

today. While the *Mars Pathfinder* was developed from slightly more than a small box of raw materials, the individuals who helped to accomplish this tremendous feat most likely had their interest sparked by engineering competitions similar to the one on Capitol Hill today.

Best of luck to Wheeling, Rolling Meadow and the other teams in today's competition and I hope that these young people will continue their education and even pursue careers in the exciting fields of science and engineering.

PRaise FOR ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS, AND THE STUDENTS FROM THE STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND HOBOKEN HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. STEVE R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 1998

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to join my colleagues in paying tribute to the 200 high school teams across the country who participated in a robotics competition put on by FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). I would especially like to recognize the team from Northern New Jersey comprised of Engineered Solutions from Ft. Lee, New Jersey, and high school students from the Stevens Institute of Technology and Hoboken High School.

This competition underscores the work of FIRST, a foundation which partners high school students with engineers from corporations and small businesses, scientists from NASA and the military, and mentors from world class universities. The unique FIRST competition allows students to get hands-on experience in developing cutting-edge design and manufacturing processes in an energetic, competitive environment. This program represents a unique method for getting students excited about science and technology.

I commend the excellent work done by the students on the Engineered Solutions/Stevens Institute of Technology/Hoboken High School team. And I wish the students from the other 200 teams across the country all the best.

IN HONOR OF THE HERNDON ROTARY CLUB'S CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise and pay tribute to Peggy Vetter, the thirty-third recipient of the Herndon Rotary Club's Citizen of the Year Award. For the past twenty-two years, she has devoted her time and effort to extensive volunteer and leadership activities throughout Herndon.

In 1976, shortly after moving to the area, Peggy founded the Herndon Observer newspaper. The Observer was one of the first newspapers in the growing area. While the newspaper was initially published just twice

monthly, it allowed for the town and its citizens to communicate and gave everyone a voice in the community. Peggy sold the paper in 1990, but continues to report on Herndon government as well as its people and events.

Peggy's involvement in the community and its many facets did not stop there. While working at her paper she supported the community's youth by hiring high school students as correspondents and office helpers. In addition, she supported fund-raising efforts for youth sports, the Boy Scouts, and the Girl Scouts.

Her skills with community fundraisers led her to chair the Rotary Club's annual efforts on behalf of the Embry Rucker Shelter, which has collected thousands of dollars' worth of clothing and supplies for those temporarily homeless. She participated in a wide range of activities with the Rotary Club, from cleaning up Spring Branch to ringing bells for the Salvation Army to acting as a Herndon Festival Marshal.

On her own, she has volunteered at her children's schools, served for five years as a Cub Scout den mother, and helped found the American Women's Club in Kingston, Jamaica. In addition, she served on the Herndon Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for many years. She was honored in 1996 as Woman of the Year by the Herndon Business and Professional Woman's Club.

Peggy lived in several places and traveled extensively before settling in Herndon. She was born in Valpariso, Indiana, went to high school in Niles, Michigan, and then attended St. Mary's College at Notre Dame. She started her career as a journalist during World War II, serving as a reporter and editor for the Niles Daily Star. Following her marriage to her husband Don, she served as an assistant society editor of the Lansing State Journal and a capital correspondent for the Detroit Free Press and Times.

Her husband's job with Pan Am Airlines led her and her three children to travel around the world to places such as Guam, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Guatemala, Miami, before coming to the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area in 1974.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues join me in honoring and thanking Peggy Vetter for all of her hard work to improve the Herndon community. Her spirit and dedication to public service is truly outstanding, and we congratulate her for being named the Herndon Rotary Club's Citizen of the Year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FALLON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 1998

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize twenty-one years of dedicated service and commitment to the health of thousands of patients across the state of Massachusetts. Fallon Healthcare System celebrates not only twenty-one years of operation, but also marks this event by the enrollment of their 200,000th member. I am proud to play a role in recognizing Fallon here today as they play a vital part in the economy of the region and are a critical provider of care to the community.

Fallon was founded in 1977 as the first Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) in Central Massachusetts and, after just two decades, was twice named one of the best HMOs in America by US News and World Report. This organization has also been recognized by Newsweek, The Wall Street Journal, and many other national and local advocacy groups, publications, and health care specialists.

Fallon has been a leader in the community with efforts to provide health care to citizens both inside and outside of their health plan. Their efforts to assist the elderly, the poor, children, and to reach out to the community are all signs of their commitment to the health of the citizens in Massachusetts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this important occasion in the history of Fallon Healthcare System.

THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FAIRFIELD, ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 1998

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the Township of Fairfield, County of Essex, New Jersey as they commemorate the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of their community.

In the early years, shortly after Connecticut settlers founded Newark in 1666, a group moved out to the northwest and settled in what is now Fairfield. The settlers bought the land, known as Fairfield, from the Indians. In 1701, eight proprietors from England came together and formed the East Jersey Society and purchased a 13,500-acre tract of land from the top of the First Watchung Mountain to the Passaic River, which was patented Horseneck. They built their homes on high ground and fed their stock from hay cut in the Bit Piece and Little Piece Meadows. The New Jersey State Legislature created Caldwell Township. The boundaries were drawn from the county line to Mt. Pleasant Avenue, Livingston, and from the Passaic River to the top of the first Mountain. The twenty-eight mile township was named for Reverend James Caldwell, who was pastor of the Presbyterian Church where St. Aloysius R.C. Church, Caldwell now stands.

On April 8, 1799, the first town meeting was held and nine school districts were established. Also, at the meeting a \$200 budget was voted to defray the expenses of the school districts. The Fairfield district's first school antedated the formation of Caldwell Township, a school that was built just before or immediately following the Revolutionary War. Classes were instructed in the Dutch language. In 1957, a new school was built at the intersection of Horseneck and Fairfield Roads. In 1892, the first town to break away from Caldwell Township in a dispute over road taxes was the Borough of Caldwell. This marked the beginning of a succession of towns including, Verona, North Caldwell, Essex Fells, West Caldwell, Roseland and Cedar Grove. This left Caldwell Township which is now Fairfield with an area of 10.4 square miles. By the end of the century, Fairfield would be faced with more seceding territories.