it, and I try not to let a day go by without remembering with deep gratitude all of those who, like my brother, Bill, made the supreme sacrifice; and all of those who served and were willing to put their lives on the line—as servicemen and women are doing right now—for all that we hold dear. That is why when I get up in the morning, the first two things I do are to thank God for my life and veterans for my way of life.

Today, Mr. Speaker, and this Memorial Day, I am proud to say ''Thank You'' to the veterans of the 27th Infantry Division.

TRIBUTE TO MARQUETTE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ON THE OCCASION OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call your attention and that of our colleagues to a special event which took place in my northern Michigan congressional district this past month. In April the Marquette Area Public School District, the largest school district in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, marked 150 years of service to the local community and to the region.

Here in Congress the debate and discussion of education is often moved to an abstract level, where, we discuss programs and dollars. In northern Michigan, as in much of this young nation, education has traditionally been viewed as a means of personal enrichment, achievement and advancement. In Marquette, a town settled by loggers, miners and the tradesmen who followed them to build a community, education still serves that basic social role.

It remains the belief of the Marquette Area Public School District, as outlined in its mission statement, that ''all students can learn and achieve mastery of basic skills.'' The school district, the board and the administrators, pledge to ''teach all students so that they can attain their maximum educational potential and become responsible, contributing members of society.''

The Marquette Area Public School District covers an area of 123 square miles and serves a population of approximately 31,000, according to its 2000–2001 annual report. During that period, 246 teachers in six elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school provided public education to more than 4,100 students in grades kindergarten through 12.

Clearly, Mr. Speaker, Marquette Area Public Schools has come a long way as a civic institution since Marquette's first school began in a home in 1849 with just four students. This focus on education is even more important today to prepare students for tomorrow, because Marquette itself has changed. Hallmarks of the community today include a fine university, Northern Michigan University, and a fine hospital, Marquette General Hospital, which as a key resource in a rural area has been working on the cutting edge of telemedicine.

Jacqueline Winkowski, administrative assistant to the superintendent and the school board, noted in a recent document that Marquette Area Public Schools is often called up by other school districts in Michigan's Upper Peninsula to share its practices and procedures and to provide expertise and professional development. Teachers from this district have continued to serve on state-level panels and committees on the topics of reading, literacy, social studies and science.

Dr. Patrick Smith, superintendent of Marquette Area Public Schools, recently told the Marquette Mining Journal that the district was happy to be celebrating its first 150 years and looks forward to the next 150. If this first century and a half are any indication, this school district, ably assisted by community members serving on its board, will continue to provide vision and leadership in the field of education for this region.

REMEMBERING PETE BEIDEN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Pete Beiden on the occasion of the dedication of a statue in his honor at Beiden Field at California State University, Fresno. Beiden served as the baseball coach at Fresno State from 1948–1969 and the field was renamed for him in 1972.

Coach Beiden had an impressive resume with a record of 602–268 in his tenure at Fresno State with winning seasons every year and 10 Conference Championships. Pete was inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame in 1964, the College Coaches Hall of Fame in 1972, and the Fresno State University Baseball Hall of Fame in 1991. Coach Beiden's contributions to baseball extended well beyond Fresno State. His extensive understanding of the fundamentals of the game and his talent for teaching the skills to young athletes enabled Pete to reap a harvest of gifted ball players, coaches, and entire teams. His legacy lives on in those he coaches and mentored.

Coach Beiden's legacy goes beyond the baseball diamond, however. Pete is also, and perhaps best, remembered as a devoted husband, father, and friend. He was a farmer who loved his ranch, a reader who loved history, and a music lover. Pete's wife, Martha, died in 1997 after 69 wonderful years of marriage. Their son, Roland, a renowned pianist and teacher, died in 1980.

Coach Beiden passed away on March 6, 2000. A statue, sculpted by William Behrends, will be unveiled at Beiden Field on May 25, 2002, prior to the Fresno State baseball game.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Coach Pete Beiden and thank Fresno State for commemorating his life and service. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Coach Beiden for his service to baseball and his community.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3448, PUBLIC HEALTH SECURITY AND BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased that we have reached an agreement on H.R. 3448, the Bioterrorism Preparedness Act. I commend my colleagues who served on the conference committee for reporting out a strong, effective and balanced bill.

It's critically important that we protect our nation from biological and chemical attacks and this bill takes a number of necessary steps to bolster our defenses in these areas.

As we know, response to any attack against our country begins at the local level. This bill provides significant resources to state and local governments to ensure that they are ready and able to respond to any situation.

Communities must be able to adequately train and equip their first responders.

These block grants will allow communities to purchase supplies, train staff, and upgrade infrastructure—all necessary components of creating safe towns and cities. This bill also provides needed funding for vaccine and pharmaceutical stockpiling and future anti-terrorism medical research efforts. We must continue our efforts to prepare for any eventuality and medical research is a critical component of this plan.

I'm also pleased that the bill takes a number of steps to protect our nation's food supply. Dinner-time should not be a source of worry to the American people.

However, we must continue to evaluate the effectiveness of these provisions. I believe that there is more to be done in this area in order to fully establish safe and effective monitoring of our food supply.

Finally, I'm particularly pleased that the conference committee was able to include language that directs the Centers for Disease Control to consider the use of antiviral products in the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile.

Biological agents such as smallpox and anthrax are significant concerns for our government to address. We must ensure that our stockpile contains vaccines and treatments that are effective for all citizens. Antiviral products are yet another mechanism for treating smallpox and I'm pleased that the CDC will be evaluating the appropriateness of their use.

Again, I thank my colleagues for their hard work on this bill and I commend them for their efforts.

NATIONAL STROKE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 23, 2002

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, this month has been designated as National Stroke Awareness Month. In this regard, I will focus on the topic of stroke and its prevention.

Stroke is an acute onset of focal neurologic deficits resulting from diminished blood flow.