

often forced to move from classroom to classroom to escape the stench of sewer back-up that permeates the building. I have walked the halls of this school and have found the conditions these students face on a day-to-day basis to be deplorable.

The legislation we are introducing today offers the best opportunity for Cannonball, and the Grand Forks School District to meet these urgent construction needs. Our legislation would create a separate Impact Aid construction account and authorize a federal appropriation of \$50 million for each of the next five fiscal years. The funding would be divided equally between Indian land/federal property and military schools and would create a reserve account for emergency repair needs. Under the legislation, an individual school district could receive a grant up of to \$3 million any time during the five year authorization period. In order to make the limited federal funds go farther, the bill targets funding directly to those school districts located on Federal property or that serve a high concentration of federally-connected students. Additionally, the bill requires districts to provide matching funds on all but the small portion of funds reserved for emergencies.

Mr. Speaker, the federal government has a clear obligation to federally impacted schools, and only by stepping up its support can these schools continue to provide a quality education to thousands of children across the country. I am looking forward to working with my colleagues on a bipartisan basis to support Impact Aid schools. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, which would enable federally impacted schools across the country to meet their urgent construction and repair needs.

HONORING KEITH LUND AS A  
"STAR OF LIFE"

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**  
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I commend Keith Lund for being designated as a "Star of Life" by the American Ambulance Association.

Keith's selection as the "Star of Life" Award winner for Dade, Broward, Monroe and Palm Beach Counties of Florida is an appropriate honor for such a dedicated paramedic. Keith has worked with American Medical Response for eight years, rising from an emergency medical technician to a paramedic and supervising officer.

Anyone who has been in an emergency situation can easily recognize the vital importance of a calm, direct manner and the ability to work as a team member. Keith Lund embodies these to near-perfection. He handles his daily work in the high-stress environment as a critical care paramedic with eagerness, diligence, and pride.

I believe it is exceedingly difficult to separate professional life and personal life. This is an especially complicated task for a single parent. As a single father, Keith's dedication to his job is balanced with his dedication to his son. Keith's commitment to both should be honored and admired.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join with me in honoring the 150 emergency medical professionals being honored as "Stars of Life" during National EMS Week of 1999. I commend Keith Lund for his dedication to emergency care for the people of South Florida as a true "Star of Life".

U.S.-TAIWAN RELATIONS

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of President Lee Teng-Hui and Vice-President Lien Chan of Taiwan as they prepare to celebrate their anniversary in office this May 20th. We are reminded once again that we have a strong partner and friend in the Far East—The Republic of China on Taiwan.

Throughout its history, the Republic of China on Taiwan has always continued to foster good relations with the United States. Many of Taiwan's leaders were either educated in the United States or the United Kingdom and they, just as much as we do, believe in democracy and a free enterprise system.

In the future, I hope we can continue to work together on issues that are mutual beneficial to both countries in the areas of democracy and governance, the rule of law, international trade and the environment. Taiwan has always supported the United States in many areas as it relates to security in and outside of the region. I hope we can continue to do this. It is time we show our appreciation of Taiwan by offering our help to them when they need us.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF  
GEOFFREY L. EARNHART ON HIS  
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE  
U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a truly outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Recently, I had the opportunity to nominate Geoffrey L. Earnhart for an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

I am pleased to announce that Geoff has been offered an appointment and will be attending West Point with the incoming cadet class of 2003. Attending one of our nation's military academies is one of the most rewarding and demanding time periods these young men and women will ever undertake. Our military academics turn these young adults into the finest officers in the world.

Mr. Speaker, without question, Geoff belongs with the incoming West Point class of 2003. During his time at St. Francis DeSales High School, in Perryburg, Ohio, Geoff has achieved a remarkable grade point average of 4.427, which currently ranks him tenth in his

class of 178 students. Geoff is a three-year member of the National Honor Society, and has received many awards for his academic excellence.

Outside the classroom, Geoff has been a four-year member of the St. Francis DeSales Marching Band. In his senior year, Geoff is the leader of the percussion section. In addition, Geoff has demonstrated his dedication and commitment to excellence by obtaining his Eagle Scout ranking with the Boy Scouts of America. He has also been a Scout patrol leader and summer camp counselor.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, I would ask my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Geoffrey Earnhart. Out service academies offer the finest education and military training available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Geoff will do very well at West Point, and I wish him much success in all of his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 18, 1999*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the founding of The Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi, a congregation that is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year.

In 1849, thirteen secular Franciscans emigrated from Bavaria to establish a religious order to meet the education needs of German immigrants in Milwaukee. As such, The Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi are the first Third Order regular Franciscan congregation founded in the United States.

Over the years the work of the congregation has extended to virtually every walk of life and touched countless thousands through ministries of healing, teaching, reconciliation and liberation.

The congregation is involved in diverse ministries, which include: Making affordable housing units available through Canticle Court and Juniper Court, promoting undergraduate and graduate education at the renown Cardinal Stritch University, making affordable rental units available to non-profit groups through the Marian Center, and offering community-based care for all ages through the innovative work at the St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care. In addition, ministries are maintained by the congregation throughout the U.S. and Taiwan through St. Colett's organizations in Wisconsin, Illinois and Massachusetts. And, a collaborative relationship is maintained with a Franciscan congregation in Cameroon, West Africa.

In all, nearly 350 Sisters and 75 Associates promote the mission of the congregation in areas of education, pastoral ministry in parishes, hospitals and nursing homes, music ministry, elder housing and day care service to those with developmental challenges, and volunteer work of all kinds.