

by denying justice and opportunity to minorities. He sent federal marshals to integrate the University of Alabama, the University of Mississippi and other public institutions, withstanding vicious personal attacks against him in order to break down centuries-old barriers of hatred. As a United States Senator, he worked diligently to pass a wide array of civil rights legislation, including the Voting Rights Act of 1965. And as a presidential candidate in 1968, he uttered the following words to a crowd of black men and women in Indianapolis as he informed them of the tragic death of Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.:

What we need in the United States is not division; what we need in the United States is not hatred; what we need in the United States is not violence or lawlessness, but love and wisdom, and compassion toward one another, and a feeling of justice toward those who will suffer within our country, whether they be white or they be black.

These were the words of a man who had known great pain after the assassination of his brother, but had overcome his hatreds to strive for a greater cause. His words touched the audience and helped to ease their immense pain at the loss of their leader.

Senator Kennedy's devotion to America's underprivileged extended to those whose problems were economic as well as social. He spoke with sharecroppers in Mississippi, hungry families in Appalachia, dispossessed Indian youths on the reservations, and migrant workers in California. He listened rather than preached to them, grasping their pain and fighting with them to ease it. Kennedy understood their longing for self-sufficiency, not government handouts. He campaigned tirelessly to provide a platform from which they could rise above their hellish circumstances: investment in impoverished cities and towns, comprehensive welfare reform (decades ahead of its time), strong advocacy for the expansion of educational opportunity, and the implementation and enforcement of labor laws to protect abused workers and, especially, exploited children.

Kennedy believed most passionately in the need to provide a better society for these young people: on the opening page of his 1967 book "To Seek A Newer World," he quoted the French intellectual Albert Camus: "Perhaps we cannot prevent this world from being a world in which children are tortured. But we can reduce the number of tortured children. And if you don't help us, who in the world can help us do this?" Kennedy's disgust at the mistreatment of children is most movingly shown by the story of a trip to a migrant worker camp in upstate New York in 1967. The noted historian Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., recorded an account of this visit in his biography "Robert Kennedy And His Times."

*** The owner's sign warned: ANYONE ENTERING OR TRESPASSING WITHOUT MY PERMISSION WILL BE SHOT IF CAUGHT. This discouraged most of the party. Kennedy, head down, kept walking. He found three migrant families living in an old bus with the seats ripped out. Inside he saw six small children, their bodies covered with running sores. The stench was overpowering *** Cardboard covered the windows of the next bus, where a child played forlornly on a filthy mattress. 'As Kennedy looked down at the child,' reported Jack Newfield, 'his hands and his head trembled in rage. He seemed like a man going through an exorcism.' The owner, as billed, had a gun.

'You had no right to go in there,' he said. . . . Kennedy replied in a whisper, 'You are something out of the 19th century. I wouldn't let an animal live in those buses. . . .' Once back in the twentieth century, Kennedy demanded that [New York Governor Nelson] Rockefeller investigate health conditions in the camps and called on labor leaders to organize the migrants."

Mr. Speaker, we will never know for certain the impact that Robert Kennedy might have had upon our country as President of the United States, but I believe it fair to speculate that fewer children would live in abandoned buses today if his boundless compassion and his energetic commitment had become a driving force behind our government.

This love of children was the source of his desire to improve the quality of our nation's schools. I once had the privilege of working with him on this all-important issue. As a young professor of economics and as a member of the Millbrae, California, school board, I was invited by Senator Kennedy's Committee to testify on the merits of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Senator Kennedy's inciteful questioning reflected an unencumbered devotion to ensuring that all children, regardless of their race, ethnicity, geographic or economic circumstances, had access to a top-notch education that would prepare them to access unlimited opportunities.

Senator Kennedy's feelings for young people also led him to his principled stand against the Vietnam War. A committed anti-Communist whose belief in civil liberties mandated his abhorrence of collectivist oppression, Robert Kennedy was a key participant in the dealings with Nikita Khrushchev and Fidel Castro during the Cuban Missile Crisis. By the mid-1960's, however, he realized that the Johnson Administration's Vietnam policy would do little to curb Communism despite its sacrifice of thousands and thousands of young American men. Kennedy did not shy away from communicating his deep emotions regarding this loss. He once said:

Our brave young men are dying in the swamps of Southeast Asia. Which of them might have written a poem? Which of them might have cured cancer? Which of them might have played in a World Series or given us the gift of laughter from the stage or helped build a bridge of a university? Which of them would have taught a child to read? It is our responsibility to let these men live. *** It is indecent if they die because of the empty vanity of their country.

Kennedy loved his country and all of its people, but he was not afraid to be unpopular if it meant doing what he felt was right.

Mr. Speaker, Robert F. Kennedy's life was cut short by an assassin's bullet 30 years ago today, and with his passing America lost one of its most brilliant and compassionate leaders. Many of his gifts, however, live on to this day. His invaluable contributions to civil rights, economic justice, and a moral and principled foreign policy will not be erased from our consciousness. Robert F. Kennedy's children have followed their father's example by their commitment to public service, and I am proud to have worked for the last twelve years with his oldest son, Rep. Joseph Kennedy, Jr., a dear friend and tireless advocate for human rights and the underprivileged.

I invite my colleagues to join me in remembering Robert F. Kennedy. I pray that we all let his moral courage guide our public service, and that we ensure that his lessons will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO L'ANSE CREUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL SOUTH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 5, 1998

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, education is a lifelong commitment and adventure. As children and adults, we all have reaped the benefits of our teachers' and school administrators' dedication. That is why each year, the United States Department of Education awards a selection of secondary schools with the Blue Ribbon Schools Award. This year, one hundred and sixty-six schools will be presented with the honor. We, in Macomb County, are proud of the fact that one of our own—L'Anse Creuse Middle School South—has been chosen to receive this important award this year.

As you walk into L'Anse Creuse Middle School South, a banner greets you with the words, "This is our village, these are our children. Love them, teach them, guide them." These are not merely words decorating a hallway. They symbolize the dedication that the staff feels for their students. As a recipient of the 1998 Blue Ribbon School Award, L'Anse Creuse Middle School South has worked hard to create a supportive educational environment for their students.

In 1975, L'Anse Creuse Middle School South opened its doors to students in Harrison Township, Michigan. Within the walls of Middle School South, an emphasis has been placed on academic success and self-esteem. The highly trained teaching staff is committed to working with each student as an individual. It is cooperation and respect between the staff and students that makes L'Anse Creuse Middle School South an exciting environment in which to learn and grow.

Each fall, for the past twenty-three years, students have entered the doors of L'Anse Creuse Middle School South to find a nurturing environment in which to learn. As a Blue Ribbon School, Middle School South is a working example for other schools to follow. I am proud to honor the achievements of the students and staff at L'Anse Creuse Middle School South.

HONORING MR. JIM BILL
MCINTEER FOR HIS 77TH BIRTH-
DAY, AND FOR THE 60TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF 21ST CENTURY
CHRISTIAN

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 5, 1998

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jim Bill McInteer for his 77th birthday, and for the 60th anniversary of 21st Century Christian. This powerful, religious periodical, which humbly originated out of the home of M.N. Young, Sr., in 1938, is now in circulation to more than 6,000 people.

Mr. McInteer, who began his service with 20th Century Christian in 1947, working as a business manager, has been afforded the privilege to see this vehicle for Christ not only reach its 60th year of service, but also has been fortunate enough to stand at the helm,

as this magazine now prepares itself for the new millennium—thus the name change to 21st Century Christian.

But more outstanding than recognition, medals or fame is the story of how Jim Bill McInteer, M. Norvel Young, Winston Moore and several others courageously worked with this organization in its early stages, while having to overcome a mountain of adversity. They relentlessly pursued a way to relate the Gospel to the lives of people everywhere. And, of course, they faced the financial realities of such a venture, which would constantly whisper discouragement to them.

Yet, these Christian leaders were equipped with an extraordinary amount of faith and fortitude, desiring to see "New Testament Christianity" brought to the forefront of the modern age. They would work tirelessly knowing that many hurting people had a dire need to read and be encouraged by the Gospel.

As a result of the determination of Jim Bill McInteer and his partners, the 20th Century Christian magazine grew beyond its humble beginnings under the steps of the David Lipscomb College auditorium to a brand new 22,000 square-foot facility equipped with a bookstore, a warehouse filled with thousands of useful Christian books, Bibles and Christian curriculum materials.

Thanks to the services of the men and women at 21st Century Christian, the good news of the Gospel has reached and continues to reach the lives of many families all throughout Tennessee.

And I reserve a special "thank-you" to Jim Bill McInteer, whose visionary leadership and unselfish Christian service will have a far greater impact than his eyes will ever see. May God continue to shine upon his life, family and service as He has for the past 77 years. And may the future receivers and readers of 21st Century Christian literature forever be touched with the encouragement and inspiration that it has already brought to the lives of so many others.

THE STUDENT WINNERS OF THE 1998 EXPLORAVISION AWARDS

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 5, 1998

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, for the recognition of their achievement, I am inserting into the RECORD the names of the student winners of the 1998 ExploraVision Awards:***HD***1998 First Place Finalists

Holmes Elementary School, San Diego, CA; Grade Level: K-3; Project: Finders Keepers; Students: Ashlyn Hrenko, Rachel Sampson, Tyler Santander; Teacher Advisor: Diana Celle; Community Advisor: Steve Celle.

Pickens Academy, Carrollton, AL; Grade Level: 4-6; Project: Operation Odor Eater; Students: Wetherly Collins, Maggie King, William Webb Lavender; Teacher Advisor: Nita Bailey; Community Advisor: Natalie Lavender.

Kate Collins Middle School, Waynesboro, VA; Grade Level: 7-9; Project: In Vivo Cartilage Implants: The Technological Application of Tissue Engineering to Regenerate Articular Cartilage; Students: Andrew Humphries, Lauren Preski, Kristen Burgess, Elizabeth Anderson; Teacher Advisor: Dr. John E. Pierce; Community Advisor: David A. Burgess, MD.

University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy, Detroit, MI; Grade Level: 10-12; Project: SMAART: Shape Memory Alloys in Airplanes Reduce Turbulence; Students: Brett Lee, Joseph Oravec, William Schlotter, Daniel Tremiere; Teacher Advisor: Anne Moeser; Community Advisor: W. Charles Moeser.***HD***1998 Second Place Finalists

Bluemont Elementary School, Manhattan, KS; Grade Level: K-3; Project: DNA Door Opener; Students: Phillip Kuehl, Margaret Thomas, Jamon John, Benjamin Stark-Sachs; Teacher Advisor: Cynthia Garwick; Community Advisor: John Garwick.

Eugene Christian School, Eugene, OR; Grade Level: K-3; Project: The Tooth Buffer; Students: Scott Oplinger, Micah Randall, Alex Woldt; Teacher Advisor: Gwen Philipsen; Community Advisor: Thomas Zorn.

Mayfield Woods Middle School, Elkridge, MD; Grade Level: 4-6; Project: The Medwatch; Students: Andrew White, Robert K. Albin II, Christopher Perks, Nirav Parekh; Teacher Advisor: Lynn Birdsong; Community Advisor: Kem White.

Leeds Elementary School, Arlington, WI; Grade Level: 4-6; Project: The Smart Smoke Detector; Students: Charles Delorey, Jeffrey Mueller, Ashly Hall; Teacher Advisor: Jeffrey Stern; Community Advisor: Roger Bjorge.

Point Grey Mini School, Vancouver, BC; Grade Level: 7-9; Project: N.A.F.T.A.-Newron Activation: A Frequency Technology Application; Students: Barry Wohl, Robyn Massel, Carly Glanzberg, Isaac Elias; Teacher Advisor: John O'Connor; Community Advisor: Sanford Wohl.

John Burroughs School, St. Louis, MO; Grade Level: 7-9; Project: QUACK-The Duckweed Paper; Students: Anita Devineni, Eric Hirsh, Jonathan Pollock, Catherine Whyte; Teacher Advisor: Mary Harris; Community Advisor: Elaine Kilmer.

University Laboratory High School, Urbana, IL; Grade Level: 10-12; Project: NaMRh: The Tissue Engineered Nanomachine Monitored Replacement Heart; Students: Mara Bandy, Kim Ly, Zeynab Moradi, Anna Sczaniecka; Teacher Advisor: David Stone.

South Salem High School, Salem, OR; Grade Level: 10-12; Project: AntiQuake: Securing Society Through the Science of Nitinol; Students: Randy Kluver, Patrick Gilger, Daniel Gruber, Joy Harms; Teacher Advisor: Michael Lampert.

PARITY FOR MENTAL HEALTH CARE

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 5, 1998

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of this Congress a study that has found that health insurance coverage for mental health is being cut far faster than insurance coverage for physical injury and illness.

This study found that mental health benefit costs have been slashed six times as often as general health benefit costs over the past 10 years. Where the value of general health benefits has declined 7 percent (from \$2,326.86 per covered individual in 1988 to \$2,155.60 in 1997), the value of mental health benefits has

declined 54 percent (from \$154.08 in 1988 to \$69.61 in 1997), according to the report.

This study was prepared by the Hay Group on behalf of the National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems, the Association of Behavioral Group Practices and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill.

As the study shows, discrimination in benefits for mental health care persists. Mental health care has been, and remains, subject to different limits, caps, and deductibles than general health care. In addition, these caps, limits, and deductibles have not raised substantially in the past 10 years to account for inflation. That translates into additional erosion of the behavioral health benefit.

This is discrimination. And this is the reason the House Mental Health Working Group and I have introduced comprehensive legislation requiring health insurance companies to establish parity between mental health and substance abuse coverage and coverage for physical illnesses and injury.

The Mental Health and Substance Abuse Parity Act would prohibit insurance companies from setting spending limits for mental health and substance abuse coverage that are lower than limits set for physical illness or injury. Legislation introduced and passed with my initiative in 1996 prohibited unequal limits on annual and lifetime spending levels. This legislation goes further by prohibiting limitations on the frequency of treatments, number of visits, or other limitations on treatment not imposed for medical-surgical treatment. It would also prohibit copayments, deductibles, out-of-network charges, and out-of-pocket contributions or fees not imposed for medical surgical treatment.

This bill has been endorsed by the Coalition for Fairness in Mental Illness Coverage, which includes the American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association, American Psychological Association, National Mental Health Association, National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, American Managed Behavioral Healthcare Association, Federation of American Health Systems and National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems.

The cost of mental health parity is small, especially when weighed against its benefits. A study by the Department of Health and Human Service's Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administrations found the average increase in insurance premiums necessary to achieve parity for mental health coverage would be only 3.4 percent. Adding both mental health and substance abuse parity would require a combined increase of 3.6 percent.

Mental illness is not a character flaw, but a tangible treatable health problem as real as hypertension, cancer or heart disease. Today, the advances of our medical system have given us scientific breakthroughs that make appropriate care as effective for mental illness as insulin is for a diabetic.

It is time that health insurance plans recognize that mental illness is an illness. Most people who suffer from mental illnesses can live normal lives if they receive treatment but most can't receive treatment if their insurance won't pay for it.

The bottom line is that discrimination against people with mental and addictive disorders still exists. It must end.