

"Ms. McBeautiful," as she is affectionately known, challenged her students to read 10,000 books. She promised to play a fiddle and sing from the roof of the school if the students could rise to the challenge. The students reciprocated by reading not just 10,000 books, but well over 19,500 books! Ms. McGary, much to the amusement of the students and faculty, fulfilled her end of the bargain, by putting on a wedding gown and playing her violin from the roof of the school.

Since her arrival at Harmony Leland, the school has seen a "[. . .] resurgence of energy, enthusiasm, and community involvement [. . .]" She is an active member of the community, serving as an Ambassador to the 1996 Atlanta Olympics. She also designed the Academics Before Athletics program at North Cobb High School. Under her leadership, the school has been the first school in the nation to be named a Leonard Bernstein School of the Arts. Every student is given a violin as well as first rate instruction.

Ms. McGary has made education and community involvement her life's endeavor. I join the Mableton community in congratulating her for her efforts and wishing her well for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF PROVIDER
APPRECIATION DAY

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I honor child care providers across the nation on Provider Appreciation Day.

Provider Appreciation Day, which is celebrated on the Friday before Mother's Day, was spearheaded by a group of volunteers in New Jersey in 1966 who saw the need for a day to appreciate and recognize child care providers.

The contribution that child care providers make to the quality of family life in this country is immeasurable. With the changing nature of the workforce, more mothers are working than ever before. Often times, this means that more children must be placed in child care. According to recent surveys, there are approximately 13 million children in the United States under the age of six in child care at least part time. An additional 24 million school age children are in some form of child care outside of school time.

Early childhood is the most critical time of development and may have the most impact on the shape of a child's future. Child care providers largely influence these important years with their compassion, patience, encouragement, and love for young children.

Whether they work in a child care center, nursery school, family-daycare, or before-school and after-school program, it takes a special person to choose the field of child care. Provider Appreciation Day offers a unique opportunity to recognize and commend the dedication, understanding, kindness, and good example that child care providers exemplify everyday.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Suzanne Williamson, Chairwoman of Provider

Appreciation Day, for her hard work in establishing a national day of recognition for child care providers. Ms. Williamson is also the Director for Monday Morning Child Care, Inc., a network of child care providers located in Union County, New Jersey. I would also like to express my gratitude to Nelida "Nellie" Melendez-Carroll who cares for my two and a half year old daughter, Kelly.

Please join me in thanking child care providers nationwide for their hard work and self-sacrifice in committing their lives to this nation's most precious investment . . . our children.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THEODORE
ROETHKE

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the memory of a great poet, Michigan's only Pulitzer Prize winner, and a truly great American. Though he passed away more than 35 years ago, the spirit of Theodore Roethke lives on through his poetry and leaves an impressive legacy as a prominent figure in the rich history of American literature.

To keep his memory alive, the "Friends of Theodore Roethke" was created in Saginaw to promote, preserve, and protect his legacy. By restoring his family residence and organizing a wide range of cultural and educational events, the organization does a tremendous job of honoring Theodore Roethke's memory and continuing his legacy of teaching and sharing in literary pleasures.

Theodore Roethke was born in Saginaw, Michigan in 1908 to German immigrants Otto Roethke and Helen Huebner. Otto Roethke took over the family florist business when his father passed away, and Theodore spent much of his time as a small boy following his father around the greenhouse and the fields, helping out as much as he could. This early exposure to nature would have a profound influence on his poetry later in life.

Roethke attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where he did quite well and was elected to the Phi Beta Kappa honor society during his senior year in 1929. It was at Michigan that he began writing poetry. He went on to briefly attend law school, but left after only one class to pursue a master's degree in literature, studying such poets as Elinor Wylie and E.E. Cummings. When the Great Depression hit, Roethke was forced to leave school and find a job, which he did, teaching at Lafayette College in Pennsylvania.

As the years went on, Roethke held several other teaching positions—among them jobs at Michigan State, Penn State, and the University of Washington—all the while having more and more of his poetry published. In 1945, he received a Guggenheim Fellowship and took the time to return to Saginaw to write. In 1953, Roethke married Beatrice O'Connell, and in that same year, *The Waking* was published, and included what many consider to be his greatest works. He continued to write and be commended for his poetry up until his death,

and he receives critical praise to this day for his works. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Saginaw in 1963 at the age of 55.

During his life, Theodore Roethke was awarded two Guggenheim Fellowships, the Eunice Tietjens Memorial Prize, two Ford Foundation grants, a Pulitzer Prize for *The Waking*, a Fulbright grant, the Bollingen Prize, a National Book Award for Words for the Wind, a Shelley Memorial Award, and he received a National Book Award for *The Far Field* posthumously in 1965.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize such a distinguished and world renowned poet, who so gracefully put into words the beauty, mystery, and power of the natural world. I urge you and all of my colleagues to join me in honoring Theodore Roethke for his tremendous contributions to American literature, and the lasting impact he has had on American culture.

RESEARCH! AMERICA'S 1999
AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS AS VOLUNTEER ADVOCATES FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 16, 2000

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, on March 28, 2000, I presented Patty Wood and the Washington Association for Biomedical Research with the Research! America's 1999 Award for Exceptional Contributions as Volunteer Advocates for Medical Research.

Patty has been an energetic advocate, spokesperson, and volunteer for the Northwest Kidney Centers and the Washington Association for Biomedical Research. As an organ recipient herself, she understands the importance of organ donation and the value of biomedical research in giving people a second chance. I also want to acknowledge Dr. Joseph Eschbach, President of the Washington Association for Biomedical Research, and Susan Adler, the Executive Director of the Association, for their outstanding commitment in educating the public on the benefits of funding biomedical research.

On April 16–21, 2000, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer featured a five-part series on the use of animals in biomedical research. Enclosed are the first two articles of the series. Reprints of the complete five-part series can be obtained directly from Susan Adler, Executive Director of the Washington Association for Biomedical Research, at the following address: 2033 Sixth Avenue, Seattle, Washington 98121. The articles can also be viewed on the Association's website at www.wabr.org. I hope that these articles will help educate the public on this important issue.

[From the Seattle P-I.com Opinion, Sun., Apr. 16, 2000]

ANIMALS AND RESEARCH PART 1: UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF GENETIC DISEASE THROUGH ANIMAL RESEARCH

(By Joseph W. Eschbach)

In my office and at the hospital, I diagnose and treat a myriad of illnesses—some life-