

June 15, 2000

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JULIE
WILLIAMSON

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize one my district's finest teachers, Ms. Julie Williamson. A first grade teacher at the Pioneer School in Neoga, IL, Ms. Williamson recently received the award for "Illinois Ag in the Classroom Teacher of the Year" by the Illinois Farm Bureau. She was chosen as the recipient from a group of more than 1000 Illinois teachers.

Ms. Williamson's method of teaching allows students to learn about and appreciate the benefits of agriculture. She teaches her students where the products come from and how the products reach them in their everyday lives. She wants children to understand the connection between the farm and the table. Ms. Williamson believes that people need to understand where their food originates in order to be more appreciative of the people who supply it. Some of the activities that she brings into her classroom are: bread making, field trips to local farms and orchards, and honey-making with live bees. Ms. Williamson's next step will be to attend the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Ag in the Classroom Conference in Salt Lake City.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Ms. Julie Williamson on her excellent accomplishment. Due to her dedication to her students and community, it is clear that Ms. Williamson is an asset to Illinois and the educational system.

HONORING PROFESSOR MARGARET
MURNANE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I honor one of my constituents, Margaret Murnane, who is a physicist at the University of Colorado at Boulder. This week Professor Murnane received a "genius" award from the MacArthur Foundation for her work in optical physics. She is one of just twenty-five Americans named as MacArthur fellows this year.

Professor Murnane has developed a camera-like laser that emits pulses of red light. Applications of this laser technology range from laser surgery to monitoring water content in cooking. Additionally, this laser can aid scientists visualize processes that are too fast for the human eye to detect, such as chlorophyll harvesting sunlight, which is a process in plant growth.

When she was a child, her father used to give her math puzzles to solve. Without a doubt, this practice contributed to her passion for science. This shows what a little parental involvement can do to further the development of a child's mind.

Professor Murnane's contributions to science, education and technology will have a

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

large impact on our society for years to come. I am pleased to honor her today for her accomplishments.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE START
OF THE KOREAN WAR—A
SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE 503D
FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
OF THE 2D INFANTRY DIVISION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the courageous Americans who fought and died in defense of freedom in the Korean War. On June 25th, we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of that conflict—the so-called "Forgotten War"—which claimed more than 35,000 American lives.

On behalf of President Clinton, I will co-chair, with Veterans Administration Secretary Togo West, a Presidential Mission to Korea to represent the people of the United States during the anniversary commemoration ceremonies in Seoul. We will be accompanied on that mission by some of my comrades-in-arms with whom I served during my wartime tour in Korea, members of the 503d Field Artillery Battalion of the 2d Infantry Division.

The battalion landed in Korea in August 1950, arriving in time to participate in hard-fought battles that defeated the North Korean offensives against the United Nations forces on the Pusan Perimeter. When the Chinese entered the war in November with massive ground assaults against UN forces in North Korea, the 503rd and rest of the 2d Infantry Division fought their way out of encirclement by the Chinese near Kunu-ri.

The battles in North Korea exacted a terrible price—the 503d lost almost all of its equipment and nearly half of its men. But in early 1951, overcoming many obstacles, the battalion rebuilt itself into a combat-ready unit, and played a major role in the 2d Infantry Division's stubborn stand against a far stronger force during the May 1951 Chinese offensive, an action that earned the entire division a Presidential Unit Citation.

During the battalion's fifteen months in Korea, members of the 503d received nineteen Silver Stars, four Distinguished Flying Crosses, and seventy-nine Bronze Stars. The battalion suffered 512 casualties, including 150 men who died in Communist prison camps and 79 who remain listed as missing in action.

The 503d, a Black unit, lived up to its motto of "We Can Do It," serving with heroic valor in the face of relentless attacks by the enemy. In doing so, it shattered the biased and unfair negative stereotypes attached to Black fighting men and women in Korea and earlier wars.

Mr. Speaker, today I pay special tribute to my brave and loyal Brothers who served in the 503d Artillery Battalion, and join with them in saluting all of our comrades-in-arms in Korea, whom we will never forget.

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PRESIDENTIAL MISSION TO THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATION MEMBERS OF THE
503D ARTILLERY BATTALION—JUNE 25, 2000

Ronald Chatters, Samuel Gilliam, Harvey Ginn, Robert Greer, Hezekiah Gregory, Walter Jackson, William Jackson, Elgin Miller, Donald Minter.

Henry Mitchell, Charles B. Rangel, Leroy Sykes, James Thompson, John Worley, Robert Lee Wyatt.

COMMENDING DR. RAMEK HUNT,
DR. GEORGE JENKINS, AND DR.
SAMPSON DAVIS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of my colleagues a remarkable and powerful story about three young men who have been selected as recipients of my Congressional Community Service Award. They have also received Year 2000 Essence Award for outstanding community service and have been honored by the organization 100 Black Men. Theirs is a success story rooted in their youthful friendship and nurtured over the years by mutual support and shared determination to reach their goals against all odds.

Thirteen years ago, three teenage boys from the streets of Newark, New Jersey made a pact that they would encourage, support and stand by each other until each graduated from medical school. With hard work, tenacity, and determination to overcome all obstacles, an amazing thing happened—these three friends realized their youthful goal. Their impossible dream came true. Last year, Ramek Hunt and Sampson Davis received degrees from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and George Jenkins graduated from UMDNJ Dental School.

Growing up, Dr. Ramek Hunt lived in Orange, Newark and Plainfield, New Jersey, eventually returning to and settling in Newark. There, he attended University High School and clearly succeeded, but the path to success was often rocky. He began to focus on his future when a recruiter from Seton Hall University visited his school and spoke about careers in medicine and dentistry. George Jenkins encouraged Ramek and Sam to go with him to Seton Hall and become doctors.

Dr. George Jenkins was born in South Carolina, but has lived in Newark, New Jersey since the age of two. He first lived in the Stella Wright Housing projects and then moved to the High Park Gardens Co-op, where he still resides. Dr. Jenkins presence in the Newark community is a source of inspiration for young people who look to him as a solid role model.

Dr. Sampson Davis was born and raised in Newark, New Jersey where he excelled at academics and sports at an early age. As a young man, he reached for the stars, determined to succeed not only for himself, but for the good of the entire community.

Even today, the three friends meet together with the young people of the community and they share a new goal—to open a health clinic