

insert a poem of his into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD entitled "The Leader," in which he explores the themes of leadership and greatness. May Congress forever remember the greatness of this young man through his words as well as his heroic actions.

THE LEADER

(By Dimmy Gavriel)

How will words of beauty
Sprout root on deafened ears?
When many choose to follow
And so few dare to lead
Forsaken dreams lie prisoners
In vapid minds left blank
Of countless, breathing numbers
Lined up along the track
And then there are the dreamers
Who see beyond the shroud
Distinct are they among us
They shuffle through the crowd
Hope lives among so few
Yet strong it is I know
For I am still a dreamer
Along the track I go

RECOGNIZING THE NEW HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL BOYS VARSITY SOCCER TEAM

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the New Hartford High School Boys Varsity Soccer team. On Sunday, November 21, 2004, the team concluded an amazing season by winning the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Class A Title.

The New Hartford Spartans Varsity Soccer team boasted a 21–2–2 record at the end of the season thanks to the leadership of Coach Christopher Abdoo and Team Captains Andrew Donovan, Stephen Peck, and Matthew Pecheone. Due to the outstanding efforts of the Spartans, they remained undefeated at home and set team records for fewest goals scored against in a season and most wins in a season.

I would also like to recognize Team Captain Matthew Pecheone, and Goalkeeper Max Silberlicht for their outstanding individual achievements. Matthew Pecheone set both the school record for number of goals scored in a season and total number of points in a season. Max Silberlicht set the record for the most shutouts in school history by a goalkeeper.

The title match against the Jericho Jayhawks went into four overtime periods, ending in a draw and both teams holding the title "State Champions". After a game-tying goal in the second-half, the New Hartford Spartans tied the game due to the same tenacious defense that set the school record for fewest goals allowed. I commend the players and coaching staff of the New Hartford Spartan Boys Varsity Soccer team for the hard work, training, and dedication. Congratulations, we are very proud of you.

The 2004 New Hartford High School Boys Varsity Soccer team members include: Mike Alcott, Eric Anderson, Aaren Ashmore, Nick Bergmann, Hans Bjerke, Mihir Buch, Anish Butala, Andrew Donovan, Matthew Eadline, Brandon Goodman, Erik Jerrard, Milind

Kachare. Michael Matt, Mike Payne, Christopher Pecheone, Matthew Pecheone, Steven Peck, John Picano, Max Silberlicht and Andrew Tubis. Head Coach: Christopher Abdoo.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN KLECZKA

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Member and friend, Congressman JERRY KLECZKA, and to congratulate him on his twenty years of outstanding service to those in Wisconsin's 4th Congressional District.

Since the age of twenty-four, Mr. KLECZKA has been active in the public service sector and has served in the House of Representatives since 1984. Mr. KLECZKA has made a timeless effort to serve his constituents and has demonstrated his commitment to serve those in his local community by becoming a member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Brady Street Area Association, and America's Black Holocaust Museum.

Mr. KLECZKA has illustrated his desire to meet the needs of his constituents by addressing a variety of issues while serving in the House of Representatives. The people of southeast Wisconsin were once faced with the severe problem of elderly abuse in public housing complexes. Recognizing the severity of this situation, Mr. KLECZKA fought back with strong legislation resulting in Milwaukee becoming the first city in the nation to provide elderly-only public housing.

Mr. KLECZKA has demonstrated not only his desire to improve the health and well-being of elderly in unsafe living conditions, but he has also fought for measures to decrease health care costs and increase personal privacy for deserving Americans.

Mr. KLECZKA has also displayed his leadership capabilities by representing not just those in his district, but all citizens from Wisconsin by serving on the House Ways and Means Committee. This committee has allowed him to take an active role in the legislative process and effectively serve the people of Wisconsin.

Mr. KLECZKA has served in the House of Representatives in a respectful manner, and his creative insight for implementing new policy and unselfish dedication to serving others will be greatly missed but not forgotten.

To the Wisconsin delegation, the retirement of JERRY KLECZKA may feel like the Packers losing the leadership and dedication of their head coach Mike Sherman. It will be very difficult to follow in the footsteps of Mr. KLECZKA; however, I am confident that my fellow Wisconsin members will follow the example Jerry Kleczka began twenty years ago.

I want to thank JERRY for his leadership and his friendship. I wish him the best of luck on his new endeavors.

THE AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY'S REPORT ON THE MOON-MARS PROGRAM

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, in November 2004, the American Physical Society (APS) released a report on the MoonMars program. The report reached many important conclusions and I encourage my colleagues to review APS's findings.

Currently, NASA's agenda is set by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Decadal Surveys. The panel is comprised of outstanding scientists who represent the full range of research within astronomy.

According to the report, the scope of the Moon-Mars initiative has not been well defined, its long-term cost has not been adequately addressed, and no budgetary mechanisms have been established to avoid causing damage to NASA's scientific program.

To accommodate the Moon-Mars initiative, NASA has already begun to reprogram its existing budget, resulting in indefinite postponement or delay of scientific programs that were assigned high priority by the NAS decadal studies.

The consensus achieved by the committee is that the recent success of the Mars Rovers demonstrate that we can use robotic means to address many scientific questions. The panel also found that human exploration has a role in NASA, but it must be within a balanced program in which funding is distributed to other initiatives as well.

APS makes 3 recommendations, which I encourage Members of Congress to take into consideration as we continue the debate on the President's Moon-Mars proposal.

First, NASA should continue to be guided by the recommendations of the NAS decadal studies in formulating its science programs.

Second, before the United States commits to the Moon-Mars proposal, a review of the initiative's science impact should be carried out by the NAS.

Finally, before the United States commits to the Moon-Mars proposal, the GAO should estimate the likely budgetary impact.

Given our country's fiscal challenges, I do not think we can afford manned flights to other planets at this time. I am willing to support more unmanned space flights, provided their mission goals are well-defined.

It seems to me NASA's activities should be driven by science, not destinations. This report provides important information on NASA's future and I strongly encourage my colleagues to read it and take the findings into consideration as we continue the debate on Moon-Mars.

HONORING WENDY ABRAMS

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Wendy Abrams of Highland Park, Illinois, on the occasion of her 40th birthday.

I have long admired Wendy for her dedication to our community, particularly with respect to safeguarding the environment. She is committed to making the world a better place and ensuring that future generations of Americans will inherit a thriving and healthy planet.

Wendy has worked on both the national and local level to protect the environment—on issues ranging from conservation to climate change and the impact of environmental policies on the developing world. She is highly knowledgeable about current environmental issues and a passionate advocate for positive change.

Wendy is a member of the National Council of Environmental Defense, an organization that finds ways to preserve our environment while also strengthening the economy, such as market incentives that reward governments and businesses for lowering pollution levels.

In addition, Wendy is a member of the National Advisory Council of the Sierra Club Foundation, which is dedicated to preserving wildlife and promoting responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources.

Wendy's interests and influence reach beyond environmental concerns to include other matters important in our community. For example, she has been an active participant in the Holocaust Education Foundation and is an owner of Medline Industries, Inc., a private medical equipment distributor. Wendy has always expressed a strong interest in effective health care reform as well as a broad array of other important public policy initiatives.

Mr. Speaker, Wendy Abrams is helping to make the world a safe and healthy place for our children. I am proud to call Wendy a good friend, and I thank her for her contributions to public service. I wish Wendy, her husband Jimmy, and their four children continued good fortune on the occasion of her 40th birthday.

COMMENDING WHITKO HIGH SCHOOL ART STUDENTS

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the artistic achievements of students at Whitko High School in South Whitley, Indiana. Whitko High School was one of 11 schools in the United States that recently participated in the 35th World School Children's Art Exhibition in the Republic of China, Taipei. The purpose of the exhibition is to promote mutual understanding and friendship among the younger generation of the world.

It is a tremendous honor for Whitko High School students to be recognized for their artistic abilities on an international level, especially considering 47 countries were represented at the exhibition.

I'd now like to recognize by name each of the eight Whitko students who participated in the competition: Renae Banks, Julianne Haines, Wendy Chalk, Amanda Crosser, Callista Duggins, Kylee Brown, Jill Wendel, and Shannon Sleighter. Two of these students—Julianne Haines and Shannon Sleighter—were recognized by the World School Children's Art Exhibition for their outstanding artistic skill and talent and were awarded selected medals for their work. I send them my sincere congratulations.

I also commend Whitko High School's art teacher Walter C. Malicki for his dedication and enthusiasm. Under his guidance, Whitko High School students have received 32 national and 97 international awards. These honors are due, in large part, to Mr. Malicki's leadership and the encouragement he gives each of his students.

Once again, I extend my congratulations to the Whitko High School art students for their achievements in the 35th World School Children's Art Exhibition.

TRIBUTE TO THE EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF REGIONAL PARKS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, my East Bay California colleagues Mr. GEORGE MILLER, Mrs. ELLEN TAUSCHER, and Ms. BARBARA LEE, join with me to recognize the 70th anniversary of the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD), headquartered in Oakland, California. The Park District spans Alameda and Contra Costa Counties and encompasses 1,745 square miles on the eastern side of San Francisco.

In 1934, a unique "regional park" concept, unheard of at the time, was presented to the voters on a November ballot measure. A vote for the proposed new Park District meant an increased five-cent tax on every \$100 worth of property. Even in the economic hardships of the Great Depression, where a nickel still went a long way, citizens approved the initiative by a 2½ to 1 margin and the Park District was created.

The East Bay Regional Park District opened its first three parks in 1936, which included present-day Tilden Regional Park, Sibley Volcanic Preserve and Lake Temescal. Redwood Park was added to the list of parks a few years later.

In the intervening years, the Park District grew from seven cities—Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, Piedmont and San Leandro—to encompass all of Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Today, the East Bay Regional Park District is the largest local park agency in the United States. It encompasses over 95,000 acres of parkland in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties for outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat, and nature education.

The Park District's vision is to "preserve a priceless heritage of natural and cultural resources, open space, parks and trails for the future and will set aside park areas for enjoyment and healthful recreation for generations to come. EBRPD states "an environmental ethic guides us in all that we do."

The Park District's core mission is to "acquire, develop, manage, and maintain a high quality, diverse system of interconnected parklands which balances public usage and education programs with protection and preservation of our natural and cultural resources."

The vision and mission of the East Bay Regional Parks continues to be achieved with commitment and efficiency. For 70 years, the East Bay Regional Parks has been dedicated to preserving open space and offering enjoy-

able and healthy recreation opportunities for local residents.

We join in honoring the individuals whose vision created an unprecedented Regional Park System and the individuals who continue to ensure the East Bay Regional Park District's success.

IN MEMORY OF DOLLY NASH, A DISTINGUISHED AMERICAN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember a distinguished South Carolinian, Janet Dolly Nash. Dolly Nash and her husband always flew the American flag at their home in Beaufort, South Carolina. She was a proud American. Not long ago, Dolly "passed" (a term often used in my state). She died in Cape May, New Jersey, a community with which Beaufort shared her. A retired school teacher, Dolly gave of her wide knowledge to many others—others who will remember her and her lessons of life.

Dolly Nash believed it was her mission to promote the legacy of her great grandfather, Robert Smalls, a legend in the Beaufort area. Despite his status as a slave of only 23 years of age, Robert Smalls learned to be a pilot in Charleston Harbor. During the Civil War, he "commandeered" the Confederate vessel *Planter* and delivered it to Union forces. He rose to the rank of major general in the South Carolina militia. After the war he founded the Republican Party in the Beaufort area and was elected to the United States House of Representatives. In April of this year, the Army Supply Ship, *Major General Robert Smalls*, was christened in Mississippi, the first Army vessel to bear the name of a black American.

"Dolly was everywhere, just like sunshine," says Delores Nevils of St. Helena, South Carolina, a close friend of Dolly's and herself a fine American. In a recent article in the Beaufort Gazette, Mrs. Nevils extolled Dolly and described her extensive service to her community. As Mrs. Nevils described it, at her 75th birthday party, Dolly gave gifts rather than received them. Dolly Nash gave many gifts to many people in her lifetime. She herself was a gift to the people of Beaufort, of South Carolina and of America. I would like to share with you the memory of Dolly Nash.

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY CONNOLLY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 6, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Shirley Connolly, who was recently honored with the prestigious St. Madeleine Sophie Medal by the Schools of the Sacred Heart in Atherton, California.

Shirley was born in Helena, Montana and became a San Franciscan at the age of seven. She graduated from the San Francisco College for Women, better known as Lone Mountain College, with a Bachelor's Degree in History and World Literature, and later received a Master's from Lone Mountain in