

million upgrade. Due to lack of funding availability, this project has already been broken into six phases in the hope of completing it. But where are funds for these phases?

In Wyoming County, \$1 million is needed for a water project to serve 200 customers in the Crouch Farm area who presently have no water service at all. Where is their money?

The Cheney-Bush bunch wants to rebuild the oilfields of Iraq and expect the coalfields of West Virginia to pay for it. West Virginians are told by this Administration and this Congress that we can't afford to meet our wastewater needs, not when we're investing in other countries rather than our own.

What in the dickens is going on here, Mr. Speaker? I recall our not too distant history, when this Nation was able to fight and win a world war, rebuild the western European continent, and Japan to boot, and college educate a generation of Americans who fueled the greatest economic boon to which the world had never laid witness.

Now the Cheney-Bush bunch and the House leadership tell us again and again, there is no room for investment in America, and that the American people must take a back seat to the citizens of Baghdad.

I say no more. This Administration continues to show indifference to our Nation's infrastructure needs, including threatening to veto a highway bill that will bring over \$2 billion to my home State of West Virginia, money we need to build roads in a mountainous terrain.

Mr. Speaker, I recall—shortly after the bombs fell in Baghdad and the President pledging that America would rebuild Iraq—on a trip back home, folks in an economically hard hit county in West Virginia, in all seriousness, asked me to tell the President to send the bombers to them, so then they could apply for help from America.

It was a sad moment for me, Mr. Speaker, even sadder for America.

COMMEMORATING DR. DAVID WERNER'S LONG CAREER IN EDUCATION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. David Werner's 36 years of service to students and colleagues at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville.

David Werner first came to SIUE as a faculty member in the School of Business. He would go on to serve as Dean of the School of Business, and eventually, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Effective September 1, 1997, Dr. Werner was named Chancellor of SIDE.

In addition to his position at SIUE, Dr. Werner serves as an advisor and board member for groups such as the Southwestern Illinois Higher Education Consortium and the Board of Governors of the Illinois Council on Economic Education.

On June 30 of this year, Dr. Werner will retire as Chancellor of SIUE, bringing an end to nearly four decades of devotion to higher education in southern Illinois. As an educator, I share the same passion for teaching and nurturing the next generation, and I wish to not

only commend Dr. Werner for his dedication, but to thank him for his commitment to excellence through education.

RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL J. ATTARDI IN APPRECIATION FOR A LIFETIME OF DEDICATION AND FRIENDSHIP TO THE COMMUNITY OF LONG BRANCH

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the late Michael J. Attardi, a dear friend to the sixth district of New Jersey. Mr. Attardi, a resident of Long Branch, was a well-known figure throughout his community. He will be sorely missed by family, friends, and neighbors.

Michael Attardi was a truly remarkable neighbor for Long Branch. While he was born in Neptune, he lived within the neighborhood of Long Branch for the past sixty-eight years. Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Attardi was well regarded for his prowess on the football field. His greatest high school success was to lead the "Green Wave" of Long Branch High School to a state football championship. Known as "Iron Mike" to his close friends and family, Mr. Attardi was named to the first team All-State and All-County football teams quite an honor for any athlete.

Not only was Mr. Attardi triumphant on the field during high school, he also was a star football player at the Valley Forge Military Academy. His attendance at this academy allowed him to be named to the All-American Football team in 1954. After years had passed, the City of Long Branch and the State of New Jersey honored Mr. Attardi by electing him to the Long Branch Athletic Hall of Fame for his star abilities on the football field.

Aside from being an accomplished athlete, Mr. Attardi honorably served his country in the United States Army. He was well decorated in his eight years of service and received four medals as a Military Police officer. Perhaps his greatest accomplishments were his family, his marriage of forty-five years to Frances Tortoretti, their three children, and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I am proud to acknowledge a truly great man for his dedication to family, community, and country. I ask that my colleagues join me in extending our sincerest condolences to the family of Mr. Michael J. Attardi. He will sorely be missed by everyone whose lives he touched.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING ANTHONY CHUNG-YI HO

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho has provided outstanding service and contributions while serving as the Senior Officer with the Taipei Economic Council and Cultural Representative and Senior Assistant to the Honor-

able C.J. Chen, Taiwan's chief representative in the United States; and

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho graduated from the National Taiwan University and joined Taiwan's foreign service in 1994; and

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho has worked diligently during his time in Washington, D.C., to improve the understanding of Taiwanese-American relations held by Members of the United States Congress and their staff; and

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho's service has served his country loyally and worked to establish a lasting friendship between officials in the Taiwanese and United States government; and

Whereas, Anthony Chung-Yi Ho will be greatly missed once he returns to Taiwan with his family next month;

Therefore, I join with members of Congress and their staff in recognizing Anthony Chung-Yi Ho for his exceptional work and immense contributions, and wish him the very best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNITION OF DR. MARY JO OLDHAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished educator from Southern Illinois on the occasion of her retirement. Dr. Mary Jo Oldham served the residents of Southeastern Illinois for 40 years, as an instructor, a division chair, a vice president and then President of Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg.

Dr. Oldham began her career as an instructor at North Gallatin Community Unit High School in 1964. She moved on to Harrisburg High School, before taking a job at Southeastern Illinois College. Dr. Oldham has been deeply committed to the philosophy of the comprehensive community college, and has always been a strong advocate for the Illinois community college system. She has worked with a variety of grant projects, most of which were focused on curriculum development and the use of alternative delivery systems at SIC. In 2000, she became the fourth President of Southeastern Illinois College.

Dr. Mary Jo Oldham is a native of Shawneetown, Illinois. She resides in Shawneetown with her husband, Larry Morgan, a farmer. It is an honor to pay tribute to Dr. Oldham for her years of service to the people of Southeastern Illinois. She will be missed, but I want to wish her and her family a very happy and well-earned retirement. Dr. Oldham's career will serve as a model for community college administrators for years to come.

RECOGNITION OF CONTINENTAL SOCIETIES INCORPORATED AND THE CELEBRATION OF THEIR 49TH ANNUAL CONCLAVE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the accomplishments of Continental Societies Incorporated as they are on the eve of their 49th Annual Conclave. This national organization of women has provided distinguished service to children for nearly half a century.

Started in 1956, Continental Societies began with a vision of providing resources for and supporting the welfare of children with special needs. As a result of engaged and avant-garde leadership, the organization blossomed and was able to spread its message across the nation. Today, Continental Societies has approximately 1,000 dedicated and noble women who serve its 49 chapters.

Among their many successes, perhaps the most noteworthy is their 1972 campaign titled "Operation Awareness: HEER" (Health, Education, Employment, Recreation). Having recognized these four areas as essential to young people, Continental Societies initiated a variety of programs to combat deficiencies in these four segments of youth life. In 1977, they added Arts and Humanities as another aspect of their endeavor.

To this day, Continental Societies remains steadfast in its commitment to improving the quality of life for children across the United States. As National President Tonya Greenwood—a fellow New Jerseyan—gavels in another chapter in their history, I once again, ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating and thanking this illustrious organization for their many years of service.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2004 ELLIS ISLAND MEDALS OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2004 Ellis Island Medals of Honor recipients. The Ellis Island Medal of Honor commemorates and recognizes Americans of different ethnic backgrounds who have made a significant contribution to our society. These medals have been aptly named for Ellis Island, an endearing symbol of the immigrant roots and diversity that characterizes our great Nation.

When the immigrant station at Ellis Island, New York, opened on January 1, 1892, it admitted 700 immigrants into the United States in just its first day of operation. By the time the center closed in 1954, 17 Million immigrants had passed through its doors. The Ellis Island administration and staff, on average, processed up to 5,000 people per day. Many of these newcomers had little to no knowledge of English, hardly any money, and many arrived with only the clothes on their backs. They arrived risking their lives in exchange for freedom and a better way of life.

America has always been a haven for immigrants from all over the world who have come to our shores with a common desire to forge a new life in a land of opportunity, liberty, and freedom—freedom from religious, economic, political or ethnic persecution. The Ellis Island Medal of Honor was created in 1986 to honor those individuals who through their own perseverance, sacrifice and success, helped build our great Country. By honoring these outstanding individuals, we honor all who share their origins and we acknowledge the contributions they and other groups have made to America. Six American Presidents, several Senators, Congressmen, Nobel Prize winners, distinguished athletes, artists, clergy, military leaders, and others from all walks of life have been past recipients of this distinguished award.

Presented annually by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations (NECO), an umbrella group of more than 250 organizations that spans the spectrum of ethnic heritages, cultures and religions, the 2004 Ellis Island Medal of Honor recipients are once again a remarkable collection of individuals who have distinguished themselves as outstanding human beings and citizens of the United States. I once again commend NECO and its Chairman of the Board, my good friend William Denis Fugazy, for honoring these outstanding individuals, and for their tireless efforts to foster dialogue and build bridges between different ethnic groups, as well as promote unity and a sense of common purpose in our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in recognizing the good works of NECO, and congratulate all of the 2004 Ellis Island Medals of Honor recipients. I would like to have the text of NECO's press release on the May 15th award ceremony, and the names of this year's recipients, placed into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD following my statement.

ELLIS ISLAND MEDALS OF HONOR AWARDS CEREMONY

ELLIS ISLAND MEDALS OF HONOR AWARDS CEREMONY—NECO CHAIRMAN WILLIAM DENIS FUGAZY LEADS DRAMATIC CEREMONY

ELLIS ISLAND, NY, May 15—Standing on the hallowed grounds of Ellis Island—the portal through which 17 million immigrants entered the United States—a cast of ethnic Americans who have made significant contributions to the life of this nation were presented with the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor at an emotionally uplifting Ceremony.

This year's event, whose date coincided with Armed Forces Day, was dedicated to the men and women of our armed forces. We would like to pay special tribute to the individuals serving in the U.S. armed forces both here and abroad. Several of the Medalists also serve in the armed forces; many more are honored veterans.

NECO's annual medal ceremony and reception on Ellis Island in New York Harbor is the Nation's largest celebration of ethnic pride. Representing a rainbow of ethnic origins, the recipients received their awards in the shadow of the historic Great Hall, where the first footsteps towards a new life were taken by the millions of immigrants who entered the U.S. in the latter part of the nineteenth century.

"Today we honor great Americans who, through their achievements and contributions, and in the spirit of their ethnic origins, have enriched this country and have become role models for future generations."

said NECO Chairman William Denis Fugazy. "In addition, we honor the immigrant experience—those who passed through this Great Hall decades ago, and the new immigrants who arrive on American soil seeking opportunity."

Established in 1986 by NECO, the Ellis Island Medals of Honor pay tribute to the ancestry groups that comprise America's unique cultural mosaic. To date, approximately 2000 American citizens have received medals.

NECO is the largest organization of its kind in the U.S., serving an umbrella group of over 250 ethnic organizations. Its mandate is to preserve ethnic diversity; promote ethnic and religious equality, tolerance and harmony; and to combat injustice, hatred and bigotry. NECO has an additional humanitarian mission: saving the lives of children with life-threatening medical conditions. NECO has founded The Forum's Children Foundation, which brings children in need of life-saving surgery from developing nations to the United States for treatment.

Ellis Island Medals of Honor recipients are selected each year through a national nomination process. Screening committees from NECO's member organizations select the final nominees, who are then considered by the Board of Directors.

Past Ellis Island Medal of Honor recipients include six presidents, entertainers, athletes, entrepreneurs, artists, members of the clergy, business executives, Nobel Prize winners and military leaders. Muhammed Ali, Frank Sinatra, Coretta Scott King, Generals Norman Schwarzkopf and Colin Powell, Dr. Michael DeBakey, Bob Hope and Elie Wiesel are some of the distinguished citizens who have received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2004 ELLIS ISLAND MEDALS OF HONOR RECIPIENTS.

Naji N.Abumrad, M.D. FACS., Chairman—Dept. of Surgery, Vanderbilt University Lebanese; Reem Acra, Fashion Designer, Lebanese; Arthur C. Anton, Chairman, Anton's Cleaners, Inc., Hellenic; Hon. Armand Arabian, Attorney, Arms Providers, Inc., Armenian; Lee Archer, Lt. Col. (Ret), Tuskegee Airmen/WWII, African; Garo H. Armen, Ph.D., Chairman & CEO, Antigenics, Armenian; Alfred S. Austin, CEO, A.S. Austin Company, Inc., English/German; Endre Alexander Balazs, Chairman, Matrix Biology Institute, Hungarian/Swedish; Dr. Mark L. Barbasch, Physician/Humanitarian, Polish/Israeli; John Berberian, President, Jon's Market Place, Armenian; Nicholas Peter Bissias, President & CEO, Conrad's/Cable's Corporations, Hellenic; Ernest Borgnine, Oscar Winning Actor, Italian; Doug Brooks, President & CEO, Brinker International, Ger/Eng/Ire/Scot; Wayne H. Brunetti, Chairman & CEO, Xcel Energy Inc., Italian; John P. Cahill, Secretary to the Gov, NYS Executive Chamber, Irish; Dr. George Peter Canellos, Prof. Of Medicine, Harvard Medical School/Dana-Farber Cancer Inst., Hellenic; Arcadio Casillas, President & CEO, Preferred Compensation Corp., Cuban; Anthony N. Charaf, Senior Vice President, Delta Airlines, Lebanese; Nicholas E. Chimicles, Senior Partner, Chimicles & Tikellis LLP, Hellenic; Henry L. Chung, Former President, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Chinese; RADM Vivien S. Crea, Commander, U.S. First Coast Guard District, German/Eng/Scottish; Haig R. Dadourian, President, Dadourian Export Corp, Armenian; Mario Daniele, Vice President, Robert Shulman Institute, Italian; John A. Daskalakis, Managing General Partner, JonCin & Sons, Ltd., Hellenic; His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, Primate, Greek Orthodox Church of Amer., Hellenic; Charles Duval, President, Data Industries Ltd., African/French; Fawaz