the Town of Cruger, Mississippi. At 100 years old, Mrs. Willie Bell Wallace, the oldest Mississippi's citizen from the Town of Cruger, died on Sunday, March 30, 2003.

Mrs. Willie Bell Wallace was born November 2, 1902. She wedded Will Wallace and together they had three children. Unfortunately, two of her children preceded her in death.

She is survived by her grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was well known, loved, and honored by all the citizens of Cruger and many in the Holmes County area of Mississippi.

Affectionately known as ''Miss Honey'', she enjoyed good health all of her life, and God blessed her with a ''sound'' mind until she closed her eyes in death.

''Miss Honey'', you will be missed, but I know you are in a better place now. God bless you and your family.

HONORING CHARLES MICHAEL PEDERSEN FOR EARNING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles Michael Pedersen, 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 218, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Charles has been very active with his troop, participating in such scout activities as the 2001 National Scout Jamboree, Camp Geiger, Camp Geiger Staff in 2000, 2001, and 2002, and junior leadership training in 2002. Over the 11 years he has been involved in scouting, he has earned 29 merit badges. Additionally, Charles has held numerous leadership positions, serving as senior patrol leader, assistant senior patrol leader, troop guide, troop instructor, troop historian, and assistant patrol leader. Charles also has been honored for his numerous scouting achievements with such awards as the Arrow of Light Award, Camp Geiger Staffman of the week in 2001, Lone Bear Council in the tribe of Mic-O-Say and Tom-Tom Beater in the tribe of Mic-O-Say.

THE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO COMBAT HIV/AIDS IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA AND THE CARIBBEAN AND NATIONAL SECURITY ACT OF 2003

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Humanitarian Assistance to Combat HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean and National Security Act of 2003.

I have long been concerned with the problem of HIV/AIDS, not just in our own country, but also as it affects the poor countries of the world. I am proud that the response to this disease has been truly a bipartisan one. AIDS is blind to party stripes or political affiliation.

Mr. Speaker, my bill provides for an additional $2.5 billion over the next five years to increase and expand, in a significant way, our program to fight HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean. My legislation also calls for the Administration to place a medical officer in each of our embassies to help coordinate our response to this disease. The scientific community has not yet found a cure for HIV/AIDS, but there is a vast body of knowledge that has improved in a significant way the quality of treatment for those who have HIV and AIDS.

Sub-Saharan Africa is far more severely affected by AIDS than any other part of the world. In fact, AIDS has surpassed malaria as the leading cause of death in sub-Saharan Africa, and it kills many more people than armed conflicts.

The statistics, Mr. Speaker, are startling. Africa, where an estimated 3.5 million people were newly infected with HIV in 2002, has approximately 10 percent of the world's population but more than 70 percent of the worldwide total of people infected with HIV. In 2002, the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) reported 29.4 million people were living with HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. At the end of 2001, an estimated 21.5 million Africans had lost their lives to AIDS, including an estimated 2.2 million who had died during that year alone. UNAIDS estimates that by 2020, an additional 55 million Africans will lose their lives to this illness. This pandemic is having a much greater impact on children in Africa than is the case in other parts of the world.

According to UNAIDS, more than 600,000 African infants become infected with HIV each year through mother-to-child transmission, either at birth or through breast-feeding. These children have short life expectancies, and the number currently alive may be about one million children.

In 2001, about 11 million children became orphans by AIDS in Africa. Because of the stigma attached to AIDS, children who become orphans by AIDS are at high risk for being malnourished, abused, and denied an education.

While the AIDS epidemic in the Caribbean countries does not compare to the severity of the pandemic in Africa, there are an estimated 420,000 people living with AIDS in Caribbean countries. Moreover, the HIV/AIDS adult prevalence rate in several countries in the Caribbean is among the highest outside of sub-Saharan Africa.

Mr. Speaker, the toll of this disease has brought unspeakable sorrow and distress to Africa, the Caribbean, and other areas of the world. Our government has made a very good effort to address this disease in Africa and elsewhere; indeed we are in the forefront of the battle. Notwithstanding this fact, if we are to be successful in saving our brothers and sisters in Africa and the Caribbean, we must expand our effort in these regions significantly. That is the purpose of this legislation, Mr. Speaker. With the additional resources, both financial and human, provided for in my legislation, we can begin to stem the tide of this disease. We know what works in the effort to combat HIV/AIDS and we need to get on about the business of doing it.

Mr. Speaker, America is a great country. In the long history of mankind, our greatness will be measured as much by what we do for the needy and the less fortunate of the world as it is by the quality of life we achieve in our own country. The real measure of our humanity as a nation is our ability to share our treasure, our time, and our talents with the truly needy.

If Congress does not further America's commitment to the global war on HIV/AIDS, then it is doing a disservice to the entire world community. I ask my colleagues for their support for this legislation, and I urge the leadership to bring it to the floor for its immediate consideration.

HONORING DR. HERBERT S. MOYER, ON HIS 75TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate my dear friend Dr. Herbert S. Moyer on the occasion of his 75th birthday. Over the course of his lifetime, Dr. Moyer has proven himself to be a passionate and effective educator, a committed community servant and a loving husband, father and grandfather.

A lifelong Michigan resident, Dr. Moyer worked as both a teacher and school administrator before becoming Superintendent of the Bedford Public Schools in 1984. Herb retired from the same position 13 years later, having provided stable and visionary leadership for the Bedford Schools. Dr. Moyer's professionalism and accomplishments earned him the Michigan Superintendent of the Year distinction in 1994. More importantly, under Dr. Moyer's direction, the Bedford Public Schools made tangible and steady progress in academic achievement. Herb also advocated unique partnerships with community organizations that enabled Bedford residents to benefit from resources the school district owned and, in turn, enabled the school district to benefit from the collective good-will and talents of all of its residents.

Once retired, Herb abided the same sense of community service evident from when he served in the United States Army in both Germany and Austria. Dr. Moyer successfully ran for a seat on the State Board of Education and has served to help guide educational policy for the entire State of Michigan in this position since 1996. Herb is also an ordained Presbyterian Elder, remains active with the Monroe Chamber of Commerce and the Monroe Democratic Party. As part of his legacy in the Bedford Public Schools, Herb funds a $1,000 scholarship to be awarded annually by the Bedford PTA to the student who has demonstrated outstanding academic and volunteer achievement.

Mr. Speaker, I am humbled and honored to count such an accomplished and distinguished man and public servant amongst my friends. I ask that you join me in congratulating Dr. Herbert Moyer on his 75th birthday and in wishing him and his wife, Lonnie Peppler Moyer, many more happy years of life, marriage and service to his community.