

the National Headquarters of the CAP at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama, and open to distinguished members of the Cadet Program from all fifty states and two territories.

Cadet Technical Sergeant Specht entered the contest inspired by the CAP core values of Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence and Respect and by her desire to instill those values in her subordinate cadets. As a staunch opponent of any form of drug abuse, Cadet Technical Sergeant Specht believes we should all do our best to live up to these core values.

I could not agree more.

Madam Speaker, on March 26, 2007, she was awarded the CAP's second place honors for her extraordinary ability to impart those values through artwork. Today, in honor of her legendary dedication to bettering the citizens of Michigan and of her contributions to the CAP, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cadet Technical Sergeant Christine Specht for her loyal and selfless service to our community and our country.

HONORING REVEREND DR.
SAMUEL SIMPSON

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, Reverend Dr. Samuel Simpson, Pastor of the Bronx Baptist and Wake Eden community Baptist Churches in the Bronx was born in Jamaica West Indies. He relocated to the United States in the early sixties. He and his wife Lola Campbell have three children and five grandchildren. He is well known in the Bronx and the West Indian communities throughout the State and beyond.

In addition to leading the Bronx and Wake Eden congregations, Rev. Simpson has been instrumental in starting the Honeywell Baptist Chapel, and a newer mission in the Spring Valley area. Grace Baptist Chapel in the northern section of the Bronx is an offshoot of Bronx Baptist Church. Rev. Simpson also communicates his strong belief in helping people via the media, and writes a weekly column for the Carib News. Periodically he is heard on Family Radio and has been the subject of three books: "What God did for Me," "Sam Simpson, Architect of Hope," and his most recent "To Dream the Impossible Dream."

He serves in many capacities in the Baptist denomination. Among his leadership roles has been President—Baptist Convention of New York for two terms, and Moderator—Metropolitan New York Baptist Association. Other areas of service were: President and Board Chairman of Protestant Council of Churches of New York, President, Bronx division of Council of Churches, Chairman of the Board and President, Bronx Shepherds Restoration, and Board Member, Northeastern Bible College. Rev. Dr. Simpson is a true man of God and a firm believer in serving the total person. He has worked tirelessly for his community both within and outside the Bronx seeking to improve the temporal and spiritual aspects of his congregation and his community.

We are a stronger, better community for his work.

CONGRATULATING THE INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Independence, Missouri School District for receiving a 2007 Community Schools National Award for Excellence. This prestigious award is bestowed upon only two other areas in our nation by the Coalition for Community Schools, honoring communities that demonstrate a commitment to creating community schools.

The Independence School District has worked tirelessly through its "Inspiring Greatness Initiative" to put public schools at the center of a connected community. To do this, the Independence School District has initiated programs that serve children, families, and the community before, during, and after school. In this way, the public schools become a hub for the larger community, connecting families and resources.

The "Inspiring Greatness Initiative" has had many successes. "Kids' Safari," the school district's before and after school program, which has been studied by Yale University, has resulted in increased classroom performance; greater self-reliance and task completion; and better school attendance, with students in the program attending significantly more days of school per year than those not in the program. In addition, the Independence School District is reaching out to families, providing over 17,000 home visits by social workers in 3 years, and running programs that result in 80 percent of children having contact with the school district before Kindergarten.

The Independence School District is a model of community participation in our schools. Each school has a Site Council, bringing together parents, teachers, students, and community members to assess and address the needs of the school and the neighborhood. In turn, the schools actively give back to the community, providing countless volunteer hours. With the help of the Local Investment Commission, the Independence School District has created a web of partnerships between government, business, and families, with community schools at the center. These partnerships are renewing community involvement and participation.

Madam Speaker, please join me on this wonderful occasion in congratulating the Independence School District; its dedicated staff, students and parents; its outstanding Superintendent, Dr. Jim Hinson, who recently received the distinguished 2007 Robert L. Pearce Award from the Missouri Association of School Administrators; and its superb Board of Education. Their hard work and unwavering commitment are a source of pride to the Fifth District of Missouri, and I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing sincere congratulations to the Independence School District for this remarkable achievement.

TRIBUTE TO LAURA M. TOY, FOR HER DISTINGUISHED CAREER SERVING THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the distinguished career of Laura M. Toy, former Michigan State Senator representing the 6th District of Wayne County.

Throughout her career, Senator Toy improved the lives of countless citizens. Born on December 22, 1951, Senator Toy was raised in Livonia, Michigan, where she still resides today. After graduating from Livonia's Bentley High School, where she was president of her graduating class, she earned an Associate of Arts degree from Schoolcraft College, and thereafter a Bachelor of General Studies Degree from the University of Michigan.

Senator Toy began serving her community at a young age. A longtime small business owner, as a child she first sold pot holders to the neighbors to purchase clothes for her sister, Carol. She also sold penny candy to neighborhood children out of her garage, and was a member of the local Girl Scouts council. Later in her career, Senator Toy became a 28 year co-owner of Cardwell Florist in Livonia and a 7 year member of the Schoolcraft Community College Board of Trustees. With tireless devotion, she dedicated her time to improving the community as a Livonia City Council member for 8 years, the Livonia City Treasurer for 3 years, and as the 19th District Michigan State Representative for 4 years.

Thereafter, on November 7, 2002, Senator Toy was elected to the Michigan State Senate. During her tenure, Senator Toy served as Chair of the Local, Urban and State Affairs, Senior Citizens and Veteran Affairs Committees, and Vice Chair of the Commerce and Labor Committee; and previously as Vice Chair of the Technology and Energy Committee. The sponsor of 22 Public Acts, she championed efforts to enhance Michigan's educational system, strengthen small businesses, and promote the rights of people with disabilities.

For her unwavering commitment to excellence, she has earned a number of prestigious awards, including: the Livonia Women of the Year and Outstanding Young Women of America awards, the Livonia Chamber of Commerce Athena Award, the YMCA Honorable Legislator Award, the University of Michigan Alumni Community Service of the Year Award, and the Schoolcraft College Alumnus of the Year Award. The Association of the Retarded Citizen also recognized her efforts to improve the lives of people with disabilities in 2000 with the Legislator of the Year award.

Senator Toy attributes her inspiration to the loved ones around her, including: her mother, Eileen Toy, who passed away in April of 2006, disabled brother Glen, who also passed away in 1998, sister Carol, brother Bruce, niece Corrin, nephew Christopher, and long-time business partner, Colleen Siembor. In return, her compassion, dedication, and loyalty continues to inspire all who know her.

Madam Speaker, during her distinguished career, Senator Toy has bettered the lives of

countless Michiganders. As she embarks upon the next chapter of her life, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding her legendary leadership, and in thanking her for her unfaltering service to our community and our country.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOLMESBURG BRANCH OF THE FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Holmesburg Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia on celebrating its 100th Anniversary. I am proud that the Holmesburg Library has served the people of my district as a lending library since June 26, 1907.

The Holmesburg Library was named for Thomas Holme, who was granted the land that eventually became the Mayfair section of Philadelphia, in payment for his services as Surveyor General to William Penn. The Holmesburg Library began its development in the late 1800's, first as a subscription library and then becoming a free library in 1899 upon entering into an agreement with the Free Library of Philadelphia. In 1906, Andrew Carnegie, industrialist and philanthropist, donated funds for a new library building which opened on June 26, 1907. Andrew Carnegie's philosophy was that education is the key to life and that all people should have access to information through free local libraries.

The red brick library building sits on the main commercial avenue that defines the Mayfair neighborhood. Built in the Carnegie style with front steps leading up to a decorative and welcoming entrance, both the main and children's reading rooms maintain the integrity of the original architectural design to this day.

The Holmesburg librarians and staff work diligently to maintain the library as a hub of learning and community activity. Currently housing a collection of over 35,000 books and media as well as computers with Internet access for public use, the library has year-round programs that engage children and adults in lifelong learning pursuits, some in cooperation with local corporations and civic groups. Programs for youth include homework assistance, computer literacy, library skills, multicultural enrichment, and "Science in the Summer." Adult programming includes reading enjoyment, how-to seminars on gardening, and other topics of interest. Family programming includes movie nights for everyone's enjoyment.

The volunteer Friends of Holmesburg Library sustain outreach, advocacy and fundraising activities to strengthen the library's presence in the community. Their most recent venture is the planting of a Children's Reading Garden to be dedicated at the Library's 100th birthday celebration on June 20, 2007.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating Holmesburg Library's 100th anniversary milestone, and wish them many more years of community enrichment and service.

CONGRATULATING STUDENTS FROM HOLUB MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate four students from Holub Middle School in Houston, Texas.

Nicholas Chan, Andrew Ngo, Emily Tat and Eleanor Haack were among only 22 out of thousands of students selected to present their National History Day projects at the Smithsonian Art Museum and the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, DC.

Young history scholars were selected from Arizona, Florida, Iowa, Michigan, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin to present their work reflecting this year's National History Day theme "Triumph and Tragedy in History." The National History Day program annually engages more than half a million students in grades 6–12 across the country.

I believe that behind every promising student is a dedicated and committed teacher. In addition to commending the accomplishment of these students, I would also like to recognize their teachers, Cindi Payne and Doni King, for their dedication to fostering an appreciation for American history among the students at Holub Middle School.

The history of our great nation is full of lessons that transcend generations. By learning from our past, we ensure a brighter future. Programs like National History Day help to highlight this important connection and encourage teachers and students to rise above what is written in text books by bringing history to life.

HONORING FAITH AND HARRY FEDER

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, health care has never been more important, or more complex, in the United States than it is today. An efficiently functioning health care system requires many contributors, perhaps especially evaluation and quality improvement.

Harry Feder is a senior vice president and chief operating officer of IPRO, one of the Nation's largest and most experienced health care evaluation and quality improvement organizations, and the man responsible for ensuring that necessary and appropriate care is provided across the continuum of care.

Faith Feder is well known for her commitment to education, her abiding concern for the elderly and the care of the needy. As part of her commitment to education, she has served as both the Treasurer and President of the SAR Academy, where she led a parent body of its 600 children. In addition, she has been involved in numerous communal causes that treat the uninsured and assist the elderly. She is a founder and treasurer of Foremost Home Care.

Harry has in-depth knowledge of processes and issues surrounding the monitoring and as-

essment of the Medicare and Medicaid programs. He has extensive knowledge and a national perspective on programs dealing with Utilization Review, Quality Improvement, Managed Care, Long-Term Care, Fraud and Abuse, and Independent Review of Appeals.

He was awarded a Masters Degree in Public Administration from New York University Graduate School of Public Administration and is a lecturer in the Department of Health and Epidemiology at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine as well as on the faculty of the New York University School of Continuing Education.

Those are some of Harry's and Faith's accomplishments and just a few of the reasons that they are being honored by the Riverdale Jewish Center. For me, however, it is not only these accomplishments, but their being my close and dear friends for so many years that makes them so special.

TRIBUTE TO DETECTIVE SERGEANT DAVID G. WURTZ, UPON RECEIVING THE 2007 NATIONAL MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN'S AWARD

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 13, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Detective Sergeant David G. Wurtz of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office upon receiving the 2007 National Missing and Exploited Children's Award for outstanding work in the case concerning Genevieve Nielson.

For nearly three decades, Detective Sergeant Wurtz has strived to better our community. Since joining the Oakland County Sheriff's Department in May of 1979, he has served in numerous Units, including the Road Patrol Unit, the Marine Division, the Protective Services Division, the Corrective Services Division, and in the Technical Services Division. In September of 1989, due to his superior investigative ability, Detective Sergeant Wurtz was promoted to Sergeant, and he currently serves in the Special Investigations Unit and as a hostage and crisis negotiator.

During his career, Detective Sergeant Wurtz has earned the recognition and admiration of his co-workers and community for his thorough investigations and criminal prosecutions. Recently, he teamed up with the United States Marshalls Service to investigate the kidnapping of Genevieve Nielson, the 21-month old infant who went missing during Mother's Day weekend in 1976. Detective Sergeant Wurtz has headed the case since 1990 and has a large box of files dedicated to Genevieve. Finally, after years of searching, his commitment to justice in the joint investigation led to Genevieve's discovery in Arizona.

Madam Speaker, Detective Sergeant Wurtz's uncanny ability to collect critical crime scene evidence, sort through complex information, and coordinate the efforts of dozens of investigators has resulted in the apprehension of Oakland County's most vicious criminals. For his unfaltering dedication to the people of Oakland County and for his leadership in the case of Genevieve Nielson, Detective Sergeant David G. Wurtz has been recognized