

reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 4,500 lbs per year.

Energy efficiency is an important part of a balanced energy policy. That is why President George W. Bush and the U.S. House of Representatives included a provision in H.R. 6, The Energy Policy Act of 2003, which would expand the ENERGY STAR program.

The homebuilders who participate in the ENERGY STAR program recognize the importance of energy conservation. Once again, I would like to thank these 21 North Texas homebuilders for their commitment to constructing ENERGY STAR qualified homes.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
KENTUCKIANS OF NEW YORK

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of The Kentuckians of New York. This congressional recognition will be presented on June 3, 2004 in New York City to a gathering of more than 325 persons at a Gala Dinner Dance. On the occasion, the following six Kentuckians will be honored for their distinguished careers in their chosen field, for their contributions to their community for public service, and their impact both nationally and globally: Owsley Brown II, John Y. Brown, Jr., Martha Layne Collins, Bob Edwards, Phil Simms, and Bill Samuels, Jr.

The Kentuckians of New York was organized on April 27, 1904. The first president was John C. Carlisle, who served six years. During the turn of the century, several state societies were formed. Those who had chosen New York as their new home longed to maintain contact with persons from their home state. The Kentuckians of New York is one of the few, which remain today and have reached this milestone. In the early days, it was a men's organization, which met periodically to enjoy fellowship and sampling of some of the principal Kentucky products, tobacco and bourbon.

During the term of President James C. Bowling (1974–76), Peggy Silhanek and Myra Leigh Tobin became the first two women members. I joined the organization soon after membership was opened to women. I met, not one, but all four criteria for becoming a member: born in Kentucky, lived in Kentucky for at least five years, graduated from a Kentucky college or university, and a son or daughter of a Kentuckian.

The society currently has both resident and nonresident members. The primary purpose of the organization is to share fellowship and the love of our Kentucky heritage at two dinner meetings each year. At these meetings, a reception is followed by dinner and a talk about some aspect of Kentucky by a distinguished speaker from Kentucky or with ties to Kentucky.

I was invited to be a speaker in October 2001, which followed the terrorist acts on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. It was a very somber time in New York City and in the country. The Kentuckians of New York lost two of its members, James R. Paul and Thomas W. Hohlweck, Jr., who worked in the World Trade

Center. My remarks focused on re-assuring members that Members of Congress were addressing terrorism and were concerned about the safety and security of its citizens, and in bringing justice to those who committed the terrorist acts of 9/11.

Many illustrious speakers have addressed the organization. One memorable evening was the time when former Governor A.B. "Happy" Chandler was speaker, following his induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Former President Richard Nixon came to the reception unannounced to extend his congratulations to "Happy" Chandler and to extend greetings to The Kentuckians of New York.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of The Kentuckians of New York's 100th Anniversary, I join with its members and other Kentuckians who will celebrate in its contributions to New York, to Kentucky, and to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH LIBERTO

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend and selfless public servant, Ralph Liberto. Ralph's dedication to working families spanned a lifetime, from his early days as a Marine Raider in World War II, through his service as a union leader, and finally as a trusted County Commissioner representing southwest Warren for the past 14 years. Ralph died on March 15th at the age of 80, after quietly battling leukemia.

For more than 30 years, Ralph played a major role in defining and changing Macomb County. Ralph Liberto distinguished himself as a friend to the working families and senior citizens in Macomb County, a friend to military veterans, and as an honest, dedicated and respected public servant.

After proudly serving his beloved country from 1940–1946 in the United States Marine Corps, he began working at a Chevrolet Gear and Axle plant. He quickly earned the respect of his fellow union employees, who elected him to the highest UAW office in the plant, shop chairman. He continued to champion labor rights as UAW Local 160's first president, then union leader for the AFL–CIO, and government relations director for AFSCME.

Ralph Liberto saw public service as a way to continue his deep sense of duty to the community and to his fellow citizens. A spirited political leader, he began cooking spaghetti for countless political and charitable fund raisers, providing his famous pasta at events from the shores of Lake St. Clair to Lansing.

In 1990 he was elected to Macomb County's Board of Commissioners, where he served on a variety of committees. His colleagues relied on his negotiation and debate skills, eventually electing him Vice Chair of the Board from 1996–2001. As a member of the Parks and Recreation Board and a fan of big band music, he started senior citizen swing dances held at the Freedom Hill Park and Metro Beach. To honor Commissioner Liberto's legacy, Independence Hall at Freedom Hill County Park was recently renamed "Ralph A. Liberto Independence Hall."

Later in life, Ralph continued to fight for causes he believed in. He diligently worked to

raise funds for Washington D.C.'s World War II Memorial honoring his fellow veterans.

Whatever endeavor or job Ralph took on, he did it with his whole heart and a deep sense of duty for serving those around him. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Ralph Liberto for all his tireless work on behalf of our community and citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present yesterday during rollcall No. 210, I would have voted "aye." During rollcall No. 211, I would have voted "aye." And, on rollcall No. 212, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE WINNERS AND SPONSORS OF THE 24 CHALLENGE MATH TOURNAMENT IN SAN DIEGO, CA

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winners of the 24 Challenge Math Tournament in San Diego, CA and to express my appreciation to the sponsors who helped to make the tournament possible.

The 24 game is played with decks of cards with each card displaying four numbers. The numbers vary in complexity from single digits to fractions, decimals and exponents. Students combine the numbers to make 24 by using basic math operations and mental calculations. The 24 Challenge involves tournament-style programs using the 24 game to spark in-class, school wide and regional mathematics competitions. Students prepare for tournament play by practicing games both in and outside the classroom for eight to twelve weeks prior to year-end regional championship competitions.

In San Diego, the regional tournament is held each year during the Congressional Memorial Day recess at the San Diego Aerospace Museum. This year's tournament was held on Wednesday, May 26. I would like to recognize the winners of San Diego's 24 Challenge: (Alvin Balmeo of Las Palmas E.S., Grade 4/5 winner; Ling Yeung of Del Mar Hills E.S., Grade 6 winner; Sofie Christlieb of Standley M.S., Grade 7/8 winner; and Michael Kim of Standley M.S., Platinum Master.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding these dedicated and hardworking students. I also encourage my colleagues to host tournaments in their Congressional districts. Over the years, this exciting math program has engaged millions of students from all backgrounds. The 24 Game provides students with a common ground for developing math fluency and game play helps children develop skills such as number sense, pattern sensing, problem solving and mental math. At the same time, the 24 Challenge math tournaments encourage students to embrace the spirit of competition.