS, BISHOP, WOOLSEY, RYAN of Ohio, TIERNEY, DANNY DAVIS, KIND, HOLT, VAN HOLLEN and MCCOLLUM, the Ensuring College Access for all Americans Act.

Higher education is essential to ensure America's economic prosperity, national security, health and the success of individuals. Yet, as college enrollments swell, states slash higher education budgets and tuition continues to skyrocket, millions of American students and families continue to struggle to pay for a college education.

Despite these pressures, late last month the Bush administration decided to revise methods to determine student financial need, which will force a significant number of students and families to pay a higher price for a college education. As the June 13th New York Times article, "Change in Aid Formula Shifts More Costs to Students", documents, these revisions to the Federal needs analysis methodology for the 2004-2005 award year will result in substantially higher college costs for a large number of American students.

These updates, which were completed by the Department of Education without review or approval by the Congress, effectively will eliminate Pell grant eligibility for needy students or will reduce Pell grant awards or the amount of subsidized loans these students can receive. These changes will force students to mortgage their future by going further into debt to attend college.

At a time when the costs of attending college are growing higher every month, as states and private institutions raise tuition and other costs, I question the timing of these revisions.

The Department of Education's revisions to the allowance for State and other taxes are based on three-year-old data. At the time these numbers were compiled, our country had yet to enter the downward economic spiral that we find ourselves in today. Students are going to be denied critically needed financial aid because of the poor performance of the economy. Unfortunately, the failure of the Bush Administration to ensure economic viability has now come to rest on the backs of needy college bound students.

The Ensuring College Access for all Americans Act will reverse the Administration's revision and make certain that students are not denied critical financial aid. I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this tradition by supporting the Ensuring College Access for all Americans Act. It is an important step to making certain that all Americans can access a college education.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DONALD F.
WHALEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this

nation to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen from my district. Donald Whalen of Durango, Colorado has touched countless lives. He has served as a coach, friend, and mentor to the students of Fort Lewis College. The respect for Donald in the Durango area cannot be overstated, and it is for this reason that Fort Lewis College has dedicated their gymnasium to him.

Donald has committed his life to Fort Lewis, serving in numerous leadership positions within the school. He has worked as a physical education teacher, head coach of the men's golf and basketball teams, director of athletics, and interim school president. While performing these duties, Donald has always made time for his students. He provides them with friendship, advice, counseling, and has an attentive ear. One student even refers to Donald as "Mr. Everything."

Mr. Speaker, Donald Whalen is an outstanding member of his community, a man who certainly deserves recognition before this body of Congress and this nation. The hard work and dedication that Donald has given to Fort Lewis has positively impacted the lives of many students. It is clear that Donald has influenced America's youth, and I hope that his message of kindness, generosity, and resiliency will spread. Thank you, Donald, for your dedication to the community.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISE FICCO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Louise Ficco and thank her for her many contributions to Ouray, Colorado. Louise has spent over 30 years helping the less fortunate in the Ouray County Public Health Office and, as she plans her retirement, I am honored to speak of her contributions here today.

Louise began her service in Ouray in the early 1970's, helping the County Nurse with bookkeeping, and eventually expanded her duties to include home services and immunizations. Louise then began work in the "Women, Infants, and Children" division of the office, providing care for young mothers and their children. Her coworkers describe Louise as a "people person," doing everything necessary to make her patients comfortable. The Health Department was so worried about losing Louise that they have asked her to remain on as a consultant for the next four months.

Mr. Speaker, Louise Ficco has spent her life giving back to others. Public service is truly a noble calling which Louise has wholeheartedly embraced. Thank you, Louise, for your hard work and dedication to Ouray. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THERESA MCKINNEY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to recognize the almost four decades that Theresa McKinney of Rocky Ford, Colorado has contributed to the children of my state. For the last twelve years, Theresa has been kitchen manager at Rocky Ford High School, rising early in the morning to begin

her many hours of cooking as she oversees the nutrition of Rocky Ford's children. Theresa will soon be retiring from her service at Rocky Ford, and I am proud to speak of her accomplishments here today.

Theresa has seen many kids come and go in her years at Rocky Ford and I know she will miss the spirit and laughter that the children have brought into her life. Her dedication to the school system has provided the children with an exemplary model of hard work. Theresa always arrived early and worked hard until her job was done.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the contributions Theresa has made to the well being of Colorado's children. Her hard work and dedication to Rocky Ford High School is certainly deserving of recognition before this body. Theresa, I wish you well in all of your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO RAY CANDELARIA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 16, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a man who was willing to sacrifice in the service of our country. Ray Candelaria of Cortez, Colorado served this nation in World War II, going on to dedicate his time and effort toward the betterment of the Cortez community.

In order to serve his nation during a time of need, Ray left high school early to enlist in the Armed Forces. Ray joined up shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, serving in the Army for two years. He was injured and returned home, where he became active in numerous veterans' causes. Ray served as Commander of the Ute Mountain Post of the American Legion, Chairman of the Ute Mountain Rodeo Parade, and currently commands the Disabled American Veterans Post. His hard work and dedication to veteran's affairs have truly made Ray a leader in the Cortez community.

On May 22, 2003, Ray walked across the stage at Montezuma-Cortez High School and received his diploma after 60 years of service. He was one of several veterans who took advantage of a new Colorado law that enables those who fought in World War II to receive full high school diplomas.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Ray Candelaria and commend him for his service to our country. He and the other heroes of "the greatest generation" defeated totalitarianism and fascism, ensuring the freedom of all Americans. Ray left the simple pleasures of life in Colorado for the serious work of defending this great nation and it gives me immense pleasure to honor Ray and offer my congratulations on his graduation. Our country will always be grateful for his service.