

in Albany, NY; and with the advanced technical skills that will be needed in the workplace in the year 2000, it is becoming clear that minority and working class children face a very troubling future. To fight these destructive forces we must make new efforts to teach our children how important a good education is to their future. We must do more to reward our children when they exhibit academic excellence. The exceptional performance of the Clara Barton champions in a nationwide competition once again proves that the Bell Curve theory of racial inferiority is a big lie.

The team at Clara Barton High School represents a magnificent Point-of-Light and serves as an inspiring success story for all young people and all of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I missed several rollcall votes in order to attend my son's graduation ceremony in Buffalo. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcalls 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, and 377, and "no" on rollcalls 378 and 379.

TRIBUTE TO MARINE LANCE CPL. JUSTIN LEWIS

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, some are called heroes because they can sing a song or put a leather ball through an iron hoop. But every now and then, real heroes come along. People who sacrifice everything in the name of liberty and protecting the American way. People who don't stop to think about being a hero, but who understand that if they don't do their job, lives will be lost.

One of those heroes is from the fourth District of Michigan, and his name is Marine Lance Cpl. Justin Lewis.

Justin, who graduated from Midland Dow High School, was one of the 61 member 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit that rescued pilot Scott O'Grady in Bosnia. After the dramatic rescue, Justin told his mother, Linda, that "we didn't have time to be scared, we just did it."

When Justin's chopper lifted off the rescue sight, a surface-to-air missile missed the aircraft by about a foot. Bullets flew by and it was a narrow escape. But Justin Lewis and the rest of that unit went in, did their job, and made the rescue. They were not expecting to become heroes, but I can't think of many people who deserve the title more.

What Scott O'Grady went through in the name of our country is heroic, to say the least. His courage and ability to adapt is an inspiration to every American. His commitment and the actions of the members of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, including Justin Lewis, truly define the meaning of heroes.

TRIBUTE TO M. EDWARD KELLY

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding civic leader of Illinois' 14th Congressional District, M. Edward Kelly, on his forthcoming retirement.

Ed Kelly has served since December of 1976 as the executive vice president of the Elgin Area Chamber of Commerce. The list of accomplishments during his long career are many, and there are many States across this Nation that are better for his service there. Born and raised in Parkersburg, WV, he graduated from Marietta College in Marietta, OH and entered the field of organization management in 1955. He began his professional career with the Benton Harbor-Saint Joseph's Chamber of Commerce in Michigan, and managed chambers in Oshkosh, WI and Springfield, MO before settling in Elgin, IL.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Kelly has been a valued member of the Elgin community for years, and his list of civic and professional activities is a long one. A former director of the YMCA corporate board, Miss Illinois Scholarship Pageant and Elgin Sesquicentennial Committee, he is also a past president of the Rotary Club of Elgin. To this day he serves as a member of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives, as an ex-officio member of the Center City Development Corporation and as a trustee of the Northwest Suburban Mass Transit District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in honoring this dedicated man, for his commitment to this Nation's businesses and to the Elgin community. I wish my friend the best in his retirement. His experience and dedication have served the people of Elgin well.

HIGH RISK DRIVERS ACT OF 1995

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about a matter of great importance to our Nation and especially to our youth.

Many of us read every day about the tragedy that accompanies driving while intoxicated [DWI], speeding, foregoing seatbelts, and other risky behavior on the part of our Nation's young drivers. During the 103d Congress, I introduced legislation with the purpose of reducing these senseless tragedies. Today, I proudly reintroduced this important legislation, the High Risk Drivers Act of 1995, and hope my colleagues will join in this worthy effort by becoming a cosponsor.

The High Risk Drivers Act of 1995 sets up an incentive grant program to encourage States to implement programs designed to improve the traffic safety performance of high risk drivers. To qualify for incentive grants, States would have to establish a provisional licensing system which mandates that a minor may not obtain a full license until the young driver has held a provisional license for more than a year with a perfect driving record.

In addition, States would have to take a number of the following steps to qualify for a grant, including establishing a .02 blood alcohol content [BAC] maximum for minors; mandating seat belt use for all passengers in a motor vehicle; a use-and-lose provision which would cost any young driver his or her license for 6 months if convicted of purchasing or possessing alcohol; a youth-oriented traffic safety enforcement, education, and training program for State officials and young persons; a mandatory minimum penalty of \$500 for selling alcohol to a minor; development of a procedure to ensure that traffic records, both instate and out-of-State, are available to the appropriate government officials; and a prohibition on open containers of alcohol in the passenger compartment of any vehicle on a public highway, except for chartered buses.

In addition, a supplemental grant program would be available to States which took steps such as providing information to parents on the effect of traffic convictions on insurance rates and providing stricter penalties for speeding for drivers under the age of 21.

As we all know, underage drinking and driving is an all-too-frequent deadly combination which we read about seemingly every day in our local newspapers. We must work together to help solve this problem, and the High Risk Drivers Act of 1995 will be an important step in this effort.

Mr. Speaker, I urge each and every one of my colleagues here in the House to join as a cosponsor of the High Risk Drivers Act of 1995, and help to ensure passage of this important and needed legislation.

POETIC TRIBUTE TO THE YOUNG VICTIMS OF THE OKLAHOMA CITY BOMBING

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, recently I received a poem in the mail from a constituent I represent, Ms. Paula McCoy-Pinderhughes of Somerset, NJ. This poem was inspired by the tragic Oklahoma City bombing, and is dedicated to the children who lost their lives on that fateful day.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps the worst aspect of this senseless tragedy is the long-term impact it will have on our Nation's young. Ms. Pinderhughes' poem is touching and poignant, and I commend it to my colleagues' attention.

OUR CHILDREN

Our children are beyond the colors of the rainbow

They shine as bright as the evening star
Have you really stopped to think of what they give to us

Each time they stare into our eyes from near or far.

Our children turn to us in times of sadness
When their tiny world begins to fall apart
All that's required is a hug to give security

A little kiss upon the head straight from the heart.

Our children want the answers to all life's questions

You explain that time reveals all hidden things

How far is space? When did time start? How did I get here?

Why don't I know? Where can I learn?
What does it mean?
Our children don't understand the constant fighting
When the grownups take up arms in foreign lands
Their eyes and ears look to hear peaceful solutions
Their tiny souls wish them to lend a helping hand.
Our children sometimes need our conversation
To help discuss, sort out confusion, simply explain
Somewhere to turn, just to be heard, express opinions
Never silent, looked down upon, new knowledge gained.
Our children come enwrapped in many colors
The most precious gifts that God will ever give
Teach them respect, pride in their culture, always love them
Ensure their world will be a better place to live.
Our children are the leaders of their tomorrow
Share your wisdom, understanding, make them strong
Learn to accept one another for their differences
Dismiss all others who will tell them that they're wrong.
—Paula McCoy-Pinderhughes.

HONORING KAREN D. CALL

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Karen D. Call who was one of 10 teachers nationwide to win the Reader's Digest American Heroes in Education Awards.

Ms. Call has devoted her life to the noble profession of teaching. Her commitment to making a difference in other people's lives inspired her to develop a unique program that affects both young and adults.

Seventeen years ago, she started teaching a supplemental, 30-minute extra reading class for at-risk children in the second grade. Understanding that more was needed for the children in Safford, a low-income, rural community where English was many times not spoken, she found a way to expand the program. It was transformed into a district wide-effort that reaches children from pre-school through high school.

The uniqueness of the program lies in the inclusion of parents and children in the learning process. Classes now range from at-home learning for pre-school children to adult literacy to English-as-a-second language.

By including parents in the process, attendance in her evening classes has grown from a few parents to over almost 70. By making her workshops a family affair, she has secured the success of her program.

At a time when our children's education has become a national priority, true heroes as Karen Call serve as a source of inspiration and hope for others whose selfless devotion to the honorable profession of teaching remains unrecognized. For in the teachers like Karen Call lies the future of our youth and our nation. I send my sincerest congratulations to Ms.

Call for this deserved recognition and applaud her commitment and dedication.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, Tuesday, June 13, 1995, and Wednesday morning, June 14, 1995, I was granted a leave of absence due to illness in my family. I therefore missed the following rollcall votes: On Tuesday, rollcall No. 370—had I been present, I would have voted "yea;" rollcall No. 369—had I been present, I would have voted "yea;" rollcall No. 368—had I been present, I would have voted "yea;" rollcall No. 367—had I been present, I would have voted "yea." On Wednesday, rollcall No. 373—had I been present, I would have voted "nay;" rollcall No. 372—had I been present, I would have voted "yea;" and rollcall No. 371—had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

A TRIBUTE TO SOUTH GLENS FALLS CENTRAL SCHOOL VOLUNTEER/MENTOR PROGRAM

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today and pay tribute to a program which provides a tremendous service to the students and community of South Glens Falls. The Volunteer/Mentor Program is completing its second year of service helping elementary and middle school children with their self-esteem, allowing them to meet their academic and personal potential.

Young people comprise America's greatest asset. In that respect, a program like this one is invaluable and representative of that uniquely American concept of volunteerism. In this day and age especially, our children are subject to an alarming range of negative influences. Therefore, it is critical that we call upon the entire community to assist our young people in overcoming problems with their self-esteem by countering the impact of damaging social ills. That is why the service of the 60 volunteers in this program is so critical.

Allow me to recount some of the efforts of these mentors. They meet with the students in small, or even one-to-one settings for at least 45 minutes per week. This relationship between mentor and child lasts for a minimum of one school year, whereby affected children receive the degree of attention they need to ensure they reach their maximum potential. These volunteers and the children often establish such strong bonds that many mentors have extended their service for a second year.

This type of devotion exemplifies those qualities which makes Americans, and America, great. I have always felt that there are three distinct reasons for this greatness, American pride, patriotism and volunteerism. The American people have been noted for this voluntary service, be it in the fire departments, civic and community organizations, or extra-curricular programs at our schools.

Mr. Speaker, the United States of America is the longest continuing democracy in the world and a model for emerging countries. In that same mold, people like those who comprise the Volunteer/Mentor Program in the South Glens Falls Central School District are models for all of us here.

I have always been one to judge people based on what they return to their community. By that measure, these volunteers are truly great Americans. I ask, Mr. Speaker, that you, and all fellow Members, join me in paying tribute to this program that works to protect our future.

IN SUPPORT OF THE DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 1995

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before this distinguished body to express my strong support for the Day of the African Child and the efforts of UNICEF to help the children of Africa.

The Day of the African Child was founded to commemorate the lives of the children who were massacred in Soweto, South Africa, on June 16, 1976. They joined together to rally against the sinister scourge of apartheid, and the Day of the African Child is a chance for us to unite against another blight; impoverishment. It is also an opportunity to bring public attention to a forgotten realm; a place where 30 million children are malnourished and many have lost their homes and families. These children's lives are irrevocably scarred by the mental wounds of the violence that ravages their homelands. However, it is also a time to reflect upon the many positive programs that have come to fruition. Many African nations have achieved real progress in attaining the needs of their children. Unfortunately, we are constantly reminded of the threat to the fragile lives of children by the civil strife that was most recently, and most graphically, illustrated in the carnage of Rwanda. That is why the theme of this years Day of the African Child is "Children in Armed Conflict."

Now in it's 5th year, the Day of the African Child utilizes the backdrop of the struggle and sacrifice of those heroic children in Soweto, to provide a forum for understanding and recognizing the many challenges that African children face today. It is a day to transcend the man-made boundaries that keep us apart, and to recommit and focus our efforts to the protection and development of our most precious resource. We must work together to stop the violence, illness, and instability that continue to plague the children of Africa.

Rwanda is a recent example of the traumatizing and tragic effect armed conflict on children, the innocent victims. In the strife that has spread across Africa in the last decade, an estimated 2 million children have been killed. Children have borne witness to unspeakable acts of brutality. As the attention of the world community has been focused on other parts of the world in the last 10 years, the situation has not improved. The impact of the crises are just as severe as the famines and armed conflicts of the 1980's. More ominously, the reaction of the world to these tragedies has been dangerously slow, and donor