

Through out my years in public service I have consistently counted Delaware's small businesses and Delaware's journalists to be amongst the very best in the Country. Recognition of Ms. Hawkins further confirms my belief.

Sally Hawkins' accomplishments and innovative leadership in the community have placed WILM in a position to rise above and meet the challenges of the future; I commend her on her receipt of this award and I look forward to Ms. Hawkins' continued success.

JOHN KLUGE

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John W. Kluge for his constant and unwavering support for the Library of Congress.

Mr. Kluge is the greatest individual benefactor in the history of the Library of Congress.

He came to this country as a young boy from Germany, with virtually nothing but a china Dresden Horse—which he still has. From these humble origins, and through hard work, he received a full scholarship to Columbia University. After service in the United States Army during World War II, he went on in the business world to create a vast media empire which he converted into a great engine of philanthropy, supporting many educational programs, aimed in particular toward helping minorities.

Mr. Kluge is the founding chairman of the James Madison Council, the Library of Congress's private sector philanthropic organization, where he has inspired many others to join in support of the Library and its programs.

Through his generosity, John Kluge helped the Library of Congress bridge the gap into its third century by enabling it to invest heavily in technologies that bring the vast collections of the Library to people all over the world.

Thanks to an endowment from Mr. Kluge, the Library of Congress established the John W. Kluge Center, which brings some of the world's best minds—the Kluge Scholars—into residence to use the rich resources of the Library and interact with national policy makers. The Kluge Center also accommodates Kluge post-doctoral Fellows who are pursuing interdisciplinary and cross-cultural subjects using the Library's rich and diverse collections. The first million dollar John W. Kluge Prize in the Human Sciences will be awarded this fall for lifetime achievement in the humanities.

The work and the generosity of spirit of this great American will live on for generations. For years to come, individuals will be able to attend college on a John W. Kluge Scholarship who might otherwise be unable to afford it. Countless future national leaders will benefit from the intellectual stimulation that this man has made possible through his work at the Library of Congress. He is a man who has made a difference. During a lifetime of philanthropic activity and quiet assistance for those in need, John W. Kluge has touched countless lives and truly deserves the recognition of this body.

2003 ONCOLOGY NURSING DAY AND MONTH

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to oncology nurses. May is the ninth annual Oncology Nursing Day and Month. The celebration kicks off on Thursday, May 1, 2003, on Oncology Nursing Day, during the opening ceremonies of the Oncology Nursing Society's 28th Annual Congress in Denver, CO, and continues until May 31, 2003. Oncology Nursing Month recognizes oncology nurses, educates the public about oncology nursing, provides an opportunity for special educational events for oncology nurses, and celebrates the accomplishments of oncology nurses.

The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS), the largest professional oncology group in the United States composed of more than 30,000 nurses and other health professionals, exists to promote excellence in oncology nursing and the provision of quality care to those individuals affected by cancer. As part of its mission, the Society honors and maintains nursing's historical and essential commitment to advocacy for the public good. ONS was founded in 1975, and held its first Annual Congress in 1976. Since the Society was established, 218 local chapters have been formed to provide a network for education and peer support at the community level.

In my state of North Carolina there are more than 939 oncology nurses and health professionals that care for individuals with cancer and their families. In addition, North Carolina has 6 local Oncology Nursing Society chapters located in the areas of Charlotte—my district—Wilmington, Canton, Greenville, Durham, and Trinity.

Over the last ten years, the setting where treatment for cancer is provided has changed dramatically. An estimated 80 percent of all Americans receive cancer care in community settings including cancer centers, physicians' offices, and hospital outpatient departments. Treatment regimens are as complex, if not more so, than regimens given in the inpatient setting a few short years ago. Oncology nurses are on the front-lines of the provision of quality cancer care for individuals with cancer. Nurses are involved in the care of a cancer patient from the beginning through the end of treatment. Oncology nurses are the front-line providers of care by administering chemotherapy, managing patient therapies and side-effects, working with insurance companies to ensure that patients receive the appropriate treatment, provide counseling to patients and family members, in addition to many other daily acts on behalf of cancer patients.

With an increasing number of people with cancer needing high quality health care coupled with an inadequate nursing workforce, our nation could quickly face a cancer care crisis of serious proportion, with limited access to quality cancer care, particularly in traditionally underserved areas. Without an adequate supply of nurses there will not be enough qualified oncology nurses to provide the quality cancer care to a growing population of people in need. I was proud to support the passage of the "Nurse Reinvestment Act" in the

107th Congress. This important piece of legislation expanded and implemented programs at HRSA to address the multiple problems contributing to the nationwide nursing shortage, including the decline in nursing student enrollments, shortage of faculty, and dissatisfaction with nurse workplace environments. Mr. Speaker, I plan to work with my colleagues to ensure that the Nurse Reinvestment Act receives funding during the FY 2004 appropriations process.

I commend the Oncology Nursing Society for all of its hard work to prevent and reduce suffering from cancer and to improve the lives of those 1.3 million Americans who will be diagnosed with cancer in 2003. I wish the Oncology Nursing Society the best of luck in its endeavors and urge all Americans to support its important efforts.

TRIBUTE TO THE DENVER AREA LABOR FEDERATION

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the impressive history and notable accomplishments of an exceptional organization in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this outstanding organization for its civic leadership and record of extraordinary service benefiting the working men and women of the Denver area. It is to commend this remarkable organization that I rise to honor the Denver Area Labor Federation (DALF) on the occasion of its 120th Anniversary.

While the Denver Area Labor Federation has weathered great adversity and tremendous change over the last century, it has always remained in the vanguard for economic and social justice. In the many struggles for dignity in the workplace, the labor movement in the Denver area continues to be a vital force for the rights of workers, for a living wage, a safe workplace, good benefits and for the continued well being of working families. Since its founding in 1882, DALF has led the way in forging strong alliances within the local labor movement, with the AFL-CIO, and with numerous community organizations including the Colorado Progressive Coalition, Jobs with Justice and the Colorado Coalition for Immigrant Rights. It has provided leadership for local unions in organizing drives, strikes and contract campaigns. It has conducted numerous trainings and education programs for Metro Area union members on common sense economics, organizing, political activism and community engagement. It has formed the Front Range Economic Strategy Center to enable working people to command the expertise and resources needed to hold local governments accountable for the development of affordable housing, secure health care, and the creation of jobs of sufficient quality to support families. It comes as no surprise that DALF was honored by the National AFL-CIO Convention for "moving the fastest and the farthest on the road to becoming a Union City" and that its political program is recognized nationwide for its innovation and success.

Working people built our communities and our nation and it is the sacrifices of the men

and women of the member locals of the Denver Area Labor Federation, past and present, to whom we owe a great debt of gratitude. Many of us in this country forget how far we've come. There was a time when fundamental decency and equity for working people were not a part of our shared values—a time when collective bargaining, workplace safety, minimum wage and benefits were not part of our common experience. For many of us in our community, decent working conditions and the basic employment benefits needed to subsist in our society are still out of reach. I am deeply appreciative of the invaluable work that the Denver Area Labor Federation and its member locals continue to do to advance the cause of a livable wage, worker rights and protections and to promote decent health care. DALF has made a tremendous impact on our community and implicit in its success has been the fundamental recognition that good wages, job security and quality health care builds a healthy and prosperous community.

Please join me in commending the Denver Area Labor Federation. It is the strong leadership that this organization exhibits on a daily basis that continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all Americans.

CONGRATULATING FORT BENNING
ON RECEIVING THE ARMY COMMUNICATIONS OF EXCELLENCE
CHIEF OF STAFF AWARD

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I have been a Member of Congress for ten full years, going on my eleventh year now. Since 1993, when I was elected, the "Home of the Infantry," Fort Benning has consistently been selected as the best installation in the nation, and a few times as best in the world.

As a politician, something inside me wants to take credit for that, but as a statesman, I realize that it has been the fine leadership of people like Major General Paul Eaton and Colonel Joe Torres and those who have preceded them who are really responsible for the outstanding performance of Fort Benning.

As a major power projection platform for the Army, Benning serves a very transitional community of soldiers. With our war in Iraq and Afghanistan, more than 7,000 Fort Benning troops are stationed overseas. Obviously, this kind of deployment leaves a hole. Additionally, several thousand more soldiers from other bases have passed through Benning's gates to receive specialized training before deploying to the field. This has placed a great deal of demand on the services offered.

But, in spite of all of these challenges, Fort Benning has been recognized again this year as one of the top 10 military installations in the world with the Communities of Excellence Chief of Staff Award. Competing on the Training and Doctrine Command level, Benning has demonstrated a better, more efficient, faster way to provide outstanding service to the community which calls Fort Benning home.

Additionally, Fort Benning is an integral part of the tri-community, Columbus, GA, Phenix City, AL, and Fort Benning. The military and the civilian communities strive to mutually support one another and each community compliments the others. This is the result of tireless effort by the military, the community leaders of Columbus, and Phenix City. Their effort has paid off and I am glad to see it recognized with this award.

Fort Benning, while it has a proud legacy as the foremost training center of the Army, is only a patch of Earth and some buildings. It is the people who work there that make it an outstanding example of military efficiency and service. It is the dedication of those people and the leadership of its commanders which drive the level of excellence higher each year.

The consistent performance of Fort Benning reflects well on the Army and demonstrates why Fort Benning is a shining example of the Army being all it can be.

I congratulate Major General Eaton and his fine staff on receiving this award and thank them for their service to America and to the community which makes Benning its home.