

to increase the funding for the arts and humanities was passed by the House of Representatives. We must continue our commitment to providing the necessary funding for programs that would preserve our nation's environment and natural treasures.

HONORING SHELLY AGARWAL

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Shelly Agarwal, a fine young woman and outstanding student from my congressional district in Tarpon Springs, Florida.

Shelly recently earned a perfect score of 36 on her ACT college entrance exam. She was one of only two students in Florida, and 51 nationwide, who answered each of the 215 test questions correctly when she took the test. The national average ACT score is 20.8.

Shelly became the first student from Berkeley Preparatory School in Tampa to receive a perfect score on the ACT. She said she was "surprised" by her score and "didn't expect anything that high." However, I think she was being modest because she also scored 1580 out of a possible 1600 on her SAT college placement test.

It is clear that Shelly is a bright and motivated young woman. Unlike many of her peers who are taking the summer months off, she is spending them at the University of Chicago studying molecular biology. She is one of only a half dozen high school students who are conducting research alongside undergraduate and graduate students.

Mr. Speaker, Shelly also owes much of her success to her parents, Sudhir and Usha, who are doctors in one of the counties in my district, and to her brother Siddhartha, who will be a sophomore at Harvard this fall. They encouraged Shelly to excel in school and taught her the importance of getting a good education. I want to commend them for providing the support that all students should be as fortunate to have and congratulate Shelly on her tremendous accomplishments. I am certain that she will succeed in her future educational and professional endeavors.

HONORING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF LAKE RIDGE FELLOWSHIP HOUSE

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the 20th anniversary of the Lake Ridge Fellowship House of Woodbridge, Virginia this Saturday, July 19, 2003.

Located on the southernmost edge of Virginia's 11th congressional district, this affordable housing development opened its doors in June 1983. Serving over 100 seniors on fixed incomes, Lake Ridge Fellowship House has grown into a vibrant example of community activism. Four out of five of these seniors are women, many of whom are widows who have

lost a breadwinner's pension and a lifelong companion. Lake Ridge fills a unique niche in the Woodbridge area by supplying elderly residents with a safe environment in which they can enjoy recreational, educational and community-oriented activities.

Lake Ridge is one of only four privately owned fellowship houses in Virginia that are operated by the Fellowship Square Foundation, a subsidiary of the Lutheran Church. Sponsored by the Lutheran Lay Fellowship organization, it is a shining example of how the power of faith is used to fulfill a wide range of needs in our communities.

Lake Ridge provides affordable housing to both independent and mobility-impaired individuals. It provides secure and stable residences for seniors, thereby safeguarding citizens who might otherwise be unable to fully fend for themselves. In addition, Lake Ridge hosts arts and crafts, social activities, and boasts quiet reading alcoves. To better assist its mobility-impaired residents, the fellowship house makes available transportation to and from local shopping areas. Among the most critical services Lake Ridge provides is an around-the-clock emergency call system. Mr. Speaker, Lake Ridge Fellowship House is more than mere housing; it is the foundation of a rich and meaningful way of life for hundreds of senior citizens.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Lake Ridge Fellowship House for providing twenty years of selfless commitment to Northern Virginia, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating their 20th anniversary.

HONORING MARION COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Marion County Young Republicans, in my fifth congressional district of Florida. The Group was just named the Young Republican Club of the Year at the National Federation of Young Republicans' Conference this past weekend in Boston, Massachusetts, and I could not be prouder.

The Marion County Young Republicans was founded just two years ago and has already ascended to great heights, receiving duly earned recognition on a national scale for its endeavors.

The group was instrumental in my election to Congress. Several other lawmakers here in Washington and in Tallahassee owe their positions to this group and to groups like them.

I am pleased to have such an outstanding group of hard-working, young Republicans in my district and am proud of all they have accomplished. In a letter to his members, Chapter President Tim Harding praised the group and reminded them that while this most recent accolade was most certainly an affirmation of success, the group must still rise to meet upcoming challenges and achieve the goals the group has set for itself. It is because of leadership like this that I am confident the Marion County Young Republicans will continue to succeed and do great things for the Republican Party in the state of Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating the Marion County Young Republicans for all they have achieved. I honor their service and their commitment to the party.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 389, I was inadvertently not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA C. SERENA ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE DICKINSON-IRON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say thank you and pay tribute to one of the hardest working public employees ever seen in my 1st Congressional District.

Barbara Serena retired from the Dickinson-Iron County Health Department in June of this year, after almost 26 years serving the people of this part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan as a public health officer and administrator.

In this capacity, Barbara developed a reputation for hard work that would put even our Congressional colleagues to shame—spending seven day weeks and fourteen to sixteen hour days when needed, in her devotion to the principle that public health services are critically important to the local communities she served.

Barbara was born where she and her husband Terry Shea now live, in Stambaugh, Michigan. She grew up in Watersmeet, about thirty miles west of Stambaugh. Her work ethic developed naturally, under the tutelage and guidance of her father, Ferdinand and mother Margaret Serena. Ferdinand Serena was a longtime U.S. Forest Service employee and the family had deep roots in the Upper Peninsula. Margaret Serena still lives in Iron River, Michigan.

After graduating from the University of Michigan with a B.A. in 1960, Barbara received her Masters in Social Work in 1962 and Masters in Public Health in 1969, both from the University of Michigan. She was a doctoral candidate from 1975 to 1977 at the Columbia University School of Public Health in New York.

From 1962 to 1965, Barbara was a social worker with the State of Michigan Department of Social Welfare in Oakland County, and from 1965 to 1968, she was a clinical social work supervisor at the Hawthorne Center in Northville, Michigan, run by the State of Michigan Department of Mental Health.

She moved to New Jersey and became a social work coordinator at the University of Medicine and Dentistry and New Jersey Medical School in Newark, New Jersey in 1970. She remained there while studying at Columbia University until her return to her home in the U.P. in 1977.