

for her 34 years of commitment and devotion to the House of Representatives and also to join me in wishing her the very best that life has to offer in the future.

COMMENDING AMERICORPS AND  
THE WEST SENECA YOUTH  
BUREAU FOR OUTSTANDING  
ACHIEVEMENT

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 2, 2005*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the AmeriCorps program in the town of West Seneca, New York, for its outstanding contributions to our Western New York and to recognize the West Seneca Youth Bureau for its exemplary service to the residents of Erie County and Western New York.

Through its network of more than 2,100 service programs, AmeriCorps has assisted millions of Americans through tutoring, running after school programs, building affordable housing, cleaning parks, and assisting with disaster relief.

A shining example of the significance of AmeriCorps' service to our Nation's communities is the West Seneca Youth Bureau of the town of West Seneca, in Erie County, New York. The West Seneca Youth Bureau hosts seven different AmeriCorps programs, and through these programs, volunteers have provided a broad range of needed services to Western New Yorkers.

West Seneca's Service Action Corps is one of the major donors of food in Western New York, delivering 15,000 pounds of food to local pantries every day. Through Standard Bearer's of America's Promise, AmeriCorps tutors provide young students in Buffalo and Erie County with the tools needed to help them become independent readers. Their Erie County Youth Conservation Corps program teaches marketable skills to at-risk youth so they can use these skills in the professional world. Through YouthBuild, at-risk youth learn basic construction and carpentry skills and gain college credits while building low cost housing for Western New Yorkers in need.

Since its inception, West Seneca AmeriCorps volunteers have shoveled more than one-half million pounds of snow for local residents and businesses, provided area food banks with over 6 million pounds of food, tutored more than 18,000 students, cleaned 150 nature trails, countless parks and playgrounds and cleared hundreds of vacant lots.

AmeriCorps' commitment to education, public safety, the environment and health has made it an incredibly successful organization that I am proud to recognize today. Thanks to the dedicated volunteers of AmeriCorps and the West Seneca Youth Bureau, thousands of my constituents have received much needed education and support. I congratulate the organization for 10 years of service, and look forward to working with them for years to come, and I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity to recognize their achievements here today.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BG WILLIAM  
TERPELUK, DEPUTY COM-  
MANDER, 77TH REGIONAL READI-  
NESS COMMAND, FORT TOTTEN,  
NEW YORK

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 2, 2005*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor BG William Terpeluk. BG William Terpeluk will complete his term as Deputy Commander for the 77th Regional Readiness Command this month. He served from 31 March 2001–30 March 2005, which included valuable service during the events of September 11, 2001, and throughout the War on Terror.

The 77th Regional Readiness Command is the Army Reserve headquarters for over 11,000 Army Reserve soldiers. Approximately 6,500 Army Reserve soldiers have been mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. Their service to our Nation is to be commended.

Throughout his career Brigadier General Terpeluk has served with honor and distinction. His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster. He has also received the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Silver Hourglass, the Army Service Ribbon and the Overseas Service Ribbons.

Brigadier General Terpeluk is an Infantry Officer who received his commission as a Second Lieutenant through the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program in 1974 from the Virginia Military Institute. After completing the Infantry Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, he served on Active Duty as the Executive Officer, Company E, 3d Battalion, 3d Basic Combat Training Brigade, Fort Dix, NJ.

Throughout his career Brigadier General Terpeluk has served at 79th United States Army Reserve Command, Willow Grove, PA, and in Camp Casey and Camp Howze, Korea.

Today, we honor his service to our city and to our Nation and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

CARNEY-NADEAU HIGH SCHOOL  
GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 2, 2005*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the players, coaches and managers of the 2004 Carney-Nadeau High School Wolves girls basketball team in recognition of their outstanding season. The 24–2 Wolves went to the Michigan Class D semi-

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finals this year, winning Conference, District and Regional titles along the way.

Carney-Nadeau may be one of the smallest schools in their division, and in my district, but they have been a force to be reckoned with in the Upper Peninsula and statewide. Their trip to the state semi-finals on December 2nd at the Breslin Center in East Lansing continued their streak of post season success that started with a State Championship in 2001. In 2002, they went to the state semi-finals, and to the regional finals in 2003.

This tradition of excellence motivated the team all season long. But it is a tradition that has deep roots in this small but close-knit Upper Peninsula community. The basketball program is supported by fundraisers run by the players, and the community turns out to demonstrate that the team is important to them, and that they share the young women's pride in their on-court and off-court successes. It also gives them a real sense of ownership of the team and their community.

This support is not surprising when you know that Carney-Nadeau Public Schools is a district with grades K–12 in one building, giving it a family atmosphere where the older students, and especially the athletes, provide strong role-models for the younger ones. This sense of family is perhaps best represented by the team meals that the players' families take turns preparing before each game.

It is hard to talk about the Carney-Nadeau Wolves success this year without mentioning All-State senior Carly Benson. The 6-foot-2 center averaged 22.4 points, 11.1 rebounds, 5.1 blocks, 5.1 steals and 4.8 assists and shot 62 percent this year on her way to being named the Class D Player of the Year. But on this team, all the players are leaders, and the team captain role rotated each game.

Mr. Speaker, each of these players deserves to be recognized, along with the coaches, managers, and school officials that were instrumental to their success, and I want to take a moment to share their names with my colleagues.

Team members: Katee Retaskie, Amanda Poupore, Lacey Retaskie, Meghan Schetter, Carly Benson, Jenny Grabowski, Rachel Kuntze, Roseann Schetter, Laurie Tuinstra, Ashley Folcik, Tarra Moran, and Meghan Marsicek.

Head Coach Paul Polfus, who is 482–120 in 25 years of coaching at Carney-Nadeau; Assistant Coaches Randy Severinsen, and Jon Ray; Trainer Marty Laurila; Managers Matt Polfus, Cory Thiry, Pete Adams, and Jared Benson; Athletic Director Ron Solberg; and Superintendent/Principal Ken Linder.

While their loss to Portland St. Patrick High School was disappointing, I know the Carney-Nadeau Wolves are rightly proud of their outstanding season, and all of the hard work, love, determination, perseverance, optimism, and skill they put in to it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Carney-Nadeau girls basketball team, their classmates, parents, and community on their success in the 2004 season and in wishing them well when they hit the court again in the fall.