

was so thorough that the APWU used his services in national contract negotiations and numerous other special projects that affected the union. He has promoted union advocacy and educated colleagues on how to interpret the Collective Bargaining Agreement and the National Labor Relations Act.

For 28 years John has represented the APWU in the Denver Region, which includes the states of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. John was one of the principal architects of the five-state Denver Regional Assembly, an entity that flourishes today. He is so highly respected that no one has run against him in the National Election in more than 20 years.

Again, I take this opportunity to thank John Kelly for his years of service to the APWU and want to wish him and his family the best in retirement.

HONORING BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS
IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor three high schools in San Diego County which have now had their excellence recognized and proclaimed as National Blue Ribbon Schools.

Torrey Pines High School, in Encinitas, California, in my 51st Congressional District, part of the San Diego Union High School District, principal Marie Grey, and superintendent Dr. William Berrier.

Coronado High School, in Coronado, California, part of the Coronado Unified School District, principal Dr. Jeffrey David, and superintendent Dr. Rene Townsend.

University of San Diego High School, in Linda Vista, California, principal Dr. Richard Kelly.

Let the permanent RECORD of the Congress of the United States show that these Blue Ribbon Schools display the qualities of excellence that are necessary to prepare our young people for the 21st Century.

IN HONOR OF FATHER ALBERT
JAMES EVANS, SS.CC.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Father Albert Evans who celebrates his Fiftieth Jubilee Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel on May 31, 1998.

Father Al, as he is known to friends, was born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio. Graduating from James Ford Rhodes High School in 1932, Father Al joined the unemployed masses of the Great Depression. For the next ten years, he would hold a variety of odd jobs, working as an orderly in Cleveland City Hospital, a factory worker, a dock worker, and a truck driver.

In 1939, Father Al enrolled in Saint Mary's College in Kentucky. It was while studying at Saint Mary's that Father Al found his calling,

applying for admission to the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary. He began his studies for the priesthood three years later in Washington, DC and was ordained in 1948.

Upon his ordination, Father Al received an obedience in Japan. For the next twenty years, he presided over a little mission north of Tokyo. His work in Japan ended after he was diagnosed with lung cancer, resulting in the removal of a portion of his left lung. Father Albert recovered upon his return to the United States, dedicating himself to mission promotion.

My fellow colleagues, let us recognize Father Al's fifty years of service to the world's underprivileged and congratulate him as he celebrates his Fiftieth Jubilee Mass.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO JESSICA
L. CHAPMAN ON HER APPOINTMENT
TO ATTEND THE U.S. MILITARY
ACADEMY AT WEST POINT,
NY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly outstanding young lady from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District, Jessica L. Chapman. Jessica recently accepted her appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, where she will join the incoming Cadet Class of 2002.

Jessica, who is from Bowling Green, Ohio, will soon be graduating from Bowling Green High School, and will begin preparing for one of the most challenging, rewarding, and educational experiences of her life: her four-year commitment at West Point.

While attending Bowling Green High School, Jessica has proven herself to be an exceptional student and an outstanding student-athlete. In the classroom, Jessica's accomplishments are unparalleled as she has attained a perfect 4.0 grade point average, placing her first in her class of 290 students.

In addition to her academic achievements, Jessica has performed very well on the fields of competition. Jessica was the Co-Captain of the Varsity Cross Country Team and the Varsity Volleyball Team. She was also a member of the Varsity Track and Varsity Basketball Teams. Jessica was active in the National Honor Society, German Club, and attended the United States Air Force Academy's Summer Science Seminar.

Mr. Speaker, each year, I have the opportunity to nominate outstanding young men and women to the nation's military academies. I am pleased that Jessica has accepted her appointment and will be joining West Point's Class of 2002. I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Jessica Chapman. I am sure she will do very well at West Point, and in all of her future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF PRINCIPAL MARY S.
MURPHY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to show my appreciation for one of our finest educators and administrators, Ms. Mary Murphy, who is moving on after sixteen years of invaluable service to Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. She served fourteen years as an English teacher and Senior advisor, and three years as principal.

Mary Murphy has inspired hundreds of her pupils to become outstanding students who went on to successful careers. But perhaps more importantly, she emphasized to her students the importance of being kind and considerate individuals.

Ms. Murphy is compassionate, caring, funny and a good listener. These qualities allowed her to capture students' attention and become an important influence in their lives.

I salute Principal Mary Murphy for being an excellent educator, leader, and role model. She will be leaving Our Lady of Good Counsel High School, but her work will always stay in her students' hearts and minds.

JASON ESPIRITU, GUAM'S NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHY BEE FINALIST

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, for the last couple of days, Washington, D.C. played host to 57 state-level winners from all over America as they vie to win the 1998 National Geography Bee. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the National Geography Bee was developed in response to concern about lack of geographic knowledge among young people in the United States. The finalists range from ages 11 to 15. Each rose above a field of about 5 million students in order to earn a place in the 10th annual national championships. The finals were held on May 19th and 20th hosted for the 10th consecutive year by Jeopardy's Alex Trebek.

The state level winners represent all 50 states, the District of Columbia, the five U.S. territories—American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands—and the Department of Defense Schools. Twelve of the 57 students are repeat state winners. Ten others competed in the 1997 finals. Among them, Jason Espiritu, is from my home Island of Guam and I am proud to announce that he finished in the top ten.

Jason, a seventh grade student at St. Anthony's School in Tamuning, is the son of Virgilio and Amelia Espiritu. As you may have guessed, his favorite subjects in school are Social Studies and Geography. To prepare for the competition he employed a number of reference materials such as atlases, almanacs, news magazines and National Geographic videos. His fine performance could be contributed to preparation and his every day habits of

reading newspapers and keeping up with current events. The facts that he is hearing-impaired never prevented Jason from doing well and making Guam proud.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I congratulate Jason Espiritu on his very fine performance. We commend his efforts towards excellence and expect no less from him in the years to come.

LET'S HELP OUR NATIONAL
PARKS AND THE AMERICAN
TAXPAYER

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation, with the co-sponsorship of several of my colleagues, to provide a fair return to the public for the commercial use of our national parks and to use those funds to maintain and enhance park resources and visitor services.

The National Park Service is being hamstrung in the changes it can make to its concessions policies by the provisions of the outdated 1965 Concessions Policy Act. At a time when families, senior citizens, and other recreational users visiting our parks are required to pay higher fees, the same is not being required of commercial operators who profit from our national parks. For far too long, the public has not received a fair return on the commercial revenues generated in our national parks. It's time to end this situation.

"The National Park Service Concession Policy Reform Act of 1998" is the successor of the NPS concessions reform legislation of the 103rd Congress, which, although it passed the House in 1994 by an overwhelming vote of 386 to 30 and the Senate by an equally overwhelming vote of 90 to 9, never was enacted into law. The provisions of my bill have been the subject of numerous hearings over the years and addresses problems identified in GAO and Inspector General reports. It is a proposal that has had the support of the Administration, environmental organizations, and taxpayer watchdog groups. Similar legislation has been introduced in the Senate by Senator Dale Bumpers.

The legislation provides meaningful competition for NPS contracts to provide goods and services to park visitors. The bill eliminates certain preferential rights of renewal and phases out possessory interest, both of which have been major barriers to competition. In addition, it provides that the funds generated from concession contracts will stay in the parks to benefit park resources and visitor services.

If we want to increase the return to the public and enhance park resources while still making available to visitors a quality concessions service, we need to install a competitive process instead of maintaining advantages for select commercial operators. The National Park Service Concession Policy Reform Act achieves these purposes. I hope Members will add their support to this legislation.

IN HONOR OF ANTHONY DIBIASIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Anthony "Tony" DiBiasio for his tireless efforts on behalf of the school children of Lakewood, Ohio for the past fifty years.

After serving his country in the U.S. Air Force during the Second World War, Tony went on to receive a B.S. and Masters from Ohio University and continued doctoral studies at Western Reserve University. For fifty years, "Mr. D." has demonstrated this love of learning as a teacher, administrator, coach, and currently, as Executive Director of the Lakewood Public Schools Foundation. He has also served as president of both the Lakewood Education Association and the Lakewood PTA.

In addition to his work with Lakewood schools, Tony has also served as Director of Project Read, conducting reading workshops at colleges and universities throughout the country. He has also sat on the Board of Directors of Keep America Beautiful and was a valued member of the Lakewood Kiwanis Club. Tony has been published in a number of professional journals.

Having made a significant contribution to his community, it comes as little surprise that Tony had made something of a "name" for himself. The street in front of Lakewood High School has been dubbed Tony DiBiasio Square. A scholarship fund at the high school and the Fitness Center at the Lakewood YMCA also bear his name. Tony's service towards others has been honored by the American Legion and the American Red Cross.

My fellow colleagues, let us join the entire Lakewood community in thanking Anthony DiBiasio for his commitment to the young people of Lakewood, Ohio. May his many years of service to community and country serve as an example to us all.

SALUTE TO MAJOR NED SWINNEY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Major Ned Swinney, who was born January 13, 1938, in Jefferson County, MS to the late Jim and Leola Swinney.

Major Swinney departed this life on May 10, 1998, but he left a proud legacy as a husband, father, and law enforcement officer. He attended the Jackson public schools and received an associate degree from the Baptist Seminary of Mississippi.

Major Swinney began his career as a law enforcement officer in 1956 as a military police officer in the United States Army. He began his 25-year-long association with the Hinds County Sheriff's Department in July 1972 where he served as Deputy Sheriff, Staff Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, and was promoted to Major in 1992.

Major Swinney exhibited thoughtfulness and compassion for people in the community he

came in touch with. He reached out to those in trouble with a steady hand supported by his Christian belief of loving one's neighbor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in saluting the family of Major Ned Swinney for the outstanding contributions he made to the world of law enforcement.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO BRIAN C. VANVALKENBURG ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT, NY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District, Brian C. VanValkenburg. Brian has recently accepted his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, and will be joining the incoming Cadet Class of 2002.

Very soon, Brian will be graduating from Vermilion High School, and will begin preparing for one of the most challenging, rewarding, and educational experiences of his life: his four years at West Point.

While attending Vermilion High School, Brian distinguished himself as an outstanding student and a very fine student-athlete. In the classroom, Brian's academic successes are outstanding, as he has attained a 3.77 grade point average, placing him tenth in his class of 194 students.

Brian has been active in the National Honor Society, and has participated in the National Latin Exam. In addition, Brian has shown himself to be a leader with his election to president of his class during his junior year. On the fields of competition, Brian was a member of the Vermilion Sailors Varsity Football Team.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to nominate Brian for appointment to the United States Military Academy. I am certain he will do very well. I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Brian VanValkenburg, and in wishing him well in all of his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO NAT BINGHAM

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Nat Bingham, an advocate for the fish and the fishermen on the West Coast, whose untimely death earlier this month has left a void so large, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to fill. His list of accomplishments on behalf of the fish and forests was long and varied, forging compromise between opposing groups for the good of the resource.

A commercial fisherman for over 30 years, his efforts in fisheries restoration began almost as long ago when, in his typical forward looking way, he headed projects in North Coast watersheds for salmon rearing and stream