

grow and expand—enriching the community and the lives of many seniors.

Today, as they celebrate their 25th anniversary, I am honored to stand and join the Woodbridge community in congratulating the staff and volunteers, past and present, of the Woodbridge Senior Center, on this milestone. Their commitment, dedication, and advocacy has left an indelible mark on our community and I would like to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to them for all of their good work.

HONORING DR. JAMES CLARK

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2002*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. James Clark for his years of service in the educational system. Dr. Clark, who retires this year, has served as the Superintendent of the Joliet Township High Schools since July 1, 1996.

Dr. Clark started his career in Marion, Indiana where he taught speech, drama, and English. He has since taught in Harvey and Lockport High Schools. In 1999 Dr. Clark was appointed Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services at the Joliet Township High Schools. In 1996, he received the appointment as Superintendent. Dr. Clark is also an Adjunct Instructor at Aurora University and Governors' State University.

Being a generous person, Dr. Clark is also involved with the community. He is active in Rotary, serves as a member of the Joliet Area American Cancer Society Board of Directors, on the Joliet Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry Board of Directors, as vice-chair of the American Heart Association Heart Walk, and in various professional school administrator organizations.

Dr. Clark and his wife Linda are the proud parents of two sons and one grandson. Dr. Clark is revered throughout the Joliet community. In fact, the City of Joliet declared Monday, May 13, 2002 as "Dr. James H. Clark Day".

Mr. Speaker, I urge this body to identify and recognize others in their own districts whose actions have so greatly benefitted and strengthened America's communities.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF COMMANDER KARL VAN DEUSEN

**HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2002*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding naval officer, Commander Karl Van Deussen, who has served with distinction and dedication during the last year as a Navy Appropriations Liaison Officer in the Assistant Secretary of the Navy's (FM&C) Appropriations Matters Office. It is a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and commend him for the superb service he has provided to the Department of the Navy, the Congress, and our great Nation.

During his tenure in the Appropriations Matters Office Commander Van Deussen provided the members and staff of my Committee on Appropriations, and our Subcommittee on Defense, with timely and accurate support regarding Department of the Navy plans, programs and budget decisions. His valuable contributions have enabled the Defense Subcommittee and the Department of the Navy to strengthen its close working relationship and to ensure the most modern, well-trained and well-equipped Naval Forces attainable for the defense of our great nation.

In addition to his professional relationship with my Committee, Karl has become like a family member to Beverly, to me, and to my sons. He is a constituent from St. Petersburg, Florida and he has served as a role model for my sons, who he has inspired to pursue careers in the United States Navy and Marine Corps.

Karl is also a recognized hero. He was recently awarded the Navy Commendation Medal for his courageous actions immediately following the September 11th attack on the Pentagon. Without regard for his personal safety, Karl time and time again helped bring fellow service members and civilians out of the burning building that terrible day.

Mr. Speaker, Commander Karl Van Deussen is the epitome of a United States Naval Officer. He now embarks on the dream job of any sailor, taking command of a ship and her crew. As he assumes command of the USS *Gonzales*, one of our nation's newest destroyers, I know the many friends he has made in working with the Congress will miss him greatly. Of course, our loss is his new crew's gain, and I am confident that Karl will be a great Captain who will ensure that his ship and crew are ready for whatever lies ahead.

I join with my colleagues today in wishing Commander Van Deussen, his wife, Beth, and their five children, Bonnie, Jon, Margaret, Todd, and Cora the very best in one of the best jobs in the world. This great American family has made many sacrifices during a Navy career in which Karl has distinguished himself with an unselfish service that exemplifies the Navy's core values of honor, courage and commitment. Clearly Commander Van Deussen is one of the best our nation has to offer and as he departs the Pentagon to return to sea duty, I call upon colleagues to wish Karl and his family every success and "fair winds and following seas" for the captain and crew of the USS *Gonzales*.

MAY 28 REPUBLIC DAY

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2002*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the purpose of my remarks is to congratulate, on behalf of myself and my colleagues, the Republic of Azerbaijan on the May 28 Republic Day. After the break-up of the Soviet Union we have all seen Azerbaijan's strife not only to occupy its rightful place in the international community, but, first and foremost, to preserve its sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity, to promote the energy projects on the Caspian, as well as to establish relations of friendship and cooperation with the United States and the European nations.

Now we consider Azerbaijan to be one of the strongest U.S. allies among the post-Soviet countries. The reforms in Azerbaijan, both economic and political, as well as this nation's role in the international antiterrorist campaign, prove its dedication to the democracy, free market economy, its intention to pursue cooperation, not confrontation.

I extend my congratulations to President Aliyev and the people of the Republic of Azerbaijan and express my belief that the bilateral relations between our two countries will further develop and strengthen for the well-being of both our peoples, as well as with the purpose of furthering the U.S. interests in the South Caucasus, where Azerbaijan has become a stabilizing force.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARGO CATSIMATIDIS

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 14, 2002*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Margo Catsimatidis on the occasion of the 11th Annual Hellenic Times Scholarship Dinner Dance. Ms. Catsimatidis's contributions to the Hellenic community have touched countless lives. It is a pleasure to pay tribute to this illustrious community leader.

Ms. Catsimatidis is Vice-Chairperson and one of the founders of the Hellenic Times Scholarship Fund, which this year will be granting \$150,000 in scholarships to young Greek-American students from across the country. Established in 1990 for the education of Greek-American students, the Hellenic Times Scholarship Fund has awarded over \$700,000 to more than 400 students to date.

Ms. Catsimatidis joined the staff of the Hellenic Times in 1979 as head of Advertising and assumed her current position as co-publisher in 1993. In 1984, Ms. Catsimatidis founded MCV Advertising Associates, an advertising agency specializing in retail print advertising whose accounts appear in all major New York City print media. She is also the television spokesperson for Gristede's Supermarkets in New York City.

As a civic leader, Ms. Catsimatidis served as the Coordinator of the annual Columbus Avenue Festival from 1979-1991. The 30 block festival draws a crowd in excess of one million, raising funds for the West Side of Manhattan for various schools and community projects on the West Side of Manhattan. She was also one of the founders and coordinators of the Amsterdam Avenue Festival and is a member of the West Side Chamber of Commerce.

Volunteering much of her time in an effort to better the lives of others, Ms. Catsimatidis is active on numerous committees, serving as Chairperson of the National Alzheimer's Foundation Dinner and Chairperson of the Parkinson's Disease Foundation Dinner. In addition, she serves on the Executive Committee of New York Hospital and the Police Athletic League (PAL), which helps 60,000 underprivileged children every year.

Ms. Catsimatidis and her husband, John, have used their own resources to benefit communities in need and others. Ms. Catsimatidis