

RECOGNIZING THE NESHANNOCK
HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL TEAM
AS THE 2004 CLASS 'A' PENNSYLVANIA
STATE CHAMPS

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2004

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Neshannock High School baseball team, this years' Class A Pennsylvania State Champions. Head coach, Michael Kirkwood lead the Neshannock Lancers to the State Championship game, where they defeated the Muncy Indians by a score of 8-4. The Lancers ended the season with an impressive 23-1 record.

I am happy to see such spirit, dedication, and teamwork flourishing in the congressional district that I represent. I wish the members of 2004 Neshannock baseball team continued success.

I am proud to have such talented young athletes in the 4th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, and I ask that all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives join with me in recognizing their great achievement.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING
MR. SAMUEL JAMES "SANDY"
KAHN

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2004

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I and my colleague, Congressman RANDY CUNNINGHAM, rise today to recognize and commend to the House a man who embodies the spirit of America and has worked tirelessly for his community. Mr. Samuel James ("Sandy") Kahn, a third generation Californian, has had both a distinguished business career and an unselfish record of community and philanthropic service.

Sandy received his undergraduate, graduate and law school education at the University of San Diego. He is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of one of our country's largest privately owned real estate development companies that developed in excess of 25% of the developable land in the City of San Diego. Although a successful business owner and executive, Mr. Kahn has always been committed to public service. He became a member of the San Diego Sheriff's Department Reserve program. Sandy graduated first in his academy class and progressed through the ranks from Deputy to Sheriff's Captain retiring honorably in 1995 after 25 years. For his service he received the department's highest award for meritorious service.

He has given unselfishly of his time to his community, State and nation. He was selected by the Adjutant General of the State of California to serve on the Advisory Board for Homeland Security. The San Diego County Board of Supervisors appointed Sandy to its Board of Economic Advisors for two terms. He serves as the Chairman of the Board of Trust-

ees of the Thomas Jefferson School of Law and in October of 2001 he was appointed by the CEO of the San Francisco Federal Reserve bank to the "Beige Book" survey committee of leading economic indicators. He is a trustee of the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation which is committed to defending the interests of crime victims and law enforcement through both State and Federal appellate jurisdictions.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman DUKE CUNNINGHAM and I ask that the House commend Mr. Kahn for his accomplishments and his service to our Nation.

HONORING FERMI 2 POWER PLANT
FOR EXCELLENCE IN HEALTH
AND SAFETY PROGRAMS

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2004

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fermi 2 Nuclear Power Plant located in Monroe County, Michigan. The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration is awarding the Michigan Star to this DTE Energy Company plant for its accomplishments in health and safety.

The Michigan Star is the highest recognition awarded by the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration and its Michigan Voluntary Protection Programs. The honor acknowledges exemplary programs in both the areas of health and safety for all employed in the power plant. This recognition is the most rigorous of the MVPP's awards, which is a true testament to the work done in this nuclear facility.

The Michigan Voluntary Protection Programs provides both employers and employees with very specific and distinct tools used to measure and evaluate the plant's programs. This award demonstrates that all of those working at the Fermi 2 Plant have worked together in achieving excellence beyond basic compliance with health and safety programs.

This power plant employs some 900 workers and provides electricity to an estimated one million residents of Southeastern Michigan. In a work environment that is so sensitive, the employers and employees of the Fermi 2 Plant have committed themselves to health and safety practices that will ensure a more productive plant for them and the community they serve.

Such accomplishments in our nuclear power plants are vital and commendable, setting an example for similar facilities. I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in recognizing DTE Energy, the Fermi 2 Nuclear Power Plant, and all of its employees on the occasion of receiving the Michigan Star.

TOW TRUCK OPERATORS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2004

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce federal legislation that will

help states and localities rein in rogue towing operations that continue to harass and take advantage of local residents.

In 1994, Congress enacted the Federal Aviation Administration Act which opened a loophole permitting tow truck operators to qualify as interstate carriers exempt from state and local regulation.

A year later in 1995, Congress passed another attempt to streamline the federal government in the form of a law eliminating the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC). This legislation struck down the regulatory body that provided federal oversight of the tow truck industry, leaving the tow truck industry without proper federal, state or local regulation.

In the years since, a number of conflicting U.S. District court rulings between towing operators and localities have been issued, including a 2000 Supreme Court decision in the City of Columbus v. Ours Garage and Wrecker Service. While the Supreme Court found that both state and local governments have the ability to exercise, free from federal preemption, the "safety regulatory authority" provided in law, the Court unfortunately failed to address what specific types of regulation would qualify under this distinction. Subsequent federal court decisions have yielded little additional clarity and have probably confused the issue further.

Without a clear judicial precedent, states and localities have been confronted with a barrage of problems related to "non-consensual" or "trespass tows." It has been brought to my attention that in Arlington County, VA alone, over 280 complaints and inquiries with regard to trespass towing have been received in the past 2 years.

Due to a lack of clear guidance from the courts and the large number of cases which have been brought to my attention involving a group of small but very active predatory towers in this region, I am here this morning to announce the introduction of legislation that will close the federal loophole, once and for all, that has prevented states and localities from having the full authority to regulate all aspects of "non consensual" towing.

Entitled the "State and Local Predatory Towing Enforcement Act of 2004," this legislation simply amends title 49 of the United States Code to give state and local governments the ability to enact common-sense, pro-consumer "trespass towing" protections for their residents.

Something is wrong when, in the absence of any federal regulatory oversight, local and state governments do not have the proper authority to protect their citizens against companies not conducting safe business practices.

Whether it be overcharging someone an arm and a leg for parking illegally in an area with no signs properly designating the space, to a lack of ATM machines at tow lots requiring cash only transactions to get your car out of impoundment, tow companies should be held accountable by state and local governments for non-consensual towing practices that do not take the consumer into account.

A solution to bring an end to this out of control problem is needed. The "State and Local Predatory Towing Enforcement Act" is that solution. It will correct a lack of regulatory oversight for an industry whose image is being tarnished by a few bad apples, and in doing so, will return power back to the people.

HONORING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAL STATE SAN MARCOS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate California State University San Marcos for its 15th Anniversary which will be celebrated on September 1, 2004. It is an honor to recognize the accomplishments and contributions that this university has made over the years for the City of San Marcos, and the San Diego region, and for the priceless opportunities it has provided for over 13,000 graduates.

Over the past 15 years Cal State San Marcos has grown from a small campus with classes held in rented space next to a furniture store to an accredited four-year institution that is the leader for higher education in the northern San Diego region. The creation of Cal State San Marcos resulted from more than 20 years of work by business and civic leaders who understood how important a university campus could be to the region. A leader among them was Assemblyman and later State Senator William A. Craven, who obtained initial state funding for the campus.

In 1990, President Bill Stacey, twelve founding faculty and key administrative support staff were hired and the campus consisted of 448 upper division students. As of today I am proud to say there are 7,777 student enrolled at Cal State San Marcos. I have closely observed the rapid growth of this institution and couldn't be more proud of its accomplishments. I have witnessed numerous campus facilities rise from the hillside where it was established, including their newest addition, the Kellogg Library.

I have worked closely with past presidents, including Dr. Alexander Gonzalez, who served the institution from July 1998 to July 2003, and is currently the president of California State University Sacramento, the sixth largest campus of the twenty-three California State Universities. His successor, Dr. Karen Haynes, has come to lead Cal State San Marcos from the Victoria, Texas, campus of the University of Houston, where she was president since 1995. With the exceptional vision and value of leaders like these two, a city that embraces collegiate excellence, and a community that prides itself on positive growth, it is only befitting that a successful institution of higher education emerge.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize California State University San Marcos for 15 years of collegiate excellence and the continuing role this institution plays in enriching the lives of students. This campus is fused with boundless optimism as it prepares to meet the higher education needs of a growing region. Happy Birthday Cal State San Marcos.

HONORING WILLIAMSTOWN MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the students of

Williamstown Middle School who have received the Principal's Award over the past two academic years. The Principal's Award is given to students who have earned straight A's for at least one academic quarter, clearly an accomplishment worthy of notice.

As these young constituents have already realized, the importance of education should never be underestimated. These students have clearly shown their commitment to education and academic achievement, and are well on their way to becoming our nation's future leaders. I wish to congratulate these individuals for their firm dedication to learning, and urge them to continue along this path.

During the 2002–2003 school year the Principal's Award was received by the following sixth graders: Sequia Adams Ferebee, Jennifer Annarelli, Brittany Arnold, David Barbalace, Kevin Barger, Victoria Becker, Jordan Bonder, Gillian Bradley, Krista Butler, Ashley D'Ambrosio, Nicholas Davis, Francesca Dougherty, Tiffany Fanelli, Sarah Fauvell, Kayla Gennarelli, Daniella Genovese, Nicole Goldsmith, Chelsea Grahamslaw, Courtney Grim, John Lafferty, Daniel Lang, Matthew Leonardi, Dena Mahoney, James Maldonado, John McCormick, Kevin McDonough, Kimberly Nothstein, Steven Ray, Victoria Rocco, Jody Salvatore, Timothy Schipske, Jaclyn Stewart, Nicholas Stola, Katie Trotter, Chris Whipple, Ashley Wilkinson, Gabrielle Wurdarski. In the seventh grade the following students received the award: Erika Abel, Kristen Antonelli, Rachel Brown, Krisitin Capasso, Grace Ann Charles, Arielle Dibling, Christina Fucellano, Amber Hassan, Meeghan James, Jocelyn Jengehino, Amber Kane, Brian Kelly, Amanda Kimer, Brittany Kubat, Brian Lallier, Mandy Lei, Denay Morrison, Christine Oagar, David Ofosu-Appiah, Daniel Palieri, Brielle Sneed, Michelle Talnagi, Frances Ulmer, Megan Wadsworth, Mark Washko, Tara Weeast, Collin Whipple. Eighth grade recipients included: Justin Abraham, Adam Brinkman, Heather Butler, Hollie Butler, Jamie Dougherty, Shady El Damaty, Eric Flinn, Angela Forjohn, Douglas Fuscina, Amanda Gregory, Lisa Guarrera, Josh Haynes, Anne Inacay, Robert Knecht, Sandra Lamplugh, Christopher Lewandowski, Anthony Lopez, Nicholas Marella, Anthony McCullough, Michael Mueller, Joseph Obraczewski, Frederick Powell, Niccolo Reggente, Kacey Richards, Sarah Sottile, Anthony Stola, Gerard Tigue, Michael Torres, Heather Vischoric, Amanda Williams, Arielle Williams, Laura Williams.

During the 2003–2004 school year the following students of the sixth grade received the award: Emilie Albert, Douglas Blankenship, Amanda Branda, Stephanie Bradley, Jessica Bullman, Jamie Cattell, Mia DiFilippo, Amber Endres, Mariel Enriques, Caitlin Graham, Joseph Gratton, Brandon Harner, Amy Harrington, Juliet Jengehino, Ashley Jones, Sarah Kee, Sean Kryston, Shannon Listman, Rachel Maiorano, Jessica Martinez, Robert Mele, Carly Moffa, Briana Molino, Nicholas Randazzo, Gabrielle Richardson, Jade Richardson, Christopher Rotella, Corrie Sellers, Veronica Shevlin, Jacob Sprengle, Caitlin Stewart, James Stewart, Jennifer Stief, Andrew Sudler, Amanda Tran, Alexander Vickers, Keyanah West, Alyssa Worstell. Seventh grade recipients included: Brittany Arnold, David Barbalace, Jordan Bonder, Gillian Bradley, Michelle DeCraene, Francesca Dougherty,

Tiffany Fanelli, Sarah Favell, Danielle Genovese, Robert Giarnone, Jr., Courtney Grim, Jason Irlieh, Charlotte Kirkby, Kelli Kleinsmith, John Lefferty, Daniel Lang, Dena Mahoney, Kevin McDonough, Kimberly Nothstein, Sheeaa Rastogi, Steven Ray, Tanya Roberson, Victoria Rocco, Jody Salvatore, Nicholas Stola, Katire Trotter, Crystal Uzdevenes. Recipients in the eighth grade were: Keleofa Bernard, Kristin Capasso, Grace Ann Charles, Jamie Curran, Christina Fucellaro, Antonio Inacay, Brian Kelly, Michael Kessler, Amanda Kimex, Melissa Kortman, Julian Magner, Daniel Palmieri, Julianne Smith, Sharon Sudarsanan, Magan Wadsworth, Mark Washko, Tara Weeast, Collin Whipple.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me in recognizing the Principal's Award recipients of Williamstown Middle School. Their accomplishments are truly deserving of national commendation.

CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 2004

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a treasured institution in the Armenian-American community and in my Congressional District, the "Armenian Weekly Newspaper" which is celebrating its 70th Anniversary of publication this year.

Since 1934, the English-language Armenian Weekly has been published by the Hairenik Association of Watertown, Massachusetts, located in my district. The Association also publishes the Armenian Weekly's parent publication, "The Hairenik," which is the longest running Armenian-language newspaper in the world.

Mr. Speaker, this past April we gathered to commemorate the Armenian Genocide, one of the darkest chapters of World War I, and what is sometimes called the "Forgotten Genocide." The Armenian Weekly plays an invaluable role in helping all of us to remember that tragic period, but more importantly, to celebrate the lives of the survivors and their wonderful and enduring culture.

In September of 1919, President Woodrow Wilson spoke of his vision of a future Armenia. He said, "Armenia is to be redeemed . . . So that at last this great people, struggling through night after night of terror, knowing not when they may come out into a time when they can enjoy their rights as free people that they never dreamed they would be able to exercise." Since the rebirth of the Armenian nation following the collapse of the former Soviet Union, the Armenian Weekly has run numerous stories on issues and events affecting the politics and economy of the Republic of Armenia, and the efforts of the Armenian-American community to support its struggle to survive and prosper.

Mr. Speaker, two of our most cherished freedoms in the United States are freedom of speech and freedom of the press. For seventy years now, Armenian-Americans have been