

total cost of project is \$1,061,181 (local match of \$748,981).

HONORING SAMUEL KAMPA

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Samuel Kampa, who was recently selected as one of the top 10 finalists in the 2009 Holocaust Remembrance Project national essay contest. Mr. Kampa, a recent graduate of Dassel-Cokato High School, was chosen out of 7,000 entries for his essay on preserving the memory of millions of victims of the Holocaust.

In his essay, Mr. Kampa wrote, "I discovered that the Holocaust was not a distant, abstract occurrence that merely comprised yet another chapter in world history. Rather, the Holocaust forever transformed the actual lives of men, women, and children—human beings who were subjected to inhuman sadism."

He continued, "When the last survivor passes on, who will be there to share the stories and thus make Holocaust history tangible, accessible, alive, and meaningful? The answer is clear: we must take the next step, for it is absolutely imperative that we educate future generations and perpetuate Holocaust remembrance by reiterating their stories. . . . Forgotten history profits nothing, and the mistakes of the past will become the mistakes of the present if we neglect to remember. When we forget the stories, it is easy to lapse into old sins."

The recent anti-Semitic tragedy at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. reaffirms Mr. Kampa's timely essay. He reminds us of the need to continuously remember the tragedy and the events that led up to the disaster that ended the lives of millions of individuals and impacted so many more.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Sixth District of Minnesota, I want to commend Mr. Kampa not only for his impressive accomplishment, but for his insightful thoughts into how our world can avoid another monumental catastrophe, such as the Holocaust.

HONORING SISTER DORITA
WOTISKA

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Dorita Wotiska, O.P. as she retires from her position as Superintendent of Catholic Education for the Diocese of Lansing. A dinner will be held in her honor on June 22 in Lansing, Michigan.

Sister Dorita entered the Adrian Dominican Sisters in 1954 and embarked upon her career as an educator. After working at the elementary level first as a teacher then assistant principal and principal, Sister Dorita became the Assistant Superintendent of Schools in the Diocese of Gaylord. She moved to the position of Associate Superintendent with the Diocese of Lansing before assuming the duties of Superintendent for the Diocese in 1986. In 1994 she accepted the additional responsibilities of Chairperson of the Department of Education

and Catachesis and became a member of the Bishop's Cabinet. In this capacity she supervised 47 Catholic schools with a combined enrollment of 15,000 students.

In addition to her Diocesan duties, Sister Dorita is the President of the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools and she is a member of the Education Committee of the Michigan Catholic Conference. The list of organizations Sister Dorita has served with over the years is extensive and includes: the United States Department of Education National Review Board for the Blue Ribbon Schools Program, Task Force on Restructuring the Diocese of Lansing Offices, Michigan Association of Middle School Educators, National Conference of Catholic Schools for the 21st Century, School Financial Management Services Inc., United States Department of Education Exemplary Schools Program, Michigan Non-Public School Accrediting Association, Board of Trustees for Adrian Dominican Independent Schools, Michigan State Board of Education Accrediting Association, Greater Lansing Food Bank, Excellence in Education Committee of the Greater Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, Office of Technical Assistance and Evaluation Advisory Council and the Advisory Committee on Budget and Planning with the Michigan State Board of Education, Mayor's Inter-Agency Committee on Youth, Association for Supervision, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Association of Elementary School Principals, Michigan Association for the Individually Guided Education, Michigan State University Alumni Association and Chief Administrators of Catholic Education with the National Catholic Education Association.

Sister Dorita has worked with Gull Lake School District, Lansing Public Schools and Lansing Community College. She currently is Adjunct Professor at Michigan State University's College of Education. Sister Dorita received her Doctor of Philosophy degree from Michigan State University in 1980. In 1990 she was selected as the Distinguished Diocesan Leader by Today's Catholic Teacher and School Financial Management Systems. In 1993 she was elected as Educator of the Year by Phi Delta Kappa. She has published several articles on education.

Madam Speaker, Sister Dorita Wotiska has spent her life focused on enhancing the Catholic education system and experience. She has used the talents given to her by God to advance educational and spiritual ideals and through her ministry she has imprinted the message of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, into the hearts of countless students. I have valued her input, her dedication and her vision of a vibrant educational system, and I pray this new phase of her life contains only the best.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE
PIONEER SCOUT RESERVATION

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to a facility in the Fifth Congressional District of Ohio. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Pioneer Scout Reservation in Pioneer, Ohio.

The Pioneer Scout Reservation serves as a year-round camping site for the Boy Scouts of

America. From the time I spent at the Pioneer Scout Reservation as a boy, I can tell you that this camp is a very special place. Within the boundaries of the camp, scouts learn the basics of nature and gain a respect for, and appreciation of, the outdoors.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the Pioneer Scout Reservation. The staff, who allow this camp to be such fertile ground where Boy Scouts can grow into young men, provide our communities in Northwest Ohio with an invaluable service. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to honor this establishment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, on roll-call No. 343 I was not able to reach the floor before the vote was closed. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION TO
STUDY THE CULTURE AND GLO-
RIFICATION OF VIOLENCE IN
AMERICA ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Presidential Commission to Study the Culture and Glorification of Violence in America Act. This bill will establish a commission tasked with not only studying the culture of violence in our country, but also the factors that contribute to this culture and the actions that can be taken to mitigate its effects.

Members of this Commission will determine what connections exist between violence and access to firearms, psychological stress, and economic despair. They will further examine what role schools can play in preventing violence and propose possible solutions to address the glorification of violence in the United States.

Madam Speaker, we have become a society that places violence and aggression above hard work and acts of kindness. Sadly, children today admire gangsters instead of teachers. They would rather be thugs and drug lords than doctors and philanthropists. They measure the strength of their character by the size of their gun and not by their generosity toward others.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has found that prolonged exposure to violence in the media can increase acceptance of violence as an appropriate means of solving problems. It can glamorize weapons as sources of personal power and can contribute to aggressive behavior. It is, therefore no surprise that in 2007 alone, there were over 1.4 million serious violent crimes in America. In 2006, the Federal Government spent \$36.2 billion on criminal justice and local governments spent over three times that amount.