national educational goals and had to successfully complete a rigorous application process. The ribbon schools must offer instructional programs that meet the highest academic standards, have supportive and learning-centered school environments, and demonstrate student outcome results that are significantly above average.

This is a great achievement for the students, parents, teachers and staff. The hard work of the teaching and administrative staff at St. Columbkill Parish School, combined with the outstanding involvement of parents, has created an excellent climate for learning. The entire St. Columbkill Parish School community should be very proud of this national recognition. Its academic programs and environment will serve as a model for schools across the country.

My fellow Republicans, please join me in congratulating the students, teachers and administration of St. Columbkill Parish School for their commitment to excellence.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS AND COMMENDING IPALCO ENTERPRISES

HON. JULIA CARSON
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, the end of May brings us to Memorial Day, a time of national remembrance and honor for those who have passed on. Once known as Decoration Day, devoted to the decoration of the graves of veterans of service in the Civil War, in the years between its focus has changed.

I rise to pay a special tribute to a man of vision and the company he leads in Indianapolis, Indiana, for their work this year to bring the Memorial Day tradition back to our minds and our hearts in a new and important way.

Mr. Speaker, downtown Indianapolis is lined with stone memorials to the men and women in uniform who served our nation at war and at peace down through the years. Nearby, a memorial to the men of the USS Indianapolis marks their service. On Monument Circle, at the very heart of downtown Indianapolis, stands the Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Monument, standing nearly as tall as the Statue of Liberty, a multifaceted recognition of the contributions of Indiana’s Soldiers, Sailors and Marines from the Civil War through the Spanish American War, the Boxer Rebellion and our other foreign military engagements up to World War I. Across the street, facing the monument, is the corporate headquarters of IPALCO, the company leading, in its generosity, I have sponsored a resolution honoring these champions.

This Memorial Day weekend in Indianapolis, nearly 100 of the 157 surviving Medal of Honor recipients will be honored as special guests for the dedication of the memorials and will serve as honorary Grand Marshals of the parade.

Our remembrance this day of those who earned our nation’s highest military recognition by their heroism is a wondrous way to commemorate the service of all veterans.

Mr. Hodowal’s idea, expressed in glass and sound and light and stone, transcends and transforms the traditional notion of such honors in our city. This monument, reminding and inspiring all who walk by the bank of the canal in Military Park, is an important piece, a central place, for the eternal honor these heroes are due.

For Mr. Hodowal, and for IPALCO Enterprises, this day is yours, as well. I am prouder than words can express to say that I know than words can express to say that I know you for this gift to the city and to the nation, for your civic service above and beyond the call, I salute you.

DON’T ABandon PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, Washington is the land of big ideas, big programs, big projects. Congressional funding for the purposes of modernization, repair, technology, security and renovation.

The best protection for Social Security is a steady flow of qualified brainpower and up-to-date information. America is the pace setter for the globe only if we maintain a steady flow of qualified brainpower and updated knowledge at all performance levels— theoretical, scientific, technical and mechanical.

Invest in education and all other national goals become reachable.

Sincerely,

MAJOR R. OWENS,
Member of Congress.