

has grown to become one of the school's largest extracurricular activities with over 200 students involved.

One hundred twenty-five students performed in this year's production. In addition, I would like to recognize Molly Stevens, who was awarded the State Award for Best Performance. I had the opportunity to see Miss Stevens perform just a few short years ago in one of Macon's community theaters, and there was no doubt then she was a rising star.

Mr. Speaker, to be an actor or performer, one must connect with their audience, a talent that does not come easily to everyone. It takes dedication, concentration, focus, and a great deal of spirit and imagination. Obviously, these tasks were well-delivered by the young men and women from Tattall Square Academy. I am sure each of them is blessed with a number of other talents as well. I look forward to many more winning performances in the future.

H. CON. RES. 247 IN SUPPORT OF
NATIONAL DONOR DAY

HON. CHARLES T. CANADY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. CANADY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support important legislation to encourage organ donation introduced by my friend and colleague from Florida, KAREN THURMAN. I've been pleased to work with Representative THURMAN not only on this bill but also on legislation to provide Medicare transplant recipients with coverage for the immunosuppressive drugs they need.

Each day more than 70,000 people await an organ transplant, and one more individual is added to their ranks every 16 minutes. Tragically, as a consequence of the shortage of donor organs, more than 10 people die every day. Despite recent advances in medicine, transplantation is still a crucial part of prolonging human life. Transplantation is not an experimental science; it is the standard method of treatment for many diseases, with success rates as high as 95 percent. Just one donor can help more than 50 people in need.

For the past two years, a coalition of health organizations have joined together to designate a National Donor Day to highlight the need for organ donation. I am encouraged by the success of these first two National Donor Days. A total of almost 17,000 units of blood was raised; the names of 2,400 potential donors were added to the National Marrow Donor Program Registry; and tens of thousands of organ and tissue pledge cards were distributed. It is my hope that the third National Donor Day on February 12 will bring help to even more people in need. Representative KAREN THURMAN has drafted legislation to lend the support of Congress to National Donor Day's goals. It is a straight-forward, non-controversial bill that can truly help educate the American people about this crucial issue.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and encourage all Americans to learn about the importance of organ, tissue, bone marrow, and blood donation.

A TRIBUTE TO CARL R. CAMPBELL

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Carl R. Campbell, who made significant contributions to his community in the field of education. As Superintendent of the Kings Canyon Unified School District in Reedley, California, he made great strides in improving reading instruction for students in order to meet the state's goal of every child becoming a successful reader by the third grade.

Mr. Campbell was born in Abilene, Texas on January 15, 1942. He received his undergraduate degree at California State University, Fresno majoring in Political Science. Upon graduation, he began teaching business and government classes at Clovis High School. He quickly took a leadership role at Clovis High, serving as advisor for the Student Council and coaching the junior varsity basketball team for several years. Realizing that he enjoyed being in a position of leadership, he earned a Masters of Education in Educational Administration and went on to become the principal of two elementary schools in Clovis.

After several years as principal, Mr. Campbell was ready for a new challenge. In 1987 he became the assistant superintendent of Kings Canyon Unified School District in Reedley, California. In 1995, he became the Superintendent of the district. As superintendent, Mr. Campbell had a vision to improve reading instruction for students in the district. His vision included Reading Recovery Training for teachers, private-public school partnerships, and a new teacher training facility.

On Friday, December 17, 1999, the Carl R. Campbell Education Center was dedicated in honor of his service to the district. The training facility will serve to provide literacy training for teachers, as well as in-classroom coaching experiences. A major role of the facility is to accelerate student learning.

Carl Campbell was diagnosed with cancer in August of 1999 and passed away this week, on February 7, 2000 at the age of 58. He is survived by his wife and best friend of 34 years, Jayne; daughter and son-in-law, Jill and Mike Murphy of Washington, DC; son and daughter-in-law, Bret and Tianna Campbell of Fresno; parents, Fred and Daphna Campbell of Fresno; and brother and sister-in-law, Hollis and Margie Campbell of Fresno.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Carl R. Campbell for his tremendous contributions to education in Fresno County. Carl's friendship and leadership qualities will be dearly missed by his family and his colleagues in education.

WADE THOMAS SR., TUSKEGEE
AIRMAN

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Western North Carolina and America lost a

true hero last week when Wade Thomas Sr., a Former Tuskegee Airman, passed away.

WADE THOMAS SR.

ASHEVILLE—Wade Hamilton Thomas Sr., 77, of 2 Marcell Circle, died Sunday, Feb. 6, 2000, at Mountain Area Hospice.

A native of Jackson, Miss., he was a son of the late Harrison Spurgeon and Lolor Bandy Thomas. He was a graduate of Pearl Senior High School in Nashville, Tenn., and Tennessee State University, where he graduated with honors. He completed post-graduate study at Indiana Central University and the University of Tennessee.

Wade enlisted in the Army and was a member of the famed "Tuskegee Airmen," an all Black fighter squadron. His professional career included employment with the State of Tennessee, U.S. Post Office and U.S. General Services Administration. He retired from USGSA as a buildings manager, Region IV, Atlanta. In Asheville, he worked as a management consultant, accountant and real estate broker for over 30 years.

He was active in many professional and civic organizations including the National Association of Public Accountants, N.C. Housing Commission, Asheville Board of Adjustments, Asheville Civil Service Board (vice chair), Daniel Boone Boy Scout Council, Asheville Board of Realtors (vice president), Asheville-Buncombe Human Relations Council, YMI cultural Center (treasurer) and Asheville Optimist Club. Wade was a member of the Basilica of St. Lawrence.

Wade was a proud member of several fraternal and masonic organizations including Venus Lodge No. 62 F&AM, Gizeh Shrine Temple No. 162, A.E.A.O.N.M.S., Asheville Consistory No. 253, Daughters of Esther No. 128 OES PHA and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. He received numerous awards and certificates of service for his professional, civic and masonic service.

Surviving are his wife, Mary Katherine Scruggs Thomas, who worked very closely with him both as a realtor and an accountant; seven sons, Wade Jr. (Ora), Karl, Harrison, George, Kenneth, Rex and Axel, all of Nashville; three daughters, Korda (Don) Henry, Renae and Michelle Thomas, all of Nashville; 11 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a daughter-in-law, Stephanie S. Thomas; two cousins, Claudyne Jefferson and Carlotta (Joe) Morton; other relatives and many friends.

I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family and friends.

HONORING THE MEN AND WOMEN
OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor those of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve our community. The Fairfax Chamber of Commerce is hosting the 22nd Annual Valor Awards today, Friday, February 11, 2000. The Chamber will recognize law enforcement and emergency response personnel for their acts of bravery. A Valor Award is the highest honor Fairfax County bestows upon its public safety employees.

The Valor Award recipients are selected by a committee that designates honorees for a

Lifesaving Award, a Certificate of Valor, or a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Medal of Valor. This year, it is expected that 37 agency personnel will be honored for acts of bravery that demonstrated extraordinary ingenuity, judgement or zeal.

Mr. Speaker, I would be honored today to read the names of the 3 officers of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department who will receive the 1999 Valor Awards. Receiving the Lifesaving Award: Private First Class David L. Ross and Deputy Sheriff Charles E. Michael, Jr.; Bronze Medal of Valor: Deputy Sheriff Erin L. Cox.

In 1989, the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce established a special fund to award scholarships to the children of Valor Award medal winners who wish to pursue post-secondary education. Support of the Scholarship Fund demonstrates the sincere appreciation of our County's public safety officers. Over the past ten years, more than one hundred generous businesses and individuals have contributed to this worthy fund, and numerous scholarships have been awarded.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish to thank all those who serve the Fairfax County Sheriff's Department. Since 1979, more than 250 members of the Fairfax County Police Department, Fire and Rescue Department, and the Office of the Sheriff have received Gold, Silver or Bronze Medals of Valor. I recognize the professionalism of the men and women who are honored here today. I applaud the heroic efforts the members of the Fairfax Sheriff's Department make on our behalf as we extend our appreciation to these exceptional individuals today. I commend these individuals and their colleagues for their undaunted commitment to the citizenry.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
CHARLTON COUNTY HIGH
SCHOOL INDIANS, 1999 CLASS A
STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Charlton County High School football team in Folkston, Georgia, for recently capturing the Class A State Championship title. This fine group of young men and their coaches from Georgia's 8th Congressional District deserve great recognition for their hard work, dedication, and success.

This is not only a victory for these fine young men, but for their school, parents, and community as well, particularly all who played a role in supporting the team throughout a hard year of practices and games.

I want to congratulate CCHS head football coach Rich McWhorter and assistant coaches Bill Pitt, Mike Baxter, Mike McNeil, Russ Murray, Josh Howard, Dee Barronton, and Tim Cochran for their leadership and dedication to the team. Coaches spend every day of their lives building character, integrity, and determination in our young athletes, and I want to commend them for their commitment and service.

I also want to take this time to recognize the Charlton County Indians individually. The 1999 players are Steve Smiley, Kevin Davis,

Marcus Cobb, Snapper Hobbs, Cortez Reed, Cecil Reed, Matt Albertie, Fielding Dean, Antwan Harvey, Bama Adams, Mark Smith, Walter Williams, Jamie Jackson, Muhammad Abdullah, Jerome Pollock, Frank Dasher, Anthony Haston, Antonio Harvey, Lamar Williams, Harold Hannans, Lanier Milton, Alex Zow, Dantonio Davis, Chip Jackson, Tim Todd, Pierre Sims, Nathaniel Davis, Jason Bridges, Vincent Green, Nahshon Nicks, Chris Davis, Brian Drury, Demario Austin, Ivory Smiley, Marquis Elmore, Brett Mitchell, Gene Wilson, Norris Woods, Cedric Mildton, Brian Lloyd, Justin Crumbley, J.D. Carter, Jason Wainwright, Spencer Crews, Tony Geoghagan, Ben Huling, Michael Spurlock, Brandon Drury, Dusty Phillips, Luke Gowen, Scott Woolard, Ben Brantley, Marcus Jackson, Kyle Cook, Sam Melton, Scott Davis, Dusty Thomas, Jarvis Blackshear, Justin Pollock, Jimmy Scipp, Matt Drury, and Michael Reed.

Mr. Speaker, victory cannot be achieved without the hard work, talent, and perseverance of every single athlete, the strong leadership and direction of the coaches, in addition to the strong support of parents, teachers, students, and the community. We from South Georgia know how important community support is. The Indians are truly a team to be proud of, and it is an honor for me to represent Charlton County, Georgia, in the U.S. House of Representatives. I look forward to many more victories from this outstanding team in the years to come.

TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, four years ago this week, the Congress approved the Telecommunications Act of 1996. While I was not a Member of Congress at that time, I was working on these issues while I was in the Colorado state legislature. On the anniversary of the Act, I would like to both herald the progress that has been made and comment on what challenges remain.

One of the main goals of the 1996 Act was to allow more competitors into local phone markets in order to spur competition and provide better opportunities for consumers. The introduction of competition into the local markets has been much slower than anticipated and, at this time, over 90% of Americans have very little choice of local telephone providers.

The ultimate goal of course is greater competition in all markets, which will result in more choices and better prices for consumers. Many new companies, many of which are located in my home state of Colorado, have sprung up in the past few years and have gained a significant foothold in the exploding business of e-commerce. Nearly a billion dollars are being invested by new entrant telecommunications companies in facilities and services every month.

Today, more than ninety-nine percent of Americans can reach an Internet Service Provider (ISP) with a local phone call. Forty-six states have 100 or more ISPs and more than half of the states have over 200 ISPs to choose from. These ISPs connect into back-

bone providers which have also grown from fourteen at that time the Act was passed, to forty-three today.

This growth has been remarkable and has benefited consumers enormously. It is important that the pro-competitive provisions of the 1996 Act are kept in place so that we can keep moving towards a fully integrated and competitive market.

I am strongly in favor of increased competition in all areas of telecommunications, which will mean better service and lower prices for customers. The sooner there is more competition in both local and long-distance telephone markets and the Internet industry, the better it will be for all consumers. I look forward to the day when my constituents have a multitude of choices in all areas of telecommunications, whether it be voice or high-speed data services.

PHARMACEUTICAL ACT OF 2000

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Pharmaceutical Freedom Act of 2000. This legislation ensures that millions of Americans, including seniors, have access to affordable pharmaceutical products. My bill makes pharmaceuticals more affordable to seniors by reducing their taxes. It also removes needless government barriers to importing pharmaceuticals and it protects Internet pharmacies, which are making affordable prescription drugs available to millions of Americans, from being strangled by federal regulation.

The first provision of my legislation provides seniors a tax credit equal to 80 percent of their prescription drug costs. As many of my colleagues have pointed out, our nation's seniors are struggling to afford the prescription drugs they need in order to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle. Yet, the Federal Government continues to impose taxes on Social Security benefits and limits senior citizens' ability to earn additional income by reducing Social Security benefits if a senior exceeds the "earnings limitation." Meanwhile, Congress continually raids the Social Security trust fund to finance unconstitutional programs! It is long past time for Congress to choose between helping seniors afford medicine or using the Social Security trust fund as a slush fund for big government and pork-barrel spending.

Mr. Speaker, I do wish to clarify that this tax credit is intended to supplement the efforts to reform and strengthen the Medicare system to ensure seniors have the ability to use Medicare funds to purchase prescription drugs. I am a strong supporter of strengthening the Medicare system to allow for more choice and consumer control, including structural reforms that will allow seniors to use Medicare funds to cover the costs of prescription drugs.

In addition to making prescription medications more affordable for seniors, my bill lowers the price for prescription medicines by reducing barriers to the importation of FDA-approved pharmaceuticals. Under my bill, anyone wishing to import a drug simply submits an application to the FDA, which then must approve the drug unless the FDA finds the drug is either not approved for use in the U.S.