

future. Under the guidance of two dedicated teachers, Mrs. Wilcox and Mrs. Pappalardos, these students graduated from the Beechwood School in Haddonfield, New Jersey on June 4, 1998. I am profoundly proud that my daughter, Jacquelyn Andres, joined with her classmates in graduating from the Pre-K program at Beechwood. I hope you will join me in wishing these bright stars a bright future. These dedicated teachers and their wonderful students deserve our praise. The 1998 graduating students of the Beechwood Pre-K program are: Jacquelyn Andrews, Jason Bloch, Maria Cleary, Kevin Cook, Olivia DiBlase, Lauren DiDonato, Matthew Falcone, William Freeman, Lexic Guistwhite, Gregor, Herrmann, Dana Kamerling, Sionna Kelly, Shawn McDonald, Connor McElwee, Sarah Meeteer, Chelsea Mettinger, Dominic Payne, Benjamin Potts, Daniel Schwab, Allison Smith, Tyler Stone, Martha Theodoris, Sophia Theodoris.

THE SHEPERSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1932 TO CELEBRATE 66TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a high school reunion that will take place in my district this weekend. The Sheperdsville High School Class of 1932 will celebrate their 66th Anniversary Saturday.

High school reunions are a time of remembrance. They give us the means to renew old friendships with classmates we haven't seen in years. We are flooded with memories of days gone by. And we are given the opportunity to share our successes and failures with those that gave us the tools to succeed in life—our teachers.

It's hard to believe, but the Sheperdsville High Class of 1932 will have the opportunity to thank two of their teachers. Both teachers are 94 years old, which in and of itself is worthy of celebration. These two fine people helped prepare the Class of '32, along with hundreds of other students, for life beyond the realm of high school. And for that, I say thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I offer a special congratulations and a happy anniversary to the Sheperdsville High Class of 1932. May your 66th Anniversary be as joyous as your graduation ceremonies were in 1932.

H.R. 3150—BANKRUPTCY REFORM ACT

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 1998

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, with the passage of H.R. 3150—the Bankruptcy Reform Act of 1998, this Member encourages his colleagues to read the following editorial which appeared in the June 27, 1998, *Beatrice Daily Sun*. This article highlights why the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3150, the Bankruptcy Reform Act.

[From the Daily News, June 27, 1998]

BANKRUPTCY BILL DESERVES SUPPORT—MEASURE AIMS TO BOLSTER NOTION OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCES

We find it difficult to muster much sympathy for those who are criticizing recent legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives that would make it tougher to file for Chapter 7 bankruptcy.

Some of the critics are wailing as if the measure is like tossing widows into the poor house. They're arguing that accumulating unpayable debts is not the fault of the debtors. Rather, it was their credit cards that made them do it.

Whatever happened to the notion of personal responsibility?

Because the measure would only apply to persons making more than \$50,000 a year, it effectively counters the concern that the poor and downtrodden will be negatively affected by the measure.

In effect, the measure says that if a person has enough money after paying for necessities to repay 20 percent of what he or she owes over five years, a court should mandate that to occur.

That seems to make a lot more sense than letting people off the hook entirely, as Chapter 7 does, even when they can afford to repay some of what they owe.

From our perspective, such a measure is needed and should quickly receive the support of consumer groups. After all, when thousands upon thousands of people claim Chapter 7—some without justification—prices for everyone else go up to compensate. Either that or businesses may risk going out of business. Someone is going to pay, and not just people who happen to be rich.

But some consumer groups are not supporting the House measure and instead pointing the finger at credit-card companies.

It's true that some issue their cards with too little checking, but it doesn't follow that it's OK to cheat those companies or that people who run up debts they cannot afford should not be held accountable.

There's nothing draconian about this House measure, and it would be a good idea for the Senate to pass something similar, although its bill is expected to be softer. We like the House bill because it aims to restore more personal responsibility in people's dealings with each other. That's an extremely crucial ingredient in any free and decent society.

IN TRIBUTE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 1998

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, at a time like this, it is difficult to find appropriate words that do justice to the people you are honoring. Officers Jacob J. Chestnut and John Gibson made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the People's House—the U.S. Capitol. A great American—President Abraham Lincoln—would see the great significance of their sacrifice and understand what J.J. Chestnut and John Gibson gave their lives to protect.

The rotunda where their bodies will lie in state is shielded by a great dome built during the dark days of the Civil War. President Lincoln knew in his heart that the Capitol is more than just a building, that the Capitol stands as a symbol of freedom and serves as the seat of democracy. President Lincoln believed this

so strongly that he demanded the work being done to raise the dome proceed, despite the war and its drain on government resources. He knew that completing the Capitol dome would show America that the United States would stand despite the grueling war then being waged.

Soldiers fighting to preserve the United States and protect the Capitol camped on the same floor where officer's Chestnut and Gibson will lie in state today. President Lincoln's words uttered on a Gettysburg battlefield nearly 135 years ago are proper to honor these two protectors of freedom who fell in the line of duty.

. . . We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, and for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

In their lives and deaths, these two brave officers helped keep the dream alive, the dream shared by Abraham Lincoln and by Americans from coast to coast and from year to year, the dream to preserve a government of, by and for the people. Our prayers go out to the families of these brave men and our thanks for the sacrifice that was made to protect and preserve freedom.

TOWN OF THURMAN COMMEMORATES D&H RAILROAD CRASH

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 1998

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, each weekend I look forward to returning to my congressional district to take in the scenic landscape and peaceful small towns that comprise New York's Hudson Valley. Today I would like to recall an event that shook that peace, now over fifty years ago.

The morning of August 26, 1946 seemed no different than any other summer morning in the Hudson Valley. The southbound D&H Railroad passenger Extra moved steadily south along the bank of the Hudson River, carrying as its cargo of 318 children home to their families after their summer stays at camp in the Adirondack mountains. At the same time, the passenger Train No. 181 steamed north on its regularly scheduled run, on a collision course with the passenger Extra. Two miles south of The Glen, in the Town of Thurman, the two trains collided in a violent roar of screeching brakes and twisting, grating metal.