

NATIONAL ASSISTANT
PRINCIPALS WEEKHON. MICHAEL M. HONDA
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for National Assistant Principals Week, April 8 through April 12, 2013. Assistant principals are vital school leaders responsible for establishing a positive learning environment and building strong school community relationships. The National Association of Secondary School Principals/Virco National Assistant Principal of the Year program began in 2004 to recognize outstanding middle and high school assistant principals who have demonstrated success in leadership, curriculum, and personalization. This week, 47 assistant principals from across the country will participate in professional development, networking, and advocacy to share best practices and discuss the issues facing school leaders today.

As a former principal, I would like to recognize these distinguished school leaders for the pivotal role they play in their school communities. Assistant principals interact with all sectors of the school community, including support and instructional staff members, students, and parents. Assistant principals play a significant role in the instructional leadership of the school by conducting instructional supervision, mentoring teachers, encouraging collaboration, and ensuring the implementation of best practices. Assistant principals also monitor student-achievement goals and progress, facilitate and model data-driven decision making to inform instruction, and foster continual school improvement. Furthermore, assistant principals support the day-to-day logistical operations of facility management, attendance, transportation, and scheduling, as well as supervise extra- and co-curricular events. Lastly, assistant principals are entrusted with maintaining an inviting, safe, and orderly school environment that supports the growth and achievement of each and every student by nurturing positive peer relationships, recognizing student achievement, analyzing behavior patterns, providing interventions, and conducting discipline.

I applaud the work of assistant principals and recognize their contributions to the success of students in schools in the United States. I encourage the people of the United States to observe National Assistant Principals Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the primacy of school leadership in ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education.

IN HONOR OF GREY NUN
ACADEMY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker I rise today to congratulate the 50th Anniversary of the Grey Nun Academy, a private Catholic school located within my district that serves pre-kindergarteners through the eighth grade.

Founded in 1963, the Grey Nun Academy opened in 1963 as the D'Youville Manor Acad-

emy in honor of Saint Marguerite D'Youville, who founded the Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart. Since then, The Grey Nun Academy has evolved into a school of 200 boys and girls. In 2009, the faculty of Grey Nun's educational work was recognized on the national level when the school was named a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence by the US Department of Education. Grey Nun Academy prides itself in creating a nurturing educational environment that encourages students to learn about themselves, and their faith.

As a lifelong resident of Bucks county, I greatly admire the Grey Nun Academy. Their commitment to creating exceptional students is highly valued within the community. Institutions such as the Grey Nun Academy are learning environments graced with dedicated teachers, administrators, and students. Grey Nun provides students with a strong foundation for success that influences their young students well into adulthood.

I am pleased to congratulate the Grey Nun Academy on its successes over the past 50 years and I hope that the Grey Nun Academy may provide a safe and compassionate learning environment in the coming years.

HONORING DR. MARKLEY SUTTON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Markley Sutton, who is retiring after 31 years of service to the Sonoma Developmental Center.

Dr. Markley Sutton served in several different capacities at the Sonoma Developmental Center, most recently as the Senior Supervising Psychologist from 2003–2011. In this role he not only solved issues that arose with residents with behavioral problems, but also acted as a mentor and friend to the psychologists he supervised. He was always ready to pass on his considerable knowledge, and has taught at many universities on a range of topics centering on clinical issues, behavior concerns, and psychopharmacology for those with multiple diagnoses.

Dr. Sutton has received awards for his leadership including the Superior Accomplishment Award Supervisory Bonus Program from the State of California in both 1986 and 1992. He received the Outstanding Leadership Pioneer Award in 1998 and the Who's Who in California award in 1982, 1988 and 1989.

Dr. Sutton has a long and distinguished career in working with individuals with mental illness, developmental disabilities, and individuals with some of the most challenging behavioral problems. Yet it is his ability to remain engaged, curious and always ready to pitch in when needed that most exemplifies him. There is no issue too challenging, no resident too difficult, nor any task beneath him.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Sutton has a long and distinguished career of service to others, most notably to the developmentally disabled population at Sonoma Developmental Center and those who seek his support in his private practice. It is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge Dr. Sutton today and wish him well in his retirement from Sonoma Developmental Center.

JAZMIN PHELPS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jazmin Phelps for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jazmin Phelps is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jazmin Phelps is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Jazmin Phelps for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING DURHAM, NORTH
CAROLINA AS THE "TASTIEST
TOWN IN THE SOUTH"

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the city of Durham, North Carolina that was recently recognized as the "Tastiest Town in the South," by Southern Living magazine.

This year, from mid-January to February, ten Southern regions competed for the ultimate title of "Tastiest Town in the South." During the voting period, over half a million votes were cast. The editors of Southern Living magazine highlighted Durham's unique ties to the land and its great prices—noting the burgeoning food scene has quietly made Durham one of the best food destinations in the South. In addition, many chef-owners, such as James Beard of Nana's Diner, have really helped to establish a diverse assortment of landmark restaurants—ranging from breweries and cafe's to comfort food.

Southern Living magazine listed several other notable places to eat in Durham including: Fullsteam Brewery, Pizzeria Toro, Geer Street Garden, Mateo Tapas, Monuts Donuts, Cocoa Cinnamon, Counter Culture Coffee, and Scratch Bakery. Other great Durham restaurants include Blue Coffee Café, Beyu Caffe, and Bistro Vin Rouge, just to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, when considering that Durham was competing against many more widely known Southern locales known for excellent cuisine, such as New Orleans, Atlanta, and Charleston, it's quite remarkable and impressive that Durham has created its own culinary niche. I share Durham County Commissioner Fred Foster's opinion that this award's impact will be felt for years to come.

This award is truly a tribute to the pioneers and current residents of Durham and the region. It is with great pleasure that I congratulate Durham for its recognition as the “Tastiest Town in the South.”

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SERVICE OF JEREMIAH LOWNEY

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and admiration that I rise today to share with you the accomplishments of Jeremiah Lowney of Norwich, Connecticut.

I am pleased that the White House is honoring Jeremiah Lowney as a Champion of Change, which is a well deserved honor. On April 5, 2013 Jerry was honored with 11 other Rotary International Members that have improved the lives of thousands both in the United States and abroad. For over thirty years, Jeremiah “Jerry” Lowney has successfully applied his exceptional skills in orthodontia and medicine to helping those living in some of the world’s most inhospitable conditions. After cultivating a fruitful career as an orthodontist, Jerry became focused on providing the most basic and necessary health services to those who needed it more than almost anyone in the world: the citizens of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. In doing so, Jerry selflessly prioritized his own health concerns below those of his future patients: he was recovering from surgery and radiation following treatment of a rare form of cancer when he embarked on his first mission trip to Haiti in 1982.

After dedicating three years of service toward Mother Teresa’s Sisters of Charity providing free dental care to Haitians in Port-au-Prince, Jerry was asked by Mother Teresa to branch out to Jeremie, a rural city in Southwestern Haiti suffering from severe deficiencies in both the quality and availability of health care. Jerry’s tireless efforts led what was initially a small outreach group to blossom into the Haitian Health Foundation (HHF), a stalwart organization that has offered health care services to Jeremie and over 100 of the rural and remote mountain villages which surround it.

Though the Foundation’s successes are innumerable in quantity, some recent highlights include: a 90 percent immunization rate, almost 100 percent reduction in diarrhea deaths, a national award for Vitamin A program which prevents child blindness, and a reduction in childhood deaths from bacterial pneumonia by more than 50 percent. In addition, the HHF maintains programs which distribute hot meals and take-home food for thousands of malnourished children, as well as a family sponsorship program that sends thousands of children to school each year.

As a recipient of dozens of humanitarian awards, Jerry’s efforts have certainly not gone unrecognized. Yet despite his philanthropic accomplishments, Jerry has never lost his quiet, humble sense of duty and compassion for those less fortunate. Jerry’s unwavering determination, skills, and philanthropic nature have led him to extraordinary success in one of the world’s most impoverished regions. His ac-

tions have improved the lives of hundreds of thousands of impoverished Haitians, who without him may never have been able to find adequate care. Jerry has offered more than health and dental services to these people; he has offered them hope. Despite his grueling schedule running a busy dental practice and managing the Haitian clinic he also is active in the Norwich community lending a hand to civic and charitable causes of every type. His family, his hometown of Norwich, and all of eastern Connecticut are proud of Jerry Lowney’s remarkable success, and I applaud the White House for recognizing his accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the service and accomplishments of Jeremiah Lowney.

HONORING MARY O’RIORDAN, PARENT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION COUNTY OF SONOMA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary O’Riordan, who is retiring after nine years as President of the Parent Hospital Association (PHA) at Sonoma Developmental Center.

Ms. O’Riordan dedicated her life to serving persons with developmental disabilities. As President of PSA, she was in constant contact with state legislators in Sacramento and federal representatives in Washington, DC, traveling multiple times to both capitals to advocate on behalf of association members. She also served six years on the board of directors of VOR, the national advocacy group for persons with developmental disabilities.

Ms. O’Riordan’s advocacy is rooted in her personal experience. Michael, the second of her four sons, was severely disabled and lived at Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC) until his death in January 2011. It was his experiences at SDC, the place he called home, that led her to champion the institution, its staff and its residents.

Ms. O’Riordan was passionate about her calling, stating, “I look forward to the day when every family—those who have a developmentally disabled child and those who do not—are equally involved, engaged and concerned about the special needs of our developmentally disabled citizens and to the day when all legislators have their needs on the top of their list of priorities.”

In addition to her advocacy on behalf of SDC, Ms. O’Riordan was the administrative assistant for the Deputy Chief of Administration at the San Francisco Fire Department for 35 years. In this capacity, she was honored by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for her outstanding service.

Mr. Speaker, Mary O’Riordan has a long and distinguished career in service to others, most notably to our developmentally disabled population. Her tireless commitment to her community is apparent and it is therefore appropriate that we acknowledge her today and wish her well in her retirement as President of the Parent Hospital Association.

JAMES CLEARY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud James Cleary for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. James Cleary is an 8th grader at Arvada K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by James Cleary is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to James Cleary for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

REMEMBERING THE LEGACY OF POLISH PRESIDENT LECH KACZYSNSKI

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2013

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, three years ago, the Air Force TU 154 plane carrying Polish President Lech Kaczynski, his wife Maria, and 94 other top Polish officials crashed near Smolensk, Russia. The delegation had been on their way to Katyn to commemorate the deaths of 4400 Polish Army officers who were ruthlessly executed by the Soviets in 1943.

In the 1970s, Kaczynski, a staunch anti-communist, made a name for himself as an underground oppositionist, and, in 1980, when the Solidarity workers’ union was founded, he assisted in the Gdansk Shipyard strike and later served as the group’s legal adviser. In 1981, after the imposition of the martial law, he was put in prison.

In free Poland, Kaczynski served many roles—Senator, Mayor of Warsaw, Attorney General, Minister of Justice, and, in 2001, he was elected President.

President Kaczynski was always supportive of strong Poland-U.S. relations, and was skeptical of close relations with the German/French dominated European Union. Kaczynski rightly feared that reliance on Russian energy supplies would inhibit sober evaluation of Russian policies at home and abroad.

Americans appreciate our country’s alliance with this great nation in the ongoing fight for freedom across the world. Today, three years after the tragic crash, we stand in solidarity with the people of Poland and mourn the loss of their President and countrymen.