

for her students as well as invited German students to spend the year in Fair Oaks. Sybille is advisor of two clubs and opens her classroom and her heart to students who need help.

Her colleagues and students consider Sybille as the ultimate professional educator. She is always willing to take on challenges and risks to help the school and her students. She is always willing to "wear another hat" when needed. She has been the WASC (School Accreditation) Coordinator, a Department Chair, a master teacher for student teachers and a district Site Leader. Additionally, when staffing needs dictated, she has taught French and English to help the master school schedule. She has always encouraged collaboration with colleagues from all departments and is consistently on the cutting edge of new techniques in teaching. For example, she was responsible for the initial introduction of portfolios and rubrics in the Bella Vista Foreign Language department before they became routine.

I am honored to recognize an individual who has committed her life to the enhancement, enrichment and education of our youth. Through her efforts, her professional expertise and her striking and energetic personality, Bella Vista has managed to maintain a thriving German program of which we are very proud. Please join me in congratulating Sybille Irwin for being named the 2004 Fair Oaks Teacher of the Year.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I join my fellow colleagues in recognizing the extraordinary contributions of our men and women in uniform who have lost their lives while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

As Memorial Day approaches, Americans are reminded of the sacrifices made by all our military service members. These courageous individuals spread the seeds of democracy to oppressed nations around the globe, helping protect and preserve the freedoms we all cherish. There's no question, our world is a safer place today because of their valiant efforts.

Today, another generation of American service members is fighting for peace and stability in the Middle East. Although they have seen great peril, these individuals, like their predecessors, continue to root out evil and terror wherever it hides. They bring honor and dignity to their mission, and they continue to make all Americans proud.

Mr. Speaker, many Americans have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan—some of which were my constituents—Private First Class Nichole Frye, Staff Sergeant Warren Hansen, Private First Class Ryan Jerabek and Corporal Jesse Thiry. Their sacrifice is a stern reminder to us all that peace comes at a heavy price, and America will not soon forget their contributions to freedom. It is with solemn honor that I, along with the citizens of Wisconsin's 8th Congressional District, recognize today the efforts of our fallen warriors.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR L. LITTLEWORTH

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our Nation's and California's eminent civic leaders and authority on water law. On May 27th, Arthur L. Littleworth was presented with the Frank Miller Civic Achievement Award for his contributions to the community. This annual award, given by the Mission Inn Foundation in Riverside, California, is a small step towards recognizing the enormous contributions by Art for his community, state and Nation.

Art Littleworth has always done the work of four men. His civic and professional engagements cannot help but serve as model to us all and include: senior partner at the law firm Best Best & Krieger, respected expert in water law, former board president of the Riverside Unified School District—playing a leading role in steering the district into voluntary integration of the schools in the mid-1960s, member of the task force that examined Riverside Police Department's use-of-force rules after the 1998 Tyisha Miller shooting, and first board president of the foundation that is honoring him. A dedicated leader, Art has willingly and unselfishly given of his time and talent to make our community and Nation a better place to live and work.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Art went to Yale University on a full scholarship earning a Bachelor of Arts with Honors in American History. He later entered the U.S. Navy and saw battle in the Pacific during the final months of World War II. Returning home he proceeded to earn a Masters in American History from Stanford University and J.D. from Yale Law School in 1950. That same year he joined Best Best & Krieger.

Art soon found himself representing a local group of ranchers in a federal case regarding Santa Margarita River water in 1958. The case would be in court for five years and have Art emerge as an expert on water law. His expertise grew to a point that the United States Supreme Court appointed him "Special Master," in 1987, in a water rights case between the States of Kansas and Colorado involving the Arkansas River. The Supreme Court unanimously approved his first major finding in this case which became precedent setting in determining damages and awarding prejudgment interest approved by Court, 533 U.S. 1. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear his most recent ruling in this case this fall.

On the hometown front, Art's reputation also continued to grow as he served on the Riverside Unified School Board from 1958 to 1972, the last 10 years as its president. As president, Art Littleworth played a leading role in overseeing the voluntary desegregation of the district's elementary and middle schools. The feat made Riverside Unified School District the first large school district in the Nation to voluntarily integrate its white and black school children populations and brought the community together as one.

In 1976, Art took the helm as founding President of the Mission Inn Foundation to help the City of Riverside take over the bankrupt hotel and revive it to its historical beauty.

The foundation was able to improve the hotel to the point where it was able to be sold to a hotel developer a few years later. It now stands as a testament to the City of Riverside's progress and growth as a city.

Mr. Speaker, Art's tireless passion for water law and vital social issues has and will continue to contribute immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, the state of California and our Nation. I know that many community and national leaders are grateful for his service and salute him for his acceptance of the Frank Miller Civic Achievement Award—a fitting token of our appreciation and esteem.

RECOGNITION OF BENJAMIN F. WILSON AS THE IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF ELECTIONS AND ETHICS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, longtime resident of the District of Columbia Benjamin F. Wilson is the immediate past chairman of the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics who served as a member of the Board since June 29, 1990 and as its Chairman from October 1, 1991 until May 24, 2004 having been appointed by three different Mayors of the District of Columbia.

The District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, a Charter independent agency, comprised of a three-member Board who are unpaid volunteers charged to carry out the agency's mission. The mission of the Board is to enfranchise eligible residents, conduct elections, and assure the integrity of the electoral process.

Since the Board's inception in 1955, he is the first chairman to serve continuously for a period of fourteen years without interruption in his service providing exceptional public service to the citizens of the District of Columbia. He is the longest serving Chairman of the Board in its 49 year history.

Mr. Wilson is to be commended for leading the Board while it carried out its mission of administering the electoral process which requires wisdom, courage, and the desire to remain focused on its vision of conducting free and impartial elections conducted in a fair, efficient, and accurate manner.

He has maintained the highest level of integrity in performing the duties of the Board displaying courage and stamina while protecting the public's interest from manipulation for personal or partisan gain respecting the rights of all and maintaining the highest level of integrity.

He has taken to heart the Board's mandate to administer an impartial electoral process for the citizens of the District of Columbia both in the conduct of elections and his commitment to assuring the integrity of our election system in the Board's role as the gatekeepers of Democracy.

Mr. Wilson has been at the forefront of the core of the Board's mission which is voter education, registration, and electoral advancement in the areas of support and technology. He has served on the Board while addressing

issues such as the right of homeless individuals to gain and maintain access to the franchise, developing the process for compliance with the National Voter Registration Act, Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, the support of the right of college students to register and vote, and the Help America Vote Act.

During his long tenure on the Board, he has led the expansion of voting precincts to provide greater voter accessibility for disabled and elderly voters leading the District of Columbia to be the first major jurisdiction in the United States to provide dual voting systems in the polling place allowing blind and other disabled voters to vote in privacy and secrecy without assistance.

He has also led the Office of Campaign Finance to successfully revive and stabilize programs which were formerly dormant and addressed a backlog of cases that existed at the time of his first appointment as Chairman regarding investigative matters.

He has insisted on education for voters, candidates, and the public at-large regarding campaign finance and conflict of interest laws and on imposing and collecting fines to enforce the ethics laws in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Wilson has done outstanding work at the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, sometimes under trying conditions. For example, the Board conducted a flawless election with new voting machines that had never been used before when the two leading candidates for Mayor of the city were write-in candidates. He successfully led the Board and its staff during an extremely difficult period.

In addition to his service on the District of Columbia Board of Elections and Ethics, Mr. Wilson has actively served the community by serving as the former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Healthy Babies, Incorporated; former Co-Chairman of the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law; former Chairman of the Board of the Dwight Mosley Foundation; and former Chairman of the Advisory Board of WAMU public radio.

I commend Mr. Wilson for his volunteer public service to the citizens of the District of Columbia.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF MICAELA CONNERY

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2003

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary dedication of a young woman from West Hartford, Micaela Connery, who has been awarded the 2004 Prudential Spirit of the Community Award. This award program was created five years ago and is part of a broad initiative by Prudential to encourage young people to become involved in community service. This year's honorees received national recognition, a \$1,000 cash award, and an engraved silver medallion.

Among the 20,000 applicants, Micaela is one of only 104 students who received the Prudential Spirit of the Community Award for her acts of volunteerism. As a sophomore at

Conard High School, Micaela was inspired by her cousin with special needs and single-handedly created a program that showcases the talents of students with and without special needs in theatrical performances. The first production of Micaela's Unified Theater, consisting of 20 students, half with special needs and half without, raised over \$500 in donations. The success of Micaela's hard work has spread throughout Connecticut and lead to the formation of Unified Theater, Inc. which provides start-up assistance to other schools.

Micaela demonstrates the highest level of compassion, dedication and achievement among the youth today. As a young adult, she already understands the positive nature of community as she describes through her work in the program, "every member is an equal. Every member works together in equal collaboration. What makes Unified Theater different is that we see ability where others see disability."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in thanking and honoring Miss Micaela Connery for her inspiration and dedication to the West Hartford Community.

THANKING THE STUDENTS OF AL- COTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude to three classrooms at Alcott Elementary School in San Diego: Mrs. Dee Murphy's class in Room B-4, Ms. Natalie Crain's class in Room 9, and Ms. Cindy Weiss' class in Room 20. All of the children in these three classes sent letters of support to my District Director, Nathan Fletcher, who is a Marine Corps reservist currently deployed in Iraq.

The students' letters included words of support, and reminders of San Diego for Nathan and his unit who are deployed out of Camp Pendleton. Their letters included funny jokes, anecdotes about the students' families and pets, praise for our armed forces for their efforts to keep America safe, and thanks for their work to liberate the children and people of Iraq.

Mrs. Murphy's class also sent "Flat Stanley" to visit with Nathan in Iraq. In the book, Flat Stanley, by Jeff Brown, Stanley is squashed flat by a falling bulletin board. One of the many advantages is that Flat Stanley can now visit his friends by traveling in an envelope. Flat Stanley has joined Nathan on patrols, and has sent pictures back to Mrs. Murphy's class from his many adventures. The students also sent books and newspapers, and some small snacks and treats.

I am so proud and appreciative of the students from Alcott Elementary. Their simple act of sending a letter has lifted the spirits of Nathan's Unit. In the midst of many long monotonous days, while our troops are missing their families and loved ones at home, these letters reminded our marines from Camp Pendleton of the wonderful things that wait for them when they arrive back home. At the same time, the students are learning about events in the world. I also hope that this exchange will

help the students to better understand how very fortunate they are to live in America. Many of the children in Iraq have no shoes, and poor medical care (if any). There isn't enough room for everyone to attend schools, so often the girls go to school in the morning and the boys go to school in the afternoon. Through their interaction with Nathan, the students of Alcott Elementary are catching a glimpse of the lives of a handful of Iraqi children.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking the students of Alcott Elementary for their support of our troops. Their letters and gifts have helped to remind our troops that America stands firmly behind them and anxiously awaits their safe return home.

HONORING LANCE CORPORAL JAMES A. CASPER

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, throughout our history, when our country called, millions of American men and women have made the ultimate sacrifice so that our Nation could enjoy peace and prosperity. From Bunker Hill to Baghdad, many of America's best and brightest have paid the price of our freedom with their lives, leaving behind their friends, their families and their futures.

Recently, the Fifth Congressional District of Texas lost one of our best. Lance Corporal James A. Casper of Coolidge, Texas, was a twenty-year-old Marine assigned to 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, 1st Division, who lost his life near Al Asad, Iraq, while serving his country in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lance Corporal Casper served this country well, as did the other brave men and women who have lost their lives in Iraq, helping to fight our enemies far away in order to prevent them from attacking us again here at home. Undoubtedly, it is through their sacrifice that future generations of Americans and others will enjoy freedom from terror.

As our families and friends gather together this Memorial Day to enjoy barbecues and baseball games, let us not forget the solemn purpose for this national day of remembrance.

Freedom is not free—it comes at an incredible cost. Today, let us show our deep appreciation for those who fought for our freedom and let us honor those, like Lance Corporal Casper, who died defending it. Let us commend their courage, their patriotism, their service and their sacrifice.

In the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we may always be free."

IN HONOR OF M.R.C. GREENWOOD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of both Members representing Santa Cruz County, California, myself and Representative ANNA G.