CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER DUENAS MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL AND THE ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF GUAM ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago, Bishop Apollinaris William Baumgartner' dream came to fruition. Firmly believing that the growth of Guam's Catholic Church depended on the establishment of the local clergy, he worked to ensure that young men on Guam had the opportunity to receive religious vocation training and to pursue university level education. Upon contacting the Stigmatine Fathers at Waltham, Massachusetts, work commenced on a minor seminary accommodating young Guam men aspiring to the priesthood.

It was an uphill battle. At the time, the church in Guam was in the earliest stages of self-reliance. It was a challenge to survive with meager funds and at the same time support the goal of an institution that will foster Guamanian clergies, bishops and priests. Money was not the sole problem. Time and energy also went into clearing the land upon which the school was to be built. Fortunately, efforts from dedicated followers make the building construction possible.

In the summer of 1948, five Stigmatine Fathers, considered pioneers and Founding Fathers, arrived on Guam. The Father Superior, Rev. Joseph Morgan, C.P.S., was accompanied by the Revs. Charles Egan, C.P.S., Geral O. Goggin, C.P.S., Leo James Garachi, C.P.S., and Elisworth Fortman, C.P.S. to form the nucleus of the teaching staff. A total of 17 Stigmatine Fathers instructed at the school until 1959 when local clergy were able to administer and staff the school. Capuchin Franciscan Friars, who were pastors of most of the parishes in the Marianas in those days, took over the school's administration.

Father Duenas Memorial School (FDMS) was named after a local priest martyred by Japanese Imperial troops during World War II for sympathizing with the Americans. FDMS opened its doors on October 1, 1948. To usher in the school's first year, a solemn high mass was celebrated in the presence of Bishop Baumgartner and attended by the parents, relatives and friends of students. Among those who filled the chapel to maximum capacity were representatives of the Guam Department of Education, Mr. Norbert Tabery and Mr. Simon Sanchez. The presence bears testimony to the good relations which have always existed between Catholic Schools. FDMS being the first, and the Government of Guam.

To attract more students, Bishop Baumgartner decided to admit non-seminarians, classified then as "day-students," to FDMS. Considered as a college preparatory High School, day students attended classes during the daytime while seminarians boarded at the school. A total enrollment of less than fifty students doubled in 1949 and has since steadily increased.

Around the same time of Father Duenas Memorial's inception, Bishop Baumgartner laid the foundation of yet another of Guam's premier educational institutions. Named after Mary, the Mother of Jesus, the Academy of Our Lady of Guam (AOLG) is a female-only Catholic educational institution delivering Catholic educational service based on the Gospel values of love.

With the assistance of my aunt, Sister Mary Inez Underwood, the Academy opened its doors to 36 freshmen on September 8, 1949. First housed in a section of the Agana Cathedral Activities Hall, the students learned about developed skills in the sciences, mathematics, language and fine arts as well as the life and example of Christ.

Under the guidance of the future Archbishop of Guam, Monsignor Felixberto Camacho Flores spearheaded the construction of a permanent structure for the Academy in 1960. In 1974, the school received its first accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It has undergone the accreditarian process successfully four times after this, the last being in March of 1996.

From an initial enrollment of 36 students in 1949, the student body now consists of over 400 young women. Under the direction of Sister Mary Inez Underwood, Sister Mary Roberta Taitano, Sister Marie Pierre Martinez, Sister Mary Francis Jerome Cruz, Sister Mary Helene Torres, and Sister Mary Angela Perez, the Academy has distinguished itself as one of the finest college and career-bound preparatory schools on Guam. Sister Mary Francis Jerome and Mrs. Daphne Castillo continue this tradition of excellence today.

While AOLG students are recognized islandwide for their outstanding scholastic achievement, participation in Academic Challenge Bowls, Mock Trials, and the Debate forums, AOLG is also recognized locally and regionally for its strong interscholastic sports program, such as previous Far East Volleyball Tournament championships, tennis and golf tournaments, as well as an array of other vouth athletic activities.

October 14, 1998 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of Father Duenas Memorial High School and the Academy of Our Lady of Guam. I commend and congratulate the founders, administrators, faculty, staff, students, alumni and alumnae of these two fine Catholic schools.

For fifty years, the schools have generated men and women who have made great contributions toward the transformation of Guam from an island ravaged by war in the forties to its present state as a political and economic center in the Western Pacific.

I wish FDMS and AOLG continued success. I am confident that these fine institutions of faith and learning will continue their commitment to excellence by providing a valuable educational opportunity to the sons and daughters of Guam.

HONORING HAZEL HAINSWORTH YOUNG AND THE ALPHA KAPPA OMEGA CHAPTER

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of honoring the Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter and Mrs. Hazel Hainsworth Young. This Resolution first recognizes the Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter on the celebration of their 70th birthday. It also recognizes the dedication and commitment of Mrs. Hazel Hainsworth to the sorority and to her community.

Throughout its storied history, the Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter has been an instrument of leadership in many civic, cultural, and charitable projects. This chapter has consistently made an effort to enhance the quality of life for all Houston residents. In the early 1930's, it was this chapter which distributed milk to the underprivileged children of Houston. This tradition continues in the 1990's with its devotion to improving academic achievement among African-American students. Whatever the need, this chapter has answered the call with commitment and leadership.

Mrs. Hazel Hainsworth Young serves as a vivid reminder of our sorority's commitment to wholesome sisterly friendships and of our endeavors to serve our community. She has exemplified the true meaning of being a sister in the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She continues to be a source of inspiration, not only for me and for you, but to our future members. Who better to look up to for direction and leadership, than to one of our founding sisters.

This birthday celebration allows us to reflect on our past and to look to our future. The past is filled with many Alpha Kappa Alpha sisters, who like Mrs. Hazel Hainsworth Young, dedicated themselves to the improvement of their community. These sisters have set an example which future members of this chapter can emulate.

On this occasion of your 70th year of existence, I want to commend the sisters of the Alpha Kappa Omega Chapter for their dedication to sisterhood and for their efforts to improve the Houston community. I also want to thank Mrs. Hazel Hainsworth Young for her leadership and service.

A TRIBUTE TO THE STREET-LEVEL YOUTH MEDIA PROGRAM

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Street-Level Youth Media program for their designation as a recipient of the "Coming Up Taller" Award. The Annual "Coming Up Taller" Awards are sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities to showcase cultural excellence and enhance the availability of out-of-school arts and humanities programs to children, especially those with limited resources.

Street-Level provides a concrete example of how after-school, weekend and summer arts programs are effectively used by communities in prevention strategies for children and youth.

Street-Level began in 1993 as a vision of a small group of artists who wanted to create a hands-on program that would provide free access to emerging technologies. Children and young adults, with the help of computers, cameras, video, radio and other mediums of media art and technology, were given a forum for self-expression, communication and social change. Today, that vision has become a reality. Through their collaboration with National Public Radio, The Field Museum of Chicago, Gallery 37 and Public Broadcasting Service, among others, Street-Level is able to serve more than 1,000 children and young adults in Chicago. Thanks to their association with these well-known entities, we have been graced with historical documentaries, innovative animation and multicultural education resources.

Programs like Street-Level Youth Media deserve our recognition. Programs such as these are proactive, promote a child's creative interests and develop critical thinking skills. As we embark into the Twenty-First Century, our challenge should be to replicate exemplary programs like Street-Level so that we may have an able Twenty-First Century citizenry.

I applaud the work that you do and I am hopeful that your creative energy will follow your lives and make our world richer. Congratulations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for a recorded vote earlier today. If I had been present for the rollcall vote No. 487, I would have voted "yea".

DO THE WRITE THING CHALLENGE PROGRAM

HON. FRANK RIGGS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, not long ago, I served as host for a reception in the Cannon Caucus Room to honor the finalists in the Do the Write Thing Challenge Program. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Youth and Families of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, I want to call this initiative to the attention of my colleagues.

Do the Write is a project of the National Campaign to Stop Violence. Students in urban middle schools are encouraged to write about problems of violence and drug abuse in their communities. Through these writings, 7th and 8th graders are motivated to make a commitment to stay in school and do something about drug abuse and violence. They also increase adult awareness and involvement in programs to address these problems.

At the beginning of each school year, school superintendents in targeted cities notify middle school principals about the Do the Write Thing Challenge Program. Students are then asked to write papers relating to three questions: "How has youth violence and drug abuse affected my life?" "What are the causes of youth violence and drug abuse?" "What can I do about the youth violence and drug abuse that I see or experience?"

A panel of volunteers reads student papers. They selected male and female finalists for each school. From among these students, the best entries from each city are named national finalists. There is a local recognition ceremony for the school finalists, and a series of recognition events in Washington, D.C. for the national finalists. Local committees also work with government, businesses, and community leaders to provide opportunities for the student participants such as job training internships, mentoring, and scholarships. These are designed to promote community service and build a new network of positive relationships for those who have accepted the Do the Write Thing challenge.

The Do the Write Thing Challenge Program is presently operating in Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, Hartford, Houston, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. Nationwide, over 15,000 students have submitted writings as part of the program.

Mr. Speaker, those who merit recognition are too numerous to mention, but I want to particularly thank Daniel Q. Callister, the founder and Chair of the National Campaign to Stop Violence for his leadership in the Do the Write Thing Challenge Program . I also thank Marion W. Mattingly who is working tirelessly to expand the Do the Write Thing Challenge Program to additional cities. The Council of Great City Schools, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the Young Astronauts Counsel, and the Justice Department's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention are all supporting the program. Finally, special commendation goes to the Kuwait-America Foundation, the primary sponsor of the Do the Write Thing Challenge Program.

HONORING ROBIN CHANDLER DUKE

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a good friend and outstanding leader, Robin Chandler Duke.

Robin is one of those rare individuals who lends energy and dynamism to every cause with which she is involved. Through her service and advocacy, Robin has advanced compassionate public policy here and abroad, while touching countless lives.

I have had the great privilege of working at Robin's side in the critical struggle to protect a woman's right to choose. President Emeritus of the National Abortion Rights Action League, Robin has been a tireless champion of reproductive freedom—always inspiring those with whom she works and meeting even the most difficult challenge with grace, wit, and determination.

Robin is a giant among pro-choice leaders, yet this is but a small part of her varied activities. For seven years, Robin has been the National Co-Chairperson of Population Action International, which is dedicated to the promotion of voluntary family planning, effective population policies, and individual rights. In addition, Robin is actively involved in the U.S. Japan Foundation, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Alan Guttmacher Institute, the United Nations Association, the Council on Foreign Relations, and the Friends of Art and Preservation in Embassies. She has represented our country in various international conferences and organizations, and remains today a shining light of principle and purpose.

Above all, Robin is a delightful human being. A paragon of elegance and poise, and yet utterly without pretension. Robin is always impressive, but never imposing. It is a joy to be her friend.

Mr. Speaker, this month Population Action International will honor Robin Chandler Duke for her service to that organization and for a lifetime of good works. Let the record reflect my enormous admiration and gratitude for this outstanding American.

GEOGRAPHY AWARENESS WEEK

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, during the week of November 15–21, the Arizona Geographic Alliance will be celebrating Arizona's Geography Awareness Week. The Alliance has worked closely with the Governor, local mayors and school superintendents to recognize the week in the public schools. The National Geographic Society, the State of Arizona, and Arizona State University supports Geography Awareness Week.

The purpose of the week of programs is to illustrate the importance of geography education. Studying geography is much more than just locating a city, state or country on a map. Students of geography learn about direction, climate, physical and social characteristics of a region, methods of travel, cultural differences, monetary systems, and environmental settings. A thorough understanding of geography offers an understanding needed for many of today's jobs. Geographic education also opens the mind to the world and experiences beyond our own boundaries.

I commend the members of the Arizona Geographic Alliance for their promotion of the importance of geography education. Hopefully, other states will join Arizona in creating a Geography Awareness Week to renew interest in our ever-changing global environment.

CELEBRATING THE 70TH BIRTHDAY OF JAMES FORMAN

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 7, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate James Forman, who should have been a celebrated leader years ago. Jim, as we always called him when he was the engine and the engineer of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), has just celebrated his 70th birthday. Jim Forman is the least known of the major civil rights leaders of the 1960s. Our colleague, John Lewis, may be the best known of those of us who worked in SNCC, but John would be the first to say that it was Jim who ran SNCC.