

Chinese, including the members of this village, enjoy a higher standard of living than at any time in China's history.

Here, by using better farming techniques, you have freed up time and money for other projects, like your brick factory, your construction crews, your handicrafts. Your village has sponsored language classes in English and Japanese to help you in dealing with foreign tourists. Today, your village committee owns a dozen businesses, with 300 hard-working people now able to provide for their families. Many of you have opened your own businesses, and in only 15 years, average income here has grown 17 times. I congratulate you.

I also appreciate the fact that you have invested money back into your community in better schools, in better roads, in installing cable television to bring the world into your homes. Your achievements are a window for all the world to see what local democracy has brought to China and what a brighter future you are building for the children here with us today.

We Americans respect your devotion to family, to education, to work, your respect for the land and for your heritage. And we hope you will reap the fruits of your labor for many years to come.

Thank you again for making us all feel so welcome here in Xiahe. Thank you. *Xie xie.*

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:40 a.m. In his remarks, he referred to Yang Yunlong, chief, Xiahe Village Committee, and Mary Sasser, wife of U.S. Ambassador James M. Sasser. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Statement on the Supreme Court Decision in *Bragdon v. Abbott*

June 26, 1998

I am pleased with today's Supreme Court decision in *Bragdon v. Abbott*. This decision reinforces the protections offered by the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act for Americans living with HIV and AIDS. The ADA was enacted with strong bipartisan support to protect Americans with disabilities from discrimination. My administration argued successfully in this case that people

with HIV are disabled whether or not they have developed the symptoms of AIDS.

I am firmly committed to protecting all Americans, including those living with HIV and AIDS, from discrimination, and ensuring that each of us can benefit from all America has to offer. Today's decision will help in fulfilling that commitment.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

June 20

In the afternoon, the President went to Camp David, MD.

June 21

The President returned to Washington, DC.

June 22

In the morning, the President and Hillary Clinton traveled to Nashville, TN, and in the evening, they returned to Washington, DC.

June 23

In the morning, the President met with President Mary McAleese of Ireland in the Oval Office.

The President announced his intention to nominate Jane E. Henney to be Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration at the Department of Health and Human Services.

The President announced his intention to nominate Thomasina Rogers to serve as a member of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

The President announced his intention to nominate Paul Steven Miller to serve as a Commissioner of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

The President announced his intention to appoint Marcia D. Greenberger as a member of the National Skill Standards Board.