

competed in the New York State Final Hearings in March and as a result, will represent New York State in the national finals.

I am proud to recognize Half Hollow Hills East High School for this outstanding academic achievement.

HONORING MR. JAMES MUSCATO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. James Muscato. Mr. Muscato served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Dunkirk City Council.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Muscato served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Muscato is one of those people, and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to him today.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,877,195,922,374.91.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,238,770,176,081.11 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

CONGRATULATING GRACE WANG, RECIPIENT OF A SIEMENS FOUNDATION AWARD

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Grace Wang, recipient of a Siemens Foundation award for her excellence in the College Board's Advanced Placement program courses and exams in the area of science and mathematics.

The Siemens Foundation has actively supported science, technology, engineering and

mathematics education. Each year, the Foundation provides more than \$7 million in support of education initiatives. The Foundation supports programs from grade school through graduate school to encourage students to achieve their potential. The Siemens Awards for Advanced Placement provides \$2,000 college scholarships for two students in each state based on grades and scores in AP science and math classes.

Grace Wang, a student at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, has excelled in her AP science and math classes. Through her hard work, she has proven that she is one of the best and brightest in the nation. She is a shining example of the achievements of students in the area of math and science.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Grace Wang for this honor. She truly is an example of our nation's promising future in the science and technology fields.

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2009-2010 Congressional Youth Advisory Council. This year 45 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9 through 12 made their voices heard and made a difference in their communities, their country and their Congress. These students volunteered their time, effort, and talent to inform me about the important issues facing their generation. As young leaders within their communities and their schools, these students boldly represent the promise and the hope we all have for their very bright future.

President Ronald Reagan said, "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

To ensure that the blessing of freedom is passed from one generation to the next, the members of the CYAC spent time interviewing a veteran and documenting the experience for the "Preserving History Project." Today, I'm proud to submit the brief summaries provided so the patriotic service of our dedicated veterans and the thoughtful work of the CYAC may be preserved for antiquity in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. A copy of each submitted student summary follows.

To each member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, thank you for making this year and this group a success. It is not a coincidence that this congressional tribute celebrates two generations of service. Each of you is trusted with the precious gift of freedom.

You are the voices of the future and I salute you. God bless you and God bless America.

The summary follows:

I interviewed Alan Smith, a World War II veteran, and I learned a lot about his life and his experiences during the war as well as the years after. Mr. Smith entered the military as a private and came out as a corporal after approximately 22 months of service. His highlight combat mission was the invasion of Bastogne. After his service, Mr. Smith went to school on the GI Bill and became a Bible major. Following college, Mr. Smith began to work for Beach Aircraft Company which produced tools of various sorts.

After interviewing Mr. Smith, I have learned several things about World War II from a first-hand account. I also learned the challenges faced by troops while deployed overseas and the mental toll it places on a soldier's mind. And at the end of the interview, Mr. Smith stressed this scripture from the Bible to me: "And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation." He lives by this verse and said it could be applicable to many present day situations.—Drew Sneed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, regrettably, during a series of votes last Thursday I missed rollcall vote 219. I would have voted "yea."

I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2194, the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act, and would have joined my colleagues in instructing conferees to insist on the strong provisions in the House-passed bill.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST RANDALL RAY CHARLES LANDSTEDT

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Army SPC Randall Ray Charles Landstedt from Pollock Pines, California, who was killed April 6, 2010 while on leave in Crestview, Florida. Specialist Landstedt grew up in El Dorado County, attending local schools, including Pinewood, Sierra Ridge, El Dorado High, and Independence High. From an early age, Specialist Landstedt was determined to serve his country and after graduation enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was known by his friends and family as kind, generous, considerate and loyal. He is survived by his parents, Joanne and Daniel Landstedt; brother, James Copeland of Pollock Pines; and sister, Rickie Bronstein of San Diego.

I cannot begin to comprehend the pain of losing such a kind and courageous young man and I cannot ease that pain with my words. All

I can do is say thank you for Randall's service. He exemplified the highest values of our country, embodying courage, valor and dedication in his service with the Army's 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. Specialist Landstedt was twice awarded the Army Commendation Medal and also received the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, an Army Service Ribbon, an Overseas Service Ribbon, and the NATO Medal with an International Security Assistance Force bar. We will remember SPC Randall Landstedt for his honor and dedication, and we must never forget the service and sacrifices of the sons and daughters of our great country.

THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL: A LEGACY OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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The summary follows:

I had the honor to sit down with Sergeant Goins, a member of the United States Army,

in his Plano West classroom to learn about his intriguing assignments overseas. Chad Goins is currently a teacher at Plano West Senior High School where he instructs students in Introduction to Criminal Justice and Criminal Investigation classes. Just under two years ago, in June 2008, Sgt. Goins left to endure an eight month training followed by ten months at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan. His many awards and achievements clearly demonstrate the integrity and valor with which he has served his country, such as the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, and the Combat Action Badge. Due to the nature of Sgt. Goins' duties of Military Intelligence, he was unable to discuss many of the specifics. However, because he saw a lot of the local population, he discussed with me just why the war in Afghanistan is so difficult to fight. From this experience, I am now better able to understand the war in Afghanistan and the reason to why it is such a non-traditional war. The religious and cultural differences and the thousands of familial tribes in Afghanistan make continuity nearly impossible with Americans to Afghans, and even Afghans to Afghans. Thank you, Sergeant Goins and all other members of the U.S. Military for everything you do to protect our country. For it is because of you that we can live the life we do. I am thankful to add, Sergeant Goins' duty ended on Thanksgiving Day of 2009, and he returned home shortly after, injury free.—Laura Schuller.

RICHARD C. SCHAEFFER, JR.

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Mr. Richard Schaeffer, Jr., for a distinguished 40-year career with the Federal Government.

A graduate from Catholic University of America, Schaeffer holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. His participation in the Intelligence Fellows Program, National Senior Cryptologic Course, and Executive Development Seminar provided a sound base for his future achievements.

As one of the National Security Agency's (NSA) highest ranking senior leaders, the Information Assurance Director, Schaeffer is responsible for the availability of products, services, technology and standards for protecting our nation's critical information systems from adversaries in cyberspace. Prior to holding the position of one of the nation's leading defenders against cyber attacks, Schaeffer was Chief of the National Security Operations Center, which manages the U.S. Cryptological System, serving as the command-and-control center for crisis response. His other major assignments have included Information Assurance Deputy Director, NSA Deputy Chief of Staff, and Director, Infrastructure and Information Assurance. Prior to his work with NSA, Schaeffer served in the United States Marine Corps, including two tours in Vietnam.

For his renowned work with the Federal Government, Schaeffer earned numerous awards including Armed Forces Communications and Electronic Association Meritorious Service Award; the Presidential Rank Award;

Secretary of Defense Medal for Meritorious Civilian Service; and Secretary of Defense Productivity Excellence Award, among many others.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Mr. Richard Schaeffer, Jr., and his illustrious career with the Federal Government. His leadership and loyalty has protected this nation for over 40 years. His dedication to the United States is highly commendable.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF THE 100TH BATTALION, 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM AND THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave individuals who served in the Military Intelligence Service and the Army's 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT)—the most decorated unit for its size and length of service in the history of the U.S. military. These patriotic Americans, many of whom came from Placer County, California, served at a time when many of their families were interned in camps far from their homes.

I am proud that the people of Placer County have partnered with the Japanese American Citizens League to create a permanent memorial commemorating the Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in the U.S. military during World War II. The memorial includes a 36-foot compass laid in concrete to symbolize the journey of the 442nd RCT located on Go For Broke Road, which is named in honor of the unit's motto.

As our community moves into the second phase of this project, I congratulate everyone involved and thank them for their ongoing efforts to honor those individuals who risked and sacrificed so much in defense of our great Nation and the ideals for which we stand.

HONORING MR. PURVIS YOUNG

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 26, 2010

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the late Mr. Purvis Young, one of South Florida's most storied artists. He transformed a troubled life with brush strokes, painting the joys and sorrows of his people on objects discarded in his Overtown neighborhood. Because of his great talent, he received international recognition.

Born February 2, 1943 in Miami's Liberty City to Vera Mae Wright, Mr. Young learned the art of drawing as a young boy watching his maternal Uncle Irving who was a figurative artist. He picked up his first paintbrush at the age of 20. Mr. Young attended school up to the 8th grade during which time he swam at Dixie Park (now called Gibson Park) and he