

"Culture Shock," a program that brought a diverse group of guest speakers to the community to participate in activities with local youth, sharing their culture through food, music, dance, arts, crafts, and dialog.

## LEADERSHIP

Kyoko Henson joined AmeriCorps as a way to give back to the Pittsburgh, PA, community for the support it gave her as a single mother who escaped an abusive relationship. During her AmeriCorps service, Kyoko organized outreach projects to address community health needs, spearheaded clothing drives, served as a reading tutor and educator about community services and created a summer youth program.

Kelton Young did his AmeriCorps service in Fort Worth, TX, as a TRUCE specialist, working with young people in gangs, or who were at risk of joining gangs, to make positive decisions about their lives. Kelton helped to develop 18 TRUCE sites, each serving more than 200 participants.

Mason Jenkins was an AmeriCorps member and team leader for YouthBuild in New Bedford, MA. In addition to his work with YouthBuild, Mason joined the steering committee of a group formed to address teen pregnancy. He also helped establish Young People United, a youth group that successfully put on a citywide conference called "The City is Mine", to bring young people together to discuss the issues that are most important to them.

Maria del Mar Bosch did her AmeriCorps service in Puerto Rico, where she helped to set up training opportunities for America Reads tutors working with Head Start students and after-school programs for children in poverty.

Jason Lapeituu wanted to provide a safe and stable place for young people to feel accepted and to develop their hopes, dreams and goals for the future. As an AmeriCorps member, he made that happen in Pine Island, MN. He knew that in order for young people to be comfortable in the youth center of his dreams, they had to be a part of creating it. Working with local youth, Jason found a site, planned community events that raised start up funds and helped to renovate a laundromat into the Pine Island Union of Youth, Inc.

From the age of 15, Arthur White lived on his own, having grown up in poverty in an abusive home. After high school, he joined AmeriCorps and began serving with an environmental education program working with elementary aged students. With a dream of one day running his own environmental education center, Arthur was instrumental in the reactivation of the Nature Center at Bear Brook State Park in New Hampshire to provide park visitors with an opportunity to learn about the park environment.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues in the House join me in honoring the contributions of these terrific people and the benefits AmeriCorps service has had for the country.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ROBERT GILLETTE

## HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Robert Gillette for his outstanding contribution to the community and his twelve years of public service as Commissioner of the Port of Houston Authority, an organization representing 26 cities in Harris County.

Mr. Gillette retired this year, but his contributions to Harris County and the Port of Houston Authority will surely endure. From the day he was sworn in as a Commissioner of the Port of Houston, Mr. Gillette pledged to join his fellow commissioners in making the Port more competitive in difficult times for the maritime industry. Truly a man of his word, Mr. Gillette made good on that promise. For 6 terms without pay, he faithfully conducted his duties awarding contracts, acquiring property, setting port tariffs and directing operations with a keen eye toward keeping the Port of Houston viable and thriving.

It was under Mr. Gillette's tenure as Commissioner that the project to deepen and widen the Houston Ship Channel was undertaken. Marking the largest expansion of the Ship Channel in decades, Mr. Gillette and his fellow commissioners were able to bring together the environmental and business communities to get the job done.

Mr. Gillette graduated cum laude from the South Texas School of Law in 1941. He also served his country as an Army Air Corps aviation cadet. Before establishing a law practice, Gillette was assigned to the Judge Advocate Section at Kelly Field in San Antonio, Texas.

He left the service in 1946 as a first lieutenant and moved to Baytown to begin law practice with Reid, Strickland and Gillette. It was a partnership that spanned 41 years, with Mr. Gillette serving as managing partner for 30 years.

In addition to his law practice, he was president of Bay Title Company and a director of Citizens Bank and Trust Company of Baytown for 25 years. Robert Gillette's professional affiliations include the Texas State Bar Association; Houston Bar Association; Baytown Bar Association and the Texas Bar Foundation.

As a testament to the expertise that Mr. Gillette brought to bear in both his business and public dealings, in the late 1980s, U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese appointed Gillette to the People to People Citizens Ambassador Program.

Mr. Gillette also has an extensive record of community involvement. He was a member of the Board of Managers of City-County Hospital and has served as board member and president of the Baytown Area Water Authority since 1973. He and his wife, Suzzane, have three grown children.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate my friend on his retirement and commend him on a job well done. As Port Commissioner, knowing that the fortunes of the Port influences the total employment picture of Harris County, Bob Gillette always strove to keep the Port a first-rate facility. We owe him a debt of gratitude for the work he has done addressing the concerns of

*October 20, 1999*

our Port community, and thus the needs of all of Harris County.

CONGRATULATING PASCACK VALLEY HOSPITAL ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

## HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 20, 1999*

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Pascack Valley Hospital on the 40th anniversary of its founding. Located in Westwood, Pascack Valley is one of the finest medical institutions in the State of New Jersey. Its story is one of a local community in desperate need of a hospital ready accessible to everyone and the people who worked through two wars and nearly two decades to achieve that goal.

Pascack Valley Hospital had its beginnings in May 1941 when Westwood resident Louise Bohlin was shocked that a Hillsdale friend died after waiting three weeks for admission to the nearest existing Bergen County hospital because of a shortage of beds. Mrs. Bohlin vowed that the Pascack Valley would have a hospital of its own and organized local physicians, mayors and concerned citizens into the Pascack Valley Hospital Association. The association held its first meeting November 27, 1941. Unfortunately, that meeting came only 10 days before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and plans for a hospital were put on hold for the duration of World War II.

The end of World War II brought an influx of returning veterans and expanding families, and intensified interest in the need for a community hospital. The Pascack Valley Hospital Association was reorganized in 1946 but the Korean War intervened it was not until June 1 1959—18 years after the idea was born—that the single-story, 86-bed hospital opened its doors and welcomed its first patients. The hospital has grown tremendously since then. Today, it is a full-service, 291-bed hospital providing a wide range of the most advanced, technically sophisticated health care services available anywhere. The PVH medical team consists of nearly 450 physicians, 1,000 nurses and other health professionals and 1,000 dedicated volunteers. Pascack Valley Hospital serves 16,000 inpatients and 70,000 outpatients a year, yet maintains its strong dedication to personalized care—making each individual feel he or she is the most important patient in the hospital.

As part of Well Care Group Inc., Pascack Valley Hospital itself is supplemented by an outpatient dialysis center, a community health care center, a hospice, a preventative medicine institute, a reproductive assistance center, a psychiatric institute and an MRI facility, among other services. In addition, it is affiliated with Westchester Medical Center, Hackensack University Medical Center and New York Medical College, further enhancing the expertise and facilities available to benefit PVH patients.

I would like to take this occasion to enlist the Congress in giving special thanks and recognition to some of the extraordinary individuals who will be honored at the hospital's 40th