

office with important and intelligent information from our district since 1953.

Their legislative updates, entitled "We The People," arrived monthly in my office, sometimes with copies of my 1-minute speeches from the House floor printed in the Congressional Comments section. In June 1994, National Write Your Congressman featured my bill to move the burden of proof from the taxpayer to the IRS in civil tax court as the topic of a survey. The results astounded me: Ninety-three percent of their readers favored my bill, and soon afterward, I had over 300 co-sponsors.

National Write Your Congressman's opinion ballots are some of the only polls I trust. Their members respond because they want to participate in the democratic process, not because some polling organization called them.

I find that letterwriters from National Write Your Congressman are well informed about issues in Washington that effect their lives. Their readers should know that they do have clout in Washington because their voices are heard monthly.

Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment National Write Your Congressman for its work for nearly 40 years to bring the opinions of Americans to their Federal representatives in Washington.

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
LOYAL ORDER OF THE MOOSE

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 75th anniversary of the Moosehaven facility, which provides residential care to older members of the Loyal Order of the Moose. I am proud to have this outstanding facility, located in Orange Park, FL, as part of my district.

The Loyal Order of the Moose will be holding its international convention in Florida this summer. They have selected Florida as the convention site for the purposes of acknowledging the Moosehaven facility.

Founded in 1922, the Moosehaven facility is unique in the fraternal world. The self-funded facility currently provides free care to 420 men and women who are members of the Moose Order. The infinite need for organizations to provide community-based solutions is exemplified by the success of the Moosehaven facility.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Moosehaven facility on its 75th anniversary, and I look forward to its continued growth and progress in the future.

IN HONOR OF THE NORTH HUDSON
COMMUNITY ACTION CORPORATION:
PROUD PARTICIPANT IN
COMMUNITY ACTION WEEK

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly exceptional organization, the North Hudson Community Action Corporation [NHCAC]. On May 9, a celebration

commemorating Community Action Week will officially open the NHCAC's one-stop Health Center located at their newly consolidated facility in West New York, NJ.

National Community Action Week is dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of community-based action, making this a fitting opportunity to recognize the contributions of the NHCAC. This respected institution has provided much needed assistance to the residents of Northern Hudson County, NJ, for over 30 years. Its mission of people helping people is exemplified in the more than 20 programs and 37,000 clients served by NHCAC.

The types of assistance offered by NHCAC are as diverse as the population it serves. NHCAC provides services in health care, nutrition, substance abuse treatment, emergency food and shelter shortages, social and home services, and early childhood development through Head Start. Specifically, programs benefiting North Hudson residents include the Women, Infants and Children [WIC] nutrition plan, Senior Treatment and Education Program [STWP], a food pantry, limited transitional housing, immigration and naturalization help, tenant and landlord relations, job placement, and home weatherization and maintenance. Everyone who has utilized NHCAC's services may attest to the compassionate nature of this outstanding group of individuals.

The official opening of North Hudson Communication Action Corporation's Health Center at West New York is another step along the road to ensuring quality and affordable health services for the entire community. Staffed by medical professionals, the health center provides a broad range of health services including family care, gynecology and family planning, premarital examinations, dental screening, mental health, diagnosis and treatment of diseases, and counseling and health education workshops.

The men and women of the North Hudson Community Action Corporation give new meaning to the words community action. Under the direction of executive director Michael Leggiero, NHCAC has gained national recognition for dedicated and caring service to the community. I am proud to have this extraordinary organization working on behalf of the members of my district.

HONORING JOHN "JACK" PIDGEON

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to tell my colleagues about the retirement of a singular individual who is legendary in his achievements in the academic world. His name is John "Jack" Pidgeon.

Jack Pidgeon grew up in a poor working class town in Massachusetts. He won a scholarship to prestigious Andover Prep School, where he studied alongside former President Bush and Actor Jack Lemmon. After being seriously wounded in WWII, he went on to devote his life to giving that gift of educational opportunity to other bright young students hundreds of times over.

And he did it against some incredible odds. In 1952, Jack Pidgeon left a secure teaching job at Deerfield Academy to become the

headmaster of a sickly, broke, rundown 350-acre prep school called Kiski in western Pennsylvania. When he arrived, the school, founded in 1888, had a few dilapidated buildings, no running water, no furniture, no credit, no donor support, no gate. It was \$200,000 in debt. Jack Pidgeon took a look around and started up a bulldozer himself to clear the grounds and enlisted faculty and students to mow, paint, even tar roofs.

Seven years later, after everyone told him the school had no chance, Kiski received a \$10,000 donation—its first donation of over \$1,000 in the history of the school. Finally, in 1966, after years of dogged efforts by this devoted crusader, the late Sarah Mellon Scaife gave the school \$50,000. That was a turning point, and Jack Pidgeon never looked back.

On May 16 of this year, Jack Pidgeon is retiring as headmaster of Kiski, leaving behind not only a student and alumni population that thinks of him as a father, but a financially robust institution entirely of his crafting, with property worth about \$20 million, an endowment of about \$10 million, and the wherewithal to grant \$350,000 per year in scholarships.

But financial success is not his most lasting legacy to this institution. Jack Pidgeon personally shaped the character of every student to who attended Kiski. His no-nonsense, pragmatic philosophy imbued generations of graduates with a realistic but profound belief in themselves and a clear sense of who they are. He stressed good manners, humility, self-respect, and drive. He is a man who gave his life to quality education and giving thousands of young boys the ability to realize their full potential as business leaders, civic leaders, and citizens. His greatest satisfaction came from offering poorer students scholarships.

I heartily commend Jack Pidgeon for his great achievements. He is a man of vision who never heard of giving up.

TRIBUTE TO GERALD R. BALDELLI

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 1997

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gerald Baldelli, on the occasion of his retirement.

Jerry served the Frontier Central School District with distinction in several capacities from 1961 to 1996, including teacher, coach, mathematics department chairman, director of community education, middle school principal, high school principal, and assistant superintendent for personnel service. As a teacher and former supervisor of the Town of Hamburg, I witnessed first hand Jerry's commitment to our community, and his professionalism, and integrity.

In addition to his work with Frontier Schools, Jerry has served as president of the Erie County Interscholastic Conference, president of the Erie County High School Principals' Association, president of the Western New York Association of School Personnel Administrators, and as chairman of New York State Public High School Athletic Association.

In recognition of that commitment to education, Jerry was honored as the 1966 Hamburg Junior Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Young Educator, the 1988 New York State