

all schools need to be competitive and accountable, including faculty and administration.

While the challenges of education have been many over the past two decades, Bob knows they are worthy of our time and our best efforts. Through his leadership, we have seen education in Colorado improve for our kids; they have a brighter future ahead and the tools to achieve success.

And today, I recognize Bob Schaffer's service in this Chamber and his service to the people of Colorado.

□ 1210

CONGRATULATING SHALER NORTH HILLS LIBRARY

(Mr. ALTMIRE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, recently I had the honor of attending a ceremony recognizing the Shaler North Hills Library for receiving the National Medal for Library and Museum Service. This is the highest Federal honor any museum or library can earn.

The Shaler North Hills Library serves over 50,000 families, providing assistance for everything from job searching to computer training. The library also presents outstanding programs for all ages, including showcasing local gardeners, art exhibits, and a speaker series. Their interactive science program, "Discovery Kids," won a Pennsylvania Library Association Best Practices Award, recognizing the program as the best of the best for early learning. The Shaler North Hills Library truly sets the standard for all ages in library services. I congratulate them on this well-deserved honor.

DEDICATED LEADERSHIP OF SHERIFF MARK CURRAN

(Mr. DOLD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work that Sheriff Mark Curran and the Robert Crown Center are doing in Illinois' 10th Congressional District.

Heroin and prescription drug abuse are on the rise in our local communities. Families of all backgrounds are being affected by this epidemic in the Chicagoland region. As a result of the increase in heroin deaths and prescription drug overdoses, Sheriff Mark Curran and the Robert Crown Center and other individuals in the community have come together to raise awareness of the dangers of these drugs.

Throughout the past 2 years I've had the privilege of working with these leaders so that we can help educate our communities and to help get help for those who are struggling with addiction. From roundtables to awareness events and a recent community

forum—which we held in Vernon Hills, Illinois—I'm proud of the work that's being done to end this epidemic. We do have much more work ahead of us, but I'm confident that Sheriff Mark Curran and others will continue to champion this cause and provide valuable resources to our community. I look forward to helping in any way possible.

WORLD AIDS DAY

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on World AIDS Day to highlight the remarkable progress that has been made over the past 30 years in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

I commend local leaders from my Tampa Bay area district like the Reverend Dr. James Favorite, who understands the importance of speaking to his congregation about HIV and AIDS. Reverend Favorite has urged more than 100 local churches and pastors across the Tampa Bay area to put AIDS and HIV awareness at the heart of their sermons. Reverend Favorite's impact has garnered national acclaim from the National Black Leadership Commission on AIDS.

I also commend the Test Tampa Bay campaign, which is an initiative designed to intensify HIV education, awareness, and prevention brought along by local health departments and other health advocates. Test Tampa Bay aims to increase the number of Tampa Bay residents who know their HIV status by encouraging HIV testing.

Finally, I would like to voice my strong support for H.R. 6138, Ending the HIV/AIDS Epidemic Act, by Representative BARBARA LEE and others, of which I'm a proud sponsor. We must remain committed to ending the HIV/AIDS epidemic and improving the lives of those infected with the disease.

We are at a tipping point in the fight against AIDS, so let's recommit to ensure that America continues to lead the way to achieve an AIDS-free generation.

HONORING MARGARET OBRAY FOR DEDICATION TO EDUCATION

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, schoolteachers are an overworked and undercompensated group, but the good ones are always appreciated for the time and effort and commitment they make to kids. So I stand today to honor one of the best examples of a dedicated teacher, Margaret Obay, who was a government and history teacher at Mountain Crest High School in Hyrum, Utah. Mrs. Obay has dedicated the past three decades of her life to encouraging her students, both in and out of the school. She has worked tirelessly to open their minds to guide them towards a productive and meaningful life.

Mrs. Obay has decided to retire at the end of this school year, having

changed the lives of literally thousands of students who had the opportunity of being taught by such an outstanding educator. I have watched Mrs. Obay for many years and can verify that she is the epitome of what a good educator should be, and she will be sorely missed. So, Mrs. Obay, we want to thank you for what you have done, for the impact you've had on students you have taught in the past, the ones you are teaching currently, and we have pity for all those kids in the future who will never have that experience.

HIV/AIDS

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate World AIDS Day today, we have reason to be proud of what we've done to fight HIV/AIDS.

When I came to the Congress in 1989, AIDS was a death sentence; now, with the right medicine, it's a manageable chronic disease. And we've made real progress toward a vaccine. That happened because the United States Congress took action. It wasn't magic. People living with the disease fought to make it happen, and leaders in the Congress and the White House fought to make it happen too.

As we recognize World AIDS Day today, we cannot get complacent. We can create an AIDS-free generation—it is possible. But it will slip away if we let these essential programs get cut. Today, we should resolve to stay the course, to keep the pressure on, and win the fight, to honor all those who died of AIDS and all those who are still fighting for AIDS today. This Capital has an epidemic of AIDS. We need to deal with it.

CONGRATULATING TEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN SAN LUIS OBISPO

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. I rise today to congratulate Teach Elementary School in San Luis Obispo on becoming a National Blue Ribbon School.

For 30 years, the Department of Education has bestowed this coveted award for outstanding academic achievement, and I am delighted that one of our local schools on the central coast of California was awarded such a tremendous honor.

This distinguished recognition highlights the hard work and dedication of the entire staff at Teach Elementary, and I would specifically like to note the outstanding leadership of Principal Dan Block.

For Teach Elementary to have such remarkable results—particularly during these tough budget times—is truly commendable. At a time when we must