

Lear, Colleen O'Donnell, Michael Loufman and Joel Hahn. The team engineered their snowboard with materials such as chemical wood fiber, corrugated board and liner board. They cleverly used a Formica finish, which has 75 percent paper content, on the bottom of the board to improve its gliding ability on the snow. The second place winner was the Savannah College of Art and Design and Pasadena City College finished third overall.

The Congressional Ski and Snowboard Caucus sees the Energy Challenge as a great example of how public-private partnerships can bring together ideas like energy efficiency, outdoor recreation and fitness in order to create a more sustainable and healthy world. The caucus is interested in promoting skiing and snowboarding to encourage fitness and create an appreciation for the environment. The Energy Challenge demonstrates that through greater use of renewable materials, we can create jobs, protect the environment, and make our nation more energy independent.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating these teams and honoring their creativity and innovation.

TRIBUTE TO LINCOLN UNIVERSITY ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Lincoln University, a fine institution of higher learning that will celebrate its 150th anniversary on May 6, 2004.

Lincoln University was established in Pennsylvania in 1854 as the nation's first Historically Black College and University (HBCU). During its first 100 years of existence, Lincoln graduated twenty percent of America's African American physicians and more than ten percent of the country's African American attorneys. Currently, Lincoln is one of the nation's largest producers of African Americans with baccalaureate degrees in the physical sciences, computer and information sciences, and biological and life sciences.

Lincoln University has produced top leaders who have gone on to make major contributions in the civil rights movement, the independence movements in Africa and the global information society. Among the more visible graduates of Lincoln are: Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall '30; poet and playwright Langston Hughes '29; the first president of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah '39; and the first African American female rear admiral in the U.S. Navy, Lillian Fishburne '71.

Lincoln University also has the unique distinction of having graduates who went on to found U.S. or Foreign Universities. The list of universities include South Carolina State University; Livingston College (North Carolina); Albany State University (Georgia) and Texas Southern University.

Mr. Speaker, this remarkable institution of higher learning has helped develop some of the best minds in the world. Their commitment to excellence in education is to be commended. For this reason, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this fine institution on the occasion of its 150th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO SENIOR CORPORAL VERNA L. DURDEN

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Dallas Senior CPL Verna L. Durden for her years of service and commitment to the Dallas community as a Dallas Police officer.

CPL Verna L. Durden, who retired last month after 36 years of dedicated service, began her career with the Dallas Police Department during an evolving era. She became the second African American woman on the Dallas Police force in 1972, a time period when women on the force were still required to wear dresses and high heels. In 1979, she swore in Police Chief Glen D. King, becoming the first woman in the nation to perform this important duty. During her 36-year tenure, CPL Verna Durden swore in over 4,000 Dallas police officers, earned 68 commendations, and received four certificates of merit.

Corporal Durden, who has fought her own personal battle with cancer, plans to continue serving her community through volunteer work with the American Cancer Society. CPL Verna Durden's personal qualities and pioneering career has set an example for young women throughout the Dallas community to follow.

Mr. Speaker, I honor CPL Verna L. Durden for her years of commitment and continuing contributions to the Dallas community.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND HANS CHRISTEN MAMEN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Hans Christen Mamen, an extraordinary and remarkable individual, who turned 85 on April 20th, and whose courage, humanity and unselfishness saved Jews during the Nazi occupation of Norway during World War II. Risking his own life, Reverend Mamen guided Jews and other refugees into safety to Sweden.

Reverend Mamen's life reads like a storybook. Born in 1919 on a small farm in Vogelland, outside of Oslo, Norway, he was the sixth of eight children. His parents, Hans Christen and Marie Louise, raised him and his siblings with strong Christian values and a profound respect for others. At the tender age of 13, he decided to study theology—in hopes of becoming a priest. In 1939, he started his studies at the Norwegian Lutheran School of Theology ("Menighets Fakultet").

Sorrowfully, in 1939, dark clouds began encasing Europe. Hitler, elected to office in 1933, unveiled his true identity when German forces first moved into Rhineland (1936), and then occupied Czechoslovakia (1939). Shortly thereafter, the Soviet Union invaded Finland. Hans Christen, who was 20 at the time, felt it was his duty and obligation to do something. He volunteered for the Norwegian Red Cross, serving as an ambulance driver in Finland. On April 6th, just weeks after returning to Norway,

Hans Christen married his childhood sweetheart Ruth. Three days later the Nazi's invaded and occupied Norway.

While continuing his studies at the Norwegian Lutheran School of Theology, Hans Christen opted to get involved with the Norwegian Resistance. On October 26, 1942, the Nazi's began gathering, arresting, and deporting Jews to German concentration camps. Disgusted with the inhumane Nazi philosophy and ideology, Hans Christen Mamen helped Jews by guiding them to safety in Sweden.

After completing theology school, Hans Christen Mamen was ordained and served a various parishes throughout Norway. In 1959, he and his family of five children moved to Inwood, Iowa, as a part of his Lutheran exchange. When Dr. Martin Luther King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, Hans Christen welcomed Dr. King on behalf of the Norwegian Church. His meeting with Dr. King remains one of the most unforgettable memories of Hans Christen.

In recognition for his heroism, the State of Israel in 2001 bestowed upon Hans Christen Mamen—as the only Norwegian—honorary citizenship of Israel. He has also received several awards and medals for his courageous deeds during the war.

Today, nearly 60 years after World War II, Hans Christen is still going strong—determined to persevere. His unequivocal thirst for knowledge has continued to increase throughout his life. And as a result, he has remarkably contributed to more than 40 books and over 300 articles.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a great humanitarian, who continues to inspire, guide, and lead by displaying tremendous beliefs, compassion, and generosity for his fellow human brethren.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL MINORITY CANCER AWARENESS

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the week of April 18–24, 2004 as National Minority Cancer Awareness Week. This national campaign, initiated by Congress in 1987, seeks to heighten awareness of the unequal cancer burden borne by racial and ethnic minority populations and other medically underserved communities.

Despite all the progress that has been made in the battle against cancer, a disproportionate burden of cancer continues to fall on specific populations. African Americans have the highest death rate for all cancers. Cancer is the leading cause of death for Asian American women. And even when controlling for income level, African American, American Indian, Alaska native, Asian American, and Pacific Islander men have a lower 5-year survival rate than non-Hispanic white males.

In my state of Wisconsin in 2003, 25,800 new cancer cases were diagnosed and 10,800 people in my community died from cancer. Once these statistics are analyzed, I believe we will find that a disproportionately high burden of these cancer deaths will be borne by minority populations. The future health of Wisconsin—and of America as a whole—depends

on our success in improving the health of minority and other medically underserved populations.

I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 918, the Patient Navigator, Outreach, and Chronic Prevention Act. This legislation would set up patient navigator systems, which would provide patients with a trained navigator "buddy" from their own community, who speaks their own language, and who will act as their advocate in navigating the health care system. This program would do wonders to increase awareness of programs and services in minority communities, and provide an opportunity to empower impacted communities in the fight against cancer.

By passing legislation like H.R. 918 and lending support to National Minority Cancer Awareness Week, we can reduce and ultimately eliminate the disparate burden of cancer and other diseases on minority and medically underserved communities. I urge my colleagues to support both of these important initiatives.

CLEAN WATER ON EARTH DAY

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to recognize Earth Day and discuss the clean water challenges facing America. Over the last three decades our nation has made significant progress in addressing the pollution of lakes, streams, rivers and estuaries. However, these crucial gains in water quality are in jeopardy of being lost. The wastewater treatment facilities that have been the cornerstone of the Clean Water Act's success are now in need of critical upgrades and the resources for this environmental imperative are no where to be found.

The Government Accounting Office, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Water Infrastructure Network have all found a wastewater infrastructure funding gap in excess of \$500 billion, over the next 20 years. These assessments come at a time when we continue to reduce the federal commitment to clean water infrastructure. The FY 2005 Administration budget calls for less than \$2 billion in federal investment for both wastewater and drinking water infrastructure. This declining investment in America's clean water comes at a time when we are providing nearly \$4 billion to Iraq for water infrastructure.

The time has come for our nation to rededicate itself to the importance of clean water and the infrastructure which makes it possible. It is time for Congress and the Administration to give serious consideration to making significant new investments in clean water infrastructure. We have dedicated funding sources to support our highway, aviation, and navigation infrastructure and it is now incumbent upon us to find similar funding support our nation's most critical infrastructure—water infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation to reauthorize the Clean Water State Revolving Fund in the last three Congresses that would increase the federal investment in clean water infrastructure ten-fold. This investment would help clean our environment and help our

economy by producing thousands of new, good paying jobs. Unfortunately, this year's version of this important legislation is being held up over ideological issues that have nothing to do with cleaning up the environment or providing future Americans and our habitats with clean, safe water.

I call on my colleagues this Earth Day to reflect on the importance of water in our daily lives and provide the infrastructure that makes clean water possible with funding that it requires.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOUNT VERNON-LEE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, Mr. MORAN and I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Mount Vernon-Lee Chamber of Commerce (MVLCC) located in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Since 1954, the MVLCC has provided dedicated service to southeast Fairfax County, working tirelessly to promote business development and success. The chamber has effectively created an environment in which both well-established and new businesses can thrive. With regard to public policy, the MVLCC has powerfully advocated local business priorities, working with local, state, and federal officials on economic, transportation, and public safety issues.

In addition, the MVLCC plays an active role in local tourism, providing helpful information on hotels, restaurants, and points of interests to visitors in the area. Recently, the chamber contributed greatly to the community-based efforts responsible for bringing the National Museum of the United States Army to Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Over the years, the MVLCC has demonstrated great commitment to the entire Mt. Vernon-Lee area. Having recognized the importance of education to a strong community, the MVLCC grants scholarships to six graduating high school students each year. The MVLCC and its members run a weekly Meals on Wheels delivery route to provide warm and friendly meals to home-bound members of the community.

Since its inception in 1954, the MVLCC has proven an invaluable asset to the Mt. Vernon-Lee community, helping make southeastern Fairfax County a great place to live, learn, work, do business, and visit. We greatly appreciate the chamber's notable contributions to Northern Virginia.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, we would like to commend and congratulate the MVLCC on fifty years of success. They have served the interests of both their members and their community well, truly meriting recognition. We call upon our colleagues to join us in applauding the MVLCC's past accomplishments and in wishing the chamber continued success in the many years to come.

HONORING LANE TECH HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lane Tech High School of Chicago for its achievement on winning the third place title in the citywide Academic Decathlon and the fourth place position at the Illinois Academic Decathlon competition on March 13, 2004.

The Academic Decathlon is a team competition wherein students are tested through a diverse group of scholastic categories including: art, economics, essay interview, language and literature, mathematics, music science, social science and speech.

With up to nine members from each team competing in all ten events of the decathlon and representing a diversity of scholastic aptitude, the true spirit of this year's "America: The Growth of a Nation" theme has been advanced.

The decathlon, which was first created by Dr. Robert Peterson, has helped maximize the learning potential of young minds through competitive challenge. Lane Tech High School has demonstrated its ability to shine among the best and brightest of Chicago's academic community.

As finalists in the citywide Academic Decathlon, the nine students from Lane Tech High School went on to compete in the Illinois Academic Decathlon, participating in the semifinals of one of the most prestigious high school academic competitions in the United States.

I commend each of our Lane Tech competitors: Carlos Becerril, Moiz Bhari, Rosa Alamo, Jennifer Brown, Jason Thomas, Kristin Stein, Abdulmajid Umer, Linda Ta, Xenia Basarab, Dessislavia Harizanova, Sheraz Khan, Lenny Soez Ocasio and Peter Porok.

Reaching this level of competition is a tremendous achievement and deserves special recognition. Lane Tech students set the standard for scholastic excellence that the Academic Decathlon seeks to attain.

Mr. Speaker, I join with all residents of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois in congratulating Lane Tech High School on its achievement. I wish the Academic Decathlon winners the best of luck and continued success as their education continues. I am very proud of these young and future leaders of tomorrow. It is my privilege to represent them in the U.S. Congress.

TRIBUTE TO COOPERATION IN RESTORATION OF DAMAGED PUBLIC LANDS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, the public lands are the property of all the American people, and we all have a stake in their condition. That's why it's encouraging to see various groups working together to remedy problems on those lands.