

Emerson Elementary School, and stayed with Fresno Unified until he retired in 1986.

Beyond his scholastic achievements, Mr. Gaston has also served the country well. He gave the United States Army five years of service and moved up the ranks to become Second Lieutenant before he was honorably discharged.

Bud has not only served his country, but also served his community through many affiliations. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Fresno, a Foundation Board Member for Saint Agnes Medical Center, a member of Kiwanis Club of Fresno, and a member of NAACP Black Political Council.

As a result of the tremendous efforts Bud has made within his community, he has been honored with many awards: The Black Educators' of Fresno Award, the Troy Award for Education, the Fresno Mall Dedication Plaque, Second Baptist Church Laymen's Award, Kids Day Award, Elementary Partnership Program Award, KSEE 24 Portraits of Success Award, and the Fresno District Fair Appreciate Award are just a few of such examples.

Our community has truly been blessed by the contributions Bud has made, and we are thankful for his dedication.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL
MENTORING MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, as one of the co-chairs of the Mentoring Caucus, I rise today in support of House Resolution 46, to express the sense of Congress and the House of Representatives regarding the many benefits of mentoring.

Mentoring programs, as we are talking about them here today, link children with caring, responsible adults to provide opportunities for young people to develop strong character and new capabilities. Mentoring opportunities are a proven method, as has been pointed out, to help children who may be struggling in school or at home or just in life. We need to take advantage of mentoring opportunities to allow every child to become self-sufficient, have better self-esteem, and feel that they too can achieve the American Dream.

In my own state of Minnesota, there are over 350 mentoring programs that connect youth with positive role models. One valuable mentoring program is Big Brothers Big Sisters. In the St. Paul/Minneapolis region alone, more than 2,000 children benefit from this mentoring program. In 2005, they hope to reach 5,000 children.

Sergeant Mamie Singleton, of the St. Paul Police Department and founder of Youth Initiative Mentoring Academies, is one example of many in Minnesota who in her spare time mentors youth. Youth Initiative Mentoring Academies is a non-profit organization for at-risk youth that utilizes a mentoring model through aviation education. I cannot tell you how proud I am when I go to their graduation day and each and every one of those children receives a certificate for their aviation education and for their civic education projects. It

is a special time for the mentors as well, as they witness their generous gifts of time and hard work payoff for these children.

Mentors make a difference, for a mentor can be a friend, a listener, a coach, a tutor, or just a confidante. A mentor is simply a person who cares enough to be a good listener at times and to offer the opportunity to open new doors and new worlds by offering encouragement and support along the way.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support this resolution, and to look for opportunities for Members to be mentors themselves. As the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE) pointed out, many of our staff are mentors. J.D. Burton, who recently left my staff, was a mentor for Horton's Kids. He tutored for 3 years, and, at times, we worked our schedule around his mentoring schedule. I have many others in my office who are also mentors, and each and every one of them says that they get more out of the opportunity of mentoring than they could ever imagine.

I would also like to thank the sponsor of this bill, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), for, you see, his family comes from a mentoring background. His cousin, the Honorable Kathleen Vellenga, took time to be a mentor of mine when I was in the Minnesota House of Representatives. Mentoring—you never know where it might lead you.

RECOGNIZING DEXTER SLAGLE
AND DONNA CHASTEEN

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I announce the upcoming union of Dexter Slagle and Donna Chasteen, two long time residents of Morgan County, Missouri, and dedicated public servants.

Dexter has been a business owner in Versailles for 42 years and served his neighbors as City Alderman and as Morgan County Surveyor. Donna has also owned her own business for 35 years and for 12 years held the position of County Clerk. These are two individuals who have dedicated their time, money and energy to making the City of Versailles and Morgan County better places to live and raise a family.

Mr. Speaker, on February 20, Dexter and Donna, along with their children, Amy and Windy and Barbara and Bert, and their grandchildren will become one family. I am sure my fellow Members of the House will join me in wishing them all the best as they start their new life together.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING
RUSSELL MCCALL

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Russell McCall has demonstrated ongoing commitment to education for the residents of the Muskingum Valley; and

Whereas, Russell McCall has attended 500 consecutive board meetings of the Muskingum

Valley Educational Service Center without absence; and

Whereas, Russell McCall has served as a board member since 1963, served on the New Concord-Union Local Board of Education for 4 years, was a founding member of the Mid-East Career and Technology Center's Board of Education for 19 years, and was a founding member of the Zane State College Board of Trustees for 19 years; and

Whereas, Russell McCall served in the United States Army during World War II and was awarded a bronze star; and

Whereas, Russell McCall is a lifelong member of College Drive Presbyterian Church and was active in the New Concord Grange and Muskingum County Pomona Grange.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the Muskingum Valley and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in recognizing Russell McCall for his longtime dedication to the residents and children of Coshocton, Morgan, and Musingum Counties.

LEADER IN EDUCATION

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Dr. Walter L. Buster, of Prather, California. Dr. Buster is a recipient of the Kremen School of Education and Human Development "Noted Alumni Award."

Dr. Buster received his Bachelor of Arts in English from Westmont College in Santa Barbara, then went on to attain his Master of Arts from Chapman College in Orange, California. He then moved to Montana and attended University of Montana to receive his Doctorate in Curriculum Development.

Walt moved back to California where he began his teaching career in Fullerton, then became Superintendent of Fairfax School District in 1984. In this position, Walt acted as the Chief Executive Officer for a K-8 district with 600 students in Marin County. He developed a plan for consolidation with the San Anselmo School District that was approved by the voters, and was responsible for cooperatively merging the Fairfax School District with the San Anselmo School District into the new Ross Valley School District.

He continued on as Superintendent, helping other school districts succeed, and finally came to Clovis and joined our community as Superintendent of Clovis Unified School District. After seven years with Clovis Unified, Walt became the Director of the Central Valley Education Leadership Institute at California State University, Fresno.

Walt's success has been great, and he has served on numerous committees and councils, such as the Fresno Compact Board of Directors, California State University, Fresno, Superintendents' Advisory Council, ACSA/CSLA Executive Leadership Planning Committee and Seminar Facilitator.

As gratitude for his service, Dr. Buster received the Robert Alioto Award for Instructional Leadership from the California School Leadership Academy, and the Citizen of the Year Award from the Clovis Chamber of Commerce. Most recently he is being honored by the Kremen School of Education and Human

Development. Walt has given so much to his communities, and we are grateful for his leadership.

INLAND EMPIRE REGIONAL
WATER RECYCLING INITIATIVE

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to re-introduce the Inland Empire Regional Water Recycling Initiative, to authorize water recycling projects under the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI program. This legislation, which passed the House in the 108th Congress, is an important component of southern California's regional water management.

This Initiative includes two projects, the first of which will be constructed by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) and will produce 90,000 acre feet of new water annually. The second of these projects, to be constructed by the Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD), will produce an additional 5,000 acre feet of new water annually. Between these two projects, 95,000 acre feet of new water will be produced annually before the end of the decade.

With the recent passage of the CalFed authorization, it is imperative that we continue to approve measures preventing water supply shortages in the Western United States. The Inland Empire region is one of the fastest growing areas in the nation. Reducing our dependence on imported water from the Colorado River and northern California will have significant regional benefits including reduced water shortages, energy savings, improved water quality, and job creation. The passage of the Inland Empire Water Recycling Initiative will continue the federal-local partnership to bring a significant amount of new water supply to the region.

IEUA produces recycled water for a variety of non-potable purposes, such as landscape irrigation, agricultural irrigation, construction, and industrial cooling. By replacing these water-intensive applications with high-quality recycled water, fresh water can be conserved or used for drinking, thereby reducing the dependence on expensive imported water. In addition, by recycling water which would otherwise be wasted and unavailable, IEUA provides that the water available goes through at least one more cycle of beneficial use before it is ultimately returned to the environment.

The Inland Empire Regional Water Recycling Initiative has the support of all member agencies of IEUA, as well as the water agencies downstream in Orange County. IEUA encompasses approximately 242 square miles and serves the cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Fontana (through the Fontana Water Company), Ontario, Upland, Montclair, Rancho Cucamonga (through the Cucamonga Valley Water District), and the Monte Vista Water District.

I want to thank the House Resources Committee, and Chairman RICHARD POMBO, for moving this bill to successful passage on the House floor during the last Congress. I look forward to working closely with him again, and with the new Water and Power Subcommittee Chairman GEORGE RADANOVICH. I also want to

thank my colleagues, KEN CALVERT, GRACE NAPOLITANO, GARY MILLER, and JOE BACA for cosponsoring the Inland Empire Water Recycling Initiative. And last but certainly not least, I commend the hard work and dedication of Mr. Robert DeLoach, General Manager of the Cucamonga Valley Water District, and Mr. Rich Atwater, CEO and General Manager of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, who both work tirelessly on behalf of the Inland Empire.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed rollcall votes Nos. 31–32 on February 15, 2005. These were suspension votes on H. Con. Res. 25 and H.R. 324. Due to inclement weather conditions, my travel to Washington, DC was not completed until following the conclusion of votes this evening.

I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted rollcall vote No. 31, Recognizing the contributions of the "Greensboro Four" to the civil rights movement "aye"; rollcall vote No. 32, the Arthur Stacey Mastrapa Post Office Building Designation Act "aye."

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
ALICE CAVITT ON HER 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Alice Cavitt was born in Carrol County, Ohio on December 23, 1904 and is celebrating her 100th birthday; and

Whereas, Alice Cavitt, a devoted wife to her husband, William Cavitt, and mother to her children Pearl and Harold, is active in the Presbyterian Church; and

Whereas, Alice Cavitt has exemplified a love for her family and friends and must be commended for her lifelong dedication to helping others.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in wishing Alice Cavitt a very happy 100th birthday.

HONORING MICHIGAN ROTARIANS
ON 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the thousands of Michigan Rotarians as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of Rotary, the world's first service club.

On February 23, 1905, The Rotary Club of Chicago was established by Paul Harris, an

attorney who wished to recapture through a professional club the same friendly, small town spirit he experienced in his youth. Finding like-minded committed individuals, over time the organization was called the Rotary, because of the club's early practice of rotating meetings among members' offices.

From this humble but hearty beginning, Rotary's popularity burgeoned and clubs were formed from New York to San Francisco. By 1922 the organization began to expand outside of the United States, and so it adopted the name Rotary International to evidence its member clubs on six continents.

Throughout the years the organization has been remarkable for "doing good in the world." For example in 1985, Rotarians made a commitment to immunize all of the world's children against polio. Today, contributions to the Rotary Foundation total more than \$80 million annually and support a wide range of humanitarian grants and educational programs; and Rotarians have mobilized hundreds of thousands of volunteers and have immunized more than one billion children worldwide. In point of fact, by the end of 2005 Rotary will have contributed close to \$500 million to this cause alone.

Mr. Speaker, for 100 years Rotary has striven to meet the challenges of a changing world, including such pressing issues as environmental degradation, illiteracy, world hunger, and at risk children. Let us then pause our own hectic pace and honor Rotarians for bringing hope and help to all humanity.

ENCOURAGING CROSS-STRAIT RELATIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND TAIWAN

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, one of the most important Pacific Rim relationships is the one between China and Taiwan. I want to commend both nations for their work to find common ground.

I am so pleased that cross-strait relations have been improving in recent days. On January 15 of this year China and Taiwan agreed to direct flights during the Lunar New Year holidays and both sides agreed to continue to work toward restoring direct trade, transport and postal ties—the "three links". Moreover, the economies of China and Taiwan have grown increasingly interdependent as Taiwanese businesses have invested as much as \$100 billion in China and as many as one million Taiwanese now live and work on the mainland.

For the last several decades, U.S. policy has been to encourage amicable relations between Taiwan and China so that they may work out whatever differences they may have through peaceful means. We in the international community should make sure the peace and prosperity of the 23 million people in Taiwan is maintained.