

Seashore Farmland Protection Act, to offer willing land owners conservation easements to support agriculture. I made H.R. 1995 one of my top priorities. I will always appreciate Gary sharing his vision with me, and I will always be thankful for his support.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to Gary Giacomini. His dedication and success to preserve agriculture in Marin County and fight for the causes he and his constituents believe in is admirable. I wish Gary and his family the best.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SR.  
BARBARA DAVIS, SC

**HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 1998*

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to spotlight a very special lady who has unselfishly given of her time, energy and soul to others in her community. She has earned the honor of being named the 1998 National Catholic Education Association Distinguished Principal for the States of Ohio and Michigan.

She is one of only twelve Catholic School Elementary Principals in the country and the only one from Ohio to be chosen for this honor. The lives of many young people have been deeply touched with the kindness and sincerity that Sister Davis has shown. As principal of St. Mary's School, Shelby, Ohio, she worked to place computers into classrooms so that students will benefit from technological advances such as the Internet and other educational tools.

I extend my best wishes to her as she receives this award, and I urge her to keep up the good work. She truly is a remarkable teacher and role model. Thank you Sister Davis.

TRIBUTE TO MAJ. GEN. DOUG  
BUNGER

**HON. MARTIN FROST**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 1998*

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Major General Doug Bunker, who currently resides in Duncanville, Texas, upon his retirement this month from the United States Air Force. In his thirty-one years of service to this great nation he has proven himself an extraordinary leader of people, programs, and finances at all organizational levels in the Air Force, and finances at all organizational levels in the Air Force. As a military comptroller, General Bunker directed the financial operation for military airlift command during a period of intense defense military transportation requirements. He subsequently was the Air Force's Director of Budget Operations and then the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the budget. As such he developed, justified, and executed an annual budget of over \$72 billion in support of worldwide air force operations. His record of integrity and accountability was flawless.

To conclude his distinguished career, General Bunker has commanded the Army and

the Air Force Exchange Service, a \$7 billion retail and services organization headquartered in Southwest Dallas. Under his charismatic leadership and efficient management AAFES has performed its mission exceptionally well, with earnings during his three-year tenure of over \$930 million. What is more important is that these earnings have been vital to military personnel around the world, contributing well over \$600 million to supplement the morale, welfare, and recreation programs of the Army and Air Force—thereby ensuring quality of life for service members and their families while reducing the burden of support from America's taxpayers. General Bunker's work force of 55,000 serve every day to provide soldiers and airmen value, service and support in all 50 states and 25 different countries—to include Bosnia, Haiti, Kuwait, Saudi, and Korea—significantly enhancing morale while saving them money.

Throughout his career, General Bunker has been an exceptional steward of defense resources, and his legacy of leadership and dedication deserve our admiration and praise. His numerous awards and decorations—which include the Distinguished Service Medal, two Awards of the Legion of Merit, a Bronze Star, four Meritorious Service Medals, and both Air Force Commendation and Achievement Medals—attest to his exemplary professionalism and distinguished service to our nation.

I salute Major General Doug Bunker as he retires from the United States Air Force and wish him and his lovely wife, Sarah, much happiness in their new hilltop home near Hot Springs, Arkansas.

LET CONSUMERS CHOOSE

**HON. BILL PAXON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 1998*

Mr. PAXON. Mr. Speaker, during the arduous legislative process that created the Telecommunications Act of 1996, the Members of the Commerce Committee used the basic principle of consumer choice as our guide.

Today, responsibility for implementation of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 rests with the FCC, and I am left to wonder if the same principles that guided Congress' creation of the Telecommunications Act, are guiding the FCC in their implementation of the Act.

When the Federal Communications Commission turned down yet another State Commission's request that the local Bell company be allowed to offer long-distance, the FCC essentially said that local phone customers cannot be trusted to make wise choices. The FCC said that, if we let them, the residents of Oklahoma, Michigan, South Carolina, or Louisiana, for example, might make what the FCC thinks is the wrong decision.

In passing the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress wanted competition to begin in the telephone services marketplace. It's time to get all parties moving in that direction.

The free enterprise system is built on the belief that American consumers are best capable of making consumer decisions—that they can decide what is good for them a lot better than a Washington bureaucracy.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES CARROLL  
PLACE

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 1998*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful man. The kind of man that made this country the great nation it is today. I honor James Carroll Place as he should be honored.

Mr. Jim was one of those pillars of the community that worked hard every day, played by the rules and did what ever was necessary to make himself and his community successful. At the same time he always upheld the highest standards of conduct and integrity.

His tireless work for the community to build the wonderful event that we celebrate annually in my hometown, The Coon Supper, will be long remembered.

We should all hope that his example of high standards and good conduct will be followed by the generations to come. It made no difference if it was for the church, the town, the Farmers and Businessmen's Club, friends, neighbors, or his own family, he gave his all and his best and expected no less from us all.

He was a friend and mentor to me and was a business associate for many years. We never had a dispute. His sense of fairness and honesty was exceeded only by his great good humor. He was a friend, role model, farmer, leader, father, and Christian.

Some say that the measure of success of a man is his children. If so, then Mr. Jim was successful by all standards.

He will be long remembered as the standard for, as we say in my hometown of Gillett, Arkansas, a good man.

Let us today honor this good man and the standard he set for us all.

SALUTING GUAM POWER  
AUTHORITY

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 3, 1998*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, It has been more than ten weeks since typhoon Paka struck Guam, causing nearly \$400 million in damage and leaving more than 4,000 families homeless. The damage is still evident in some areas, but typhoon debris is steadily disappearing and the island is turning green again. For the most part, conditions are returning to normal, although life remains difficult for those who lost everything. But even for those enduring folks, things are improving day by day. Despite the many discomforts we continue to bear, we remain tremendously grateful that no lives were lost in this disaster. On February 16, we marked another reason for gratitude and appreciation. Just two months to the day of Paka's passing, Guam's electrical power system was fully restored.

The speed of this particular recovery is unprecedented in the annals of Guam's typhoon-prone history. It is a testament to the determination and dedication of the staff and management of the Guam Power Authority and the dozens of line crews from off-island who rushed to Guam's aid.