

soldiers, and all those who knew him and counted him as a friend. I will continue to keep Hesley and his family in my thoughts and prayers.

**HONORING MR. RICK CRANDALL
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING PUBLIC
SERVICE**

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Rick Crandall of Aurora, Colorado for his lifetime of achievement and service to his family, community, and country.

Mr. Crandall served his country honorably with the U.S. Air Force in Guam. Following his service, Mr. Crandall created the popular radio talk-show "The Breakfast Club" emphasizing the sacrifices made by American veterans. On his show, Rick interviews veterans about their experiences on and off the battlefield. The show made history in 2000 when he went "on the air" from the American Cemetery above Omaha Beach. Rick's radio venue has been warmly welcomed by the veteran community and he has received special recognitions from the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars for his work.

Mr. Crandall has been an outstanding advocate for several other causes as well. He holds annual charity events for the American Lung Association and the American Heart Association. He has also been helpful for community organizations like the Aurora Senior Center, Rainbow Bridge, and the Denver District Attorney's Office. Most notably, Rick hosts an annual golf tournament which raises funds for the local Meal on Wheels.

Rick Crandall has made service a life-long pursuit. His latest undertaking is the establishment of the Colorado Freedom Memorial in Aurora. This memorial honors the thousands of Coloradans who have given their lives serving in combat for the United States since the Spanish-American War. The Colorado Freedom Memorial is just in its introductory stages, so Mr. Crandall surely has a project to keep him active for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to honor a man who has given so much to so many. Rick has been an inspiration to our Nation's youth by promoting community service and activism. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognition of Rick Crandall and the commitment he has made to improving his community.

**TRIBUTE TO MAEVA NEALE IN
MEMORY OF A LEADER, ENVI-
RONMENTALIST, POET, SCHOLAR
AND DOCTOR**

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2004

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent Maeva Neale who passed away on May 8, 2004. She was a physician, leader, a poet, and a hero to those who lived in the coastside town of Pescadero, California.

She lived a life filled with values, devoting herself to improving the lives of everyone around her.

Maeva Neale was born in Chicago, the daughter of a minister and Spanish teacher. She majored in Russian studies at Cornell University and was fluent in Swahili, Spanish, French, German, and Arabic. She began medical school at the University of Chicago and completed her studies at the University of California at San Francisco. In the spirit of her thirst for knowledge and adventure, she moved to Kenya for a decade where she practiced medicine and raised her two children, Ama and Geoffrey. Looking for new adventure, she then moved to Saudi Arabia for two years.

In 1989, our community was blessed with Maeva Neale's decision to move to Pescadero, where one of her first acts as a member of our community was to foil an attempt to drop sewage sludge above the ecologically vital coastal area of Pigeon Point. She spent ten years on the Pescadero Municipal Advisory Council, including one as the Chair, leading the drive to stop chemical spraying along Pescadero's roadways. She wrote volumes of beautiful poetry in several languages that were illustrated by local artists and was commended by President Clinton for her work on behalf of Russian children who were devastated by severe pollution.

Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to honor the life of Maeva Neale. She brought our community together, no matter how divergent its opinions. She was an artist and a healer, and always was an inspiration to me. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and remembering Maeva Neale for her extraordinary life of service to our community and humanity. We are better people because of her gentleness, her leadership and her incredible spirit.

**IN HONOR OF BROWN V. BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2004

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Supreme Court's landmark ruling in the case of Brown v. Board of Education. Fifty years ago today, Chief Justice Earl Warren announced that, under the Constitution, education is "a right which must be made available to all on equal terms." That ruling paved the way for the end of legal segregation; it affirmed the truth that we all knew in our hearts—that separate can never be equal.

In only 2,000 words, Chief Justice Warren changed the course of our nation for the better. It took the Chief Justice only a few minutes to read the ruling, but his words are still echoing in every classroom throughout the country. His words reverberated through the Supreme Court's marble halls and flowed into public school hallways. Those words continued to carry across the land by drawing power from the hope they gave to the people who heard them. They were a promise that every child would have the same opportunity to receive an education and, even more importantly, that every person would have the op-

portunity to shape and contribute to our society's future.

The Brown v. Board of Education ruling was a crucial step on our way to becoming a more just society. We still have a very long way to go, but we cannot let the length of the road ahead of us discourage us. The Brown v. Board of Education ruling put the power of the law behind the fight for racial equality. It was a legal ruling that did so much more than end legal segregation in schools; it promised all Americans the right to participate in the "American dream."

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) carefully formed a strategy to boldly challenge the constitutionality of segregation. Linda Brown represented the millions of children suffering from the effects of segregation, and her father, Oliver Brown, represented the millions of parents who believed that their children deserved better. Civil rights advocates used the Supreme Court's ruling on education to challenge discrimination in transportation, voting practices, housing and other parts of our society. The effort to win legal rights also gave birth to Dr. Martin Luther King's powerful dream of an America where all people are free from the scars of discrimination.

Today, we celebrate the courage and conviction of those who stood up for their rights and helped to bring about the great victory of the Brown v. Board of Education decision. Today we also must join together to reaffirm our commitment to equality and to work so that all Americans have a real opportunity to reach their full potential. The goal of achieving equal opportunity requires us to continue to fight for justice and equality. It also requires that we expand opportunity by providing adequate funding for quality, public education; creating good jobs; ending health disparities; and guaranteeing full access to the ballot booth in practice as well as in theory.

Today, we have much to celebrate but we also have much left to achieve.

**COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF BROWN V. BOARD
OF EDUCATION**

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2004

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Brown versus the Board of Education. Fifty years ago, the Supreme Court ruled the doctrine of "separate but equal" unconstitutional, and the doors of education were opened to every child.

Sadly, although schools were open to every child, a tremendous learning gap opened up. Some students received a great education, while others—largely poor and minority—slipped through the cracks of the system. The achievement gap between African-American and Caucasian fourth-graders is 28 percentage points, and 29 points between Hispanic and Caucasian students.

This is not equal access to education.

The No Child Left Behind Act continues Brown's legacy. Under NCLB, every child, regardless of race or national origin, is given the same opportunity to learn. Schools are required to ensure that every child is learning.

No longer can students shuffle through the system without learning. We are already seeing positive results. According to a 2004 study by the Council of Great City Schools, the achievement gap is narrowing between minority and Caucasian students in both reading and math. These results are due, in large part, to NCLB.

The No Child Left Behind Act is the second step of Brown. The ruling in Brown may have given students equal access to the classroom, but NCLB ensures that they are given equal access to an education in that classroom.

TRIBUTE TO NEIL BRADLEY

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2004

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the members of the Republican Study Committee (RSC) to express our sincere gratitude and best wishes to Neil Bradley. Neil, who has served as Executive Director of the RSC since January 2000, was recently asked by the House Majority Whip to serve as his Policy Director. As the members and staff of the RSC prepare to wish Neil well in his new position, we wanted to take a moment to reflect upon his outstanding service to our organization and to thank him for it.

For those who may be unaware, the Republican Study Committee is a group of Republicans organized for the purpose of advancing a conservative economic and social agenda in the House of Representatives. The group is dedicated to a limited government, a strong national defense, the protection of individual and property rights, and the preservation of traditional family values. Although these values are shared in the abstract by a majority of my colleagues, it is necessary that we measure what is produced through the deal-making and political give-and-take that permeates this institution against the ideals we were elected to uphold. The RSC plays an invaluable role

in seeking to ensure that all legislation that moves through this body reflects and respects these fundamental values.

Over the past four and a half years, the RSC's efforts have been tremendously improved because of the service of Neil Bradley as the group's Executive Director. Neil is a committed and principled conservative. He is a tireless and effective advocate for the RSC's objectives. And, as anyone who has worked with or against him will readily acknowledge, Neil is a master of House procedure, especially the federal budget process. Mr. Speaker, Neil has served the RSC with integrity and distinction. We will miss him greatly, but are glad that he will be working for our shared values in a position of influence within the House Leadership.

As his friends and colleagues know, Neil's emails always conclude with some quotation from a famous conservative political thinker or office holder that is relevant to the policy fight of the day. Many of the quotes come from Neil's political hero, former President Ronald Reagan. I thought it would be fitting to close with some words from the great leader.

In 1989, in his farewell address to the Nation, Reagan said the following to the officials and staff that served in his Administration:

[A]s I walk off into the city streets, a final word to the men and women of the Reagan revolution, the men and women across America who for 8 years did the work that brought America back. My friends: We did it. We weren't just marking time. We made a difference.

Mr. Speaker, Neil Bradley has spent 4 and a half years working passionately for the Republican Study Committee, for the House of Representatives, and for America. He was not just marking time. He made a difference.

On behalf of the RSC, I thank him for his service and wish him well in his new endeavor.

HONORING BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education. This landmark victory in the effort to rid this nation of segregation continues to product national repercussions, and on this day I believe we must rededicate ourselves to the ideals that it proposes.

Mr. Speaker, many people consider Brown a failure. It is not universally accepted or practiced, and the victories of the civil rights movement have been overturned or forgotten in the subsequent years. Minority populations including black and Latino children continue to find themselves as this nation's lowest academic performers. Indeed, if Thurgood Marshall surveyed the racial landscape today, he may wonder if Brown had been overturned.

But these very real challenges must not let us forget the lasting lesson of Brown. For many black parents, integration was not the key issue as it was the recognition of the fact that unless their children went to school with the children of the whites who controlled the purse strings, their children's educational opportunities would likely be shortchanged.

Brown ultimately decrees that all children—black, white, Latino; Asian, Native American—are all equally deserving of a high quality education, and that we cannot allow superficial differences to dissuade us from this fact. We must provide our children the presumption of competence and the expectation of success. Our children must have an environment that nurtures aspiration, guardians who provide direction, and peers who provide support. If we are serious about realizing the promise of Brown, then we must challenge ourselves to deliver those things which they most desperately need.