

their involvement in the "Relay for Life" program. This past Holiday Season they "Gift Adopted" a local under-privileged girl, and donated money and new gifts to make her Christmas brighter.

Currently they are saving the proceeds from the sale of their Girl Scout cookies for a trip to Savanna, Georgia to see where Juliette Gordon Low, the Girl Scout founder, was born.

Amber Auth, Nicole Bruno, Melissa Fonczak, Emily Stanton, Rebecca Rose, Kimberly Carbonari, Rebecca Morse, along with troop leader Mimi Rose and assistant troop leader Nora Auth, deserve to be commended for their service and dedication, I am proud to have them as my constituents and am honored to be their representation in Congress.

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#### TRIBUTE TO KATHY ORTIZ

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### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Kathy Ortiz of Pueblo, Colorado for the selfless act of courage she displayed on November 8, 2002. Kathy's quick actions, along with the efforts of other students from Centennial High School, helped Edith Lichtenberg to safety after flames engulfed her home.

On November 8, 2002, billowing smoke one block from Centennial High School prompted a group of students—Prince Speights, Clint Albrecht, Nick Pino, Kathy Ortiz, Linus Trujillo, and Taylor Proctor—into action. Driving toward the smoke, the group quickly discovered the bushes and trees in 86-year-old Edith Lichtenberg's yard ablaze and used a cell phone to contact emergency dispatchers. The flames rapidly spread to the house and the group moved swiftly to make sure no one was in the home. With the fire engulfing the front of the house, the students jumped the locked fence around the backyard to warn anyone who might still be inside. Noticing the back door open and seeing Ms. Lichtenberg still inside, they caught her attention and guided her outside away from the flames. Kathy courageously assisted in getting Ms. Lichtenberg out of the house, and the group moved her to safety.

The youths maintained their composure during a time of adversity and conducted themselves in a fashion that has brought honor to themselves, their families, their school, and the entire community of Pueblo. It is always heartening to see young Americans meet such an extraordinary circumstance successfully. Courage like theirs strengthens and protects our communities everyday.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today and recognize the heroic efforts of Kathy Ortiz before this body of Congress and this nation. Kathy's quick actions, coupled with those of her fellow students, prevented a terrible fire from ending in great tragedy. Their selfless actions are an inspiration to us all, and it is an honor to represent such an outstanding group of Americans in this Congress.

IN SUPPORT OF MR. ESTRADA

### HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Ms. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of a fellow member of the Hispanic community and nominee to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, Miguel Estrada.

Mr. Estrada personifies the success and achievement of our beloved community. His legal expertise will add a profound dimension to the court that is considered to be precursor to the Supreme Court. As an attorney, he has argued 15 cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, and has tried 10 cases as a prosecutor for the Southern District of New York.

A native of Honduras, Miguel Estrada is an American success story. During his first years in the U.S., Mr. Estrada spoke virtually no English. His commitment to education and improvement of the individual is demonstrated by the excellence of his academic record. As a graduate of Columbia College, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa, and Harvard Law, Miguel Estrada's legal experience exceeds that of the average nominee.

If confirmed, Miguel Estrada would be the first Hispanic judge to serve on the court. President Bush served the Hispanic community well by nominating a man of such character and devotion to the Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, Miguel Estrada has my full support and best wishes on his nomination.

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#### ELIMINATION OF CAP ON MEDICAID PAYMENTS TO THE U.S. TERRITORIES AND COMMONWEALTHS

### HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to re-introduce legislation which continues to be the highest health care priority for the more than 4 million residents of our country's off-shore areas—the elimination of the cap on Medicaid payments to the U.S. Territories and Commonwealths.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, it saddens me as a physician, to report to you once again that our fellow indigent Americans living in American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands who qualify for Medicaid, receive less than adequate health care because the amount of federal Medicaid dollars we receive falls far short of meeting their needs. Because we face depressed economies with high unemployment rates, as well as, a growing indigent population, the ever-increasing cost of health care coupled with the federal cap means that our local governments have to bear a significantly greater cost of the Medicaid program than their counterparts in the states. This means, that for the bare bones Medicaid program in the Virgin Islands, the federal government contributed only \$5.59 million of the \$14,394 in fiscal year 2000 total cost of the program. In Guam, the local government spent three times more than the \$5.4 million they received from the federal govern-

ment to run their Medicaid program also in fiscal year 2000.

Mr. Speaker, this is my fourth term as a member of the House of Representatives. Every year I have been here, fighting to eliminate the cap on Medicaid for the insular areas has never been far from my focus.

Since becoming Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Health Braintrust, I have garnered the support of my fellow Caucus members in calling attention to this problem and have made lifting the Medicaid cap for the off-shore areas a central item in the CBC's overall health care agenda. I thank my colleagues for the support they have given me on this issue.

In 1997, we were successful with the help of the previous administration to secure important increases in our cap for which we were grateful but that was almost five years ago and the problems have gotten worse not better.

It is time that our country ends this inequity and, in this one area—health care—treat all Americans alike, whether they live in a state or not. We must end the practice of residents of the territories and commonwealths having to leave their homes to seek more and better health care services on the mainland, often splitting-up families all because our Medicaid program is under-funded and our local governments can't afford to pay the difference.

Mr. Speaker President Bush recently announced a proposal to modify and improve the way Medicaid works in the states. My colleagues from the off-shore areas and I look forward to working with the President, Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson as well as every member of this body to impress upon all of you the urgent need to end this unequal treatment of health care funding for the American citizens living in the territories and Commonwealths.

I urge my colleagues to join my cosponsors and I in supporting this bill. All Americans deserve the same health care program that their government provides, regardless of where in the country they happen to live.

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#### TRIBUTE TO CLINT ALBRECHT

### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Clint Albrecht of Pueblo, Colorado for the selfless act of courage he displayed on November 8, 2002. Clint's quick actions, along with the efforts of other students from Centennial High School, helped Edith Lichtenberg to safety after flames engulfed her home.

On November 8, 2002, billowing smoke one block from Centennial High School prompted a group of students—Prince Speights, Clint Albrecht, Nick Pino, Kathy Ortiz, Linus Trujillo, and Taylor Proctor—into action. Driving toward the smoke, the group quickly discovered the bushes and trees in 86-year-old Edith Lichtenberg's yard ablaze and used a cell phone to contact emergency dispatchers. The flames rapidly spread to the house and the group moved swiftly to make sure no one was in the home. With the fire engulfing the front

of the house, the students jumped the locked fence around the backyard to warn anyone who might still be inside. Noticing the back door open and seeing Ms. Lichtenberg still inside, they caught her attention and guided her outside away from the flames. Clint courageously assisted in getting Ms. Lichtenberg out of the house, and the group moved her to safety.

The youths maintained their composure during a time of adversity and conducted themselves in a fashion that has brought honor to themselves, their families, their school, and the entire community of Pueblo. It is always heartening to see young Americans meet such an extraordinary circumstance successfully. Courage like theirs strengthens and protects our communities everyday.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today and recognize the heroic efforts of Clint Albrecht before this body of Congress and this nation. Clint's quick actions, coupled with those of his fellow students, prevented a terrible fire from ending in great tragedy. Their selfless actions are an inspiration to us all, and it is an honor to represent such an outstanding group of Americans in this Congress.

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HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 26, honoring the contributions of Catholic schools to the academic and moral education of children on Guam and throughout our nation. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mr. VITTER for continuing the important role played by Catholic Schools here in the 108th congress.

The tradition of Roman Catholicism on Guam dates back to the arrival of Ferdinand Magellan in 1521. The island eventually became an important stop along the Spanish Galleon Trade Route.

In 1668, Padre Diego Luis de San Vitores and his missionaries brought Christianity to the people of Guam. They established a mission in village of Hagatna which later became the site of the first Catholic Church and is now the seat of the Archdiocese of Guam.

From these seeds, the Catholic faith on Guam has flourished and with it, faith-based institutions such as the Catholic School system have likewise thrived. Today, in one of the clearest manifestations of this tradition, nearly a quarter of Guamanian school children attend Catholic schools throughout the Island.

In the modern era, Bishop Apollinaris Baumgartner established the foundations of Guam's Catholic Schools. Guam's first Chamorro Bishop, Archbishop Felixberto C. Flores, made Catholic education a priority and instilled a tremendous pride in the academic and moral education provided by the Catholic schools. His successor, Archbishop Anthony S. Apuron has continued the tradition of excellence that has been the standard of the Catholic Schools in Guam.

The contribution of the Catholic school system to the people of Guam is reflected in our

local leaders in the clergy, government and private-sector who are alumni of the Catholic schools. I am confident the influence of the Catholic schools will produce Guam's leaders of tomorrow.

I would now like to recognize and commend the Catholic schools on Guam for their commitment to instilling the principles of academic knowledge and sound moral values in the daily lives of our children. Those offering a secondary curriculum include: the Notre Dame High School in Talofofo, Father Duenas Memorial School in Tai, and Academy of Our Lady of Guam in Hagatna. Additionally, those offering an elementary and middle school education include: Bishop Baumgartner Memorial School in Sinajana, Our Lady of Mount Carmel School in Agat, St. Anthony School in Tamuning, Saint Francis School in Yona, San Vicente School in Barrigada, and Santa Barbara School in Dededo. Finally, those offering a nursery school education include: the Dominican Child Care Development Center in Sinajana, Infant of Prague in Tai, Maria Artero in Hagatna, and Mercy Heights in Tamuning.

I would also like to recognize the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of Mercy, Dominican Sisters, the religious orders of Capuchins, Franciscans, Jesuits and Marists for their service in educating the children of Guam. I would also like to commend the Archdiocese of Hagatna under the leadership of Archbishop Apuron for its guidance in administering the Catholic Schools on Guam.

Finally, I want commend all the students, parents, teachers and administrators of Catholic schools in Guam and across the nation for their contributions to our nation and our world.

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STUDENTS IN FREE ENTERPRISE  
(SIFE)

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the commendable work of the Students in Free Enterprise or SIFE. This international nonprofit organization, headquartered in Springfield, Missouri, was highlighted in a Wall Street Journal article on January 14, 2003, by Carol Hymowitz titled, "Independent Program Puts College Students On Leadership Paths."

SIFE has been championing our free market system and changing the outlook of promising young business professionals and entrepreneurs for nearly a quarter century. Missouri's 7th Congressional District is not only the home of Drury University, 2001 National SIFE Champion, but eight other preeminent SIFE chapters.

As a former university president and teacher, I have seen firsthand the practical work experience and self confidence collegians gain from SIFE's leadership training and business competitions. These regional, national and international peer contests simulate the competitive nature of today's business environment while creating a risk-free learning atmosphere for the students.

SIFE teaches college students that they have the potential to change the world. In to-

day's global economy, it is no wonder more than 500 schools overseas have Joined the 797 SIFE chapters nationwide. As the Journal article detailed, SIFE allows students to put their untested business skills through rigorous opportunities like teaching school children about business concepts and going overseas to teach remote villages about the prosperity of free enterprise.

In keeping with the goal of acclimating students to the real business world, the SIFE chapter at my own alma mater, Southwest Baptist University, has held events such as resume workshops, financial planning seminars and mentoring programs. More than two decades ago, "March Mania" was created to teach public school children about free enterprise. SIFE team members teach the students lessons about supply and demand, international trade and consumer behavior. These experiences, coupled with the business competitions and training opportunities, not only teach young adults necessary business principles, but also demonstrate the importance of mentoring the next generation of business professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud of the investment SIFE continues to make in young people, and I'm proud they Join me in calling Missouri's 7th Congressional District home.

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TRIBUTE TO DAR EMME

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great sense of respect that I honor Mrs. Dar Emme. Through her efforts of suicide prevention, Mrs. Emme has helped countless Colorado youth.

In 1994, after Dar and her husband Dale's lives were personally touched by suicide, they created the Yellow Ribbon Program. Since then, they have firmly committed themselves to stopping others from taking their own lives. Dar currently volunteers more than fifty hours a week with the program, traveling all over the country and speaking to students about suicide prevention. She encourages students to start their own chapters of the Yellow Ribbon Program, which will take calls and emails from students and parents regarding suicide. Dar believes that enabling students to run their own programs facilitates leadership, and will make the programs stronger.

The Yellow Ribbon Program currently employs six people. They send kits worldwide and answer emails and letters from parents and youth regarding suicide prevention. This program has been of great importance in the lives of many people; since its inception, the program has received more than 2,500 letters from children saying that the program saved their life.

Mr. Speaker, it is with privilege that I recognize Dar Emme before this body Congress and this nation today. Mrs. Emme's efforts to help those at risk for suicide have been immeasurably beneficial in the lives of many.