

Bank which donated 4,938 food items and \$9,953 through that period, and created an internship program for the Ohio School to Work program.

No doubt: the 180th Fighter Wing and 555th AFB are outstanding in every sense of the word. Whether flying dangerous missions overseas, assisting in disaster relief at home or volunteering free time to teach a child how to read, these men and women perform beyond expectations. Their courage and commitment to the community, as well as their jobs, is unparalleled. We in the 9th Congressional District of Ohio are honored to have such a dedicated, professional and exemplary unit represent our nation here and abroad.

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HONORING JOHN A. JACKSON

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2001*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor John A. Jackson, a resident of Altadena, who was awarded an Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship.

Mr. Jackson is a graduate of California State University, Los Angeles, and earned a Master's degree at the University of Southern California. He was awarded the fellowship based on his extraordinary success in inspiring students through "action" learning. Mr. Jackson is the Founder and Director of Project EARTH (Environmental Awareness Research Through Hands-on Activities), an award winning earth science and environmental education program for seventh grade students at Monterey Highlands School. Mr. Jackson also instituted a week-long earth science and environmental science field trips to the Salton Sea, Mono Lake, Yosemite National Forest, and Death Valley Park.

Mr. Jackson is serving his fellowship at the National Science Foundation's Division of Graduate Education. He is working in the GK-12 program and is addressing the lack of Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology (SMET) instruction in our schools. The GK-12 goal is to increase classroom teachers' knowledge and understanding of scientific principles, improve communication and teaching-related skills for Fellows, and link through partnerships universities to local school districts. Mr. Jackson is very dedicated to these important goals and has agreed to serve another year in the fellowship program.

John A. Jackson is a true example of the difference one person can make in lives of our young people. His ongoing commitment to life-long education is truly commendable. My district is very blessed to have an educator of his caliber and I am very proud to honor him here today.

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TRIBUTE TO MRS. BETTY HUTH SCHONROCK OF HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

**HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2001*

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs.

Betty Huth Schonrock, a gracious friend of our community. Mrs. Schonrock was recently recognized with the Governor's Arts Award for her time, guidance, and financial support of the arts in Huntsville. As a direct result of Mrs. Schonrock's time and service, our quality of life has been enhanced through her commitment to the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra, the Wilcoxon ice-skating complex, Randolph School, the Historic Huntsville Foundation, the Madison County Mental Health Association, the Huntsville-Madison Botanical Gardens, and the Huntsville Museum of Art.

Becky Quinn, a member of the Alabama State Council on the Arts, spoke at the awards ceremony about Mrs. Schonrock's contributions to the development of the arts in North Alabama. Her words speak volumes about the award winner, "For years Betty has taken strong leadership roles by bringing a rare combination of passion and reality to the arts. She has both the creativity to provide the vision and the organizational and fundraising skills to assure success." I also would like to share with you the comments on Betty listed in the "Celebration of the Arts" program, "The growth, strength and stability of many of these art entities are attributed to the insight, commitment and hard work of Betty Schonrock, whose efforts and influence will be felt for countless years and generations to come."

Mrs. Schonrock is not afraid to take on the tasks that no one else will volunteer for. She has spent incalculable hours in computerizing, for the first time, the Symphony ticket subscriber's list, auction acquisitions records, and auction invitation list. This kind of service is not an unusual task for Mrs. Schonrock to undertake and is very reflective of the kind of selfless dedication she gives to the arts.

I believe this is a fitting tribute for one who has dedicated many years to serving the nation and the citizens of North Alabama. I send my congratulations to Mrs. Schonrock and her family, her husband Keith, and her children Heather and Keith as she accepts the well-deserved Governor's Arts Award. On behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I join them in celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments of a wonderful lady, Mrs. Betty Huth Schonrock.

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COMMEMORATING THE TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HIV/AIDS

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2001*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw my colleague's attention to a tragic anniversary. It was twenty years ago today that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published the first report of what is now known as HIV/AIDS. I ask my colleagues to join with me today in renewing our commitment to conquer HIV and AIDS and to support efforts to end the spread of HIV.

Today marks the beginning of the third decade with AIDS, and almost 40 million people are living with HIV/AIDS worldwide. Here in the United States, increased social awareness and HIV/AIDS initiatives have created a perception that the AIDS pandemic is over. However, AIDS/HIV continues to destroy American

families, neighborhoods, and communities. Women and children are especially susceptible to the disease. Between 1994 and 1998, the number of women living with AIDS nearly doubled. Moreover, there are an estimated 120,000 to 160,000 women living with HIV. It is especially alarming that seventy-eight percent of the AIDS cases in American women ages 20-24 are minorities.

Minorities account for over two thirds of the new AIDS cases reported in this country, and people of color account for more than half of AIDS cases worldwide. Children are fast becoming the innocent victims of HIV; the number of children living with HIV and AIDS is at an all-time high. Even communities that were leading in the battle against HIV/AIDS have suffered set backs in the last few years. The gay community, which was the first community mobilize and educate itself shortly following its tidal wave of infections in the early 1980s, is seeing increases in infection rates that had long lingered between 3 and 5 percent. A recent report by the CDC suggests that there is resurgence of HIV infection in the gay community, especially among African-Americans and Hispanics.

In comparison to other regions of the world, America has escaped the epidemic proportions of AIDS seen around the world. Sub-Saharan Africa has been far more severely affected by AIDS than any other part of the world. The United Nations reports that 25.3 million adults and children are infected with the HIV virus in the region, which has about 10% of the world's population but more than 70% of the worldwide total of infected people. I applaud the efforts of my colleagues who have worked tirelessly to the awareness of the members of this body of the conditions in Africa.

Since the onset of HIV/AIDS in 1981, we here in Congress, have attempted to address the issue. Not knowing of the complications and aggression of HIV/AIDS, in FY81 the Department of Health and Human Services received \$200,000 in discretionary funding for HIV/AIDS. Today, Health and Human services receives close to \$5 billion for HIV/AIDS programs, and the overall federal government spends close to \$12 billion on programs for HIV/AIDS research, education, and prevention. This funding allows agencies such as the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support programs for state and local prevention activities. Programs sponsored by the CDC also include: a national public information network; education programs in the nation's schools; disease monitoring; and laboratory; behavioral, epidemiologic studies designed to identify the most effective interventions to combat HIV. Federal funding has also helped in the development of drugs such as AZT and others, which allow infected individuals to enjoy a longer and healthier life. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has conducted crucial research in the development of treatments and vaccines for HIV/AIDS. The HIV/AIDS Minority Initiative provides funding for prevention and treatment in minority communities. The Global Health Initiative supports activities around the world focused on HIV/AIDS programs. The Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Fund provides compassionate payments to individuals with blood clotting disorders, who contracted HIV due to contaminated blood transfusions. These programs not only effect social consciousness, but also reflect