

Total capital improvements to the campus during his watch exceeded \$60 million. He expanded the college curriculum and established the academy's first master's degree, an M.S. in facilities management. Admiral Bresnahan believed that one of his most significant accomplishments at the academy was establishing the Emery Rice Scholarship, an award dedicated to academic excellence that is awarded to five incoming cadets each year.

Admiral Bresnahan's military awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, three Legions of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, two Commendation medals, and many other unit and personal awards.

Admiral Bresnahan was an active member of the American Bureau of Shipping, Boston Marine Society, Columbia University Maritime Advisory Board, the Naval Reserve Association and the New York Yacht Club and was past chairman of the Council of Presidents of the Massachusetts State Colleges and past chairman of the Consortium of State Maritime Academies.

He also served as a lay Eucharistic minister at Our Lady of Victory Parish in Centerville, and was a past member of Kiwanis.

Admiral Bresnahan is survived by his wife, Alice; one daughter, Julie Pinero of Sandwich; one son, Maurice Bresnahan III of Columbia, S.C.; and five grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO ALFRED HICKS

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alfred "Fred" Hicks, from Westbury, New York. Mr. Hicks was the accomplished president of Hicks Nurseries Inc., as well as a devoted leader in his community and a loving father. Mr. Hicks passed away on October 1st due to complications from a rare blood disorder. He was 64 years old.

Mr. Hicks demonstrated a lifelong interest in the gardening industry. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Horticulture and a Master of Business Administration degree in Marketing from Cornell University. In 1963, he took over running his family's establishment, Hicks Nurseries Inc., which was founded by his ancestors in 1853. As the fifth generation in his family to run the business, Mr. Hicks transformed the small family nursery into a leading operation using his quiet strength, skills, and dedication. Hicks Nurseries Inc. is now the oldest nursery and gardening center and the oldest family owned business on Long Island.

A long and distinguished history of community and industry leadership and service follows Fred Hicks. He served as president of the American Nursery and Landscape Association (ANLA), and was inducted into the Association's Hall of Fame last year. He also served as president of Garden Centers of America, past president of the Long Island Nurserymen's Association and the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County, chairman of the Environmental Commission of the Village of Westbury, board member of HMO Vytra Health Care, and advisory board member of Old Westbury Gardens. A particular interest in health issues led him to serve as a medic in the United States Army in 1960, and

later on the Board of Winthrop University Hospital. Mr. Hicks was named the hospital's Trustee of the Year on October 23rd.

Mr. Hicks has also served his community with great dedication throughout his life. His parents, Edwin and Eloise Hicks, were instrumental in establishing the Westbury Friends School. Fred Hicks gave much of his time to building and organizing the school, and served on its Board of Managers. All of his children attended the school, and all of his grandchildren are presently students there as well. Mr. Hicks believed children learn best by doing, and applied this principle when working with students at the school. His generosity, caring, and desire for students to succeed together were truly inspiring.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the amazing dedication and numerous accomplishments of Alfred Hicks. Mr. Hicks was a role model in his community and has set a great example for all of us. He leaves behind his wife of 38 years, Marilyn, and a loving family. His three children, Karen Courts, Stephen Hicks, and Marianne Folk, have taken over running Hicks Nurseries Inc. His family, friends, co-workers, and the residents of Westbury community are sad to see him go. He is remembered warmly and will be missed dearly.

PRAISING THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the Government of Cyprus for its recent decision to take a monumental step towards peace and reunification of the island. Yesterday marked the beginning of the Cyprus Government's initiative to clear all Cyprus National Guard minefields within the buffer zone that divides the island.

Over the next year, an estimated 2,300 mines will be cleared from eight minefields—an area that covers more than 100 miles. Ever since the Turkish invasion more than 30 years ago—and today with Turkey's continued occupation—Cyprus has been a country that has struggled to achieve peace. The Government of Cyprus' endorsement of this program demonstrates its strong commitment to break down the physical barriers that separate Greek Cypriots from their Turkish Cypriot compatriots.

Further, the program illustrates the government's broader commitment to the international community as it joins the international fight against mine proliferation, and supports the United Nations Policy of Mine Action.

The Cyprus Government has been working with the United Nations Peace Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) since January 2002 in order to enact this de-mining project, and it should be praised for this dedication and tenacity.

I wish to make special note that these actions are being taken unilaterally by the Republic of Cyprus. Unfortunately, the Turkish side has not yet agreed to the de-mining of 27 minefields in the buffer zone laid by the Turkish occupation forces. We can only hope that the Turkish side will someday join the Govern-

ment of Cyprus in taking this necessary step towards removing these dangerous explosives.

Recent statements by the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Mehmet Ali Talat, that the Turkish side intends to proceed with the destruction of its minefields in the buffer zone are encouraging. It is my strong wish that the Turkish occupation forces decide to go ahead with the de-mining process, as this would be a positive development that could contribute to further reducing the tension on the island.

COMMENDING THE VOLUNTEER WORK OF SUSAN CARTER

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the outstanding volunteerism and community commitment of one of my constituents, Susan "Sue" Carter of Jacksonville, Florida.

Sue Carter, who recently moved back to Jacksonville after following her husband's military career across the globe for 20 years, is one of five individuals chosen by the National Military Family Association to receive the 2004 Very Important Patriot award. Sue was chosen, Mr. Speaker, for the countless hours of volunteer work she donated to the community in which she lived for the last three years, Keflavik, Iceland.

For the three years her husband, U.S. Navy Operations Officer, Commander Ted "Coach" Carter, was stationed at Naval Air Station Keflavik, Sue became very involved in some very important community organizations. Sue was president of the local Parent Teacher Student organization, served as chair of the organization's Activities board, managed a non-profit thrift shop whose proceeds benefit those seeking higher education, organized donations for the Red Cross, worked as a substitute teacher, volunteered as an assisting minister, and provided safety and instruction in small arms to military and civilian members of the community.

Sue performed outstanding work and donated countless hours serving her community. Sue's selfless commitment to volunteering is a vibrant example of the difference people can make in the lives of those around them. Now that she and her husband are stationed back in Jacksonville, I know our community will benefit greatly from her sense of community spirit.

Mr. Speaker, I recently had the opportunity to meet with Sue and her husband Ted and found their positive attitude inspiring. In addition to their service to Country and community, they are the proud parents of two young daughters. I believe our Nation owes a debt of gratitude to Sue and volunteers like her all across America for donating their precious time for the betterment of their neighbors. Volunteers are among the best of what America has to offer the world. As a citizen ambassador and wife to a military officer serving in Iceland, Sue reflected America's values honorably.

For these reasons Mr. Speaker, I commend Sue's public service, I congratulate her on receiving the Very Important Patriot award, and