

Rican people. Brian O'Dwyer is the recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor Award, the Outreach Project Annual Service Award, the New York City Council Spirit of New York Award and, in July 2000, was named a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre by Edward Cardinal Egan of New York.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Brian O'Dwyer and the McManus Democratic Association. To Mr. O'Dwyer and the dedicated professionals, volunteers and friends of the McManus Association, I offer my continuing admiration, respect and support.

RECOGNIZING ALBERT RICHARDS,
CAIRON AUSTIN-HILL, AND
MARQUAY WRIGHT FOR EXTINGUISHING A FIRE

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize three remarkable young men from my district.

Albert Richards, 14, Cairon Austin-Hill, 14 and Marquay Wright, 12, were walking to school in April 2004, when they noticed a fire burning in an empty field. With no thought for their own safety, they raced over and stamped out the blaze before it could cause any injuries or property damage. Their quick thinking may have averted a major disaster.

As we so often hear about the bad things young people do, it was refreshing and, indeed, encouraging to learn of Albert's, Cairon's and Marquay's actions. These young "firefighters" are examples of the best of America's young people. Their bravery and selflessness are very laudable qualities in people of any age, especially children. I am very pleased to have such fine young men living in my district.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2004 ALL-AMERICAN BOY AND GIRL PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the students in the Third Congressional District of Illinois who participated in the All-American Boy and Girl Award Program. I am proud to report that eighty remarkable students from schools located on the southwest side of Chicago were recognized for their achievements.

I started this program in the late 1960's when I was a Recreation Supervisor for the Chicago Park District. After over thirty successful years, this program is still the cornerstone of my efforts to identify and recognize young men and women who get involved in their community while excelling in the classroom and participating in extracurricular activities.

The All-American Boy and Girl Program recognizes 7th and 8th grade students who live and attend school in the Third Congressional

District of Illinois. The final award winners are selected by a panel of judges comprised of local community leaders, teachers and elected officials.

I would like to pay special tribute to the winners who were announced at a ceremony held on May 7, 2004. Third place was awarded to Emily Masek, Steve Rosenbaum, Ellis Fagan and Robert Edstrom. Second place went to Amanda Meza, Tom Costello, Jessica Jurevis and Jonathan Braun. Finally, first place was awarded to Christine Marie Molina, Damien Fox, Brooke Borowiak, and Andrew Jarzebek.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2004 All American Boy and Girl Award winners and participants on their academic and leadership achievements, and extend to them my best wishes for much success in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE CAMPBELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise before you to pay tribute to a remarkable woman from my district. Maggie Campbell of Montrose, Colorado has dedicated the last thirty-two years working for the Montrose County School District, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize her commitment to the Montrose community before this body of Congress and this nation today.

During her career reviewing lunch forms and paying the bills for the schools in her district, Maggie has seen nine superintendents pass through the school district. While Maggie understands that it is unusual to stay in the same position for an entire career, she has the pride of seeing her office grow from the ground up.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise before this body of Congress to pay tribute to Maggie Campbell. Maggie has demonstrated a tremendous commitment to Colorado's youth in her service to the school system and the community of Montrose. Maggie will be sorely missed and I wish her all the best in her retirement. Thank you for your service Maggie, and good luck in your future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall votes No. 210, No. 211 and No. 212. If present I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in this Chamber on

April 2, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 115, 116, and 117.

In addition, I was inadvertently delayed and missed votes on June 1, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 210, 211, and 212.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH ACABA,
FIRST PUERTO RICAN EVER IN A
NASA ASTRONAUT CLASS

HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joseph Acaba, the first Puerto Rican ever in a NASA Astronaut class. Mr. Acaba, a mission specialist and educator in Dunnellon, Florida, was recently chosen as a member of the 2004 Class of Astronaut Candidates. He is one of three mission specialist-educators, selected from a field of more than 1,000 applicants, who will train with more than 100 astronauts at the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Joseph Acaba, 36, was born in Inglewood, California. His father Ralph was born in Arecibo, Puerto Rico, and his mother Elsie was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Mr. Acaba has been teaching math and science at Dunnellon Middle School since 2000. He has degrees from the University of California at Santa Barbara and the University of Arizona. He is a former Peace Corps volunteer in the Dominican Republic and also managed a research station in the Bahamas.

Space travel has intrigued Joseph Acaba since childhood. His father would show young Joseph filmstrips he had saved of the first landing on the Moon. Now, Joseph Acaba is one step closer to being the first Puerto Rican in space or even the first "Boricua en la Luna" ("Puerto Rican on the Moon"), the title of a famous and beloved poem—later turned into a song—by Puerto Rican poet Juan Antonio Corretjer.

Mr. Acaba has said that, besides family photos and hot tamales, he plans to bring the Puerto Rican flag into space. We hope to live to see the day when this happens. In the meantime, we are very proud to have in Joseph Acaba a young, talented and dedicated Puerto Rican who will continue to educate and inspire others through his hard work, his example, his commitment, and his pioneering spirit. How fitting that the first Puerto Rican space trainee is also a much-admired middle school teacher of science and math who has broadened his students' minds.

I ask that you join me in honoring Joseph Acaba, the first Puerto Rican ever in a NASA Astronaut class.

TRIBUTE TO ELDER EDWARD STANTON, SR.

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay well deserved recognition to Elder Edward Stanton, Sr. of Memphis, Tennessee.

An ordained minister with the Memphis-based Church of God in Christ, Elder Stanton has earned a special place in the heart of his community for his service to others. Having served our country faithfully in both World War II and the Korean War, Elder Stanton carried this superior level of dedication into his 25 year tenure with the U.S. Postal Service and into his role as Assistant Pastor of Temple Church of God in Christ. His commitment is further observed in his longstanding devotion to his wife of over 50 years, Helen, as well as his entire family.

Elder Stanton's faith in action has been a guiding force for people across the Memphis community. In addition to his volunteer efforts as a District Chief Probation Officer with Memphis's Juvenile Court system, Elder Stanton has earned a special place in the hearts of many for his work to help the homeless and destitute citizens of his community. For a number of years, he owned and operated a boarding house that took in homeless individuals and others who lacked housing options. In an act of Christian love, Elder Stanton helped to manage the finances of many of these individuals and provided all of the residents with an array of amenities and free-of-charge services in an effort to help these individuals reach a better quality of life. For these services, the Memphis City Council has appropriately named the street on which this facility was located in honor of this noble man.

However, even with the street renaming, one of the most fitting and profound credits to the legacy of service he continues to bequeath is that Elder Stanton's family has followed in his sizeable footsteps by positively impacting the civic, political, non-profit, educational, business, and religious communities in Memphis.

For his over 40 years of service to his denomination and his example of leadership for his family and city, I would ask my colleagues in the U. S. House of Representatives to join with me in honoring Elder Edward Stanton, Sr.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND FRANCIS ROURKE

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Raymond Francis Rourke who passed away on Monday, May 24 at the age of 86. Ray was a loving father and husband, an outstanding public servant, and friend and mentor to many including myself.

I ask unanimous consent to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the Lowell Sun's Editorial from May 26:

RAY ROURKE. 1917-2004

If Lowell could build a pantheon to its all-time great civic leaders, a statue of Ray Rourke would stand on a pedestal alongside those of Paul Tsongas, Telemachus "Mike" DeMoulas and others.

Rourke, who died Monday at the age of 84, was a Mill City icon and a throwback to an era of Irish gentlemen who succeeded in combining a valued family life with an equally strong commitment to public service.

In his essence, Rourke was a good listener and a specially good adviser. He never told people how to think; instead he kindly coun-

seled them as to the importance of what they should be thinking about. It was a philosophy that won him hundreds, if not thousands, of lifelong friends.

Of all his many accomplishments, Rourke considered his greatest legacy to Lowell and the state of Massachusetts to be his seven children. "I added to the economy seven times," he would proudly say at Mr. Al's Barbershop on Middlesex Street.

Rourke will go down in political annals for his long and distinguished public service as a city councilor, mayor, state representative and state Deputy Secretary of Transportation in both the Dukakis and King administrations. Yet if we could write a fitting epithet for his statue, in our pantheon of Lowell greats, it would read:

"Ray Rourke [1917-2004], one of those humble yet great working-class men from Lowell's 'Flats' neighborhood who decided to do something good for the community and succeeded."

Ray is survived by his wife, Rita; his two daughters, Maureen A. Cohen and Nancy L. Vieira; his three sons, Raymond R., Richard P., and John P.; and his sixteen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRENT CURTICE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brent Curtice of Paonia, Colorado, on being recognized by the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals as the Colorado High School Principal of the Year. The award acknowledges leaders who have provided high quality learning opportunities for students. In honor of Brent's award, the Town of Paonia also declared April 7 as "Brent Curtice Appreciation Day." This award is a well-deserved testament to his achievements in education.

Brent began his career in education twenty-two years ago as a teacher and athletic director at Hotchkiss High School. Thirteen years later he accepted a position at Paonia High School. His leadership and dedication have helped to take the school to the upper echelons of academic excellence, including achieving a top five ranking among 2A schools in Colorado for the ACT college entrance exam. Brent, however, is quick to note that it is the work of the students and teachers that really make the school a success.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and achievements of Brent Curtice before this body of Congress and this nation. His efforts to continually challenge his students through a demanding curriculum is truly remarkable, and the recognition he received from the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals as their 2004 Colorado High School Principal of the Year is a well-deserved testament to his tireless efforts. I sincerely thank Brent for his service.

HONORING MR. KENT GIBBS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Kent Gibbs of the Orange County Council Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Gibbs became President/Scout Executive of the Orange County Council Boy Scouts of America in 1982. Immediately after he assumed his new post, his organization was faced with severe funding cutbacks and a forced thirty percent staff reduction. Despite all of these hardships, Mr. Gibbs was still able to provide services for young men and women across Orange County.

Mr. Gibbs was also heavily involved in the undertaking of a \$21 million Major Gifts Initiative to provide funding to support outreach efforts into the inner city communities and needed capital improvements.

The Orange County Council has been recognized as a Quality Organization by the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America, and Mr. Gibbs was a recipient of the James E. West Fellowship and Heritage Society Award.

I would like to extend my best wishes to Mr. Gibbs on the occasion of his retirement and thank him for his service to the communities of Orange County.

2004 ENERGY STAR FOR HOMES— OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the following homebuilders from in or around my congressional district for their recent recognition as Oncor 2004 ENERGY STAR for Homes—Outstanding Achievement Award: Ashton Woods Homes; Beazer Homes of Dallas; Buescher Homes; Coleman Homes; D.R. Horton; David Weekly Homes; Highland Homes, LTD; History Maker Homes; KB Homes; Landstar Homes; Legacy Homes; Lennar Homes; Mercedes Homes; MHI; Morrison Homes; Oak Creek Homes; Optima Homes; Paul Taylor Homes, and Ryland Homes.

Forty-six builders participated in the 2003 Oncor ENERGY STAR Homes program. Each of the Award recipients registered with the EPA and constructed at least 50 ENERGY STAR homes in 2003. Collectively, winners built 11,505 ENERGY STAR qualified homes.

The ENERGY STAR program is a government industry partnership for promoting energy efficient products. ENERGY STAR eligible homes use considerably less energy than standard homes. Because of lower energy usage, ENERGY STAR homes save homeowners money because they cost less to heat and cool. In addition, they help to reduce air pollution—a particular concern in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Nationwide almost 20 percent of air pollution results from energy used in homes. Just one ENERGY STAR home can