

financial assistance for students who are Federal Pell Grant recipients.

The McNair Program, named in honor of engineer, scientist, and Challenger astronaut Robert E. McNair, serves a smaller student population of 23 each year. The goal of this program is to increase the number of doctoral candidates from underrepresented backgrounds. This program prepares undergraduate students for the world of vigorous research that doctoral studies require. Therefore, not only does Morehouse work closely with these students during their undergraduate years, but it also tracks the students' progress until successful completion of higher education degrees.

One of the major advantages of these programs is the mentoring the participants receive. Here they are off in college, many are the first to do so in their families, and they get the chance to receive guidance and assistance from professionals who want them to succeed. What more could a student ask for?

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the good work the professionals at Morehouse SSS and McNair Programs do. Among them are Dr. Ruby Bird, Malcolm Williams, and Michael Maxwell. I also want to congratulate all the Men of Morehouse that will become Morehouse Men on May 14th, 2006, with special acknowledgement of those who took advantage of the assets Morehouse TRIO Programs have to offer.

HONORING THE 2006 STATE CHAMPION BOLINGBROOK HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to congratulate the Bolingbrook High School Girls' Varsity Basketball Team on capturing the 2006 Illinois Class AA Girls' Basketball State Championship.

On March 4, 2006, the Bolingbrook Raiders beat the Althoff High School Crusaders 45–34 in the state championship game. Not only did this give the Bolingbrook Girls' Varsity Basketball team its first state championship, but it provided Bolingbrook High School with its first ever state championship in any sport.

It's not often that Congress passes a law that makes a big difference in the lives of young people—especially in the lives of young girls. But that's exactly what happened in 1972, when Title IX was enacted, allowing girls and young women to participate in sports just like the boys and young men.

When many of my colleagues and I were in high school, girls were only allowed to play half court basketball. Why did they only let us play on half of the court? Well, they thought we were too weak and delicate and that running across the full court might exhaust us or affect our health.

As they say, we've come a long way, and the Bolingbrook High School Girls' Varsity Basketball Team is a great example of that. Not only are they excellent basketball players, but I'm sure that they could teach many young men a thing or two about the sport.

Today, our hats are off to the Bolingbrook Raiders for their great athleticism, team spirit,

hard work, dedication, and the example they set for girls and women everywhere.

Once again, congratulations to girls of the Bolingbrook High School Varsity Basketball Team on winning the Illinois state championship. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

KATHERINE OSENBACH

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Katherine Osenbach for being inducted into the Da Vinci Discovery Center of Science and Technology's Hall of Fame.

The Da Vinci Discovery Center of Science and Technology honors outstanding teachers and high school students who excel in science and technology. This year, Katherine Osenbach of Allentown Central Catholic High School will receive this honor and recognition during the May 16, 2006 awards ceremony.

A senior in high school, Katherine, has already decided to pursue a career as a scientific researcher in the fields of biology and physics. She is well on her way to achieving her goal. She has participated in such events as the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science and in numerous independent research projects, including one titled "Does Mozart Motivate the Mind?" She has also acquired hands-on experience and completed such tasks as helping a veterinarian extract a horse's tooth and collecting samples for local water sources. Additionally, Katherine has participated in the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine in Boston and worked on an atomic fusion research project at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Katherine does not only excel in science, but she is also an accomplished musician, a recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award, a National Merit Scholarship semi-finalist, and vice president of her school's National Honor Society chapter. She will be attending the University of Scranton in the fall and will pursue a degree in biology.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Katherine Osenbach of Allentown Central Catholic High School as she is inducted into the Da Vinci Discovery Center of Science and Technology's Hall of Fame.

H.R. 4681, THE PALESTINIAN ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2006

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, it is not very often that JIM McDERMOTT rises to support this President, but that is precisely what I am doing now. The President does not want his hands tied by H.R. 4681. I completely agree. It was taken off the calendar today, and it ought to stay off the calendar.

H.R. 4681, the Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006, will not make Israel safer, will not meet the urgent humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people, and will not give our diplomats the tools they need to help find a path to peace in the Mideast.

For all of these reasons, I oppose it, and I urge my colleagues to reconsider. I believe in diplomacy as a means to correct injustice around the world. I believe gifted diplomats can accomplish as much with words and deeds as the military can with guns and soldiers.

There is no question that the United States must take all appropriate steps to ensure that terrorists like Hamas are denied access to our financial aid. Hamas is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of innocent Israelis before coming to power.

Since then, they have neither renounced violence nor recognized Israel. This is unacceptable.

By all means, we must deny Hamas dollars that would buy hatred, but we must remember that Hamas and the Palestinian people are not one and the same.

Even as we deny any and all assistance to Hamas, we must not hurt those Palestinians who are working for peace. If we fail to support them, I have no doubt that Israel will pay the ultimate price: more instability in the West Bank and Gaza, more desperation, and more terrorism.

America's leadership is on the line in the Middle East, and more instability is something we need to avoid. We still have 130,000 American soldiers in harm's way in Iraq; we can't afford to make any more poor choices related to that region. But, that's what we will do if we pass this bill.

It doesn't make sense for the United States to limit political and economic aid to moderates, like Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas.

He and others have met our requirements by recognizing Israel, renouncing violence and terrorism against Israel, and accepting all previously signed Israeli-Palestinian agreements. What happens if we turn our back on leaders trying to heal a millennium of hate?

And what can we expect if we turn our backs on the real and growing humanitarian needs of the Palestinian people? It doesn't make sense to put restrictions on funding the NGOs that provide the Palestinian people with hospitals and schools.

As a medical doctor, I am gravely concerned about the fate of millions of innocent Palestinians who rely on international aid for food, health care, and for developing their economy and businesses.

Recent news reports say that international sanctions are preventing hospitals in Gaza from providing dialysis machines for patients, and they may not be able to supply immunizations to children.

The World Health Organization sees a "rapid decline of the public health system . . . towards a possible collapse." This bill will only make the already dire situation even worse. As a doctor I took an oath to heal. As a nation, we took an oath to lead.

Allowing innocent Palestinians to go hungry, while denying them medical treatment cannot possibly correct injustice, or lead to peace.

Passing this bill will be seen as anti-Palestinian, and the resulting chaos and animosity can only threaten the relative calm that Israel has seen in recent months.

Many of the Israeli leaders I've spoken to, think this bill goes too far by punishing all Palestinians, not just Hamas. They understand that a radicalized population will show more support for Hamas, not less.

During a recent trip to Israel and the Palestinian territories, I saw how both sides deeply yearn for peace. And I saw firsthand how they need the United States to do all it can to help them make peace.

The Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act will make this task enormously difficult.

The harsh restrictions, and cutting off contacts with moderate Palestinians, will severely complicate our ability to assume an active role in helping both sides resolve the conflict.

If we cannot engage with moderates, and those trying to develop the Palestinian economy and build civil society, we forfeit our ability to nurture and strengthen the positive elements in Palestine.

The President and State Department must have the utmost flexibility to help moderate Palestinians, to quickly get economic and humanitarian aid to places that need it, like hospitals and health clinics, and helps prevent the resumption of terrorism.

We need to isolate and weaken Hamas, and hopefully their tenure at the head of the PA will be a short one. But if we cannot distinguish between Hamas and the majority of the Palestinian people, we cannot possibly expect to have a role in creating what comes next.

Israelis and Palestinians realize that in the end, their fates are tied. It's time to help the majorities on both sides reach their mutual goal—a peaceful two-state solution—rather than standing in the way by punishing one side.

While the bill has been pulled from the calendar, that's only temporary. I urge the majority to leave it off the table indefinitely.

Give our State Department an opportunity to nurture peace, or we will surely have to ask our military to counter more terrorism.

CONGRATULATING DENVER HARBOR SENIOR CITIZENS, INC. ON 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Denver Harbor Senior Citizens, Inc. on twenty-five years of service to the senior citizens of Denver Harbor, Texas. Since its founding in June of 1980, Denver Harbor Senior Citizens has provided an outlet for seniors in our area to get together on a regular basis, socialize, and maintain meaningful friendships.

On any given weekday, the Denver Harbor Recreation Complex is visited by a large group of active senior citizens. Many gather in groups to play dominoes, bingo, or Loteria, a traditional Mexican game. While the games often bring out some good-natured competition among the players, everyone enjoys the camaraderie and laughter that the group activities provide.

Without doubt, Denver Harbor Senior Citizens, Inc. is one of the most active senior centers in Harris County. In addition to the programs provided in the new and beautiful Denver Harbor Recreation Complex, the group sponsors numerous senior outings and trips to Austin and other areas within the State of Texas, where the members can recall the Texas history lessons we all learned as schoolchildren.

Denver Harbor Senior Citizens also provides hot meals for its members, an invaluable service ensuring that senior citizens have well-balanced meals. As we age, the importance of nutrition cannot be underestimated and is critical to our good health. This group has taken that principle to heart and has put in place the benefits and services that keep our senior citizens active and healthy—in body, mind and spirit.

On May 19, 2006, Denver Harbor Senior Citizens will officially celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary with a dinner reception and dance at the Denver Harbor Recreation Complex.

I would like to extend to this group my heartfelt congratulations and thanks for twenty-five years of dedication to Denver Harbor's senior citizens and wish them all the best in the future.

HONORING HARRY "BUS" YOURELL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry "Bus" Yourell of Oak Lawn, Illinois, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District who is retiring after a long and distinguished career in the private and public sector.

Mr. Yourell served admirably in the United States Marine Corps during World War II earning the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Asiatic Pacific Medal with three stars, and the Presidential Unit Citation Award.

Born on February 19, 1919, in Hammond, Indiana, Yourell moved to Oak Lawn in 1956. He raised three children with his wife and established a popular Oak Lawn restaurant named "Bus' Drive-in" and was engaged in the insurance brokerage business.

Harry "Bus" Yourell served with excellence in community and civic affairs by participating in the Heart Fund, the Boy Scouts, the Lions Club, the Elks Club, the Holy Name Society, Rotary, American Legion Post 757, VFW Post 5220, and Catholic War Veterans.

He is a loyal and active Democrat who served his party as President of the Worth Township Regular Democrats for three years, was elected delegate to the 1964 State Nomination Convention, was six times elected Democratic Committeeman of Worth Township, was a member of the Cook County Democratic Central Committee, and was elected delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1968.

Yourell served nine terms as an elected member of the Illinois House of Representatives, where he served as Chairman of the Counties and Townships Committee, Chairman of the Joint Committee on Administrative Procedures, Chairman of the Election Laws Commission, Chairman of the County Problems Commission, and was a member of the Executive Committee, the Cities and Villages Committee, the Financing of Education Commission, and the C-Selm Pollution Control Commission.

As an Illinois State Representative was chief sponsor of bills to raise the drinking age to 21 and to create the Joint Committee on Administrative Procedures; he also sponsored legisla-

tion creating one of the toughest narcotic bails in the nation, banning look-alike drugs, and the consolidated election law.

Citizens of our state who serve with distinction deserve to be recognized and honored for their accomplishments; therefore, it is my honor to recognize Harry "Bus" Yourell for his dedication and service to his family, friends, community, and country. I wish him all the best in his retirement and future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE 135TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PHOENIX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 10, 2006

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to bring attention to the 135th Anniversary of the Phoenix Elementary School District #1, which is in the heart of my district and celebrates its 135th birthday on May 15. Steeped in heritage and tradition, the district is in the heart of Phoenix and dedicated to the total development of every kindergarten through eighth grade student enrolled by setting high expectations for each child and fostering academic leadership. The district has demonstrated its ability to adapt to the times while keeping students needs' at the forefront.

The history of Phoenix Elementary School District #1 began in 1871, when it was created by the Arizona Legislative Assembly, acting upon a school bill presented by Arizona's third governor, Anson P. K. Safford. At the time, this free public school system had neither a schoolhouse, books or teachers. Twenty students attended class in the county courthouse.

By 1873, a one room adobe structure, named "Little Adobe," had been built with public funds, and Mr. W.A. Glover was hired to teach for \$100 per month. The school was 600-square feet and located in what is now downtown Phoenix. The District was formed 10 years before the city of Phoenix was even incorporated.

Just after it began operations, schools were closed from 1883 until 1885 due to a smallpox epidemic. Student enrollment was 374. By 1913, the district had expanded to nine schools and 4,860 students. In 1920, Kenilworth School opened, offering great relief to the overcrowded district. Sens. Barry Goldwater and Paul Fannin enrolled in Kenilworth that year. In 1957, a new school was named after the only living Arizonan to be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor: Silvestre Herrera. Early in the 1960s the exodus from city to suburbs began in earnest. Inner-city dwellers were on a modest socio-economic level, thus qualifying the district for federal funding including support for both Title I and Title II. The decade began with 25 schools and burgeoning classes. A Spanish language program also was added at Heard and Grand Avenue schools. The late 1960s brought on concerns about the lack of Mexican-Americans working in the district. Soon, Mr. Louis P. Rodriguez was named principal of Grant School and Mr. Adam Diaz was declared the elected Trustee of the Board.

From 1970 on, the District's enrollment began to show a steady decline due to commercial rezoning of property. Despite parent