allows students to work on a variety of envi-
ronmental projects, including stocking fish with
Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources
and providing river information for the U.S.
Geological Survey's Upper Midwest Environ-
mental Sciences Center.

It is also with great pleasure that I recognize
the School on the River program itself as one of
eight recipients to receive a Sealwater/Busch
Gardens 2001 Environmental Excellence
Award. This award recognizes the ef-
forts of students to protect and preserve
the environment at a local level. In addition to
national recognition for its outstanding achieve-
ments, the School on the River will receive
$15,000 for specialized equipment, 100 T-
shirts, trophies and certificates, and all-ex-
 pense-paid trips for three students and one
teacher to attend ceremonies in Florida and
Missouri.

All of us in the La Crosse area applaud the
efforts of Debra Buswell and Principal Glen
Jenkins for their outstanding efforts to raise
environmental consciousness among Long-
fellow students, and at the same time, to en-
gage students in non-traditional learning envi-
ronments. This exposure to critical thinking
and higher mathematical skills, management
techniques, and team building exercises will
benefit them for years to come. With the dedi-
cation and support of the school, Principal
Jenkins, and Debra Buswell, this ten-year old
program is now beginning to receive the na-
tional recognition it deserves. I congratulate
Principal Jenkins, Debra Buswell, and the stu-
dents who participate in the program for their
hard work and dedication to improving the
local environment in their home community.

With the continued awareness of the impor-
tance to having a healthy environment, I am
grateful that students and residents from west-
ern Wisconsin remain committed to improving
the local environment for the benefit of this
generation and the many generations to fol-
low. It is my sincere hope that we can here in
Congress take this example back to our own
communities and encourage our own commu-
nity's efforts to raise awareness regarding local
environmental issues.

Obviously, the teaching going on at Long-
fellow Middle School is near and dear to my
heart. Growing up, I spent a lot of time along
the Mississippi River. Now I live just right on
the Mississippi, and take my two sons down to
the River to fish, or just explore, whenever pos-
sible. The important role the Mississippi River
plays in the lives of my constituents is, in fact,
why I helped form the bipartisan Mississippi
River Caucus as one of the first things I did
when joining Congress. I also continually sup-
port initiatives to benefit the river such as the
EMP program and the Upper Mississippi Wild-
life Refuge. And this year, I will reintroduce my
Upper Mississippi River Basin Conservation
Act.

On behalf of the residents of western Wis-
sconsin, I proudly commend Debra Buswell
on her recognition as an Outstanding Environ-
mental Educator. I also commend the School
on the River for being recognized for its efforts
to improve the local environment in western
Wisconsin. The La Crosse School District and
local community are better places to live
thanks to the efforts of these middle-school
students and their dedicated teacher.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF RICHARD
KWANESKI, MAYOR OF LEMONT,
IL

HON. JUDY BIGGERT
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to
honor Richard Kwaneski, who in just a few
weeks will be retiring as Mayor of Lemont, Illi-
nois, which is located in my congressional dis-
trict.

Our local governments could not work if it
were not for people like Rick—they serve their
homes for no other reason than because they
love where they live.

Rick Kwaneski surely loves Lemont. For the
past 16 years, Rick has served the people of
Lemont with dedication and honor, first as a
Village Trustee for eight years and then as
Mayor for the past eight.

As Mayor, Rick led the economic and phys-
ical revitalization of Lemont's historic down-
town area, created a Historic District in the
downtown area to promote and preserve the
town's aging infrastructure and roadways. He
also lowered the Village's property tax rate to
its lowest level in 25 years.

Rick is a tireless champion for Lemont, al-
ways working to improve the Village wherever
there is a need. The residents of Lemont were
lucky to have him as Mayor and I know he will
be missed.

I am going to miss Rick as well. Since I
came to Congress a little over two years ago,
Rick has been a valuable partner on issues
important to Lemont, such as the southern ex-
tension of I–355 and extra train service on the
Heritage Corridor rail line that serves Lemont.
Mr. Speaker, let me close by saying that we
need more excellent individuals like Rick
Kwaneski to go into public service. His self-
less hard work and advocacy for Lemont are
models for all of us.

And even though he will no longer serve as
Mayor of Lemont, I know that he will continue
to have a strong presence in the community,
leading a hand wherever and whenever it is
needed.

FEBRUARY 22 FOREST
ROUNDTABLE IN MISSOULA

HON. DENNIS REHBERG
OF MONTANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 4, 2001

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, on February
22 I sponsored a roundtable discussion in Mis-
soula, Montana on forest health issues. This
discussion included presentations from a wide
array of interests.

Representing the conservation community
were Tom France of the Natural Wildlife Fed-
eration, Cesar Hernandez of the Montana Wil-
derness Alliance, all from Missoula. Jimmy
Anderson of the Montana Logging Association
and Roger Johnson of Pyramid Mountain
Lumber represented by Commissioners Barbara
Evans of Missoula County, Alan Thompson of
Ravalli County, Dale Williams of Flathead County
and Rita Windham of Lincoln County. Providing
creative ideas practiced on non-federal lands
were Garry Orr of the Salish-Kootenai Tribes
and Tom Schultz with the Montana Depart-
ment of State Lands. Finally, the scientific
and academic communities were represented by
Dr. Chuck Keegan and Carl Fiedler of the
University of Montana and U.S. Forest Service
fire ecologist Steve Armo.

This roundtable, and one scheduled for April
18 in Hamilton, will provide me with firsthand
accounts of what is working and not working
regarding management of Montana's forests.
As a member of both the House Committees
on Agriculture and Resources, that have juris-
dictions over forest management, I am seeking
"made in Montana" solutions to our current
challenges in forest management.

I encourage my colleagues to read the fol-
lowing article by Sherry Devlin on the Mis-
soula roundtable that appeared in the Feb-
soula, Montana and a member of
Hellgate Local 8-0885 PACE International

[From the Missoulian (MT), Feb. 21, 2001]

Rehberg Gets Earful on Forests
industry officials say control should
stay with local experts

(By Sherry Devlin)

The rest of the country should just "butt
out" and let Montanans manage the national
forests in their back yards, a Eureka sawmill
owner told U.S. Rep. Denny Rehberg's forest-
management roundtable Thursday.

"I'm not going to tell the people of New
York City how to manage Central Park," he
asked. "I recommend reading the testimony of
Kim Liles who is a papermaker for Smurfit-
Stone Container in Frenchtown, Montana and
a member of Hellgate Local 8-0885 PACE
International Union.

[EXTRA]

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