

is recognized as Western New York's Southtowns "Democrat of the Year" for his selfless dedication to his community and commitment to public service.

Bill was born and raised in the City of Lackawanna into a family that has deep roots in the Democratic Party. His father was the Democratic Chairman in Lackawanna for 16 years. Following in the traditions that his father established, Bill became an active member of the Democratic Party at a young age. Bill was involved in many elections and proudly participated in the Presidential Election of John F. Kennedy.

Bill and his wife Patty moved to the Town of Boston in 1982. Just three years later, Bill Eagan became a leader in the Democratic Party when Former Erie County Democratic Chairman Joseph Crangle recruited him to become Democratic Chairman in the Town of Boston. Bill proudly accepted this responsibility and effectively served in this capacity from 1985 to 1990 and again from 1994 to present. Under Mr. Eagan's leadership as Chairman, the Democratic enrollment in the Town of Boston has increased by over fifty percent since 1985.

In 2002, Mr. Eagan was elected Town of Boston Supervisor. During his first term he earned the trust and respect of the town residents and was re-elected to the position in 2005. Mr. Eagan is the first Democratic Supervisor to be elected in over 40 years and then re-elected to another term. Mr. Eagan's success is a testament to his tireless efforts on behalf of the community that he serves.

As Town of Boston's Supervisor, Democratic Chairman, and member of the Erie County Democratic Executive Committee, Mr. Eagan has set an example of leadership for his fellow Democrats to emulate. For the first time in 12 years, the Democratic Party holds the majority of the Boston Town Board. Additionally, Bill was instrumental in electing the first Town of Boston Democratic Highway Superintendent and two Councilmen.

Thank you Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity to recognize Bill Eagan, a man I am proud to have as a colleague in Western New York government, a friend and a public servant deserving of the title "Democrat of the Year."

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#### TRIBUTE TO LAWRENCE P. FORD

### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to a man of monumental significance in my hometown of Flint Michigan, Lawrence P. Ford. Larry is retiring as the President of the Flint Area Chamber of Commerce after 30 years of service and will be feted at a dinner on June 16 in Grand Blanc, Michigan.

When Larry Ford became the Chief Executive Officer of the Flint Area Chamber of Commerce the organization had 435 members. During his tenure the membership has grown to 1900. He was instrumental in starting several organizations entrusted with the advancement of business interests and economic growth in Genesee County. These organizations include the Women's Business Council, the Powerlink Program, the ATHENA Program, Business Education Council, Leadership

Flint, Visitors and Convention Bureau, Economic Growth Alliance, Inventor's Council, Young Inventor's Program, the SCORE program, the Small Business Development Center, Katherine Stevens Foundation, the first business Trade Show, and the Business Awards Program including the C.S. Mott Citizen of the Year Award and the Mass Mutual Blue Chip A ward.

Interspersed with these activities, Larry guided the Chamber and business community to take action on significant events that occurred in the community over the past 30 years. Larry has been a true visionary for the mid-Michigan area. He has been at the forefront to develop partnerships between the business, government, education, labor, and consumer sectors of Flint and illuminating our common stake in our community's future development. Through his hard work the Flint area has made an in depth examination of its potential and scrutinized ways to build on its existing strengths. Among the many successes he has helped achieve over the years, the growth and modernization of Flint Bishop International Airport stand out.

The article written by Larry titled "Don't just survive—thrive!" appearing in the Winter 2004 Execlink, outlines a program for success as the President/CEO of a Chamber of Commerce. His advice includes learning from others, never coasting, always look for a way to accomplish the goal, do not believe your press clippings, and enjoy what you do. Larry Ford lives his own philosophy. His wisdom can be applied to life in general and is essential for anyone seeking to succeed.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to one of the giants of the Flint community. His influence and impact on my hometown is enormous. During the many years I have known Larry he is always civil, patient, analytical and incisive. I value his counsel, and his commitment to the people of Flint. As a life-long resident and business leader, his insight has helped me over the years. I hope that he has as much joy from his retirement as he has had from his work and I wish him the best for the future.

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#### TRIBUTE TO WEST SALEM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

### HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize four students from West Salem High School in Salem, Oregon. These four students—Stefanie Gille, Amy Hafer, Tyler Klarr, and John Mai—won the Toshiba/National Science Teachers Association ExploraVision program, Grades 10–12 category. Their winning project, "The Human Touch," is a prosthetic limb that integrates e-skin, skin-grafting techniques and nerve regeneration tubes to allow amputees to sense the world through artificial skin. Microprocessors translate texture, pressure, temperature, and vibration into sensations detected by the patient.

The inspiration for these students was Jim Henry, a special education teacher at West Salem who is an amputee. He challenged them to develop a design that would allow him and other amputees to regain the ability to feel

objects with their prosthesis. With this as their focus, these students embarked on a year-long research project that culminated with them being recognized by the ExploraVision program as having the best project in a nationwide competition.

ExploraVision is a competition for students in grades K–12 from the United States and Canada. The purpose of the competition is to encourage students to combine their imaginations with the tools of science to create and explore a vision of a future technology. Students work in groups, along with a team coach, and select a technology or an aspect of a technology that is relevant to their lives. They explore what the technology does, how it works, and how, when, and why it was invented. The students must then project into the future what the technology could be like 20 years from now. Examples of projects from this year's winners include boots that convert electrical energy to heat to keep feet warm in cold weather and an asthma sensor monitoring system.

Earlier this week in the Science Committee, we wrestled with how to get more students interested in math, science, engineering, and technology. These students and their fellow award winners suggest to me that the cause is not lost, that it is possible to get today's students to love math and science. Today's students are tomorrow's scientists, mathematicians, and engineers and with students like Stefanie, Amy, Tyler, and John, the United States will continue to lead the world in technology and innovation.

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CONGRATULATING DR. ALLAN ALSON FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED RECORD OF SERVICE AS SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT 202 IN EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 8, 2006*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, I am proud to pay tribute to Dr. Allan Alson upon his retirement as Superintendent of Evanston Township High School (ETHS). Over the past 16 years at ETHS, two as Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction and 14 as Superintendent, Dr. Alson has served the Evanston community with honor and distinction.

Dr. Alson's vision, courage, and commitment to give each young person the gift of a quality education has helped make Evanston a more unified, respectful, and tolerant community. Under Dr. Alson's leadership, Evanston Township High School has advanced its reputation as one of the very best high schools in America. In addition to promoting academic success, Dr. Alson's long list of accomplishments also includes improvements in the arts, athletics and extracurricular programs.

Dr. Alson has helped unite community resources and build diverse partnerships to solve community problems and enhance the educational experience of ETHS students. During Dr. Alson's service, Evanston Township High School has forged partnerships with the city of Evanston, its business and health-