

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING CHRISTINE  
HAAS AS "AMERICA'S TOP  
YOUNG SCIENTIST"

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 8, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Christine Haas of Clovis, California for being named "America's top Young Scientist" in the 2002 Discovery Channel's Young Scientist Challenge. Christine won the nationwide middle school science competition for her botany and zoology project.

On August 17, 1998, Christine Haas was discovered at Reyburn Intermediate School with her science project by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratory's Near-Earth Asteroid Research (LINEAR) program. Christine, now a Clovis East High School student, received the honor of having a minor planet named after her for her achievements. She also earned a \$15,000 college scholarship, a Hollywood Studio tour, and a television appearance in an hour-long program that will air in late December 2002.

Christine's project investigated the use of buckeye blossoms as a means of controlling mosquitoes. She determined that the buckeye plant's natural poisons deterred mosquito development in Wonder Valley's vernal pools. This project was ideal for Christine because Wonder Valley has too many mosquitoes, and it also has livestock owners leery of spraying pesticides around water.

Christine's selection for his award shows her determination and ingenuity which is reflected through this project. She is to be admired and congratulated on her efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Christine Haas for her scientific achievement. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Christine Haas many years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELIAS M.  
ELIASOF

### HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 8, 2002*

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate an outstanding member of our community and of northern New Jersey—Elias "Hy" Eliasof, who tomorrow evening will be honored for his contribution to one of New Jersey's most worthy non-for-profit organizations, the Spectrum for Living.

Mr. Speaker, it is impossible to list all of the contributions Hy has made to New Jersey as a public servant and philanthropist over the last three decades. Hy has served with distinction as the Mayor of Closter and as a Member of the Closter Council. He has chaired the Northern Valley Community Development Pro-

gram, and served on the Board of Directors of the Community Center for Mental Health, the Pascack Valley Hospital, and the Family Counseling Service of Closter. Hy was the Founder and President of the Northern Valley Mayors' Association, is a Past President of the North Valley Lodge B'nai B'rith, and was a member of the New Jersey Regional Board of Directors of the Anti-Defamation League. Hy is the first recipient of the B'nai B'rith Youth Services Appeal Humanitarian Award, and shared with his wife Marion the first North Valley Hadassah Citizens Award for dedicated and significant contributions in education and community services. The residents of Closter have been well-served by Hy, as have the countless members of our New Jersey community who have benefited from his philanthropy and civic involvement.

On November 8, 2002, Hy will be honored for his dedication, support, and contribution to Spectrum for Living. Spectrum is a not-for-profit organization that provides barrier-free residential facilities, nursing, psychological, recreational, vocational/educational, dietary, psychological, social and therapeutic services for persons with physical and developmental disabilities. Spectrum serves hundreds of people with disabilities, providing an environment where they are respected as individuals and given the freedom, responsibility, and opportunity to face and meet life's challenges. Spectrum provides the physical and emotional support that every individual needs to achieve his or her full potential.

Hy's well-deserved pride in this honor is shared with Marion, their daughter Lucy, their grandchildren Betsy, David, Benjamin, and in the memory of their daughter Diane.

Mr. Speaker, through his decades of public service and good works, Elias "Hy" Eliasof exemplifies the American values that have made our country great. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Hy on his achievements, and thanking and saluting him for his dedication and contribution to so many members of our New Jersey community.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPHINE WAGNER  
ELDRIDGE

### HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 8, 2002*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Josephine Wagner Eldridge, a beloved mother and grandmother who died on June 9, 2002.

Josephine Wagner was born in 1917 and was raised in Roanoke, Virginia, where she was an outstanding athlete and student. She graduated from Duke University School of Nursing in 1940 and worked as a nurse at Memorial Baptist Hospital in New Orleans, where she met and married Bill Eldridge, a pilot in the Army Air Corps. Following World War II they settled in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Josephine Wagner Eldridge and her husband Bill were long-time members of Contra Costa Country Club and founding members of Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. Once their three sons were raised, Josephine returned to her passion of painting. Her painting career flourished and her works were displayed throughout the region with the Las Juntas Artists group and several other art organizations.

Josephine is survived by her sons Bill and his wife Judy, Steve and his wife Sue, Keith and his wife Jan, grandchildren Sheri, Kim, Tommy, Teo, Erin, Ryan and Alex, and her great-grandchildren Sydney and Jessica.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Josephine Wagner Eldridge, for the life she led, for the extraordinary family she raised and for her contributions to the community and the country she loved.

CONGRATULATING DR. PETE  
MEHAS

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 8, 2002*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Pete Mehas for receiving the Distinguished Alumnus Award at the Fresno State Alumni Awards Gala in Fresno, California on the evening of November 8, 2002. This award is the highest honor given to an alumnus of the university.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is based on scholarship, leadership, and service to the University, the San Joaquin Valley, and the State of California. It has been established to provide special recognition to an individual who has distinguished himself through outstanding achievement during his post-collegiate career. Nominees must have received national or international recognition, as well as made a significant contribution through volunteer or donor work to the University, the Valley, and the State.

In 1962, Pete Mehas received his bachelor's degree from California State University, Fresno, his master's degree from UCLA in 1967, and his doctorate in education from the University of Southern California in 1979. He began his teaching profession at Roosevelt High School and later became a legislative advocate in Sacramento and Washington DC. In 1987, Dr. Mehas was appointed by Governor George Deukmejian as his Chief Advisor on matters relating to all public education in the state, as well as serving as the Director of the Governor's Office of Education Planning and Policy Committee. In September 1991, President Bush appointed Dr. Mehas to a 17-member advisory commission to implement his executive order on Latino education.

Dr. Pete Mehas was elected Fresno County Superintendent of School in June 1990, and has had unanimous endorsement from Fresno area Republican and Democratic legislators

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