

who, because of segregation, were not able to enjoy most of America's beaches. This area of Florida's northeastern shore attracted African Americans from all over the country. While this nation struggled to find equality within its shores, American Beach provided a relaxing, culturally unique vacation spot for African Americans along the ocean's edge.

The significance of this site was recognized when the beach and 120 residential homes in the area were added to the National Register of Historic Places. Additionally, in 1992, the Florida Legislature named American Beach the first site on the Florida Black Heritage Trail.

In his recently released budget, President Bush provides resources for a new "Preserve America" program through the National Park Service. This initiative is designed to encourage heritage tourism throughout the country. Today, this legislation answers the President's call without spending a single dime of taxpayer's money.

Last year, American Beach's neighbor, Amelia Island Plantation made arrangements to donate these 12.5 acres to the National Park Service. Unfortunately, the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve is not able to accept this generous gift because the acreage rests outside the boundaries of the Preserve.

This legislation allows the National Park Service to accept this historic site by simply modifying the boundaries of the Timucuan. I support this addition to the Timucuan—and others like it—where willing property owners and the National Park Service can work cooperatively as stewards of our national treasures.

Mr. Speaker, it is especially fitting this legislation comes to the floor of this House as we celebrate Black History Month to honor those individuals who worked to bring equality to all Americans.

THANKING COURTNEY AND CHLOE SMITH FOR REPRESENTING LOUISIANA DURING THE CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK CELEBRATION

HON. DAVID VITTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 3-year-old twins, Courtney and Chloe Smith, of Alexandria, Louisiana. Courtney and Chloe have been selected to serve as ambassadors for the millions of kids treated this year at children's hospitals across the United States.

Born in March 2000, Courtney and Chloe are the smallest twins at birth ever to survive in the U.S. For over 3 months, they fought for their lives in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at CHRISTUS St. Francis Cabrini Hospital. Due to their miraculous show of strength, they will serve as representatives for Foresters Champions Across America, a national Children's Miracle Network program.

As representatives of Louisiana, Courtney and Chloe will visit Capitol Hill and the White House to meet with some of our Nation's leaders. They will also travel to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida to participate in the taping of the Children's Miracle Network celebration.

As the father of twin girls, I am able to comprehend the magnitude of such a situation.

Children are a gift, and any parent is twice as happy when two special children are brought into the world at one time.

I come to the floor of the House of Representatives today to personally commend, honor and thank Courtney and Chloe Smith for taking on the responsibility of representing Louisiana during such an important and meaningful event. It is rare that we as Members of the U.S. Congress are able to recognize people that are so young and yet so fierce in their fight for life. Courtney and Chloe can truly attest to the life-saving abilities and importance of the Children's Miracle Network. This nationwide system of hospitals deserves tremendous acknowledgement and appreciation for all the assistance they bring to families such as the Smiths.

Again, thank you to Courtney and Chloe Smith for so honorably representing the state of Louisiana.

HONORING GEORGE M. MOORE JR.

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George M. Moore, Jr., a resident of my district, for his service and commitment to America's veterans. Mr. Moore has served as Director of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Martinsburg since 1998. In 1999, Moore became the Prosthetic and Sensory Aids Service Line Director, making him responsible for the management of all prosthetic operations in Martinsburg, WV, Baltimore, Maryland, and Washington, DC. Previously he has worked with the VA in Pittsburgh, Cleveland, and Jackson, MS.

Moore served our country on active duty as an Air Force fighter pilot in Vietnam. Recently, the Disabled Veterans of America recognized him as their 2003 Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year.

All of us in West Virginia and in Congress are proud of the service George Moore has given to our Nation. Both as a soldier himself, and later as a worker for disabled veterans, Moore has distinguished himself as a leader in our Nation's fight for freedom.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to apologize for my absence from the House floor this past week. My father, Ralph Pombo, Sr., underwent heart surgery last week and it was important that I be with him and my family in California during this trying time. As such, I was unable to attend votes last week. We all pray for his swift and full recovery.

HONORING ED CASEY, RECIPIENT OF THE "HEART O'GOLD AWARD"

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure today that I honor Ed Casey, an outstanding American who has dedicated himself to cultural exploration and community service, as the "Heart O'Gold Award" is bestowed upon him by the Quaboag Highlander Pipe Band of Monson, Massachusetts.

Ed Casey is an icon in the Pioneer Valley and western Massachusetts and is well known throughout the community for his commitment to bagpipes and Celtic culture. As a resident of Springfield and Belchertown, MA, Ed has played his pipes at parades, inaugurations, celebrations, and internments. He is loved by so many in our area.

Mr. Casey, who spent years as a public school teacher in Holyoke, MA, has taught the craft of playing the bagpipes to many others interested in learning to play. Yet, unlike most music teachers, Ed did not learn to play music through the traditional route of lessons and formal training. He learned to play the bagpipes, as he would say, "by ear" and "by heart."

Mr. Speaker, there are many families in western Massachusetts who have never met Ed Casey, but perhaps it is their lives that have been most directly impacted by his generosity. For years, in lieu of accepting any fee for performing at internments, Ed Casey has directed families to instead make donations to the Open Pantry, a food collection and distribution center in Springfield that feeds the hungry in western Massachusetts. In doing so, thousands of dollars have been collected to provide food for the poor and the needy.

It is my pleasure to honor Ed Casey today in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as someone whose selflessness and talent should be recognized and emulated by those around him. Congratulations Ed upon receiving this honor. Your good work has not gone unnoticed.

HONORING BENSON'S BATTALION

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to praise a valuable organization based within the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania which has made a significant improvement in the lives of western Pennsylvanians. I am proud to represent the congressional district which is the headquarters for Benson's Battalion, a charitable organization created to fight terror and provide financial support to Pennsylvania police, fire and other related public safety groups.

Kris Benson, a pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates, along with his wife Anna founded Benson's Battalion in October 2001 following the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Since the creation of the organization, Kris and his wife have donated a significant amount of time and money to benefit local firefighters and police agencies. Benson's Battalion has provided

local police stations with over \$3,000 in funds matched by the government for new equipment and over \$5,000 in grants for local firefighters to assist in the purchase of new equipment as well. This is truly an organization that makes the lives of Western Pennsylvanians better every day.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring this fine organization and the volunteers who support it. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to recognize Benson's Battalion for its efforts to improve the safety of western Pennsylvanians.

SUPPORTING VIRGINIA'S WHITE COAT DAY

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Virginia's White Coat Day. As many as 1,500 physicians from all over the State marched on the Virginia Capitol today to make the case for common-sense medical liability reform in the state legislature.

Led by the Medical Society of Virginia, today's White Coat Day march on Richmond is designed to educate State lawmakers on how doctors' skyrocketing malpractice insurance is limiting patients' access to medical care. Outrageous runaway jury awards are causing malpractice premiums to rise uncontrollably, and many doctors are being forced to shut their doors.

The doctors' offices across the Commonwealth that are closed today for the march are symbolic of what out-of-control insurance premiums are doing to our medical system. Doctors being forced to close their doors because they can no longer afford insurance directly affects rural, low-income and senior health care in my district and State.

Mr. Speaker, the pattern of doctors nationwide protesting high medical insurance premiums is a clear sign that the entire system is broken. Not only should the Virginia Legislature address this issue, but we as a Congress need to do the same. We need to take President Bush's lead in ending the jackpot payouts that our legal system encourages. While the House has passed legislation to reform the medical liability system, it is now time to enact common sense reforms into law.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the doctors in Virginia for taking a stand today. I know they do it for their patients.

SAFEGUARDING SCHOOLCHILDREN OF DEPLOYED SOLDIERS ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Safeguarding Schoolchildren of Deployed Soldiers Act of 2004.

Today there are 129,000 United States troops serving in Iraq alone, including nearly

80,000 reservists and members of the National Guard. As the Congressional Representative for the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, I recognize the enormous disruption of deployment on their families.

When soldiers are deployed, many arrangements must be made. Many men and women are leaving a job, a family, or even children behind.

We have long recognized the need to minimize the hardships to these men and women, as demonstrated in the comprehensive Servicemember's Civil Relief Act. Originally enacted in 1940, this law provides relief to military personnel from many of the economic and legal burdens they have incurred because of their deployments. This law never anticipated lengthy deployments by mothers and fathers who may not have any choice but to send their children to live with another parent, sister, or grandfather one or two towns away.

I learned firsthand how deployments can cause significant upheaval in a child's life when the brother of a deployed soldier recently contacted my office. He explained that his niece had moved to live with her mother while her father was away fighting in Iraq. As a result, she was prevented from attending her normal high school because she no longer resided within the school district.

According to the Department of Defense, there are currently 1.2 million children with military parents in the United States. This number is only slightly less than the total number of adults currently serving in the Armed Forces.

I am proud to introduce, along with my colleague Representative BROWN-WAITE, the Safeguarding Schoolchildren of Deployed Soldiers Act. This bipartisan legislation would ensure some measure of continuity for children who change residence as a result of their parent's military service by allowing them to continue to receive an education at their schools, even if they are temporarily residing outside the school district.

As our men and women in uniform continue to be deployed in support of military operations around the world, it is vital that we do our best to minimize the disturbance to their lives and that of their families.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Safeguarding Schoolchildren of Deployed Soldiers Act. We owe this protection to the education of our children and to the peace of mind of our soldiers.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRANK GULIUZZA III

HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate Dr. Frank Guliuzza III, a resident of Ogden, Utah, and a professor of political science at Weber State University, on his reception of the CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) Award for Teacher of the Year. I am pleased that the CASE organization recognized the caliber of Dr. Guliuzza as a professor and as a citizen.

Dr. Guliuzza has an impressive record: he has published two books (*American Government*, *American Ideals* and *Over the Wall*:

Protecting Religious Expression in the Public Square) and three more will be completed by 2005. He has served as the Chairman of the Department of Political Science and Philosophy at Weber State University since 2002 and has taught courses including Constitutional Law, The Modern Presidency, and Constitutional Rights and Liberties. Earlier this year, Dr. Guliuzza was presented with Weber State University's most prestigious faculty honor: the John S. Hinckley Fellow award for excellence in teaching, service, and scholarship.

Dr. Guliuzza is an asset to his university and community. He founded the Weber State university mock trial team in 1996 and, under his direction, Weber State has earned several top-ten finishes at national tournaments. Dr. Guliuzza ran for the United States Senate in 2000 and has served as a Chair of the Weber County Republican Party and Vice Chair of the Utah Republican Party. A licensed minister, Dr. Guliuzza has served in ecclesiastical positions at Calvary Baptist Church in Ogden, First Baptist Church in Brigham City, and Mountain View Baptist Church in Layton. He has served his fellow men at the most basic and important level. Dr. Guliuzza and his wife of 21 years, the former Kathy Spaulding, are the foster parents of two children, Matthew Williamson and Timothy Stoddard.

Despite all of these awards, accomplishments and interests, Frank's true passion lies with teaching. As a former high school history teacher, I understand this purpose. And he is an excellent teacher, in the truest sense of the word. As Dr. Guliuzza said, "One need not be prominent to be a great woman or man." Frank is a great teacher, one who guides his students, who enlightens, shapes and challenges them. He is also a great American, and I am pleased to recognize him on this occasion.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF ROSE KENNEDY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2004

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the holiday season 2003 marks the passing of a loved and beloved member of our community of Toledo, Ohio. Rose Kennedy, a mother for our community and a pioneering activist of her North Toledo neighborhood, passed from this life on December 26, 2003 at age 76.

I came to know Rose and her husband Bob nearly three decades ago as she vigorously pursued improvements in her neighborhood, Toledo's oldest. Small in stature, unassuming by nature, she worked on larger-than-life projects side-by-side with community leaders on the revitalization of the heart of our city, starting in North Toledo with beautification initiatives. Most notably, North Toledo's signature effort, the Buckeye Basin Greenbelt Parkway, has Rose's imprimatur. Without Rose Kennedy's personal tireless efforts, this major parkway construction which diverted traffic from North Toledo streets and upgraded the entire region with a linear greenbelt in the heart of our city would not have been realized. She pursued this goal for nearly a quarter century, and proudly stood by as the dream was finally brought to fruition and ribbons cut.