

Special congratulations to Marrison Suchyta, the second place winner in the junior individual documentary category, and Aruj Chaudhry, the third place winner in the senior individual paper category.

Finally, dedicated Illinois teachers worked throughout the academic year with these students so that they could be successful in competing with over 500,000 students nationwide.

Congratulations to their teachers: Angie Carr, Balazs Dibuz, Mario Garcia, Melissa Craig, Ron Solberg, Carlton Oquendo, Betsy Brown, Patricia Grunde, Ann Patricia Duffy, Leslie Contos, David Barber, Sherri Massa, Chris Salituro, Aggie Nowak, Cathy Bednar, Peggy Hall-Heineman, Patricia Grimmer, Sandra Koehler, Janet Kelsey, Chris DeMato, Barry Bradford, Claire Finn, Therese Hawkins, Sandra Koehler, and Claire Finn.

I commend these students on their achievements and encourage them to continue their pursuit of academic excellence.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MAYOR-ELECT ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I rise to salute a wonderful and historic event that is about to take place in my home State. On Friday, July 1, 2005, Antonio Villaraigosa will be sworn in as mayor of the great city of Los Angeles, CA.

With nearly 4 million residents, Los Angeles is a huge and dynamic city, and running it well will be a huge challenge. But Antonio Villaraigosa is ready, willing, and able to do the job.

I believe that Mayor Villaraigosa has the intelligence, talent, energy, courage, compassion, imagination, and experience needed to unite Los Angeles and move it forward to new greatness.

Antonio has shown this ability throughout his career as a labor leader, civic leader, and elected official. He has worked with Democrats and Republicans from all backgrounds and all parts of California to improve education, protect the rights of working families, expand health care coverage, and make our communities safer, better places to live.

Time and again, he has demonstrated the leadership skills that will help him make Los Angeles one of the world's great cities of the 21st century.

Antonio Villaraigosa has already made history by becoming the first Latino mayor of Los Angeles since 1872, but he has set his sights even higher. He hopes to make history by making Los Angeles work for all its residents, and I will do all I can to help him.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. PHYLLIS LEVENSTEIN

• Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, on May 28, New York and our Nation lost

one of its finest child advocates, innovators, and clinicians. Dr. Phyllis Levenstein, longtime Wantagh, NY, resident and founder of The Parent-Child Home Program, an international early literacy, school readiness program, passed away shortly after returning to Long Island to celebrate the program's 40th anniversary.

She was born Phyllis Aronson in Boston and grew up in Detroit. After graduating from Wayne State University in 1937, she taught in Detroit before coming to New York, where she earned a master's degree in social work in 1944 and a doctorate from Columbia University in 1969. She met her husband, Sidney Levenstein while working as a social worker in Manhattan during World War II. They married in 1946 and moved to Wantagh in 1957. Sidney, an Adelphi University Professor, who died in 1974, helped Phyllis develop The Parent-Child Home Program model.

In 1965, she identified parent-child interaction as the key to the development of early language skills and working with her husband, a statistician, created a pioneering model program. The Parent-Child Home Program, which Dr. Levenstein first piloted in Freeport, NY, in 1965, is a home-visiting program for families with 2- and 3-year-olds challenged by poverty and low levels of education. The program encourages parent-child verbal interaction through talking, reading, and playing and helps families create a language-rich environment in their homes. Longitudinal research shows that children who complete the 2-year program enter school ready to learn and graduate high school at the same rate as middle-income students. The program that began serving just 5 Long Island families in 1965 will reach 5,000 disadvantaged families across the country this year.

Dr. Levenstein's genius was in seeing the critical importance of parents engaging in continual verbal interaction with their young children through talking, reading, playing, and asking questions.

Over the years, she conducted and published significant research on the program's design and outcomes. The 88-year-old clinical psychologist was working on an expanded edition of her 1988 book about parent-child verbal interaction, "Messages from Home," when she passed away. A practicing clinical psychologist, Dr. Levenstein was in private practice in Wantagh for 44 years and continued to see patients up until her death. She also was affiliated with Stony Brook University and a number of Long Island mental health and child guidance centers.

Dr. Levenstein was a fellow of the American Orthopsychiatric Association and the American Psychological Association and a member of the American Educational Research Association and the Nassau County and New York State psychological associations.

Her children describe her as a person who derived true joy from helping peo-

ple and say that her soft touch was well-matched by her scientific tough-mindedness. Her principled humanism led as well to a lifelong impassioned advocacy of peace and social justice. Her colleagues will remember her great intelligence, intensity, and wisdom, coupled with integrity, warmth, and humility.●

McCROSSAN BOYS RANCH CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, it is with great honor that I rise today to congratulate the McCrossan Boys Ranch of Sioux Falls, SD, as it celebrates 50 years of outstanding service on June 29, 2005.

Established by Melinda Bell McCrossan, as the result of trust she created in honor of her late husband, the McCrossan Boys Ranch is a private, not-for-profit organization "dedicated to providing a place for boys to grow into men." Since its inception, Mrs. McCrossan determined that the ranch would be "a home where boys find a new hope for a better life."

In 1953, money from the trust was used to purchase four hospital buildings from the Sioux Falls Air Force Base that had been used during World War II. The buildings were transported 8 miles northwest of Sioux Falls, to the current location of the McCrossan Ranch. In 1955, the McCrossan Boys Ranch came to fruition as a working horse and sheep ranch designed to help boys between the ages of 10 and 18 handle the conflict in their lives and successfully live up their own potential.

Education has always been one of the ranch's top priorities, as the organization stresses formal education, which includes academic and vocational instruction, as well as productive work and life skills. Prior to 1978, all residents on the ranch attended local public schools. However, now that the ranch operates its own on-campus approved special education program through a partnership with East Dakota Educational Cooperative, 85 percent of all residents attend the ranch's school. The other 15 percent attend local public schools, as reintegration into the public school system is the ranch's ultimate goal for all the boys.

Although residents are there for a myriad of reasons, the McCrossan Boys Ranch makes certain to provide each student with ample individual attention, in addition to the required weekly group goals sessions. Anger management, corrective thinking, victim empathy and various other issues are also addressed through these workshops.

In early 2004, McCrossan Boys Ranch received national accreditation from the American Corrections Association, with a 99.6 percent rating. This honor makes the ranch one of only three correctional facilities in all of South Dakota to hold this prestigious accreditation. In fact, only 1,500 correctional organizations throughout the Nation maintain this accreditation.

I am proud to have this opportunity to recognize the McCrossan Boys Ranch for its 50 years of outstanding service. It is an honor for me to share with my colleagues the exemplary leadership and strong commitment to education McCrossan Boys Ranch provides. I strongly commend their years of hard work and dedication, and I am very pleased that their substantial efforts are being publicly honored and celebrated.●

HONORING THE CITY OF CORSICA, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and publicly recognize the 100th anniversary of Corsica, SD. It is at this time that I would like to draw attention to and commemorate the achievements and history of this charming city on the South Dakota prairie, which stands as an enduring tribute to the fortitude and pioneer spirit of the Dakotans.

Corsica, located in northern Douglas County in southeastern South Dakota, was founded out of a need to service a new railroad built several miles from the existing towns of Harrison and Armour. On August 17, 1905, Corsica officially became a town when 25 acres of prairie were auctioned off to the highest bidders. It was suggested by several of the railroad company's employees that the town be named Corsica in honor of the island of Corsica, their native home, and the new residents agreed.

Corsica grew rapidly and within weeks included the Floete Lumber Company, a grocery store, the Hafsaas boarding house, Corsica State Bank, Farmers State Bank, a newspaper office, and several restaurants. The town was incorporated on January 24, 1905, and local elections quickly followed to select city officials.

After 2 years, Corsica's population was estimated at nearly 500 people, and the town then boasted three general stores, a furniture store, two newspapers, two hotels, two livery stables, two churches, a water system, and a public hall.

The history of Corsica is, however, marked with its share of tragedy, as well. On October 16, 1907, the first fire of which there is a record burned one of the town's most prosperous businesses to the ground. John Van Ommeren's livery barn was completely destroyed and five horses, several buggies, and other personal belongings were all lost. Additionally, 8 years later, on July 15, 1915, a tornado struck the community, resulting in severe damage. Despite the devastation, Corsica's dedicated and resilient residents committed themselves to the rebuilding effort with undaunted determination.

One of Corsica's unique landmarks is the Priscilla Club Library, established in 1912. The library began as a book club, the Priscilla Club, comprised of 12 women sharing a dozen books between themselves. It evolved into an organi-

zation of women selling their embroidery and holding suppers in order to raise funds and purchase additional volumes. This small but well intentioned club amassed an immense collection of literature and cultural artifacts requiring an entire building to accommodate it all. The library now houses more than 10,500 books and hundreds of audiovisual materials. For a community of only 625 residents, this collection is a tremendous accomplishment and treasure.

Through the years, the proud residents of Corsica have demonstrated great flexibility and perseverance in their ability to thrive on the prairie of the Dakotas. I take this opportunity to recognize the history of the small city of Corsica and congratulate its residents as they celebrate their vibrant, century-long history on July 2-4, 2005.●

HONORING COMMISSIONER PAT KLABO

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I stand today in recognition of the long career of public service had by a very special woman, Aberdeen City Commissioner Pat Klabo, who is retiring from her position on June 30 after 18 years of dedicated service in city government. A tireless advocate for the health and well-being of her community, Commissioner Klabo's presence will surely be missed by residents of South Dakota's third-largest city.

Commissioner Klabo's rise to prominence in local government was not something preordained. As in most stories of American democracy, her call to lead was motivated not by personal ambition or pedigree but by the calls of those around her to take up the mantle of leadership. Her first foray into public service began when these calls of concerned citizens were beckoning her to bid for the Aberdeen mayor's office back in 1987. After a spirited campaign, she was defeated by fellow city commissioner Tim Rich, but was then appointed to fill out the remainder of Mr. Rich's term. Ever since that appointment, Commissioner Klabo has become a veritable fixture in Aberdeen politics.

In her position as commissioner of the water and wastewater departments for the last 17 years, Commissioner Klabo has proven to be a very capable leader on a number of issues that impact the vitality of both Aberdeen and the entirety of northeastern South Dakota. She was instrumental in overseeing the improvements made to Aberdeen's water treatment plant, an act that will prove key to the city's prospects for growth in the new millennium. Commissioner Klabo also oversaw the city's expanded use and development of wells on private lands, a partnership between public service and private enterprise that has proven beneficial to all in the community.

Even with such dedication to local government, Commissioner Klabo still somehow finds the time and energy to

engage in other pursuits that benefit the community. Her work as a part of the group Persons With Disabilities is a prime example of this. Forty years of service helping some of society's most vulnerable individuals speaks to the highest character of humanity. Commissioner Klabo is also a founding member of the Aberdeen Mayor's Committee for Persons with Disabilities, a body on which she has now served for more than a decade. In this position, she has ensured that people with disabilities have a voice at the table when important decisions are made at city hall.

It is my great pleasure to share a few words about Ms. Klabo's accomplishments with my colleagues and to note in the public records her contributions to my home State. It will be difficult to lose such a committed civil servant, especially one who has proven to be such an asset to her community. On the behalf of all South Dakotans, I would like to wish her the very best for her retirement.●

HONORING THE COMMUNITY OF STICKNEY, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor and publicly recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of the town of Stickney, SD. On July 4, 2005, Stickney residents look back on their community's proud past and look forward to a promising future.

Located in southeastern South Dakota in Aurora County, Stickney was platted August 17, 1905. Like many towns in South Dakota, Stickney got its start with help from the railroad, specifically the Milwaukee Railroad. In fact, the town was named for the oldest railroad agent in the United States, John B. Stickney of Mazomanie, Wisconsin.

Just before Christmas, 1905, construction of the tracks was finally complete. Shortly thereafter, on January 1, 1906, "Maude," the line's first train, ventured into town. Following Maude's arrival, Stickney quickly flourished. By mid-1906, the town boasted three lumber companies, two hardware stores, two livery barns, a funeral home, a general store, a post office, a hotel, a pool hall, a blacksmith shop, two banks, and four grain elevators.

On June 29, 1906, John McNeil published Stickney's first newspaper, Postal Card. Not long after its inception, McNeil sold the paper to J.S. Schuldt, who converted the printing shop into a schoolhouse. Grade school classes were held in the rear of the building, while high school classes were taught in the front. This establishment, like the paper, was also short lived, as a new school was constructed in 1907 to better accommodate the rapidly increasing number of students.

In the century since its founding, Stickney has proven its ability to thrive. Stickney's more than 300 proud residents celebrate the community's 100th anniversary on July 4, 2005, and it