

Proudly representing the Northern Mariana Islands in this year's National Mock Trial Competitions, are: Geza Baka III, Maria Balajadia, Kevin Bautista, Hazel Doctor, Ryan Ortizo, Keno San Pablo, Janela Revilla, Anastasia Schweiger, and the team's advisor Lourdes T. Mendiola, their attorney coaches Edward Buckingham and Joseph Tajjeron, and their teacher coaches, Galvin S. Deleon Guerrero and Rosiky F. Camacho.

BRIGADIER GENERAL FRANCISCO
PATIÑO FONSECA

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, before I was elected to the U.S. Congress, I served as a criminal court judge for over two decades in Houston, Texas. I've seen up close and personally how drugs destroy lives, drive up crime rates and tear families apart. So when I heard about the good progress in the fight against drugs in Colombia, I decided to come down and see it for myself.

When I hiked in the jungles and flew over the coca fields about a month ago, I was accompanied by Brigadier General Francisco Patiño Fonseca. I discovered one of the main reasons for Colombia's recent success battling the scourge of drugs is his strong, relentless zeal to capture the bad guys.

A native of Bogota and a 1981 police school graduate, Gen. Patiño has dedicated his life to law enforcement. He has done everything from working for the Tisquesusa Police Department to serving as the Police Attaché at the Embassy of Colombia in Spain.

Gen. Patiño has been decorated some 58 times in his extensive service. With that kind of dedication and experience, he serves the Colombian people well in his role as the Director of Counternarcotics for the Colombian National Police (DIRAN).

And as Director, Gen. Patiño has placed a new focus on human intelligence—bringing in more intelligence officers and tripling the intelligence budget. He is also committed to making sure his courageous team of officers have the best training in the world. The DIRAN training regimen is so well-respected around the world that in recent years over 80 students from twelve countries have attended its International Jungla course. The DIRAN mobile training teams have responded to training requests from Afghanistan, Mexico, and Ecuador.

Their training is paying off. Working hand in hand with American support, the Colombian Public Forces seized more cocaine, heroin, and chemicals used to make cocaine in 2009 than ever before. DIRAN accounts for less than five percent of the Colombian National Police force but has been responsible for the seizures of 66 percent of the cocaine, 90 percent of the heroin, 86 percent of the cocaine precursor chemicals and 63 percent of the drug labs by the entire police force.

The war on drugs in the United States is inextricably linked to the war on drugs in Colombia. It is no secret that it is mostly American dollars that buy Colombian-grown drugs. As a Member of the U.S. Congress, I want to thank Gen. Patiño, his officers and the good people

of Colombia for their tremendous dedication to fighting the drug cartels and working with the people of the United States. After observing the distinguished leadership of Gen. Patiño and his officers, I am more confident than ever that this is a war we can win together.

ORANGE GROVE ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL CELEBRATES 50 YEARS
OF SERVING CHILDREN IN SEMI-
NOLE, FLORIDA

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, Orange Grove Elementary School, in Seminole, Florida, which I have the privilege to represent, tomorrow will celebrate 50 years of serving Pinellas County students.

The school opened in 1960 in nearby Madeira Beach where classes were held until the school building was erected at its present site in 1961. That six-room school house expanded to 12 rooms 10 years later and became one of Pinellas County's first air conditioned schools.

The school was named Orange Grove because at the time, Seminole was surrounded by orange groves. Although the groves are gone now, the staff motto remains, "Orange Grove Elementary—Where We Have the Pick of the Crop!"

From the school's first principal, Margaret Abbott, to its current principal, Nanette Grasso, Orange Grove has remained a student-focused school whose mission statement is "to establish a safe learning environment which supports a love of learning, respect, responsibility, honesty and motivation in our students, so that we can reach their personal and academic potential."

In this day and age when the focus of a school goes well beyond academics, Orange Grove Elementary also stands as a model for encouraging students to develop early habits for a healthy lifestyle.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of this milestone 50th anniversary celebration, I took the liberty of having a flag flown over the Capitol today for presentation to Ms. Grasso, the students, the teachers and the staff at Orange Grove Elementary in honor of the school's enduring commitment to providing the best possible education for its students and the most nurturing environment for learning.

For half a century, Orange Grove has turned out generation after generation of our community's, our state's, and our Nation's leaders and I know that its proud and rich tradition will continue to turn out our Nation's future leaders for generations to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF PETE
McCLOSKEY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Pete McCloskey, a distinguished and charismatic former member of this house for

16 years, and a true American maverick who has been guided by a shining moral compass throughout his life. Former Congressman McCloskey pursues the truth no matter where it leads him.

In his over eight decades, Pete has accomplished more than will fit on this page. In one of his most recent endeavors, he ran against a fellow Republican, Richard Pombo, in the primary election—at age 78. While most members of his age group are retired, McCloskey continues to practice as a trial lawyer, works on his farm raising citrus and olive trees and creates mischief with his group, "Revolt of the Elders." He was a war hero in Korea and received a Navy Cross, a Silver Star and two Purple Heart for his service to this country.

In Congress he served the people of the San Francisco Peninsula and Silicon Valley from 1967–1983. He was vehemently opposed to the Vietnam War and ran for President against Richard Nixon in 1972. The following year, he was the first member of Congress to ask for President Nixon's impeachment. Mr. McCloskey is a principal at Cotchett, Pitre and McCarthy and has an extensive civil rights and environmental record. He received his B.A. from Stanford University and his J. D. from Stanford Law School.

Pete's environmental activism was ignited when Cuyahoga River in Ohio caught fire twice in 1969. Together with Gaylord Nelson, he co-chaired the first Earth Day in 1970. Three years later he coauthored the Endangered Species Act.

Madam Speaker, Pete McCloskey fights for justice with the same passion today as he did forty years ago. He is a personal hero of mine and an icon to all of us who thirst for courageous leaders in our country. It is fitting that the Peninsula Coalition is presenting him with its Lifetime Achievement award on May 6 in Burlingame.

SUPPORTING THE IDEALS OF
NATIONAL LAB DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1213, which recognizes the need to improve the performance of American students in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields.

In 2006, 4.5 percent of students in the United States graduated from college with a STEM-related diploma. By comparison, 33 percent of students in China graduated in the STEM field. The United States has been a global leader in technology and innovation for decades—but we will quickly fall behind unless our country encourages more young people to pursue STEM careers.

We must take an all hands on deck approach to improve our national STEM outlook. National Lab Day helps drive young students' curiosity for science and technology by encouraging hands-on projects in the classroom that prove the sciences are fun. We must work to ensure that high schoolers, particularly young women and at-risk students, take college prep courses in science and math that prepare them for future careers as scientists.

And we must stand by young scientists while they are in college to see that they graduate with a STEM diploma in hand.

Improving STEM opportunities both professionally and in the classroom has long been a priority for me, and I continue to be amazed by the type of work that is happening in my own district. For example, Polyera, a nanotech company in Skokie, Illinois, is working to develop polymer inks for organic photovoltaics, or printed solar cells. Imagine a company that's able to print off solar-powered cells just as easily as printing off a newspaper.

Nanotechnology is an absolutely incredible step forward, but what I get excited about, especially when I'm talking to the next generation of potential scientists, is that they are already thinking about the next big thing. A cure for cancer, putting an astronaut on Mars, or finding new sources of renewable energy—these are challenges that will be solved by today's STEM student.

There is a place for initiatives that motivate students to pursue STEM throughout their educational careers. With targeted action, like that encouraged by National Lab Day, we can remain global leaders in this vital field.

Again, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 1213.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THAT THE SITUATION IN THAILAND
BE SOLVED PEACEFULLY
AND THROUGH DEMOCRATIC
MEANS

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution recognizing the United States' longstanding ties with Thailand and our strong wish for a peaceful, democratic resolution to the country's ongoing political problems.

In an important development on Monday, Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva announced that he plans to hold new elections on November 14, 2010, based on a plan which calls on all parties to join together in upholding the monarchy, on the government to carry out economic and political reforms, and on the nation to create an independent committee to investigate casualties resulting from the clash of April 10, 2010.

Fortunately, the response from most quarters to the Prime Minister's suggestions has been positive. The plan and the elections offer a process that I believe can serve as the basis for an amicable end to the dispute. The resolution I am offering today is meant to encourage that process, to demonstrate America's commitment to Thailand and its people and to convey our sincere hope that Thailand returns to democracy, stability and the rule of law.

Thailand is one of United States' closest friends and most dependable allies. Ours is a partnership steeped in history. Indeed, the first treaty we concluded with an Asian nation was with Thailand in 1833, with the signing of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce between Siam and the United States. In 1954, we forged a military alliance, and in 2003 the United States

designated Thailand a major non-NATO ally. Thailand contributed troops and support for U.S. military operations in Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Thailand is also a major trading partner of the United States, a regional leader, a force for stability in Southeast Asia and a country with which we share common values and interests. We have always appreciated Thailand's many international contributions, and we respect and admire its unique culture.

Of course, only the Thai people can chart their way toward settlement of the conflict. As a close friend of Thailand, however, the United States should, I believe, offer its support and demonstrate its concern. This resolution does just that, encouraging all sides to address the country's political problems peacefully and democratically, based on the national reconciliation plan offered by the Prime Minister.

I might add that I introduced this resolution on "Chattrat Mongkhon." It is on this day that the country commemorates the ascension to the throne of His Majesty, King Bhumibol Adulyadej. It is a day when all Thai people pay their respects to His Majesty and wish him a long, healthy and happy life. I can think of no better way for this body to honor His Majesty and the people of Thailand than to voice support for peaceful reconciliation on this important day. I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution and moving it toward speedy adoption.

TRIBUTE TO OLATHE SUPER-
INTENDENT OF SCHOOLS DR.
PAT ALL

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Pat All, who will retire as Olathe Superintendent of Schools at the end of this school year and who will be honored at a reception on May 18th at Olathe Northwest High School. My colleagues may have tired of hearing me brag about the excellent public schools in my congressional district. Olathe is one of the districts that set a very high standard for other schools in our area. Olathe does so even though the district has the special challenges of a very rapidly growing district, a diverse population, and a large number of special needs students. During my years in Congress, I have learned to rely on this smart, conscientious educator and her very wise perspective and advice.

Dr. All was chosen to lead the district in 2005, after working as an Olathe educator in various positions since 1979. Dr. All joined the Olathe School District in 1979 as assistant principal of Olathe High School, after 11 years of teaching English and social studies in another district. From 1981 to 1986, she served as principal of Oregon Trail Junior High School, and from 1986 to 1991 was principal of Olathe South High School. Both schools earned U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School recognition during her administration.

In 1991, she was named Director of Secondary Education, and in 1993, she became the Executive Director of Education and Technology. From 1995 to 2002, she was Assistant

Superintendent for General Administration, and in 2002 she was named Deputy Superintendent.

Dr. All has been recognized by a number of community organizations for her leadership and service. She was elected to the Olathe Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors in 1991 and served as Chairman of the Board in 1994. She served as Chairman of the Convention and Visitors Bureau from 2001–03 and currently serves on the Olathe Medical Center Board of Trustees. She received the Educator Award from the City of Character Council in 2002, the Leadership Olathe Community Leadership Award in 1996, and the Olathe Chamber of Commerce Spirit Award in 1995.

All has a bachelor's degree in education, and master's and doctoral degrees in secondary school administration, all from the University of Kansas.

In announcing Dr. All's retirement, Rita Ashley, Olathe School District Board of Education president, said the board would move forward expeditiously to name a successor after an appropriate search, to ensure a smooth transition. "Dr. All has been a visionary leader in our district and our community for many years," Ashley said. "She has the rare ability to not only envision the future, but to assemble and inspire the team needed to implement the vision. She truly cares about our community's children, and has devoted her life to improving theirs. 'I believe this school district and the community are fortunate to have someone of Dr. All's stature and integrity as our superintendent.'"

Madam Speaker, I want to add my congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Pat All, along with the hope that she enjoys a healthy and happy retirement for years to come, but stays active in the community affairs of our area and state.

CRYSTAL BELL AWARDS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend seven exceptional teachers from Northwest Indiana who have been recognized as outstanding educators by their peers for the 2009–2010 school year. These individuals are: Jan Lowery, John Gorbail, Brenda Richardson, Kerry Zajicek, Jeff Graves, Glenda Sanders, Shannon Anderson, and Betty O'Neill. For their outstanding efforts, these honorees will be presented with the Crystal Bell Award at a reception sponsored by the Indiana State Teachers Association. This prestigious event will take place at the Andorra Restaurant and Banquets in Schererville, Indiana, on Thursday, May 6, 2010.

Jan Lowery, this year's recipient of the Crystal Bell Award from the Crown Point School Corporation, is fondly known as the "geometry queen" of Crown Point High School. Jan is an outstanding educator and has a positive impact on her students and colleagues. Jan understands the importance of teaching each student according to their abilities and has developed a variety of teaching