

May 22, 2001

CONGRATULATING JOSE DE ESCANDON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON BEING NAMED A "BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL"

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Jose De Escandon Elementary School in the La Joya Independent School District in my South Texas district on being named a "Blue Ribbon School."

Quality education is the passport to a successful future and Escandon Elementary has been relentless in its pursuit of educational excellence. This award truly symbolizes the many successful futures this school has forged for its students.

La Joya is not a wealthy school district. The majority of the students are Hispanic and many live below the poverty level. It is in an isolated, rural community along the Texas-Mexico border. Despite these seeming disadvantages, under the leadership of Superintendent Dr. Robert Zamora and principal Benita Salazar, Escandon has demonstrated what can be achieved when parents, teachers, school officials and the community join together to utilize every resource to its fullest potential. In addition to the Blue Ribbon Award, Escandon has been recognized by the State of Texas as an Exemplary Elementary School, having over 90 percent of its students pass the 3rd grade Texas Assessment of Academic Skills test.

Blue Ribbon Awards are exclusive in nature and are presented to only 264 elementary schools across the country including both public and private institutions. Schools receiving the award must demonstrate strong leadership; a clear vision and sense of mission; high-quality teaching; challenging up-to-date curriculum; policies and practices that ensure a safe environment conducive to learning; solid evidence of family involvement; evidence that the school is helping ALL students achieve high standards; and a commitment to share best practices with other schools.

On Monday, I will be visiting Escandon Elementary to celebrate its great achievement. The citizens of La Joya are fiercely proud of their town and their school. This award is not only a reflection of the exemplary work that the children have done, but also a reflection of the values and dedication of the whole community. I would encourage every locality to follow La Joya's example. When the entire community works together and commits to helping every child succeed, it will happen and all of our children will receive the quality education they deserve.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, because my flight to Washington was delayed,

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

I was unable to vote yesterday evening on rollcall No. 126, concerning a resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

CONCERNING PARTICIPATION OF TAIWAN IN WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2001

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 428, a bill which calls for Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization (WHO). I would also like to commend the author of the legislation, my friend and colleague from Ohio, Mr. SHERROD BROWN, for his leadership on this issue. I am proud to join as a co-sponsor of this important bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the World Health Organization is the most important international health organization in the world. In its charter, the WHO sets forth the crucial objective of attaining the highest possible level of health for all people, yet today the 23 million citizens of Taiwan are denied appropriate and meaningful participation in the international health forums and programs conducted by the WHO. Currently, there are over 190 participants in the WHO; Taiwan is not one of them. What this means is that Taiwan is not permitted to receive WHO benefits.

Access to the WHO ensures that the highest standards of health information and services are provided, facilitating the eradication of disease and improvement of public health on a world-wide basis. The work of the WHO is particularly crucial today given the tremendous volume of international travel, which has heightened the transmission of communicable diseases between borders. Lack of access to WHO protections has caused people of Taiwan to suffer needlessly.

Mr. Speaker, there is no good reason why Taiwan should be denied observer status with the World Health Organization. As a strong democracy and one of the world's most robust economies, Taiwan should participate in the health services and medical protections offered by the WHO. In addition, the WHO stands to benefit significantly from the financial and technological contributions that Taiwan has to offer.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation.

COMMENDING JUDY BELL—FIRST LADY OF GOLF

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to direct the attention of my Colleagues to Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey where this

9135

evening one of golf's legends will be honored. The Professional Golf Association (PGA) will honor Judy Bell as recipient of this year's "First Lady of Golf Award". The PGA First Lady of Golf Award, inaugurated in 1998, is presented to a woman who has made significant contributions to the promotion of the game of golf.

With interest and participation in golf growing to new heights every year, it is appropriate that the stewards of the game honor those who laid a strong foundation for today's success.

Judy Bell's golf career—which spans the 50's, 60's, 70's 80's, 90's and has now reached into the new millennium—has been marked by one outstanding achievement after another. She has made significant contributions as a champion player, Rules official and an industry leader. Her lifetime record of service to the golf industry includes becoming the first woman to be elected president of the United States Golf Association. Bell was elected the USGA's 54th president from 1996–97. Today, the 64-year-old Bell is in her 34th year of service to the USGA, and is consulting director of the USGA Foundation.

Bell is a 1961 graduate of Wichita State University, where she was a two-time NCAA runner-up during a prolific amateur career. She won three Kansas State Amateur championships, and competed at age 14 in the 1950 U.S. Women's Open, which would be the first of 38 USGA championship appearances. She was a two-time Curtis Cup Team member (1960, '62) and a two-time Curtis Cup Team Captain (1986, '88). She is the only individual to captain both a men's and women's U.S. World Amateur Team, leading the women in Stockholm, Sweden in 1988, and the men in Badsarow, Germany in 2000. In addition, Judy Bell has been a USGA Rules official since the 1970s and has worked both the U.S. Open and U.S. Women's Open.

Judy Bell has been a source of inspiration to all she meets. By her work, by her words and by her example, she has brought a countless men, women and youngsters into the game. I urge my Colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Judy Bell—this year's recipient of the PGA's "First Lady of Golf" award.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL V. FINLEY, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 22, 2001

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to pay tribute to the 30-year-public service career of Michael V. Finley, the superintendent of Yellowstone National Park. After providing leadership in parks ranging from Yosemite in California to the Everglades in Florida. Superintendent Finley will retire in June for a new career in private industry.

Starting with his first ranger position at Big Bend National Park, Michael Finley has worked a rich and varied career helping keep America's National Park system beautiful and educational for our citizens and visitors from