

Don was named local Knight of the Year last year, which entitled him to enter the State competition against 20,000 others. A panel of seven knights from across the State picked Don as Minnesota Knight of the Year.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Don Schirrick on his honor, and thanking him for his tireless work on behalf of the Knights of Columbus and the community of Red Lake Falls.

DRUG LEGISLATION

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with you some excerpts from an excellent speech recently given by former HEW Secretary Joseph Califano. Mr. Califano explores a subject that, unfortunately, is only seldom discussed—the enormous costs to taxpayers resulting from substance abuse. He also makes it clear that drug legalization would have disastrous consequences, especially on inner city communities.

Let me give just one example of how little most Americans understand about the wages of substance abuse. Do you ever see newspapers or television news report the amount that Federal entitlement programs pay out because of substance abuse? The answer is a colossal \$77.6 billion this year—an amount equivalent to 40 percent of the Federal deficit.

Legalization of drugs in the United States is a policy of despair, one that would write off millions of our citizens, a disproportionate number of them black and Hispanic. It has not worked anywhere it has been tried. The claim that drug legalization in some European nation stands as a success story, especially when measured against the alleged failure of American drug policy, is specious.

Legalizers often cite marijuana as a harmless drug. Nonsense. Smoking pot savages short-term memory and ability to concentrate. And smoking pot can lead to use of other drugs for thousands of individuals. 12 to 17 year-olds who smoke pot are 85 times more likely to use cocaine than those who don't.

Secretary Califano understands that drug legalization would have one sure effect: Vulnerable inner city communities would become even more enslaved to drug pushers.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. AND MRS. KIRYLO ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Walter and Maria Kirylo on 50 glorious years of marriage. This fine couple is certainly a testament to the "American Dream." They have shown us all that dedication and love can be a great blessing and bring great blessings, leading to a happy and successful life and family.

Walter John Kirylo was born on April 14, 1918 in Cambridge, MA. As a member of the

U.S. Infantry, Walter served honorably in World War II, securing the blessings of liberty and the fruits of freedom for generations to come. Shortly after the liberation of Holland in 1944, he met Maria Christina Callemeyn. One year later, they were married in Maastricht.

Walter and Maria now live in Ogden, UT, where they enjoy gardening and traveling. The pride of their lives are their 8 children and 10 grandchildren whom they love dearly.

Like so many others, the life that Walter and Maria have shared has been marked by moments of great happiness and great struggle. Ultimately, however, their love story has been a beacon of joy and love in a world sometimes darkened by loneliness and isolation. I'm sure that the entire House of Representatives joins me in expressing our gratitude and congratulations to Walter and Maria Kirylo.

TRIBUTE TO HARRY O'NEIL

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a brief moment to recognize Mr. Harry O'Neil, a constituent from my district who is this year's recipient of the Sourin Memorial Award. This great honor was bestowed upon him by the Catholic Philopatric Literary Institute, and it represents society's appreciation for an individual who has made noteworthy contributions and achievements in a lifetime of adopting Catholic ideals, morality, and good citizenship.

Mr. O'Neil is currently a partner in the Philadelphia law firm of Stradely, Ronan, Stevens, and Young and practices banking and real estate law. As an employer in his banking practice he is well respected and liked by all, and is affectionately seen by his employees and colleagues as a tough but fair boss. In addition to his achievements here, he has served as counsel for the Dioceses of Philadelphia's Cemetery Division. He attended undergraduate and law school at Villanova University and received his B.S. in 1957 and his J.D. in 1977. Remarkably, he did not attend law school until he was 38, after having four children, and he graduated in the top 5 percent of his class. Most importantly, he is, I am advised by one of his children, an understanding father who has raised his children to respect and love the Lord, but who has never forced religion upon them.

Mr. O'Neil is the kind of citizen who both practices and teaches values that make our society a hard working and ethical one. As an employer, as an active member of his community, and as a loving father, he has achieved much in his lifetime. I would like to add that this is one of the first years that the Sourin Award has been given to a member of the laity rather than to a member of the clergy, and he clearly deserves it.

TRIBUTE TO JERROD E. HAWK

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an exceptional young man from my district who has recently accepted his appointment as a member of the Class of 1999 at the U.S. Military Academy.

Jerrod E. Hawk graduated Paulding High School in 1994 and enrolled in Marion Military Institute. At the institute he has worked hard to prepare himself for a career in the military. While in high school, Jerrod distinguished himself as a leader among his peers. He is an outstanding citizen and patriot.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most important responsibilities of Members of Congress is to identify outstanding young men and women and to nominate them for admission to the United States service academies. While at the academy, they will be the beneficiaries of one of the finest educations available, so that in the future, they might be entrusted with the very security of our Nation.

I am confident that Jerrod Hawk has both the ability and the desire to meet this challenge. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his accomplishments to date and to wish him the best of luck as he begins his career in service to our country.

MR. HUU DINH NGUYEN RECOGNIZED ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and extend my heartfelt congratulations to Huu Dinh Nguyen, on the occasion of his retirement from the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency. Mr. Nguyen's commitment to social work has improved the quality of life of many people. I commend his tireless dedication and relentless self-sacrifice in the name of public service.

Mr. Nguyen was born in Vietnam and earned a master's degree in literature from the University of Saigon. He later went to U.S. Army military schools in Georgia and Okinawa. A colonel in the South Vietnam Army, Mr. Nguyen came to the United States when North Vietnam overtook South Vietnam in 1975.

Following a brief stay in Alabama, Mr. Nguyen moved to California and began working for the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency. He was assigned to the Child Welfare Service Unit where he managed children in foster and adoptive programs. He has recently been recognized with the Daniel E. Koshland Award for outstanding social worker of the year for the State of California. Mr. Nguyen's 15 years of service is commendable.

Further, in his spare time, Huu Dinh Nguyen established Aid to Refugee Children Without Parents [ARCWP]. ARCWP is a nonprofit, volunteer organization which helps children in Southeast Asian refugee camps. Mr. Nguyen

has served on several boards and commissions committed to helping children in need.

Mr. Dinh Nguyen is a shining example of what the United States of America is all about. This Nation was built on certain ideals including community, self-sacrifice, and caring. Mr. Nguyen has demonstrated, through his career as a social worker and by his voluntarism, that he is committed to those ideals that Americans value.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my own congratulations and gratitude to Mr. Huu Dinh Nguyen on behalf of my constituents in the 16th District of California and the U.S. House of Representatives.

PORT WASHINGTON YOUTH ACTIVITIES HONORS RUDY HOTAREK, TOM ROBERTSON, AND TOM BROWN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents in the 5th Congressional District of New York, and the citizens of the Village of Port Washington, in Nassau County, in recognizing the Port Washington Youth Activities [PYA] as it celebrates its Fifth Hall of Fame Dinner Dance.

This year, the PYA will honor three individuals, Rudy Hotarek, Tom Robertson, and Tom Brown, for their dedication and support of youth activities in the community. These individuals will be inducted into the Port Washington Youth Activities Hall of Fame.

Rudy Hotarek was a significant force in the developmental days of PYA; he served as coach, officer and member of the board for more than 10 years.

Tom Robertson was a distinguished and involved coach of young people for more than 12 years. He lent his exceptional efforts to PYA's football, basketball, and lacrosse programs.

Finally, Tom Brown is being honored for athletic achievements in basketball and football at the collegiate level in the 1970's. Much of the PYA's reputation for skillful competition and dedication to excellence was developed during Tom Brown's participation as a young man in PYA football, basketball and baseball programs.

All three of these gentlemen are being recognized for their individual and collective contributions to youth sports. Their achievements are an excellent reflection upon themselves, their families, and their community, and represent the true American spirit of dedication and volunteerism embodied by the PYA. These three men are most deserving of this honor, and merit the special appreciation of their neighbors and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me now in honoring Rudy Hotarek, Tom Robertson, and Tom Brown, and in congratulating the Port Washington Youth Activities for its generous contributions and dedicated service to the community.

HONORING ALISON GAVRELL

HON. BILL BAKER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Mr. BAKER of California. Mr. Speaker, in June, a very talented young woman from my district in California will be traveling to Washington to receive a major literary award. Alison Gavrell will receive the Silver Award at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards national exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art for her short story, "Don't Believe Everything You Read."

This prestigious program, which honors talented young writers and artists from across the Nation, is designed to encourage some of America's finest and most gifted students in the pursuit of excellence. Alison plans to read from her story at the Library of Congress Saturday, June 17, and will be part of the ceremony and reception for all national award winning students at the Corcoran the following day.

Alison, a student at the Dorris-Eaton School in Walnut Creek, deserves high praise for her diligence, self-discipline, and creativity. My congratulations also go to her parents, George and Elaine Gavrell, and her teacher, Ms. Deeni Schoenfeld for their contributions to Alison's signal achievement. It is a pleasure for me to recognize Alison in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HONORING PHILIP BILGRAY, RAMP SERVICEMAN AT WASHINGTON DULLES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

HON. PATRICIA SCHROEDER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Mrs. SCHROEDER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the following story published in Hemispheres about Philip Bilgray, a United Airlines employee. Mr. Bilgray is the first hearing-impaired employee to work on the ramp at Washington Dulles International Airport. I have had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Bilgray and can tell you that he is a very special individual. He is proud of the work he does and of the fact that he has helped other employees learn sign language so that they can communicate better in situations where oral communication is impossible. As a frequent traveler, I feel good knowing that Philip Bilgray is working to keep everything running smoothly.

UNITED VOICES

(By Philip Bilgray)

My name is Philip Bilgray, and I am a Ramp Serviceman. You could say that I broke new ground as the first hearing-impaired employee on the ramp at Washington Dulles International Airport, where I've worked since 1986.

Some people may think it's difficult for me to do my job because I interact a lot with other employees and customers. But my disability doesn't get in the way of my work. Much of the time, aircraft noise on the ramp makes it very difficult for anyone to hear, and ramp employees often use hand signals to communicate as they work. In fact, I've

expanded that practice by teaching my co-workers some simple sign language, and now we can communicate even better without speaking.

Also, driving a tug in the ramp area isn't much different for me than driving a car. In both cases, I take special precautions to make sure that I see nearby vehicles because I can't hear them approaching. With aircraft and other vehicles everywhere, making the extra effort to constantly look around ensures that I'm upholding our corporate value: Safety is all times, in all things.

As a United employee, I am proud to take care of your luggage whether you're traveling for business or pleasure. I try to help you if you have luggage problems. When delays occur, each of us knows that being a team is more important than ever, and by working together, we can minimize the impact of a delayed or cancelled flight.

Although I've taken my career at United seriously and I've worked hard, my parents get the credit for my successful entry into the workplace. They encouraged me to speak and sent me to a special private school for the speech impaired to make sure I could communicate with other people, like my co-worker, supervisors, and manager. My parents gave me the confidence to go for what I wanted, and what I've always wanted is to work for the best airline in the world. And the really great thing is, I don't just work at United anymore, I'm one of the owners!

I've found that sometimes the best way to learn about a job you're interested in is to take a straightforward approach. Although I'm very open about my deafness, I know some people don't like the word "handicapped," so I say that people like me who are deaf or hard of hearing are exceptional people, who can do anything if they put their mind to it.

There are many examples of hearing-impaired people achieving a lot of success. Many people saw the Miss America Pageant on TV this past year and witnessed the crowning of the first hearing-impaired winner. Also, millions of people have seen Marlee Matlin, a deaf actress, in Children of a Lesser God and on television.

Those are only two examples. I truly believe that it makes no difference whether a person is deaf or hard of hearing. There are many fine people who work for airlines or as lawyers, doctors, dentists, etc. And, happily, there also are many hearing people throughout the world who either know sign language or would like to learn it. If you are one of them, I would encourage you to learn sign language—it can open up a whole new world for you!

NOTE: Philip Bilgray has received commendations for administering first aid to a passenger on a United flight and for participating in Dulles' annual Christmas Fantasy Flight for critically ill children.

LEAH McCANDLESS TRIBUTE

HON. BILL RICHARDSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 1995

Mr. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, one of our Nation's unsung heroes is celebrating yet another milestone. Mrs. Leah McCandless is turning 95 years old this week.

While many of my colleagues may not know Mrs. McCandless, House and Senate members who have had to run for office representing Hobart, OK know Mrs. McCandless very well. It has become a sort of ritual for candidates to stop by her home for some pie and