

September 25, 2001

school is trying core-plus classes. Whether you are an honor student or an applied student, you are going to be in the same class. That could start issues with honor students being bored or people being rushed into things.

Mr. Barnett, a teacher at my school, he tries to teach reading and writing in all of his classes. He tries to help students improving the skills that they need in everyday life. And he is one of the many at my school that are trying to change. But I think you need the whole school to help make a difference, or it's not going to—it's not going to have an effect.

Another way that you could make things better is through volunteer work. My family and I help out at a learning center. It is the Abenaki Learning Center in Swanton. Four days a week, we help kids with homework, and we try and help them understand the basics of what they need for when they get into high school. We open kids to Native American arts and crafts, and we do cooking with them.

And I feel that, if you are Abenaki or if you are not, you should know a little about the background of the Abenakis, and try and pass it on to more people. Because, as the years go by, more and more people are forgetting, and they're losing everything.

I feel that these things will help the Abenakis, and even other races of our school. Like I said, you need everybody to work together, not just a few here and there.

I want to thank you for inviting me here to speak on a topic that concerns me greatly. And I think that one day the Abenakis will earn their pride back.

HONORING RON BORSKI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the efforts made by Mr. Ron Borski on behalf of all war veterans of the great State of Colorado. Mr. Borski single-handedly started a campaign to create a veterans memorial in Carbondale, Colorado. After fourteen months of maneuvering his way through the state legislature, he has succeeded in his mission.

A resolution was adopted by the state legislature on April 17, 2001 to rename the Highway 133 Bridge in Carbondale. On Memorial Day, it has become tradition that veterans throw a wreath from the bridge in remembrance of soldiers whose lives were lost in battle. This "Veterans Memorial Bridge," seems an appropriate tribute. Due to Mr. Borski's noble efforts there will be a formal dedication ceremony for the renaming of the bridge on November 11, 2001. A monument will also be dedicated at the Scenic Overlook off of Highway 82, which looks out to the bridge.

Mr. Speaker, this project was the vision of one man who worked tirelessly in the name of all veterans. He undertook this mission on his own and saw it through to the end. I would like to recognize Ron Borski for his commit-

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ment to such a worthwhile cause. The State of Colorado and veterans across the country appreciate Ron's contribution.

CHILDREN'S VISION AWARENESS DAY

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Children's Vision Awareness Day. Vision Services Plan, which is headquartered in Sacramento, California, has joined forces with several non-profit organizations to develop the Sight for Students program. This charitable program is designed specifically to help children in need of vital eyecare services. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of Vision Services Plan and their tireless work and determination to bring proper vision care to our nation's underprivileged children.

Whereas, our children represent the future of this great nation and deserve every opportunity to succeed in the classroom, at play and in life in general;

Whereas according to the United States Center for Health Statistics, only 14 percent of children in the United States under the age of 6 receive an eye exam;

Whereas vision problems affect one in four school-age children, according to Prevent Blindness America;

Whereas untreated eye problems can affect learning ability, adjustment in school, athletic ability and self-esteem;

Whereas Vision Services Plan which has their headquarters in Sacramento, California has a Sight for Student's Program to help low-income, uninsured children obtain the proper vision care that they so greatly need;

Whereas the Sight for Students program covers the cost of an eye examination and glasses or medically necessary contact lenses as well as vision therapy and treatment.

Whereas numerous community agencies, such as America's Promise, Prevent Blindness America, Head Start, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and Communities in School, have joined forces with Vision Services Plan to address this issue;

Whereas these many partners have come together to hold vision awareness events across the country on September 26, 2001, National Children's Vision Awareness Day.

Since 1997 Vision Services Plan and the Sight for Students program have provided free eye exams and eyewear to nearly 90,000 children across the nation who would not otherwise have access to these services. I applaud their efforts and I am proud to lend my support to this program.

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BILL BRACE HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the long and dedicated record of public service of Bill Brace, who is retiring after 31 years of working for the people of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He has served as city clerk for 29 years and for five of those years, he has also served as city administrator. He will be honored with a retirement dinner on Sept. 28.

Bill graduated from Kingston High School in 1962 and served in the Army from 1963 to 1966. He joined the City of Wilkes-Barre government as a city license clerk in 1970 and within two years, he had moved up to city clerk, the chief administrative officer for the City Council.

It is a testament to Bill's abilities that he has served under seven different mayors. It also speaks very well of him that in 1996, rather than lose Bill's services as city clerk because incoming Mayor Tom McGroarty wanted him to serve as city administrator, the City Council convinced Bill to serve in both positions. This dual role meant that Bill took on the added responsibility of serving as the chief administrative officer of a city government that employs 425 people.

Bill has also made time for extensive community involvement over the years, including his membership at Veterans of Foreign Wars Wilkes-Barre Post 6227, where he served as commander from 1973 to 1976. He is a past exalted ruler of Elks Wyoming Valley Lodge No. 109, where his fellow members recognized his contributions by naming him Elk of the Year in 1993. He is also founder and chairman of the board of governors of the Killer Bees Athletic Club, a life member of AMVETS Post 59 in Hanover Township, and a member of the North End Slovak Citizens Club, the St. Conrad's Society, and the St. David's Society. He has also served as a board member and officer of the Wilkes-Barre City Employees Credit Union for 30 years.

He has also participated in numerous professional organizations, including the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, the International Municipal Clerks' Advanced Education Academy, the Pennsylvania Local Government Secretaries Association, Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities, National League of Cities and Wyoming Valley Municipal Managers Association.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the long and dedicated service of Bill Brace to the people of Wilkes-Barre, and I wish him all the best.