

Medical Center every day. Continuing a tradition that has held for 16 years, Seattle Children's is once again ranked among the top 30 children's hospitals nationally in US. News & World Report's annual rankings.

Seattle Children's ranked fifth-best in the Nation for pediatric cancer care, eighth-best for general pediatrics, neurology and neurosurgery, and ninth-best for respiratory disorders. Children's also ranked 23rd in neonatal care and 30th for heart care and heart surgery.

Year in and year out, Seattle Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center provides life-saving care to the most vulnerable among us. The Pacific Northwest is fortunate to have such an exceptional institution in our region. I salute the medical professionals and support staffs who work tirelessly to give their extraordinary talents for the health and wellness of our children. Seattle Children's is a deserving recipient of this national recognition.

HONORING RETIRING EDUCATOR  
LARRY MYHRA

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2008*

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual, and an excellent public servant: La Crosse educator, Larry Myhra.

The end of every school year brings the retirement of many terrific school leaders, teachers and staff members who provide a quality education for our children and replacing their professionalism and dedication is an annual challenge.

One such individual this year is Larry Myhra, who is retiring as principal of Lincoln Middle School after a distinguished 35-year career as principal, science teacher, and football coach in the La Crosse School District.

In 1973, Larry graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and began his teaching career in the science department at old Logan High School. Throughout his 31 years at Logan High School, Larry served as the head football and track coach, assistant basketball coach, athletic director, activities director, dean of students, and associate principal. While serving as athletic director, Larry helped to broaden the program by adding various sports, including hockey and soccer, but later decided to become the activities director in order to better serve the entire student body. Larry was also an advocate for the creation of the La Crosse charter school, which helps students that are in danger of dropping out of school stay in school and graduate. This program has helped many students improve both their attendance and their grades.

When I was in high school, I had the pleasure of playing for Coach Myhra for 3 years at Logan. He instilled in his players and students a desire for dedication and determination both in and out of the classroom. I owe much of who I became in life to Coach Myhra and the educational system that was provided to me in La Crosse.

In 2004 Larry took up the position of principal at Lincoln Middle School, where he remained until now.

It has been said that great teachers and coaches enjoy a special immortality because their influence never stops radiating. That is certainly true for Larry Myhra. I wish him and our retiring educators a well-deserved and happy retirement.

HONOR FLIGHTS

**HON. BILL FOSTER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2008*

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I am submitting this statement to record my strong and enthusiastic support for veterans participating in the Honor Flight Chicago visit to the World War II memorial.

Today I recognize these men for their incalculable contributions to our society through their military service to the United States during World War II.

As part of a group brought together by the organization Honor Flight Chicago, I met with these heroes at the World War II Memorial to welcome them on their visit to Washington. Honor Flight Chicago honors World War II veterans by flying them to our Nation's capital so they can visit the World War II memorial for free.

The men who visited today are part of what's been called the greatest generation. They were a group of men who answered the call of duty when summoned, making great sacrifices to preserve the freedoms we all enjoy today. Because of their service and sacrifice, they exemplify what it means to be a hero.

I am proud to submit the names of these men for all to see, hear, and recognize.

Harold Schirmer, Howard Schoen, Gordon Smith, Norman C. Ohlendorf, Sam Polletta, Robert D. Swanson, Bernard J. Kramer, William G. Berry, Frank Loutly, Kenneth D. Loudy,

Michael J. Lasowski, Fernando Yori, Fred L. Alexander, Kenneth Ridgway, Myron Ridgwa, Leonard Tetrault, Wilbert Weigel, Raymond Vogen, Sylvester J. Beaupre, Leonard Feller.

Charles Wagner, Arthur P. Grotto, Daniel Green, William Crosby, Paul Sellers, Willard Swords, Vernon K. Hardt, Joseph Lach, Edward Lancioni, George Dinsmore, John F. Berns.

Theodore Tusinski, James W. Milligan, Robert W. Church, William R. Dreher, Steven A. Krempa, Walter J. Miller, Edward Sulma, Robert G. Terreberry, Lawrence E. Weaver, John P. Weinmeier.

Edward Tanaka, Charlie F. May, Robert W. Anderson, Robert L. Christensen, Robert Persinger, George S. Cassara, Giulio Filippi, Manuel G. Vasquez, Earl Morin, Earl Thayer.

William D. Coons, Robert Cave, William Mansfield, Anton Sikich, Maurice R. Koebele, Vernon H. Keller, Elmer Palmateer, James Sikich, Astor Carlson.

It was my honor to greet these heroes in person, and I thank them for their service.

SUPPORTING EXTENDING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS TO JOBLESS WORKERS

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2008*

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of assisting the millions of workers who have exhausted their Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits and are still struggling to find work in the wreckage of the Bush recession.

While cutting taxes for the very richest, the President has left workers to fend for themselves. Congress has a responsibility to mend our safety net and lessen the impact of unemployment. In my home State of California, over 180,000 workers have run out of UI benefits, with an additional 520,000 expected to join them over the next 10 months. Even our Republican Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger, has called on Congress to extend benefits.

This legislation is simple. It will provide 13 additional weeks of UI to workers who are still unable to find employment after exhausting benefits. In States with high unemployment, an additional 13 weeks would be made available. All benefits will be paid out of the UI Trust Fund, which has \$35 billion in reserves. Extending UI benefits is also commonplace. During the last seven recessions—1958, 1961, 1972, 1975, 1982, 1991, and 2002—Congress has passed similar legislation. The circumstances for unemployed workers are actually more dire today than they were during the past two downturns. Long-term unemployment is twice as high (18.5 percent of those without jobs have been unemployed for six months or more) as it was when Congress extended benefits in 2002 and 1991.

The time to act is now. The economy has lost 324,000 jobs during the last 5 months. Gas and food prices are at or above record highs. Foreclosures continue to ravish communities across the country. Over 28 million Americans are receiving food stamps—an all-time high.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that this bill will provide benefits to 3.8 million unemployed workers. I urge all of my colleagues to exercise common sense and compassion and provide much needed support to working families by voting "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 11, 2008*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, on June 9, I was unable to vote on House Resolutions 1225, 1243, and 127. Had I been able, I would have voted in support of these resolutions.