

Garden City Hospital for their 30 years of service to the community.

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING
TEACHERS IN BURR RIDGE, IL

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor five outstanding teachers in my district: Virginia Bojan, Cate Nufer, Beverly Oliveri, Nancy Taylor, and Patricia Trudicks.

Virginia Bojan, a language arts and science teacher at Elm Elementary School in Burr Ridge, is retiring after 33 years of dedicated teaching. She is well respected among her peers for her excellent teaching methods and pleasant demeanor. Her students also love and respect her. It is obvious that Mrs. Bojan loves teaching, and this love is reflected in her devotion to her students. She will most certainly be missed.

Elm Elementary School also will be losing Cate Nufer, who is retiring after 36 years. Ms. Nufer is a talented teacher who is recognized for her leadership in the areas of writing and social studies. Her students have consistently excelled on all state tests. She has made a positive impact on hundreds of students in both their academic and personal development.

Beverly Oliveri is also retiring after 34 years of teaching and directing curriculum for School District 181 in Burr Ridge. Her work in mathematics led to a revision in curriculum to improve the way math is taught in the district. Her students always look forward to her unique style of story telling as a teaching method. Her love of life and of teaching is evident to all who encounter her.

Nancy Taylor is retiring after 34 years teaching language arts and mathematics. She has contributed to both the academic and social development of hundreds of children throughout her career. Her students thrive on her soft-spoken, gentle approach that helps her students. Her care and understanding of each child as an individual will be remembered.

Last but most certainly not least, Patricia Trudicks is retiring after 36 years of dedicated teaching. Ms. Trudicks is recognized in District 181 for her leadership in developing the Media Resource Center, which has become the hub of the school. It is continually updated to reflect the season, upcoming holidays and community events, and ongoing teaching units and student interests. Ms. Trudicks has shown how to make the library an exciting place for students and to encourage them to learn through the resources it provides. Her ability to provide children with hands-on experiences they will not forget has been greatly respected and will be deeply missed.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to honor these five teachers for their countless hours of hard work and dedication. They have positively impacted the lives of thousands of children, and their contributions to education will be recognized for many years to come. Teaching may be the most difficult profession, and these five outstanding educators are among the best. I know the students, parents and faculty of Elm Elementary are sad to see

them retire, but join me in offering these outstanding teachers our heartfelt thanks and congratulations.

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS WHO
SERVED DURING WORLD WAR II,
THE AMERICANS WHO SUP-
PORTED THE WAR, AND CELE-
BRATING THE COMPLETION OF
THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II
MEMORIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave men and women who served our nation during World War II and to wholeheartedly support H. Con. Res. 409. The National World War II Memorial will be officially dedicated on May 29 to honor the 16,000,000 veterans who served in the United States Armed Forces during World War II and the millions of Americans who supported the war effort on the home front. Even today, we deeply appreciate the great service and sacrifice that those men and women gave in defense of our nation and the world.

The soldiers of World War II fought against unimaginable tyranny. They gave their blood, sweat, tears, and for many, their lives, to protect and preserve the American way of life. Veterans who served our country in World War II deserve a tribute to illustrate their valor and courage. The National World War II Memorial is a fitting and lasting tribute and only a down-payment to a debt we can never repay in full.

But to truly honor this nation's Greatest Generation, we must do more than just offer kind words and lasting memorials. It's time for Congress to live up to its promise to care for their health and well-being. It is time that we start adequately funding our veterans' health care system.

Today, only 1 in 4 World War II veterans are still surviving. Every day, 1,100 more die. Those surviving veterans are aging and their medical needs are increasing. It is a great dishonor to turn our back on those veterans; it is a great dishonor to make those men and women wait for needed health care and an even greater dishonor to turn them away from Veterans' Administration facilities.

There is a growing crisis in veterans' medical care: more than 30,000 veterans are waiting six months or more for an appointment at Veterans' Administration hospitals. Some are even dying before they see a doctor. In his 2005 budget, the President recommended a less than 2 percent increase in funding for veterans' medical care—not even enough to cover the cost of inflation. The President's budget also slashes \$294 million in funding for long-term care for America's veterans, which will reduce the number of patients treated by more than 8,000. That is not acceptable.

While the House-passed budget does provide \$1.2 billion above the President's wholly inadequate budget request, it is still \$1.3 billion below the amount of funding suggested on a bipartisan basis by the House Veterans' Affairs Committee and \$2 billion below the amount recommended by the Independent

Budget. The House-passed budget will not give the VA the resources it needs to reduce the backlog of patients or improve the quality of care. It will not end the Survivor Benefit Penalty or end the disability tax for the two-thirds of disabled veterans whose pension and disability payments are still offset. It will not give our World War II veterans the care they deserve. Democrats have offered a plan that will give veterans the care they deserve.

I urge my Colleagues to join me in honoring the sacrifice of World War II veterans by voting for this resolution. I also urge us to further honor those brave men and women by committing enough funding to meet their needs.

HONORING FALLEN LAW
ENFORCEMENT HEROES

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to all the true heroes—our law enforcement officers—who have made the supreme sacrifice in service to their community so that all of us can live in peace and safety.

Supporting law enforcement is very important to me because of my service as a law enforcement officer before coming to Congress in 1988. I am also a member of the House Law Enforcement Caucus.

As we reflect on our fallen heroes, it is important to focus on providing the necessary funding and support to these individuals to combat the growing challenges they face. It is the least we can do for those who put their lives on the line every day.

Since September 11, 2001, many in this nation and this Congress have a deeper appreciation for the importance of the sacrifices made by our law enforcement officers. Every day, hundreds of thousands of men and women protect and serve, often putting their own lives at risk. In honor of these dedicated law enforcement officers who have given their lives or have become disabled in the performance of duty, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and paying respect to our fallen heroes.

HONORING REVEREND DOCTOR
ROBIN G. MURRAY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and honor the Reverend Doctor Robin G. Murray of Spring Hill in my Fifth Congressional District of Florida. After thirty-five years as an Episcopalian minister, Reverend Murray is retiring in Spring Hill.

Reverend Murray was one of the first people I met when I moved to Florida. His friendship and civic-mindedness motivated me to become involved in the Hernando County Legislature, and he has been an inspiration ever since.

A loving husband, father of three, and grandfather of two, Reverend Murray has an

endless, mile-wide humanitarian streak of dedication to his family and community. His devotion improves the lives of everyone he meets. He is district governor of Spring Hill Rotary and a true civic leader who I am proud and fortunate to call my constituent.

It is my honor and pleasure to recognize Reverend Robin G. Murray on the floor of this chamber today.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

**SUPPORTING FRIEDREICH'S
ATAXIA AWARENESS DAY**

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Friedrich's Ataxia Awareness Day, which is recognized each year on the third Saturday in May.

Friedreich's ataxia is a life-shortening neurological disorder that is usually diagnosed in childhood. It causes muscle weakness and loss of coordination in the arms and legs; impairment of vision, hearing and speech; scoliosis, diabetes; and a life-threatening heart condition. Most patients need a wheelchair full-time by their twenties. Life expectancy is reduced to early adulthood. There is currently no effective treatment or cure for Friedrich's ataxia.

Although there is no effective treatment or cure available, Friedrich's ataxia patients and families have more and more reason for real hope. An extraordinary explosion of research insights has followed the identification of the Friedrich's ataxia gene in 1996. Since that discovery, research scientists have learned a great deal about the disorder. We now know what defects in the gene cause the disease, what protein the gene is supposed to produce, what that protein is supposed to accomplish, and why a shortage of the protein results in the cell death that leads to the disease symptoms. Investigators are increasingly optimistic that they are drawing closer to understanding more fully the causes of Friedrich's ataxia and to developing effective treatments. In fact, they have recently declared that, "in Friedrich's ataxia, we have entered the treatment era."

At the National Institutes of Health and around the world, clinical trials for Friedrich's ataxia are being conducted on drugs that hold real promise. Growing cooperation among organizations supporting the research and the multidisciplinary efforts of thousands of scientists and health care professionals provide powerful evidence of the increasing hope and determination to conquer Friedrich's ataxia. There is also a growing conviction that treatments can and will be developed for this disease and that the resulting insights will be broadly applicable across a wide range of neurological disorders such as Parkinson's, Huntington's and Alzheimer's.

On the third Saturday of May, events will be held across our country to increase public awareness of Friedrich's ataxia and to raise funds to support the research that promises treatments for this disease. I applaud the Friedrich's Ataxia Research Alliance (FARA) for its contributions to these efforts and ask

my colleagues to join me in recognizing May 15, 2004, as Friedrich's Ataxia Awareness Day to show our concern for all those families affected by this disorder and to express our support and encouragement for their efforts to achieve treatments and a cure. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MOTION TO TABLE THE MILLER
MOTION TO INSTRUCT ON H.R. 2660**

HON. JIM NUSSLE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, as those who have followed previous debates on the administration's proposed overtime rule changes may know, my position is clear. I have voted a number of times to uphold overtime protection for workers in Iowa and across the United States. In the future, I will continue my commitment to Iowa's workers.

However, today's motion to instruct introduced by the gentleman from California, Mr. MILLER, is nothing more than a twisted procedural gimmick. The ridiculous motion would instruct conferees to act on a bill that was signed into law months ago. There are no conferees to instruct.

I will keep standing up for Iowa's working families as we consider this matter in the future, but those debates should be real and meaningful. As such I will vote yes on the motion to table.

**CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
MILDRED "MILLIE" JEFFREY**

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mildred "Millie" Jeffrey, a strong leader, community activist and protector of our United States Constitution. Millie passed away on Wednesday, March 24, 2004.

Through seven decades of social activism, Millie Jeffrey demonstrated how one individual can influence the battle for social justice by empowering victims of exploitation and discrimination to fight for equality and opportunity.

Millie was on the Board of Governors at Wayne State University, and she was the Director of the United Auto Workers (UAW) Consumer Affairs Department. Millie served with dedication and brought to her endeavors a brimming optimism. Millie was a mentor for legions of women and men in the labor, civil rights, women's rights, and peace movements. She is most remembered for her humor, passion for life, and her goodwill that will be remembered for generations to come.

Millie once said; "You never win freedom permanently. You have to win it time after time; whether it's union rights, civil rights, or equality for women." In the words of Michigan's Governor Jennifer Granholm, "The greatest honor we can pay her, is to recommit to working for fairness and justice for all of our citizens today and everyday."

Everyone knew that if they wanted to hear true wisdom one would have to talk to Millie.

She helped pave the way for women in politics everywhere. With her long list of accomplishments and accolades she became an icon of modern politics. On August 9, 2000 President Clinton awarded Millie the Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award bestowed by the United States Government, for her selfless acts for peace. When awarding her the Presidential Medal of Freedom, President Bill Clinton said, "She may be small in stature and humble in manner, but she is very strong."

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to pay tribute to the life and work of "Millie" Jeffrey and express my deepest condolences to her family and to all who knew, loved, and were touched by her life.

**ADDRESS OF SECRETARY OF
STATE COLIN POWELL AT THE
BERLIN CONFERENCE ON ANTI-
SEMITISM**

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, at the Conference on Anti-Semitism of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) held in Berlin on April 28th, our very distinguished Secretary of State Colin Powell headed the United States delegation. It was my advice that the Secretary personally lead the American delegation to this conference because his presence would give the issue of European anti-Semitism the high-level attention it needs and deserves.

Today, Europe faces a disturbing rise in anti-Semitic rhetoric and anti-Semitic violence. I recently attended the inauguration of a new Holocaust museum in my native Hungary. Two days earlier, Hungarian police arrested a man plotting to blow it up. The decision to target a Holocaust memorial reveals the profound connection between the great nightmare of the mid-twentieth century and the racist threats that Jews around the world continue to face today.

Because of this intolerance, I co-founded the Congressional Task Force Against Anti-Semitism with a bipartisan number of Members of Congress. This organization is devoted to raising awareness and fighting the sickness of anti-Semitism wherever and whenever it occurs. On behalf of the Task Force, I would like to thank and commend Secretary Powell for his efforts at the Berlin Conference.

Mr. Speaker, as usual, Secretary Powell's remarks are eloquent and powerful, and they contain the wisdom of a man who has fought bigotry and racism himself during a lifetime of service to our nation. His emphatic reminder that "political disagreements do not justify physical assaults against Jews in our streets" is particularly welcome.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the full text of Secretary Powell's address to the Berlin Conference against anti-Semitism be placed in the RECORD, and I urge all of our colleagues to give the Secretary's excellent speech their thoughtful attention.

**REMARKS AT THE CONFERENCE ON ANTI-SEMITISM
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE**

Thank you very much, Mr. Moderator, Chairman Passy, Minister Fischer, Fellow