

community and has also served on the Governor's Commission on Life and the Law and has been an influential member of the Latino Chamber of Commerce. However, it is not these appointments and honors that I wish to recognize, but rather his unceasing commitment to public service. Coloradans know Gilbert not only as President of the Spanish Peaks Mental Health Center, but also as a committed volunteer for children's mental health. For his efforts, Gilbert has received the Robert Hawkins Award for excellence in Mental Health Leadership given by the Mental Health Association of Pueblo.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize this man who has made such a significant difference in the lives of children. His dedication to the children of this nation deserves our recognition and our admiration. It is a great honor to recognize Gilbert Sanchez before this body of Congress and our nation today.

HONORING DENIS J. McELLIGOTT

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Denis J. McElligott, who will be honored by the Smithtown Democratic Committee tonight.

Denis has been committed to politics since his early years on the campaign trail with his father. He went on to intern for my predecessor, Congressman Tom Downey in Washington. During his service on the Smithtown Committee from 1992 to 1999, Denis worked tirelessly to preserve the true spirit of the committee.

In 1999, Denis was tapped by New York State Attorney General Eliot Spitzer to run the Attorney General's Suffolk Regional Office. Since then, he has successfully represented the State of New York in various types of litigation.

In addition to his work in politics, Denis is also an active member of the legal community. He is a member of the Suffolk County Bar Association and has served as chairman of the Plaintiff's Negligence Committee.

I commend Denis on his commitment to the Democratic Party and his service to New York and Long Island.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KAY WYLEY

HON. SCOTT McINNS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. McINNS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor Kay Wyley of Creede, Colorado and congratulate her upon her retirement from the Creede Repertory Theater. While retirement often means an opportunity for well-deserved rest and relaxation, Kay instead has chosen to continue her service to the citizens of Colorado as a respected advisor to the Colorado Council on the Arts. I admire Kay's dedication and it is my distinct honor to recognize her before Congress and the nation.

There are few in Colorado who have done more to preserve our heritage and to promote

the arts than Kay, who presided over the largest expansion in the history of the Creede Repertory Theater, as well as the restoration of the historic Rio Grande Hotel. Kay's years of dedicated service have touched the lives of countless artists, art patrons, and Coloradans. A lifelong native of Creede, Kay has truly given back to her home state.

Mr. Speaker, Kay has inspired many, and continues to do so each day. Her dedication to her work serves as an example to all Americans, and has made Colorado proud. It is a great honor to represent such a fine person who has worked to make my state a more beautiful and enjoyable place to live. Congratulations on your retirement Kay, and I wish you all the best in the future.

HONORING NEW YORK'S ANTHONY FISHER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, on April 4, 2003, the country and the city of New York suffered a tremendous loss when a plane carrying real estate developer Anthony Fisher and his wife, Anne, crashed 35 miles northwest of Boston.

He was one of this city's greatest jewels, a dear friend who dedicated his many talents to both the financial and cultural future of our fine metropolis.

Mr. Fisher was a founder and partner at the equity firm of FdG Associates, as well as a senior partner at the prestigious real estate firm of Fisher Brothers Inc. His development efforts, including the Alliance Capital Building in Midtown, Park Avenue Plaza, and Third Avenue, proudly continued his family's tradition of redefining the city's physical and commercial landscape.

However, the city has lost not only a successful businessman, but also a social entrepreneur whose energy and philanthropy were as magnificent as any of one of his buildings. As chairman and chief executive officer of the Intrepid Sea-Air Foundation, I will fondly remember how he often put his money where his heart was, ensuring that both our city and our country did not forget the tireless efforts of its military veterans. Although he never formally served, he understood the debt that we owe to those that put on the uniform and the duty we all share in ensuring that those who are fortunate to return are well-cared for and appreciated.

Above all else, my sincerest condolences go out to Tony's five children, who have lost two loving parents. My heart goes out especially to his niece Tora, the sole survivor of this horrible crash. I join his family and friends in wishing her a speedy and successful recovery.

Words, no matter how true or eloquent, can rarely ease the pain of such a terrible tragedy. However, we can all draw strength and comfort in knowing that much of who Tony was still remains for the world to enjoy and marvel. His legacy and love will endure forever, in the buildings he erected, the charities to which he contributed and the hearts that he touched.

A RESOLUTION HONORING RYAN SHANNON, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP WINNER OF GRAND LEDGE, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence he has compiled in academics, leadership, and community service, that I am proud to salute Ryan Shannon, winner of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Ryan is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, MI.

Ryan is an exceptional student at Grand Ledge High School, and possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. Ryan has received numerous awards for his excellence in writing, math, and music, as well as his volunteer activities with the Grand Ledge High School National Honor Society. Ryan is a winner of the Candy Hyland Award for Mathematics and numerous awards for his participation in band.

Therefore, I am proud to join with his many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Ryan Shannon for his selection as winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to his success. To this remarkable young man, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all his future endeavors.

LAKE ALLATOONA AWARENESS WEEK

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Lake Allatoona Awareness Week as proclaimed by Governor Sonny Perdue of Georgia.

Lake Allatoona is located in the foothills of north Georgia. The lake provides drinking water for over 500,000 Georgians and recreation activities for millions, and its watershed provides habitat for a number of endangered species, including the American Bald Eagle.

The counties of Cobb, Bartow, and Cherokee that surround the lake are some of the fastest growing in the country—making the preservation and restoration of this vital resource extremely important. In 1999, the Lake Allatoona Preservation Authority was formed to provide stewardship and education to the surrounding communities about the Lake Allatoona Watershed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize this week of May 12, 2003, as Lake Allatoona Awareness Week to acknowledge the ongoing

efforts to keep Lake Allatoona stable and healthy so that Georgians may enjoy its beauty for many, many generations to come.

WORKFORCE REINVESTMENT AND
ADULT EDUCATION ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1261) to enhance the workforce investment system of the Nation by strengthening one-stop career centers, providing for more effective governance arrangements, promoting access to a more comprehensive array of employment, training, and related services, establishing a targeted approach to serving youth, and improving performance accountability, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1261, the Workforce Reinvestment and Adult Education Act of 2003.

Nearly nine million Americans are unemployed today, the highest level in nearly a decade. Not only are there more unemployed, but people out of work are finding it harder to get a job. People who become unemployed are staying out of work for almost 20 weeks on average, the longest since 1984. The proportion of workers who exhaust their unemployment benefits before they find a new job is the highest since the 1970s.

Unfortunately, H.R. 1261 does nothing to put people back to work. It instead unravels the very programs that ensure these workers have the skills and training they need to find high paying, long-term jobs.

H.R. 1261 eliminates targeted programs designed to help both dislocated workers and unemployed adults find a job. It blocks grants dedicated to assistance, forcing low-income workers and welfare recipients to compete with dislocated workers for the same limited Federal resources.

This bill also eliminates dedicated funding for job search services, like Minnesota's Job Bank, which assists thousands of Minnesotans. This funding also supports a rapid response system that meets the immediate needs of workers affected by mass layoffs. These changes threaten to break apart Minnesota's statewide workforce development system at the very time when these services are needed most to help unemployed workers find jobs.

H.R. 1261 does nothing to ensure that job-training funds are used for training. It allows governors to take money from adult education and veterans' job programs to cover bureaucratic costs. It also repeals critical civil rights protections for employees of job training organizations by allowing organizations that receive Federal job-training funds to discriminate on the basis of religion.

Mr. Chairman, I strongly believe that we must strengthen our workforce investment system to help Minnesotans get back to work. H.R. 1261, however, fails to meet that goal. I urge my colleagues to reject this bill today.

IN HONOR OF DR. REX FORTUNE

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Rex Fortune, Superintendent of Center Unified School District, in Sacramento, California, as he prepares for retirement.

Dr. Fortune began his career in education in 1964 as a science teacher at Sequoia Union High School in Redwood City, California. Throughout his career Dr. Fortune has contributed to education as a curriculum writer, a high school Vice Principal, a field researcher, associate superintendent, and superintendent. Education has taken him from Southern California to Northern California, to West Africa, and back to Northern California. For the last 15 years Center Unified School District has been his home where he was instrumental in the passage of a \$59.2 million school bond for school renovation and new construction, established a Safe Schools program, secured funding for a K-6 reading program, and in 1989, created Project Pipeline, to produce future teachers of science and mathematics.

Dr. Fortune has dedicated 30 years of his life to the education of California children, and I am thankful for his commitment to excellence. Please join me in thanking Dr. Fortune for his contribution to our youth, and wishing him well as he retires.

A RESOLUTION HONORING JOSIE
COLE, LEGRAND SMITH SCHOLARSHIP
WINNER OF PARMA, MI

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, let it be known that it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Josie Cole, winner of the 2003 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Josie is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Josie is an exceptional student at Springport High School, and possesses an outstanding record of achievement in high school. Josie has received numerous awards for her excellence in academics and athletics, as well as her volunteer activities with the Eaton Rapids Women's Club and Vacation Bible School. Josie is also proficient in sign language and has signed the National Anthem at athletic events at Springport High School.

Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Josie Cole for her selection as winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

SAINT ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH
CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I call the attention of the House of Representatives to the 75th anniversary of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish of Exeter, Pennsylvania. The parish will celebrate this milestone with a Mass and dinner on May 18, 2003, with the dinner chaired by Attorney Charles J. Bufalino.

At the start of the 20th century, thousands of Italian immigrants came to America in search of a better life for themselves and their families. Many of them came to work in the coal mines of Northeastern Pennsylvania, with quite a few settling in the Exeter area. In addition to their common heritage and language, they shared a common faith, so they founded a parish where they could come together as a community.

The first church serving Saint Anthony of Padua Parish was built in 1928 and 1929, to be followed by a new church in 1963. Father Alphonse Manley, a diocesan priest, staffed the parish until the arrival of Father Emilio Bocalatte, O.S.J., an Oblate of Saint Joseph, in 1930. The Oblates of Saint Joseph have staffed the parish ever since. The present pastor is the Rev. Daniel Schwebs.

I am told it is quite common to find parishioners, young and old alike, in the church offering prayers throughout the day, and this is an example of the faith that abides at Saint Anthony's.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House the 75th anniversary of Saint Anthony of Padua Parish, and I extend my congratulations to all who are associated with the parish.