

most important lessons—the value of team work. Basketball, like all sports, teaches us the value of sportsmanship, camaraderie, practice, and commitment to excellence. These are skills which will serve these young people well as they begin to make a difference in the world. I am proud to extend my sincere congratulations and very best wishes to them all as they begin the tournament.

I would be remiss if I did not extend a special note of thanks to the many volunteers who so generously donate their time and energy to making this event possible. Coaches, parents, faculty, administrators, and friends all play important roles in bringing the St. Mary Invitational to life. Without your dedication, commitment, and energies, we would not be able to share this very special event with our young people. The fact that many of the adults who today volunteer their time to the tournament were once players themselves is testament to the legacy of this special event.

In its thirty-year history, the St. Mary Invitational has touched the lives of over fifteen thousand young people across Connecticut. It is with my deepest thanks and sincerest appreciation that I rise today to join the many well-wishers in extending my heart-felt congratulations to the St. Mary School Parochial Invitational Basketball Tournament on their 30th Anniversary. You have made such a difference in the lives of so many and I know that you will continue to leave an indelible mark on our community.

LET FREEDOM RING

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today my colleague from the 3rd district of California, the Honorable DOUG OSE and I ask all our colleagues to join us in a special commemoration of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. On September 11, 2004, as part of the "Let Freedom Ring—Bells Across America" remembrance, participating churches across the nation will, beginning at noon, toll four bells at one-minute intervals to honor those who perished on the four hijacked commercial aircrafts on September 11, 2001. On the fifth minute, a chorus of bells will be played to recognize and pay tribute to the countless people whose lives were greatly affected by the events of 9/11. As the churches of the Sacramento Region join together to remember one of the most tragic days in our nation's history, we ask all our colleagues to join us in the "Let Freedom Ring—Bells Across America" remembrance.

The "Let Freedom Ring—Bells Across America" remembrance is the brainchild of Mr. Stu Varner, a resident of the Sacramento Region. Like millions of his fellow Americans, Mr. Varner was greatly affected by the catastrophic series of attacks that occurred at New York City, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Mr. Varner held a deep conviction that those who lost their lives on 9/11 should never be forgotten, and that they should be properly recognized as heroes. Mr. Varner believed that September 11 should be a day of somber and serious reflection much like Memorial Day and Veterans Day. As a re-

sult, Mr. Varner developed the idea of the "Let Freedom Ring—Bells Across America" remembrance. Mr. Varner wishes that the synchroscopic ringing of bells by churches across America will help create a wave of remembrance for the thousands who lost their lives and the many more whose lives were drastically affected as a result of 9/11.

Mr. Speaker, as the churches of the Sacramento Region participate in the "Let Freedom Ring—Bells Across America" remembrance, my colleague Mr. DOUG OSE and I are honored to pay our respect and tribute to the innocent people whose lives were prematurely cut short or greatly altered by the 9/11 tragedy. We ask our colleagues to join us in remembering the tragic events of September 11, 2001 by participating in the "Let Freedom Ring—Bells Across America" remembrance.

TRIBUTE TO LAKE FENTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to bring to your attention an event that took place in my district. On Saturday, August 21, 2004 the Lake Fenton Community School district gathered to mark the official ribbon cutting and formal dedication of their newly constructed Lake Fenton High School. The celebration concluded on Sunday, August 22, 2004 with a non-denominational service and community open house.

Lake Fenton High School was first dedicated on May 19, 1961. With increasing enrollment and changing educational needs the Lake Fenton Board of Education and the Lake Fenton Schools Support Services/Facilities Committee implemented plans to build a new high school. Their hard work and dedication resulted in three elective bond activities, and the final product is the first newly built facility within the Lake Fenton School district and the only new high school constructed within Genesee County in over 30 years. This is indeed an accomplishment worth commending.

The new high school boasts state of the art technology, computer and science labs, a media center, auditorium, gymnasium, and an outdoor athletic facility. The labs will allow the school to fully support their new program entitled "Project Lead the Way". This program introduces students to the demanding field of Engineering and Digital Electronics. As stated by their Principal, Julie Clontz, Lake Fenton High School is trying to in every way possible to adjust their curriculum to meet the needs of the students and help prepare them for life after high school. The completion of this beautiful new facility and the implementation of these exciting educational programs is without a doubt a step in the right direction. Superintendent Ralph Coaster has provided excellent leadership in this endeavor.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I consider it both my duty and privilege to work to improve the quality of our public school system. I am glad that communities such as Lake Fenton share this sentiment. They continue to work diligently to ensure students have the tools necessary to compete and succeed. I ask my colleagues of the 108th Congress to

please join me in congratulating this fine community and its school district and in wishing them the very best in future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ALAMEDA HIGH SCHOOL VALEDICTORIAN BEN HOFFMAN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alameda High School Valedictorian, Ben Hoffman. Ben, a resident of Alameda, California, did not use notes or index cards when he spoke with rhyme and rhythm to his fellow classmates during the graduation ceremonies for the Alameda High School Class of 2004. His remarks were met with a standing ovation.

Ben's Valedictory Address, entitled "Responsibility" is an outstanding commentary about the challenges and opportunities facing the youth of today. He shared with his graduating class, remembrances of the past four years, looked at the injustice and violence in today's world and urged his classmates to make the world a better place in the future.

RESPONSIBILITY

(By Benjamin Hoffman)

A lot of people look at graduation, and say that it will give us many new opportunities,

I think its more than that, I think it gives us many new responsibilities

We live in a world where people of different nations

Face starvation, extermination
Exploitation, or discrimination
Based solely on race, religion or sexual orientation

These are the problems that we are facing
Perpetuated by a lack of education
But here we are at our graduation.

For the past four years in this community

We've had a unique opportunity

To get a chance to truly see

The value of growing up in unity

And it'll just take a sec

If we take time to reflect

Bout the great affect

How we learned to connect

Protect and respect everyone we met

Without expecting to collect

And all of this in an atmosphere

That provided not a thing for us to fear

And I'm being sincere when I say I hold dear

The value and promise of these past four years

And now we have a responsibility

Because of our recent history

To promote an end to slavery

And poverty, and adversity

Wherever it may be

Until the world is free.

Free from the confines that define

The lives that so many people are resigned

To be living, without giving

Any hope that mankind is not blind

But much of mankind is blind to the suffering that exists

And our first obstacle is going to be to conquer ignorance.

But we got to start at home

Gotta conquer our own

Before our true potential can finally be shown

Its been so easy to get caught up in only thinking

About doing drugs or drinking,

Or tripping over how your grades are sinking,
 Or that one girl you thought you saw winking.
 But those days are in the past,
 And although they may have been a blast,
 This graduation that's come at last, will be marked by contrast.
 We are stepping out into a world that's real
 Where people feel that they have to steal
 Without another way to deal
 With the task of finding a meal
 No longer is hiding in ignorance acceptable,
 No longer can these lives be expendable
 Its time for us to put aside the bull
 And be commendable and be dependable.
 The problems are complex, and have potential to perplex
 So we must always continue learning, whatever happens next
 And after teaching ourselves, we got to teach one another
 We gotta treat the world as if it were our younger brother
 Never stop learning from the cradle to the grave
 To gain the strength to be brave
 And fight for the enslaved
 Cuz only through education can this world be saved
 If we're not unaware, there is a chance we just don't care
 And as we see others despair, we just say "life's not fair"
 But this I can't conceive, cuz I know we all believe
 That when we care for one another, there is nothing we can't achieve
 Today's event will serve as a testament
 To represent, the great extent of our discontent
 As we lament
 A grave injustice long ago
 Today several Japanese graduates are recognized
 For an opportunity that they were denied
 Replaced by internment, and tear-filled eyes
 And as we remember with regret, and stifled tears
 At the same time we are given hope, that these are better years
 Today, people from opposing sides
 Of violent historical divides
 With their hearts and minds open wide
 Can be seen walking hand in hand.
 This is what Alameda has been all about
 But as we all go off on our own different routes
 We'll encounter intolerant people day in and day out
 But its important to recall
 That these people weren't born with such gall
 Its just how they were taught since before they could crawl
 And that leaves us with hope, that there's a way off that slippery slope
 And all these people need is for us to toss them a rope
 To help them replace their ambivalence with tolerance
 And begin to appreciate our every difference
 As they find some sense, and stop acting so dense
 So we've recognized the problem and want to participate
 In ending hate, and yet the world awaits, with us trapped behind a gate
 A gate created by fear
 This Post-9/11, orange alert threat
 White powder in the mail making you sweat
 Insane with duct tape and cellophane
 In this arcane campaign to abstain from pain
 Every time we see the world getting scarier
 Our first response can't be to build another barrier

We got to tear them down, and stop sounding the alarm
 And instead open our hearts and open our arms
 To embrace the world, and all those in need
 From those who bleed, to those who can't read
 In order for us to move ahead
 We gotta get out from hiding under our beds
 Instead of continuing to spread the fear that we've been fed
 And once we're not afraid, we will refuse to fade
 And answer those who've prayed
 For someone to come
 To their aide
 But what I fear most
 Is that with all the problems we host
 You'll think the world's toast
 And all that's left is a ghost, cold and morose
 From coast to coast
 And lose all hope, cuz we're not even close.
 And as we see the depression
 Caused by years of oppression
 And violent aggression
 We get the impression
 That all the people in possession
 Of such lost expressions
 Have become resigned to the repression
 As we ask ourselves the question
 I'm only one person, what can I do?
 Well to this, I remind you all, history is made by only a few.
 Never let your apathy, impede your sympathy
 To the point where you fail to see
 That it is WE that hold the key
 To unlock the chains and set the world free
 Never underestimate
 A small group willing to dedicate
 Their lives to something great
 With intellect, courage and humanitarian trait
 And in the four years that I've gotten to know this class, I believe THAT is our fate.
 Our lives will have meaning and we'll have stories to tell
 Fighting to the end as the world goes to Hell
 The journey won't be easy, and we may get beat
 But at least we'll be right there, and have a front row seat.

HONORING FR. RICHARD G.
 HARTNETT, S.J.

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Fr. Richard G. Hartnett, S.J., who in his lifetime of service to Jesuit High School earned the respect and loyalty of students, colleagues and Jesuit alumni. Through his more than 60 years of involvement with Jesuit High School, Fr. Hartnett left an indelible mark on the school family.

In 1937, Fr. Hartnett, who had been a student at Jesuit, returned to the school after college to teach. In 1940, he left his Alma Mater to attend seminary, but after being ordained as a priest, he came home again to Jesuit High School to teach English, Latin and Religion from 1945 until 1980. Even after his career as a teacher had ended, Fr. Hartnett continued to serve Jesuit High School by working with the alumni department.

Throughout the years, Fr. Hartnett's imposing stature and stern disposition matched the

high standards to which he held his students; yet he had a soft side that shone through as he shepherded students on to greater things. Many alumni also remember how he spearheaded the annual Penny Drive. Each year, students bring in their spare pennies to benefit Jesuit missions in South America.

In 1979, in honor of Fr. Hartnett's continued dedication to Jesuit, the Jesuit High School Alumni Association founded the Father Richard G. Hartnett Golf Classic to raise financial assistance for Jesuit students who cannot afford full tuition. This October marks the 26th anniversary of the fundraiser, which makes the tournament regarded as Tampa's longest running golf charity fundraiser. From now on, the tournament will be called the Fr. Richard G. Hartnett Memorial Golf Classic.

Fr. Richard G. Hartnett, S.J. challenged his students to be their very best, and thanks to his guidance, countless Jesuit students are honorably serving their community and our nation in a host of different ways. On behalf of the entire Tampa Bay community, I honor Fr. Richard G. Hartnett, S.J. for his contributions and extend my deepest sympathies to his many loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, September 7, I was unable to vote on H.R. 4381, the Harvey and Bernice Jones Post Office Building (rollcall 422) and H.R. 4556, the General William Cary Lee Post Office Building (rollcall 423). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both measures.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE H.A. KELSO

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 8, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Judge H.A. Kelso of Nevada, Missouri. He was 92.

H.A. Kelso was born on September 6, 1911, in Alma, Nebraska, a son of John W. and Mariam Belle Hereford. He attended SMSU, then known as Springfield Teacher's College and the University of Colorado in Boulder. He received a Doctor of Jurisprudence Degree in 1937 from the University of Arkansas.

In 1938, he came to Nevada, Missouri, and was elected Prosecuting Attorney of Vernon County. During World War II, he served in the United States Army as Tech Sergeant with the Judge Advocate's Office.

In 1948, he was elected to the post of Probate/Magistrate Judge and Acting Juvenile Judge. Governor John Dalton appointed Judge Kelso to the bench as Judge of the 28th Judicial Circuit. He served in this position until his retirement in 1976. During his tenure, he also was an Honorary Colonel on Governor John Dalton's staff.

Judge Kelso was a member of the United Methodist Church of Nevada and served there