

RECOGNIZING DR. KUMAR  
MAHADEVAN

**HON. VERN BUCHANAN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituent, Dr. Kumar Mahadevan, for his many contributions to marine science.

Dr. Mahadevan is retiring in May from his position as chief executive and president of Mote Marine Laboratory, which is a private research center and aquarium based in Sarasota, Florida.

Dr. Mahadevan joined Mote Marine in 1978 as a senior scientist and became chief executive and president in 1986.

Under his leadership, Mote has grown from a small research facility to an internationally recognized laboratory of marine science and a local treasure teaching children and adults about sea life and conservation.

During his tenure, Mote has added an aquarium that attracts more than 350,000 annually and expanded to include a 200-acre Aquaculture Park in eastern Sarasota County, research field stations on Pine Island in Charlotte Harbor and Summerland Key in the Florida Keys, satellite offices in Punta Gorda and Boca Grande and a second public outreach exhibit dedicated to coral reefs in the Eco-Recovery Center in Key West.

The nonprofit's annual operating budget has increased from approximately \$2 million in 1978 to more than \$17 million and its staff has grown from 52 members to 192 members, including 31 doctorate-level scientists who are leaders in their fields.

I was proud to serve on the board at Mote prior to my election to Congress. I have seen firsthand the positive impact that Dr. Mahadevan has had on public policy to revitalize and sustain marine resources through science based outreach and education.

Although he is stepping down from his current position, I am pleased that Dr. Mahadevan will stay on as president emeritus, which will allow him to continue to promote the lab's research and development.

In the meantime, I appreciate this opportunity to express my deep appreciation for his outstanding contributions to Mote Marine Laboratory and the field of marine science.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HOPKINS  
GIRLS BASKETBALL STATE  
CHAMPIONS

**HON. ERIK PAULSEN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Hopkins Girls Basketball Team.

On March 16, 2013 the Hopkins Girls Team won the Minnesota State High School Basketball tournament for the third consecutive year, making them the first Class 4A School to win three consecutive championships since the tournament expanded to four classes.

Head Coach Brian Cosgriff has undoubtedly accomplished something great with this program. During Cosgriff's era, Hopkins has had

only four seasons with seven or more losses. This year, Hopkins completed the season winning 28 games and losing just one.

The path to achieving greatness is never uncontested, as the girls found out. But despite the one loss, this team took the state tournament with more than a ten point win over each opponent they faced.

All of these student athletes, their parents and their coaches deserve praise for their dedication and determination.

It's an honor to be able to represent, and recognize, such all-star athletes. Congratulations!

CONGRATULATING HOPWOOD JUNIOR  
HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS 50TH  
ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO  
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, just over 50 years ago, in the fall of 1962, the first school to offer secondary education in the Northern Mariana Islands was renamed Hopwood Junior Senior High School, in honor of Admiral Herbert Gladstone Hopwood, a Naval officer with 42 years of distinguished service to our country, including 3 years as Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific Fleet.

The school had been founded following the end of World War II, as our community turned from the harrowing years of desperate survival to the work of rebuilding our islands and improving the lives of those who lived there. The American administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands directed that uniform public education be implemented throughout Micronesia; and in September 1949 secondary education was introduced in the Northern Mariana Islands with the establishment of Saipan Intermediate School, offering classes for grades seven through nine.

At first, the small school shared a campus with Chalan Kanoa Elementary School, but Saipan Intermediate moved to its own campus in the village of Chalan Piao in 1952, where classes were held in reconconditioned wartime Quonset huts. The original curriculum included arithmetic, English, native languages, science, history, geography, domestic arts, crafts, vocational training, and music. Teacher training courses were also established.

During these early years in the reconstruction of the Northern Mariana Islands educational options beyond ninth grade were limited. There were few private high schools and, prior to 1962, no public high schools. But the desire for formal educational advancement had already established a foothold in our society.

In the late 1950's, Saipan Intermediate School was renamed Hopwood Intermediate School. And then in 1962, it was renamed Hopwood Junior Senior High School to recognize the enrollment of tenth grade students. This first class of public high school students in the Northern Mariana Islands then graduated from Hopwood in 1965.

But Hopwood's time as a senior high school was short. In 1969 a new and larger public high school opened on Saipan; and Hopwood assumed its current name of Hopwood Junior High School.

In the years since, the school has greatly expanded. The campus now includes vocational education buildings; an alternative school, Lina'la Malawash Academy; and a performing arts building. Hopwood now has the second largest student body of any Saipan school, serving nearly 1,200 young scholars.

Along with improvements in the physical facility, so too have academic opportunities, student achievement and faculty development evolved. One significant milestone reflective of this ongoing advancement was reached in 1993, when the school was granted preliminary accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It continues today as a fully accredited member of WASC.

Hopwood's motto is "We Make Everyday the Best." This upbeat attitude is reflected in the faces and in the actions of the school's students, teachers, and staff alike. This drive to be the best is also reflected in the wide range of co-curricular and sports activities in which students participate and represent their school so well. By way of example, in recent years Hopwood Junior High students have won awards in the National Junior Forensic League regional competition, regional spelling bees, Academic Challenge Bowls, regional thespian competitions, and local essay and logo contests. This diversity extend to the athletic fields, as well, where Hopwood students have won numerous track and field, cross country, soccer, volleyball, and basketball competitions.

From its humble beginnings in 1949 and to this day, Hopwood is recognized as an institution that has played a historic role in our community and that continues to serve a vital role in the lives of our students and our community. I have great confidence that the school will continue to distinguish itself in the years to come. And I offer my congratulations to all those who have been affiliated with Hopwood Junior High School over these many years—teachers, staff, students, alumni, and parents.

RECOGNITION OF RYAN DAHMER

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of my constituent, Ryan Dahmer, a young man from Franklin, West Virginia, who recently earned the rank of Eagle Scout. Ryan's accomplishment is the result of years of hard work and service, which has undoubtedly benefitted his neighbors and the community in which he lives.

Ryan Dahmer began serving his community as a young boy by joining the Cubs Scouts, eventually earning the Arrow of Light, the organization's honor society and Eagle Scout equivalent. Since becoming a Boy Scout, Ryan's community involvement has only increased. Last year, he participated in the 2012 Youth and Government Seminar and met State Senator Clark Barnes and Delegate Allen Evans, his local representatives in the state legislature.

In December 2012, Ryan completed the requirements to become an Eagle Scout and will be officially recognized during an Eagle Court of Honor on April 21, 2013. In order to become an Eagle Scout, Ryan completed a community service project focused on safety and

beautification at the Franklin Town Park. The project included painting buildings, picnic tables and trash cans, laying mulch, repairing playground equipment, and conducting a safety survey.

Ryan Dahmer lives with his family in Pendleton County, West Virginia. After high school, Ryan plans to attend Fairmont State University and pursue a degree in aviation.

Mr. Speaker, the Boy Scout Oath encourages young scouts do their best for God and country. Indeed, Ryan Dahmer has done his duty, by serving his community and making Franklin, West Virginia a better place.

#### HONORING ITNAMERICA FOR DELIVERING A HALF-MILLION SENIOR RIDES

#### HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate an organization based in my district on reaching an important milestone. With its beginnings in Portland, Maine, the senior transportation service ITNAmerica provided its half-millionth ride in March 2013.

Designed to recreate the comfort, convenience, and independence of private automobile ownership, ITNAmerica offers rides to seniors who can no longer drive their own vehicles. Using a network of paid and volunteer drivers, the organization offers "arm-through-arm and door-through-door service" seven days a week, 24 hours a day. With an average age of 85, riders use the service for anything from shopping trips to doctor's appointments.

Reading the stories of its riders, it's clear that ITNAmerica's service is not just about getting seniors from Point A to B.

Without the ability to drive, seniors can find themselves suddenly shut off from services, friends, and the world—with terrible repercussions for their health and wellbeing. Just as sadly, our communities can also lose out on the many things they have to offer. This service allows seniors to keep their freedom and quality of life while maintaining their connections to businesses, churches, and volunteer commitments. And along the way, they develop lasting friendships with their drivers and fellow riders.

Executive Director Katherine Freund founded the organization in 1995 after her 3-year-old son was injured by an elderly driver. Katherine decided the accident was less the fault of the driver than of a system that does not adequately meet the transportation needs of seniors who live past their driving years. From humble beginnings, ITNAmerica has grown to 23 affiliates in 18 states across the country and Katherine has earned numerous awards and accolades for the difference she has made in the lives of seniors.

While it took 18 years to reach the first half-million rides, ITNAmerica expects to deliver its millionth ride in only three years from now. With millions of baby boomers soon retiring, this service is more important than ever. My sincere congratulations and appreciation go to Katherine Freund, ITNAmerica, its affiliates, staff, volunteers, and, indeed, riders on reaching this incredible milestone.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2009, the day I took office, the national debt was \$10,627,961,295,930.67.

Today, it is \$16,819,547,647,482.89. We've added \$6,191,586,351,552.22 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.1 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a Balanced Budget Amendment. We must stop this unconscionable accumulation of debt.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO EDINA BOYS HOCKEY STATE CHAMPIONS

#### HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Edina Boys Hockey Team on their impressive performance at the State Hockey Tournament victory on March 9, 2013.

The team defeated Hill Murray High School in the finals to win their 11th State Tournament title and end their season with a 22–6 winning record. This game served as the programs' rubber match, with Edina winning the championship in 1988 and Hill Murray evening the series in 2008. This year, Edina came out the victor once again.

The Edina Boys hockey program carries on a proud tradition of success in athletics at Edina High School under the coaching staff of Curt Giles.

All of these student athletes, their parents and their coaches deserve praise for their dedication and determination.

It is an honor to be able to represent, and recognize, such all-star athletes. Congratulations!

#### CONGRATULATIONS KITTITAS VALLEY HEALTHCARE (KVH) HOSPITAL

#### HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to applaud the Kittitas Valley Healthcare (KVH) Hospital for being named among the top 100 critical access hospitals in the nation. Having immediate, quality care can make the difference between saving a life and losing it, and I am so proud that a facility like KVH is serving the constituents of Washington's 8th District. Critical access hospitals are institutions that are at least 35 miles away from another hospital and have a maximum of 27 acute care beds. All 100 of these institutions are to be commended for their work ensuring access to quality healthcare for all citizens, and especially those living in rural areas. KVH was chosen to be in the top 100 because it provides exceptional quality of care, patient

outcomes post-hospitalization, patient satisfaction, and affordability.

This is only the second time such a list has been released and KVH Hospital has been on the list both times. KVH is one of only two hospitals in Washington State to receive this distinction and has repeatedly shown itself to be a champion for the well-being of their patients. It is truly committed to improving the communities it serves. Again, I applaud KVH for its dedication to providing communities with superior patient care and achieving this high honor. I encourage it to continue its practices shown to improve patient health outcomes and satisfaction, and I hope that other critical access hospitals from Washington State and across the nation will strive to copy KVH's success.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE DALE CITY MULTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 15, 2013*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2013 recipients of the Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards sponsored by the Dale City Christian Church. The Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards began in 1984 to educate youth about the achievements of African-Americans under the adopted motto, "For if a man does not know his history, he cannot know his future."

Currently in its 29th year, the Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards banquet is an annual event honoring individuals who show an exceptional devotion to their community through service. The purpose of the event is two-fold: To highlight the extraordinary work of individuals who are improving the lives of people within the local community and to offer scholarship assistance to high school seniors pursuing higher education. The banquet promotes higher education and independence by providing guidance and financial assistance to students, which helps instill the honorees with national, community, and family pride.

The 2013 recipients are graduating high school seniors, public servants, business leaders, local church leaders, and members of the Dale City Christian Church congregation. It is my honor to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of the recipients of the 2013 Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards:

Pastoral Leadership Award: Dr. Derek Grier.  
Religious Leadership Award: Rev. Morris Bussie.

Educational Leadership Award: Ms. Anita Flemons, Mr. Terrence Davenport.

Professional Leadership Award: Dr. Kiana Rene Trent.

Community Service Award: Dale City Sports Club, Cecil and Veronica Anderson.

Business Achievement Award: Ms. Michelle McKinney.

Christian Service Award: Ms. Marguerette Swift, Mr. Thomas Martin.

Faithfulness Award: Deaconess Edna Fulcher, Trustee George Boggs.

Dedicated Christian Family Award: Deacon Bedford, Deaconess Karen King and Family.

Senior Leadership Award: Miss Tyra Bland.