

school district. At the March 19 anniversary celebration, 15 authors will be honored who have been with the program from the start. They are: Caroline Arnold, Virginia Bradley, Terry Dunnahoo, Ella Thorp Ellis, John Gardiner, Laura Glusha, Marilyn Gould, Shirely Gordon, Monica Gunning, Betty Hager, Lael Litke, Ed Radlauer, Ruth Radlauer, Susan Goldman Rubin, Alice Schertle, Yetta Speevak, and Martha Tolles.

The Authors Festival is a model of an effective collaboration with the public schools, the libraries, and public spirited community organizations. It is also an example of a true grassroots, low-budget program. Funding comes from local organizations and local arts councils. In Long Beach, the Public Corporation for the Arts is a contributor. Every PTA organization in the district contributes to the festival, no matter how small the donation. Local families host the authors overnight. Private schools participate in the program as well.

The popularity and effectiveness of this program is beginning to spread. The festival has inspired others in the region, from Orange County to Los Angeles County. The city of Downey will be hosting its Second Authors Festival on April 15. In addition to each school's contribution, the Downey Unified School District provided an additional \$200 to each school to buy the authors' books. The Downey Public Library also sells the books, hosts the authors for book signings, and personal autographs for the students, and facilitates one-on-one discussions with the new fans.

The Authors Festival is a winner of the prestigious "Golden Bell Award" from the California State School Boards Association. Ms. Hansen, who in addition to founding the program also chairs all the festivals, describes this program as "a meaningful bridge between writer and reader, between the written word and its audience, and between the creative urge, the finished product, and its young consumers."

Mr. Speaker, this is a program of which every parent and child can be proud. I am glad to wholeheartedly support it and the gifted authors who write to educate and inspire our children and who stimulate a child's love for books. I congratulate the Authors Festival on its 20th anniversary, and wish them many more years of success.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER GEORGE J. FAULKNER

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a man who has devoted much of his life to helping and improving the lives of others through dedication to police service and his community. After many years of service, George J. Faulkner retired from the Norwood Police Department in late December, 1996.

For 30 years officer Faulkner was a key leader in local law enforcement and the surrounding community. George fully committed himself to police service, and received many commendations. In addition, George served as a volunteer fire fighter for over 33 years for

the Norwood Fire Fighting Company of Pennsylvania.

George is well versed in many different aspects of police procedure, and has attended over 40 courses in police education. George was directly responsible for the training of many officers in the use of police computers. The knowledge George passed on in his years of service were essential to many law enforcement officials, and helped them better serve the community.

While on duty as a police officer, George often went above and beyond the call of duty. During his years of duty George was personally involved in rescuing individuals from four separate house fires. He received commendations for all of these rescues, as well as obtaining an Outstanding Community Service award for life saving efforts in Norwood Memorial Park of Pennsylvania.

George has often been acclaimed for his exemplary police service and hard work in the community. He received a letter of commendation from the Norwood Boys Club for the arrest of four individuals that burglarized the club's storage facilities. He also obtained a letter of commendation for Cooperation and Assistance in Performing Police Duties from the Norwood American Legion Post. Furthermore, in 3 separate years George received from the Levan-Smith Rabley Veterans of Foreign Wars Post the "Certificate of Appreciation for Unyielding Adherence to the Highest Ideals of Law Enforcement in Maintaining, Preserving, and Protecting the Lawful Rights of All Citizens."

George has taken great pride in his years of police and community service. Because of his efforts, and those such as him that are dedicated to service, the communities of Pennsylvania and the United States are better off. Mr. Speaker, I know you and my colleagues join me today in celebrating the many accomplishments and achievements of officer George Faulkner, and wishing him good luck in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JOAN WRIGLEY

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, one of my greatest privileges as a Congressman is the opportunity which I get to honor the invaluable individuals in my district whose contributions to their community improve the quality of life of their neighbors every day. Today I am afforded just such an opportunity, as I bring your attention to the remarkable career of Joan Wrigley, who will retire on April 15, 1997 from her position as the district manager at the Columbia County Soil and Conservation District. When Joan began working at the district office 35 years ago, no one had any notion of the profound impact she would have on the program's evolution. Joan began as a part-time employee, hired to answer the telephone, take shorthand, and color soil maps. However, her creativity and ingenuity could not be contained for long. Inspired to help further the district's programs, Joan became increasingly interested and involved in the projects, often coming up with ideas to improve operations and increase the success of the undertakings.

Proving herself invaluable to the future of the district, Joan soon became a full-time office employee, artfully balancing her demanding career with newborn twins.

Through 35 years and four locations, Joan worked tirelessly to deal with critical issues to the fast growing county. When the district office's operations required expansion to a larger location, most discounted the cause as hopeless, since the district could not borrow money. However, Joan did not give up, submitting a proposal to the Board of Supervisors for the construction of a new building. At that time, the county planner gave Joan one symbolic dollar bill, with his hope that the building would one day become a reality. Thanks to the continued attention Joan gave to the problem, it remained on the front-burner, and eventually, Joan's impressive persistence paid off. With the approval of the State, the soil and water conservation district building and learning center was built. The new building is located adjacent to a wetland, which serves as a live learning center, accessible to the public, further promoting the district's purposes by educating people about the interaction between different aspects of our environment. Joan has kept the dollar bill given to her by the City Planner framed in her office and labeled "The buck that built the building"; it is a symbol of the seemingly impossible tasks which may be accomplished with hard work and persistence.

Mr. Speaker, my measure of a truly valuable person and a great American is based upon the positive impact which an individual has on his or her community. To me, Joan Wrigley epitomizes the foundation of this great Nation: hard work, ingenuity, and a desire to protect and give back to the world in which she lives. I ask all Members to join me in tribute to Joan and her outstanding record of public service of this great American, and in wishing her all the best in her retirement. Although she will no longer be working at the soil and water conservation district, Joan's legacy will remain for many years to come.

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE
WILLIAM ROSCOE KINTNER

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

Mr. FOX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great man who left his Montgomery County, Pennsylvania community to serve the people of the United States in a variety of capacities.

Dr. William Kintner was a patriot in the full sense of the word—a man who lived by the motto of the U.S. Military Academy from which he graduated, "duty, honor and country." Born in Loch Haven, PA on April 21, 1915, the eighth child in a family of nine. Soon his family moved to Johnstown, PA where his father, a successful lawyer, was very involved in local politics and served as district attorney.

The stock market crash of 1929 changed the lives of the members of the Kintner family and, because of a lack of funds for college, Bill Kintner spent a year after his high school graduation in 1932 working in New York City as a typist while earning money for the Academy of the New Church College. It was at this time he learned to appreciate the value of