

grandparents of Canon City. Debra Rupp-Lindt, aunt, of Grand Junction, John Sallee, Pioneer Trails Paraprofessional, La Junta and Ted Kadlecsek, Post 2203, Rocky Ford. Several other Scouting volunteers from the Lamar area as well as many friends were in attendance.

On Feb. 19, 1998, James K. Haas completed the requirement to attain the rank of Eagle Scout. Jim is the son of Ken and Connie Haas. He is 16 years old and a sophomore at Lamar High School. In addition to Scouting Jim is also active in the Lamar FFA Chapter, where he received the Star Greenhand Award for the 1997 year, has attended "Made for Excellence" Leadership Training, attended the 69th Annual State Convention in Pueblo, and served on several committees. Jim is currently president of his Sunday School class, past member of the Cloverleaf 4-H Club and has been a Lamar Daily News carrier for five years, as well as a great asset to the family business. In his spare time he enjoys reading, farm mechanics, shooting sports, camping and hiking.

Jim began his Scouting career at six years of age, as a Tiger Cub at Park #221 chartered by Washington School. He completed the Cub ranks at Washington through first year Webelos. Jim transferred to Pack #222, chartered by LDS Church, and completed second year Webelos and Arrow of Light requirements.

May 1993, Jim became a Boy Scout in Troop #222, and a Varsity Scout in February 1996. Jim has served as quartermaster, grub master, scribe, chaplain, asst. patrol leader, and sr. patrol leader. Jim has attended Junior Leadership Training, two years summer camp at San Isabel Scout Ranch, Packard High Adventure Camp, and the 1997 National Jamboree at Ft. A.P. Hill, Va. "On My Honor" religious award was earned in 1997.

To date Jim has earned 42 merit badges, the varsity letter, three varsity pins, and is looking forward to a Philmont trek this summer.

Jim chose his Eagle project after a wildfire swept through the Lake Hasty Campground last March, destroying much of the natural cover for the birds in the area. After several meetings with Virgil Harp of the Corp of Engineers, and Steve Keefer of Department of Wildlife, the service project was successfully completed November 1997. With the help of follow members of Troop and Team #222, 13 quail shelters were erected, two bat boxes, two owl platforms, and 12 bird houses were placed in the Hasty Lake area. A total of 164 hours was involved in this project.

Scoutmasters Rich Nelson and James Bair, along with assistant Scoutmasters David Northrup, Tom McKannon, Kent Fisher and team coach Ken Haas, have all been instrumental in Jim's completion of Eagle rank.

As the Congressman representing the Fourth Congressional District of the State of Colorado, I am proud to represent James Haas. He sets a fine example showing the impact that youth can make when they strive to live a life of integrity. Once again, I congratulate him for this tremendous achievement and wish him well in any future endeavor he wishes to pursue.

HONORING THE RISING SUN CHAPTER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Rising Sun Chapter of the

Prince Hall Royal Arch Masons for providing leadership and support to its members and to the New York community.

The first Independent African Grand Holy Royal Arch Chapter of North America located at South Eleven Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, held its Grand Chapter Convocation on November 27, 1847.

At that convocation a petition was presented by Brothers from New York requesting that a delegation be sent from Grand Chapter to confer the several Royal Arch Degrees. The petition was received and adopted, and ten Brothers from New York were exalted.

Going back to the Civil War and the military conflicts that followed, its members have shown the way in the defense of this country overseas, even while confronting the challenges of racism at home.

Since its beginnings the lodge has made education a priority, and worked for the economic and social improvement of its members and the African-American community at large.

During the Harlem Renaissance Companion Arthur Schomburg, a Royal Arch Mason, shared his knowledge of the history of people of African descent and inspired other scholars and writers, such as James Weldon Johnson, Claude McKay and Richard Wright.

The lodge has supported the civil rights movement, been prominent in fighting the scourges of our community, from drug addiction to deadly diseases. It has supported efforts to improve the educational system and prepare our young people for the job market.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in saluting the Rising Sun Chapter for their great accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO JEANNETTE MARY LOSCIUTO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Jeannette Mary LoSciuto upon her retirement from the New York City Board of Education. Jeannette taught in the NYC public school system since 1972 and will retire from teaching after 25 years. Jeannette's last 23 years were spent at the Joseph B. Cavallaro School, Intermediate School 281K in Brooklyn. Jeannette taught language arts to the students of IS281K and was the department leader for 20 years. Jeannette was also the faculty advisor for the school yearbook and newspaper from 1980 to 1982.

Jeannette is not only an educator but also very active in the Coney Island community. Her community activism includes serving as a member and/or officer on the local Community Board, boards of numerous elementary schools, day care centers, housing and homeowner associations, task force on poverty, Community Council, and PTAs. She also served with the Community Democratic Club from 1964 until its dissolution in 1994. This participation included positions as the editor of the newsletter, election district captain, poll watcher, petition counter and checker, and a member of its Executive Board.

Jeannette joined the Boys Scouts of America in 1963 and continued to be active long after her children's involvement. Jeannette re-

ceived various awards in her capacity as Den Mother; Webelo Leader; instructor; counselor for the Sheepshead District, Brooklyn; member of the Training and Commissioners staff and committee person, first in Troop & Pack #678 and then in Troop & Pack #504. Her active involvement with the Boys Scouts of America continues as committee person and merit badge counselor. In 1974, Jeannette was awarded the prestigious Silver Beaver.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Jeannette M. LoSciuto upon her retirement as a teacher in the NYC public school system. At a time, when there have been many stories told about the failures in our public school system, it is with great pleasure that we can honor someone whose dedication is an inspiration to our youth.

RESTORE TAX RELIEF FOR SMALL COACH BUILDERS

HON. PHILIP M. CRANE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend to the attention of my colleagues a bill I am introducing today which will correct an inequity in the tax code which punishes certain small businesses.

The 1990 Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act taught Congress a number of tough lessons. At the time, I took on the leader of my party, then President Bush, and, along with every other House Republican, opposed the 1990 bill because of its huge tax increases. The bill enacted the infamous luxury taxes on boats, automobiles and other goods in order to "tax the rich." What I predicted at the time was confirmed when the U.S. boat and aircraft industries were hit hard economically as a result of these so-called "tax the rich" policies. The rich were not harmed, rather U.S. workers were out of jobs when consumers stopped buying goods subject to luxury taxes.

While Congress has since worked to repeal these harmful luxury taxes, there are a few remaining tax inequities from that 1990 bill. The federal gas guzzler tax attempted to force better gas mileage from automobiles in the U.S. by overtaxing cars that exceeded government mandated fuel economy standards. Congress in 1986 provided an exemption from the gas guzzler tax for small automobile manufacturers. Those benefitting from this tax relief were the small coach builders who modify existing automobiles into limousines. Unfortunately, the 1990 tax bill repealed this small business exemption, thus subjecting the small coach builders again to the gas guzzler tax.

Like the other luxury taxes, the negative consequences of this new tax increase fell hardest on the workers of the coach building industry. In the late 1980s, there were 35 builders producing up to 9,000 autos. Today, only 12 builders remain and they produce less than 2,400 vehicles. The gas guzzler tax adds, on average, \$1,800 to the cost of one of these vehicles. This cost must also be borne by the small businesses who operate limousine services and must replace a vehicle every 18 to 24 months.

The bill I introduce today will restore that exemption for small coach builders from the gas guzzler tax. Specifically, my bill will exempt

coach builders who annually manufacture fewer than 10,000 vehicles from this onerous tax.

I urge my colleagues to join me in providing this tax relief for small businesses by cosponsoring this legislation.

A DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF
ACHIEVEMENT

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the quality of health care that people receive is most directly related to the skills and manner of the people providing the care. A kind word, a reassuring look, or a friendly touch can do as much to help speed along a person's recovery as can any medicine. The patients at Bay Medical Center have had the good fortune to have the professional leadership of more than 1,200 employees by Dorothy Watrous, the Vice President of Patient Care, who is retiring after seventeen years of service.

During her time at Bay Medical, Dorothy Watrous has been credited with instituting many successful programs. She implemented Primary Care Nursing and Nursing Career Ladders, which have earned national praise as innovative and effective efforts. Dorothy has worked to provide educational opportunities for employees of the Center. She has also given back to the nursing profession through her work in developing an annual nursing scholarship program through Bay Medical Center for qualified students in the community.

One of the most important actions on her part was to develop a flexible scheduling program that accommodated working mothers. Given the demands that medical staffs face, the ability to deal with the realities of family needs helped to provide a happier staff that could only make patients feel even better about the responsiveness of their care. She also provided strong encouragement to employees to pursue further education and move up to positions of greater responsibility.

Having received both her Bachelor's and Masters of Science degrees in nursing from the University of Michigan, Dorothy Watrous went on to serve within the U.S. Public Health Service. She also has participated in many community service projects, including the Board of Directors for the Bay County Women's Center, and the Allocations Committee of United Way of Bay County. She also is the Vice Chairperson for the Board of Directors for Bay Medical Education, and on Advisory Committees for Bay-Arena Skill Center, Delta College, Saginaw Valley State University, and Great Lakes Junior College. She is an active member of the Bay City Presbyterian Church and Choir, the Saginaw Torch Club, and the Bay YWCA Week Without Violence Committee.

Mr. Speaker, when an individual does so much for her profession and for her community, that person deserves to be lauded. While her day-to-day presence will be missed, her efforts and initiatives will certainly continue to be of benefit to people for years to come. I ask you and all of our colleagues to join me in thanking Dorothy Watrous for her years of dedication, and in wishing her the very best for her retirement and all that lies ahead.

SENDING BEST WISHES TO
MARYBETH SCARPONE

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I am sad to report that Marybeth Scarpone, a staff assistant who serves the residents of New Jersey's twelfth congressional district in my Freehold office, has announced that she is leaving the office. Marybeth has been a joy to have in the office. She has always been cheerful and pleasant. She greets constituents with a bright, happy smile putting them at ease. Her caring nature is evident by the numerous letters of gratitude we receive from constituents whom she has helped.

Marybeth grasped new challenges in her life with enthusiasm and exuberance, from the art competition and the women's forum to the youth council. All have been successful events thanks in part to the efforts of Marybeth. Today, my district office is decorated with the artwork of those students who were runner ups in this year's competition.

Often, Marybeth would go beyond the call of duty and we will not only remember her for her happy, beaming demeanor but for the rash of poison ivy after a beach cleanup and the way she looked after chaperoning the 4-H high school essay contest winners on their trip to D.C.—a day that started at 5:00 a.m.

Once in a while you could catch her spending her lunch hour in our conference room with baskets and gardening gloves, caring for the beautiful plants that brighten up our bay window.

Someone else may one day occupy Marybeth's desk but no one can occupy the place in our hearts that she has found. We will miss her very much and we wish her a future of success and happiness.

IN SUPPORT OF BRAIN INJURY
RESEARCH

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, Traumatic Brain Injury, known as TBI, is the number one killer and cause of disability among young people in the United States. It claims more victims than breast cancer, prostate cancer and AIDS combined, yet it receives little attention from Congress, the media and the medical community.

It is time that Congress demonstrate its commitment to head injury patients and expand our efforts to treat and cure brain injuries. Each year, more than 2 million Americans are involved in an incident which results in head injury. Approximately 100,000 victims die and 500,000 will require hospitalization.

Traumatic brain injury can strike anyone and leave devastating results. Trauma to the head can result in significant impairment to an individual's physical, psychosocial and cognitive functional abilities. TBI affects the victim's whole family both emotionally and economically and often results in immense medical and rehabilitative expenses. The direct and indirect costs of TBI are \$25 billion per year.

In 1996, Congress passed the Traumatic Brain Injury Act which authorized the NIH to expand research studies and establish innovative programs regarding traumatic brain injury. We must now provide the NIH with sufficient funding so that exciting new research, such as regeneration, can reach the clinical stage and give victims and their families new hope.

I urge my colleagues to support NIH brain injury funding so that we can help save Americans from the devastation of Traumatic Brain Injury.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
CONCERNING THE CHATTAHOOCHEE
NATIONAL RECREATION
AREA

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill, H.R. 4141, to modify the boundaries of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area to protect the lands, waters, and natural, cultural, and scenic resources along the Chattahoochee River.

Expansion of the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area will provide additional recreation opportunities for citizens, will protect and preserve the endangered Chattahoochee River, and will be accomplished through support and funding from federal, state, local, and private entities.

The Chattahoochee River, ranked as one of the ten most endangered rivers in the country provides the drinking water for the Atlanta metropolitan area and almost half of the population of Georgia. One of the major concerns to our river is the imminent threat of development. Runoff from construction and the overdevelopment of areas surrounding the forty-eight mile stretch of the river north of the city have resulted in pollution silt, and sediment build-ups. This bill authorizes the creation of a greenway buffer between the river and private development to prevent further pollution from continued development, provide flood and erosion control, and maintain water quality for safe drinking water and for the abundant fish and wildlife dependent on the river system. Protecting this valuable resource is vital to the future of the state of Georgia and what I consider to be one of the most important things that I can do in my public career.

The massive influx of people—more than 400,000 since 1990—into the Atlanta metropolitan area has not only endangered the river, but has also dramatically increased the need for recreational areas. The Chattahoochee River is currently one of the most visited recreation areas in the country. At the rate of growth expected in this area, the demand for parks will only increase. Visitor enjoyment will be enhanced by increased acreage and by adding land-based links between existing units of the national recreation area. This additional land will be welcomed in a city with a lack of public parks and green spaces.

This greenway project will serve as a model for future conservation efforts. Public and private cost sharing will ensure local involvement in the expansion of the park boundary. Federal appropriations provided in this proposal will be matched by funding from the State of