

The school also has one of the most successful family literacy programs in the nation that educates pre-school children and their parents together. The program is called Family and Child Education (FACE), the FACE program at Blackwater has earned an enviable reputation as a proud member of the National Adult Education Honor Society.

I would like to offer my congratulations to the distinguished delegation from Blackwater Community School for the tremendous job that they are doing on the Gila River Indian Reservation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER EVAGORAS CONSTANTINIDES

HON. PETER J. VISCOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. VISCOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sincerity and admiration that I wish to congratulate Father Evagoras Constantinides on the 50th Anniversary of his ordination into the Holy Priesthood. Father Constantinides will be recognized at a banquet in his honor at the Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Cathedral on Sunday, February 26, 2006, which will also be a celebration of the 60th Wedding Anniversary of Father Evagoras and his wife, Presvytera Mary.

Father Constantinides was born in Lapihos, Cyprus in 1918 and was educated in his village through his second year of high school, where he graduated with the Gold Medal Award for academic excellence. He entered Athens College in 1932, where he was accepted on a yearly scholarship with the school's science section. Father Constantinides had no trouble maintaining his scholarship for six years, and he graduated with honors while receiving the Delta Public Speaking Prize and the English Language Prize. This dedication and commitment to his studies exemplifies the hard work on which Father Constantinides prides himself.

After finishing college in Greece, Father Constantinides traveled to the United States to continue his studies and broaden his experiences. In 1938, he enrolled at Fenn College, which is now Cleveland State University, where he studied civil engineering. During his four years at the University, he served as a Greek teacher and as the Hellenic Board of Education Secretary for the Greek Orthodox Community of the Annunciation of Cleveland, Ohio. Although he enjoyed his time in Cleveland, his final year was interrupted by World War II. As a British subject, Father Constantinides entered the Canadian Army as a private in the fall of 1942. After completing his basic training, he was enrolled in the officer training program, from which he graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Engineer Corps with proficiency in explosives, mines, and demolitions. His outstanding ability as a military officer, coupled with his excellent intellect, allowed Father Constantinides the opportunity to work for the United States Central Intelligence Group translating Japanese documents and the Greek Constitution into English.

After being discharged in 1947, Father Constantinides returned to the United States and began extensively studying theology. On March 11, 1956, Father Constantinides was

ordained into the priesthood, and on September 1, 1969, he was appointed pastor of the Saints Constantine and Helen parish in Gary, Indiana. Since arriving in Northwest Indiana, the graciousness and generosity of Father Constantinides has touched many lives. In 1971, Father Constantinides was instrumental in the construction of the Hellenic Cultural Center in Merrillville, Indiana, as well as in the design and construction of the Saints Constantine and Helen Cathedral, one of the ten largest Orthodox churches in the Americas, in 1975. During his years of service, Father Constantinides has also become deeply involved in the work of Hospice of the Calumet Area.

In addition to the many contributions within his own parish, Father Constantinides has committed himself to improving the community, the nation, and the world. To name just a few of the appointments and accolades bestowed upon Father Constantinides throughout his years of service, he was honored with the office of Protopresbyter in 1972, and he served as the Treasurer and member of the National Presbyters Council from 1970–1974, and again from 1980–1982. He received the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of North and South America Service Award and Gold Cross in 1976 for his struggles and lobbying activities for the liberation of invaded Cyprus. Father Constantinides has shared his immense wisdom and faith in various countries, including Russia, Kenya, Uganda, and India. Remarkably, Father Constantinides has even found time to author four Sunday school books for children and has translated six Orthodox Service books from Greek to English.

Since his retirement in June 1995, Father Constantinides has devoted his time to the Orthodox Christian Mission Center through writing, lecturing, and substituting at churches in the Chicago Diocese, but he has also been able to devote much of his time to his loving wife, Mary, and their four children. Presvytera Mary has stood by her husband's side for the past 60 years. I am sure Father Constantinides would agree that the unwavering support of his loving wife has been a major factor in the many achievements he has reached in his lifetime. Father Evagoras and Presvytera Mary are a shining example of true dedication to their vows and each other.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking Father Evagoras Constantinides for his contributions to the members of his parish, the citizens of Northwest Indiana, and his fifty years of service to people throughout the world. I also ask that you join me in congratulating Father Evagoras and Presvytera Mary Constantinides on their 60th wedding anniversary. Their love for each other and for all mankind is truly an inspiration to us all, and I am proud to be their representative in Congress.

HONORING DR. PAUL LICHTMAN

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Paul Lichtman, a science teacher from Uniondale High School. Teaching is one of the most honorable and important profes-

sions a person could choose. Dr. Lichtman is at the top of his profession, which his students have always known, and others realize as well. He has been honored by the New York State Assembly, the Nassau County Legislature, the Town of Hempstead Supervisor and the Town Board, and recently was named the Siemens Foundation's top mentor among those who helped 1,600 high school students enter its 2005 national competition. In typical Dr. Lichtman style, he has donated the \$15,000 that comes with the award to purchase more equipment for the school's research room.

Dr. Lichtman earned his Pharm.D. in 1990, specializing in toxicology and worked for several years as a manufacturing pharmacist. He was a science research coordinator and teacher at Massapequa High School and Hillcrest High School prior to making his way to Uniondale.

Dr. Lichtman's program is one of only in three in the nation, other than in some magnet schools, where students do most of their research in a school lab rather than at a hospital or university. In just six short years, Dr. Lichtman has increased the number of research students from zero to over 80. His students, mostly minorities, have long credited Dr. Lichtman not just for his encouragement and mentoring in the classroom but also for teaching life lessons that can be used and applied throughout their lives.

The students develop a full research proposal by conducting a complete literature search and designing the methodology, which is then approved by Dr. Lichtman. Students implement the projects in the school's research lab, present their results at science competitions and propose and carry out further studies. The students' projects have resulted in practical applications that have been implemented, such as reduction of storm water runoff contaminants. Many of his students have been nominated for science awards and have placed in various science fairs and competitions, which is a testament to Dr. Lichtman.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Dr. Lichtman, and all of our teachers, for their wonderful work, and their contribution to our leaders of tomorrow.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH STROUD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joseph Stroud, a Californian poet that has received the prestigious Witter Bynner fellowship award. The fellowship, funded by the Witter Bynner Foundation for Poetry, was developed in 1972 to promote the art of poetry and encourage grants that illuminate the positive effects that poetry has on society. As part of the fellowship, the two recipients are asked to organize a local poetry event as well as attend a poetry reading at the Library of Congress. Stroud has contributed tremendously to the art, and it is fitting that we mention him today.

He began his distinguished career as a professor of poetry and English at Cabrillo College in 1969 and for 35 years inspired the minds of many young and eager writers. Yet

it was not until late that his literary prowess exploded on the cultural scene with the publication of his third book of poetry *Below Cold Mountain*. Stroud, who resides in Santa Cruz, California and Shay Creek in the Sierra Nevada, has also been active in the social diffusion of poetry locally while co-hosting KUSP's "Poetry Show".

Stroud's work encompasses various typologies of poetry from short-line form to lyrical prose and rhymes. His work takes readers with him on his travels and describes topics ranging from landscapes to commonplace objects in the finest detail or the greatest abstraction.

Stroud has completed works of great social and cultural importance and it is important that we recognize him for his contribution to the arts. Together with the Witter Bynner Foundation and members of the United States Congress, I welcome Mr. Stroud to our nation's capital and join in congratulating him for his success and thank him for his contributions to American literature.

**COMMENDING THE LAUNCH OF
SAEMSORI**

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Eugene Bell Foundation, the Korean American Coalition of the Midwest, and other involved churches, community leaders and organizations on the occasion of their launch of the Saemsori initiative last week. By seeking to promote reunion between Korean-Americans and their family members in North Korea, it is a project with potential ramifications that are both personal and global.

As Members of this body are well aware, there currently exist many challenging issues between the United States and North Korea. In the current context, the most reasonable place to begin seeking a more positive dynamic is in the field of people-to-people relation. And the most natural and urgent way to seek those improvements is to pursue the reunion of Korean families. Although detailed statistics are not available, an estimated quarter of the 1.5 to 2 million strong Korean-American community have familial and historical ties to the North. The pains of separation are felt acutely by many Americans.

One of the most unique aspects of our Nation is that we are a society of immigrants with ties to many parts of the world. Traditionally, second and third generation American citizens have taken the lead in advising Congress and the executive branch on ways and means of forging closer, more mutually beneficial relations with their ancestral homelands, and in focusing American concern on the circumstances and challenges facing their former countrymen. In our unique, citizen-centered democracy, leadership on initiatives eventually undertaken by any administration often comes from outside government.

For this reason, I believe that the launch of Saemsori is an appropriate occasion to reflect on the singular role that Korean-American churches, civic organizations, and business leaders are playing in the way that the United

States relates to the entire Korean peninsula, both North and South. Those who pursue reunion for the sake of their families are reflecting basic American values and rendering a service to the imperative of peaceful relations between peoples of the world.

HONORING CHARLES C. PHILLIPS

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of one of my distinguished constituents, Charles Clifford Phillips of Newport News, Virginia. Born in January of 1921, Charlie grew up in Friendship, South Carolina, where he, like many rural Americans of that time, worked on his father's farm. Anxious to see the world and to serve his country, he left South Carolina at the age of 17 and joined the Army Air Corps. After the entry of the United States into World War II, Charlie was sent to the Pacific Theater as a bomber turret gunner in the famous Red Raiders Bomber Group (22d Bomb Group, 2d Squadron). Like so many others of his generation, he asked no questions and he made no complaints. He fought and won a war that guaranteed the security of every American and hundreds of millions of others.

With his job done abroad, he returned to America to begin a new life and new family. He met the love of his life, Buena Mae Spurling, in a restaurant in Maryville, Tennessee. They eventually moved to Newport News, Virginia in 1955, where he joined the C&O Railroad and worked until his retirement 28 years later. He and his beloved wife of 60 years built a family of upstanding, hardworking Americans who carry his love of country and his belief in God.

This country lost a great American on December 23, 2005, just 2 days before Christmas and 2 weeks before his 85th birthday. Charlie closed his eyes for the last time surrounded by his family. I am told that he left this world as he lived in it, with dignity and honor.

I extend to the family of Charles Clifford Phillips my deepest sympathy and my prayers during this difficult time. I am sure you are so very proud of him. It is obvious through his service to our country during World War II and his love for his family, that he was truly a great man.

I would also like to enter into the RECORD the obituary of Charles C. Phillips.

OBITUARY OF CHARLES C. PHILLIPS

NEWPORT NEWS.—Mr. Charles C. Phillips, 84, a native of Marion, S.C., a resident of Newport News since 1955, went home to be with the Lord on Dec. 23, 2005. He was a Christian and Veteran of WWII, serving in the U.S. Army Air Corps, 22 Bomb Group (BG), 2nd Squadron, "Robinson's Red Raiders" in the Pacific Theatre. The 22 BG originated out of Langley Air Field in 1941 and was deployed to the Pacific one day after Pearl Harbor. He received several decorations and the unit had several Presidential citations, participating in numerous campaigns as a bomber turret gunner. Mr. Phillips retired from C&O Railroad after 28 years of service. He was the son of the late Chalmers Corcellus and Susan Wall Phillips of S.C. He was preceded in death by his

brothers, Marvin, Zach and Wallace Phillips, and sister, Margaret Wagner Worrell. Survivors include his wife of 60 years, Buena Mae Phillips (whom he loved most in the world); two daughters, Margaret "Cookie" Tyndall and Michelle Kellam, and husband, Chris; two sons, Charles C. Phillips Jr. and wife, Patricia, and William L. Phillips; one sister, Geraldine Graham of Florence, S.C.; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews whom he held very dear. He was provided loving care in his remaining days by his loving family, most notably his son-in-law G. Christopher Kellam and his grandson Caleb J. Kellam. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 31, in the World Outreach Worship Center, 1233 Shields Road, Newport News, VA 23608-2062, with Pastor Bob Collins officiating. The family suggests that memorials may be made to the World Outreach Worship Center.

HONORING JACK FARIS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, America was built by entrepreneurs. We wouldn't be the powerhouse we are without the millions of people who had an idea, grew that idea, and turned that idea into a business. In America small business owners create the most jobs and drive economic growth.

Today I want to honor someone who has fought for those entrepreneurs. As president and CEO of the National Federation of Independent Business, Jack Faris has been a tireless advocate on behalf of small business owners. He understands the pressures facing our entrepreneurs and he has fought to be certain America doesn't stifle the freedom that gives so many the opportunity to go out and build a business. Jack Faris believes in dreaming big dreams and turning those into reality.

Jack knows our prosperity and our freedom are tied to a thriving small business community and he's never shied away from making certain policymakers understand that fact.

Even though Jack is retiring as president and CEO of the NFIB, we know he'll continue to support our small businesses. We thank him for his work on behalf of such a worthy cause.

**HONORING AMY JARED AND HER
DEDICATION TO THE ARTS**

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 14, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Amy Jared for her dedication to art education. Amy, a native of Cookeville, Tennessee, developed an art outreach program that was recently honored with the Nation's highest award for community arts programs.

As Art Education Manager at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, Amy developed a Latino Outreach Program that was named one of 15 finalists in the 2005 Coming Up Taller Awards. Since 1998, the awards have recognized the