

A full curriculum of aeronautics, communications, physical fitness and moral leadership was taught to each cadet. They also participated in several volunteer and community service projects over the last year.

Cadet Sergeants Osborne and Allen were honored over the Wright Brothers Award, passing the first of four phases in the cadet program.

The Wright Brothers Award is earned after completing Phase I, "The Learning Phase," consisting of the first three achievements of the cadet program. In addition, the cadet must pass a challenging examination, testing leadership, knowledge and proficiency in drill and ceremonies.

"These cadets have really grown since they first started the program and they have come a long way," said Deputy Commander Ellen Maternowski, who presented the awards to each cadet.

Once a cadet earns the Wright Brothers Award, they are promoted to the grade of cadet staff sergeants. They begin service as cadet non-commissioned officers and continue to participate and advance as cadets in the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol.

Mark Thomas, Chautauqua County executive, gave a message at the event, saying, "During World War II, the civil air patrol became famous for coastal control, where civilians volunteered to use privately owned aircrafts to spot enemy submarines along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Recognizing that America's entrance into the war was imminent and general aviation would be needed to succeed, the Civil Air Patrol then expanded rapidly into an army of more than 100,000 civilian volunteers committed to protecting America."

The Civil Air Patrol has marked over 60 years of service and remains a thriving program across America.

In the graduation ceremony on Thursday, Cadet Captain David Fehlman was honored with the Amelia Earhart Award which is earned after completing the Phase III with 11 credits and passing an arduous 100-question examination testing aerospace topics, leadership theory and staff topics.

"Once a cadet earns the Earhart Award, they are promoted to the grade of cadet captain," Mrs. Maternowski said. "These cadets who later enter CAP's Senior Member program are eligible for immediate promotion to CAP 1st Lieutenant at age 21. They are also eligible to apply to the International Air Cadet Exchange."

The cadet program provides opportunities for the learning, maturing, accepting, and nurturing of leadership to over 27,000 young Americans from 12-20 years of age. For further information about the Civil Air Patrol, contact Ellen Maternowski at 763-2743.

"For more than half a century the Civil Air Patrol has taken an active role in carrying out non-combat missions on behalf of the United States Air Force, performing more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions in the continental U.S.," Thomas said. "It is a great opportunity to honor these young men today for their achievements and for being role models for the younger generation."

I am honored Mr. Speaker, to have an opportunity to honor Zachary Osborne, Mike Allen and David Fehlman for their completion of cadet training.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3057) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Sanders-Rohrabacher Amendment which cuts funding for the Export-Import Bank. While one may argue that this amendment will simply prohibit the Export-Import Bank from approving federal loans or loan guarantees for the construction of nuclear power plants in China, this amendment sends a bad message. This amendment is one more step in the attempts of some in the House to shut down Ex-Im completely.

Now I respect the sponsors of this amendment who are true opponents of Ex-Im, but we cannot be fooled by thinking that one can vote for this language and still be a supporter of the Export-Import bank or free trade.

The Export-Import Bank was created to help U.S. exporters match competition from foreign export credit agencies in Japan, Germany, France, Canada, and other countries. Ex-Im is also required by law to work toward securing international agreements to reduce government-subsidized export financing, thereby promoting a level playing field for U.S. exporters—which means jobs for Americans in America.

Ex-Im finances approximately two percent of U.S. exports annually. Among Ex-Im financed exports were U.S. civilian aircraft, electronics, energy-related products, engineering services, medical equipment, vehicles, and agricultural equipment.

Even the sponsors of this amendment acknowledge that the funds for this project will go towards creating jobs in the U.S. They can claim that Westinghouse is a British owned company, and thereby something that does not deserve U.S. support, but using that same argument, Chrysler Motors is now a German owned company—should we not have any dealings with Chrysler and the thousands of American workers and UAW employees employed there. Nonsense—oppose this amendment and support U.S. jobs and free and fair trade.

IN HONOR OF VETERAN JOURNALIST GERSHON JACOBSON

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the life and achievements of Gershon Jacobson, the veteran Yiddish journalist, who founded and published the *Algemeiner Journal*. I am saddened to report

that Mr. Jacobson passed away on May 29, 2005. He is survived by his loving family and his many friends, who have established the Gershon Jacobson Jewish Continuity Fund to serve as an anchor for the perpetuation of Mr. Jacobson's legacy.

Mr. Jacobson was one of our Nation's most respected and influential journalists. He was born in Moscow in 1933 and soon emigrated to France, where he began his writing career. He then moved to America and immediately began working for the *New York Herald Tribune*. In the 1960s, Mr. Jacobson replaced Eli Weisel as the U.N. correspondent for Israel's largest daily, *Yediot Achronot*. During this time, Mr. Jacobson became renowned for excellent reporting on the capture of German war criminal Adolf Eichmann and for his interviews with world leaders and other notable figures. In 1972, Mr. Jacobson founded the Yiddish-English weekly, *Der Algemeiner Journal*. For the next 33 years, Mr. Jacobson served as its editor and publisher, and made it into a vital source of information for the Jewish community.

Mr. Jacobson stood at the forefront of Jewish life in America for close to 60 years and served the public as an indispensable guide to the post-World War II period. The prominent Israeli daily *Haaretz* stated, "Gershon Jacobson created a revolution in the Yiddish Press. Till his day, the Yiddish press occupied itself primarily with memories of the Shtetel, with romantic tales, and Yiddish literature and prose. Mr. Jacobson introduced into Yiddish journalism an acute awareness of the reality of Israel and the burning issues of contemporary Jewish life."

The Gershon Jacobson Jewish Continuity Fund will honor Mr. Jacobson's legacy and continue his work to battle for spiritual integrity and moral clarity. The fund's overall goal is to create a broad range of vehicles that will serve as a voice for Jews in the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in honoring the late Gershon Jacobson, whose keen insight into international and domestic affairs made him a strong and courageous voice on behalf of the Jewish people and the State of Israel. With his passing, the community has lost one of its true heroes. My heart goes out to his family and friends who will miss him deeply.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT G. WILMERS FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WESTERN NEW YORK COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Robert G. Wilmers, a man whose business expertise and community compassion has made a significant difference in Western New York.

Since 1983 Mr. Wilmers has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of M&T Bank Corporation. At that time, M&T was a local, Buffalo based bank with holdings of approximately \$2 billion.

Over the last 22 years, under Mr. Wilmers leadership, the company has grown to one of the 20 largest banks in the United States with

over 650 branches, managing over \$50 billion in assets and employing over 13,000 people.

While his financial accomplishments have been quite significant, his commitment to building a better Buffalo region has been equally profound. Last year Mr. Wilmers and his wife, Elizabeth, were recognized by the United Way of Buffalo & Erie County for corporate and personal donations to a number of local charities including: the Buffalo Zoo, the Darwin Martin House, Shea's Performing Arts Center, the Albright-Knox Art Gallery and the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra.

Mr. Wilmers has also taken a special interest in building a better future for Buffalo children through promoting education. This focus has involved contributing to enhancements at Buffalo Public School No. 68—Westminster Community Charter School and helping sponsor the search for a new superintendent for the Buffalo Public School System.

Furthermore, Mr. Wilmers has lent his financial skills to the Buffalo Fiscal Stability Board, the Buffalo Niagara Partnership, and a business leaders association called the "Group of 18."

While Mr. Wilmers will continue to be involved professionally at M&T Bank, after over two decades of success, he has decided to relinquish his position as President and CEO of the Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and gratitude I stand here today to recognize Robert Wilmers, a man who has dedicated his life to economic, community and social development. On behalf of the residents of Buffalo and Western New York, we are grateful for your enduring commitment to this area and wish you health and happiness in your new semi-retirement role.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT
FINANCING, AND RELATED PRO-
GRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2006

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House in the State of the Union and under consideration the bill (H.R. 3057) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. STARK. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act for FY 2006.

The United States should be the world's leading peace broker rather than its largest arms dealer. Unfortunately, about one-quarter, or about \$5 billion, of the funding for this foreign operations appropriations bill is direct military aid and more than \$2.5 billion are "Economic Support Funds," which are often used for security operations. Supplying so many weapons to other nations does more to promote war than it does to enable peace.

To be fair, there are positive provisions in this bill. For example, it increases funding for family planning programs and the United Nations Population Fund, UNFPA. Regrettably, this good news is tarnished by another provi-

sion in the bill that gives President Bush the power to unilaterally withhold funding from the UNFPA initiative. For several years, President Bush has withheld these funds claiming that UNFPA plays a role in the coercive abortion practices of the Chinese.

Despite that rhetoric, UNFPA does not provide funding for abortions or abortion services. It works to prevent the need for abortions by educating women in other countries on the many advantages to services such as contraception and disease prevention. UNFPA is the largest internationally funded source of population assistance to developing countries. For over three decades, the UNFPA has provided billions of dollars of assistance to more than 150 countries for voluntary family planning and maternal and child health care.

I am also disappointed that the bill fails to fund the Global Environmental Facility, GEF. The GEF is the largest single funding source for projects to improve our global environment.

I also oppose provisions in this bill that have removed all conditionality on U.S. military assistance to Indonesia and Guatemala. Indonesia continues to abuse the human rights of its people and Guatemala has violated numerous agreements stipulated in its domestic peace accords.

What message is this Republican Congress sending the world? On the one hand, President Bush sends Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice on a tour of the Middle East touting democracy. On the other hand, this Republican Congress is allowing brutal regimes to get military aid without any restrictions.

I cannot vote for this legislation. The large amount of military aid and the lack of commitment to promoting democracy and international family planning initiatives force me to vote against it. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against this ill-conceived legislation.

HONORING THE FIRST GRAD-
UATING CLASS FROM THE CAM-
DEN ACADEMY CHARTER HIGH
SCHOOL

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 29, 2005

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the first graduating class of the Camden Academy Charter High School. The high school grew out of Camden's Promise Charter School, which opened its doors in September of 1998. From the beginning, Camden Academy Charter School has provided a safe environment for the children of Camden. The students here are not just presented with a foundation in academics, but also discover how their education translates into opportunities outside the classroom. The students participate in summer immersion, job shadowing, and even internships with local companies.

These students have truly earned their diplomas. I commend them for their dedication and hard work, and hope that their education will not end here. Education is a lifelong goal, one that serves to the betterment of the individual, and of society. I ask them to read the newspaper; read a novel; write poetry; study current events; talk to friends and family about

the issues of the day. Their graduation today is a starting point from which they can grow and learn, and I wish these students all the best in their future endeavors.

The following are the 2005 graduates from the Camden Academy Charter High School:

Aaron Adams, Kristen Alpheus, Devon Alston, Jamellah Best, Diana Borges, Tyesha Brantley, Domonic Busbee, Troy Butler, Edwin Caraballo, TieQuann Carver, Jesse Coltrane, Alexis Cooper, Michael Cropper, Bianca Cox, Juan Cruz, Aramis Cruz, Letitia Curry, Khalil Davis, Julissa DeCasanova, Yesenia DeCasanova, Christopher Dickerson, Marilyn Ferguson, Rashon Fisher, Sheila Gabriel, and Tajah Gamble.

Abraham Gonzalez, Adrian Graham, DeV Vaughn Hailey, LaToya Hairston, Marcus Harris, Theresa Holmes, Michael Hopkins, William Hughes III, Hope Ibeneche, Nashid Ibn-El, Daniel Irizarry, Brittany Johnson, Damian Johnson, Nigel Jones, Erving Jones, Kris Keaton, Monique Kinard, Keyana Kirkland, Antonia Maldonado, Jorge Maldonado, KiaMarae Mathes, Steven McDonald, Jessica Medina, Jevon Miles, and Tabron Miles.

Naemah Mitchell-El, Rafael Montanez, Ebony Mosley, Chanell Moyer, Shardaewood, Saunier O'Neill, Jeremy Ortiz, Charles Parrish, India Powe, Dianna Pujols, Veda Quann, Quameer Reddick-Parker, April Reid-Bey, Christopher Rivera, Daniella Rivera, Jeremy Robinson, Samuel Rodriguez, LaTisha Rodriguez, Cheryl Ross, Kabria Satterwhite, Devin Seamon, Phillip Smalls, Dareese Smith, Akacia Spearman, and Yaniece Spencer.

Vaughn Spicer, Genice Steward, Troy Still, Steven Taylor Jr., Mercy Torres, Gina Torres, Jemaine Underdue, Fashionette Underdue, Alexander Vargas, Jha-Nai Wagner, Tangier Washington, Brittney Webb, Rasheen Webb, Gabrielle Williams, Chanteera Wilson, Lateema Yellock, and Tiffany Young.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 3010) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in recognition of House Amendment 343 to House Resolution 3010, to restore full funding to the Corporation of Public Broadcasting.

The passage of this amendment preserves public broadcasting, a longstanding American tradition. This amendment enables the Corporation of Public Broadcasting to continue providing countless benefits to our society, including unbiased and nonpartisan information and news, educational and developmental programming and services, and arts and entertainment to the American public.