our toxic waste sites, but we must concentrate more efforts for the children of our cities. I am fighting for an approach to the environment that is based on reason, balance, and moderation... one that recognizes that it is not a question of whether we can afford to protect the environment, but whether we can afford not to protect it.

NEW CREATIONS BOARDING SCHOOL, RICHMOND, IN

HON. DAVID M. MCINTOSH
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. McINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share an inspiring story with my colleagues and the American people about a husband and wife team who have built New Creations Boarding School, in Richmond Indiana. Pastor Tim Cummings, being full of compassion for troubled teenagers, reached out and met the needs of those in Wayne County. Tim has been fully supported by his wife Bonnie, who has been an invaluable partner in his work. New Creations Boarding School is Biblically focussed and many student's lives have been changed through the teachings of the Bible. The Cummings made a difference by showing that if individuals work hard and show kindness they can do good things. These qualities are needed in our communities and the Cummings are an excellent example for others to follow. In short, work hard, be kind to others and help your neighbor if you can. Well Done. Pastor Tim and Bonnie. May God Bless you in all your future endeavors.

SPEECH TO HORATIO ALGER SCHOLARS NATIONAL SCHOLARS CONFERENCE

HON. NICK LAMPSON
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, to all of you who are here today because you have been selected to participate in the 1998 Horatio Alger Association's National Scholars Conference, I would like to say welcome. As I am sure you have already learned, you have joined a very exclusive club of achievers who have been recognized by that fine organization. I am proud to note that several Members of Congress have been honored as distinguished Americans by the association such as Senator ROBERT BYRD of West Virginia and other great American's like the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall. But I am particularly proud that one of my constituents and friends, Tom Harken, serves on the association's Board of Directors. If each of you have not had the opportunity to meet this man make sure you do so. Especially if you plan on being in business. He is truly a Horatio Alger success story.

Because each of you are exemplary high school seniors who have demonstrated outstanding qualities of honor, integrity and perseverance and did not allow life’s obstacles to stop you, I would like to say "congratulations" and to tell how proud I am of you. I would also like to tell you that with your distinct honor, not only comes the $5,000.00 scholarship you are receiving (although that is awfully nice), but also a responsibility to your own success and to keeping the dream of success alive for other young people. You need to know that they too can "beat the odds" in spite of the hardships that they face.

Today, as I speak to you on “Issues Facing Congress: A Congressman’s Perspective,” I would like to take you back to the first time that I stood in this chamber when I was your age, and how it shapes my perspective today and how I hope that your visit today will shape your vision for tomorrow.

My first visit to Congress truly helped me understand that one of the greatest issues facing any session of Congress is how we keep the American dream alive for you and every other citizen of the United States, regardless of their financial, ethnic or religious background. This is done in many ways, but I'll come back to that later.

Allow me to share with you how my first visit to this chamber gave me a glimpse of that dream of success and how that glimpse was the start of my commitment to making a real difference for myself and others.

I hope you're not being so personal, but I know that among you are people who can really make a difference, and I don't want to waste this opportunity to share my experience with tomorrow's leaders.

When I first came to this chamber, I was very close to your age. I was not rich. In fact it seems as though I had worked almost every day of my life since I was in Junior High School. At that time, Jack Brooks was Congressmen. Because he had come to this office by overcoming financial and personal adversity as a young person, he made sure that young people such as myself got the opportunity to be here as Congressional interns so that we could catch a glimpse of the dream and carry it on to another generation. It was during that internship that I committed myself not only to personal achievement but to leadership as well.

As I said, one of the main issues facing Congress is how to provide the opportunity and tools necessary for every young person to not only succeed but to excel. I am attempting to do this in a number of ways that I think are extremely important.

First, as a freshman Member of Congress, I have founded the Congressional Caucus for Missing and Exploited Children. The purpose of this caucus is:

1. To build awareness around the issue of missing and exploited children for the purpose of finding children who are currently missing and to prevent future abductions.
2. To create a voice within Congress on the issue of missing and exploited children and introduce legislation that would strengthen law enforcement, community organizing and school-based efforts to address child abduction; and
3. To identify ways to work effectively in our districts to address child abduction. By developing cooperative efforts that involve police departments, educators, and community groups we can heighten awareness of the issue and pool resources for the purpose of solving outstanding cases and preventing future abductions.

In short, I'm proud of our caucus.
These famous words ring throughout our country like the echoes of silent bells. Voices, unused in generations, can be heard today, still urging us to fight for what is good. The problem is one that we believe. These voices created and preserved our democracy, and they resound in our memories, a symphony of noble and pure ideas. Yet, to add to this list of the important developments of the past is a cophony of voices belonging to the present: millions of people, each shouting his or her own opinions with little or no regard for anyone else's thoughts. Amidst all this turmoil, how can my voice be heard? How can my voice make a difference?

In the many cynical, disillusioned people would tell you that it's not worth shouting to be heard, it's not worth standing up for what you believe. Because no one listens, I cannot believe that. Too many problems in the past have been corrected because one person dared to speak out against them. America won its independence because one person had the courage to challenge British rule. The rallying cry of “No taxation without representation” swept a nation of diverse peoples and fractured opinions and united a majority of the population to work towards a common goal. Women won the right to vote because one person was silent. The writings and speeches of Susan B. Anthony sparked reforms in women's dress, social freedoms, and ultimately, constitutional rights in a time of civil turbulence. Slavery was abolished because one person proclaimed it unjust. The accomplishments of William Lloyd Garrison and other abolitionists, such as Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth, resulted in the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution, which effectively outlawed slavery. Each of these controversies were important developments in our nation’s growth, and each of them began with a single person who persisted until another person listened... and another... and another... until that first person was shouting with the multitude instead of against it.

If I want my voice to be heard, I have to ignore the cynics. I have to shout against the millions. I have to call out incessantly. I have to refuse to be silent, in the hopes that one person might take note of my cry. If I influence just one other person, then my voice has been heard. If I cause that person to examine or change his or her views, then my voice has made a difference. My voice is not the voice of the millions, nor does it have the power of democracy. Instead, my voice is the voice of an individual who persists until another person listens... and another... and another... until that first person was shouting with the multitude instead of against it.

And today, there are so many more ways in which my voice can be heard. 150 years ago, communication was limited to the written word, in the form of newspapers and pamphlets. Today, as a person living in this day and age, I have the technology to reach many, many people. For example, I have television, through television, my voice has been heard across the nation, simultaneously; whereas, it was nearly impossible for an abolitionist or a suffragette to achieve the same effect. I also have the internet, which is growing daily, and radio, which reaches a large percentage of the population. On a local level, I have service groups, a school newspaper, clubs and other organizations, all designed to give a forum to voice my opinions and to allow my voice to be heard. How much faster could Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth have made their point, if they had had the present day media?

Patrick Henry have inflamed a nation, had he been able to use the present day media? Would he have been able to use the present day media?

Mr. Skelton. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant and teacher, Pamela May, who recently passed away at the age of 44. Pam May, who was born August 4, 1953, in Nevada, MO, dedicated her life to public service and education. In 1997, she was appointed the Camden County auditor by Gov. Mel Carnahan, and from 1992 to 1997 Pam served as the Camden Third Ward Alderman. She also served as a Camden County Commissioner.

In addition to her public service contributions, Pam May devoted her life to teaching Missouri youngsters. She was a teacher for 10 years in the Camden School District, and she began working in the Parents as Teachers program in 1986-87. She was also a part-time teacher in the Lake Area Vocational School's Child Care Management program. Mrs. May later became child care coordinator for the Camden R-3 School District, and wrote a grant to open the district's child care center.

Pam May is survived by her husband, Ralph, two sons, a daughter, her parents, a brother, and two sisters.

Mr. Speaker, I am certain that the Members of the House would join me in celebrating the life of this great Missouri public servant and educator, Pamela May's strong sense of community and compassion for the youth of our country make her a role model for all Americans. We will truly miss her.