England, and Japan, surviving both an epidemic of flu on a cruise ship and a typhoon while hiking over Mount Fujiyama.

Not only is Billy Jim an outstanding scoutmaster, he is also active in community service and his church, and has been consistently recognized for his tireless efforts. He also served his country in World War II as a surgical technician for the Navy Medical Corps, earning the highest grade ever awarded in surgery at that time. His friend Chad Drumright says, ''Billy Jim is still a frustrated doctor—he has the boys engage in rough sports at the Scout meetings so he can run in with the first aid bag when they get hurt.''

Billy Jim is both a dedicated father and husband. He and his late wife Evelyn, have two children, Jim and Katherine. He married Joy Langley Vaughn in 1985 and they have led an active and happy life ever since. Working in the yard, canoeing for the purpose of collecting driftwood, and enjoying homemade ice cream are a few things that keep them busy. Billy Jim has contributed immeasureably to his community, the Boy Scouts of America, his church, and his family. He has given of his time and resources, asking little in return. I ask that we recognize him today for his countless accomplishments and contributions.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MONTEBELLO, CA

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the city of Montebello, CA, which is celebrating its 75th anniversary on October 16, 1995.

Montebello, a city rich in history, dates back as early as 1771 when Franciscan missionaries founded the first European settlement in the Los Angeles Basin. The men from Los Angeles saw the potential of the hills and established a tract and a townsite for them. They named the tract Montebello, Italian for ''beautiful hills.'' In the early years, from the turn of the century until the 1920's, the hills yielded flowers, vegetables, berries, and fruit. In 1913, the chamber of commerce advertised, ''Come to Montebello—come where the flowers grow.'' As late as 1930, more than 30 nurseries were located in Montebello, including the Fred Howard Nursery. Howard developed over 150 varieties of roses in the soil of the hills, including the ''Heart's Desire,'' the official city flower.

On October 16, 1920, Montebello was incorporated as the 35th city within Los Angeles County. Then, Montebello was producing one-eighth of California's crude oil. The oil industry dramatically affected Montebello's population, increasing it from 2,580 in 1920 to 7,060 in 1960. During the 1950's and 1960's, Montebello grew dramatically in population, industry, commerce, and public services. In 1962, the current city hall, with more than 36,000 square feet of usable space was completed. In 1976, Montebello's orderly development and harmonious community life received recognition from the National League of Cities, when it was designated a ''Bicentennial All-American City.''

The 1980's brought the development of significant projects, as Montebello entered a period of vital growth. This growth included the Whittier Boulevard commercial revitalization project, an effort to restore the historic downtown area, and the Montebello Town Center, which opened in 1985. The balanced development between residential, commercial, and industrial properties is reflected in the city's slogan, ''Montebello, the Balanced Community.''

Because of Montebello's tranquil way of life, it attracts many people who want to start their family or raise children in a happy and healthy environment. Its 61,000 residents and hundreds of businesses take great pride in their city and strive to make Montebello a city that all can enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly join the residents of Montebello and Mayor Art Payan, Mayor Pro Tempore Jess Ramirez and councilmen Arnold Alvarez-Glassman, Bill Molinari, and Ed Pizzorno, in celebrating its 75th anniversary of incorporation and I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in extending our best wishes and congratulations.

TRIBUTE TO PEGGY BEACH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the March of Dimes is an organization with a noble mission: to fight birth defects and childhood diseases. We all share the March of Dimes dream which is that every child should have the opportunity to live a healthy life.

For the past 12 years, the southeast Michigan chapter of the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation has honored several Macomb County residents who are outstanding members of our community and have helped in the campaign for healthier babies. This evening, the chapter will be hosting the 12th annual Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year award dinner. The award, instituted in 1984, is named after my home county's namesake, Gen. Alexander Macomb, a hero of the War of 1812.

This year, the March of Dimes has chosen Peggy Beach as a recipient of the award. Ms. Beach has been the executive director of the Girl Scouts of Macomb County-Otsikita Council for 18 years. She also is the chief executive officer of this council and was a volunteer there for 10 years before being hired full time. Under her tutelage, the council has grown to over 10,000 girls and 4,000 adult volunteers in Macomb County. Countless girls have acquired leadership skills and been involved in activities that foster positive self-esteem. Ms Beach also volunteers at the United Community Services and Children's Hospital of Michigan.

Dr. Jonas Salk's polio vaccine is just one of the more famous breakthroughs that would not have been possible without March of Dimes research funding. And, without people like Peggy Beach the job of protecting babies would be that much more difficult.

I applaud the southeast Michigan chapter of the March of Dimes and Peggy Beach for their leadership, advocacy, and community service. I am sure that Ms. Beach is honored by the recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting her as a 1995 recipient of the Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year Award.

MAKING AMERICA'S SCHOOLS COMPETITIVE

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, America's schools are lagging behind those in most other industrialized countries in student performance. This is due in considerable part to problems with student discipline, lack of national standards, ineffective testing and lack of student accountability. Albert Shanker, president of the American Federation of Teachers, has outlined what our Nation should be learning from other nations who are dealing with these problems. I would like to share an article prepared by Mr. Shanker, which was published in the Wall Street Journal on Friday, September 15, 1995.

EDUCATION CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(By Albert Shanker)

Successful school systems in other industrialized countries are effective because they have four essential elements: student discipline, rigorous national or state academic standards, external assessments and strong incentives for students to work hard. There is solid evidence to believe that out school system could be just as effective if we did the same. What are the chances? Not good, given that both liberal and conservative politicians are caught up in faddish and radical schemes for reforming schools. Very good if we look at where the American public is on these issues.

The first essential element is the refusal to tolerate disruptive student behavior that regularly interferes with education. In other industrialized countries, a student who constantly disrupts a class is suspended or placed in a separate class or school. That such disruptive behavior goes unchecked here can be seen in the fact that Americans constantly cite discipline as the top school problem in the Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup polls. The public holds parents responsible but also wants schools to act: 77% want chronically disruptive students transferred to a separate facility.

POLITICALLY INCORRECT

Yet this solution remains politically incorrect in the U.S. We are told that we must allow on child to destroy the education of 30 others because a major mission of schools is social adjustment. Or that separating these students would persecute them for having a disability beyond their control. Or that enforcing standards of conduct would have a disparate impact on minorities. (Actually it would: They would benefit disproportionately.)

So efforts to remove chronically disruptive students are few. When they occur, advocacy groups mount lengthy, expensive legal challenges. And courts are apt to side with the ''repentant'' offender rather than the unseen victims—the other students. Few cases even get that far, since there are powerful incentives for schools not to report problems that would give them a bad reputation or tie up principals and school boards in court. Failure to act only encourages more students to misbehave.

The second essential element in effective school systems is the existence of academic standards at the national or state level. These specify what is taught in each subject at each grade level and the quality of student performance required. Students are taught to the same standards in the early grades, but at some point (between grades