

in their old neighborhood. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in commending these remarkable young men, who have set such a fine example of determination to succeed as well as dedication to community service. Let us express appreciation for their work and extend best wishes for continued success to Doctors Ramek Hunt, George Jenkins and Sampson Davis.

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COLUMBIA, MISSOURI FIRE  
DEPARTMENT

**HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, we all have probably heard the favorite saying of the former Speaker of the U.S. House, Tip O'Neill, "that all politics are local." Taking this quip to heart, the actions of William Markgraf, the Fire Chief of Columbia, Missouri, show that in this rapidly shrinking world, even strong international relations can be encouraged locally.

Recently, Chief Markgraf informed me about a remarkable relationship that he has formed with another firefighter from Moers, Germany. The story begins about 12 years ago, when a volunteer firefighter named Michael Stroinski from Moers trained and worked with the Columbia Fire Department during their Spring Fire School. Moers, which is about 15 minutes outside of Dusseldorf, has a fire department that is largely composed of volunteers and serves nearly 125,000 people. For the last twelve years, Michael has returned nearly every year to Columbia, sometimes bringing as many as six of his company-mates from Germany with him to train, work and live with members of the Columbia Fire Department. In kind, Michael has repeatedly extended a similar invitation to Chief Markgraf and others from the C.F.D., who have gratefully accepted, resulting in a vibrant exchange program between Moers and Columbia firefighters.

This July, Moers will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of its central fire station and has invited members of the Columbia Fire Department to attend this celebration. For this reason, I would like to send my thanks and the thanks of those in this chamber to the people of Moers, Germany for the hospitality they have extended to my constituents. In addition, I would like to recognize Michael Stroinski, Captain of Moers Fire Station One, for his meritorious service to his city and the people of Columbia in the line of duty, as well as for his role in fostering a partnership and good relations between these two international communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that this anniversary celebration will be as successful as the relationship formed between Columbia and Moers, and I wish Michael and the other German firefighters many safe returns to Columbia, Missouri.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MS. BOOS' SECOND  
GRADE CLASS FROM EVER-  
GREEN AVENUE SCHOOL

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, today I commemorate a special occasion in which 38 children from Evergreen Avenue School have excelled in the classroom. Ms. Boos' second grade class is a remarkable group of young people. I wish the best of luck and continued success in school to Vanessa Adams, Natasha Barnett, Armand Brown, Roberta Burns, Adrienne Curry, Amber Darling, Brittany Feldman, Ashley Hecht, Ashley Kersey, Markie McDonald, Samantha Miller, Allen Moore, Scharron Nock, Brandon Rivera, Nicholas Schoning, David Viereck, Rashon Warrington, Jaquel Williams, Conner Wisely, Chloe Berger, Brittani Brydges, Robert Carter, Francis Connor, Shaneyce Cordy, Ashley Demarco, Thomas Hair, Hailey A. Headrick, Nicole L. Miller, Phillip Morris, Joseph Nunn, Nicole Pentz, Kelsey Serra, Renia Singleton, Angela Vincent, Amy Lynn Watson, Alexander Weiss, Darnell Whye, Analya Young.

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COMMEMORATING CHESTERFIELD  
MISSOURI

**HON. JAMES M. TALENT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the city of Chesterfield, Missouri which celebrated its birthday on the 1st of June.

Throughout its 400-year history, the area of Chesterfield, Missouri has cultivated a deep tradition and distinguished itself as one of St. Louis County's fastest growing communities. Chesterfield's most famous citizen, Frederick Bates, settled there in 1819 and served as Secretary of the new territory. This area remained a collection of rural communities influenced by German settlers throughout the 19th century and for most of the 20th century. In the 1960's, Chesterfield began aggressive development that paved the way to the prosperous city it is today. The city officially incorporated in 1988 and its economy and community continues to thrive.

Mr. Speaker, as a resident of Chesterfield, it gives me great pleasure to recognize this outstanding city and its citizens for their contributions in making our community a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

I would like to wish the city of Chesterfield a happy birthday and hope for the area's continued success in the new century.

*June 15, 2000*

TRIBUTE TO ANNA WANG

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Anna Wang, a Supervising Librarian at the Monmouth County Library Headquarters. Mrs. Wang is retiring after 32 years of dedicated service to the library and the community. I join her family, friends, and grateful colleagues in honoring her for her talents and skills that she has shared with our community.

Mrs. Wang has worked diligently to select, process and organize the largest Chinese language collection in a public library in New Jersey. This collection, housed in the Shrewsbury, Marlboro, Holmdel, and Manalapan libraries, has been a vital resource for the people of New Jersey.

Mrs. Wang has also coordinated Chinese ethnic festivals with local schools and the Friends of the Monmouth County Library; she has arranged an exchange program with the National Central Library in Taipei, Taiwan; and she has obtained numerous dollars in federal grants for these programs. Her talents and hard-work will be sorely missed by the entire community.

Mrs. Wang is one of those truly amazing individuals who devotes all of her time to public service. In addition to her tremendous accomplishments at work, Mrs. Wang manages to serve as president of the New Jersey Chinese Book Club. She is also a columnist for the New Jersey Sino Monthly Magazine and the Global Chinese Times. And she is the author of three books.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in thanking Mrs. Wang for her and contributions to New Jersey, her dedication, and her hard work, and I wish her a happy productive retirement.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 15, 2000*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I apologize for my absence recently from the House of Representatives on June 13, 2000.

On June 13, 2000, I was unavoidably detained at a school event for my youngest son, and unfortunately missed one recorded vote. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye for Roll Call vote 265.