

And our purpose is to see that the democratic tide remains a rising tide around the world, by helping those who have gained freedom to sustain it, and by expressing solidarity with the efforts of those who seek freedom to secure it.

Today, we renew our call to the authorities in Rangoon to abide by the democratic wishes of their people; and to free political prisoners, end torture, fight narcotics production, and halt forced labor.

We renew our commitment to Aung San Suu Kyi and the National League of Democracy. As long as you struggle, we will do all we can to assist. And we know that you will not stop struggling until you prevail.

The yearning for freedom is relentless. The walls it cannot overwhelm, it will nevertheless erode. And I am confident the day will come when Burma is free. And Aung San Suu Kyi's democratic dream will become a reality through the inspiration of his daughter, the bravery of the Burmese people, and the support of those who love liberty around the world.

I thank you all very much for participating in this event because I think that for Aung San Suu Kyi to know that there are people all over that support her must be a source of strength to her. She a truly remarkable woman, and we owe her a great deal.

Thank you very much.

COLORADO STATE REPRESENTATIVE MARCY MORRISON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take this moment to recognize the career of one of Colorado's leading statesmen, State Representative Marcy Morrison. In doing so, I would like to honor this individual who, for so many years, has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty. It is clear that Representative Morrison's dynamic leadership will be greatly missed and difficult to replace.

Elected to the Colorado House of Representatives in 1992, a seat she would hold to present time, she served on the Health and Judiciary Committees. She sponsored the Post Delivery Care for Stays in Hospitals and immunization for more Colorado children. Marcy has also been very active on the health care issues for seniors, the disabled, and child care.

Representative Morrison received many honors. She received the Women of Spirit Award from the Colorado Counseling Association, as well as, the Outstanding School Board Member award-Gates Scholarship from the Kennedy School. Marcy has also received awards from the Colorado Obstetrics & Gynecology Society, the Pediatric Society and the Colorado Planners Association.

This year marked the end of Representative Morrison's tenure in elected office. Her career embodied the citizen-legislator ideal and was a model that every official in elected office should seek to emulate. The citizens of Colorado owe Representative Morrison a debt of gratitude and I wish her well.

1999-2000 GED GRADUATES—COOSA VALLEY TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ROME, GA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, the first graduate equivalency diploma (GED) tests were developed in 1942 to help returning World War II veterans finish their studies and re-enter civilian life. Then, as now, the GED tests measure the academic skills and knowledge expected of high school graduates in the United States. The GED program has served as a bridge to education and employment for an estimated 13 million people over its 58-year history. Approximately one in seven high school diplomas issued in the United States is based on passing the GED tests, and 68 percent of GED test-takers plan to enter a college, university, trade, technical, or business school in the very next year. During the past 10 years, the number of adults taking special editions of the GED tests (audio cassette and braille) more than doubled.

Today I salute the 1999-2000 GED graduates of Coosa Valley Technical Institute in Rome, GA. Coosa Valley Tech is an official GED testing center, under contract with the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education and the American Council on Education. Adults who are 18 years of age and officially withdrawn from school are eligible for testing. Those who pass the GED are awarded the General Educational Development Diploma, and, in Georgia, most are eligible for a \$500 HOPE voucher from the State of Georgia to defray costs of continuing education at eligible schools.

The environment of the school is designed to give special attention to adults returning to school to resume educational programs which were interrupted in earlier years. These adults may be refreshing their basic skills to re-enter the job market after a layoff; preparing for the GED tests to qualify for a job or educational program which requires a high school diploma to enter; or working toward a personal educational goal which they have set for themselves. More than 95 percent of employers in the United States consider GED graduates the same as traditional high school graduates when making hiring, salary, and promotion decisions.

Nationwide, statistics indicate more than 800,000 adults take the GED tests each year. Those who obtain scores high enough to earn a GED diploma outperform at least one-third of today's high school seniors.

Some prominent GED graduates include: actor Bill Cosby; Wendy's founder, Dave Thomas; and U.S. Senator BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL (R-CO).

Not only have adults who obtain their GED worked diligently to reach their educational goal, many did so while holding down full time jobs. Many are mothers or fathers who must care for the needs of their children. Most certainly, they are to be congratulated for their diligence and hard work in achieving their goals. It is hoped each of them will continue to succeed in future endeavors, and statistics indicate that will likely be the case.

It is my honor to place this recognition of the 1999-2000 GED graduates of Coosa Valley Technical Institute into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the 106th Congress of the United States of America.

HONORING LOCAL LEGACIES PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2000

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the Local Legacies project that has served as the focal point of this year's Library of Congress Bicentennial celebration. Last year, each Member of Congress was asked to submit audio, visual, or textual documentation for at least one significant cultural heritage that has been important to his or her district, serving as a record for future generations. This documentation will be permanently housed in the collections of the Library's American Folklife Center. This evening, Members of Congress and Local Legacies project participants from across the country will gather in the Great Hall of the Thomas Jefferson Building to celebrate the completion of this magnificent collection of historical material.

I am proud to have participated in the Local Legacies project and personally thank volunteers Kathy Kuhn and Eileen Schwarz-Duty, who deserve an enormous amount of credit for gathering and compiling the Local Legacies project for the Third District of Michigan. Kathy and Eileen coordinated the massive effort of documenting The Festival of the Arts: The Nation's Largest All-Volunteer Arts Festival. This Festival is a three-day celebration of the arts held the first full weekend of June in downtown Grand Rapids, Michigan. The first festival was held in 1970 and has grown considerably over the years. In 1998, 20,000 volunteers helped showcase the work of several thousand artists, dancers, musicians, poets, and other performers. Festival is also known for its wide variety of food booths set up by non-profit organizations that highlight various ethnic themes and culinary specialties. Festival hats, water bottles, beanie babies, posters, programs, pins, and a video are just a few of the many items that were submitted on behalf of the Third District. Because of the passion these two individuals have for Festival, the Library of Congress has received the best possible representation to what our major West Michigan event is all about.

I encourage everyone to take a moment to explore the Local Legacies materials that have been submitted for inclusion in the Library's collection. All information regarding Local Legacies, including a complete project listing, can be accessed through the Library's Bicentennial Web site at: <http://www.loc.gov/bicentennial>.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to applaud the efforts of volunteers from across the country who have helped in the bicentennial celebration of America's oldest federal cultural institution, the Library of Congress. Thanks to their work and care in preserving the past, the cultural heritage of our nation will be preserved.