

Under current law the public has no information about the presence of serious contaminants in their drinking water. Every year millions of Americans unknowingly drink tap water contaminated with cryptosporidium, carcinogens, and arsenic. If we can't prevent this contamination, we should at least give our constituents the ability to protect themselves.

The Water Quality Public Right-To-Know Act of 1996 will require water systems to annually report to their customers a plainly worded explanation of the health implications of contaminants present in their drinking water. It also allows States the flexibility to shape this program.

During the last 2 years many of my Republican colleagues have argued for a devolution revolution. They have urged that we move power from the Federal Government to the State and local level. My legislation goes one step further. It requires that information be given directly to our constituents, which will allow them to make individual choices about the level of exposure to dangerous contaminants.

A TRIBUTE TO CHARLOTTE J. VISCIO

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, each year the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary conduct the Voice of Democracy broadcast scriptwriting contest. This year more than 116,000 secondary school students participated, competing for 54 national scholarships.

I am pleased to announce that my constituent, Ms. Charlotte J. Viscio, a senior at Guilderland Central High School in Guilderland, NY, has been named a national winner and recipient of the Larry W. Rivers Scholarship Award.

This year's theme was "Answering America's Call." I found great inspiration in Charlotte's words and wanted to share them here with my colleagues. They are as follows:

It doesn't sound like a trumpet or an angel's harp. Nor does it echo like a cannon or fire crackers on the Fourth of July. It's not about war or winning. Nor is it about uniforms or medals. It's not just for leaders or peacemakers, soldiers or sons. Nor is it only for women. Whether ten or eight times ten, age makes no difference. The call of America is simply what United States citizens, proud and loving of their country, answer to when their services are needed.

In some, the call is not loud, while in others, it's the only thing that they hear. For the President of the United States, this call is his job description. If he fails to answer, he's failed as America's leader and role model. Some Americans hear the call loud and clear and enlist in the military. Often, they are sent to foreign countries to strive for an American goal, realizing that they might lose their lives for America. And what, exactly, in America is worth fighting for? What is in our country's history that is worth preserving? It is the strongest nation in the world. It is a symbol of hope for countries striving for democracy. It is a place on

the earth where all nationalities, religions, sexes, races and colors are unified by equality. America screams of hope and strength and leadership. And this is within every American.

To be an American is a choice. Just because a person lives in the United States does not mean that he or she is a true American. A true American recognizes the call and is willing to answer it. It is not hard to answer. Some answer by volunteering their services to fire companies, food drives and charities. Others collect litter from the sides of roads, improving the appearance of American land. Many people answer the call by casting their votes on election day for the candidates they feel will make strong American leaders. All these activities are examples of how people answer America's call, giving of themselves for the betterment of their country.

What called these Americans to their duty? Was it a television or radio advertisement? Were they inspired by a hero or a role model? Or, was it simply the voice inside them, the voice of their conscience leading them to serve their country? Within every true American's heart, the call exists.

Answering this call is the duty of an American. The United States is a proud country, but it isn't self-centered. It has concern for other nations around the world and strives to help these nations. This is a reflection of its people. Since they are willing to give their services to their country they make life better not only for themselves but for their fellow Americans and others around the world.

America is the voice of democracy. It is not the voice of one person but of all Americans, an accumulation of answers they have given to their calls. Nothing sounds louder than America's response. Nothing is more powerful. This is the foundation of the United States of America. A person simply needs to listen closely for the call within and then respond with the conviction that shows and professes, "I'm proud to be an American."

CONGRATULATIONS HERITAGE
CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS—"WE THE PEOPLE"
CHAMPIONS

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a group of students from Heritage Christian High School in West Allis, WI, and their teacher, Mr. Tim Moore, on being judged this year's State of Wisconsin "We the People" champions.

The "We the People" program, funded by the U.S. Department of Education by an act of Congress, promotes the study of our Nation's Constitution. Mr. Moore's students have displayed an exceptional foundation of knowledge of its history, as well as the constitutional issues of today.

The Heritage Christian High School group has been given the honor of representing the State of Wisconsin in the national "We the People" competition to be held here in Washington, DC. I am very proud that these students come from Wisconsin's Fourth Congressional District and commend their hard work and dedication.

Once again, I congratulate Mr. Moore and his students and wish them the very best of luck in the upcoming competition.

RONALD J. DEL MAURO HONORED
FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP
BY MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 18, 1996

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ronald J. Del Mauro, president and CEO of St. Barnabas Health Care System. On April 20, 1996, Mr. Del Mauro will be honored by the Mental Health Association of Essex County for his outstanding leadership and philanthropy in serving as head of the St. Barnabas Behavioral Health Care System. His worked has helped thousands of residents who are often the most vulnerable members of our population—the mentally ill.

Mr. Del Mauro created the St. Barnabas Behavioral Health Network because, unfortunately, for many parents and their children, a number of health services are often separated for those with psychiatric problem and those with substance abuse problems. Mr. Del Mauro, recognizing this, created the St. Barnabas Behavioral Health Network to provide parents and their children with a place to turn get appropriate diagnosis and treatment.

Mr. Del Mauro is also responsible for the St. Barnabas Health Care System which includes, in addition to St. Barnabas Medical Center, the 201-bed Union Hospital, four nursing homes with 660 beds, 10 corporate affiliates and 20 for-profit business ventures. The St. Barnabas Health Care System operates in 13 facilities throughout New Jersey and the Behavioral Health Network has 17 locations in the tristate area. More than 7,000 employees, including 1,800 physicians, treat a total of 59,000 inpatients, and provide treatment and services for more than 300,000 outpatient visits annually.

I recently had the opportunity to visit St. Barnabas and tour their facility in Livingston, NJ. The health care delivery system Mr. Del Mauro has developed is an outstanding one and I would strongly recommend any of my colleagues look to at St. Barnabas as a national model.

Mr. Del Mauro is also an active and effective leader in other areas. He serves as chairman of the New Jersey Hospital Association, as well as being a member of the Center for Health Affairs, Inc., Life Sciences Advisory Committee of the CIT Group, Inc., Seton Hall University Center for Public Services Advisory Council, board of trustees of the Paper Mill Playhouse and the Essex/Hudson/Union Hospital Council.

He is a graduate of Seton Hall University, where he served as a adjunct professor at the Graduate School of Public Administration from 1983 to 1985.

Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mr. Del Mauro for his leadership in helping to make our communities a healthier place to live and for his ongoing commitment to the mentally ill in New Jersey.