

On May 17, 1954, the United States Supreme Court announced in *Brown v. Board of Education* (347 U.S. 483) that, "in the field of education, the doctrine 'of separate but equal' has no place." The Court recognized the psychological effects of segregation and that separate is inherently unequal.

In 1957, 3 years after the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, 9 brave students in Little Rock, Arkansas, continued the struggle that Oliver Brown and his daughter started. They endured a hostile school environment and a local government that was once again not supportive of their belief that equal treatment is a basic principle of a democratic society.

The story of *Brown v. Board of Education* is one of hope and courage. On this 50th anniversary of the Little Rock Nine, I am proud to take time to remember the contributions of students across the country—from Kansas to Arkansas—that fought for integration. I also hope that we can recommit ourselves to honoring the legacy that the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision left for us—to continue working to provide a world-class education for all children.

HONORING GREENHILLS SCHOOL
FOR RECEIVING THE 2007
SCHOOLS OF DISTINCTION
AWARD

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Greenhills School for receiving the prestigious Intel Schools of Distinction award for 2007.

Chosen from almost 1,000 entries, this prestigious award is granted to only six schools nationwide each year. The award is designed to recognize those schools that demonstrate excellence in implementing innovative programs within their classrooms, specifically in the fields of math and science. The science faculty of Greenhills School has exemplified the spirit of the award, modernizing classroom labs to incorporate wireless computers. Their efforts educated students not only in the complex field of science, but also in technology's role as a laboratory instrument. In addition, they have demonstrated an enthusiasm to connect with all students in the school.

Greenhills School has always stood out as an exceptional place to learn. Located in Ann Arbor, it boasts the largest percentage of National Merit Semi-Finalists and AP Scholars of any school in the State of Michigan. With students averaging outstanding SAT and ACT scores, it is not surprising that 100 percent of Greenhills graduates enroll in college. This award is a testament not only to the science teachers of Greenhills School, but all of the 64 faculty members who work to provide students with one of the best educations in the country.

Science teachers Dr. James Lupton, Dr. Deano Smith, Thomas Friedlander, Catherine Renaud, Dee Lamphear, Martha Friedlander, Ann Novak, Chris Gleason, Deborah Jagers and Michael Wilson have all demonstrated an admirable passion and dedication that benefits over 500 students at Greenhills School. They deserve recognition for their exceptional achievement.

Madam Speaker, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in commending Greenhills School for their 2007 Schools of Distinction Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, on September 24, 2007, I was unavoidably detained while returning from committee business and unable to vote, I would like the record to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote Nos. 891, 892 and 893.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent yesterday afternoon, September 24, on very urgent business. Had I been present for the four votes which occurred yesterday evening: I would have voted "Yea" on H. Con. Res. 193, rollcall vote No. 891; I would have voted "Yea" on H. Res. 668, rollcall vote No. 892; I would have voted "Yea" on H.R. 1199, rollcall vote No. 893; I would have voted "Yea" on H. Res. 340, rollcall vote No. 894.

CONGRATULATING NEW EAGLE
SCOUTS

HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and congratulate Merritt William Parham, Joseph Price Fallin III, Joseph Graham Wolfe, William Upton McClendon, and Samuel Johnson Rainbolt upon the recent attainment of their Eagle Scout rank.

Each one of these young men has exemplified what it means to be a leader to the Boy Scouts of America, the State of Oklahoma, and their country. Their service is one of the greatest contributions they can make to their peers and their community. These young men have carried out this honor with great professionalism and dignity.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the entire House of Representatives, please join me in congratulating these outstanding young men in obtaining the highest rank of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING ALL HUNTERS
ACROSS THE UNITED STATES
FOR THEIR CONTINUED COMMIT-
MENT TO SAFETY

SPEECH OF

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution recognizing hunters across the United States for their continued commitment to safety. Since State fish and game agencies began offering hunter safety programs in 1949, more than 35 million Americans have been certified through these programs.

Thanks to hunter education, hunting is safe and getting safer. Hunter education covers the skills, regulations and responsibilities of hunting, wildlife conservation and the outdoors. In my home State of Texas, mandatory hunter education became law in 1988. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department began offering voluntary hunter education courses long before that, however, in 1972, and has certified over 650,000 Texans. Every year, over 30,000 youth and adults in Texas become certified in hunter education.

Firearms-related accidents have declined sharply even as gun ownership in America is rising. More than half of all households now own firearms, yet accidental fatalities are at an all-time low—down 60 percent over the last 20 years. For decades, the firearms industry has emphasized education to ensure the safe and responsible use of its products. This effort and those by other organizations are why the shooting sports and hunting are rated among the safest forms of recreation. Some 40 million people of all ages safely participate in these activities.

I would also like to point out that in June, during the annual meeting of the International Hunter Education Association (IHEA), Heidi Rao of Houston was named Professional of the Year for providing outstanding service to IHEA and its mission. A hunter education training specialist with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department since 1998, Mrs. Rao trains the general public to comply with the mandatory hunter education programs in southeast Texas. She also trains adults in hunter education programs, policies, and procedures and the general public in hunting safety and legal practices.

Again, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution commending hunters for their continued commitment to safety.

TRIBUTE TO MR. PHIL RIZZUTO

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Mr. SERRANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Phil Rizzuto, former New York Yankees shortstop and baseball game announcer, who died on August 13, 2007 at the age of 89. Popularly known as "the Scooter," Mr. Rizzuto dazzled baseball fans with his spectacular bunts and defense and his dynamic style as a broadcaster.

Mr. Rizzuto was born on September 25, 1917 and grew up in Brooklyn and Queens, New York, dreaming of one day playing professional baseball. He was eventually signed by the Yankees in 1937 as a free agent and played his first professional game in 1941.

After serving in the United States Navy during World War II, Mr. Rizzuto resumed playing for the Yankees in 1946, staying there through the end of his career in 1956. During this period, the Scooter played in five All-Star games, won the Hickok Belt in 1950, awarded to the top professional athlete of the year, and helped the Bronx Bombers win seven World Series championships with his clutch hitting abilities. Mr. Rizzuto's uniform number, 10, was retired by the Yankees on August 4, 1985.

In 1956, Mr. Rizzuto was hired as a television sports announcer for the Yankees, a position in which he would serve for the next forty years. He quickly became beloved as a quirky and witty announcer and for his intense affection for the Yankee organization. Mr. Rizzuto's energetic style and use of popular phrases such as "Holy Cow" and "Did you see that?" to describe an exciting play moved him from the category of popular announcer to that of broadcasting legend. He was an institution in the Bronx.

Phil Rizzuto was one of the true legends associated with the Yankees. People came to depend on hearing his voice calling the plays and often a little more. He was part of the rich tapestry of people and players that have come to define this great sports organization.

The New York Yankees have become synonymous with the community where they have played—the Bronx. They are part of the fabric of the community. Phil Rizzuto understood that special relationship. In return, he became an honorary son of the Bronx.

Mr. Rizzuto was truly a one-of-a-kind New Yorker and a Yankee legend. Although the Scooter is gone, he will certainly not be forgotten. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute and bidding farewell to this baseball hero.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, I was on a leave of absence for personal reasons on September 19 and 20. Consequently, I missed several rollcall votes. At this time, I wish to note that had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 884, "yea" on rollcall No. 885, and "yea" on rollcall No. 890.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN LEGISLATORS AND OFFICE DEPOT

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the National Foundation for Women Legislators for working to distribute

thousands of backpacks filled with school supplies in every U.S. State and Puerto Rico.

These backpacks have been donated by Office Depot and are being distributed to at-risk and disadvantaged youth. As lawmakers we introduce and pass legislation every year that affects our Nation's youth. We talk about statistics and reading performance and free lunch programs, but we do not talk enough about ensuring that all students have the school supplies they need to perform both inside and out of the classroom.

Office Depot's National Backpack Program, now in its seventh year, is designed to make a difference in communities across the country and put backpacks in the hands of underprivileged and at-risk children so they have the tools they need to start the school year. Beginning in 2001 with 80,000 backpacks donated nationwide, the program has expanded to deliver 100,000 backpacks in 2002 and in 2003 and 2004, the program was increased to 200,000 backpacks containing school supplies. In 2005, the program grew to 300,000 backpacks with school supplies and finally, in 2006, 300,000 backpacks were again donated by Office Depot across North America and in Puerto Rico, totaling more than 1 million backpacks in the hands of children since the inception of the program.

Sadly, there are hundreds of thousands of children who cannot afford the basic supplies they need for school. This backpack initiative not only alleviates some of the financial burden from the many single-family households that are stretching their budget and have enough to worry about paying for food and bills, but it also allows their children to have the pride of being able to start the school year the right way.

I am proud to say that 1,000 backpacks will be delivered to the Bradley Elementary School in my home district. I ask all of my colleagues in this United States Congress to join me in recognizing the National Foundation for Women Legislators and their partnership with Office Depot, whose efforts to empower our children and provide them the tools they need to be successful in school and in life are to be commended.

EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT ADMINISTRATION'S SEPTEMBER 9, 2007 OIL DEAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express deep concern about the administration's involvement in an oil deal announced on September 9, 2007, between the U.S. company Hunt Oil and the Kurdistan Regional Government. This oil deal appears to benefit a large Republican donor and ally of President Bush and Vice President CHENEY.

The recent oil deal between the U.S.-based Hunt Oil Company and the Kurdistan Regional Government raises numerous questions. Hunt Oil, a privately held oil company based in Texas, and its founder, Ray Hunt, have close ties to Vice President CHENEY and are large donors to President Bush. The deal appears to undercut the goal of oil revenue sharing but is predictably consistent with the administration's attempt to privatize Iraqi oil assets.

This war is about oil. The Bush administration desires private control of Iraqi oil, but we have no right to force Iraq to give up their oil. We have no right to set preconditions for Iraq which lead Iraq to giving up control of their oil. The constitution of Iraq designates that the oil of Iraq is the property of all Iraqi people.

The Administration has misled Congress and the media into thinking that pending Iraqi oil legislation before Iraq's Parliament was about the fair distribution of oil revenue. But the Hunt Oil deal with Kurdistan exposes the real intent of that legislation, promotion of a privatization scheme.

The Hunt Oil deal with Kurdistan suggests the war has made foreign access to Iraqi oil a reality. Because the connections between Hunt Oil Company and the Bush administration are numerous, I have asked the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform to investigate Hunt Oil's ties to the Bush Administration and Halliburton.

The contract between Hunt Oil and Kurdistan would be the first of its kind in the Middle East where oil has been nationalized for decades and foreign oil companies have had no presence. The lack of consensus on how to manage the Iraqi oil resources suggests that the Hunt Oil Company deal could lead to greater instability within Iraq.

I have sent a letter to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice urging an immediate investigation into the implications of the Hunt Oil Company's recent production sharing agreement for petroleum exploration with Kurdistan on U.S. and Iraqi national security.

Congress should put a stop to the outrageous exploitation of a nation already in shambles due to U.S. intervention. I will soon introduce legislation to prevent all U.S. companies from gaining financial interests in Iraq's oil resources. I hope my colleagues will join me to ensure that the people of Iraq are not made to endure greater suffering and injustice that has already occurred because of this illegal and unjust war.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
September 18, 2007.

Hon. CONDOLEEZZA RICE,
Secretary of State, Department of State, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY RICE: To assure the national security of the U.S. and Iraq I urge an immediate investigation into Hunt Oil Company's recent production sharing agreement for petroleum exploration with Kurdistan. The Iraq Central Government reportedly considers this agreement illegitimate. As such, a thorough investigation assessing the threat posed by the agreement to U.S. and Iraqi national security interests should be conducted promptly.

The Constitution of Iraq designates that the oil of Iraq is the property of all Iraqi people. Thus, it is unsurprising that the Iraqi Central Government believes that the oil production sharing agreement between Hunt Oil Company and the Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) is illegal. The agreement is reportedly based on oil law passed by the KRG and is the subject of much legal debate. The lack of consensus on how to manage the Iraqi oil resources suggest that the Hunt Oil Company deal could lead to greater instability within Iraq.

As you are undoubtedly aware, the contract between Hunt Oil and the KRG would be the first of its kind in the Middle East where oil has been nationalized for decades. Foreign oil companies have had no presence in the Middle East for decades. The legality