

by education and experience to be the Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Japan. So, it is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the tremendous contribution Admiral Chaplin has made to our national security at Naval Postgraduate School and throughout his long and distinguished Navy career and to wish him many years of continued success.

## OHIO COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. ED WHITFIELD**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a student class from the First District of Kentucky representing the Ohio County High School located in Hartford, Kentucky. Following their victory in the Kentucky State competition, this class was selected to represent the State in the national We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution competition which was held in Washington, DC, on May 6–8, 2000.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate students about the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and principles of democratic government. The program provides curricular materials for upper elementary, middle, and high school students nationwide. Students who are involved in the We the People program have a greater understanding of democratic processes and institutions, participate or plan to participate more in politics, have a greater confidence in government officials, and are more interested in current events and politics in general.

The Ohio County class demonstrated their extensive knowledge of the Constitution while participating in the national event through their skillful application of democratic principles to contemporary issues. The format of the competition was a simulated congressional hearing. Thus the students were required to offer testimony as a witness and answer questions posed by a panel of judges as committee members would.

I am extremely proud of the achievements of the Ohio County High School class. The knowledge and experience gained through their participation in the We the People program will be invaluable throughout life.

## AMADOR VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of wonderful students from a high school in my district, Amador Valley High School. Twenty-one students from this school, along with their teacher, Matt Campbell, recently traveled to Washington, D.C. to compete in a national civics competition called "We the People. . ."

This competition is designed to promote civic competence and responsibility. This program is not about textbooks and tests, but

rather a process through which students learn to develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.

I am proud that in my district, we have students who care not only about the social sciences, but also about being involved. The established tradition of excellence in this competition is a testament to the administrators and faculty at Amador Valley High School. It reflects the dedication of inspiring and enthusiastic teachers.

In a time when we decry the state of our public schools, Amador Valley High School shines as a light of hope for the future of our nation. The vision of a first-year teacher, coupled with the determination of these bright students, brought them beyond the district and state finals to our nation's capital. I am proud of this Mr. Campbell and his students for their remarkable journey and their example of excellence.

I would like to thank these students and their teacher for taking an interest in American government; I would like to thank the supportive communities in my district who made this trip possible; and, most of all, I would like to thank the parents of these wonderful students, who have set a standard of excellence for their communities. Congratulations to the students from Amador Valley High School, you are an attribute to our nation!

SUPPORTING DAY OF HONOR FOR  
MINORITY WORLD WAR II VET-  
ERANS

SPEECH OF

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 23, 2000*

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to join my colleagues on the House floor today, but wanted to join them in showing my support for the resolution recognizing the Day of Honor 2000 Project, which gives long overdue recognition to the millions of invisible minority World War II veterans.

During the Second World War these valiant soldiers were waging a war on two fronts. They fought gallantly beside their comrades in the most trying conditions, while battling the bigotry and racism that was still prevalent in the United States military. These same minority war veterans continued their fight against racism at home by forming the grassroots of the civil rights movement.

In my State of Florida, we have the oldest veterans population in the nation. Unfortunately for these veterans and veterans all across the country, the VA budget continues to be underfunded, causing them to be denied the health care and services they need and deserve. As our aging veterans population declines, we will need programs like the Day of Honor 2000 to remind us of the sacrifices minorities made to protect the freedom that we all now enjoy.

I look forward to the passage of this resolution and want to wish Dr. Smith and the other leaders of the Day of Honor 2000 Project the greatest success in portraying the honor and dignity displayed by our Minority World War II veterans. Their efforts and accomplishments have been ignored for far too long and I look forward to sharing their achievements with people today and for generations to come.

WE THE PEOPLE . . . THE CITIZEN  
AND THE CONSTITUTION**HON. ROBERT E. WISE, JR.**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mr. WISE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce for the RECORD the names of outstanding students and teachers of Clay County High School in Clay, West Virginia. These constituents participated in "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution", a national contest concerning fundamental values and ideals of the American government. These students competed against 50 other classes from around the nation and were able to reach the national finals by demonstrating a remarkable understanding and knowledge of our constitutional government. Following is a list of those students and teachers involved.

Students: Brandi Brown, Rachel Douglas, Jeremy Duffield, Josh Ferrebee, Angela Fitzwater, Robin Fitzwater, Casie Frame, Deanna Holcomb, Leslie Lanham, Matt Legg, Rebecca Legg, Eli Litton, Charles McCumbers, Justin Salisbury, Jacob Samples, Angela Shamblin, Autumn Tanner, Jacqueline Taylor, Jada Taylor, Jason Tucker, Evan Updegrave, Bryan Walker, John Ward, Rebecca Workman, and Teacher: Phillip Dobbins.

## TRIBUTE TO CAROL E. SCHATZ

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my close friend, Carol E. Schatz, who will be recognized tonight at this year's Deborah Awards Women of Achievement Dinner. The Anti-Defamation League has chosen this night to honor Carol for her exceptional professional achievements and her outstanding dedication to community and civic activities.

I have known Carol for many years, from her days in state government in Sacramento. She has always impressed me with her dynamism, intelligence and integrity. When she was named by the Los Angeles magazine as one of the ten most powerful business leaders in Los Angeles, I was not surprised. Her passion for her work is second only to her devotion to her husband Fred and her son Jacob.

Carol crashed through the "glass ceiling" when she served as the first woman President and CEO of the Central City Association of Los Angeles. She led that organization to new heights and made it a powerhouse among business advocacy organizations in Los Angeles. Under her leadership, CCA helped transform Downtown Los Angeles by resurrecting the Civic Center Authority, planning for a revitalization of the Figueroa Corridor and advocating for the Staples Center. In addition to her extensive responsibilities at CCA, Carol has tackled many civic roles and public responsibilities. She served as Mayor Riordan's appointee to the Convention and Exhibition Center Authority and as his appointee to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Carol, who holds a B.A. from the University of California Berkeley and a J.D. from Loyola

University School of Law, is exceptionally bright and extraordinarily accomplished. However, she stands out not just because of her intelligence, but because she has chosen to focus her energy and vision on improving all of our lives in the greater Los Angeles community.

It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting Carol Schatz for her outstanding achievements, and to congratulate her for receiving this prestigious recognition from the Anti-Defamation league.

---

RECOGNIZING THE RIVERSIDE  
VETERANS CENTER

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend a group of individuals who have dedicated their lives to the Inland Empire's veterans in need. There is no more appropriate time than Memorial Day to recognize the men and women who serve at the Riverside Veterans Center in Riverside, California.

The Riverside Vets Center was established in 1981 and has served over 6500 veterans and their families. At the Riverside Vets Center, veterans receive needed counseling, are involved in outreach programs with local schools and community-oriented volunteer programs, work with homeless veterans and participate in social activities. Recently, a writing group established at the Center by Leonard Reims and several other veterans, created and published a moving and inspiring collection of poems entitled "Windows to our Souls."

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the fine staff whose dedication, passion and commitment ensure that the necessary services are available to these veterans. The current and former members of the staff who have made a major impact on these veterans include: head counselor Thomas "Buddy" Hawkins, Max Greenwald, Eleanor Parham, Marion Wilson and Rosendo Reyes.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to give special recognition to Bill Densmore with the Riverside County Vets Service Office, VFW Post 9223 and the Vietnam Vets of America Chapter 47 for their active involvement and support of the Riverside Vets Center.

On behalf of the veterans in California's 43rd District, thank you!

---

SALUTE TO COMMANDER AL  
BERNARD

**HON. SONNY CALLAHAN**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mr. CALLAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a man of outstanding accomplishment, Commander Al Bernard.

Commander Bernard is retiring from the United States Coast Guard this week, and I would like to call attention to his extraordinary and meritorious service to his country.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, the Coast Guard is an invaluable branch of the United States military. The men and women of our Coast Guard keep our waters free of narcotics and illegal aliens, perform almost all of the search and rescue missions for the United States and provide security and safety in our waterways.

This is just a small sampling of the duties performed by the Coast Guard. We all owe them a huge debt of gratitude for the services they provide.

For 24 years, Commander Bernard has faithfully performed these and other duties in service to our great country. Prior to donning the Coast Guard uniform, Commander Bernard was also a proud U.S. Marine, where he served as an infantryman in Southeast Asia. He has spent more than half of his life in service to this nation and today, we are a grateful nation for his sacrifice.

From his humble beginnings operating small boats as a coxswain to his assignment as liaison officer to the House of Representatives in Washington, Commander Bernard has performed each and every job as a true patriot.

He quickly rose through the ranks of the Coast Guard and in 1979, he was accepted to Officer Candidate School. After receiving his commission, Al's first assignment was as a security officer at Training Center New York, Governors Island. Just a year later, he was promoted to First Lieutenant and deck watch officer on the USCGC *Courageous*, in Cape Canaveral, Florida. He was then chosen to be executive officer of USCGC *Shearwater* in Key West, Florida. In addition, was made the senior controller at the Pacific Area/Twelfth USCG District Rescue Coordination Center.

From there, Al Bernard's military career skyrocketed. He received command of his first ship, the USCGC *Nantucket*, in Roosevelt roads, Puerto Rico. It should be noted that Al is the first American of Puerto Rican descent to command his own ship.

Due to his exceptional abilities, Commander Bernard was relocated to Washington to serve his country at USCG Headquarters. He later received command of another cutter, the USCGC *Citrus*, which was homeported in Coos Bay, OR. After finishing another productive tour, he was made chief, Cutter Management Branch, Coast Guard Pacific Area in Alameda, California.

While on duty in California, he was selected to attend the U.S. Naval War College, where he graduated with distinction, earning a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies.

Upon graduation, Commander Bernard was given his third command, the USCGC *Decisive* in St. Petersburg, Florida; he later crossdecked to USCGC *Resolute*.

Most recently, he was selected in 1998 to become the liaison officer to the House of Representatives in Washington, where I can personally attest he has served every man and woman who wears the Coast Guard uniform with great distinction.

Over the course of his 24 years of service to the United States, Commander Bernard has demonstrated his versatility by serving brilliantly in both the military and legislative arenas. Al Bernard has been recognized for his achievements with numerous awards, such as the Bronze Star with "V" device for valor, the Purple Heart, and Meritorious Service Medal with an "O" device. He has also received seven Coast Guard Commendation Medals

with "O" device, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon and various other awards.

He was also selected as the 1989 recipient of the U.S. Navy League's Captain David Jarvis award for professional competence and inspirational leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Command Al Bernard on an illustrious military career. Likewise, we salute his wonderful wife, Ann, and their two children, Jason and Bernadelle, who made the many sacrifices military families make in supporting their husband and father all these years. We wish Al the best of luck in all of his future endeavors, for he is truly a fine example for all Americans.

---

HONORING MAKIA EPIE

**HON. MARTIN FROST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special young man, Makia Epie, of Cedar Hill, Texas, who is proving to be an outstanding addition to the Air Force Academy. Makia, who entered the Academy in the fall of 1997, has been named Flight Commander for the upcoming academic session. I know the entire 24th Congressional District joins me in celebrating this accomplishment.

As Flight Commander, Makia will assist the Cadet Squadron Commander in developing and training the basic cadets. Makia will work to ensure that cadets develop the right military attitude and attention to duty. He will do this by setting an appropriate example in leading his flight drills.

Makia's performance in the Air Force Academy deserves the highest praise, and I extend my sincerest appreciation for his service to his country. I wish him and his family the best in their future endeavors.

---

HONORING THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE

**HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2000*

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Torrance. For the last 41 years, the City of Torrance has honored and acknowledged the men and women of our military during its annual Armed Forces Day Parade.

The Torrance Armed Forces Day Parade is an important event for the residents of the South Bay. Torrance boasts one of the oldest and most noteworthy Armed Forces Day parades in the country. Thousands of people, many waving American flags, lined the streets last Saturday to honor our Armed Forces. Secretary of Defense Bill Cohen was also on hand to participate in the celebration.

The parade has persevered during the last 41 years. It has been protested, glorified, and even scaled back at times. But despite the circumstances of the day, the City of Torrance has held the parade to pay tribute to the men and women of the Armed Forces. This is a