

Missouri. Spencer is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Spencer has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Spencer has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. He was also the recipient of the 12 Month Camper Award and the World Conservation Award.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Spencer Fish for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

21ST CENTURY GREEN HIGH-PERFORMING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2187) to direct the Secretary of Education to make grants to State educational agencies for the modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chair, I stand before you today in support of H.R. 2187, the "21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act". It is important that our youth have quality educational facilities. I support this bill because it directs the Secretary of Education to make grants to State educational agencies for the modernization, renovation, or repair of public school facilities, which many of our schools around the country are in desperate need of.

The grants that this piece of legislation will not only structurally improve the learning facilities, but make them safe, healthy, high-performing, and equipped with up-to-date technology. Our children can have access to updated science and engineering laboratory facilities, libraries, and career and technical education facilities. Furthermore, when a local educational agency receives a grant they can use the money for structural purposes such as repairing, replacing, or installing roofs. As well as extensive, intensive or semi-intensive green roofs, electrical wiring, plumbing systems, sewage systems, lighting systems, or components of such systems, windows, or doors, including security doors.

The monies allotted to schools will also benefit the health of our students. As Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus I am very concerned about the toxins that our children are exposed to in their own classrooms. The legislation can provide for the abatement, removal, or interim controls of asbestos, polychlorinated biphenyls, mold, mildew, or lead-based paint hazards which we must remove from all of our buildings in America. They will be able to breathe better once heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems are replaced resulting in better air quality.

Our students must be safe while at school. If there is an emergency, the schools must be prepared to handle it. Money from grants can also be used to bring public schools into compliance with fire, health, and safety codes, including professional installation of fire/life safety alarms, including modernizations, renovations, and repairs that ensure that schools are prepared for emergencies.

Finally, we need to think ahead to the future. Our nation needs to become aware of our wastefulness and make strides to become greener. Schools will be able to get a head start going green by making the necessary changes to reduce the consumption of coal, electricity, land, natural gas, oil, and/or water. In addition, schools can focus on energy efficiency and renewable energy by making improvements to building infrastructure to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian access, renewable energy generation and heating systems, including solar, photovoltaic, wind, geothermal, or biomass, including wood pellet, systems or components of such systems, make them more energy efficient, reduce class size.

This is an important piece of legislation that I urge all of my colleagues to support. Support it for our nation's children and our nation's health.

TRIBUTE TO FRANKIE MANNING

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a giant of the Queens arts community—Frankie Manning, who passed away on April 27, 2009 at the age of 94.

Frankie Manning, the self-described "Ambassador of the Lindy Hop," was an icon of the jazz dancing era. From the start of his career in the 1930s, Frankie was one of jazz dance's most elite dancers, becoming a fixture at venues like the Savoy Ballroom and the Cotton Club.

As Frankie became the face of the Lindy hop, he took his signature style on tours through Europe and South America, to the New York World's Fair, and to Hollywood, where his impressive performances graced a number of Hollywood films.

Never one to overlook service to his country, Frankie also served in the Army during World War II, serving in the Pacific theater. After years of professional dancing, Frankie also began work for the Postal Service in 1955.

Where most of us see retirement as a chance to relax, Frankie did the opposite, turning his retirement into a whirlwind of choreographing and teaching, as he helped bring the Lindy hop back into the national consciousness.

He received a Tony award for his Broadway choreography in 1989, and returned to Hollywood to train actor Denzel Washington on the Lindy in the film "Malcolm X." In 2000, Frankie was awarded a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Frankie will always be remembered as someone who never lost his love for dancing as he got older. In fact, in just a few weeks

he was to celebrate his 95th birthday with a five-day festival and the premiere of a documentary on his life of dance. This event, now scheduled as a memorial, shows just how much spirit Frankie brought to his life and his dancing.

My condolences go out to Frankie's family, the dancers he worked with throughout his career, and to his many fans around the world. He brought so much life to the world of jazz dance, and the same energy and charisma to all his endeavors. Frankie Manning will certainly be missed, but I am confident that his spirit will live on.

BRYCE McDONALD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bryce McDonald of Liberty, Missouri. Bryce is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bryce has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bryce has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. He was also the recipient of the Eagles Soaring High award.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bryce McDonald for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING DR. PATRICIA L. STARCK FOR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AS DEAN OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER AT HOUSTON SCHOOL OF NURSING

HON. JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. CULBERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Patricia L. Starck for twenty-five years of outstanding achievements as Dean of The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Nursing and to recognize her contributions to the health of Texans and countless others through her leadership in nursing education.

Dean Starck has shown exemplary leadership in addressing the national nursing shortage. Under her leadership, student enrollment in the School of Nursing and the number of faculty have nearly doubled; philanthropic giving has increased more than twenty-fold; the number of endowed scholarships has risen from two to twenty-four and the number of endowed chairs from one to thirteen; and seven research endowments have been created. She was appointed by Governor Rick Perry to serve on the Statewide Health Coordinating