

Maryland. Alfred L. Woolridge, Gordon T. Boyd, Leroy A. Battle, and Alfred McKenzie were four individuals with separate lives and histories. Each brought unique skills to their service and each helped to form this historic group of Tuskegee Airmen. I would like to take this opportunity to speak briefly about each of these incredible men and share a bit about them with you.

Mr. Alfred L. Woolridge, a Baltimore resident, joined the Tuskegee Airmen after enlisting in the Army in 1942 and being assigned to the Tuskegee Army Air Field in Alabama. A scientist with a master's degree in chemistry and mathematics, Mr. Woolridge worked as an aircraft engineering officer ensuring that the planes were safe to fly every morning. After leaving the Army in 1946, Mr. Woolridge worked as an analytical chemist in Maryland until 1974. He remained an active member of his Baltimore community until his death in March of 1998.

After being inducted into the Army Air Corps during World War II, Mr. Gordon T. Boyd Jr. became a bombardier and a navigator. He joined the Tuskegee Airmen after being assigned to the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Mr. Boyd ascended to the rank of First Lieutenant and is credited with helping newer cadets adjust to military life. After being honorably discharged in 1946, Mr. Boyd worked as a management specialist for the U.S. Census Bureau until his retirement in 1979. Before his death on May 5, 1995, Mr. Boyd became a charter member of the East Coast Chapter D.C. Tuskegee Airmen Inc.

Mr. Leroy A. Battle was a jazz musician who played with Billie Holiday before he was drafted into the Army in 1943. He volunteered to join the Tuskegee Airmen and soon became a bombardier and a navigator. On April 5, 1945, Mr. Battle along with 100 other airmen, defied orders by attempting to desegregate the officer's club at Freeman Field in Seymour, Indiana. The Freeman Field Incident played an important role in African-American attempts to combat racism in the Armed Forces and eventually paved the way for President Truman's order to desegregate the Army in 1948. After being honorably discharged from the Army, Mr. Battle spent 29 years teaching before retiring in 1978. He continues to be an active member of his community by speaking out about his experiences as a Tuskegee Airman.

Mr. Alfred McKenzie joined the Tuskegee Airmen after being drafted into the Army in 1942. After completing advanced training, Mr. McKenzie became a B-25 pilot. He was sent to Freeman Field in Indiana where he later joined Mr. Battle and 100 other airmen in attempting to desegregate the officer's club. After World War II ended, Mr. McKenzie continued to fight for the cause of civil rights. After being passed over for a promotion numerous times at the Government Printing Office, McKenzie filed a class action lawsuit. The suit resulted in an order to end discrimination in promotions and a \$2.4 million award in back pay to over 300 people. He continued to work for various civil rights causes until his death on March 30, 1998.

These four men exemplified the bravery of the legendary Tuskegee Airmen. They served their country both on the battlefield and off and were valued members of their Maryland communities. Mr. Speaker I am honored to speak today on behalf of H. Con. Res. 417 honoring all of the Tuskegee Airmen including

these four gentlemen. At a time in our history when we mark the unbelievable accomplishments of the Greatest Generation, dedicate the new World War II Memorial, and commemorate the 60th Anniversary of D-Day—I think it is only fitting that we recognize these men and their fellow airmen of Tuskegee.

A TRIBUTE TO TAIWAN VICE
PRESIDENT ANNETTE LU

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this weekend the eyes of the world will return to the beaches of Normandy as we commemorate the 60th Anniversary of D-Day, a seminal event in the liberation of Europe from tyranny that ensured peace and prosperity for generations. And as it turns out, D-Day was not the only event sixty years ago that would have a major impact on world history and the cause of freedom and justice. On June 7th, we will also celebrate the 60th birthday of Annette Lu, who has become one of most tireless fighters for democracy, women's rights and equality, and who has just been re-elected vice president of Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, Vice President Lu's understanding of human rights is rooted in part in her graduate studies in the United States. She received her Masters degrees in Law from both the University of Illinois and Harvard University. After that, it would have been relatively easy for Annette Lu to stay in the United States to practice law, or to pursue a quiet legal career in Taiwan. Instead, she returned home in 1978 to run for Taiwan's National Assembly. In 1979, the authoritarian regime threw Annette Lu in jail because she had the temerity to make a speech commemorating International Human Rights Day. She spent five years and four months behind bars, but she took up the cause again immediately upon her release.

Out of prison, Annette Lu continued her fight for democracy and international recognition for Taiwan. As a local official, as the National Policy Advisor to former President Lee Teng-hui, and as a leading member of the Legislative Yuan—Taiwan's highest lawmaking body—Annette Lu fought successfully for a greater role for her homeland in international affairs, for women's rights in Taiwan and around the world, and for adherence to internationally-recognized human rights.

In May 2000, Annette Lu was elected Taiwan's first female Vice President, which is no small achievement. Vice President Lu has since traveled the world demonstrating Taiwan's efforts and achievements in human rights, democracy, and humanitarianism. She has built bridges to the people of Tibet and India, and for her efforts has received the Peace Corps Academy's World Peace Prize.

In short, Annette Lu has made a great contribution to Taiwan and to the international community, thanks to her steadfast beliefs and her unwillingness to remain silent in the face of injustice.

In that same spirit, Mr. Speaker, we here in Washington should take meaningful steps to end a continuing injustice: the manner in which our nation treats senior officials from

Taiwan, including the President and Vice President. When former President Lee Teng-hui was invited to give a speech at his alma mater, Cornell University, in 1995, it was my great honor to win passage of a resolution demanding that the State Department grant him a visa. Despite fierce resistance from an administration reluctant to defy China, we won that battle, and the world kept spinning after President Lee's visit to Ithaca. Now that Taiwan's Presidential elections are past, it is high time that President Chen and Vice President Lu be welcomed in Washington, DC.

This coming Sunday in San Francisco, I will have the enormous privilege of presenting Annette Lu with an award for her untiring efforts in the cause of human rights, her devotion to equal rights for women, and the personal sacrifices she has made to help uplift those who are suffering injustice. I will bring her a copy of this statement as a sign of the respect that she commands in the U.S. Congress. But Mr. Speaker, the day is coming when the Vice President and President of Taiwan will be able to visit our nation's capital and we in this body should do all that we can to hasten that historic day.

RECOGNIZING BRANDYWINE
HEIGHTS HIGH SCHOOL MARCH-
ING BAND

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Brandywine Heights High School Marching Band. The Marching Band was selected as one of the few bands to represent the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at the official dedication of the World War II Memorial over Memorial Day weekend.

The Brandywine Heights High School Marching Band is unique in that it is one of few bands in the country that is modeled after a Revolutionary war music regiment. The Marching Band is steeped in this tradition and is able to maintain its revolutionary style by wearing authentic reproductions of Continental army uniforms and by marching with precise military bearing. The only songs performed by the marching band are patriotic, again keeping with the tradition set forth by the Continental soldiers in the 18th century.

The Brandywine Heights High School Marching Ensemble consists of four parts: the Marching Band, the Fife and Drum Corps, the Band Front, and the Bugle Corps. The Marching Band consists of 70–80 musicians and to maintain its military bearing, the band strives for not only for uniformity in dress, but also in marching. The goal of the Marching Band is to be recognized as a single unit rather than as individuals. In order to achieve this, the band performs the "Drill of Attention," which is a check list to focus band members and assemble them with correct stance and posture.

The Fife and Drum Corps consist of ten to fifteen fifes and three drummers. They play a selection of fife tunes that were played over 200 years ago by their revolutionary counterparts. As one of the very few fife bands in the country, the corps has done much to enhance the image of the band as a whole.

The Band Front consists of an honor guard, flag corps, and majorette squad. The honor

guard carries the national and state flag as well as many revolutionary artifacts. The flag corps performs routines with flags that represent each of the original thirteen colonies and the majorette squad performs precise routines with flags in synchronization with the band.

In 2003, the band introduced a new aspect to their ensemble, the Bugle Corps. The Buglers have many responsibilities, most importantly calling to the band to formation and playing taps.

The Brandywine Heights High School Marching Band has made quite an impact on their community and has been given the opportunity to perform in numerous local and national parades. In 2002, the band was awarded 1st place in the King Frost Parade and 2nd place in the Miss America Parade. The Fife and Drum Corps was given the prestigious honor to perform at the ceremony marking the movement of the Liberty Bell to a new location in Philadelphia and the Band Front won first place at the Ephrata Fair parade.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the Brandywine Heights High School Band for their unique style, hard-work and dedication, and great enthusiasm that have made the band one of the most successful and unique bands in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN DON REDD

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of Captain Don Redd, who was presented with the General Douglas MacArthur Army Leadership Award on May 26, 2004. The MacArthur Leadership Award is presented to 27 recipients each year to company grade officers and warrant officers who show exceptional leadership in command and embody the principles of duty, honor, and country that are central to the Army tradition. Captain Redd's selection recognizes his proven ability to motivate and inspire his fellow soldiers, and to provide leadership at critical moments.

Captain Redd currently serves as commander of Headquarters and Support Company, 3rd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (A) in Fort Carson, Colorado. He has served in combat tours in Kosovo and twice in Iraq. He also has a Master's Degree in National Security Affairs from Georgetown University.

I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Captain Redd for his achievement and to thank him for his exceptional service in defense of our country.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO COURTNEY HUTTON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I stand to pay tribute to Courtney Hutton for her poem

voicing the resolve of the American people in support of our troops and our country. Courtney is a student at Riverside Middle School in New Castle, Colorado. I wish to share this poem with you:

DEAR SOLDIER

Do you sing the Star Spangled Banner before you head out to war? Are the Star Spangled Banner's words held close to your heart as you serve our country and it's beliefs? Your eyes have witnessed so much devastation because of your dedication to America. But yet citizens continue to take for granted our lives. Dear Soldier you have so much integrity so much honor. Thank you dear soldier.

Can you see as you gaze into the horizon at dawn a bright and hopeful flag waving diligently in the breeze? Frances Scott Key could, on a morning during the war of 1812 he jotted down a poem as he remembered the Star Spangled Banner that had waved there just the night before. It was transformed though, into the flag that Americans would honor and love for years to come. He asked himself through the next few verses, whose stars and stripes could last through so many rockets and bombs that flew from the forts below? Only the flag of America could stand true through so much hardship. The red glare of the bombs gave him proof that the American flag stood. It waved valiantly over the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I remember 9/11/01 the first time this song ever meant anything to me. Though I'm sure has always meant so much to you Dear Soldier. It, I'm sure, inspired your love for the service and your country; our country's national anthem, a symbol of America, the majestic Star Spangled Banner. It stands for our lives, Dear Soldier. Your memories are filled with guns, flags, blood, fights between great people and enemies, and acts of integrity. That is how your life is the Star Spangled Banner in action. Americans alike turned to the words of the Star Spangled Banner for hope and wisdom during 9/11, and because of its special place in the hearts of citizens around the country we will continue to act with the same love and honor as you Dear Soldier. Although the rise and fall of people and their beliefs will always be constant in the US, the meaningfulness of our dear anthem will never change.

I once read, "To follow the path of an American, is to honor the words of the Star Spangled Banner," and I believe that to be true because you have shown me how Dear Soldier. You honor the Star Spangled Banner with your devotion, patience and love to the USA and your job. In doing this you, Dear Soldier, you see destruction beyond the thinkable. You have followed the American path and have been strong. Yet I am concerned, during the days of 9/11 America was brought together, but now everything is back to normal, we fight and compete. Citizens forget or even ignore the words of the Star Spangled Banner and take our lives for granted. They forget the many treacherous battles both won and lost in Iraq, Korea, and Afghanistan. I have hope though that the few good acts of kindness and compassion will expand to millions over the years and the Star Spangled Banner will be kept in mind when making choices.

So my heart, my soul, my feelings, about the Star Spangled Banner, and its definitions, to me and to America have been poured out to you dear soldier, my gratitude for your service and devotion. Your life is the Star Spangled Banner in action. Strong feelings arise in my heart when those verses are sung. Thank you Dear Soldier for the service and love you so freely give America, the world, and me.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to share Courtney's poem with you. Her support is indicative of the strength of our proud nation, and I want to thank her for voicing this support.

IN SUPPORT OF THE TEACHER TRAINING ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern over the fact that we are taking the time to once again vote on legislation that is good, but not great. I would like to ask my colleagues why, if we are going to do the same job again, we are not taking the opportunity to do it better?

I support the Teacher Training Enhancement Act, H.R. 4409, and I voted for this legislation the first time it was offered on the House floor as H.R. 438, the Teacher Training and Recruitment Act. By extending loan forgiveness for up to \$17,500 for qualified math and science teachers in secondary schools and special education and reading teachers in elementary schools who work for five years in low-income areas, H.R. 4409 will help those schools attract qualified teachers. But, this legislation could be significantly improved by expanding loan forgiveness to all teachers in high poverty schools, head start teachers and teachers in extremely rural school districts.

When we passed the No Child Left Behind Act, we made a promise to parents and children that there would be a qualified teacher in every classroom. In the 1999-2000 school year, over a fifth of secondary school students took at least one class from a teacher who neither majored nor minored in the subject they are teaching; over a third received instruction in at least one class from a teacher who was not certified in the subject taught and did not have a major in that subject. There is an extreme shortage of qualified teachers across all of the academic disciplines, especially in areas that are economically depressed. Unfortunately, this legislation only provides assistance to math, science and special education teachers. While there are shortages in these fields on a national basis and they need and deserve our support, our most disadvantaged school districts and communities need highly qualified teachers in all subjects and early education.

We should be taking advantage of our second chances. As long as we are going to take the time to re-vote on legislation, I urge my colleagues to take the time to ensure that we are passing the best legislation possible. Our constituents deserve nothing less.

TRIBUTE TO A DIPLOMAT

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute today to Taiwan's top representative in the United States, Ambassador C.J. (Chien-Jen) Chen who is planning to return to