

A TRIBUTE TO FALLEN AVIATORS
AND ASTRONAUTS**HON. MIKE MCINTYRE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Fayetteville's Festival of Flight, it is with great honor that I rise today to salute the courageous men and women who have lost their lives in aviation and space. So many explorers ventured into the great frontier of the skies, and their deeds of vision and valor should never be forgotten. These pioneers of flight achieved remarkable victories and inspired a new generation of pilots to brave the endless skies.

Today I also pay tribute to Amelia Earhart, the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. Driven by pure ambition, Earhart explored new distances and re-defined the boundaries of flight. Earhart's determination to be the first pilot to fly around the world uncovered new possibilities for aviation. Although her plane disappeared short of her final destination, Earhart proved to the world that air travel would soon be possible.

I also pay tribute to the brave aviators who accomplished their feats during a time when society discouraged women and minorities from flying. In 1912, Harriet Quimby became the first American woman to receive a pilot's license and fly solo across the English Channel. Although many thought she would fail, Quimby's determination to succeed landed her safely on the coast of France. Quimby died just three months later when her plane crashed at an airshow in Boston. A decade later, Bessie Coleman became the world's first licensed African-American pilot. When no one in America would teach her to fly, Coleman learned to speak French and went to France for flight school. After receiving her license, she traveled America as a stunt pilot until her plane crashed in 1926. Upon her death, a flying school for African-Americans was founded in her honor.

As aviation grew into space exploration, our nation lost test pilots and others who prepared the way, as well as the great crews aboard the Apollo I and the Space Shuttles Challenger & Columbia. I salute these daring astronauts for their determination to uncover new territory. In their search for knowledge of the unknown, these astronauts helped to expand America's understanding of the universe. Despite the tragic conclusion to these explorations, the crews of the Apollo I and the Space Shuttles Challenger & Columbia sacrificed their lives for the advancement of exploration and scientific achievement.

Although the lives of many daring aviators and astronauts were cut short, their determination enabled them to accomplish more than a lifetime of success. I encourage all to acknowledge these great pioneers and honor their contributions to the world of flight.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO INCREASE THE SALARIES OF JUSTICES AND JUDGES OF THE UNITED STATES

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to increase the salaries of Federal judges. I take this step because there is a serious crisis developing in the recruitment and retention of our Federal judges. The declining salaries in real terms discourage potential candidates from seeking appointments to the bench. The impact of inflation, the withholding of cost-of-living adjustments, and lack of pay increases are causing Federal judges to resign or retire.

The Chief Justice has often spoken on this issue identifying the need to increase judicial pay as the most pressing problem facing the judiciary. Of course, it is a well known fact that salaries of Federal judges have not kept pace with those of lawyers in the private sector. The theory behind the judicial pay raise movement is that, without a pay raise, qualified judges will continue to vacate the bench for higher pay in the practice of law. These men and women will often be replaced by new—and less qualified—judges. The Federal judiciary and affected litigants will suffer as a result.

Since the independence and quality of the judiciary is at risk because of the inadequacy of the current salaries of Federal judges, I urge my colleagues to support this bill that will restore the lost cost-of living adjustments which have been denied to the judiciary.

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL ARTISTS FROM 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, once again, I come to the floor to recognize the great success of strong local school systems working with dedicated parents and teachers in raising young men and women. I rise today to congratulate and honor 43 outstanding high school artists from the 11th Congressional District of New Jersey. Each of these talented students participated in the Annual Congressional Arts Competition, "An Artistic Discovery." Their works are exceptional!

Mr. Speaker, I would like to list each of them, their high school, and their contest entries for the official Record.

We had 43 students participate. That is a tremendous response and I would very much like to build on that for next year's competition.

This year, Mr. Speaker, the winner of "An Artistic Discovery" was Lauren Radebaugh from West Morris Mendham High School for the work entitled "Of Mom's Kitchen." Second place went to Devin O'Connor from Ridge High School for "Self-Portrait." Third place went to Melissa Aquino for the work titled "Another Man's Treasure." The Viewer's Choice Award was given to Robert Douglas Fritz, III for the work titled "Rachael."

Honorable mentions were awarded to Ashley Eckhardt of Morris Knolls High School for "Virtuoso," Chris Felber of West Morris Mendham High School for "Twelve Bar Blues," Stacey Hulbert of Mount Saint Dominic Academy for "Beach Eruption," Alexandra Kuziw of Montville Township High School for "Celtic James," Ulvid Osis of West Essex Regional High School for his untitled work, and Mary Pratt of Ridge High School for "Within the Hour Glass."

Excellent art work was also submitted by Boonton High School's Melissa Becker for "Self-Portrait," Sheila Marcello for "Despair," Jocely Szczepanski for "Portrait of My Mother," Livingston High School's Irina Itriyeva for "Secret," Jessie Kent for "My Life," Sara Lewis for "Handicapped Parking," Madison High School's Lorraine Ewan for "Hope," Ashley Kaye for "Lenape Wood," Kate Lavinio for "The Woods," Graham Sharts for "Chris," Montville Township High School's Joyce Chen for "The Mannequin," Melissa Choi for "Still in the Wind," Heather Conduro for "Poppy's Plow," Morris Knolls High School's Jennifer Devine for "A Tear of Pain," Lindsey A. Dicks for "Peek-A-Boo (Self-Portrait)," Elizabeth Foerster for her untitled work; Mount Olive High School's Amanda Giansanti for her untitled work, Janel Sabella for "Janet Fish," Windy Walintukan for her untitled work; Mount Saint Dominic Academy's Alexandra Arndt for "This Passion," Arden Beesley for "Hoy Cantamos (Today We Sing)," Christine Ryan for "Mother Earth Goddess," Randolph High School's Gina LaManna for "Self-Portrait," Olga Levitskiy for "Creative Space," Carrie Lindgren for "Aftermath," Matt Palimeri for "The Shovel," Ridge High School's Rosanna DiNardo for her untitled work, Bo Gu for "The Convergence," West Essex Regional High School's Pamela Motyka for "Glue," Emily Peterson for her untitled work, Michael Weed for "Mind Candy," and West Morris Mendham High School's Chris Wolff for "Red Gourd."

Each year the winner of the competition will have an opportunity to travel to our nation's capital to meet Congressional leaders and to mount his or her art work in a special corridor here at the U.S. Capitol with other winners from across the country. Every time a vote is called, I get a chance to walk through that corridor and am reminded of the vast talents of our young men and women.

Indeed, all of these young artists are winners, and we should be proud of their achievements so early in life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating these talented young people from New Jersey's 11th Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MICHAEL
DURISHIN**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to publicly recognize and thank our Democratic Staff Director, Charles Michael Durishin, for his many years of public service. Michael dedicated his entire career to public service. He is retiring this week after more than 30 years of outstanding service to the United

States Congress. Michael has spent most of his professional career on the staff of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs. Since the 105th Congress, he has led the Democratic Staff of the Full Committee as our Staff Director.

Michael graduated from Birmingham Southern College in 1969 and attended graduate school at Memphis State University. He began his career in public service as a VISTA volunteer in South Dakota. While Michael's VISTA pay was low, the benefits were priceless. In South Dakota, Mike met and married his lovely wife, Jo Ann Gerhardt (Joey). Joey and Mike have one son, Michael who is a senior at George Mason University.

In January of 1973 Michael came to Washington with the staff of former Senator James Abourezk, (D-SD). He later served as a senior Legislative Assistant to the current Democratic Leader of the United States Senate, TOM DASCHLE, during Senator DASCHLE's tenure in the House of Representatives.

Michael has spent over 16 years on the staff of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, first as a professional staff member for the former Subcommittee on Education, Training and Employment and later as Staff Director of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, and finally as Democratic Staff Director for the Full Committee on Veterans Affairs. Immediately prior to his service as Democratic Staff Director for the House Committee, Michael spent two years as the Deputy Postmaster of the United States Senate.

Michael's extensive knowledge of veterans' issues coupled with his knowledge of the political process has been of immense assistance to me. When we worked together on the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Michael was a leader in monitoring the quality of benefits and health care services provided to veterans by the Department of Veterans Affairs. As Democratic Staff Director for the Full Committee, he has worked with colleagues to affect passage of legislation I introduced. Michael was especially helpful in working on legislation to improve education benefits under the Montgomery G.I. Bill, to improve veterans' employment opportunities, to help end homelessness among veterans and in overseeing the work of the Democratic staff.

Committee members will miss Michael's knowledge and political astuteness. Committee staff will miss his reassuring presence, his wonderful smile, his careful editing, his insight and his wealth of information. Our Nation's veterans will miss his dedication to truth and integrity. I will miss a dedicated public servant and a good friend.

I want to thank Michael for his decades of service to the public good and his many acts of personal kindness. Michael, we will miss you. May you enjoy your well-earned retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MR. SHAWN MICHAEL
BLAS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Shawn Michael Blas for completing his undergraduate degree in Crimi-

nology, with a minor in Psychology, at the University of New Mexico.

The Criminology major at the University of New Mexico is one of the most highly regarded programs of its kind in the nation. I am proud of Shawn for his tremendous achievement and his many long hours of study in order to earn this prestigious degree. Shawn was always a diligent student and outstanding member of the community while growing up on Guam. In fact, he was valedictorian of his graduating class at Evangelical Christian Academy in Chalan Pago, Guam in 1999. It is no surprise that he has excelled at the college level, and I have no doubt that he will continue to serve the community as he pursues his career in law enforcement.

I also want to take the time to commend Shawn's parents, Frances and Danny Blas of Dededo, Guam, whom I have known for many years. They have been mentoring and supportive parents to Shawn, their youngest son, and they have every reason to be proud of his achievement.

Today I join with Shawn's family and friends in congratulating him on his accomplishment and in wishing him the very best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF CONNIE B.
POPE, INCOMING PRESIDENT OF
THE ALABAMA FEDERATION OF
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL
WOMEN'S CLUB

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Connie B. Pope, of Opelika, Alabama. On May 17, 2003, Connie Pope will be sworn in as the new President of the Alabama Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club at their 84th Convention in Birmingham, Alabama.

Ms. Pope has been a member of the Business and Professional Women's Club since 1993 and has been an active member of the Opelika Chapter, where she has held all officer positions including two years as President of the club. In addition, on a statewide basis, she has served on various committees, as well as the officer positions of Secretary, Vice President, and, currently, President-Elect.

Connie Pope holds undergraduate degrees from Auburn University in social work and Troy State University in human resources. For the past eight years, she has worked as a legal assistant for attorney Margaret Mayfield of Opelika. In this position, she has been able to assist women in safety and equality issues, as well as long-range family and career planning. Along with her professional obligations and her positions with the Business and Professional Women's Club, Ms. Pope has found time to participate in other organizations such as the American Cancer Society, the National Association of Legal Secretaries, her church, and her local PTA. She has been married to John Pope for eleven years and has a son, Zachery, who is six years old.

Congratulations to Connie Pope and best wishes as you assume your new duties as President of the Alabama Federation of Business and Professional Women's Club.

CCH INCORPORATED

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the 90th anniversary of Riverwoods, IL based CCH Incorporated. For nearly a century, CCH has set the standard in reporting and explaining the complexities of American tax law. Their flagship product, The Standard Federal Tax Reporter, is essential to the accounting, human resources, banking, securities, insurance, government and health care professionals who must adapt to the dynamics of the federal tax code.

CCH was founded in 1913—the year that the U.S. federal income tax was created. The company has always made its home in the Chicago area. In 90 years, CCH has grown into a multi-national, public company that serves tax and legal professionals around the globe. It is a great asset to my district. The company employs more than 1,500 individuals here in Chicago and more than 2,300 across the U.S.

In spite of its tremendous growth and development, CCH has remained faithful to its original mission: to provide incomparable tax products that are clear, accurate and timely. I am most proud to represent CCH Incorporated. I congratulate them on this, the 90th anniversary of their inception, and I thank them for their innumerable contributions to legal and tax professionals throughout our district and around the world.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TAIWAN

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 15, 2003

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, Taiwan will be celebrating their president's third anniversary in office this May 20. Their president, Mr. Chen Shui-bian, has shown leadership and wisdom in the last three years.

Taiwan enjoys one of the highest standards of living in Asia and a good strong relationship with the United States. Taiwan stood shoulder to shoulder with the United States after 9/11 and gave us total support in our war with Iraq.

May Taiwan continue to enjoy economic prosperity and an ever stronger relationship with the United States. May Taiwan be successful in stopping the spread of SARS and in returning to the World Health Organization soon.

PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reluctantly support H.R. 1000, and to express my reasons for voting against the Miller-Rangel substitute to this legislation.