

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PROVIDE VETERANS WITH BEST HEALTH CARE AND HIGHEST COMPENSATION

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker I rise today in the spirit of Independence Day to recognize the will and strength of our men and women in uniform as they fought in wars past and continue to maintain our commitment to democracy throughout the world. Our veterans are living examples of the ideals of our founding fathers and it is those same ideals that are inspiring a new generation of veterans.

More than 300 years ago, the first generation of American veterans fought a war to establish our sovereignty. Along with our independence came the understanding that America would need protection, and we would need a constant military force to ensure the preservation of these freedoms. Americans answered the call to duty, and the willingness of our troops to boldly go into harms way in the defense of democracy has not wavered.

As our nation's veterans volunteered to risk their lives for our protection, our country and its leaders have an obligation to provide them with the care and resources they need and are entitled to once they retire. Veterans have made significant, personal sacrifices and have earned the very best we can offer them.

Yesterday marked the 60th anniversary of the GI Bill, an important step our leaders took to recognize the commitment we owe our veterans. Because of the GI Bill, our veterans were given assistance with the costs of a college education and helped with the purchase of a home or business.

A lot was done, but there is still much to do. Health benefits need improving, the Widow's Tax and Disabled Veterans Tax need ending and education benefits should still be expanded. We cannot increase their costs for health care, and we must not cut funding to their system.

George Washington said "the willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation." Our nation's veterans served and protected us, and they inspired the soldiers who responded to the call after them. They fought for our country, for the continued prosperity of our government, and once their service has ended, they should not have to fight the government for the benefits they deserve.

I call on my colleagues in Congress to continue to work together to provide veterans with the best healthcare and the highest compensation, as it is the least they have earned for their years of service.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TAMERA BICKETT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Tamera "Tami" Bickett of Powell Butte, Oregon. Tami bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and every day. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Tami and her comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Tami and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Born and raised in Lebanon, Oregon, Tami was a competitive athlete in high school, participating on the cross-country and volleyball teams. In her senior year of high school, she represented her community as a Strawberry Festival princess. Tami joined the U.S. Forest Service in 1988, and was a Squad Boss for the Prineville Hotshots, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. She enjoyed the challenging rigors of fighting fires, even when injuries sustained on the job made her work difficult. She was a dedicated member of her crew, and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others. Above all, she was devoted to her family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Tamera Bickett. Tami personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork and Professionalism; putting herself in harm's way for unfamiliar people and places. She made the ultimate sacrifice doing what she loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young woman.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP VERNON RANDOLPH BYRD

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Vernon Randolph Byrd, one of eight legendary leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) who will be retiring at this year Quadrennial Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana. A native of South Carolina, Bishop Byrd received a public

school education. After graduating from Bell Street High School, he enrolled at Allen University, where he received the Bachelor of Arts degree. He later received a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Boston University.

Called to preach at the age of 12, Bishop Byrd was licensed to preach at the age of 17. His ministry included pastorates at Macedonia AME Church in Seaford, Delaware (1954–1959); St. Paul AME Church in Hamilton, Bermuda (1959–1966); and Macedonia AME Church in Camden, New Jersey (1979–1984). He also served as Presiding Elder of the Newark District from 1966–1967.

Bishop Byrd was elected the 105th Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church at 1984 General Conference and was assigned the 14th Episcopal District. He initiated numerous projects under his administration—one in particular was the Frank Curtis Cummings Health Clinic, which was built in Monrovia, Liberia.

During his tenure he presided over the 16th, 13th, and 5th Episcopal Districts, where his mission continued to be saving souls for the building of God's kingdom. His motto is "Unless souls are saved, nothing is saved!" Bishop Byrd holds memberships in the NAACP, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and the Royal Lodge of Scotland.

Bishop Byrd is married to Theora Lindsey Byrd. They are the parents of four.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Bishop Vernon Randolph Byrd upon his retirement from the Bishopric. He has provided tremendous leadership for the AME Church, and his long history of educational leadership and service will influence future generations for ages to come. AME founder Richard Allen would be deeply proud of his Episcopal descendent.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD WINNER LOLA COLLINS OF PARMA, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher from Parma, Michigan that significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

Lola Collins teaches fourth and fifth grade at Parma Elementary in Parma. She is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As one of her students, Kelli McCarrell, said, "She showed me how to be who I am, and not be

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

afraid of experiences. Because she was my teacher for two years, she watched me grow up. Both of these years, she encouraged my curiosity for life and my energetic passion for knowledge—it is her influence that has helped me become who I am today.” The respect and gratitude of her students speaks well of Lola’s ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

Lola Collins’ extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and Lola’s impact on her students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Lola Collins. We thank her for her continuing dedication to teaching and her willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICHARD
TYLER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Richard Tyler of Grand Junction, Colorado. Rich bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and every day. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Rich and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Rich and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Born and raised in Minnesota, Rich graduated from the University of Minnesota with a degree in forestry. He moved to Grand Junction in 1985 where he joined the Western Slope Helitack crew, a specialized group of firefighters who are often the first to respond to a wildland fire. Rich became the crew’s foreman, always putting the safety of his crew first. He established the first heli-rappel program in the Rocky Mountain area, and was instrumental in developing the Forest Service’s Interagency Helicopter Operations Guide. In 1994, he was recognized for his efforts by the Department of the Interior and received their National Aviation Safety Award. He was a good crew leader and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others. Above all, he was devoted to his wife and son.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Richard Tyler. Rich was willing to put himself in harm’s way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood

Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave man.

CELEBRATING GALESVILLE
SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise before you today to honor the historic village of Galesville, Wisconsin. On June 26, 2004, Galesville will be celebrating its 150th anniversary, and activities will include the opening of a capsule that was buried fifty years ago on the town’s 100th anniversary.

This quaint community in western Wisconsin overlooks Lake Marinuka and sits among rolling hills, towering cliffs, forests and spring-fed streams. The first settlers of the Galesville area were the Native Americans, who planted their history on the same soil the town of Galesville rests today. The influence of the Native Americans remains strong; this is apparent in the naming of Lake Marinuka, which was named after the legend of Princess Marie Nounko, who was the granddaughter of the Great Chief Decorah, the chief of the Winnebago tribe. Princess Marie’s grave lies at the north end of the lake, where she was buried in 1884. In addition, the town of Galesville is blessed with a unique 100 year old bowstring bridge, located alongside the historic McGilvray Road.

Judge George Gale founded Gales College 150 years ago; soon after the town was born. In 1869, Rev. D.O. Van Slyke, circuit-riding preacher and Civil War veteran, believed Galesville was the biblical Garden of Eden because of its breathtaking surroundings. The term “Garden of Eden,” is still fitting to those walking the streets of this quiet village.

Galesville’s Apple Affair has become a major Trempealeau County event. Since 1983, this annual event takes place on the first Saturday in October as part of Wisconsin’s effort to promote the state’s apple orchards. The Apple Affair draws many families from throughout the region. From apple pie to caramel apples, this annual celebration is a wonderful time to enjoy the outdoors, as well as get to know the friendly people of Galesville.

The 150th anniversary of Galesville highlights what is good and important about rural America to our country. There are thousands of small rural communities across this Nation that form the backbone of rural life; these communities are the incubators of local commerce, politics, education, recreation, entertainment and faith of rural neighborhoods. The hardworking citizens of small town America are the builders of our great Nation.

I am pleased to congratulate the citizens of Galesville on their sesquicentennial, and believe it is important to recognize their unique contribution to the growth of western Wisconsin. I wish them happiness and prosperity during the next 150 years.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP FREDERICK
HILLBORN TALBOT

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Frederick Hillborn Talbot, one of eight legendary leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME) who will be retiring at this year’s Quadrennial Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bishop Talbot is a graduate of Allen University located in the Sixth Congressional District of South Carolina which I proudly represent in this august body. He also matriculated at Yale Divinity School, Pacific School of Religion, and Columbia Theological Seminary. He completed further postgraduate work at Teachers College, Columbia University, and as a Resident Fellow at Harvard University in the fall of 1989.

Bishop Talbot has served in the 6th, 16th, and 12th Episcopal Districts since being elected the 90th Bishop of the AME Church in 1972. He has also served as the denomination’s Ecumenical Officer. Bishop Talbot currently serves in the 13th Episcopal District, which includes the States of Kentucky and Tennessee. He is second in the Church’s seniority of Bishops.

In 1996, Bishop Talbot edited the Book of Original Prayers, which served as an official document for the 45th Session of the AME Church’s General Conference. He also authored *New Eyes for Seeing* (1998), *Walking Through A Service of Worship in the AME Church* (2000), and *God’s Fearless Prophet* (2002). Bishop Talbot has composed several tunes and texts—one of which was included in RISK, the worship book used by the World Council of Churches for its 5th Assembly held in Nairobi, Kenya. Three of his texts are found in the AME Church Hymnal.

Prior to being called to the ministry, Bishop Talbot served in the diplomatic service of his native land, the Government of Guyana. There, he was recipient of the coveted Cacicque Crown of Honor (CCH) for meritorious service.

Bishop Talbot is married to Dr. Sylvia Ross Talbot of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Bishop Frederick Hillborn Talbot upon his retirement from the Bishopric. He has provided tremendous leadership for the AME Church and his long history of community leadership and church service will influence many generations for years to come.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING
TEACHER AWARD WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation’s future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher

from Jonesville, Michigan that significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

Judy Hale teaches College Prep English at Jonesville High School in Jonesville. She is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As one of her students, Shea Scott Dow said, "She listens and gives advice to her students, she motivates and she maintains expectations. Because of these high expectations, I feel that I'm ready to go to college and be successful in my studies." The respect and gratitude of her students speaks well of Judy's ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

Judy Hale's extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and Judy's impact on her students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Judy Hale. We thank her for her continuing dedication to teaching and her willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.

REGARDING THE 60TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE G.I. BILL

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, today, we honor the men and women who defended and protected our people, our country, and our families. In celebrating the 60th anniversary of the GI Bill, we express our strong sense of gratitude and thanks to the veterans who have served and sacrificed their lives for the freedom and democracy that we still enjoy today.

On June 22, 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 also known as the G.I. Bill of Rights. This legislation was for veterans of World War II and it established veterans' hospitals, provided for vocational rehabilitation, made low-interest mortgages available, and granted stipends covering tuition and living expenses for veterans attending college or trade schools.

Subsequent legislation extended these benefits to veterans of the Korean War and the Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966 extended benefits to all who served in the Armed Forces even in peacetime. From 1944 to 1949, nearly 9 million veterans received close to \$4 billion from the G.I. bill's unemployment compensation program. Education and training provisions existed until 1956, providing benefits to nearly 10 million veterans.

The Veterans' Administration offered insured loans until 1962, and these totaled more than \$50 billion. In 1985, the Montgomery G.I. Bill (MGIB) became the newest federal program to provide education and training to our nation's veterans. The MGIB was one of the most important bills passed in its time and its influ-

ence is felt today. In 2003, for example, the Department of Veterans Affairs helped provide education or training for 322,754 veterans and active-duty personnel, 88,342 reservists, and 61,874 survivors.

In the past six decades, the GI Bill has continued to change in order to keep up with the needs of today's veterans. As of September 30, 2001, there are about 25.3 million veterans. There are also about 41.4 million family members and survivors of veterans. In addition, there are now more than 300,000 soldiers deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan and these numbers continue to increase.

The VA has become a potential source of benefits for almost one-fourth of the population of the United States. With the growing number of service members in Iraq and Afghanistan, the possible increase in the number of veterans requires us to consider new ways to increase their assistance and benefits.

While the GI Bill continues to assist with cost of college education, purchasing homes, farms, businesses, and also in finding jobs, the cost of living continues to increase. This is why we need to create legislation to improve health benefits and to make sure that education benefits offered by the GI bill are aligned with the rising costs of tuition. With the rising costs of housing, many veterans, especially those in expensive housing markets, also cannot afford average-priced homes.

Although we have done a lot, there are many more issues that need to be addressed. Therefore, as we acknowledge and celebrate the 60th anniversary of the GI Bill, I am hopeful that we will also honor our veterans by ensuring that we preserve and accomplish what the GI Bill promised.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP VINTON
RANDOLPH ANDERSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Vinton Randolph Anderson, one of eight legendary leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church who will be retiring this year at the Church's Quadrennial Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Born in Somerset, Bermuda, Bishop Anderson attended private elementary schools in Bermuda, and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Wilberforce University. He received a Masters of Divinity from Payne Theological Seminary in Ohio, and Masters of Arts in Philosophy from the University of Kansas.

Bishop Anderson was ordained an Itinerant Deacon in 1951 and an Itinerant Elder in 1952. At the 1972 General Conference held in Dallas, Texas, he was elected the 92nd Bishop of the AME Church. He has presided over the 15th, 9th, 3rd, 5th, and 2nd Episcopal Districts during his tenure. Bishop Anderson has also served as Bicentennial Chairman, Ecumenical Officer, and Chairman of the General Conference Commission.

Bishop Anderson's ecumenical involvements span worldwide. He is a member of the Executive Committee of the World Methodist Council and is past Vice Chairman of the North American Section encompassing the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the Caribbean.

He is also past Chairman of the Committee on Religion and Society for the Global Economic Action Institute. Furthermore, Bishop Anderson has served as Chairman of Worship and Liturgy for the Consultation on Church Union. As Chairman, he provided leadership for the development of the Bicentennial Edition of the AME hymnal and the first Book of Worship. Bishop Anderson is a member of the General Commission of Christian Unity and Inter-religious Concern of the United Methodist Church; the Governing Board of the National Council of Churches; and the Advisory of the United States Office of the World Council of Churches.

Bishop Anderson is married to Vivienne L. Anderson. They have four sons.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Bishop Vinton Randolph Anderson upon his retirement from the Bishopric. He has provided tremendous leadership for the AME Church and his long history of educational leadership and service will influence the lives of future generations for ages to come. Richard Allen the founder of the AME would be proud of his Episcopal descendant.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING
TEACHER AWARD WINNER JOHN
W. MOODY OF JACKSON, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher from Jackson, Michigan that significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

John W. Moody teaches Mathematics and Physics at Concord High School in Concord, Michigan. He is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As two of his students said, Matthew Wixson and Michael Horosko, "He takes time to explain something if I don't understand it, and he is always there to give a bit of wisdom. He has helped shape who I am and I will be forever grateful to him for that." And, "Mr. Moody taught me excellent math and science strategies, but even more important he taught me lessons about life. He is an excellent teacher, but even more so, a good friend." The respect and gratitude of his students speaks well of John's ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

John W. Moody's extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and John's impact on his students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to John W. Moody. We thank him for his continuing dedication to teaching and his willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.

STATEMENT ON VETERANS

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, 60 years ago Democrats fought to pass the GI bill. The GI bill provided assistance for veterans to pay for a college education, purchase a home, and find a job.

Today, Democrats are still fighting hard to make sure our veterans have the benefits they need. We are fighting to improve the health benefits for veterans, to end the Widow's Tax and the Disabled Veterans Tax.

Last year, I introduced the Department of Veterans Affairs Claims Backlog Reduction Act of 2003 to help the 450,000 veterans who have claims pending for federal benefits.

But as Democrats continue to fight for our veterans, Republicans continue to underfund the programs that are so important to our veterans. House Republicans have passed a budget that underfunds veterans health care by \$1 billion, meanwhile they have managed to find room for more tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans.

Our brave men and women in uniform are serving our country. They are sacrificing for our freedom. It is our duty to make sure that they are taken care of when they return home.

Republicans have broken the promise the GI bill made 60 years ago.

Not one Republican has taken a stand against the Bush budget proposal.

Our soldiers are fighting our enemies abroad. They should not have to fight our government at home too.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP HAMEL
HARTFORD BROOKINS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop Hamel Hartford Brookins one of eight legendary leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church who will be retiring at this year's Quadrennial Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Bishop Brookins was born in Yazoo City, Mississippi. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wilberforce University in Ohio and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Payne Seminary.

Prior to his election to the bishopric, Bishop Brookins pastored First AME Church in Los Angeles, California leading them through the building of a multi-million dollar cathedral. He also served as the first black president of the Wichita Ministerial Alliance. Bishop Brookins worked in the world of politics as manager and advisor helping to elect Thomas Bradley as Mayor of Los Angeles. He also served as

president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) Western Region, and as vice president of Operation PUSH. Further, Bishop Brookins founded the Martin Luther King Student Fund, organized the first Interfaith Service at the Hollywood Bowl, and also lead the Primary Convention to elect the first black city councilman and Second Convention to elect the first black school board member.

Elected at the 1972 General Conference held in Dallas, Texas, Bishop Brookins was assigned to the 17th Episcopal District. He was inspired by the people's struggle for freedom, and became an active participant in their cause. As a consequence, Bishop Brookins was barred from Rhodesia in 1975. He participated in the 6th Pan African World Congress in 1974. Bishop Brookins also served and revitalized the 5th Episcopal District by purchasing and building new churches, sending ministers to organize new churches in Southern California, and establishing an Economic Development Fund for the District. Bishop Brookins also served in the 2nd, 12th, and 13th Episcopal Districts, and is a past Ecumenical Officer.

Bishop Brookins is married to Rosalyn Kyle Brookins and they have three children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Bishop Hamel Hartford Brookins upon his retirement from the Bishopric. He has provided tremendous leadership for the AME Church and his long history of religious and political service and leadership will influence generations for many years to come.

THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my views on the conflict in the Middle East.

I am deeply saddened by the seemingly endless bloodshed in the Middle East. The conflict has claimed the lives of too many innocent victims, Israeli and Palestinian alike. I have always believed and continue to believe that the United States has a role to play in assisting and supporting a negotiated peace in the region. I do not seek to assign blame but instead to ensure that we do all we can to achieve that end. I have no illusions that this conflict will be easily resolved, or that the United States can impose a solution—all we can do is urge the parties to make peace and support a process that offers some chance of success.

I support a two state solution to the conflict in the Middle East with Israel and Palestine coexisting as democratic states with secure, internationally recognized borders. Prime Minister Sharon's disengagement plan for an Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza strip and certain areas of the West Bank presents an opportunity to get the peace process moving again and to lay the foundation for an eventual Palestinian state. However, I do not believe that withdrawing from these areas, in and of itself, will bring peace. We, and others in the international community, need to work with Palestine to end terrorism and foster and build a strong, stable democracy. Until this goal is

accomplished, I strongly support Israel's right to defend herself against attacks. Israel is currently building a security fence to block out suicide bombers and others wishing to harm Israelis. I have concerns over the placement of the fence in certain areas and it is my hope that this fence will be a temporary structure that can be dismantled when peace is achieved. Lastly, I believe that all final status issues, including final borders and refugee issues, must be negotiated by the parties and supported by all nations committed to peace, so that Israel and Palestine can feel confident that their agreement will endure.

I fear that the issue of peace in the Middle East will be brushed aside during campaign season. We must not merely call for peace, we must make it a priority. To this end, I have sent a letter, which I have attached and will submit for the record, to President Bush asking that he appoint two individuals, a Democrat and a Republican, to help the parties seek peace and set forth a practical agenda for doing so. This dramatic gesture would remove peace-seeking from partisan politics and make plain to the world that Americans are united in their commitment to finding a peaceful solution. I personally am determined to do all that I can to ensure that this issue remains at the forefront of U.S. foreign policy and that progress is made toward finding a peaceful resolution.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

June 7, 2004.

President GEORGE W. BUSH,
*The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I am writing to you because I believe that the United States must, as it has in the past, take action to advance the cause of peace between Israelis and Palestinians. I do not seek to assign blame, but to end the bloodshed.

Prime Minister Sharon's disengagement plan presents an opportunity that ought not to be lost by inaction. I share your conviction, expressed last month, that "all final status issues must still emerge from negotiations between the parties. . . ." I share, too, your belief that the United States has a role to play in fostering such negotiations. The suffering is acute, for both Israelis and Palestinians. Insofar as we can help bring the parties together, we ought to take action now. Our good offices should not be suspended because of the election campaign.

Therefore I respectfully urge that you appoint two Americans, a Republican and a Democrat, to help the parties seek peace. I would not presume to dictate your choice: there are wise and just men and women in both parties. I ask that you select a bipartisan pair and offer their services to Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, to meet with them, together or separately, to set forth a practical agenda for seeking peace.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL E. CAPUANO,
Member of Congress.

IN MEMORY OF MERLE F.
PETERSON

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, Congressman MARION BERRY and I rise today to honor the

memory of Merle F. Peterson of Dumas, AR. Strong leadership, vision, concern for others, and philanthropy were enduring legacies left by Merle Peterson. He died on March 19, 2004 after having served his nation, state and Dumas with distinction.

After graduating with an electrical engineering degree from Arkansas State University, he came to Dumas in April of 1939 to operate a service station his father had bought. In November of that year, he was married to Deloris Ellegood, and together they built a successful Ford automobile business.

When Mr. Peterson volunteered for the Army Air Force in 1942, he rose to captain and served overseas three years with a bomber squadron in Africa and Italy. His wife kept the business operating during those years. After selling the Ford dealership in 1976, they continued their business and farming operations through Peterson Enterprises and jointly led in service and philanthropic endeavors for over 64 years.

After World War II, Mr. Peterson realized that Dumas faced major economic challenges in order to prosper. With other Dumas leaders, he worked to establish an industrial foundation and organized a drive to buy land for development as an industrial park.

Mr. Peterson founded Dumas State Bank, now Simmons First, and was its board chairman. His financial acumen led him to serve on the boards of the Arkansas Development Finance Authority, State Chamber of Commerce, and Economic Development Fund of Arkansas.

Fully devoted to his church, First United Methodist of Dumas, he was active in the Methodist Men's Class, chaired the administrative board and many committees, and served in important roles in the Little Rock Conference.

A mainstay of the Chamber of Commerce and the Lions Club, he was chosen Citizen of the Year in 1952, and 50 years later was still working with enthusiasm for projects to benefit Dumas. An early supporter of Arkansas Community Foundation, he was a founding board member of Dumas Area Community Foundation. He and his wife established scholarships at the University of Arkansas at Monticello and Dumas High School.

A loyal Democrat, he served as a state senator from 1960 through 1966, was chairman of the County Committee for 10 years, and was a volunteer staff member for Governor Bill Clinton for 12 years. He was a leader in the Clinton gubernatorial and presidential campaigns, and was named to the U.S. Electoral College in 1996. He received the Arkansas Democrats' top award in 1994.

Many state leadership and service accolades were bestowed on Mr. Peterson, but he always credited the people of Dumas for their support. He served for the betterment of many and leaves a huge legacy to fill.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP JOHN HURST
ADAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker I rise today to pay tribute to Bishop John Hurst Adams, one

of eight legendary leaders of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church who will be retiring at this year's Quadrennial Conference in Indianapolis, IN.

Bishop Adams was born in Columbia, SC, where he now lives after years of serving congregations and communities across our Nation. He grew up in the Waverly neighborhood of Columbia, which is located in the Sixth Congressional District which I proudly represent in this august body. He attended Waverly Elementary School, Booker T. Washington High School and John C. Smith University in Charlotte, NC. Bishop Adams continued his education at the Boston University School of Theology, Harvard School of Divinity, and Union Theological Seminary.

Bishop Adams began his ministry with a small congregation in Lynn, MA. He taught at Payne Theological Seminary in Ohio and later served as President of Paul Quinn College in Texas for 6 years and as Chairman of the Board for 8. During his years at Paul Quinn College, the school received accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and saw many new building renovations and improvements.

Bishop Adams next served as pastor at First AMEC in Seattle. From Seattle, Bishop Adams went to Los Angeles where he pastored Grant AMEC in the Watts section of Los Angeles. It was also in Los Angeles that Bishop Adams was elected the 87th Bishop of African Methodism.

Upon his election, Bishop Adams served the Tenth Episcopal District in Texas and later left his mark on the Second Episcopal District in the Mid-Atlantic States. Under his leadership, 40 new congregations sprouted throughout the district. From there, he served the Sixth Episcopal District in Georgia where he served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Morris Brown College, Turner Theological Seminary, Interdenominational Theological Center and the Atlanta University Center. He also served on the Centennial Olympic Committee.

I was very proud when Bishop Adam's service called him to the Seventh Episcopal District in South Carolina, in 1992, to serve over the State's 609 AME churches. He arrived in South Carolina just in time to play a pivotal role in my election to this body. Bishop Adams currently serves the Eleventh Episcopal District, encompassing Florida and the Bahamas.

Bishop Adams is a strong believer that people must join together to do what they cannot do alone. To that end, he has founded the Congress of National Black Churches, the Institute on Church Administration and Management in Atlanta, Georgia; the Richard Allen Service and Development Agency in Washington, DC; and the Educational Growth Organization in Los Angeles, CA. He continues to serve on many Boards including that of the Interdenominational Theological Center, Institute on Church Administration and Management, Joint Center for Political Studies, Children's Defense Fund Black Community Crusade for Children, National Black United Fund, Industrial Area Foundation, National Urban League, and the Palmetto Project.

Bishop Adams has received many fitting honors and awards throughout his 25 years as Bishop. In 1996, he was awarded South Carolina's highest citizen honor, the Order of the Palmetto, in recognition of his contributions to the State.

Bishop Adams is married to his partner in the ministry, Dr. Dolly Adams of New Orleans,

Louisiana. They have three daughters and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in honoring Bishop John Hurst Adams whose spirit, belief, and kindness have moved communities to action across the Nation. He is a roll model, a friend, an outstanding leader and a great American. His retirement from the Bishopric creates a void that will be hard to fill.

HONORING MARK BEELER ON HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mark Beeler on his retirement from the Trousdale County Agricultural Extension Service. Mark is a resident of Hartsville, TN, which I have the pleasure of representing in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

For 27 years, Mark has been a dedicated employee of the Ag Extension Service, but the agency has been in his blood for much longer. His father, H.Y. Beeler, is a retired extension agent from Williamson County. Mark began his own career in Hickman County before transferring to Trousdale County in 1981.

In addition to his commitment to Ag Extension, Mark has been a first-rate public servant. As a member of Hartsville's Volunteer Fire Department, he has championed fire-safety education programs. In fact, Mark was instrumental in establishing fire-safety education in the local school system and day-care facilities.

I applaud Mark and all that he has accomplished. He and his coworkers at Trousdale County Ag Extension have made certain that Middle Tennessee farmers have access to the latest technology and techniques. I am sure the Hartsville community will be sad to see him go, but I know I join with them in wishing him a very happy retirement.

RECOGNIZING AND ENCOURAGING
ALL AMERICANS TO OBSERVE
40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DEATHS OF ANDREW GOODMAN,
JAMES CHANEY, AND MICHAEL
SCHWERNER, CIVIL RIGHTS OR-
GANIZERS

SPEECH OF

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2004

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, this House must be applauded for the passage of the Resolution (H. Con. Res. 450) I introduced to honor the civil rights martyrs: Andrew Goodman, James Chaney, and Michael Schwerner. These young men were true martyrs, non-violent and self-sacrificing for the highest ideals. In contrast to the suicide bombers who call themselves "martyrs" while taking lives, these heroes placed themselves at risk in order to save lives. The fact that their passion and dedication was expressed in non-violent actions made them no less courageous and brave fighters. On this fortieth anniversary of

their lynching it is important that we hold up to our youth and to the world these examples of three "greatest" American men.

THE ANGELS CRIED

The day Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman died

Was a day the angels cried:
 Heroes who laid down their lives,
 Courage recorded for eternal archives.
 Medals of honor belong to the brave
 Who take no lives but struggle to save
 The credo of justice for all;
 Build them a three person Memorial Wall.
 Suicide bombers look down and see
 True martyrs who won great glory
 In the war for ideals
 Fought past Mississippi cotton fields;
 Three sacrificed the full measure of devo-
 tion,
 Murder of enemies is an obsolete notion,
 Love is a weapon of overwhelming emotion.
 Sound the trumpet again and again
 Appreciate the sacrifice of three greatest
 American men.
 The day Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman
 died
 Was a day angels in heaven cried.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH AN-
 NIVERSARY OF THE PETUNIA
 FESTIVAL

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I have the great honor and privilege of representing the city of Dixon, Illinois. Dixon encompasses all that is good in America. It's a place that puts a great emphasis on the importance of family and friendship. Mom-and-Pop businesses are often passed down from generation to generation and its citizens continue to honor traditions from years past. For that reason, I rise today to recognize one of these long and celebrated traditions—the 40th anniversary of the Petunia Festival.

In 1830, Father John Dixon purchased land in the western parts of Illinois and soon began ferrying people across the Rock River to settle the area that would later be named after its founder. Unfortunately, in the 1950s a combination of Dutch Elm disease and major highway expansion resulted in the removal of all trees along the community's major roadways.

Nonetheless, in 1960, a small group of residents, better known as the Dixon Men's Garden Club, grew tired of the arid landscape and planted 4,000 petunias along South Galena Avenue to enhance the aesthetic beauty of the small Midwestern town. The following year, the Garden Club planted 6,000 more petunias, this time along North Galena Avenue.

Each year since, the residents of Dixon pay tribute to the Dixon Men's Garden Club by planting and caring for 24,000 petunia plants, which now extend along all major streets throughout the town.

In recent years, Dixon has received much attention for their annual Petunia Festival celebration. In fact, in 1999, the 91st General Assembly of Illinois passed a resolution declaring the city of Dixon, Illinois, the "Petunia Capital of Illinois." In addition, the fun-spirited festival has earned the town national recognition and is often referred to as the "Petunia City" by passing travelers.

Once again, I want to congratulate the city of Dixon as it celebrates its 40th anniversary of the Petunia Festival and wish its citizens, and my constituents, all the best in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO LCDR BRUCE D.
 CLEMONS, UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Lieutenant Commander Bruce D. Clemons who leaves his active duty assignment with the United States Navy this month after seven years of service to our Nation and to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Dr. Clemons' last assignment in the Navy was as the Senior Medical Officer at the Office of the Attending Physician here in the United States Capitol. In that position, he has provided invaluable medical assistance to my colleagues and me in the House and Senate, to the members of our staffs, and to the hundreds of thousands of visitors. All who came into contact with Dr. Clemons will agree that he served with an unmatched level of commitment and professionalism.

This dedication to duty and service yielded many honors for Dr. Clemons. These include the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medical, the Navy Unit Commendation, and the National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star. Perhaps the honor that best reflects his medical ability and coolness under pressure is the U.S. Public Health Service Crisis Response Award that he recently received for his work in responding to the Anthrax bioterrorism attacks on the United States Capitol. His immediate actions in the face of grave, unknown danger prevented the potential loss of life and serious illness for those exposed to the deadly Anthrax spores. In addition to providing medical care, he helped develop a comprehensive plan to deal with the crisis both in the short and long-term, and he calmly provided valuable information to members and staff who were or may have been exposed to these toxins.

Mr. Speaker, Bruce Clemons has been an outstanding sailor, doctor, and friend. My colleagues in the House appreciate his service to the Navy and to the United States Congress. We will greatly miss Bruce and want to wish him and his wife Catherine and their two children Abigail and William all the best as they continue Bruce's medical career in central Virginia.

IN HONOR OF DONALD J. CAMP-
 BELL, RETIRING DIRECTOR OF
 NASA GLENN RESEARCH CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Donald J. Campbell—admired and respected businessman, community leader, and friend and mentor to countless—upon his retirement following 10

years of exemplary service as the Director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Glenn Research Center at Lewis Field in Cleveland, Ohio.

Under his tenure as Director, Mr. Campbell carried out the mission of the NASA Glenn Research Center with great focus, vision, and dedication. He easily garnered the admiration of the entire staff at NASA Glenn. Moreover, Mr. Campbell forged strong partnerships with local and national business leaders, political leaders, and educational institutions, including historically black colleges and universities. These unbreakable bonds that radiate outward from NASA Glenn Research Center inspire countless young adults to follow their dreams of exploring careers in aeronautics, elevate our community's interest and understanding of aeronautics, and serve to support and enhance numerous educational opportunities for students within our community. As the only African American NASA Center Director during his tenure, Mr. Campbell served as an inspiration to numerous young Americans to remain focused on their academic and professional dreams, despite barriers or challenges along the way.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Mr. Campbell continues to take an active role within our community. He is a member of the board of directors of the American Red Cross and is a member of the Kent State University Aeronautics Division Advisory Board. Mr. Campbell has been honored numerous times for his significant career in public service, including the Affirmative Action Award from the Ohio Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, and the Technical Excellence in Government and Engineer Award from the National Technical Association.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Mr. Donald J. Campbell, as we recognize his significant contribution to NASA Glenn Research center and to our entire community. His work, expertise and dedication has enhanced and fortified the cornerstone of technology within our region. More importantly, it has served to provide tangible educational opportunities and limitless dreams of possibility for the young people of our community. I extend best wishes of peace, health and happiness to Mr. Campbell and his family, today, and throughout all of his future endeavors.

HONORING THE WHARTON FIRE
 DEPARTMENT OF MORRIS COUN-
 TY, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Wharton Fire Department, in Wharton, Morris County, New Jersey, a patriotic community I am proud to represent! On June 5, 2004 the good citizens of Wharton celebrated the Fire Company's Centennial Anniversary with special festivities and a parade.

For one hundred years, the Wharton Fire Department has been protecting and serving the residents of their community. Established by the collective efforts of the property owners in the Borough of Wharton, the ordinance "to

provide for, establish and regulate a fire department in the Borough of Wharton" was declared law by Mayor Harry J. Williams on February 15, 1904. The ordinance designated a Chief, First Assistant Chief and Second Assistant Chief. It also called for the formation of three companies: the Active Hose Company with twenty members, the Independent Hook and Ladder Company with forty members, and the Board of Fire Wardens composed of twenty members. A list of names were read and approved on April 4, 1904. Charles Hance was the first Chief of the Wharton Fire Department, Robert Oram was approved as the first Assistant Chief and John McKenna was approved as the Second Assistant Chief.

To get started, the Wharton Fire Department borrowed two two-wheeled, hand drawn hose carriages from first Assistant Chief Robert Oram. Soon after, the Fire Department ordered a hose cart and a hand drawn hook and ladder truck. Several other hose carts and horse-drawn ladder trucks were purchased until the first gasoline-motorized piece of equipment, an "REO" fire truck, was purchased and put into use in 1916.

The first means of alerting the firemen to an emergency was by striking large locomotive rims located in several sections of town. Then, in December 1904, an 8-inch steam whistle was installed at the Hurd Mine. After the mine was closed, the whistle was transferred to the furnace and then to the Gunther Silk Mill. This trusty steam whistle was used until 1918 when a manually controlled electric siren was installed in a cupola atop the Borough Hall. In 1929, the first of 19 fire alarm boxes were installed on street corners across the Borough. In the 1950's, additional electronic sirens were installed as the population of the town increased: Today, every Saturday at noon, the fire alarm system is tested by the four sirens still in use. But the Department is dispatched, by home radio receivers and personal pagers.

To commemorate the Wharton Fire Department's 100th Anniversary, the Borough hosted fire companies from all over New Jersey and the surrounding area on June 5, 2004. The Wharton Fire Department has always been known for its marching ability and its drill team, and first marched in August of 1907 in nearby Hackettstown. The Department won its first prize in 1908 and today over 200 trophies adorn the walls of their firehouse.

The Wharton Fire Department has grown over the years to meet the changing demands of the town and to incorporate the newest firefighting and lifesaving technologies. From its charter members to its current roster, the membership of the Wharton Fire Department has over the last century dedicated itself to the safety and welfare of Wharton's good citizens. Wharton's firefighters, dedicated public servants, past and present, are to be commended for a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the volunteers of the Wharton Fire Department on the celebration of 100 years of a rich history in the protection of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

HONORING THE FIREFIGHTERS WHO SAVED LAKE ARROWHEAD

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure today to call attention to the federal, state and local firefighters whose bravery and quick thinking saved thousands of homes and many lives in the San Bernardino Mountains of California last year. Representatives of these community heroes are in town this week for well-deserved national recognition from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and I would like to add my voice to the acclaim they are receiving.

My colleagues have heard me say many times on this floor that we are facing a terrible crisis in our Southern California forests. Years of drought have weakened the trees, and allowed the pine bark beetle to attack and kill millions of them—leaving hundreds of acres ready to burn at any time. More than 100,000 of my constituents live among these trees, and their lives and safety are at risk until we remove these dead and dying trees.

In October last year, the disaster we feared struck California—and struck and struck again. Within days, fires were consuming tens of thousands of acres in San Bernardino, Los Angeles, San Diego and Ventura counties. In my district, a fire started in the foothills and spread to 100 acres within ten minutes. In less than an hour, it became clear that nearby communities would need to be evacuated. By nightfall the Old Fire consumed over 4,000 acres of land. It destroyed 400 homes and was responsible for two fatalities before the day was out. Ultimately, nearly 1,000 homes were lost.

As dawn arrived on October 26, Fire Incident Commander Norm Walker was contemplating the distinct possibility of the worst-case scenario: fire reaching the 40,000 homes in the Lake Arrowhead community. Mandatory evacuations of all of the mountain communities began. Resources were stretched to the absolute maximum, due to other fires burning throughout the state.

The San Bernardino Mountains rise steeply to 10,000 feet above the city, and running along the face of the mountains between 5,000 feet and 7,000 feet is the famous Rim of the World Highway, State Route 18. This is also the last point where the fire could be stopped before roaring into the millions of dead trees in and around our mountain communities. By evening on October 26, the main fire crossed Highway 18, and the order was given to begin backfiring along the highway across the mountain rim to the east. The northeast winds were predicted to shift, which would push the flames north across Highway 18 and directly into the community of Lake Arrowhead.

Four highly trained firefighters in a unified command, Randy Clauson (USFS), Jim Ahearn (USFS), George Corley (San Bernardino County Fire), and Bill Bagnell (Crest Forest Fire) initiated the difficult, strenuous firing operation at 9:00 pm using limited personnel. Except for radio communication, these four on-the-scene chiefs were largely on their own. Every member of their teams faced the possibility of being caught by 100-foot

walls of flame that were sweeping up the mountains. But they stayed the course for the next two days—and the success of their operation is evidenced by the fact that nearly all of the mountain homes were spared.

Mr. Speaker, there is no doubt in my mind the heroic, exhausting efforts of these four individuals over the course of three days resulted in saving thousands of homes and billions of dollars of infrastructure around Lake Arrowhead. Anyone who has seen photos of the conditions along Highway 18 during the height of the fire is in awe of the courage and fortitude of these firefighters, and mountain residents will be forever grateful for saving their homes.

In honor of those efforts, the fire chiefs on Friday will receive the U.S. Department of Agriculture Honor Award for heroism and emergency response. I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating them on this recognition, and thanking them for representing the highest level of bravery and resourcefulness in defending and saving our communities.

SYMPATHIES TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF LANCE CORPORAL PEDRO CONTRERAS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Lance Corporal Pedro Contreras.

Lance Cpl. Contreras was a constituent of the 29th District of Texas, and a true hero, who died on June 21, 2004 while serving his country in the Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

Pedro Contreras joined the Marine Corps on May 7, 2001, five years after graduating from Galena Park High School.

Lance Cpl. Contreras was a rifleman assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force based in Camp Pendleton, California, where he earned several honors, including the National Defense Service Medal and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

Pedro Contreras leaves behind his two parents, Jose and Angela Contreras, and three brothers.

I know his parents, family and friends are devastated by this loss, but they should be proud of the great man Pedro Contreras had become and that he died a hero while serving his country.

His loss will be felt by all of our community, and I ask that you remember the Contreras family in your thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER A. RHODEN, USN

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to an outstanding Naval Officer, Commander Chris

Rhoden, to recognize his service to our Nation and the Navy as he leaves the Pentagon to pursue his first love, commanding a Naval ship.

On behalf of my colleagues in the House and on the Appropriations Committee, I want to take this opportunity to thank him for his distinguished and dedicated service.

It was through his assignment with the Navy's Appropriations Liaison office that I first came to know Commander Rhoden. In this capacity, he served as an invaluable liaison for the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations to me, the members of my committee, and our staff.

In addition to providing timely and accurate information on budget matters, Commander Rhoden also has escorted me and other Members of Congress on several occasions as we traveled both home and abroad to review military operations and confirm the health and welfare of our troops. He provided special insight on matters of national security, naval shipbuilding, and the direct relationship between the two. His candor, intelligence, and steadfast devotion to duty, was always very much appreciated and he was an invaluable asset to me during deliberations regarding funding programs for our armed forces. His perspective on the needs of the Nation with respect to our sea services provided me with the clarity and detail I needed to make important decisions regarding appropriations for the Department of Defense.

In addition to the respect I have for the work Commander Rhoden did in representing the Navy, I also thank him for the calm demeanor and sense of humor he shared with us all. Chris has become a mentor and friend to me and to my family, and for that I will always be grateful. It is this same sense of purpose and professionalism that I am confident will make Commander Rhoden a tremendous role model for those who serve under his command.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Commander Rhoden for his distinguished service to our nation. My wife Beverly and I have the highest respect for those who serve in uniform, and I appreciate and honor all the men and women who have served, and continue to serve, in defense of freedom. Recalling our national anthem, to our veterans and Armed Forces, I say, we would not be "the land of the free" were we not also the "home of the brave."

Mr. Speaker, My colleagues and I want to express our thanks and appreciation for the special contribution Commander Rhoden has made to the United States Navy. We wish him and his family continued success and the traditional naval wish of "Fair winds and Following seas" as he closes out his service to the Congress and continues toward the pinnacle of Naval service, command at sea of a United States warship.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. Holt. Mr. Speaker, I want to explain why I voted against the Rapid Acquisition Authority for Combat Emergencies Bill (H.R. 4323), when it was added to the suspension calendar for a vote earlier this week.

During the past year, we have seen repeated examples of waste, fraud, and abuse in contracts awarded by the U.S. Defense Department to the Halliburton Corporation and other military contractors that have poorly served our troops and the American taxpayers. Not only do I lack confidence that such procurement sloth has stopped, those of us in Congress who have called for in-depth congressional investigations have been stonewalled.

In light of this dismal track record, Congress should not open the door even wider and provide even greater authority for the Pentagon to award lucrative contracts to contractors without competition and with even less scrutiny and congressional oversight. Nevertheless, H.R. 4323 would waive existing safeguards against war profiteering and other contract abuses.

Congress is already moving to authorize and appropriate up to \$1.2 billion to provide additional equipment for our troops in every instance where critical shortages have been identified. That is one of the important reasons why I voted in favor of the FY 2005 Defense Authorization Bill, when the House passed it last month.

Finally, the supporters of this bill claim it is needed to cut through existing, cumbersome Pentagon acquisition regulations to respond to urgent needs of our troops in combat emergencies. But there is mounting evidence to the contrary. I believe the equipment shortages among some of our troops in Iraq during the past year resulted from poor pre-war planning and serious miscalculations in the Pentagon by the architects of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Quite simply, U.S. Army war planners didn't issue enough purchase orders, before the invasion of Iraq was launched, to ensure that all of our troops on the ground in Iraq had what they needed during the conventional combat phase of this conflict. Those mistakes and the equipment shortages they caused became even more costly since President Bush announced the end of combat in Iraq on May 1, 2003, and the nature of the military threat changed and the armed insurgency expanded. This Congress should act to address those mistakes, not use them as an opportunity to hand out more no-bid contracts.

I believe H.R. 4323 could actually make a bad situation worse.

IN HONOR OF EDWARD LICHT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Mr. Edward Licht, Bailiff for the Garfield Heights Municipal Court, as he is being honored as the Regional Court Officer of the Year by the Ohio Bailiff and Court Officers Association.

A life-long resident of Cuyahoga County, Mr. Licht served as a Special Agent with the U.S. Treasury Department for twenty-five years. During his tenure as Special Agent, Mr. Licht assisted in the investigation, apprehension and conviction of criminals involved in major gambling, illegal drug and money laundering operations. For his invaluable service, Mr. Licht was honored with several awards, includ-

ing two Special Achievement awards, One Superior Service award, and an Honorable Mention for Outstanding Community Service award. Since 1999, Mr. Licht has held the position of Baliff with the Garfield Heights Municipal Court. His unwavering integrity, outstanding communication abilities and strong work ethic continues to uplift all facets of this regional court system.

Beyond his significant professional contributions, Mr. Licht continues to volunteer his time and talents within our community. He continues to be an active member of the Democratic Party within our community. A long-time member of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party, Mr. Licht currently serves as Deputy Treasurer. He has also been very active in the Independence Democratic Party for many years, as a member and an officer. Moreover, Mr. Licht continues to make an impact upon the lives of many as a volunteer probation officer with the Bedford and Garfield Heights court systems. His positive outlook and kind nature, combined with his sense of compassion and wonderful sense of humor, continuously serves to uplift those around him.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mr. Ed Licht, upon being selected as the Regional Court Officer of the Year. Mr. Licht's professional contribution to our federal and regional justice system—reflected by strong ethics and a high level of integrity, continues to be significant and invaluable. Moreover, Mr. Licht's concern for his community and commitment to the democratic process continues to instill strength and integrity throughout the Democratic Party, and serves to strengthen our entire community.

HONORING EXEMPLARY EDUCATOR KATHY PUTMAN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kathy Putman, an exemplary educator, who is retiring after forty years in the classroom at John F. Kennedy High School in Fremont, California. Immediately after graduating from San Jose State University, Kathy's career in education began at Kennedy High School.

She was among the first instructors when the new high school was opened in 1965. Teaching Government and Economics to high school seniors at Kennedy High School is the only job Kathy has ever had. She was only a couple of years older than her first students. Over the decades, she has taught many children of former students in her class.

For years Kennedy High School had a contest for "Most Popular Teacher." Kathy won so often the contest was discontinued. Each year her yearbook is filled with the penned thoughts of adoring students. Thousands of young Fremont students have passed through her classroom where the walls are covered with photographs and notes from former students. Assuming Kathy had 200-300 students a year, for 40 years, this adds up to between 8,000-12,000 students she has touched during her career.

I, along with former Congressman Don Edwards, California Attorney General Bill Lockyer

and a host of political and civic leaders have been privileged to speak to students in Kathy's government classes. She was a true believer in exposing her students to firsthand experiences in government. She encouraged student involvement and referred her students to my office for internships.

I have never met a more experienced, committed or enthusiastic teacher. Kathy is a model for all educators to follow. I commend her on her 40 years of outstanding service. Kathy has left an indelible mark on her students and the community of Fremont and her contributions will be long remembered and felt with utmost respect.

CREATION OF THE FHA

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, 70 years ago this month, Congress approved the National Housing Act that created the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) and President Roosevelt signed into law on June 28, 1934.

The value of FHA can not be overstated. For decades it has insured mortgage loans to help over 33 million families own their own home. The FHA has continuously been a critical resource in helping make home ownership available and more affordable. In fact most recent data shows, the nation's homeownership rate soared to an all time high of 68.1 percent. I have long been a supporter of the FHA program and believe that it is critical for unlocking the door to homeownership for so many Americans.

Mr. Speaker, my Congressional district has the unique distinction of being home to the first FHA Insured Mortgage approved for a house in the United States.

Let me take you back to the 1930's. Our country was in the midst of the Great Depression. It is estimated that in 1933 there were 1,000 foreclosures per week! In my home state of New Jersey homeownership rates were declining. In fact, between 1930 and 1940 they fell 9 percent. A loaf of bread cost about nine cents and a dozen eggs went for 27 cents. In Morris County, the average rental paid \$55 a month for a large house.

Mr. Speaker, It was during this economic climate that President Roosevelt signed the National Housing Act into law with the intention of broadening home ownership, protecting lending institutions and stimulating the economy.

James A. Moffett was appointed the first FHA Administrator and it is under his leadership that on December 18, 1934, the Newkirk family received the first FHA Mortgage for the completion of construction of their house at 30 Hopper Avenue in Pompton Plains, Morris County, New Jersey.

Pompton Plains is located in the Eastern part of Morris County and is part of Pequannock Township. At that time, Pequannock was 7 square miles of land, had 2,104 residents and was comprised mostly of farmland and apple orchards. Today Pequannock Township is home to approximately 14,000 residents.

Mr. Newkirk purchased the land at 30 Hopper Avenue and built a home for his wife, son

and himself. It is estimated that the land and house cost just under \$10,000. The FHA loan, at \$4,800 covered approximately 50 percent of the cost of the house.

Since the house was built, it has changed hands three times and is now owned by Trevor and Catherine Smallwood who purchased it on July 3, 2003 for \$470,000.

Today this house still stands at 30 Hopper Avenue. While 70 years have passed the house looks much the same, a structure rich in history, standing for the dream of homeownership, a dream that we continue to work to ensure every American can achieve.

Mr. Chairman, I ask you to join me in recognizing and celebrating this truly historic house and all that it stands for.

FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL PLANNING SAVED 100,000 LIVES IN CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I have already asked my colleagues today to recognize the bravery of firefighters who saved 40,000 homes in last year's devastating wildfires. But I would now like to also pay tribute to an unprecedented effort at planning and organization by federal, state and local officials that allowed the evacuation of 100,000 people threatened by fire—without a single injury or a major hitch!

Many of the heroes of this planning effort were on the front lines fighting the Old Fire, which eventually burned 91,000 acres and destroyed nearly 1,000 homes in October 2003. But their work to avoid a devastating loss of life began more 18 months earlier with the formation of the Mountain Area Safety Task Force, known throughout the San Bernardino Mountains as the MAST.

San Bernardino National Forest Supervisor Gene Zimmerman initiated the formation of the MAST to deal with an on-going crisis: the death of more than 5 million trees because of drought and attacks by pine bark beetles. The forest, which is largely in my 41st Congressional District, is one of the most urbanized and heavily used in the nation, with nearly 100,000 residents and visitors living amongst the trees. The chance for a devastating fire is overwhelming, and it will take many years and hundreds of millions of dollars to eliminate the danger.

It became clear that the task of restoring the forest—and avoiding the loss of thousands of lives in a fire—would require the coordinated efforts of the Forest Service, the state Department of Forestry and Fire, San Bernardino County Fire Department, and dozens of local fire departments, community groups and businesses. Such a coordination effort had never been undertaken on such a comprehensive scale, and the organizational hurdles alone were daunting.

But the mountain communities, while divided into dozens of small pockets by geography, are populated by people who look out for each other, and who are united in their devotion to the forest. Hundreds of residents turned out for every informational meeting, and officials from agencies at all levels made the coordination of effort their top priority.

With the substantial help of the geographic information systems company ESRI, the MAST established elaborate plans on how to evacuate residents along the few main highways that snake through the forest. Dozens of community meetings were held, and residents had access to an Internet Web site created free-of-charge by ESRI that provided even more detailed information.

When the Old Fire struck in October 2003, our worst fears seemed about to be realized. The fire appeared to be unstoppable before it reached the stands of dead trees. Within a day, the order went out to evacuate, even as the firefighters made valiant stands to stop the fire along the evacuation routes. The success of the planning process was soon clear: No one was injured in the evacuation. Although six deaths were attributed to the fire, none of our residents were caught in their homes like those who suffered tragic deaths in San Diego County.

Mr. Speaker, the MAST continues to meet and plan for the restoration of the forest and the upcoming fire season. While some progress has been made in reducing the number of dead trees, the fire danger remains high. Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of this group, I am confident that we will be prepared to meet that danger.

The members of the MAST—represented by Supervisor Zimmerman and San Bernardino National Forest Staff Director Doug Pumphrey—will be honored this Friday with a U.S. Department of Agriculture Honor Award. This award is without question highly deserved, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking those who took part in this life-saving effort.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GERIATRIC AND CHRONIC CARE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2004

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Geriatric and Chronic Care Management Act, an important piece of legislation that would authorize Medicare coverage of geriatric assessment and care management for eligible Medicare beneficiaries.

Americans are living longer than ever, with the average life expectancy rising to 80 years-old for women and 74 years-old for men. While this is a positive development, there are costs associated with the aging of America. As seniors live longer, they face greater risks of disease and disabilities, such as Alzheimer's, diabetes, cancer, stroke and heart disease.

Geriatricians are physicians who are uniquely trained to help care for the aging and elderly. By promoting a comprehensive approach to health care, including wellness and preventive care, geriatricians can help seniors live longer and healthier lives.

It is critical that our nation have a sufficient number of geriatricians to help manage the aging of the baby-boom generation. Unfortunately, there are currently only 9,000 certified geriatricians, and that number is expected to decline dramatically in the coming years. Of the approximately 98,000 medical residency and fellowship positions supported by Medicare in 1998, only 324 were in geriatric medicine and geriatric psychiatry. The Alliance for

Aging Research estimates that the U.S. will need approximately 36,000 geriatricians to counter the aging population.

However, significant barriers exist that prevent physicians from entering geriatrics. A MedPac survey found that Medicare's low reimbursement rates serve as a major obstacle to recruiting new geriatricians. Due to their higher level of chronic disease and multiple prescriptions, seniors require additional care to ensure proper diagnosis and treatment. Medicare's reimbursement rates do not factor the complex needs of elderly patients. Because geriatricians treat seniors exclusively, they are especially affected by Medicare's low reimbursement rates.

The legislation I am introducing today would remedy this problem, so that Medicare beneficiaries can more effectively manage their chronic diseases. The Geriatric and Chronic Care Management Act would utilize the existing Medicare fee-for-service system to provide a new, limited assessment and care management benefit to beneficiaries with multiple chronic conditions. I urge all of my colleagues to join me as cosponsors of this important legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast several rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall No. 286, "no" on rollcall No. 287, "yes" on rollcall No. 288, "yes" on rollcall No. 289, and "yes" on rollcall No. 290.

REGARDING THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL AND THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, as always, I remain steadfastly committed to the security of Israel, the safety of its citizens and its right to exist. I am unable to support this resolution, however, because I believe it will contribute to further instability in the region. Further, it will not successfully resolve the underlying conflict. I strongly believe in Israel's right to exist and I have been and remain committed to the two state solution set forth in the Roadmap for peace; as former Prime Minister Rabin said: You must make peace with your enemies, not your friends. One cannot impose peace through unilateral actions.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, the resolution before us deviates from that Road Map. It does so in a manner that is not calculated to end the violence against Israelis. It does nothing to promote meaningful negotiations, and further undermines the role of the United States as an honest broker—our most important role. It is not for Congress—or for the Administration—to prejudge or predetermine the question of Israeli settlements or the final borders envi-

sioned by a final status agreement; that issue should be negotiated by the Israelis and Palestinians. For these reasons, I am unable to support this resolution. I fear that the policies it reflects will lead to greater harm and not to a resolution of the conflict—nor safety for civilians—that its sponsors may believe.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT LILLY

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant. Scott Lilly has spent 31 years serving the House of Representatives. Scott's career in Congress started in 1973, coincidentally, the same year I was appointed to the Appropriations Committee. While he has held many distinguished positions during his long tenure in the House, most of his time was spent working in some capacity for the House Appropriations Committee.

Scott started and ended his career working for my friend and Ranking Member, DAVID OBEY. He had a brief tenure as the Clerk and Staff Director of the House Appropriations Committee and has spent the last nine years as director of the minority staff of the committee.

Scott is an unapologetic liberal and we have vigorous debates and differences in our committee. But Scott never allowed a political dispute to become personal. We could have a knock down drag out fight in committee and after it was over Scott and the staff from both sides of the aisle would retire to the Committee's appointed space and enjoy an adult beverage. There was never any lingering ill will or hard feelings.

Scott is a consummate professional. His knowledge and expertise of appropriations matters is rivaled by few. He is a shrewd floor tactician and legislative strategist. Scott will now be able to spend more time in the academic world, a world where he is able draw on his great intellect and wealth of Congressional experience. Our loss is his students' gain. Every class he teaches will be enriched by his thoughtful consideration of complex political and policy questions.

Scott will be sorely missed. I can say with confidence that he will not miss our long markups, our late night conferences and the marathon sessions on the floor. He is a great patriot, a great public servant and a great appropriator. I wish him all the success in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF OUR UNITED STATES VETERANS AND THE WESTSIDE VETERANS CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of all veterans of the 10th Congressional District of Ohio—for their service, bravery, and dedication on behalf of our country. Most significantly, we stand in

tribute and remembrance of those veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice when they answered the call to duty.

The lives of many veterans and their families have been uplifted by the outreach efforts of the Westside Veterans Center—a haven of services, programs and assistance focused on the psychological, medical and economic needs of more than 44,000 veterans who live in the 10th Congressional District of Ohio. The Westside Veterans Center, located in Parma, Ohio, celebrated the opening of the McCafferty outstation in 1998. The McCafferty Outstation remains focused on addressing the needs of Hispanic American and African American veterans who live within our Westside communities. Reflective of their commitment to serve our diversified community, the Westside Vet Center and McCafferty Outstation both employ bilingual staff.

The services provided by the Westside Veterans Center and the McCafferty Outstation Center is the least we can do on behalf of our veterans—our brothers, sisters, sons and daughters, mothers, fathers and grandfathers—thousands of whom have made significant sacrifices and suffered great losses during and after their unwavering service to our country.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, tribute and gratitude to the men and women of our armed forces—let us forever remember their service, sacrifice and sense of duty—yesterday, today, and for generations to come.

HONORING THE BASKING RIDGE FIRE COMPANY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1, of Bernards Township in Somerset County, New Jersey, a vibrant community I am proud to represent! On June 26, 2004 the good citizens of Basking Ridge are celebrating the Fire Company's Centennial Anniversary with special festivities and a parade.

For one hundred years, the Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1 has been protecting and serving the residents of their community. The initial impetus to start a volunteer fire company in 1904 came from a spectacular barn fire and the opening of a new school. The Wickenhaver barn burned while residents watched, helpless to do anything to quench the flames. Four horses lost their lives and the influential people in town took notice of how ill prepared they were to deal with fire. The new school had just opened on Maple Avenue, and that also increased the importance of having the ability to deal with fire. Charles Wickenhaver's descendants still serve as active volunteers with the Fire Company.

A committee to establish a volunteer fire company was assigned and met on June 17, 1904. They established the general goals and objectives of the organization and determined what was necessary to get started. The following week, on June 24, 1904, they chartered the Basking Ridge Hose Company. Early actions included establishing committees to research buying or making firefighting equipment

such as wagons, ladders, and lanterns. Each member paid dues to fund the organization. They also elected the first officers of the company; Chief Walter Allen, Treasurer Charles M. Allen, Secretary Raymond A. Henry, Warders Harry W. Bennett and Frank S. Happe.

Membership requirements were simple and reflected the physical challenges of firefighting and the social mores of the times. Members needed to be men between the ages of 18 and 45, in good health, and to live within one and a half miles of the village green. Members were called to action by the ringing of the church bell in the Presbyterian Church and had to live close enough to hear the bell and respond quickly.

The first piece of apparatus for the new Hose Company was a hand pulled hose cart and 500 feet of hose donated by the Basking Ridge Improvement Society. The Fire Company proudly displays this hose cart at special events and gatherings. Soon after, the Company approved the purchase of fabric fire buckets for 5 cents each and the construction of several ladders and a cart upon which to carry the ladders and buckets. Lumber and materials for the construction of the ladders and cart were donated by M.F. Ellis, Robert C. Bishop, and David Y. Moore.

In 1906, the Basking Ridge Hose Company incorporated under the laws of New Jersey as a volunteer Fire Company, renaming itself the Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1, Inc. Men and horses pulled the equipment to fire scenes until the first motorized fire apparatus was purchased in 1911. Basking Ridge's first fire truck was a Moline Motor Car, a 40 horsepower contraption that carried six men. The first Fire House was built by resident volunteers at the corner of Henry and South Maple in 1905 at a total cost of \$600. It was replaced by a brick structure in 1915.

The Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1 has grown over the years to meet the changing demands of the town and to incorporate the newest firefighting and lifesaving technologies. In 1985 the company moved into a new headquarters at 30 Washington Avenue. The Company operates three fire engines (purchased in 1986/97, 1992 & 2003 respectively) a heavy rescue truck (acquired in 1997), and increased from one to two ambulances in 1988. The entire roster numbers over fifty people although only approximately 35 are active firefighters/EMTs. The Company remains all-volunteer and responds to over 900 requests for help, fire and first aid, a year as well as serving at numerous civic events.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the volunteers of the Basking Ridge Fire Company No. 1 on the celebration of 100 years of a rich history in the protection of one of New Jersey's finest municipalities.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING
TEACHER AWARD WINNER
MELISSA SOUVA OF BRONSON,
MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation's future prosper-

ity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher from Bronson, Michigan that significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

Melissa Souva teaches Agricultural Science at Bronson High School in Bronson, Michigan. She is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As one of her students, Bobby Jo Ludwick said, "Mrs. Souva has taught me the importance of good leadership and community service. The self-confidence that I've gained from her support will play a role in my life everyday. She has taught me that I can make a difference. I thank her for making a difference for me." The respect and gratitude of her students speaks well of Melissa's ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

Melissa Souva's extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and Melissa's impact on their students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Melissa Souva. We thank her for her continuing dedication to teaching and her willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.

COMMENDING DR. LARRY MILLER
ON HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE
TO HIS COMMUNITY AND UPCOMING
RETIREMENT AS SUPER-
INTENDENT OF MILLVILLE PUB-
LIC SCHOOLS

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. LoBIONDO Mr. Speaker I rise today to commend Dr. Larry Miller on his long and distinguished service to his community, and congratulate him on his upcoming retirement as superintendent for Millville Public Schools on July 1, 2004.

Dr. Miller has been a strong advocate for the educational community of Southern New Jersey for the past forty-one years. He personally has given his time and energy to better the educational system on behalf of his students. I am happy to say that Dr. Miller's leadership and tireless advocacy were recognized recently when he was chosen as the New Jersey Superintendent of the Year for 2004. His hard work has set a high standard for all educators and community leaders to follow.

Dr. Miller rose up through the ranks of the Millville Public Schools, and has left a trail of positive change and enthusiastic accomplishments. I would like to congratulate Dr. Miller, and thank him on behalf of the people and students of New Jersey's Second Congress-

sional District for a job well done. I hope he enjoys every bit of his retirement, he certainly deserves it.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR
RALPH GUERRERO, JR.

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sergeant Major Ralph Guerrero Jr. who on June 24, 1974, enlisted in the United States Marines Corps and will officially retire today after 30 years of honorable and distinguished service. Sergeant Major Guerrero leaves the Marines Corps as one of the most respected and accomplished member of our armed forces.

A native of San Fernando, California, Sergeant Major Guerrero was born on July 14th 1956, and graduated from San Fernando High School in June 1974. Sergeant Major Guerrero and his wife Silvia P. Gomez have a son, Ralph III, and a daughter, Chyenne. Sergeant Major Guerrero is the quintessential local success story.

After he graduated from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA and completed Infantry Training School at Camp Pendleton, CA, Sergeant Major Guerrero embarked on a successful Marine Corps career. From his participation in the evacuation of South Vietnam and Cambodia; to his amphibious reconnaissance training; to his assignment to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego California, where he served as a Drill Instructor, Senior Drill Instructor, Chief Drill Instructor and was meritoriously promoted to Gunnery Sergeant; Sergeant Major Guerrero has proven himself a critical team player.

Sergeant Major Guerrero's leadership and expertise were vital to the Marine Corps during his deployment to El Salvador as an Advisor to a Battalion of Salvadorian Marines. During his subsequent deployments, including: Operation Desert Shield, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Sea Angel, Operation Restore Hope, Operation Noble Eagle and his visits to Marines in Afghanistan and Uzbekistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom his contributions were invaluable. His exemplary leadership skills proved critical to the Marine Corps during his tour of duty at Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters Marine Corps, where he served as the Command and the Military District of Washington Sergeant Major. During this tour, Sergeant Major Guerrero was a member of the FY99 E-8/E-9 selection board, Chairman Senior Enlisted Advisory Community for USO, a member of the Board of Director's for USO and Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, and a member of the Foreign Joint Services NonCommissioned Officer Associations.

In July 1999, Sergeant Major Guerrero was assigned to a Major Marine Corps command, as the Sergeant Major for Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni Japan. In 2001, he was assigned as the Sergeant Major for the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. These important assignments were evidence of the great respect and trust he had earned.

Sergeant Major Guerrero is deservedly highly decorated. He has earned the Legion of

Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal with 2 Gold Stars in lieu of 3rd Award, the Navy Achievement Medal with Gold Star in lieu of 2nd Award, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Combat Action Ribbon with 4 gold stars in lieu of 5th Award, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal with Bronze Star in lieu of 2nd Award, the Vietnam Service Medal with bronze star in lieu of 2nd award, the Southwest Asia Service Medal with 3 bronze stars in lieu of 4th award, the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal and various Unit Awards.

Sergeant Major Guerrero has worked to raise the public's awareness of the many contributions the military makes to the local community. He has also committed himself to working with schools to help increase appreciation for our armed forces among school children.

It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Sergeant Major Guerrero for his distinguished 30 years of service to country, to congratulate him on his retirement and to wish him the very best in the years ahead.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ENACTMENT OF GI BILL

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, sixty-years ago today, President Franklin Roosevelt signed into law the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, known thereafter as the GI Bill.

This piece of legislation promised those who served their country an education, aid in finding employment, help toward home ownership, and proper healthcare. What President Roosevelt accomplished in his four terms in office was extraordinary; the effects of which are still felt today. High among this list of accomplishments is the signing into law of the GI Bill, with which President Roosevelt rewarded this country's heroes by educating, aiding and caring for them.

In the six decades since the GI Bill's inception, large numbers of troops have been sent to the beaches of Normandy, the Sea of Japan, Korea, Vietnam, the deserts of the Gulf and the Indian peninsula. What remains is sixty-years of sacrifice and battle scars, each a distinct imprint of the high cost of democracy and independence.

To repay their efforts, we have granted stipends for their college education and doctors for their wounds, offered them aid in housing and provided training for jobs. We have dedicated millions of dollars toward programs geared to enhance their lives through knowledge, healthcare and job growth. Still, the trade-off will forever remain wanting.

Countless young men and women enter into the armed services every year. My state of New York is home to over 1.2 million veterans, with another 26,000 servicemen and women on Reserve and Active duty and over 4,000 enlisted with the National Guard. It is for these honorable adults and those across the nation that we pledge to fund and aid the programs created sixty years ago. These national heroes have defended the freedoms enjoyed

by every American citizen from the time of the Revolutionary War. There are millions of men and women who rely upon this, risk life and limb, and make the commitment to our country and fellow citizens.

It is distressing that this occasion be marked with such unfortunate and ironic efforts to lessen the GI Bill. This as a day meant for respectful remembrance, to all that has been and will be accomplished by those who served in combat. I see a tremendous amount to be proud of in this bill, what it stands for and what it means for all Americans. Sixty years ago, this country invested a great deal into this bill. I believe what we received in return can be measured in far more than dollar signs.

Despite our best intentions, we as Americans find ourselves asking for the same sacrifice from our young men and women as our relatives did six decades prior. 1944 was a year worn by war. Sadly, 2004 will be as well. The service men and women earned the title "greatest generation", from the sacrifice of World War II. The contributions of today's men and women will one day merit such praise as well; praise that can now be enhanced and aided by the continued emphasis in favor of the same GI Bill that aided to the success of the generations since 1944.

HONORING LIEUTENANT JAMES P.
LEARY

HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant James P. Leary who is celebrating his retirement from the Abington Police Department after nearly 30 years of faithful and devoted service.

Lt. Leary has served in many different capacities during his tenure on the Abington force, working as Watch Commander, Platoon Commander, K-9 Commander, and Auxiliary Service Commander. After joining the department in 1974, he quickly ascended the ranks, receiving a promotion to Sergeant in 1979 and then to Lieutenant in 1981.

His dedication to the community has never faltered, even during his toughest assignment in 1996. In that year, Abington Township fell victim to a severe flood and Lt. Leary worked tirelessly with residents, community leaders, and municipal government agencies to help the area recover. Lt. Leary faced another difficult challenge when he and five patrol officers rescued two severely burned children from a burning building. Bringing those children to safety has been the proudest accomplishment of Leary's career.

In addition to his service to the Abington community as a member of the Police Department, Lt. Leary served his country as a Sergeant in the 5th Special Forces Airborne in Vietnam. He and his wife Martha are the proud parents of four sons and two daughters. Lt. Leary actively participates in the community, where he enjoys spending time with family and friends, and has served for 15 years as the Defensive Coordinator and League Commissioner for the CYO Football Program.

Our community has been privileged to have such a devoted servant and it is my pleasure

to congratulate Lieutenant Leary on his retirement. I wish him all the best as he moves on to his new position as Chief of the Rockledge Borough Police Department.

THE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT
REFORM ACT OF 2004

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member of the Committee on Resources, today I am introducing a bill that would bring the management of our Nation's ocean fisheries into the 21st century. In this regard, I am pleased to note that the "Fisheries Management Reform Act of 2004" is being introduced with 15 original cosponsors including the gentleman from California, SAM FARR, who serves as co-chair of the House Oceans Caucus.

For my part, I am introducing this measure for two fundamental reasons. First, I believe that we have a responsibility to ensure that our fish stocks—a public resource that belongs to all Americans—will be managed sustainably and based on science, not politics. More importantly, because without sustainably managed fisheries, there will be no fishing industry at all. I do not come to this point lightly, and I appreciate the importance that this issue holds for many Members and their constituents.

As it stands, two separate and well-respected commissions—the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy and the Pew Ocean Commission—were both charged with reviewing our ocean management systems and both made recommendations regarding the need to reform our fisheries management system. Their reports represent several years of research by ocean experts who traveled to coastal communities dependent on commercial and recreational fishing. The Fisheries Management Reform Act of 2004 represents the first legislation proposed to implement those expert recommendations. This is a small step of many that we, as Congress, can take to remedy a system of governance that has not done enough to protect our oceans and, consequently, the communities that depend on them.

In this regard, the "Fisheries Management Reform Act of 2004" would require a broader public interest representation on the Regional Fishery Management Councils, the bodies that are stewards of our Nation's fisheries and are currently dominated by commercial and recreational fishing interests. I am aware of no other public trust resource where management decisions are being made by the very industry that is to be regulated. The bill would require training of all appointed members in fishery science and basic stock assessment, social science and fishery economics, and the legal requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and other pertinent laws. Not only will these two provisions diversify the interests on the Council, but also ensure that those appointed are knowledgeable about fisheries management.

Second, the bill would strengthen current conflict of interest provisions in the Magnuson-Stevens Act. An individual would not be allowed to vote on a Council decision affecting

their financial interests. Understanding the unique nature of fisheries management, I fully support and appreciate the participation of fishermen in the Council process. In instances where fishermen, commercial or recreational, are faced with decisions affecting their livelihood and simultaneously, the sustainability of the fishery, the current process puts these individuals in the compromised position of serving two masters. Generally, it is the fish stocks that pay the price.

This legislation also would ensure science-based management of our fisheries. By allowing scientists to recommend appropriate catch limits and the Councils to determine how that catch should be allocated, this bill would remove council members from that untenable position of choosing between the health of the resource and catching enough fish to pay their health insurance. Scientists are better suited for determining sustainable harvest levels, while fishermen, who will remain an integral part of the Council process, should not have to be experts on the vast complexities of ocean science. Their expertise can be used best in managing and allocating the resource, and in developing improved fishing methods and technologies, without also being responsible for the status of the stocks.

Not the timber industry, not the mining industry—as a matter of fact, no other industry I can think of is allowed to regulate itself like the fishing industry does. This system may have made sense when Congress first put it in place more than two decades ago, but it's clear now that a chronic condition of conflict of interest has created a system that is not working for fishermen or for the fishery resources. In fact, 76 stocks are overfished—over 35% of known stocks.

I do not assume that this bill alone will “fix” in its entirety the current system. The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy was clear that changes are urgently needed. This bill addresses just one of many problems plaguing ocean resource management. However, the principles of the bill—to manage fisheries for the public good, to reduce financial conflicts of interest, and to ensure that fisheries management is based on the best available science—are indisputable.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill in a bipartisan fashion. The fish do not vote, so I can not offer them as political capital. But if this bill were enacted, we will be better able to ensure sustainable fisheries on a continuing basis, as is required by law, but all too rarely accomplished under the current system. The long-term benefits would affect the constituents of every district in this country. Fishermen would be able to pass on their trade to their children. Our inland states would enjoy more fresh seafood caught in our domestic waters. And everyone would be able to catch a big one on their summer vacation.

HONORING SERGEANT DAN COHEN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Dan Cohen's retirement from the Newark, California Police Department, and to honor his 30 years of exemplary service in the field of law enforcement.

After completing two tours of duty in Vietnam, Sgt. Cohen's law enforcement career began in April 1972, when he served as a Deputy Sheriff for the Mineral County Sheriff's Department. He worked as a Deputy Sheriff until February 1973. In September 1974, Sgt. Cohen was hired as a Railroad Police Officer for the Southern Pacific Transportation Company where he worked until April 1980.

Sgt. Cohen began his employment with the Newark Police Department in May 1980. He worked in various capacities on the police force, including Patrol Sergeant, Administrative Sergeant, Detective Division Sergeant, Narcotics/Vice Detective, Homicide Detective and as the Hostage Negotiation Team Leader. Dan was also a member of the SWAT Team and a Range Master.

It is my honor to recognize Sergeant Dan Cohen's remarkable career in law enforcement. He has demonstrated his commitment, leadership, and courage and leaves a lasting impression with the community and his colleagues as an outstanding member of the Newark Police Department.

RECOGNIZING LOU COSTANTINO, SR.

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valued employee of this House of Representatives, during this time of his recovery. Lou Costantino, Sr. was born in a house on New Jersey Avenue just a couple of blocks from the Capitol. His parents ran a grocery store at that time, the same grocery that Lou would begin running shortly after graduation from high school, along with a carry out, barbershop, and cleaners that his parents opened. He operated these businesses until coming to work for the House of Representatives in 1980.

During these early years, Mr. Costantino met his wife Doris while going to Eastern High School on Capitol Hill. They were married in 1965 at St. Peter's Church and have two children, Eydie and Lou. “There's been a Costantino at St. Peter's for 100 years,” he will often remark.

His devotion to family is indicative of the similar commitment he has for this House of Representatives. He first began his career with the House of Representatives in 1980 with the Office of the Doorkeeper and he currently works for the Sergeant at Arms. He truly loves his job, the people around him, and has the utmost respect for the institution that is the U.S. Capitol. In accordance with his post, and owing to the high regard in which he is held, Mr. Costantino has the honor of escorting the first lady to her seat for the State of the Union Address, a task he has accomplished annually for every first lady since Nancy Reagan.

Born just a few blocks away, and having worked in the building for over twenty years, Lou Costantino, Sr. has spent the majority of his life in close proximity to the Capitol building. Mr. Speaker, I ask that we keep him just as close in our hearts and prayers for his speedy recovery. We wish him well, and look forward to his prompt return to the House Floor.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTCLAIR LIONS CLUB

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Montclair Lions Club No. 36563, located in Prince William County, Virginia.

The International Lions Club is the world's largest service club organization with 1.4 million members in 46,000 clubs in 193 nations. Since 1917, the International Lions Club has been able to touch the lives of countless individuals across the globe. The club's motto, “We Serve” demonstrates the tremendous effort, desire and willingness of volunteers worldwide to better the lives of others through humanitarian efforts. In 1990, Lions established SightFirst, a \$143.5 million global initiative to fight the major causes of preventable and reversible blindness.

Since 1979, the Montclair Lions Club has provided dedicated service to Prince William County, working tirelessly to further the welfare of the community. In its first 25 years the club raised well over a quarter of a million dollars through a wide variety of fundraisers including citrus sales, White Can Day donations, White House Christmas Ornament sales, and food sales. The club has held a golf tournament fundraiser annually with the majority of the proceeds being donated to the Dale City Boys and Girls Club and Action in the Community Through Service.

Montclair Lions Club members donate their time to community service projects including Safety Break, Montclair Property Association events, Habitat for Humanity and many others. These hours of service have enriched innumerable lives in Prince William County and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate the Montclair Lions Club on 25 years of success. They have served the interests of their community well, truly meriting recognition. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the Lions Club's past accomplishments and in wishing the club continued success in the many years to come.

RECOGNIZE AND PRAISE JUAN FONTANEZ

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and praise a hard-working, talented young man who lives in my Fifth Congressional District.

Juan Fontanez of Pasco County, Florida won the Congressional Art Contest for my district last year, and I was proud to display his piece in the tunnel leading to the U.S. Capitol. His winning piece entitled “Proud Mother” was created entirely in pencil, and caught the eye of everyone who walked by for an entire year.

Juan graduated from Land O' Lakes High School last year and will attend Hillsborough

Community College this coming fall. In addition to winning the Congressional Art Competition, Juan won top honors for costume designing in the Florida State Thespian Competition last year.

After showcasing "Proud Mother" for a year, I look forward to honoring him as the first winner of the Congressional Art Competition since I came to Washington at a ceremony this Saturday.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to represent Juan Fontanez, and I am proud to praise him on the floor of this House.

COMMENDING HOLY SPIRIT HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY CREW TEAM ON THEIR SECOND STRAIGHT PEABODY CUP CHAMPIONSHIP AT THE HENLEY REGATTA

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Holy Spirit High School girls varsity-eight crew team on their second straight Peabody Cup Championship at the distinguished and well known Henley Women's Regatta in Henley-on-Thames, England on Sunday, June 20, 2004. The girls' varsity-eight crew team defeated St. Andrews School by taking a strong lead from the start of the race and pushed on to victory by winning the 1,500 meter race by 1¼ boat lengths in 5 minutes and 11 seconds.

The team is led by Holy Spirit High School coach John Slattery, and was made up of bow Robyn Brennan, Erin Coyle, Kairie Roehill, Kaitlin Grant, Andria Haneman, Kristen Haneman, Jen Maslanka, stroke Teri Francesco, and coxswain Lynn Cassidy.

On behalf of the residents of the Second District of New Jersey, I offer my congratulations to the Holy Spirit High School girls' varsity-eight crew team on their outstanding second straight victory at the Peabody Cup Championships. These young women showed poise under pressure and share our pride in their outstanding achievement.

TRIBUTE TO SCOTT LILLY

HON. DAVID R. OBEY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to take a moment to thank someone who has meant a great deal to the Appropriations Committee, the entire House, and to me.

Earlier this year, Scott Lilly concluded a 31-year career of service in the House of Representatives, mostly recently serving as the Democratic Staff Director of the House Appropriations Committee. Scott's career in the House was marked by dedication, distinction and an eternal sense of duty to serve the American people.

Too often, Members of the House are given all of the credit for what we produce or for the ideas we make real. In fact, the most difficult tasks are often accomplished behind the

scenes by our hard-working staff. Whatever credit I may be due during my service as the Chairman and now Ranking Democrat on the Committee on Appropriations, I must share much of it with Scott Lilly.

Scott first came to the House as a summer intern in 1966. After graduating from college he worked for the Missouri Legislature, spent two years in the United States Army, and in 1971, was central states coordinator for the George McGovern presidential campaign.

My collaboration with Scott first began in 1973 when he joined my staff, working for more than a decade as an associate staff member to both the Appropriations and Budget Committees. In 1985, Scott moved to the Joint Economic Committee, serving as its Executive Director and publishing a number of reports that attracted national attention, including studies on the regional disparities in economic recovery of the mid-1980s, and on the declining earning power of middle class Americans.

In 1988, Scott became the fourth Executive Director of the Democratic Study Group (DSG) serving under Chairmen MARTIN SABO, Robert Wise and Michael Synar. During that period, the DSG played a central role in legislative reform issues within the House Democratic Caucus and provided legislative research to virtually all Democrats and to many Republican members as well.

Following the passing of Chairman William Natcher in 1994, the Democratic Caucus selected me to serve as House Appropriations Committee chairman. I then asked Scott to become the 10th Clerk and Staff Director in the 129-year history of the Committee.

When the Republicans took control of the House the following January, Scott stayed on to serve as the Committee's Democratic Staff Director, a position he held for nine years.

This past January, Scott announced that he would be leaving the Committee. While his service to the House may have ended, his public service has not. Neither has our friendship or my deep respect for Scott. Now, as a part-time professor at the Georgetown University Public Policy Institute, Scott educates a new generation of public servants, who I know will be equal to the task because they are learning from the best. Scott also continues to serve and stand up for progressive principles as a senior fellow at the think tank, the Center for American Progress.

I am hopeful that, in addition to these new duties, Scott will now have the time to enjoy outside pursuits that he could not avail himself of while serving the House. Particularly, I hope that Scott will be able to return to his guitar lessons. As a fellow member of the bluegrass band, the Capitol Offenses, I know that like all of us, Scott might not be able to improve his singing voice, but maybe he can make some progress on his guitar plucking.

Scott Lilly's departure from the House was a significant loss for this institution. I would note with pride that Scott also leaves with many more friends, from both sides of the aisle, than detractors. Throughout his service, Scott always believed that political opponents don't have to be political enemies. That is a belief that is in too short supply in the Congress and in this town, but it is a belief that Scott lived throughout his service.

Congressional scholar Norman Ornstein noted in a Roll Call column last November the reality that "dedicated professionals," like

Scott Lilly, are what makes this institution work. Ornstein wrote of Scott and others like him, "These are people who could leave at any time and command five or 10 times the pay they receive; instead they have provided the long-term glue that keeps Congressional deliberation and institutional memory together." I could not agree more.

For more than 30 years, Scott Lilly has used his great political talent and judgment to serve this institution and this country. Unlike some in this town, he has never forgotten that political talent is wasted unless it is used for a higher purpose. Whether he was working for the McGovern campaign, or running the Democratic Study Group, the Joint Economic Committee or the Appropriations Committee staff, every day he put that talent to work to make this a stronger, fairer, and more decent and humane country. This House has never been served by two finer staff directors working with each, other across the partisan aisle, than Scott Lilly and Jim Dyer.

Through it all, he has been my best friend and my wisest counselor. What more can be said except thank you and Godspeed in whatever comes next.

IN HONOR OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF INVALIDS AND VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II FROM THE FORMER USSR

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II from the former USSR. As members of the Russian army, this group fiercely fought German occupation from 1941 to 1945, and after fighting post-war anti-Semitism in their own country, they immigrated to the New York City area. Tuesday marked the 63rd anniversary of Germany's invasion of the former Soviet Union. Today, I am pleased to welcome them to Washington D.C. as they visit the World War II Memorial, and to honor their contribution in fighting for peace and liberty in Europe.

The group of Russian Veterans I honor today fought in many battles along the Russian front in World War II, and in major battles in Odessa, Moscow, and Stalingrad. As we recently honored millions of brave Americans with the opening of the World War II Memorial, I also recognize this group of veterans for their contribution to the Allied victory. Through their efforts in the Russian armed forces, these soldiers played an important role in defeating the Nazis—a victory which they celebrated in the streets of Berlin alongside American soldiers.

Their common experiences in the war, in its aftermath, and as immigrants to the United States bind them deeply to one another. As The New York Times explained, "As Jews who shared both the deprivations of a brutal war against Hitler's forces and postwar anti-Semitism under a Soviet system they had risked their lives to preserve, their allegiance is not to the former Soviet Union, nor to the Red Army, nor even to Mother Russia, but to one another." Though the association began in 1995 with only 30 veterans, it now boasts 3,000 members in New York.

For their patriotism, for their commitment to freedom and democracy in Europe, and for their unyielding commitment to each other, it is my privilege to honor the American Association of Invalids and Veterans of World War II from the former USSR, and to warmly welcome them to Washington D.C.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. NAVY SEAL
PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS
BRIAN OUELLETTE

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fallen hero, Petty Officer 1st Class Brian J. Ouellette of Maynard, Massachusetts. He gave his life in service to our country, and we will forever be grateful.

Brian was a U.S. Navy SEAL deployed as part of Operation Enduring Freedom and serving with the elite Navy Special Warfare Group Two based out of Little Creek, Virginia. He died tragically on May 29th along with three of his comrades when their Humvee hit a landmine in the Zabul province of Afghanistan.

Petty Officer 1st Class Ouellette grew up in Waltham, Massachusetts and graduated from Waltham High School in 1985. His parents, Jack and Peg, now reside in the town of Maynard in my congressional district.

A fourteen-year veteran of the Navy, Brian joined the service in 1990 and became a member of the elite SEAL team in 1991. Friends remember him as a great teammate and tough opponent on the football field and a fierce competitor in Kempo-style karate.

Brian's parents are proud, not just for the supreme sacrifice he made on behalf of his country, but for the honor he brought to them as a Navy SEAL and loving son. Despite his tough exterior, Brian's family describes him as compassionate and nurturing brother of seven siblings and uncle to nine nieces and nephews. Brian's family deeply impacted his life, and he left an indelible imprint on them.

Petty Officer 1st Class Ouellette was a brave sailor who gave his life to restore freedom and democracy in the war-torn country of Afghanistan and support the global war on terrorism. It is lives like his, taken too soon, that remind us of the true price of freedom.

I have requested an American flag be flown over the United States Capitol in memory of Brian to honor his brave service to our country. This flag will be delivered to his family.

Brian died fighting for the country he loved, alongside the fellow sailors he respected and with the family he adored forever in his heart. Our Nation is humbled and grateful for his sacrifice.

Mr. Speaker, we should all take a moment to recognize Petty Officer 1st Class Brian Ouellette of the United States Navy SEALs for his ultimate service to our Nation.

HOMEOWNERSHIP BUILDS STRONG
COMMUNITIES

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, June is National Homeownership Month. Stronger families, better schools, and homeownership produce healthy neighborhoods and communities.

When people own their homes, other benefits follow, such as economic security and family stability. Over the years, home values have generally increased, making them a good investment and a great way for families to build up assets that can be used for everyday needs, unexpected setbacks, and even helping to send a child to college.

Neighborhoods where people own homes are more stable. People tend to take better care of property they own and care more about the rest of the neighborhood as well. Homeownership also leads to a more vibrant community because home sales attract grocery stores, restaurants and other small businesses that add stability and job opportunities.

With all these benefits, it is discouraging that there are some areas in our country where the homeownership rate is very low. In my home state of Ohio, the City of Cincinnati's homeownership rate is 39 percent, far below the national average of 68 percent. And even in the rural areas of my district where the percentage of home owners is higher, we are still well below the national average.

Ohio has a shortage of affordable homes in inner-city and rural areas. This is also true in many other states. To help address this problem, Representative BEN CARDIN and I introduced H.R. 839, the Renewing the Dream Tax Credit Act, which is based on a proposal advanced by President Bush. The measure would make a tax credit available to developers or investors that build or rehabilitate homes for sale to low- and moderate-income buyers in these areas. H.R. 839 has the support of nearly 300 House members, and would make it more attractive for developers to create affordable housing in urban and rural areas in which the need is greatest.

Mr. Speaker, when people buy a home, they make an investment in that community. Enacting H.R. 839 will help make homeownership achievable for more Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I missed the vote on agreeing to the Rogers (MI) amendment to H.R. 4548, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (#293). I intended to vote "aye."

HONORING FUTURE UNLIMITED
AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. JEB BRADLEY

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to 17 New Hampshire students who graduated at the top of their high school class and are being recognized for their academic achievements by the Knights of Columbus in Rochester, New Hampshire.

The Rochester Knights of Columbus Council founded the Future Unlimited Banquet in June of 1998 to honor students from the Greater Rochester area who have achieved high levels of scholastic excellence. The "brainchild" of Don Leeman, the banquet honors valedictorians and salutatorians from eight high schools in the region for their academic excellence and contributions to the community. The Council has had much positive feedback from the greater community for their efforts to promote intellectual fellowship, and plan to extend this successful recognition banquet across the state and country.

The students to be honored for their scholastic achievements are:

Bryn Paslawski of Durham, valedictorian at St. Thomas Aquinas High School; Marie Osborn of Portsmouth, salutatorian at St. Thomas Aquinas High School; David Thompson of Kittery, Maine, salutatorian at St. Thomas Aquinas High School; Trevor Sherwood of Barrington, valedictorian at Dover High School; Brittany Soper of Dover, salutatorian at Dover High School; Kristen Couture of Somersworth, valedictorian at Somersworth High School; Danielle Daigle of Rollinsford, salutatorian at Somersworth High School; and Khari Lizotte of Rochester, valedictorian at Spaulding High School.

Kimberly Montini of Rochester, salutatorian at Spaulding High School; Katy Huppe of Farmington, valedictorian at Farmington High School; Casey Raasumaa of Farmington, salutatorian at Farmington High School; Jacqueline Elliott of Milton, valedictorian at Nute High School; Kayla Gagne of Milton, salutatorian at Nute High School; Tonya Prescott of Laconia, valedictorian at Alton High School; Meredith Roy of Alton, salutatorian at Alton High School; Meaghan Maguire of Wolfeboro, valedictorian at Kingswood Regional High School; and, Jamison Costello of Wolfeboro, salutatorian at Kingswood Regional High School.

These 17 students are excellent examples of the hard work, energy and dedication that is necessary to pursuing higher academic goals. They are among the brightest students in the state and offer much hope for the future. They truly exemplify what is good about today's youth. I congratulate all of the students for a job well done, and I also congratulate the members of the Rochester Knights of Columbus for their efforts to recognize outstanding students.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4613) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to this bill. National defense is important to all of us. This bill, however, will neither ensure our defense nor promote the general welfare, two of the central obligations of this government.

It is truly mind-boggling, Mr. Chairman, that with just one short hour of debate, this House will pass a bill to spend \$392 billion for the Pentagon's regular budget in FY 2005.

Amazingly, that sum does not include, \$25 billion for the ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, but we all know that the Administration will be back for more, much more. They are misleading the American public about the price tag of the unnecessary war in Iraq.

Mr. Chairman, the \$392 billion this bill expends is a 7 percent increase over last year's bloated defense budget and comes at a time when federal deficit and large tax cuts have left us with scarce resources. I have to ask: will our education, health care and housing budget receive a 7 percent increase? The answer is NO.

This is an absurd and tragic case of misplaced priorities. And our entire country pays the price. It simply makes no sense to spend our nation's scarce resources on Cold War era weapons systems. It makes no sense to spend another \$9 billion on missile defense, a 17-percent increase over last year. This represents another heavy installment on what may be a bottomless pit of spending.

This spending comes at real costs. To put this in perspective, last year, according to the National Priorities Project, the people of California paid \$859 million in tax dollars that were spent on missile defense.

That money could have paid to allow another 106,000 children to enroll in Head Start. It could have extended healthcare coverage to nearly half a million children. It could have created over 12,000 new units of affordable housing. Or it could have hired nearly 15,000 elementary school teachers. And this year we are spending 17 percent more. That's a misplaced priority. And it is not the ticket to national security.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
MAJOR GENERAL WILLIAM G.
BOWDON ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major General William G. Bowdon for thirty-

four years of outstanding and dedicated service to the United States Marine Corps and his country. Major General Bowdon will retire from the Marine Corps on July 1.

Graduating from Louisiana State University in 1970, General Bowdon entered the Marine Corps in August and reported to Pensacola, Florida, for flight training. He received his wings at the Naval Air Station in Kingsville, Texas, in February 1972, and reported for flight duty at El Toro, California.

General Bowdon completed F-4 Combat Qualification Training in Yuma, Arizona, in December of 1972. In January 1973 General Bowdon departed for his first Fleet Marine force tour and, following this assignment, served his country as a flight instructor.

In January 1977, General Bowdon received his first overseas assignment in Iwakuni, Japan. He returned to the U.S. the following year to attend Amphibious Warfare School at MCB Quantico, VA.

In August 1982, General Bowdon attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff College in Quantico, VA. After graduation he reported to Marine Training Support Group at the Cecil Field, Florida, Naval Air Station as the Executive Officer.

Major General Bowdon assumed command of VMFA-333 in July 1988 and deployed the "Shamrocks" to the Western Pacific. After this command, Major General Bowdon reported to the National War College at Fort McNair for the training that would prepare him for the great responsibilities our nation was about to entrust in him.

Following graduation then Lt. Col. Bowdon was assigned to the Joint Staff, J-4 Directorate, in the Pentagon in June of 1991. He was promoted to Colonel in August of the following year. In June of 1994 General Bowdon returned to the El Toro Marine Corps Air Station and assumed command of Marine Aircraft Group 11. He was promoted to Brigadier General on October 1, 1996, while assigned as the Assistant Wing Commander of the 2nd Division Marine Aircraft Wing in Cherry Point, North Carolina.

Major General Bowdon assumed the duties as the Commanding General of the Marine Corps Air Station at Cherry Point in April 1998. He served as the Deputy Commander of the Marine Forces Reserve in New Orleans for one year in 1999. After that he went on to command a number of posts before assuming command of our nation's largest West Coast Marine Corps base, Camp Pendleton, on June 24, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct honor and privilege of representing California's 49th Congressional District, the home of the Marines of the 1st Division based at Camp Pendleton. For the past two years, I have also had the honor of working with General Bowdon during the one of the most significant times in the history of the U.S. Marine Corps' storied First Division.

Last year the 1st Division Marines, along with a U.S. Army Division and a British Division, crushed a much larger Iraqi force that had been set-up to defend the brutal regime of Saddam Hussein. The victory achieved by America and its allies, thanks to outstanding training, technology, bravery, and command, was the quickest and most decisive defeat of a modern military power in history.

The Marines of the First Division, who spearheaded this victory, were trained at

Camp Pendleton and many left their families behind in the care of Camp Pendleton and communities like Oceanside, Fallbrook, and Vista while they were serving in Iraq. As the commanding officer of Camp Pendleton, General Bowdon played a crucial role in preparing the Marines of the 1st Division for the great victory they helped achieve in Iraq and for successfully executing the largest troop rotation in the history of the U.S. military.

One of General Bowdon's finest qualities as a commanding officer, however, is that he cares about Marines and their families well beyond their training and their ability to perform under fire on the battlefield. General Bowdon and I have worked together on a number of issues on Camp Pendleton including getting better housing for Marine families, improving recreational facilities for enlisted Marines, strengthening relations between Camp Pendleton and the neighboring city of Oceanside, and seeking out improvements to the quality of water on base. As commander of Camp Pendleton, he was truly dedicated to both his duty as a U.S. Marine and to his fellow Marines with whom he served.

General Bowdon has received awards including the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal.

Major General Bowdon has had an exemplary career filled with distinction. It has been a great pleasure to know and work with General Bowdon and an honor to offer this testament to his dedication, service and hard work for America.

REGARDING THE SECURITY OF
ISRAEL AND THE PRINCIPLES OF
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 460. The citizens of the U.S. and Israel maintain a deeply rooted friendship based upon common interests, a shared commitment to democracy, individual freedoms, and a rejection of extremism and terrorism.

Since 1948, the State of Israel has committed itself to living in harmony and mutual respect with its neighbors and to arriving at a peaceful solution to the conflict with the Palestinians. For most of the last four years, however, Israelis and Palestinians have found themselves in a violent and crippling deterioration of relations. Thousands have died in horrible violence that has torn through the hearts of both the Israeli and Palestinian communities.

With President Sharon's disengagement plan, I hope we are at a renewed moment of hope. I believe that the future security of Israel depends upon bringing an end to terrorism, bloodshed, and human suffering and to establishing a just, permanent peace with the Palestinians. The principles endorsed by President Bush and Prime Minister Sharon are a step towards peace.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that Prime Minister Sharon's disengagement plan represents an important opportunity to break the deadlock in

Israeli-Palestinian relations. I am further encouraged that the Palestinian Authority and Egypt seem to agree, and are working to ensure security in post-disengagement Gaza. For these reasons, I support the resolution and urge my colleagues to do the same.

CONGRATULATING PROFESSOR
ROSALIE LEVINSON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate one of Northwest Indiana's most caring and dedicated citizens, Professor Rosalie Levinson. Her career as a Professor at Valparaiso University has allowed her the opportunity to touch the lives of numerous students, both in and out of the classroom. In honor of her gracious service to Valparaiso University, on May 1, 2004 she was named the first Phyllis and Richard Duesenberg professor of law. Rosalie's appointment was announced during a gala at Chicago's Field Museum celebrating the 125th anniversary of Valparaiso University's School of Law.

Rosalie Levinson has accomplished many visionary goals throughout her career. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at Indiana University and her law degree from Valparaiso University. Rosalie has been a law professor at Valparaiso University since 1973. She has argued several civil rights cases before the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals and is a frequent lecturer on continuing legal education, including the Federal Judicial Center for Federal Judges and the Practice Law Institute programs. Rosalie has team taught with the United States Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Clarence Thomas at the Valparaiso University's study center in Cambridge, England.

Numerous articles written by Rosalie have been published in national law journals. She has co-authored with Professor Bodensteiner a four volume treatise entitled "Civil Rights Liability" and also a textbook entitled "Civil Rights Legislation and Litigation." Rosalie served as chair of the Civil Rights Section of the Association of American Law Schools and as a board member on the Jewish Human Relations Council of Northwest Indiana.

Although Rosalie has served on numerous Law School and University Committees and has donated time to the students at Valparaiso University, she has never neglected to provide support and love to her family. Rosalie and her husband Don have two children and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Rosalie has given her time and efforts selflessly to the students at Valparaiso University throughout her years of service. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Professor Rosalie Levinson for her outstanding contributions. I am proud to commend her for her lifetime of service and dedication.

HONORING BILL MCSWEEN

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MCCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Bill McSween upon his retirement after 26 years of service to our community.

After graduating from Brown University on a hockey scholarship, Bill McSween served our country in the United States Army. In 1978, the same year he was inducted into the Michigan Amateur Athletic Hall of Fame for his exceptional hockey career, Bill came to the Redford Township Parks and Recreation Department as Assistant Director. In 1992, Bill was promoted to Director of Parks and Recreation.

Over the past 26 years, Bill has left an undeniable mark upon our community. Citizen participation in recreation programs throughout the township has flourished under his direction. Bill successfully negotiated two projects involving school lands being leased to the township for one dollar, which fostered the creation of new recreational programs for both the township and the schools involved; and successfully passed on his passion for sports and recreation to our entire community.

Let there be no doubt: Bill McSween is a paragon of public service.

His wife, Marge, and his children, Katie, Kelly and Bill, should be rightly and extremely proud of the undeniable mark he has left on the life of our community; while, we all will sorely miss and always benefit from his dedication and leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere appreciation to Mr. Bill McSween, upon his retirement as Director of Parks and Recreation for Redford Township, for his fine service to our community and our country.

CONCERNS ON THE STATE OF
IMMIGRATION

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my concerns with the alarming state of immigration in this country. As a member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, I have heard numerous officials testify to the porous state of both our northern and southern borders. For example, the U.S. Border Patrol has reported a jump in illegal migration rates of 25% to 535,000. In Tucson, Arizona alone, the Border Patrol averages daily arrests of 2,000. Border Patrol agents continue to be overworked and understaffed. The U.S. continues to add millions of illegal aliens to its population. We must start taking a hard look at how to handle the influx of people entering into the U.S. I believe that any discussion of our immigration policy should begin with the security of our borders. As we continue to combat terrorism and heightened terrorist threats, we must begin working towards solutions to help our agents and secure our borders.

As the tragic events of 9/11 demonstrated, our immigration system needs a major and

comprehensive review. Our borders are a security gap that must be addressed now. The challenges we face with our immigration policy are well known to Congress, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Administration. The time has come for us to act now on preserving our security and liberty.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004
LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING
TEACH AWARD WINNER SCOTT
GERMAN OF COLDWATER, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher from Coldwater, Michigan who significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

Scott German teaches Biology at Bronson High School in Bronson, Michigan. He is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As one of his students, Bobby Jo Ludwick said, "Mr. German has taught me the importance of good leadership and community service. The self-confidence that I've gained from his support will play a role in my life everyday. He has taught me that I can make a difference. I thank him for making a difference for me." The respect and gratitude of his students speaks well of Scott's ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

Scott German's extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and Scott's impact on his students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Scott German. We thank him for his continuing dedication to teaching and his willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. LESTER R.
CURTISS AND MRS. MADLYN L.
CURTISS

HON. JOEL HEFLEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, with recent dedication of the WWII Memorial and the 60th anniversary of D-Day, all Americans were reminded of the courage and sacrifices made by members of the Greatest Generation. In particular, we've gained a greater appreciation

from our fellow citizens that served in the Armed Forces and their families alike. Today I choose to honor Lt Col (U.S. Army retired) Les and Mrs. Madlyn Curtiss, who began their military service to our Nation that extended 24 years and three wars. Colonel and Mrs. Curtiss are patriotic volunteers in the truest sense.

Colonel Les Curtiss enlisted in the Army as a Private and rose through the ranks to Master Sergeant. He served in the 13th and 82d Airborne Divisions, and later in the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team during the Korean Conflict. He received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1952, and was the Distinguished and Honor Graduate of his Officer Candidate Class. In 1958, he transferred from the Infantry to the Signal Corps.

As a Signal Corps Officer, Colonel Les Curtiss served as an Airborne Battle Group Signal Officer and Advisor to the 5th Military Region, Vietnam; Instructor at the Signal Officers Advance Course, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey; Deputy Commander, U.S. Army Element NATO, and Camp Commandant, Camp Voluceau, NATO, Paris, France; and attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Both Colonel Les Curtiss and his life's partner Madlyn believed that no word was ever spoken that has held out greater hope than Freedom; and nothing demands greater sacrifice, needs to be nurtured, and comes closer to bring God's will on earth. They both believed that Freedom is worth fighting for; and while her husband served in a variety of Army command and staff positions, Mrs. Madlyn Curtiss faithfully performed her duty as well.

The World War II Generation made their mark in American History as soldiers; and they were undoubtedly very successful as veterans as well. In every field, they quickly assumed positions of leadership, often transforming entire industries, research fields, and professions, or creating new ones. After his retirement from the U.S. Army, Colonel Les Curtiss and his wife Madlyn moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, and pursued a life-long dream of teaching. He assumed a position on the faculty at Falcon School District #49. Mr. Les Curtiss taught Speech, Mathematics, World Geography, Government, and History. He also served as the Chairman of the Social Science Department and President of the Falcon Teachers Association.

These two great American's were born in the immediate aftermath of WWI, they survived the Great Depression and answered their country's summons when totalitarianism and fascism threatened the world. As General George Marshall stated, "they have made history, a great history for the good of mankind," and today I honor them for their service and commitment.

CLE ELUM LAND EXCHANGE

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to transfer lands along the Cle Elum River in Washington. This legislation will transfer about 400 acres of land along the Cle Elum River in Washington state from the Secretary of Agriculture to the

administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior. The bill also provides for a subsequent land exchange involving a portion of these lands—about 40 acres—with a neighboring private landholder. This land is part of a larger tract that was acquired in the 1930s by the U.S. Reclamation Service to construct Cle Elum Dam and Reservoir. The land was in turn transferred to the Forest Service in 1966, after the Interior Department concluded it was no longer needed for Reclamation project purposes. The legislation I am introducing completes the cycle of returning a portion of the property back to Interior, and a smaller portion back to private ownership. This legislation enables a public-private partnership to develop much-needed infrastructure and simplifies property boundaries. This legislation enjoys the support of local elected officials and many local organizations, businesses. I ask that you please refer this legislation to the proper committee for consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4568) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to submit this letter which I sent to Secretary Norton. This letter concerns an amendment to H.R. 4568 regarding winter use of snowmobiles at Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 18, 2004

Hon. GAIL A. NORTON,
Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SECRETARY NORTON: I am writing regarding winter use of snowmobiles at Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway.

As you know, this week the House of Representatives voted narrowly to defeat an amendment to the House Interior Appropriations bill, which provided for a total ban of snowmobile access to the parks. I voted against the amendment, but only with the understanding that the National Park Service intends to implement a plan that ensures the protection of the wildlife and natural beauty of these American treasures for current and future generations.

I believe the concerns of snowmobile emissions and noise at the parks are valid and must be addressed. I realize that the newer "four-stroke" snowmobiles reduce emissions and noise significantly. While I believe these advances in snowmobile technology merit reconsideration of winter use at the parks, I believe the Park Service must carefully consider the short and long-term alternatives. I seek your assurance that NPS will determine an appropriate winter use plan that balances the need to protect the parks' unique envi-

ronment with appropriate means of access, even if that includes the snowcoach only alternative.

I understand the Park Service is considering alternatives that include one that would allow only snowcoaches, and others that include restrictions on the number of snowmobiles that may enter the parks each day, technology requirements, guiding requirements, and where snowmobile travel is appropriate. I do believe our parks should be accessible. But if an alternative that includes snowmobile access is to be implemented, I think it is critical that such access not detract from the experiences of those who prefer to explore the parks in other ways.

I appreciate the Park Service's efforts to find a balanced solution that I hope will enhance the experiences for everyone who visits these magnificent parks. Thank you for considering my comments as NPS moves forward with its short and long-term winter use revisions.

Sincerely,

ROB PORTMAN,
Representative.

DEATH IN DARFUR

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD three new articles regarding the continuing crisis in Darfur, Sudan. I will continue to submit articles exposing the crimes occurring against the people of Darfur. I will not stop until the world takes notice and the unnecessary death of innocent civilians ends.

[From the New York Times, June 23, 2004]

MAGBOULA'S BRUSH WITH GENOCIDE

(By Nicholas D. Kristof)

Along the Sudan-Chad Border—Meet Magboula Muhammad Khattar and her baby, Nada. I wrote about Ms. Khattar in my last two columns, recounting how the Janjaweed Arab militia burned her village, murdered her parents and finally tracked her family down in the mountains. Ms. Khattar hid, but the Janjaweed caught her husband and his brothers, only 4, 6 and 8 years old, and killed them all.

Ms. Khattar decided that the only hope for saving her two daughters and her baby sister was to lead them by night to Chad. They had to avoid wells where the Janjaweed kept watch, but eight days later, half-dead with hunger and thirst, they staggered across the dry riverbed that marks the border with Chad.

That's where I found Ms. Khattar. She is part of a wave of 1.2 million people left homeless by the genocide in Darfur.

Among those I met was Haiga Ibrahim, a 16-year-old girl who said her father and three older brothers had been killed by the Janjaweed. So Haiga led her crippled mother and younger brothers and sisters to Chad. But the place they reached along the border, Bamina, was too remote to get help from overstated aid agencies.

So when I found her, Haiga was leading her brothers and sisters 30 miles across the desert to the town of Bahai. "My mother can't walk any more," she said wearily. "First I'm taking my brother and sisters, and then I hope to go back and bring my mother."

There is no childhood here. I saw a 4-year-old orphan girl, Nijah Ahmed, carrying her

13-month-old brother, Nibras, on her back. Their parents and 15-year-old brother are missing in Sudan and presumed dead.

As for Ms. Khattar, she is camping beneath a tree, sharing the shade with three other women also widowed by the Janjaweed. In some ways Ms. Khattar is lucky; her children all survived. Moreover, in some Sudanese tribes, widows must endure having their vaginas sewn shut to preserve their honor, but that is not true of her Zaghawa tribe.

Ms. Khattar's children have nightmares, their screams at night mixing with the yelps of jackals, and she worries that she will lose them to hunger or disease. But her plight pales beside that of Hatum Atraman Bashir, a 35-year-old woman who is pregnant with the baby of one of the 20 Janjaweed raiders who murdered her husband and then gang-raped her.

Ms. Bashir said that when the Janjaweed attacked her village, Kornei, she fled with her seven children. But when she and a few other mothers crept out to find food, the Janjaweed captured them and tied them on the ground, spread-eagled, then gang-raped them.

"They said, 'You are black women, and you are our slaves,' and they also said other bad things that I cannot repeat," she said, crying softly. "One of the women cried, and they killed her. Then they told me, 'If you cry, we will kill you, too.'" Other women from Kornei confirm her story and say that another woman who was gang-raped at that time had her ears partly cut off as an added humiliation.

One moment Ms. Bashir reviles the baby inside her. The next moment, she tearfully changes her mind. "I will not kill the baby," she said. "I will love it. This baby has no problem, except for his father."

Ms. Khattar, the orphans, Ms. Bashir and countless more like them have gone through hell in the last few months, as we have all turned our backs—and the rainy season is starting to make their lives even more miserable. In my next column, I'll suggest what we can do to save them. For readers eager to act now, some options are at www.nytimes.com/kristofresponds. Posting 479.

[From the BBC News]

FROM THE GRIM TIMES IN SUDAN

(By Tamsin Walters)

Food and water are scarce, women have been gang-raped, disease is rife. In the Darfur conflict, even an experienced aid worker can be taken aback by the hardships suffered—but will the rest of the world hear Sudan's pleas for help?

Driving along the deserted, pot-holed roads towards southern Darfur, the unfolding scenes of devastation are marked by burnt-out village after burnt-out village. Mud walls are torn down or smashed, and straw roofs no longer exist. Discarded sandals litter the area, illustrating the speed with which the people have fled.

This rapid flight has left hundreds of thousands of people with nothing. No clothes, no sleeping mats to lay over the bare earth, no cooking utensils. Any personal belongings are likely to be among the charred remains left behind in the villages. And attacks by the Janjaweed, the Arab militia blamed for perpetrating atrocities against African farmers, continue. Rather than a sense of security in the towns and camps to which the refugees have fled, the mood of fear is oppressive.

The only people seen on the road are Janjaweed groups laden down with the animals they have looted and the goods they have taken. They wave happily as we drive by.

Sex crimes. Security is the major problem facing the people of Darfur. I've spoken to

women who have been repeatedly raped, and heard of girls as young as 11 who've been abducted. The women are effectively trapped, unable to venture outside the towns and camps to search for firewood and grass—items essential to their survival, either to sell in exchange for food or for their own use. As an aid worker specializing in health and nutrition, with experience in emergencies around the world, I came to Sudan prepared for a grim situation. But Darfur is by far one of the worst humanitarian crises I've witnessed. The aid agency's pleas haven't fallen on deaf ears, as more than £300,000 has already been donated. But Martha Clarke, the head of media for Cafod, says the press in the UK is very focused on domestic matters and admits there's a "kind of fatigue" when it comes to reporting on the crisis. "It's a shame that there needs to be conflict to bring it to the media's attention," she says.

Cafod and other agencies are doing what we can to alleviate people's suffering, concentrating on providing shelter, food, water and sanitation to the hundreds of thousands of people made homeless. But time is running out in which to reach them—our aim is to beat the rains which come in early July, and cut off many parts of this devastated region.

Rainy season. These rains have to be seen to be believed. A thunderstorm broke while I was there. Tucked inside a local office, at least I had cement walls and a roof. Thousands of others crouched together under shelters hastily built from narrow poles covered in grain. The torrential rain soon flattened many.

When the rains arrive, those without shelter face the new threat of acute respiratory infections and malaria. Without food, they will not have the strength to fight disease that stems from unclean water and lack of sanitation. Because of the severe water shortages, people queue for up to 10 hours at the few pumps—and this leaves them vulnerable to further attack. There is barely enough water to drink, let alone wash. And with few latrines and cramped conditions in the towns and camps, the health risks are enormous.

Already many children have died from a measles epidemic, which is now under control. But the children are traumatized, and food shortages and disease have left the very young with severe malnutrition.

The towns of the south are among the last places to be reached by aid organizations. So the people themselves do much of the work. Local communities have taken the displaced into their own homes, or helped them build shelters, as well as offering cooking utensils.

With whole villages being emptied in one fell swoop following Janjaweed attacks, the displaced often include teachers and health workers, who are working hard for their communities. And our role is to help provide the tools they need to survive.

[From the New York Times, June 23, 2004]

NEWSVIEW: SUDAN MAY BE NEXT FOR GENOCIDE

(By The Associated Press)

WASHINGTON (AP).—Genocide has struck many victims over the past 65 years: European Jews during World War II, Cambodians in the late 1970s, Rwandans in 1994. There may be a new addition: The black African tribes of Darfur province in western Sudan have faced murder, displacement, pillage, razing of villages and other crimes committed by Arab militias known as Janjaweed.

The dictionary defines genocide as "the systematic killing of a racial or cultural group." The U.S. government is reviewing whether Darfur qualifies for the designation.

"The Janjaweed are the government's militia, and Khartoum has armed and empowered

it to conduct 'ethnic cleansing' in Darfur," says Human Rights Watch. The Brussels-based International Crisis Group says Darfur can "easily become as deadly" as the Rwanda genocide of 1994. Then, soldiers, militia-men and civilians of the Hutu majority killed more than 500,000 minority Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus in 100 days. All along, Sudan has denied allegations of complicity with the Arab militias and has blamed rebels for rights violations.

In February 2003, the Zaghawa, Fur and Masalit black tribes rebelled against what they regarded as unjust treatment by the Sudanese government in their historic struggle over land and resources with their Arab countrymen.

Countless thousands of tribesmen have died in a brutal counterinsurgency. The conflict has uprooted more than 1 million, and the Bush administration believes this many could die unless a peace settlement is reached and relief supply deliveries are greatly accelerated. Sudanese cooperation has been limited but is improving.

The Muslim-vs.-Muslim conflict is separate from the 21-year war between ethnic Arab Muslim militants in northern Sudan and the black African non-Muslim south. That three-decade-long struggle may be ending thanks to peace accords signed last month.

A U.S. interagency review is aimed at judging whether the Darfur tragedy qualifies as genocide under a 1946 international convention that outlaws the practice.

"I believe what is occurring in Sudan approaches the level of genocide," says Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee. He and several colleagues are pushing for \$95 million in emergency assistance for Darfur's victims.

Rabbi Marvin Hier, of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a group opposed to intolerance in all forms, says Washington could increase the pressure on the Sudanese government by issuing a "stern warning" that, in the U.S. view, it is "close to if not bordering on genocide." This would greatly impact international public opinion, said Hier, founder and dean of the center.

Mark Schneider, a vice president of the International Crisis Group, says Hier may have a point. He also cautions that a genocide designation by the United States could thrust the U.N. Security Council into prolonged debate, deflecting attention from Darfur's massive humanitarian needs.

A role for the United Nations is made clear under Article 8 of the Genocide Convention: "Any contracting party may call upon the competent organs of the U.N. to take such action under the Charter of the U.N. as they consider appropriate for the prevention and suppression of acts of genocide."

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said he wasn't ready to describe the situation in Darfur "as genocide or ethnic cleansing yet," but he called it "a tragic humanitarian situation." For now, the U.S. administration seems to be tilting against the genocide label but is sticking with ethnic cleansing to describe the situation.

With so many in Darfur at risk of dying, "legal distinctions about genocide versus ethnic cleansing are going to seem rather hollow," says State Department deputy spokesman Adam Ereli. The focus, he says, should be on helping the needy. Humanitarian access remains a serious problem, the result of both government resistance and the remoteness of the Iraqi-sized province. The United States has been airlifting relief supplies to the region, a costly process.

Over the weekend, Sudan President Omar el-Bashir vowed to disarm the militias. Also, peace talks between government and rebel leaders opened in Berlin on Tuesday. U.S. officials are wary about the Sudanese gestures,

pointing out that Khartoum has routinely violated an April 8 cease-fire agreement.

RECOGNIZING SUE HOLMAN AND
SUSAN WEEKS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two extraordinary women who have jointly been named the City of Sonoma's 2004 Alcaldesas, or Honorary Mayors.

For more than 10 years, Sue Holman and Susan Weeks have volunteered countless hours to Sonoma Valley's Meals on Wheels program. They work five days a week preparing two gourmet meals for housebound residents. A typical weekly fare is pork chops in mushroom sauce, spicy lamb logs, linguini and clams, tamale pie and roast beef. Over the past 10 years, they calculate that they have prepared a quarter of a million meals.

In addition to all of the food preparation, they prepare the menus, shop for groceries, do all of the baking, maintain inventory control and supervise the 90 volunteers who package and deliver the food and assist in the kitchen.

They recognize that many of the people they serve live alone and try to make each day special. Each holiday has a theme meal. Each client receives a personalized present or two at Christmas or Hanukah and on their birthday plus a split of wine or champagne.

They are able to maintain a high quality of fare and bolster the spirits of the people they serve while running the only all-volunteer Meals on Wheels program in the State of California.

In recognition of their contributions, the City of Sonoma designated them "las dos Alcaldesas," following a 28-year-old tradition of selecting someone in the community who works selflessly on behalf of others. The Alcaldese/Alcaldesa reflects the town's Spanish and Mexican heritage and the "Honorary Mayors" will preside at all ceremonial functions on behalf of the city.

Susan Weeks settled in Sonoma 18 years ago following an international career that took her to Jerusalem, South Africa and Washington DC. In addition to Meals on Wheels, she has also been active in public safety and infrastructure issues, and works with the Verano Springs Association and the Sonoma Valley Citizens Action Committee.

Sue Holman is a retired investment banker who has been in Sonoma 11 years. An animal lover, she was one of the driving forces in the establishment of Sonoma's only dog park.

Mr. Speaker, Susan Weeks and Sue Holman provide an invaluable service to their community, and it is appropriate that we honor them today as Sonoma, California's 2004 Dos Alcaldesas.

SUPPORT FOR A DEMOCRATIC
UKRAINE

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HINCHEY. I congratulate all Ukrainians in the United States and throughout the world

on the 40th anniversary of the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko monument. Taras Shevchenko was the hero of the national liberation struggle and an inspiration to many generations. He freed himself from serfdom and opened his mind to the vision of an independent Ukraine, free from Russian imperialism.

A democratic Ukraine in the midst of other European monarchies was Shevchenko's goal. He inspired the Ukrainian nation to take pride in its heritage and continued struggle for sovereignty and independence. His poetry and political activities were almost exclusively devoted to this goal and his work has ignited the hearts of Ukrainians for almost two centuries. His words inspired the people of Ukraine to persevere, attain independence and rebuild a prosperous and democratic Ukraine.

Four decades ago, the Ukrainian American community gathered before his monument to celebrate its unveiling, but more importantly, to inform the world of the horrific crimes that were being committed against Ukrainians. For the first time, the world heard the truth about the genocide inflicted on the Ukrainian nation by the totalitarian Moscow regime in 1932-1933, which claimed the lives of 7-10 millions of innocent people. Ukrainian Americans stood united in their cause to expose the truth and help their brethren in Ukraine lift the yoke of Soviet oppression.

Today, I welcome the initiative to unite the Ukrainians American community in order to help Ukraine make a final step toward true democracy. In light of the upcoming presidential elections, which will determine the future course of development in Ukraine, the Ukrainian Americans once again join together to send a clear message to the Government of Ukraine: the world is watching the pre-election campaign in Ukraine and expecting the government to ensure free and fair elections. Ukraine needs this final impetus to break with its totalitarian past and ensure a path toward democracy and a realization of Shevchenko's dream.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ARC OF
CAPE COD'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Arc of Cape Cod. The Arc of Cape Cod was established in 1954, by a small group of dedicated parents with special needs children as a voluntary, non-profit organization to help improve the lives of Cape Cod residents with developmental disabilities and their families. The Arc of Cape Cod was an outgrowth of a wave of parent-sponsored organizations across the United States, banding together at the state and national levels to advance the quality of life of their children with special needs.

From its founding, the Arc has played an important role in advocating for changes to improve and enrich the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. For the past 50 years, the Arc of Cape Cod has been an invaluable resource to individuals with disabilities and their families through its mission of empowering Cape Cod residents to identify,

choose and realize their goals of where and how they learn, live, work and play.

The Arc has an active adult social program that involves approximately 200 individuals every month in a wide range of activities of their choosing. The Arc also provides case management, skills training and other services that assist more than sixty individuals to live independently as active members of their communities across Cape Cod. In addition, the Arc of Cape Cod is a constant source of helpful information, referrals to services, and support for Cape Cod families.

In appreciation of their 50 years of devoted service, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in honoring the Arc of Cape Cod.

RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS
ACT OF 1964

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on the 40th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, let those who lived through that time recall and celebrate its powerful role in changing our lives and the life of our Nation by sharing that knowledge with those who came after. As we do so, let us remember that a major impact of that law was to give strength to ordinary people so that they might do extraordinary things to change the way the nation worked, responding with smoother voices and firmer advocacy for the civil rights of everyone, bringing about a broad expansion of equal opportunity across the life of the nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. C.O.
GRINSTEAD

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. C.O. Grinstead, who will celebrate his 35th year as pastor to the congregation of Trinity Baptist Church, in Oxford, Alabama, on June 27, 2004.

During these 35 years, Dr. Grinstead has participated in evangelistic meetings and revivals in 43 countries around the world and served as music evangelist for the Tom Williams Evangelistic Ministries. He was moderator of the Southwide Baptist Fellowship, and he is now on the board of the Alabama Christian Education Association. Dr. Grinstead was instrumental in beginning Trinity Christian Academy, a Christian school of over 300 students, and two Christian radio stations reaching 24 counties.

Dr. Grinstead was born in Gary, Indiana, and in 1962, graduated from Tennessee Temple University in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He received his doctorate from Florida Bible College in 1989, and then served as Associate Pastor of Victory Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida for over seven years before moving to Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join the congregation of Trinity Baptist Church as they

honor Dr. Grinstead for his commitment to their church and its congregation.

RECOGNIZING LT. COL. ELIZABETH J. MAGNERS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lt. Col. Elizabeth J. Magners for her 60 years of exemplary service with the Civil Air Patrol.

Elizabeth Magners, born in Altoona, Pennsylvania, graduated from the Civil Air Patrol National Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in 1969. She furthered and completed her training at the Air University Extension Course Institute program for Civil Air Patrol officers at Gunter Air Force Base, Alabama. On June 20, 1944, Elizabeth Magners joined the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) and thereby commencing what is now 60 years of service. She served in the volunteer civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force in various capacities, including commander of the General Carl A. Spaatz Squadron of Boyertown, Pennsylvania. She was a Public Affairs Officer of the Pennsylvania Wing and served on projects and assignments at Northeast Region and National Headquarters levels where she attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Elizabeth Magners has received numerous awards and honors during her six decades of service, including the CAP's Distinguished Service Award, the Exceptional Service Award, the Meritorious Service Award and numerous Commanders Commendation certificates. In addition to her service awards, she was also honored by the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania for her 24-year radio show entitled "Wings Over Boyertown" and her unit publication, "The Question Mark."

Elizabeth is a past president of the Lehigh Valley Chapter 274 Air Force Association, a life member of the U.S. Naval Institute, member of the Reading Chapter of the U.S. Navy League and a member of the 148th Fighter Squadron of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard Auxiliary.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Lt. Col. Elizabeth J. Magners for her 60 years of outstanding and dedicated service to her community, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the nation.

CONGRATULATING DICK AND JOANN LOSEE ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate two wonderful people and long-time family friends from the Honorable Chris Cannon's district in Utah, Dick and JoAnn Losee, as they celebrate their 50th anniversary on the Fourth of July.

Dick was born on Christmas Day in 1932 in Los Angeles, California. At the age of ten Dick

and his family returned to their original hometown of Salt Lake City, Utah. It was there where young Dick developed a passion for music that became a prominent part of his life, actively participating in school bands and parades, and, after graduating from Jordan High School, accepting a job at Daynes Music Company in Provo, Utah.

In Provo, Dick became involved with a band that performed in dance halls and private parties, leading him to the love of his life, JoAnn. Searching for the best dance band around for her junior prom at Provo High School, JoAnn was introduced to Dick. The momentous meeting marked the beginning of beautiful things to come.

Like many young men of his generation, Dick was drafted into the U.S. Army to fight in the Korean war. Before heading overseas, Dick obtained an overnight pass and married his sweetheart shortly after midnight on the Fourth of July, 1954, at Fort Ord, California.

Instead of being sent to Korea, Dick was stationed in Germany, where JoAnn joined him in March, 1955. In Germany, Dick was assigned to the 2nd Armored Tank division and assigned to be in charge of the Army Dance Band in Western Germany.

In February, 1956, the happy couple returned to Provo, where Dick studied music and business at Brigham Young University, while JoAnn joined her mother in opening Bullock's Jewel Box that same year. On July 17, 1956, they were blessed with their first born, Richard. Six years later, on September 20, 1962, their beloved daughter Vanessa was born. Their children and grandchildren are a source of great pride and love for the couple.

After a short time selling life insurance, Dick joined JoAnn and his mother-in-law in the jewelry business, starting Bullock and Losee Jewelers. After 30 successful years, the original business was sold in 1985. However, Alard and Losee jewelers was later established in Provo, Alard being Vanessa's married name.

Dick and JoAnn have incorporated service into every aspect of their lives. Their dedication to their community is truly outstanding, actively participating in the Provo/Orem Chamber of Commerce, Friends of the Freedom Festival, Scouting, the Miss Utah Pageant, Kiwanis Club, and The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Additionally, the Losees are deeply committed to Utah Valley State College (UVSC), where JoAnn received the first UVSC President's Medallion, in honor of her highly commendable activity in community and civic affairs.

Mr. Speaker, Dick and JoAnn's dedication to each other, their family and community is admirable and inspiring. On the eve of their 50th Anniversary, I wish them nothing but the best in the years to come.

RENEWING THE DREAM TAX CREDIT ACT

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, as we mark June as National Homeownership Month, it is imperative that we look for ways to help more of our citizens to achieve the American Dream of homeownership.

Home ownership is the cornerstone of the American Dream. For millions of American families, this dream is still just out of reach. This is especially true for families living in economically distressed neighborhoods, where the costs of renovating existing buildings or that of new construction frequently exceed the market value of homes in the community, making it impossible to obtain mortgage financing. This leads to further deterioration in declining neighborhoods, and forces families to look elsewhere for the opportunity to own their own home.

My friend ROB PORTMAN and I introduced H.R. 839, the Renewing the Dream Tax Credit Act, which would provide a tax credit for single-family home ownership. Modeled after the successful low-income rental housing tax credit, this proposal would allow states to allocate federal tax credits to developers and investors who provide single-family homes for purchase by qualified buyers in qualified areas. The program will also help stabilize troubled urban neighborhoods, while spurring new construction and rehabilitation in rural areas targeted for economic development.

The bill would allow states to provide developers or investors tax credits up to 50% of the combined costs of acquiring, building, and renovating properties for sale to qualified buyers. The tax credits would be carefully targeted to areas in need of economic growth incentives, and to families who need help buying a home. States will have flexibility in allocating the tax credits. The available tax credits under the program are capped at \$1.75 per capita, with no state to receive less than \$2 million in credits.

This proposal has the support of a broad coalition of groups with substantial expertise in the housing industry, including the National Association of Home Builders, the National Conference of State Housing Agencies, the National Association of Realtors, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and a number of non-profit organizations, including the Enterprise Foundation, the Local Initiative Support Corporation and Habitat for Humanity International.

H.R. 839 could open the door to affordable homeownership for as many as 50,000 families annually. It would not only provide affordable housing, but is expected to create up to 120,000 jobs annually. H.R. 839 enjoys broad bipartisan support, with 288 co-sponsors in the U.S. House of Representatives. House passage of H.R. 839 would be a fitting tribute to National Homeownership Month, bringing the American Dream home to tens of thousands of working American families.

TRIBUTE TO CHRIS VICTOR SEMOS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I pay tribute to the life and the memory of Chris Victor Semos. He was a devoted husband, a loving father, a lawmaker, a humanitarian, and a leader in the community of God and the community of mankind. He was unflagging.

It was my privilege to serve with Chris Victor Semos in the Texas State capitol in Austin.

Elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1967, he served the people of his district and his state with honor, integrity and distinction for 16 years. A lawmaker's lawmaker, he served as the Chairman of the Claims Committee, the Business and Industry Committee, the Dallas Legislative Delegation. He was untiring.

His sense of timing was always perfect. Chris Victor Semos was born in 1936. This was also the year of the Texas Centennial. This was not by chance or happenstance, for he believed he was destined to celebrate Texas and all things Texas. It was the delight of Chris Victor Semos' heart to have the honor of serving as the Chairman of the Texas Sesquicentennial Commission. Because of the energy and the energy he devoted to the promotion and the celebration of Texas' 150th anniversary, his peers bestowed upon him the aptly descriptive sobriquet "The Father of the Texas Sesquicentennial." He was indefatigable.

Chris Victor Semos also made a lasting impact on Dallas. For 12 years the people of Dallas County as the County Commissioner. He was elected to the office in 1983. During his tenure, he poured every ounce of his considerable energy into building roads and bridges around the county. He was unfaltering.

Because of his commitment to his community, Chris Victor Semos was the recipient of countless awards. His honors, his awards and his decorations are too vast to name. Emblematic of the esteem in which he was held by his peers and his community, the Oak Cliff Lion's Club honored Chris Victor Semos with the Humanitarian Award. It was not an honor that he took lightly. As a 50-year member of the Oak Cliff Lion's Club, he promoted the welfare of others and championed reforms that improved the lives of his fellow man and fellow woman. He was unrelenting.

Chris Victor Semos was filled with joy when he was united in holy matrimony with Anastasia, his bride of 37 years. His heart was filled with joy with the birth of each of his three daughters, Mary Katherine, Victoria Evelyn, and Kristina Anastasia. They were his greatest mark of distinction. His love and devotion for his wife and his daughters were unceasing.

Mr. Speaker, after a lifetime of devoting his life to serving others, Chris Victor Semos has gone to his eternal rest. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to former Texas State Representative Chris Semos. Moreover, I join with the city of Dallas and the State of Texas in mourning the loss of an outstanding citizen and friend.

THANK YOU, MARGARET SIMS

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Sims. Over 1,252 of our soldiers have a new friend in Ms. Sims, who a year ago began writing to a soldier she did not know from her hometown of Gulf Breeze, FL. At 19 years of age and a rising sophomore at the University of West Florida, Margaret epitomizes patriotism in the United States. Margaret not only corresponds with many of the troops in Iraq on a regular basis

in something she calls "Project Appreciation," but also stands outside the local grocery store during the weekends gathering signatures for "Thank You" banners. She has been known to gather 400 signatures per banner, sending them to troops in places like Tikrit and Kirkuk, as well as making care-packages filled with cans of tuna, crackers, and toiletries for a lucky few that have become her regular recipients. She has been honored in the Pensacola News Journal and throughout the First District of Florida, but it is time that she is recognized for her efforts by Congress.

Patriotism is not only shown by our soldiers in the field but by our people at home. Her love for our country and her support of the troops is the true essence of patriotism. She shows our men and women in the field how valued and supported they are, giving them hope and faith from back home. By sending letters and care packages, and by taking the time to gather signatures on a banner from people throughout her community, Ms. Sims is making a true difference in America, a model patriot for all of us to admire.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress I would like to thank Margaret Sims for her patriotism and support of our troops. What we need in this country are more young men and women like her.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE OF THE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ACT

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 70th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act on June 26, 1934. Since the passage of this momentous legislation, federal credit unions have consistently proven themselves to offer high quality financial services at low costs to over 85 million Americans.

As members of this body, many of us are well aware through first-hand knowledge of the importance of federal credit unions. Owned by their members, federal credit unions are financial institutions that embrace the true spirit of volunteerism. Federal credit unions are run by volunteer boards of directors that are elected by their members, and encourage the value of saving regularly to build economic security for the future.

The entire premise of the credit union movement is the commitment to values that we can all embrace. Folks with modest means who oftentimes are overlooked by other types of financial institutions are assured of access to financial services thanks to America's credit unions. Driven by a deeply held commitment to member service rather than financial profits, credit unions offer not only low-cost financial services but also much-needed financial education to some of the most neglected sectors of our society.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act seventy years ago. In conjunction with all the fine work of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU), the trade association that exclusively represents the interests of federal credit

unions, there is no doubt in my mind of the benefits Americans across the nation will continue to gain because of the good work of our nation's federal credit unions for many more years to come.

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4548) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes,

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Chairman, from its inception in 1996, the United Nations' Oil-for-Food Program (OFF) was susceptible to political manipulation and financial corruption. Trusting Saddam Hussein to exercise sovereign control over billions of dollars of oil sales and commodity purchases invited the illicit premiums and kickback schemes now coming to light.

But much is still not known about the exact details of Oil-for-Food transactions. That is one reason my Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International Relations convened a hearing on April 21st to help pierce the veil of secrecy that still shrouds the largest humanitarian aid effort in history.

This much we know: The Hussein regime reaped an estimated \$10.1 billion from this program: \$5.7 billion in smuggled oil; and \$4.4 billion in oil surcharges and kickbacks on humanitarian purchases through the Oil-for-Food Program. There is no innocent explanation for this.

At the hearing, the Subcommittee heard the program, while successful in many ways, was riddled with corruption and the independent efforts of the Iraqis to investigate the fraud was being stifled by the Coalition Provisional Authority.

We want the State Department, the CPA, the intelligence community, and the U.N. to know there has to be a full accounting of all Oil-for-Food transactions, even if that unaccustomed degree of transparency embarrasses some members of the Security Council.

Two months ago, U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan assured me he wants to get to the bottom of this scandal and restore faith in the ability of the U.N. to do its job. Subsequently, the Secretary General appointed Paul Volcker to lead an independent panel to look into the Oil-for-Food Program.

While Mr. Volcker brings expertise and prestige to the task, we are concerned about the slow pace of the U.N. investigation. The Volcker panel has just announced the hiring of senior staff. Nevertheless, they continue to say an interim report, possibly this summer, will address the conduct of UN employees and allegations about the Secretary General's son's involvement.

But we also need to know more than what just happened at the U.N. We also need to know what happened at the US Mission. We

need to know what our intelligence community knew and knows.

Many of the allegations are true, we just don't know which ones yet. We should be long past asking whether something went wrong in OFF. It's time to find out exactly what went wrong and who is responsible.

Our staff has been through the minutes of the U.N. "661 (six-six-one) Committee" of Security Council members responsible for sanctions monitoring and oversight of OFF. Those minutes tell a story of diplomatic obfuscation and an obvious, purposeful unwillingness to acknowledge the program was being corrupted. Questions about oil or commodity contracts were dismissed as dubious media rumors beneath the dignity of the U.N. to answer, while Saddam was given the undeserved benefit of every doubt.

We cannot ignore the profoundly serious allegations of malfeasance in the Oil-for-Food Program. To do so would be to deny the Iraqi people the accounting they deserve and leave the U.N. under an ominous cloud. This is the Iraqi's money we're talking about, so the Iraqi Governing Council and its successor should get cooperation from the CPA and the State Department in conducting its inquiries.

In Iraq, and elsewhere, the world needs an impeccably clean, transparent U.N. The dominant instrument of multilateral diplomacy should embody our highest principles and aspirations, not systematically sink to the lowest common denominator of politics profiteering.

This emerging scandal is a huge black mark against the United Nations and only a prompt and thorough accounting, including punishment for any found culpable, will restore U.N. credibility and integrity.

That is why it is critical to get to the bottom of the corruption. In order to do that we need to the intelligence community to better assist the Congress in its investigations.

Mr. Chairman, this Sense of Congress will help address the difficulties many committees have had obtaining information and documents—especially from the intelligence community—pertaining to the Iraq Oil-for-Food Program. This amendment should reinforce the importance Congress places on the Oil-for-Food investigations.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES AND CELEBRATES THE CONTRIBUTION OF REVEREND WILLIE MAE NANTON, PASTOR OF THE CADWALADER-ASBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the eve of her retirement to recognize Reverend Willie Mae Nanton for her role as a pastor and community activist.

As Pastor of Cadwalader-Asbury United Methodist Church for the past 7 years, she has inspired and touched the lives of many. She is the first female pastor of the church in its 100-year history as well as the first female President of the Concerned Pastors and Ministers of Trenton and Vicinity. She has been an instrumental part of these organizations not only as a leader but also as a friend.

Rev. Nanton also has been involved with other organizations in her community, serving as a Board member of the Economic Development Corporation, a Board member of Black United Methodist for Church Renewal, a past president of the Northwest District Board of Ordained Ministry, a Board member of Ecclesia Ecumenical Ministry, a past Board member of Big Brothers & Sisters, and a Board member of Leadership Trenton. Through these organizations, she has positively contributed to the Trenton community's development and the spiritual growth of its members.

Over the years, Rev. Nanton has improved the quality of life of individuals in her community by being involved in Leadership Training Workshops, Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counseling, Community Organization Development Planning and Management, Group Counseling, Interfaith Care Givers, and Meals on Wheels of Trenton. New Jersey is fortunate to have such a dedicated servant, and she deserves the utmost praise and recognition.

She has earned our heartfelt appreciation for a noble career of public and private service, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me today in recognizing her achievements.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, had I not been detained in Colorado earlier this week attending the funeral of a close family friend, I would have voted accordingly on those votes on which I was forced to be absent: rollcall No. 276 (H. Res. 591), "yea"; rollcall No. 277 (H. R. 4363), "yea"; rollcall No. 278 (H. Res. 660), "yea"; rollcall No. 279 (H. Res. 683), "yea"; rollcall No. 280 (H. Res. 683), "yea"; rollcall No. 281 (H. Con. Res. 449), "yea"; rollcall No. 282 (H. Con. Res. 13), "yea"; rollcall No. 283 (Amendment to H.R. 4613), "no"; rollcall No. 284 (H.R. 4613), "yea"; rollcall No. 285 (H. Res. 658), "yea"; rollcall No. 286 (H. Res. 686), "yea."

TRIBUTE TO ARCHBISHOP WILBERT S. MCKINLEY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Archbishop Wilbert S. McKinley in recognition of his spiritual leadership in the community.

Archbishop Wilbert S. McKinley is the senior pastor of The Elim International Fellowship.

The doors of the church were opened for ministry on July 26, 1964. As the founding pastor, Archbishop McKinley has served the church faithfully for 40 years.

Archbishop McKinley has an overwhelming passion to introduce people, especially men, to the Church and the teachings of Jesus Christ. Archbishop McKinley believes that these teachings hold the key to every door. He is especially called to reach black men with the message of hope through Jesus

Christ and with the necessity of embracing one's spiritual, national and racial identity.

Archbishop McKinley has been a gift to the Church. In addition to his pastoral duties, he is a leader who is committed to sharing his time and talent with others.

Mr. Speaker, Archbishop Wilbert S. McKinley has been a spiritual leader in his community for more than 40 years. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

IN LASTING MEMORY OF BILLY BOB SMITH

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the life of Billy Bob Smith from Prescott, Arkansas, who died Sunday, June 13, 2004, at the age of 83. As a husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, nephew and friend, his life was full of achievements and honors that impacted his entire community.

Mr. Smith was born December 10, 1920, in Nevada County. The World War II veteran was the recipient of 5 battle stars and an Oakleaf, participating in the Battle of the Bulge as well as the Normandy Invasion. His courage and patriotism led him to serve in the 413th Antiaircraft Artillery battalion, C Battery in Central Europe, the Ardennes, the Rhineland, Normandy and Northern France. For his dedication and loyalty to our nation, we will forever be grateful.

Mr. Smith was a selfless public servant and a leader, spending much of his adult life serving his fellow citizens in Nevada County. He was a member of the Prescott Church of Christ and served as a Justice of the Peace for 14 years.

I am deeply saddened by the death of Mr. Smith. His loyalty and dedication to Nevada County, his family and his country will forever be remembered. My thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Elya, his son, Michael, and his three daughters, Bobbie, Donna, and Jan.

HONORING DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS GENESEE CHAPTER NO. 3

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the members of the Disabled American Veterans Genesee Chapter No. 3 as they celebrate their 75th anniversary on July 11, 2004 with local veterans and their families.

The Disabled American Veterans Genesee Chapter No. 3, of which my father, Timothy L. Kildee, was a member, was founded on March 18, 1929. The members of this non-profit organization have worked diligently on the behalf of America's wounded war heroes to ensure that they are not forgotten by our government and society. Through their efforts and generous donations from the community, they are able to assist disabled veterans by providing services such as transportation to and

from veterans medical facilities, representation for veterans in processing claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs, grant financial assistance to veterans and their families, provide memorial services for any veteran, as well as color guards for all types of occasions. The DAV is an organization that is committed to helping disabled veterans help themselves by providing the tools necessary to restructure their lives and accommodate their service-connected illness or injury so that they can live as close to a productive life as possible.

We must never forget the sacrifice our Nation's men and women make when they enlist in the military. Each day of their enlistment, whether it is in a war zone or on the home front, they are making significant contributions toward preserving the freedoms of the United States. We are indebted to these brave individuals. I am very proud of the Disabled American Veterans Genesee Chapter No. 3 for they have always worked hard to fulfill requests for support. I consider them to be a valuable asset to the community.

Mr. Speaker, as the Member of Congress representing Genesee County, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in paying tribute to an outstanding veterans organization, Disabled American Veterans Genesee Chapter No. 3, for 75 years of unwavering devotion to taking care of the disabled veterans of Genesee County.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEVI
BRINKLEY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Levi Brinkley of Burns, Oregon. Levi bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Levi and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Levi and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

A very outgoing and friendly person, Levi was a top honor student at Burns High School where he was an all-state football player and student body president. He attended Bend Community College where he received an associate degree in psychology, and was working toward a bachelor's degree in psychology. He became a firefighter at age eighteen, first with the Snow Mountain Ranger District, and then joining the Prineville Hotshots, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. A true outdoorsman, Levi enjoyed bungee-jumping, skydiving, rock climbing, hunting, fishing, and skiing. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Levi Brinkley. Levi personified the Hotshots

credo of Safety, Teamwork, and Professionalism; putting himself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young man.

HONORING THE LIBERTY COLUMN
MONUMENT

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss the public outcry over the defaced Liberty Column Monument in Miami's Bayfront Park.

The Liberty Column Monument is dedicated to the thousands of Cuban rafters who have lost their lives at sea while fleeing Fidel Castro's Cuba. Embodying their sacrifice, having risked everything for a chance at freedom, the monument is a pair of hands, bound in stone, reaching towards the open sky. The column is an important symbol to our community as many have lost family and friends to the cold waters off of the American shore.

Humberto Sanchez, a Cuban exile himself, paid \$30,000 to create the monument in 1994. He has been collecting pieces of rafts off of Florida shores for years and has dedicated himself to memorializing the exodus of the Cuban rafter. Mr. Sanchez exemplifies the spirit and courage of the people he has celebrated in the Liberty Column.

Much to my great dismay, and to that of the Miami community, the Liberty Column Monument was recently vandalized in a despicable and most disrespectful fashion. I am pleased to inform the House that there is an ongoing movement to raise funds for its repair. There have also been talks of upgrading the monument to pure bronze to prevent future destruction.

Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that the police will track down the criminals who damaged this symbol, and I am certain that the renovated Liberty Column Monument will continue to honor the lost souls who did not survive the voyage to free, American soil.

H. CON. RES. 405—EXPRESSING THE
SENSE OF CONGRESS WITH RE-
SPECT TO THE NEED TO PRO-
VIDE PROSTATE CANCER PA-
TIENTS WITH MEANINGFUL AC-
CESS TO INFORMATION ON
TREATMENT OPTIONS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 405 and the continued need to provide prostate cancer patients with meaningful access to information on treatment options.

Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer among American men. The American Cancer Society estimates that during

2004 about 230,110 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed in the United States. One man in six will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime, but only 1 man in 32 will die of this disease. The key to decreasing the amount of men that die from this disease yearly is not only informing patients about all the available treatment options but identifying the disease early on.

Because early detection is essential in the treatment and survival rates of Prostate Cancer patients, often Americans with limited health care are more susceptible to detection at more advanced stages, and increased mortality rates. In fact because of their low levels of medical healthcare African Americans are two to three times more likely to die of prostate cancer than white men. Only 66 percent of African Americans diagnosed with prostate cancer survive for 5 years, compared with 81 percent of white men.

As Members of Congress we must do everything in our power to ensure that medical service providers are informing patients on all possible treatments of this devastating disease. Education will inevitably lead to the best treatment options for all patients. Furthermore this Congress must take action to ensure that all Americans have regular access to health care so that diseases like prostate cancer can be detected in their earliest stages. We cannot continue to fail the millions of Americans without health care coverage because this makes our citizens increasingly susceptible to many devastating diseases like prostate cancer.

Mr. Speaker, prostate cancer continues to plague thousands of men in our country every year. I support this legislation that will encourage medical service providers to increase awareness on treatment options for prostate cancer patients and I urge this body to continue the discussion that would eventually yield much needed health care service to every American.

HONORING JASON HICKS ON THE
COMPLETION OF HIS INTERNSHIP

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Jason Hicks for his help while interning in my office. Jason is a resident of Cookeville, TN, which I represent in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

Jason just finished his freshman year at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he is majoring in English and political science. He is a member of the Phi Alpha Delta fraternity and vice president of the university's Tennessee Debate Society.

Jason has been a great help and a wonderful addition to my office. He has helped address constituent concerns, assisted me and my staff with numerous projects, and served as a friendly and informative tour guide of the U.S. Capitol, providing visitors from Middle Tennessee with a personalized look at a national treasure.

I trust that Jason has enjoyed his whirlwind internship and his first-hand examination of the workings of Congress. I know that I have enjoyed having his fresh perspective and enthusiasm during his time here.

My hat is off to Jason Hicks. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KATHI BECK

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Kathi Beck of Eugene, Oregon. Kathi bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the town. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Kathi and her comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Kathi and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

An active outdoorswoman, Kathi was an ardent rock and mountain climber. She was a senior at the University of Oregon where she was majoring in psychology and had taken wilderness survival classes through the university's outdoor program. With her unique background in psychology and the wilderness, Kathi planned to design an outdoor recreational therapy program for children. She became a member of the Prineville Hotshots, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression, due to her love of nature and adventurous spirit. She also served as a member of the Oregon Army National Guard's 419th Signal Detachment, and had previously served with the Guard's 741st Service and Supply Battalion at Camp Withycombe, Oregon.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Kathi Beck. Kathi personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork and Professionalism; putting herself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. She made the ultimate sacrifice doing what she loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young woman.

A TRIBUTE TO GLENORE M.
ANDERSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Glenore M. Anderson in recognition of her civic participation and business success.

Glenore is a living testimony to the power of hard work and effort. A banker by profession, it took Ms. Anderson 11 years to move up the corporate ladder to her current position as vice president/branch manager of the Broadway and Driggs Street Office of HSBC Bank, one of the largest branches of HSBC Bank USA in Brooklyn, NY.

Born on the island of Trinidad and Tobago in the West Indies, Glenore immigrated to the United States in the summer of 1992. She moved here with her family after successfully completing her studies in her home country. A few short months after taking up residence in New York City, she was hired as a customer service representative with Marine Midland bank, which later became HSBC Bank USA. She quickly moved through the ranks and excelled as a sales representative, sales manager, OIC (officer in charge), and vice president/branch manager.

Glenore continues to exemplify this spirit of excellence in her current position as the branch manager. She continuously works toward motivating her staff of 16 by employing a "hands on" approach. In so doing, she demonstrates her abilities as a team player and team leader. She believes that it is important for her staff to see that she can do whatever task is required of them. Due to this type of cohesive effort and leadership skills, the operation of the branch has been very successful, which boasts assets totaling \$105 million.

In addition to her expertise in banking, Glenore has also earned accolades for her efforts to strengthen the community. As such, she was honored with the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry award for Women History makers of 2000; the Network Journal award for 40 Under Forty Achievers of 2001; and an award from the New Deeper Life Tabernacle in 2003.

During the month of February in 2001, 2002 and 2003, she brought this sense of community to the branch by hosting a celebration of Black History Month. The celebrations took the form of an art exhibit mounted in conjunction with Art Groupie.Com, which featured the works of four African/Caribbean American artists.

Married and the mother of one, Glenore receives strong support from her family and friends who believe whole-heartedly in her potential to reach the stars.

Mr. Speaker, Glenore M. Anderson has excelled in the business world while still finding time to contribute to her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING NEVADA COUNTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL
HOWARD AUSTIN

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Prescott Elementary School Principal, Mr. Howard Austin, for his persistent dedication to education and service in his community. The core of Mr. Austin's community relations are deeply rooted in his 40 years as a public educator.

Mr. Austin received his B.A. from Wiley College in Texas and an M.S. from Henderson State University in Arkansas. Through his career, Mr. Austin enriched the many generations of people that he encountered in his community. He is a true role model for not only his students, but for everyone in the com-

munity. Mr. Austin was an active leader in the Elementary Principal's Association and served as a zone director for 8 years. In 2002, Mr. Austin was named Arkansas's Distinguished Principal of the Year.

Mr. Austin's constant involvement in his community led him to support and organize many student-orientated groups throughout the years. Mr. Austin worked with the track team, organized and was head scoutmaster of the Boy Scouts of America Troop, and was choir director for Prescott High School and his local church. He also formed a dance band with other directors that played at various school functions. Mr. Austin's devotion to Nevada County led him to be elected to the Prescott City Council.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Austin, and extend my sincere appreciation and thanks for his dedication and guidance to the people of Nevada County and to my hometown of Prescott. He is an inspiration to us all, and I am privileged to serve as his Congressman in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING TERRY WATSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize an outstanding veteran from Bay City Michigan, Mr. Terry Watson who is retiring from his post as president of the Bay City Fireworks Festival Committee after 32 years of commendable service and dedication. The committee along with the community will honor Mr. Watson during the festival opening ceremony on July 1, 2004, in Bay City.

U.S. Army Vietnam veteran Terry Watson is a life long resident of Bay City, Michigan. Terry has dedicated his life to making the Bay area a better place to live, work and visit. He is a retired Bay City Police Officer with 27 years of notable service.

In 1962 the Fraternal Order of Police founded the Bay City fireworks. In 1981 the event evolved into a 3-day festival, complete with carnival. The fireworks display has been a significant part of the Bay area 4th of July holiday celebration for the past 42 years. The celebration draws a crowd of approximately 350,000 people. The firework show has been rated over the past years as one of the Nation's top five displays. Because of Terry's strong teamwork and leadership skills the Bay City Festival has become a popular family vacation destination spot for not only residents of Michigan but for others residing in states throughout the Midwest.

Aside from being an outstanding leader, Terry is also a devoted family man and he credits the love and support of his devoted wife Peggy, their three children, Jerry, Sheri and Richard, for his success.

Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress, I ask my colleagues in the 108th Congress to please join me in paying tribute to an outstanding veteran, Mr. Terry Watson, for his service to our Nation and his contributions to Bay City, Michigan. I wish him the best in future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SCOTT
BLECHA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Scott Blecha of Clatskanie, Oregon. Scott bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and everyday. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Scott and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Scott and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Born and raised in Clatskanie, Scott graduated with honors from Clatskanie High School where a scholarship is named in his honor. After graduating, he answered his nation's call to duty and joined the United States Marines. After a four-year tour, Scott attended the Oregon Institute of Technology, graduating cum laude with a degree in Mechanical Engineering Technology. During the summers, he worked as a Prineville Hotshot, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. Scott loved the job, enjoying the close camaraderie of his crew and the satisfaction of knowing he was helping others. Above all, he was devoted to his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Scott Blecha. Scott personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork and Professionalism; putting himself in harms way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young man.

HONORING JOSEPH FEIGENBAUM

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Joseph Feigenbaum of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. It is my pleasure to announce that at 84½ years of age, Mr. Feigenbaum has completed the requirements to receive a Doctorate in International Business from Nova Southeastern University.

Mr. Speaker, "old" is a relative term in Florida. Mr. Feigenbaum accomplished quite a lot in his life: he earned a law degree, built a successful textile career, and ran a factory in Venezuela. However, Mr. Feigenbaum knew retirement would not extinguish his desire to continue to cultivate his life. Through the support of his loving wife, Cherie, and by the strength of his desire, Feigenbaum returned to

the classroom. Eight years later, dedication, discipline, and desire carried him to his goal. Mr. Feigenbaum serves as an inspiration and example for us all.

Education is a lifelong opportunity, befitting anyone who chooses to pursue it. At 84½ years of age, Mr. Feigenbaum qualifies this point. I genuinely believe that his experiences can only benefit his community, and I am proud that he is a Floridian. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Mr. Feigenbaum's accomplishments and honor the value he places on education.

TRIBUTE TO DEACONESS LEVARN
DAVIS ON THE OCCASION OF
HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a delightful lady whose life represents the epitome of what a well-lived life should be. For all of these years, she has been a child of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, a good Christian, a wife, a mother, a true neighbor, an anchor, a pillar of the community and a good and honorable citizen.

Mrs. Davis and her husband were pioneers when they moved into what had been an essentially all white community. They were a hard working young couple who produced a family of offspring who have done exceptionally well and contributed significantly to the well-being of our community and our city.

Her children rise up and call her blessed, for she has indeed been a blessing to them and to all of those whose lives she has touched. Happy Birthday, Mrs. Davis and may you have many, many more.

HONORING DEOTHA MALONE ON
HER RETIREMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. J. Deotha Malone on her retirement after 55 years of service to the Sumner County Board of Education. Dr. Malone is a resident of Gallatin, Tennessee, which I have the pleasure of representing in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

Dr. Malone began her teaching career in 1949, the year I was born. She retires this year as the longest working educator in the Middle Tennessee region.

Dr. Malone is a remarkable humanitarian. She has made certain that lack of money does not stand in the way of her students. She has held free remedial reading classes, and she even taught French to students at her own home for no charge. And Dr. Malone hasn't stopped yet. She still tutors adult non-readers in her spare time.

Dr. Malone has served her community not only by teaching, but also by leading. In 1969, she became the first African American to serve on Gallatin's City Council. And she currently serves as the city's vice-mayor.

Congratulations to Dr. Malone on her retirement. I know I join with the citizens of Gallatin in wishing her all the best in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROBERT
BROWNING JR.

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Robert Browning Jr. Rob bravely battled the Storm King Mountain Fire outside the town of Glenwood Springs, Colorado in 1994, but succumbed to the blaze along with thirteen fellow firefighters while working to protect the City. I personally served as a firefighter and understand the risks they face each and every day. Witnessing the awful inferno that fateful July day, I know Rob and his comrades battled the fire with the utmost courage and valor. With the tenth anniversary of the Storm King Fire approaching, I believe it appropriate to recognize the sacrifice Rob and the Storm King Firefighters made on behalf of a grateful community, state and nation.

Born and raised in North Carolina, Rob attended McDowell High School and received a degree in forest management from Haywood Technical College. In 1988, he began working for the U.S. Forest Service in Asheville, North Carolina, and in 1992 he became a member of the Region 8 Hotshot Crew, an elite group of firefighters who specialize in wildland fire suppression. In 1993 he transferred to the Savannah River Forest Station where he was an engine operator and firefighter. At the time of the Storm King Mountain Fire, Rob was serving a four-month detail on a Grand Junction helitack crew, a specialized group of firefighters who are often the first to respond to a wildland fire. He was a dedicated member of the Forest Service, and received a great deal of satisfaction from helping others.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Firefighter Robert Browning Jr. Rob personified the Hotshots credo of Safety, Teamwork, and Professionalism; putting himself in harm's way for unfamiliar people and places. He made the ultimate sacrifice doing what he loved, and I, along with the Glenwood Springs community and the State of Colorado are eternally grateful to this brave young man.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. BLASÉ "KC"
CHARLES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of St. Blasé "KC" Charles in recognition of his significant cultural and economic development contributions to the community.

St. Blasé Charles, better known as KC, hails from the twin island nation of Trinidad and Tobago in the Caribbean. He has been an entertainer for more than 30 years. Famous for his Caribbean-style rendition of the "father of

soul," Mr. James Brown, KC is also affectionately known as the "Local James Brown" throughout the entertainment circles in North America and members of his international fan club. Along with his own musical group, the International Band, KC has performed at major events and famous places including the West Indian Labor Day Parade in Brooklyn, the Harlem Day Parade, Manhattan's Annual Halloween Parade, the MGM and Sahara casino in Las Vegas, and the Royal Caribbean and Carnival cruises, just to name a few.

KC's summer concerts were launched in 1989 at his garage at East 87th Street in East Flatbush, Brooklyn where he held a huge block party on Memorial Day. In order to accommodate the growing crowd that came to yearly event, in 1991, KC moved his Caribbean style street festival to Ditmas Avenue near his East 87th Street garage. The event covered ten blocks. The event continued at Ditmas Avenue until 1996, when KC took his show and a loyal following of thousands to its new home on Atlantic Avenue.

Spanning 10,000 square feet and a maximum occupancy of 4,300, the Hideaway is a spacious outdoor venue located at 2494 Atlantic, in an industrial section of Brooklyn. Since 1998, the Hideaway, which is owned and managed by KC, has been hosting its hallmark Summer Concert Series featuring today's leading soca, calypso, and reggae musical acts from around the Caribbean and here in the United States. Along with top performers, the Hideaway showcases some of the most popular Caribbean-American DJs. It is also equipped with a fully licensed bar, a professional sized stage, and an elevated VIP lounge where performing artist and special guests can view and enjoy the shows.

KC's Hideaway has become a major attraction for thousands of Caribbean music lovers from around the world who are drawn to Brooklyn, the Caribbean Capital of the United States, year after year to celebrate the West Indian Labor Day Carnival season, which begins in May. The venue stages around 66 shows a year and the number of concertgoers has steadily increased over the past three years. The concert grew from an audience of about 80,000 for the season in 1998, to approximately 165,000 for this season.

Mr. Speaker, St. Blasé "KC" Charles has developed and created a major cultural event in his community, which has brought thousands of people to Brooklyn each year to celebrate their Caribbean heritage. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO FATHER STEPHEN PATRICK WISNESKE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an individual who has been a spiritual guide for the Catholic community in Menominee, Michigan, Father Stephen Patrick Wisneske. On July 1st, "Father Pat" will be retiring from Holy Spirit Parish, where he has been pastor for the last 32 years. Throughout

that time, his leadership, his generous spirit, and his warm sense of humor have all been important sources of inspiration and comfort. He will be sorely missed.

Father Pat Wisneske was ordained on June 3rd, 1950, embarking on a 54-year journey in the clergy that touched countless lives in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In 1950 and 1951, he served as an Assistant Pastor at Holy Trinity Parish in Ironwood, and St. Thomas Parish in Escanaba, respectively. In 1953, he began a six year tenure as Assistant Pastor at St. Mary and St. Joseph Parish in Iron Mountain, Michigan. During this time, he also served as the Chaplain for the VA hospital in Iron Mountain. From 1959 to 1963, he was the Administrator of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Franklin Mine.

In 1963, Father Pat became the pastor of St. Stephen Parish in Loretto and served there for three years before transferring to St. Jude Parish in White Pine, where he also oversaw the St. Ann mission in Bergland. After the Bergland mission was transferred to a parish in Marenisco in 1967, Father Pat became the temporary administrator of Holy Family Parish in Ontonagon until 1972.

The spring of 1972 was a very tense time for Menominee Catholics as they awaited the final outcome of a two year study that would eventually consolidate their parishes. When the members of the new Holy Spirit Parish learned that Father Pat would be their new pastor, they wondered what kind of pastor he would be. It did not take long to realize that he was a kind and gentle man who was indeed a "present" to them. Through the sadness of illness or death, and the joy of baptisms, marriages, first communions and confirmations, Father Pat was always there to offer guidance, leadership, spirit, faith, and friendship.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his parish assignments, Father Pat was always willing to take on additional duties and leadership roles. Over the years he has served as the director of the deacon program for the diocese, twice as Dean, President of the St. Joseph's Association, and a member of the Priest's Council. He has also given of his time to serve as a chaplain for different organizations including the VA hospital in Iron Mountain, the Knights of Columbus, the Daughters of Isabella, and the Civil Air Patrol.

Another example of Father Pat's leadership has been his unwavering commitment to the youth of the community. He has been steadfast in his support for Menominee Catholic Central Schools, and he has always enjoyed working with young people, recognizing that they are indeed the future.

Those of us who know and love Father Pat have our own special stories of this remarkable individual. On a personal note, when tragedy struck my family, it was Father Pat who consoled us, reassured us, and provided comfort for us in our time of greatest need. Father Pat's kindness, spiritual guidance, and love will never be forgotten and we will always be indebted to him.

Mr. Speaker, 32 years after he came to Menominee and Holy Spirit Parish, it is time to bid a very fond and difficult farewell to Father Pat. He often said that he was energized by his parishioners, but they in turn would say they were energized by Father Pat. He was always present for us, giving us, the members of our Holy Spirit family, our Menominee Community, and our God the best present he

could—himself. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring and thanking Father Patrick Wisneske for his dedicated service to his parish and the Catholic faith community throughout the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LA RENAISSANCE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the owners and the staff of La Renaissance, a family owned restaurant in Pueblo, Colorado. For twenty-six years, La Renaissance has been an icon in the Pueblo community. It is my pleasure to recognize their dedication to Pueblo and the State of Colorado before this body of Congress and this nation today.

In 1978, La Renaissance opened as a full service restaurant in Pueblo. Brothers Bob and Jim Fredregill started the restaurant as a small family business, and has grown to a staff of thirty-five. A well-known dining destination in Pueblo, La Renaissance has recently received honors for the brothers' business practices. The Colorado Food Service Hall of Fame recently inducted both Bob and Jim Fredregill, and the Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce recognized La Renaissance as their Small Business of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize La Renaissance for continued excellence in business and for their commitment to the Pueblo community. Establishing the restaurant as part of the community's foundation captures the essence of small business. I congratulate La Renaissance on many years of success and wish them many more in the years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO ANTHONY JOSEPH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Anthony Joseph in recognition of his entrepreneurial success in the marketing and communications field.

As a product of New York City public school system, Anthony parlayed his academic achievement and his experience as an All-City championship football player into a walk-on position on the Boston University squad. Anthony promoted campus parties and events to subsidize his tuition. After graduation, he quickly turned a temp job in The New York Times' finance department into a staff position in the paper's marketing department.

With just one experience as an employee with the New York Times, Anthony combined his knowledge of urban landscape with his marketing expertise to incorporate the fastest rising marketing/communication company in the urban field. Anthony laid the foundation for his urban success by moonlighting with Vital Marketing Group VMG while still at the Times. Through contacts at a major apparel and an advertising agency, Anthony was able to participate in business meetings where he was

able to present strategies, which, over time, turned into contracts with Tommy Hilfiger, Hush Puppies, and Wolverine Boots.

Eventually, Anthony's growing client base necessitated his departure from the Times. He partnered with the African-American media company that established the billboard beachhead on Harlem's 125th Street, utilized by so many entertainment companies at the time. Together they formed VMG, with Anthony leading the charge. After merely four years of business, its roster counts big-timers such as the U.S. Army, Nike, Tommy Hilfiger, Coca Cola, Remy Martin, Foot Action, Posner Cosmetics and Universal Records to name a few. It has an income of over \$7 million in annual revenue.

Vital Marketing's unusual methodology and its consistent success can be credited in great part to its founder and president, Anthony Joseph. The Queens-bred son of a Jamaican mother and Puerto Rican father, Anthony, understood the significance of culture early on as it related to marketing.

In May 2001, VMG was presented with the Black Enterprise Rising Star Award, in honor of the high revenues garnered by VMG's high profile clients. A year later, VMG offered further proof that they were on the assent when they turned a cold call and a year of conversation into a multimillion dollar contract with the U.S. Army via advertising giant Leo Burnett.

Mr. Speaker, Anthony Joseph has created a successful company through his own hard work and ingenuity. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

REMEMBERING DR. J.W. REMKE,
JR., GENEROUS AND DEDICATED
COMMUNITY LEADER

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. J.W. Remke, Jr. of Lawrenceburg, Tennessee. Dr. Remke was a dedicated community leader, a distinguished optometrist and businessman admired throughout Tennessee for his willingness to help others. Dr. Remke was always happy to use his time and his energies to build a better life for his community and its families.

Joe Remke knew early in life what he wanted to do and where he wanted to live. After graduating from the University of Tennessee and the Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, he returned to his hometown of Lawrenceburg and soon opened his own business, the Remke Eye Clinic. For the next 50 years, Dr. Remke could be found helping his friends and neighbors see better—in Lawrenceburg, Waynesboro, Hohenwald or Lewisburg, even a few politicians in Nashville and Washington, D.C. For Dr. Remke, work was a joy, more a hobby than anything else, and something he looked forward to. Even at the age of 79, Dr. Remke saw patients every day, right up until the time of his brief illness.

Dr. Remke's commitment to his patients was truly outstanding—just like his commitment to his community. He was a founder of

the 21st Century Council, the first economic and community development organization in Lawrence County. Thanks to his leadership, major employers including the Jones Apparel Group soon established operations in the area. I don't know of any community leader in Tennessee who has done more to attract industry to his community. Whenever there was a local need, Joe Remke gave generously. He had served as President of the Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce, as Chairman of the Lawrenceburg Power Board and as president of the Lawrenceburg Lions Club. Dr. Remke, along with his late wife, Peggy Jo Remke, were equally dedicated to supporting the activities of their church, Lawrenceburg's Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Even with all of his work with community organizations and local businesses, Dr. Remke was perhaps celebrated most for his generous spirit and wise counsel. I benefited tremendously from such advice when he was kind enough to help me in my earliest campaigns. Whether it was a new business idea that needed help or just a relaxed visit with an old friend, folks from Lawrence County to Nashville, Memphis, and Knoxville always knew they'd find the support and guidance they were looking for in a chat with Dr. Remke.

On behalf of his many friends in the Fifth District of Tennessee, I send my deepest condolences to Dr. Joe Remke's wonderful family.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RALPH
WILLIAMS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the hard work and success of Ralph Williams of Pueblo, Colorado. Strong small businesses build strong communities, and Ralph has provided much leadership in continuing SCA Insurance's strong business tradition in the Pueblo community.

As the chief of SCA Insurance, Ralph is considered by his colleagues as an expert in the industry. Ralph's personable style and business acumen helped to build a loyal clientele and to work closely with local agencies and other statewide organizations. The Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce recently honored Ralph for his work as a business leader with their Charles W. Crews Business Leader of the Year award.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to acknowledge Ralph Williams before this body of Congress and this nation for his dedication and commitment to success. His work as a business leader in the Pueblo community is certainly commendable. I congratulate him on his achievements, and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO KATIE DAVIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Katie Davis in recognition of her dedication to

her community through both her professional and volunteer activities.

Katie Davis is someone who is energetic and inspirational and continues to serve as a respected dynamic leader in the community. However, after serving thirty-three and a half years in public service, she is retiring from her position as the Deputy Director for Support Services at Kingsboro Psychiatric Center, Brooklyn, NY, effective April 29, 2004.

Katie graduated from Hunter College Magna Cum Laude, earning a B.S. in Community Health. Later, she received a Master's degree in Public Health Administration at Columbia University. She began her public service as a Registered Nurse at Kings County Hospital Center, and later was employed as Associate Director for Clinical Service for 9 years at Harlem Hospital Center.

Katie is the wife of Hervin L. Davis and mother of Charlene and Jacqueline Davis, who continues to serve as an inspiration in spite of her untimely death. As a young woman who overcame her mental disability, Jacqueline served others until her untimely passing in her early 20s.

Katie is a long-time member of the Antioch Baptist Church in Brooklyn where the Reverend Robert M. Waterman is pastor. She is known in the community and among the Antioch Baptist Church family as a spirited and committed Christian. She has faithfully supported many church activities over the years and currently serves as Co-Chair of the Antioch Capital Campaign. Katie genuinely cares about those in her community and is always working with others to serve those in need.

Throughout her career, Katie has continued to be actively involved in activities and programs to improve the educational and social conditions of her community. She is energetic and strategic in her approach, getting others involved in addressing key issues that affect the young and the elderly. Long noted for her active leadership throughout the community, she continues to promote and encourage young people and adults to seek an education, as demonstrated by her current position as President of Medgar Evers College Community Council. The Council awards several scholarships annually to eligible students attending Medgar Evers College who exhibit outstanding academic performance and potential leadership qualities.

Katie's dedication and clever leadership skills are consistently recognized at Kingsboro Psychiatric Center. She volunteers her time as a facilitator of the Advisory Committee for the Emerson-Davis Family Center. This special center houses single-parent families, separated by homelessness, parental mental disability or substance abuse, who are reunited by the Emerson-Davis Family Center in Brooklyn, New York. While "Emerson" refers to the Center's street address, "Davis" honors Jacqueline Davis, Katie's deceased daughter.

Mr. Speaker, Katie Davis has dedicated herself to helping people and families in need through her distinguished professional career and her community-based work. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

IN MEMORY OF CHARLES B.
"SONNY" TOWNER, JR.

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Charles B. "Sonny" Towner, Jr., who passed away on June 2, 2004. A dedicated member of the Santa Cruz community, Charles is survived by his wife Ellen, and will be greatly missed.

Charles led a life of public service, first serving in the 6th Aircraft Repair Unit Floating during World War II. Following the war, Charles returned to California to sell sporting goods, becoming a prominent businessman in the Bay Area for over 30 years. Continuing his public service, Charles also became the business manager for the Cambrian School District in San Jose for ten years. During this time, Charles was an active member of the Camden High School Booster Club and volunteered for the Cambrian Park Little League and Pony League.

Following his retirement in 1990, Charles continued his commitment to his community, as he volunteered with the Trinity Presbyterian Church, Santa Cruz Gardens School Volunteer Program and the California Grey Bears.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my deepest sympathy to Charles' family and honor him by celebrating his life and contribution to society. As a prominent member of the Santa Cruz community, Charles Towner, Jr. will be missed.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO LESLIE
BAILEY**

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Leslie Bailey and thank her for the remarkable civic contributions she has made to her Fort Collins community, the State of Colorado and this nation. Leslie started her career volunteering her services to the Federal Emergency Management Agency following the flood disaster that struck Fort Collins in the summer of 1997, and has remained in public service ever since. I am pleased to be able to pay tribute to Leslie, and thank her for her tireless work.

After helping her community's flood victims in 1997, Leslie was asked to join FEMA as a Disaster Assistance Employee. Since that time, she has served in Community Relations, Public Affairs, and Congressional Affairs, with a focused area of expertise on Congressional and Intergovernmental liaison functions. From 1998 to 2004 Leslie served as one of FEMA's primary Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs Liaisons. She has held the position of Congressional Liaison, on over 40 federally declared disaster operations including response efforts to the September 11th attacks and preparing for the 2002 Winter Olympics. Leslie currently serves as the Lead Congressional Liaison on one of three national Emergency Response Teams for FEMA, and frequently works as part of the Office of Legisla-

tive Affairs Disaster Team. Her hard work has made her a national asset to the agency and to this nation.

Mr. Speaker it is clear that Leslie Bailey is a woman of great commitment to humanitarian efforts in the State of Colorado and our country. Her hard work and willingness to give of her time to help federal disaster victims is worthy of recognition before this body of Congress today. I wish to extend my sincerest thanks to Leslie for her continuing work on behalf of a grateful nation.

**HONORING THE LIFE OF
PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN**

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, every visitor who comes to my office is greeted by a plaque that bears the inscription of Ronald Reagan's signature and this quote, "There's no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he doesn't mind who gets the credit." These words are characteristic of the great man that served as the fortieth President of the United States of America. I am involved with politics today because of the inspiration I received from Ronald Reagan. I believe he was the true example of what a statesman can be, and I hold that example close to my heart as I carry out my own duties.

President Reagan will always be remembered as an unabashed patriot. He was convinced of the ability of the United States to provide the hope of freedom to those enslaved by totalitarianism and communism. President Reagan's vision of the world and the future of this country would not be dimmed or daunted by ideological threat, and he was not afraid to stand up to tyranny and aggression. From the beginning of his presidency, President Reagan realized the potential cost of inaction and weakness in the face of Soviet defiance and nuclear threat, and he took action. Through a series of defense budgets, he increased defense spending 35 percent during his two terms, ensuring the country the resources necessary for security. Additionally, President Reagan managed to negotiate the first U.S.-Soviet treaty to reduce the number of nuclear weapons through a series of four summits with Mikhail Gorbachev. President Reagan was always clear about what he expected and never more so than when he pleaded at the Brandenburg Gates, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall!"

President Reagan planted democracy in regions of the world that have never tasted the joys of freedom. He taught newly liberated people across the globe that hard work and faith in God could result in prosperity, a sense of satisfaction in one's own legacy, and a better outlook for tomorrow. He wanted the American dream to be a reality throughout the world.

President Reagan will also be remembered as a man of humble beginnings. He proclaimed America as a place where "everyone can rise as high and as far as his ability will take him." Born in Tampico, Illinois, President Reagan used his abilities to establish a career in Hollywood. He continued to work and learn as he rose through California politics and went

on to serve two successful terms as the leader of our nation. He wanted all Americans to have the same freedom and opportunity to pursue success, and he consistently promoted that ideal through policies of limited government. He said, "Government can and must provide opportunity, not smother it; foster productivity, not stifle it."

What makes Ronald Reagan most unforgettable was his unflinching optimism. Even as our nation mourns, we cannot help but smile at the thought of his cheerful and radiant personality. President Reagan possessed a sense of humor strong enough to withstand even the pain of an assassin's bullet. Demonstrating his trademark good nature, he said to the doctors about to operate on his bullet wounds, "I hope you're all Republicans." It was this characteristic sanguinity that swept up a down-trodden America and reenergized its faith in freedom, the Presidency, and our military.

Ronald Reagan was many things. He was a man of reason, a man of sincerity, a man willing to listen. And he is a man whose character, grace, and wisdom will be deeply missed by this nation.

TO HONOR KATY DOYLE

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to recognize the exceptional athletic achievements of an outstanding individual, personal friend, and fellow Texan.

Katy Doyle, a member of the Texas A&M track and field team, led her team with an incredible athletic performance in the 2004 Big 12 Outdoor track and field conference championships. In the javelin competition, Doyle's throw of 54.75m put her team in first place in the event, and shattered a conference record that had stood for five years.

Doyle's gold medal performance at the conference championship added to her two previous wins in the same event in 2000 and 2003 conference meets.

Mr. Speaker, being a personal friend of both Katy and her family, I can say her on-field performance is a testament to her character off the field. Coming off a seemingly debilitating injury that kept her out of competition in 2001 and 2002, she persevered and ultimately regained her championship form.

I am honored to give credit to this talented athlete, deserving individual, and great Texan.

**THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
U.P.C. BAR CODE**

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents and friends in Troy, Ohio to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the U.P.C. bar code. When a pack of Wrigley's chewing gum was scanned by a cashier at the Marsh Supermarket in Troy on June 26, 1974, few understood the impact this simple action would have. Thirty years later, we now know.

It's amazing that the 59 black and white bars and 12 numbers of a U.P.C. bar code could have saved consumers, retailers, and manufacturers more than a trillion dollars over these three decades, but it's true. The U.P.C. bar code has revolutionized global commerce, and I am so proud to say it all started back in the state of Ohio.

Mr. Speaker, the Uniform Code Council and Marsh Supermarkets will join together tomorrow to celebrate this 30th Anniversary. Troy's Mayor Michael Beamish will offer a proclamation making June 25, 2004 "U.P.C. Bar Code Day," and since I will be unable to join them, let me use this moment to send my very best to everyone involved in the celebration. From the invention of flight to the use of the very first U.P.C. bar code, Ohio continues to prove itself a true center of innovation.

REGARDING THE SECURITY OF
ISRAEL AND THE PRINCIPLES OF
PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SPEECH OF

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a passionate proponent of achieving a just, lasting and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. I will vote for this resolution, but I have deep reservations about specific aspects of it.

Today, as yesterday, I am in strong support of the Road Map for peace devised by the United States, European Union, United Nations and Russia. As the world's only Superpower, it is the responsibility of the U.S. to work assiduously as an honest and balanced broker in this complex process to bring about a just and fair resolution.

The U.S. can only be effective in our role as mediator if we are able to maintain the trust and confidence of both the Israelis and the Palestinians. To embrace one side to the exclusion of the other is to undermine the credibility of the U.S. in the world, further deepen the divide within the region, compromise the security of Israel, and further endanger U.S. citizens and interests throughout the Middle East.

In his April 14, 2004, letter to Mr. Sharon to which this resolution refers and endorses, President Bush seems to make a troubling shift in the long standing policy of the United States. For years, the U.S. has attempted to facilitate, encourage and promote Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

Now, however, with the issuance of the Bush letter and completely outside of the framework and process of final status negotiations, the United States has approved of Mr. Sharon's unilateral plan involving two very central and sensitive issues—the disposition of Israeli West Bank settlements and the Palestinian refugees' "right of return." To prematurely make significant determinations in favor of one party—the Israelis—without any input from the other—the Palestinians—is, at the very least, imprudent and prejudicial. In my view, this shift will further complicate, frustrate and forestall final status talks.

As stated in an Israel Policy Forum (IPF) commentary, "Shutting the Palestinians out

also means that they incur no new obligations. At a time when Israel needs Palestinian assistance to end terrorism, they are locked out of the room. At a time when America needs the Islamic world to view the United States as not hopelessly biased against it, the Palestinians are given the back of the hand."

In the end, to resolve this two-party conflict requires a two-party commitment. I hope that the Israelis and the Palestinians soon will realize that their future and their fortunes are inextricably linked. As the Road Map envisions, both sides ultimately must reconcile differences, make concessions, accept obligations, and take simultaneous steps for progress and peace. In the words of IPF, "Any successful movement toward an agreement requires Israeli-Palestinian, and not Israeli-U.S., negotiations." I agree.

While the evacuation of Gaza could be a first and positive step towards a just and lasting peace, many other steps must follow. But only a negotiated resolution, involving both the Israelis and the Palestinians, will bring about a just and lasting peace. Unilaterally evacuating Gaza alone will neither stabilize the region nor produce an enduring peace. As President George Bush has said—and President Bill Clinton before him—in the past, only a solution that is "mutually agreeable" to both sides has a realistic chance of long-term survival and success.

It is because I believe deeply in the role of the U.S. as a genuine partner for both sides in the peace process that I remain committed to the Road Map.

DEVELOPMENTS WITH THE LORI
BERENSON CASE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to read this excerpt from "What-ever Happened to Lori Berenson, President Toledo's Trophy Prisoner?" This analysis was prepared by Abigail Jones, Research Associate at the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, and presents factual documentation about the recent developments in the case of my constituent, Lori Berenson, who has been imprisoned for eight and a half years in Peru. During her imprisonment, she has never received a fair trial. I remain hopeful that the Peruvian government will release Lori from prison. It is time for her to come home.

(Excerpt): "Lori Berenson, a 34-year-old New York native, has spent eight-and-a-half years incarcerated in Peru without the benefit of a fair and impartial trial—until now. Berenson's most recent trial was heard on May 7, 2004, in San Jose, Costa Rica before the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the OAS's highest judicial body for the regional organization's member states. The CIDH exerts jurisdiction over OAS members who have ratified the American Convention on Human Rights, which Peru has endorsed. It is of note that this Court does not adjudicate the innocence or guilt of a defendant, but rather evaluates a state's compliance to the tenets of the Convention. The Court consented to hear Berenson's case upon the request of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

(IACHR), after the Peruvian government failed to comply with the Commission's 2002 recommendations calling for the restoration of Berenson's rights, monetary compensation for damages incurred while in prison and a general overhaul of the anti-terrorism laws that have condemned hundreds if not thousands of Peruvian nationals under the Alberto Fujimori regime (1990–2000), to a parody of properly administered justice.

"If Berenson were to be exonerated of her alleged offense, the Peruvian government would be obliged to comply with the Court's judgment, based on Article 68 of the American Convention on Human Rights; this clause asserts that, 'The States party to the Convention undertake to comply with the judgment of the Court in any case to which they are parties.' Former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark represented Berenson throughout the Court proceedings and was assisted by noted criminal and international lawyer Thomas H. Nooter as well as Peruvian lawyer Jose Luis Sandoval Quesada. The Court's ruling will likely be handed down later this year. . . .

"In December of 1994, Berenson allegedly arrived in Peru as a journalist to work for two small American publications, *Modern Times* and *Third World Viewpoint*. On Nov. 30, 1995, the Peruvian police arrested her aboard a public bus on charges of 'treason against the fatherland.' After being illegally interrogated by the police without the benefit of a defense counsel, Berenson appeared before a 'faceless' military court that had a 97 percent conviction rate. In a grossly contrived trial before a hooded military judge who most likely hadn't attended a day of law school, this court sentenced her to life in prison for her suspected leadership position in the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) and for the role she purportedly played in plotting a foiled attempt to abduct members of Peru's Congress. However, after years of outraged international protest over her patently inequitable trial, she continues to serve a 20-year sentence, after a civilian court overturned the '96 supreme military court's decision on the basis of newly obtained evidence that proved she was not a leader of the MRTA. She was then convicted on a lesser offense of abetting a terrorist organization. The civilian court acquitted Berenson of both membership in and militancy with a subversive organization."

INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4548) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2005 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chairman, the list of recognized intelligence failures is depressingly long and still growing. Despite these documented missteps, the House Leadership has produced an Intelligence Authorization bill that says we'll

keep doing more of the same. We'll conduct our intelligence the same way as we have in the past. We'll spend a little more money here, a little less money there, but we'll do the same things we've been doing and do them the same way. And Congress will continue to abdicate its oversight responsibility. That's unacceptable.

Every member of this Congress supports the men and women of our intelligence community who put their lives on the line every day to keep our nation safe. I am a veteran of the intelligence community, having worked at the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research, and I have the utmost respect for our intelligence professionals. However, we do a disservice to their hard work and personal sacrifice if we do not make sure that they have the tools and organizational structure they need to perform their duties successfully.

We all know now that they work within a broken system plagued by miscommunication, lack of coordination, and poor organization. In my view, the worst thing we can do for them is to continue to prop up this broken system. When a ship is sinking, you can either hand out buckets or you can repair the holes. Congress should be in the job of repairing the intelligence community, not bailing it out.

I want to be clear that our intelligence failures are not the fault of the men and women who work in the intelligence community. They are the result of complex, competitive and often redundant organizations that prevent the good work of our intelligence operatives from resulting in good, comprehensive products.

Unfortunately, there is no indication in this bill that we have learned anything from our intelligence mistakes. Nearly 3 years ago, our intelligence services failed to prevent the attacks on the World Trade Center, which took the lives of more than a hundred of my constituents in central New Jersey. An anthrax attack, which originated in my district and which targeted Members of Congress and other innocent citizens, still remains unsolved by the FBI. Today, our soldiers are risking their lives in Iraq after fighting a war to bottle-up weapons of mass destruction that our intelligence services said were there, but were not. The list of failures goes on.

And yet, with this bill, Congress continues to fail to make any reforms of the intelligence community. In fact, there is no indication in this bill that Congress plans to exert any more oversight over the intelligence community to hold it accountable for its performance than it has in years past. That is inexcusable.

In Committee, many of my colleagues and I offered a series of commonsense reforms that would have strengthened intelligence and strengthened oversight. They were all rejected.

For example, one of the reforms included a provision that would have established a special "red-team" that would have been charged with challenging assumptions and poking holes in the so-called "judgments" of the Intelligence Community. In other words, the "red-team" would be our in-house devil's advocate. It would make Intelligence analyses like the National Intelligence Estimate stronger and less subject to misinterpretation or selective editing by providing policy-makers with a new "red team" section where all doubts, con-

cerns, and alternative views are clearly laid out. It would help us make sure that we actually know what we think we know. There was no reason for this reform to be rejected.

Finally, I was horrified that the Majority decided not to allow debate on Mr. Peterson's amendment, which would have fixed a major flaw in this bill. The bill only funds one-third of the critical counterterrorism funds the intelligence agencies say they need. The Peterson amendment would fund 100 percent of the counterterrorism funding needed and would do so now.

Instead, the Majority plans to wait to ask for more money in a supplemental appropriation later this year. However, by funding our intelligence community by supplemental we in Congress will be curbing our own ability to oversee how those funds are spent. We need to give the intelligence community the financial support it needs, but it would be irresponsible for us to give them a blank check and not ask any questions.

As a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, it is my responsibility to make sure that this Congress both exerts the proper oversight over our intelligence community and that the community receives the proper directives and funding to be successful. I cannot in good conscience vote for this bill because it is structured in such a way that will only contribute to more intelligence failures in the future.

HONORING HOLLY WALKER FOR
HER OUTSTANDING SCHOLASTIC
ACHIEVEMENT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to honor an outstanding young woman and student. Holly Walker has received the Discover Card Tribute Award Scholarship. As one of eight Nevada recipients, Holly went on to compete nationally for Discover Card's top scholarship award in which she, along with nine other students from around the country, were awarded an additional scholarship on top of the award received at the state level.

Discover Card awards scholarships to junior high school students based on leadership merit, academic achievements, and the ability to share talents with others while simultaneously overcoming considerable personal challenges. The scholarship can then be used for any type of post-high school education.

I congratulate Holly Walker for this great accomplishment and contribution to the state of Nevada. As one of only nine national recipients, and the only Nevada recipient to receive such an honor, I ask my colleagues to stand with me in recognition of this outstanding high school student.

CONGRATULATING GLORIA
MACAPAGAL ARROYO ON THE
OCCASION OF HER RE-ELECTION
AS PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who was officially proclaimed President of the Philippines yesterday, the 23rd of June, 2004. This election marks a milestone in the politics of the Philippines. It demonstrated that, despite the difficulties that persist in the Philippines, the leadership of the country remains committed to democratic governance.

I have had the pleasure of meeting President Arroyo on two separate occasions. I have also interacted and worked with several members of her cabinet. The Philippines, under the leadership of President Arroyo, has been a steadfast partner of the United States in the War on Terror. While Al-Qaeda has sought to spread its influence, training camps and criminal enterprises into Asia, the government of the Philippines has taken a proactive approach to ensure that international terrorism does not take root in this strong ally of the United States. The government of the Philippines has recently made important strides towards protecting intellectual property rights and other measures that will strengthen trade and contact between our two nations.

Mr. Speaker, as Americans, we have the privilege of living in the world's strongest democracy and as such we, as a nation, often take it upon ourselves to answer freedom's call and point out injustices in the world and, in some occasions, take an active role to bring democracy to those who do not enjoy freedom. While these cases of injustice often command our immediate attention, it is important to note the United States has many friends throughout the world who, like the Philippines, have been there for the United States when we have needed a dependable ally.

The 108th Congress has also acted to strengthen the friendship between our two nations. The aid we provide the Philippines provides important support in the War on Terror and our decision to grant Filipino veterans of World War II the same benefits as the American counterparts with whom they served has gone a long way toward righting an injustice and enhancing the ability of the government of the Philippines to work with the United States on numerous issues of mutual concern.

Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the U.S.-Philippines Friendship Caucus, I congratulate both President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on her re-election to a new term of office and the people of the Philippines for holding a competitive election that demonstrated the vibrant spirit of democracy of the Philippines. I look forward to working with President Arroyo on future projects that benefit both America and the Philippines.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 25, 26, and 27, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

CONGRATULATING DR. IRVIN
HAMLIN**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Irvin Hamlin, M.D. of East Millinocket, Maine who is set to retire after practicing medicine for over 48 years in the Katahdin Region.

After serving his country as a medic in World War II, Dr. Hamlin returned to the states and attended Colby College in Waterville, Maine and completed his medical training at the Tufts University Medical School. Upon graduation from medical school, Dr. Hamlin had a brief internship in Springfield, Ohio and then moved to East Millinocket in 1955, where he has remained ever since.

Dr. Hamlin has always exemplified the qualities of superior citizenship; his dedication to his patients and his community should serve as an example to others. Always one to bring a smile to his patient's faces, Dr. Hamlin's good humor and practical jokes are renowned throughout the region; but his compassion is his most outstanding quality. I have felt this part of his caring in my life when he attended to my own father.

It is always with some lingering sadness that I pass along my best wishes for the retirement of an individual like Dr. Hamlin. Though his retirement is well deserved it also signifies that the Katahdin Region is losing one of its most valued and experienced physicians. While his presence as a physician will be sorely missed; the extra time to spend with his family and fishing in area lakes and streams is long over due. I only ask that he leave some fish for the rest of us to catch.

The Millinocket Regional Hospital for which he worked for so many years will honor Dr. Hamlin next Thursday, July 1, 2004. I am sure the people of the Katahdin region will turn out in droves to congratulate him and thank this wonderful man who has spent so many years serving them.

After 48 outstanding years of dedicated service, it is my great pleasure to congratulate Dr. Hamlin and thank him for his tireless service.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SHEVCHENKO MONUMENT**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, four decades ago, on June 27, 1964, the Ukrainian

American community marked a significant event—the unveiling of a monument to the Great Kobzar, Taras Shevchenko. Taras Hryhorovich Shevchenko, the great Ukrainian poet, artist and thinker, the revolutionary-democrat, and the ardent fighter against tsarism and serfdom. He is considered the great son of the Ukrainian people. As the autocratic government of tsarist Russia attempted to erase Shevchenko's name from people's memory and suppressed all attempts to immortalize in sculpture the image of the poet of genius, the people could not forget this man. The first monument in the country, the bust in marble, to the great Kobzar was set up illegally in 1899 in Kharkov. On March, 24, 1935, it was a great holiday for the people in Kharkov as they joined together for the unveiling of the first legal monument of Shevchenko.

Almost 30 years after the people of Ukraine celebrated their monument, the Ukrainian Americans were able to have a holiday of their own. Through hard work, generosity, and dedication, the Ukrainian American community was able to honor their country's hero with a monument in the Nation's Capitol. Over 100,000 attendees participated in the festivities 40 years ago dedicated to the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko monument. The Ukrainian American community is fortunate to celebrate this significant milestone 40 years later. I am proud to represent an area of Chicago that we call "Ukrainian Village." I want to honor this special day with my constituents and praise the Ukrainian community, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA), the U.S.-Ukrainian Foundation and all the organizations involved in honoring the 40th Anniversary of this special monument.

Mr. Speaker, this monument stands for more than just honoring a great man but also as a way to never forget the struggles and the human rights violations by the former Soviet regime and political repressions against those who struggled for Ukraine's liberation.

REMEMBERING A SOUTH CAROLINA
HERO, THOMAS CAUGHMAN**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on June 9th, one of Lexington, South Carolina's most beloved sons, Army Specialist Thomas Caughman, was lost, when he was killed in a terrorist attack while serving in Iraq.

As Thomas wrote from the field in Iraq, "freedom isn't free." Sadly, his family, friends and fellow South Carolinians have learned this lesson in a painful and personal way. Thomas Caughman was the son of proud parents Hampton and Jane Caughman of Lexington, South Carolina.

Thomas will forever be an American hero for defending the American people in the War on Terror. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest regrets to the family of Thomas Caughman, and the entire Wilson family sends their thoughts and prayers.

I request that the following article from The State newspaper be placed into the RECORD, in remembrance of the fallen hero.

[From the State, June 19, 2004]

WAR IN IRAQ: LEXINGTON BIDS FAREWELL TO A

FALLEN HERO

(By Chuck Crumbo)

When he wrote home, Army Spc. Thomas Caughman would close his letters with these words: "Freedom isn't free."

On Friday, family and friends honored the 20-year-old Lexington County soldier who paid the ultimate price.

About 1,000 crowded into the pews and lined the walls of Red Bank Baptist Church, and another 200 to 300 waited outside in the sweltering heat, as Caughman was remembered as a joyful and religious young man who made others around him feel special and loved.

A large crowd was expected. Caughman was a member of one of Lexington County's best-known families, with ties to banking, retailing and the religious community.

Nearly an hour before the service, traffic was backed up a quarter of a mile on S.C. 6, which runs past the church in the heart of the Red Bank community. After the church parking lot filled up, some mourners had to park across the street in the lot of St. James Lutheran Church.

The turnout would have delighted Caughman, said the soldier's uncle, Glenn Day, who offered personal remarks during the service.

"If he could say something to me right now and come up and do that little backhand on your chest . . . he'd say, 'Look at that crowd I got for you,'" Day said to laughter.

Caughman, a 2002 graduate of Lexington High School, died June 9 while patrolling a Baghdad neighborhood for bombs used to attack U.S. troops.

The Army said Caughman's armored vehicle was struck by rocket-propelled grenades and small arms fire. Two other soldiers in his vehicle also were wounded seriously.

Caughman was assigned to Army Reserve Company C of the 291st Engineer Battalion, based in Spartanburg. He transferred to a Pennsylvania combat engineer unit when it was called up for active duty.

Caughman is the first fatality of the Iraqi war from Lexington County and the 21st member of the armed services with ties to South Carolina to die in the conflict.

Friday's service was a mix of sweet sentiment—about a son, brother, nephew, cousin and soldier—and a dose of unabashed patriotism.

Just after the service started, the Rev. Robert "Butch" Powell asked mourners to salute some 60 members of the U.S. military who attended the funeral, including four dozen members of Caughman's Reserve unit.

Led by the fallen soldier's parents, Hampton and Jane Caughman, mourners stood and offered a thunderous ovation that lasted for 40 seconds.

Later, pictures of Caughman flashed on a screen at the front of the church while country singer Toby Keith's recording of "American Soldier" was played over the public address system.

The pictures covered Caughman's life from toddler to soldier.

There were shots of Caughman as a child at birthday parties, pedaling his red tractor, riding horseback, playing youth league baseball and fishing at the family pond.

There also were pictures of Caughman at his high school graduation flanked by his parents, shots of him and his buddies posing with a buck they had bagged, and images of him in his Army desert togs at the wheel of a Humvee.

Caughman's parents said he loved children and especially relished the time he could spend with his cousins at family outings.

One of those cousins, 6-year-old Hannah Frye, honored Caughman by standing before

the packed church and flawlessly singing Lee Greenwood's patriotic hit, "God Bless the USA." During the service, Day often referred to his nephew's ever-present smile.

"Every time I close my eyes, I see that smile and that smile tells you a lot about a man's spirit," Day said. "I take great pride in being Thomas Caughman's uncle."

The Rev. Powell recalled one of his last conversations with Caughman, before the soldier headed for Iraq. Caughman believed it was his responsibility to fight for the freedom that his family, friends and fellow Americans enjoy, Powell said.

"He told me, 'I'm not married, I don't have any kids. I'm going for those who can't. I'm going because it's right,'" Powell said.

Referring to Caughman's writing "freedom isn't free" in his letters, Powell said, "there is a cost to be paid for freedom and he willingly paid that cost."

"Thomas Caughman was a hero, and so are the others who are still over there. Don't forget them in your prayers."

After the service, mourners filed outside to the church cemetery, where Caughman was laid to rest in a family plot near his grandfather, Raymond B. Day, the church's pastor for 36 years. Caughman received full military honors and was awarded posthumously the Bronze Star for meritorious service and the Purple Heart.

Brig. Gen. Thomas Bryson, deputy commander of the 81st Regional Readiness Command, presented the U.S. flag that draped Caughman's casket to the soldier's parents.

And then, after a final prayer, Hampton and Jane Caughman rose from their seats, stepped to their son's casket and gently patted and rubbed it.

Caughman's 17-year-old sister, Lisa, and his girlfriend, Lindsey Hendrix, followed. Each laid a rose on top of the casket and gave it a soft kiss.

Before the service, Toyanna Frye, who is married to one of the soldier's cousins, talked about Caughman's desire to serve and how he touched others' lives.

"It makes you look at your life and how we need to serve others," Frye said. "I imagine that it was a wonderful day in heaven when he came home."

CONGRATULATING TYLER
TAPPENDORF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Tyler Tappendorf of Belleville, Illinois on winning the National Peace Essay Contest in Illinois.

As my colleagues may know, the essay contest is sponsored by the United States Institute of Peace, an independent, non-partisan federal institution that promotes research, education and training on the prevention, management and peaceful resolution of conflict. First conducted in 1987, the essay contest is the Institute's primary outreach program to high school students.

Contestants this year were asked to analyze the process of rebuilding societies after conflict. Tyler's essay, *Rebuilding from Past Conflicts*, was selected as the best from the state of Illinois. Tyler attends Belleville East High School and plans to attend Valparaiso University and study actuarial science and Spanish.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Tyler the best of luck in the future and again congratulate him on this

great accomplishment, and I am entering his essay into the RECORD so it can be enjoyed by others.

REBUILDING FROM PAST CONFLICTS

From the sheer numbers of a post-war death toll to the immense destruction of buildings and infrastructure, conflicts leave their mark on the world. The work that continues once the fighting has stopped determines whether more problems will erupt or whether an ultimate peace will triumph. This post-war reconstruction is often a complex and difficult process. From the players in the rebuilding to the system of governance, each aspect of reconstruction impacts the final outcome. Though some attempts have failed and others have succeeded, humankind can learn a great deal from past reconstruction efforts. The analysis of the aftermath in Japan after World War II and the reconciliation in Rwanda following the 1994 genocide suggests that plans for successful rebuilding must include a branching network of peacekeepers, an effective system of justice, and an impartial system of governance.

On August 15, 1945, the largest war in the history of the world reached its end onboard the U.S.S. *Missouri* after the United States unleashed on Japan the world's most powerful bombs. According to W. G. Beasley, with the swipe of a pen, the Japanese handed over power to the United States beginning a seven-year occupation feared by many Japanese as the end to their country, but ultimately recognized as "a fresh beginning" (214).

Embarking on what political scientist Robert Ward calls "the single most exhaustively planned operation of massive and externally directed political change in world history," the United States commenced reconstruction with trials of war criminals (Nardo 91). These trials quickly eliminated outside cries for revenge. Concurrently, new officials removed old leaders from the country, and the occupational government forced Emperor Hirohito to resign his position and denounce his supposed godliness (Dilts 294). This eradication of opposition laid the cornerstone for a smooth reconstruction.

Along with the United States' system of justice, the means of governance also helped assure the success of the reconciliation process. W.G. Beasley noted that though the United States controlled the country, it chose to govern indirectly through a modified body of Japanese leaders (215). The government also avoided unpopular laws, therefore evading much opposition (216). In conjunction with this, the U.S. also reassured safety and the betterment of the people. This not only initiated future friendliness, but also generated cooperation by the Japanese people (Dilts 294). In ruling through the country's own people and recognizing the citizen's views, reconstruction planted democracy while still maintaining support of the people.

Together with fair governance, a primary country controlling the process eased the reconstruction. As noted in *Modern Japan*, numerous countries such as Britain, China, and the Soviet Union would have an influence in the reconstruction, but the large majority of the power fell into the hands of the United States and General Douglas MacArthur (92). This separation between major and minor influences resulted in easier governance along with fewer disputes over insignificant details. By simply gathering the world's suggestions and channeling them through one enforcer, the reconstruction leaders simplified the process.

With a system of justice, a fair and respected government, a purpose of overall improvement, and one major peacekeeper

backed by other nations, the peacekeeping process reached its ultimate goal on April 28, 1952. With over fifty nations present, a treaty granted Japan freedom to pursue democracy peacefully and prosperously. Over fifty years later, Japan reigns as a world power while still remaining a peaceful, democratic nation.

Similar to Japan, Rwanda faced a massive reconstruction following its 1994 genocide. Unfortunately, its outcome proved to be less successful. In April 1994, the murder of Rwanda's Hutu president, coupled with an unsettled past, instantly incited Rwanda's two tribes—the Hutu and Tutsi—to violence. As reported by Bitala, the Hutu, with revenge in mind, murdered nearly 800,000 Tutsi in a span of about three months (6). Though the Tutsi also murdered many Hutu, the numbers of their killing was significantly lower than the genocide carried out by the Hutu (Santoro 11). The violence only reached its end after the Tutsi-led government, the RPF, gained control of the capital (11).

In a 2001 issue of *World Press Review*, Michael Bitala also noted that almost immediately the remaining Tutsi pleaded for the RPF to implement a system of justice (6). These requests forced Rwanda's minister of justice to lock up over 100,000 suspects, and, consequently, Rwanda's prisons immediately became overcrowded and unsanitary (6). In order to achieve actual justice, leaders derived a new system called "gacaca" in which small village courts would hear cases. Discussed in *The New Republic*, here at the gacacas the killers would face a panel of village leaders who would decide their fate (11). Though the plan began over three years ago, Rwanda has since made little progress (11). Many killers refuse to admit their crimes, many villages simply do not use gacacas, and many RPF leaders discourage the tribunals (11–12). Though the new system of justice in Rwanda can accommodate the masses, it unfavorably plots killers versus victims therefore destroying any hope of fair trials.

Together with a poor justice system, the government, led by the RPF plays unfairly to the Hutu, disrupting hopes of reconciliation. From its beginnings in 1994, the RPF-led government quieted nearly all resistance to its policies. According to Santoro, the totalitarian regime even hindered the planned gacacas (12). In mid-2003 the first election with more than one political party was held in Rwanda, yet despite this apparent improvement, election fraud in all forms belied the progress proving once again the authoritarianism of the government (Coleman n. pag.). Without a government willing to benefit all people of the reconstruction, little progress can be made.

The division of authority among participants in Rwanda's reconciliation also has hindered its success. As written by Fedarko, immediately following the genocide, French troops served as protectors to the survivors (56). Following this the German government agreed to lead the process for gacacas (Santoro 11). Numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs) played a similar role throughout the peace process as well (11). All these forces coupled with the Tutsi-led government created an overload of influence without one primary overseer. No government—besides the RPF—was in complete control. Without one dominating mediator, the process was delayed and complicated.

Rwanda, despite its many efforts, has not reconciled completely. Although no formal fighting has since broken out, the Hutu and Tutsi tribes still stand divided inside the country's borders. Until Rwanda can establish an effective system of justice along with an unbiased government, little progress will occur.

Though the reconstruction efforts in Japan and Rwanda contrasted in many aspects, society can learn many of the same lessons from them. First, both wars present evidence that reconstruction must include an effective system of justice. An international group, such as the United Nations, must establish a permanent world court that reviews major war crimes. This court should consist of judges from numerous nations and serve as the authority over post-war justice. Impartiality must be maintained. Along with this, the reconstruction government must establish lesser courts within the damaged country to deal with lesser criminals. Only justice can suppress victims calling for revenge and remove insurgents opposing peace. Hence, a system of justice allows for a smoother rebuilding process.

Along with a system of justice, one major authority should control reconstruction, although numerous others should have an input on large decisions. Through this branching system, reconstruction becomes more effective and efficient. When one government enforces policies and bears the final authority decisions avoid delays in arguments. The other players, however, must choose the country or NGO to become the primary force. This chosen group must seek to benefit the war-torn country and its people. Similarly, the ultimate goal of the main regulator must focus on plans for a peaceful future as well as reconstruction of structures and government.

Finally, the players must institute a reasonable and impartial government. Though the major authority should assist the new government, the ruling body should consist only of natives. This prevents opposition to outside governments and eventually encourages self-rule. In conjunction with this, the new or revised government must recognize the needs and wants of the citizens. Governments must also establish fair laws as well as democratic elections and processes. If at any time the reconstruction leaders feel that the new government is failing, then they should have authority to revise or remove it. Through an evenhanded government, a country can reestablish itself while protecting the rights of its citizens.

With the implementation of a primary reconstruction leader, an operative system of justice, and an impartial government, post-war countries can begin to rebuild more effectively. Though numerous others aspects will also dictate the ultimate success of the process, these three areas will only benefit the reconciliation. Assuredly reconstructions will remain a part of society in the future because countries will continue to fight numerous wars and battles for years to come. Though conflicts will continue to arise, mankind can learn from the past in order to protect peace for the future.

IN MEMORY OF JACQUELINE
ALTMAN MALLORY

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a good friend, a community leader, a wonderful wife and mother, and devoted American, Jackie Mallory.

Jacqueline Altman Mallory of New Smyrna Beach, Florida died June 23, 2004, in Port Orange, Florida. She was born in Homestead, Florida on August 27, 1936.

She was a graduate of New Smyrna Beach Senior High School. She received a degree in

early childhood elementary education in 1957 from Florida State University. She was a member of the Delta Gamma sorority and was a member of the theater dance group. She taught school in Boston, Massachusetts and Sanford, Florida.

In 1974, Jackie earned a nursing degree from Daytona Beach Community College and worked as a registered nurse.

Active in civic affairs, Jackie was on the Board of the Southeast Volusia Hospital District at the time of her death. She also served in that capacity under Governor Bob Martinez. Recently, a building at Bert Fish Medical Center was designated to be named in her honor.

She was a member of the Smyrna Yacht Club; a member and past president of the Southeast Volusia Republican Club; a former member of the Volusia County Republican Executive Committee; a former board member of the Visiting Nurses Association, the Volusia/Flagler Red Cross, and the Space Coast Lung Association. She was active in numerous American Cancer Society Fund Raisers; was on the founding committee for the Atlantic Center for the Arts and Images; and was a cheerleading coach for the Southeast Volusia Athletic Association. She was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

She is survived by her husband, Peter, a son, Peter and his wife Sherri of Panama City; a daughter, Betsy Visconti and her husband Joseph of Titusville; a brother, Vernon Altman and his wife Mary Lee of Palo Alto, California; a sister, J'neese Strozier and her husband Thomas of Miami and New Smyrna Beach; and two grandchildren, Mallory Marie Pumphrey of Titusville and Mary Christine Mallory of Panama City.

Florida and the New Smyrna Beach area have lost a community leader. The Mallory Family has lost a loved one. I have lost a special friend whom it has been my honor and privilege to know.

A TRIBUTE TO JACK VALENTI

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege for me to pay tribute today to one of Texas' favorite native sons, Jack Valenti, the head of the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) for 38 years, who announced that he plans to retire in a few months.

Born in Houston, Texas, Mr. Valenti was the youngest graduate from high school at age 15 in the city. He began work as an office boy with the Humble Oil Company now Exxon located near my Congressional district.

As a young pilot in the Army Air Corps in World War II, Lieutenant Valenti flew 51 combat missions as the pilot-commander of a B-25 attack bomber with the 12th Air Force in Italy. He was decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with four clusters, the Distinguished Unit Citation with one cluster, the European Theater Ribbon with four battle stars.

He graduated with a B.A. from the University of Houston and from Harvard University with an M.B.A. In 1952, he co-founded the advertising and political consulting agency of

Weekley & Valenti, which was in charge of press during President Kennedy and Vice President Johnson's eventful visit to Texas.

Mr. Valenti was in the motorcade (six cars back of the president) in Dallas on November 22, 1963. Within an hour of the assassination of John F. Kennedy, Mr. Valenti was aboard Air Force One flying back to Washington with the new president as the first newly hired special assistant to President Johnson.

Mr. Speaker, it was almost 38 years and 22 days ago today that Mr. Valenti retired from his post as special assistant to Lyndon Johnson and became the President of MPAA.

In his position as President and Chief Executive Officer of the MPAA, Mr. Valenti has presided over tremendous worldwide changes in the industry. New technologies, the rise in importance of international markets, and the tyranny of piracy have radically changed the landscape of the American film and television industry. It is Mr. Valenti's leadership and personal efforts that led the confrontation with these global dangers, problems and opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, our communities and our country have always relied on the contributions of those individuals who have the ability to rise above and beyond the call of duty to make a difference in the lives of others, both personally and professionally. Jack Valenti has demonstrated an unflinching and tireless commitment to the betterment of the U.S. movie industry and the entire Nation.

Indeed, we need more people with his vision and energy to tackle the vast challenges we all face. It is reported in the print media that Mr. Valenti will continue his distinguished service to the people of this Nation as the president of a new Washington, DC-based not-for-profit group aimed at supporting the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

When someone leaves a post of importance, it is often said that his or her shoes will be hard to fill. But I can say without hesitation that, in Jack Valenti's case, this is an understatement. In addition to his excellent work on behalf of the movie industry, his influence has been felt far and wide—from the leaders of nations abroad, to young generation here at home.

Mr. Speaker, I would like this opportunity to thank one of Texas' favorite native sons, Jack Valenti for his years of contributions and dedicated service to the industry and the Nation. I wish him well on his future endeavors.

REVISING THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005 AS IT APPLIES IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, budgeting is all about priorities. I strongly believe that we can invest in those priority programs important to people in western Wisconsin and throughout the nation, while reducing the record deficits that threaten our economic prosperity.

As a member of the House Budget Committee, I worked with my colleagues to draft an

alternative budget proposal that would have done just that. Our alternative provided important funding for chronically underfunded education programs such as No Child Left Behind and IDEA. The federal government promised that when these programs went into effect, it would provide funding to carry them out. Under the President's budget and the Majority's budget, we are not meeting this promise, and it is hurting local school districts.

Our alternative budget also provided increased funding to meet the demands on our local first responders, provide more for veterans' health care needs, and improve the quality of life for our armed service members. Further, by making tough choices on spending and taxes, we provided more tax relief for middle income Americans while reducing the record federal budget deficits. We can do this if we can work in a bipartisan manner. Unfortunately, the budget resolution narrowly passed by the House earlier this year failed to make these key investments while still leading us down the road to the largest budget deficits in the history of our nation.

Today, we have been given the opportunity to address our budget shortfalls. The resolution offered by Congressman OBEY targets increased funding toward ten top priority issues, while providing \$4.7 billion to reduce future taxes on our children resulting from the these current budget deficits.

The Obey resolution:

Restores funding for training and equipment needs of state and local fire fighters, police, paramedics, public health officials, and emergency managers.

Fully funds veterans medical care at levels advocated by the bipartisan House Veterans Affairs Committee. Veterans organizations expressed outrage at the inadequate healthcare funding levels included in the Majority's budget.

Adds funding for military housing needs to help the families of our armed service members. The Department of Defense notes that over 120,000 service members do not have decent housing.

Funds the No Child Left Behind program.

Meets the minimum funding necessary to meet promises for special education.

Increases Pell Grants to more closely resemble inflation increases, helping lower income student afford college.

This is by no means unnecessary or wasteful spending. It simply restores cuts to programs important to the people of western Wisconsin and provides adequate levels of funding to meet government promises.

It is also fully paid for. As I mentioned earlier, budgeting is about tough choices, and included in this resolution is a reasonable trade off. In order to provide this important funding for military service members, students, veterans, and local first responders, the resolution propose reducing future tax relief for those wealthiest Americans with over \$1 million in annual adjusted gross income. The tax packages of 2001 and 2003 included enormous benefits for the wealthiest 1 percent of Americans. The Obey proposal will keep many of these tax provisions in place. In fact, those with annual adjusted gross incomes over \$1 million will still get around \$24,000 in tax relief if this resolution is passed.

Contrary to the rhetoric coming from the other side, this will not hurt the vast majority of small business owners. This resolution only

impacts those with over \$1 million in adjusted gross income. I know and work with many business owners in western Wisconsin, and this resolution will provide more help to them and their communities.

Mr. Speaker, we need a new approach to help our local communities and this resolution provides important funding to meet critical priorities. I urge my colleagues to support the Obey resolution.

RECOGNIZING AND ENCOURAGING ALL AMERICANS TO OBSERVE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATHS OF ANDREW GOODMAN, JAMES CHANEY, AND MICHAEL SCHWERNER, CIVIL RIGHTS ORGANIZERS

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the 40th anniversary of the deaths of Mr. James Chaney, Mr. Andrew Goodman, and Mr. Andrew Schwerner. I submit the following speech by former Mississippi Secretary of State Dick Molpus published June 25, 2004, in the *Clarion-Ledger Newspaper of Jackson Mississippi*.

To the families and friends of James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Mickey Schwerner we issue a heartfelt welcome. You and yours are forever linked with all of us. We are honored today by your presence.

Also, as I look across this audience I see people I know from across Mississippi and the United States. I am lifted up by your presence, as well.

This is an historic day for a number of reasons. First, we are seeing a remarkable display of unity and connection from the citizens of Philadelphia and Neshoba County. In the June 2 edition of the *Neshoba Democrat* I saw a picture of Leroy Clemons, president of the NAACP, with Jim Prince, editor of the *Neshoba Democrat*, saying clearly this community has come together and it was time for the "sun to shine through the clouds."

There is no doubt that the work of the Philadelphia Coalition is nothing short of a miracle. I watched with pride as Mayor Rayburn Waddell of Philadelphia spoke for the Philadelphia City Council in passing an unequivocal resolution calling for justice and as the Neshoba County Board of Supervisors, led by James Young, issued their own clear call. The power of human understanding has been shown to us by the 30 individuals who have met every Monday night for two months to plan this event and authored their own eloquent and moving tribute to Messrs. Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman. I am more proud of the leadership in my hometown than at any time in my life.

I believe, however, until justice is done, we are all at least somewhat complicit in those deaths. I recognize that only a handful of hate-filled men actually committed the murders, but we are all, to some degree, implicated. Some will say, "How can that be? Why can't we just move on?" Most weren't members of the Klan, those of you under 40 weren't even born and many of the baby-boomers, myself included, were teenagers. Many of our older citizens would never have ridden the dirt roads to terrorize and they don't condone murder.

But all us who are Neshoba Countians or Mississippians have to acknowledge and face

our corporate responsibility in this tragedy and I'm not talking about some fruitless and useless intellectual effort to assign guilt or blame.

The debate about who could have or should have done what in 1964 could go on forever. It's a discussion that carries us no where—there is no resolution. But that does not mean we can move on by ignoring where we are in 2004.

One fact is absolutely clear. Hear this: For 40 years, our state judicial system has allowed murderers to roam our land. Night riders, church burners, beaters and killers deserve no protection from sure justice.

Our district attorney, Mark Duncan, is elected by Neshoba citizens and those in four adjoining counties. Jim Hood, our attorney general, is elected by all Mississippians. Our U.S. attorney, Dunn Lampton, is appointed by the president of the United States, an election we all vote in. These are not weak, timid or cowardly men. They have all voiced their support for bringing charges with proven evidence that will lead to a conviction.

But our local responsibility for what happens in the future is also heavy. Clearly, we need to encourage and support those prosecutors. But those of us with local roots must do more.

By most accounts there were 20 men from Neshoba and Lauderdale Counties involved in the planning and actual executions. A number of them have taken to their grave their knowledge of this crime. They have already had their judgment day. Others, however, certainly told wives, children and buddies of their involvement.

So there must be witnesses among us who can share information with prosecutors. Other murderers are aged and infirm and may want to be at peace with themselves and with God before their own deaths. They need to be encouraged to come forward. Now is the time to expose those dark secrets.

When we have heard murderers brag about their killings but pretend those words were never spoken, when we know about evidence to help bring justice, but refuse to step forward and tell authorities what they need to know ... that's what makes us in 2004 guilty. Pretending this didn't happen makes us complicit. We must provide the help prosecutors need to bring closure to this case.

But justice by itself is not enough. These three young men died while urging people to vote and participate in our democracy. James Chaney, Mickey Schwerner and Andy Goodman were American patriots. Their murderers were domestic terrorists.

The end of this saga, however, should not be about cowardly racists finally brought to justice. The final chapter should be about redemption and about moving on—moving on to a better life. The most lasting tribute we can make to these fallen heroes is to move on and to honor their cause.

This is 2004, not 1964. Many of the demons we face today are similar to the ones 40 years ago. True, African Americans have the right to vote, but too few of our citizens—black, white, Indian, Asian or Hispanic—use that right. Public schools were segregated in 1964. With the growth of segregation academies and white flight, many remain that way now. Few politicians today use outright race-baiting, but we see the symbols some use and the phrases they utter and everyone knows what the code is—what really is being said.

In 1964 there was a dependence on low-wage jobs in manufacturing plants. Forty years later, most of the plants are gone, but too many still scrape by on dead-end jobs to make ends meet. Black, white and Choctaw Indian communities here in Neshoba County and Mississippi struggle with the scourge of school dropouts, teen pregnancy and drug

abuse that keep the cycle of poverty unbroken. To build a lasting monument to James Chaney, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman, we must face these issues with a clear, unblinking eye and say "no more."

And finally, we Mississippians must announce to the world what we've learned in 40 years. We know today that our enemies are not each other. Our real enemies are ignorance, illiteracy, poverty, racism, disease, unemployment, crime, the high dropout rate, teen pregnancy and lack of support for the public schools.

We can defeat all those enemies not as divided people—black or white or Indian—but as a united force banded together by our common humanity, by our own desire to lift each other up.

Forty years from now, I want our children and grandchildren to look back on us and what we did and say that we had the courage, the wisdom and the strength to rise up, to take the responsibility to right historical wrongs—that we pledged to build a future together, we moved on. Yes, we moved on as one people.

Dick Molpus, a former secretary of state and gubernatorial candidate, owns the Molpus Woodlands Group, a timberland investment company in Jackson.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
FORMER CLEVELAND MAYOR
RALPH S. LOCHER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, we rise today in honor and remembrance of former Cleveland Mayor Ralph S. Locher—Devoted family man, accomplished attorney, Ohio Supreme Court justice, community leader, and admired friend and mentor. Mr. Locher's term as Mayor of the City of Cleveland during a turbulent period of Cleveland's history, solidified his reputation as a man of honesty, integrity and heart.

Mayor Locher was born in Romania to American parents. His family left Europe to return to America, settling in western Ohio. Mayor Locher graduated from Bluffton College in 1936 and graduated from Western University School of Law three years later. He practiced law in Cleveland with Davis & Young until 1945, when he left for Columbus to accept the position of secretary of the Industrial Commission of Ohio.

His political career began in 1953, when Mayor Locher was appointed by Cleveland Mayor Anthony Celebrezze as the city law director. Mayor Locher did not seek elected office—it sought him. In 1962, Mayor Celebrezze resigned his post to accept an appointment by President John F. Kennedy, which immediately plunged Mr. Locher into the role as Mayor of Cleveland. Mayor Locher significantly trounced his opponent at the special election, and ran unopposed for a full term the next year.

Following his departure from office, Mayor Locher went on to be elected as probate judge in 1972. In 1976, Mayor Locher was elected as an Ohio Supreme Court justice, where he served until retiring from the bench in 1988. Mayor Locher served the bench with honor, integrity and concern, and garnered the admiration and respect of everyone associated with the court.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join us in honor, gratitude and remembrance of Mayor Ralph S. Locher—An outstanding citizen, devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, and an exceptional man and caring leader whose life positively impacted the lives of countless. We extend our deepest condolences to Mayor Locher's beloved wife, Eleanor, his daughter, Virginia Wells, and his grandson, and great-granddaughter. His passing marks a deep loss for so many of us who called him friend. Mayor Locher's flawless legacy of exceptional leadership, judicial integrity and sincere concern for others will be remembered always by the people of Cleveland—and far beyond. Moreover, his kindness, grace, and quiet dignity will always serve as example of a successful leader and more importantly—an exceptional human being.

APPLAUDING BETTY DUKES FOR
HER COURAGE IN STANDING UP
FOR WOMEN WORKERS AT WAL-
MART

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, last month, Vice President DICK CHENEY visited the corporate headquarters of Wal-Mart and praised the company for the example it is setting for American business. Here is the example that Wal-Mart has set for American business:

If you violate workers' organizing rights, you can get away with it, receiving just a slap on the wrist from weak and ineffective federal labor laws.

If you shift the cost of health care onto workers who cannot afford it, you can increase your profits and have taxpayer-funded programs like SCHIP pick up the tab.

If you distrust your own workforce enough to disregard their safety, you can lock them inside your store overnight without a key.

If you want to increase the wealth of one of the wealthiest families in the world, you can maintain the lowest wages in the industry, laying off your most senior and loyal employees and replacing them with lower-paid entry-level workers.

If you want to eliminate competition in your industry by lowering your wages and prices, you can force U.S. suppliers to outsource their manufacturing jobs, so that you can reap the benefit of cheap labor from countries with even worse workers' rights records than our own.

All of these reprehensible labor practices are detailed in the February 2004 report which I commissioned, "Everyday Low Wages: The Hidden Price We All Pay for Wal-Mart." I urge Vice President CHENEY to read it.

Today I submit to you, contrary to the Vice President's remarks, that the employees of Wal-Mart are beginning to set an example for American workers—by fighting back on behalf of themselves and others who are unfairly treated by their employer. This week, as the attached L.A. Times article explains, a judge in California certified the largest employment-discrimination class action in history. A class of 1.5 million women who have worked at Wal-Mart are suing the retail giant for sex dis-

crimination. According to papers submitted in court, female employees are paid less than their male counterparts, promoted less frequently than their male counterparts, and retaliated against when they complain. In today's workplace—all too often rife with employer threats and intimidation—it takes a great deal of courage from workers to stand up for their rights. So I rise to salute one of those workers, a brave woman from my home district,

Betty Dukes of Pittsburg, California, one of the lead plaintiffs in this historic lawsuit. She has worked at Wal-Mart for ten years and simply wants a fair opportunity to succeed. She is now standing up for over a million other women who have punched the cash registers, stocked the shelves, and greeted customers for years without that opportunity. Her courage is to be commended. And I hail her as an American hero.

[From the LA Times, June 24, 2004]

WAL-MART PLAINTIFF STILL LOVES THE STORE: WORKER WHO IS SPEARHEADING A LANDMARK GENDER BIAS SUIT SAYS SHE JUST WANTS A CHANCE TO ADVANCE

(By Donna Horowitz, Eric Slater and Lee Romney)

Pittsburg, CA.—Less than 24 hours after a federal judge ruled that 1.5 million women who have worked for Wal-Mart could pursue a class-action gender discrimination suit, the lead plaintiff in the case was back on the job here Wednesday nattily dressed, quick with a smile and talking about how much she likes the company she's suing.

All Betty Dukes wanted, the 10-year veteran of the company said, was "the opportunity to advance myself with Wal-Mart."

On Tuesday, U.S. District Judge Martin J. Jenkins in San Francisco ruled that the suit originally filed by Dukes and five other women could be expanded to virtually every woman who has worked at the world's largest company since late 1998. The suit alleges that Wal-Mart pays women less than men for performing the same job, passes over women to promote less-qualified men and retaliates against women who complain.

The judge's ruling set the stage for what could be the giant retailer's greatest test ever. The sheer number of plaintiffs means that a loss or even a settlement could cost the company billions of dollars.

As Dukes was receiving minor-celebrity treatment from customers and co-workers—"Did you see my story in the paper today?" she asked customers, holding up a copy of a local newspaper—officials from the Arkansas retail colossus emphasized that Tuesday's ruling did not address the merits of the case and said it would do nothing to influence the company's plans to expand in California and elsewhere.

"It really doesn't change anything," said Robert McAdam, the firm's vice president for state and local government relations. "Nothing is different as it relates to our development plans or our prospects for growth in the state."

The company has weathered a series of high-profile tests, most recently in Inglewood, where Wal-Mart went so far as to ask voters to allow a Supercenter in their community only to be rejected. At the same time, other communities in the state have actively courted the retailer.

As Dukes smiled and welcomed customers to the store in this town of 48,000 about 40 miles northeast of San Francisco, many of the mixed emotions that Wal-Mart tends to evoke were in evidence around her.

Lozell Belarde, 39, seemed to embody the dichotomy of some customers.

"I really don't even like the store," said the property manager after a short shopping

spreed. "I don't like the company. They don't treat their employees right. They don't even treat the customer right.

"But," she added, "the price is reasonable."

Holly Hamilton pushed her shopping cart through the parking lot looking not unlike an ad for Wal-Mart. In her cart was almost everything the 27-year-old nurse would need for an upcoming camping trip: a fishing pole, beach towels, food and bottled water, all gathered at a single store for hard-to-beat prices.

Like many customers outside the Pittsburgh store Wednesday, Hamilton did not know about Tuesday's ruling, but when told, she expressed some concern and said she might consider shopping elsewhere if a court determined the company discriminated against women.

During an afternoon break, Dukes, dressed in a black and tan outfit with a billowing red scarf, turned an upside down shopping cart into an impromptu chair.

"Wish you the best of luck, sweetie," a male customer called to Dukes in the store parking lot.

Dukes was hired at Wal-Mart a decade ago, with grand plans for a quick move up the ladder into management. Instead, she says, she was passed over for promotions repeatedly, as men with less experience landed the job.

But she makes \$12.53 an hour—an increase of more than 25% in the three years since the lawsuit was filed, thanks to generous raises. A volunteer minister, Dukes likes most of her co-workers and bosses, who "respect my right to pursue this matter." She likes most of the customers, most parts of the job. She works at Wal-Mart and shops at Wal-Mart, and loves the prices.

"All we're asking for is our day in court, and to let the evidence speak for itself."

The ruling, in which Jenkins said the "evidence raises an inference that Wal-Mart engages in discriminatory practices in compensation and promotion that affect all plaintiffs in a common manner," however, is by no means the company's first considerable trial. And even as the number of Wal-Mart critics appears to be growing, so does the number of its defenders—and so does the company's reach.

One of the company's previous blows came in April, when Inglewood voters soundly defeated a sweeping initiative that would have allowed the company to build a Supercenter the size of 17 football fields without going through the traditional layers of city bureaucracy.

The company spent more than \$1 million in its failed effort to pass the initiative, buying television commercials and handing out doughnuts, all for an election that drew just 12,000 voters. Opponents spent a fraction of that amount and won the contest, about 7,000 casting ballots against the proposal and 4,500 in favor.

The contest's David vs. Goliath overtones ripped across the country. On paper, however, the defeat cost the company but a single Supercenter.

And the company, which opened its first Supercenter in the state this spring in La Quinta, southeast of Palm Springs, has plans for 40 more across California, including stores in Stockton and Hemet expected to open this year.

The Supercenters are the company's most controversial because of their size, averaging 200,000 square feet, and the fact that they stock groceries.

Wal-Mart pays its employees, male and female, less than many other similar retail outlets as well as grocery stores. The so-called Wal-Mart effect—the company's ability to undercut competitors with its lower

wages and prices—helped trigger the longest grocery store strike in Southern California last year as some grocers sought wage and benefit concessions they said were needed to compete with the Supercenters.

Although the company lost its Inglewood battle, and as many California cities, including Los Angeles, have passed ordinances that effectively ban such massive "box stores," the company has found open arms in many other parts of the state. Some describe the Inglewood opposition, the lawsuit and other attacks on the company as knee-jerk bashing of a successful corporation.

In Gilroy, where the City Council voted 5 to 2 in March to approve a Supercenter, Wal-Mart proponents wrote off the news of the lawsuit ruling as legal hullabaloo.

"Certification of a class-action suit is easy to do," said Bill Lindsteadt, executive director of the Gilroy Economic Development Corp., which embraces the new center. "It's frivolous. It's another ploy by the unions to force Wal-Mart to become union."

While heated fights over proposed Supercenters are playing out across the state, some observers say the company is facing increasing difficulties as it moves from rural and suburban markets into urban areas—and that Tuesday's ruling may increase opposition.

As Wal-Mart moves "from the suburban fringe and really starts to look more in urban areas . . . they're encountering a different level of concern and opposition than they were when they were building out amid the strip malls," said Amaha Kassa, co-director of the East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy. "These kinds of issues of pay equity and disparate treatment are very much going to be issues of concern for urban voters."

RECOGNIZING SANDCASTLE DAYS IN IMPERIAL BEACH, CALIFORNIA

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a country of patriots. A nation entering a hot summer, full of turmoil and uncertainty.

The coming three months will be marked by many significant world events; the transfer of sovereignty in Iraq, the Olympic games in Greece, an escalating November election at home.

The world will spin a little faster this summer and to compensate we must all pull together as a nation.

It is time for us to reconnect, to remind ourselves what it is that makes us uniquely American.

We are all neighbors, and that which divides us will never outshine that which unites us.

We are all neighbors, and for that reason I share with the community what is happening in my yard this summer.

In one month time the 28,000 residents of Imperial Beach, California will be holding their city's 48th birthday commemoration.

Proudly anchored as the country's most southwesterly city, this diverse seaside town is preparing to celebrate the same way it has for the past quarter-century. Come early July, the city of Imperial Beach will be holding its 24th annual U.S. Open Sandcastle Competition.

For three days, creativity and civic pride will be honored. In addition to the sand-sculpting

contest, festivities will include a community ball, street parade, and nighttime fireworks display over the Pacific.

The weekend long celebration will draw over 250,000 spectators. People will swarm the sand to see creations that will not last the next tide. In the spirit of ingenuity, modern marvels of dirt will be erected and destroyed in an afternoon's time.

For three days the sun will shine and the children will smile. The world will slow in this corner of the country and we will celebrate the anniversary of a city, the essence of a nation.

We are a "can do" people, but that does not mean we should have to do it alone.

My district is only 1 of 435, and so I ask my fellow Representatives in the House, what is your District doing this summer? Let us share in this most public of forums, that which unites us as a country.

We are each other's neighbors and we should not let an opportunity to come together pass us by. The world will seem a smaller and safer place if we know what is happening in our own backyards.

So as summer quickly comes to our countryside, let us give voice to our originality, and champion all that makes our society truly extraordinary.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE TARAS SHEVCHENKO MONUMENT

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on June 26, 2004, the Ukrainian American community will be celebrating the 40th jubilee commemoration of the unveiling of the monument to Taras Shevchenko, known as the bard of Ukraine for his exquisite lyric poetry and numerous novels, as well as his many works of art.

Taras Shevchenko was born in the Kyiv region in 1814 to a childhood of servitude and a life of hardship. He first worked as a houseboy until his owner realized his artistic talent, after which he was apprenticed to a painter. His freedom was purchased in 1838 by another painter who appreciated Mr. Shevchenko's work.

An ardent champion of freedom and Ukrainian independence, Taras Shevchenko saw George Washington as a symbol and liberator of the American people from the colonial rule of a foreign power. Mr. Shevchenko's works played a key role in the awakening and drive for national liberation of the Ukrainian people. In his poems, he attacked tyrants, oppressors and all enemies of human freedom and decency.

Mr. Shevchenko's love of freedom and criticism of the czars resulted in his arrest in 1847. He was first sentenced to forced military duty, and later imprisonment, where he remained in Russian custody until his release in 1857, two years after the death of Czar Nicholas. He was arrested again in 1859 and remained under police surveillance until his death in 1861.

Years of harsh punishment did nothing to curtail his fight against the imperialist and colonial occupation of his native land. Mr. Shevchenko secretly produced numerous

works of poetry and art throughout his term of imprisonment which inspired the Ukrainian people.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that a statue honoring a man who fully embraced the ideals of personal freedom and human dignity, cornerstones of our country, should stand in the United States. I congratulate the Ukrainian American community on celebrating the 40th anniversary of the dedication of the Taras Shevchenko monument.

PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE INTERROGATION STANDARDS ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2004

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Promoting Responsible Interrogation Standards Enforcement Act of 2004" or "PRISE Act," legislation that reaffirms the United States' longstanding commitment to refrain from engaging in torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. I am joined by Representatives LOFGREN, MEEHAN, WATERS and SANCHEZ.

This nation's foreign and military policies have been substantially undermined as a result of the Iraqi prisoner and detainee abuse scandals. The PRISE Act is designed to prevent similar abuses from occurring. In doing so, the legislation takes several important steps.

First, it codifies the United States' legal and international treaty obligations with respect to the prohibition on the use of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Second, the bill directs the Secretary of Defense to issue guidelines to ensure compliance with this obligation. Third, in the unfortunate event that a member of the Armed Forces or Department of Defense contractor violates this prohibition, the bill requires the Defense Secretary to submit to Congress, in a manner that protects national security, a report highlighting the details of such violations. Finally, it closes a loophole created by the PATRIOT Act that may allow torture at U.S. military facilities overseas.

As we continue to define our values as a country, we must make it abundantly clear that we will not compromise our principles. The use of torture is not only wrong, but it is an ineffective interrogation tactic because it produces unreliable information. People who are being tortured will often lie to their interrogator in order to stop the pain.

I am hopeful that Congress can move quickly to enact this worthwhile and timely legislation.

CORRECTING ENROLLMENT OF S. 2238, THE BUNNING-BEREUTER-BLUMENAUER FLOOD INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2004

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 2238, the Bunning-Bereuter-

Blumenauer Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004. This important piece of legislation not only reauthorizes the National Flood Insurance Program through September 30, 2008, but also makes much-needed reforms that will help the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) stem wasteful use of taxpayer funds on properties that flood over and over again.

By now most Members are well aware of the long road we have traveled in developing this legislation. After years' worth of discussions with floodplain managers, taxpayer groups, environmental groups, insurance professionals and the housing industry, the House Financial Services Committee passed H.R. 253 by a unanimous, bipartisan vote on July 23, 2003. The bill was subsequently passed in the House by an overwhelming margin on November 20, 2003. The National Flood Insurance Program is now set to expire on June 30, 2004; it is critical that we act on this bill today.

Thanks to the hard work of my colleagues, there should be no doubt that this legislation will receive a favorable vote once again. The Senate bill is, in most respects, identical to the one we passed here in the House. That bill, H.R. 253, authorized funds to address severe repetitive loss properties for both the existing Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program and authorized a new pilot program to address these properties. Under the House bill, this trial pilot program addressed the properties in a simple, straightforward manner: the owner of a severe repetitive loss property would be charged a rate closer to the actuarial, risk-based rates for their national flood insurance policy if certain conditions were met. Safeguards were built into the system to ensure that homeowners would be protected. Through our bill, the number of repetitive flood loss properties would be decreased because FEMA would have the money and the means to take care of them.

S. 2238 adds a title creating certain policyholder protections designed to ensure swift action for the payment of claims in the event of a flood. In addition, the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will be tasked with promulgating regulations outlining an appeals process for policyholders with respect to claims, proofs of loss, and loss estimates related to flood insurance policies. And at the request of FEMA, the Senate has made minor changes regarding implementation of the flood mitigation programs originally set forth in the House bill.

On a personal note, perhaps the most appropriate change made by the Senate was in naming this legislation for Congressman DOUG BEREUTER, my good friend who is retiring from the House this year. This legislation is a testament to his hard work and to the dedication he has shown throughout his career to further the interests of not only his constituents but also the Nation as a whole and to the ideal of good government. Congressman BEREUTER worked tirelessly to craft this bill with Senators BUNNING and SARBANES as well as Ranking Member FRANK and Representatives BLUMENAUER and BAKER. Mr. BAKER was also particularly helpful in crafting this legislation and in providing a voice for his constituents in Louisiana and other states particularly hard-hit by repetitive flood losses.

It is important to note once again that the National Flood Insurance Program has been

long overdue for change. The Bunning-Bereuter-Blumenauer Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2004 addresses the problem of repetitive loss properties (buildings that flood regularly because of their location) and the threat such properties pose to the ability of the NFIP to meet obligations to policyholders without drawing on taxpayer funds. Repetitive loss properties are a problem in nearly every one of the fifty States and cost the NFIP approximately \$200 million each year, which is an unacceptable expense. One percent of all properties in the NFIP account for approximately 25 percent to 30 percent of all the NFIP losses. Repetitive loss properties have for too long exhausted the NFIP's funds and subverted the original intent of the program.

Despite the problems caused by repetitive flood loss properties, the NFIP is a program that provides important protections for homeowners who live on the Nation's floodplains. Though most of these homes have never flooded, the NFIP is a vital safeguard with a proven record of success. These much-needed reforms will enhance the program's effectiveness by requiring people living in flood prone areas to reduce their risk of flooding in a way that is not punitive and which saves the program and taxpayers money. This legislation should enjoy widespread bipartisan support in the Congress and will be welcomed by the people who work every day to control floods all across the country.

TRIBUTE TO DR. C. VINCENT BAKEMAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the life and legacy Dr. C. Vincent Bakeman, a co-founder of the Human Resources Development Institute, Inc. (HRDI), who devoted himself to improving our alcohol and chemical dependency treatment systems.

We are all aware of the national problem that is especially acute in inner-city areas across this great Nation. The shortage of healthcare professionals has left many underserved communities without access to healthcare, placing low- and middle-income families at even greater risk of suffering from medical conditions and disorders that could be averted.

True to its mission, HRDI has charted innovative healthcare solutions that continue to stabilize and strengthen families, neighborhoods and entire communities from Chicago to Las Vegas to Indianola, Mississippi, and points in between.

Additionally, through his efforts to empower those without healthcare, he formed partnerships with area institutions of higher learning to assist residents in acquiring the necessary skills and training central to competing in this new age of information and technology.

Many of our colleagues here in Congress have espoused the notion of expanding healthcare coverage. Dr. Bakeman lived it.

It is through community efforts as demonstrated by Dr. Bakeman and HRDI that we may be able to achieve a reality of accessible and affordable healthcare for all.

During his thirty-plus years of service, Dr. Bakeman touched the lives of many, proving that even the simplest ideas can make a big difference.

I take great pride in commending the work of Dr. C. Vincent Bakeman and HRDI on a job well done for more than 30 years.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
JOHN J. BRENNAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mr. John J. Brennan—Devoted father, grandfather, brother, and dear friend and mentor to countless individuals—family, friends and colleagues, whose lives have been forever enriched for having known and loved him well. My brother, Gary Kucinich and I, are better people for having called John J. Brennan friend, and we share in the deep sadness with his family and friends in knowing that he left us far too soon.

Mr. Brennan's 25-year career as an investigator with the Cuyahoga County Department of Human Services Investigative Fraud Unit, reflected honesty, ethics, and the ability to see through the complex maze of layered cases and get right to the heart of the matter. While growing up in Cleveland, Mr. Brennan's parents, the late Judge Hugh Brennan and Dorothy Brennan, instilled within him a strong work ethic, dedication and perseverance, and above all, they showed him the power of a giving and caring heart. A graduate of Holy Name High School and John Carroll University, Mr. Brennan's good natured and jovial spirit belied his strong intellect. He was quick to offer his assistance to anyone in need, and his quick wit and kind words consistently uplifted the spirits of others.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Mr. John J. Brennan, loving father of Colleen, Michael and Ann; devoted grandfather of Anthony and Romello; loving friend of Kathy Meyers; devoted brother of Thomas and Timothy, and dear friend to many. Mr. Brennan will be deeply missed, yet today we celebrate his life, a life lived joyously. John J. Brennan embraced love and embraced life—and the love he gave to others will forever live on within the hearts and memories of all of us who knew and loved him well.

May the road rise to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
May the rain fall soft upon your fields
And until we meet again
May God hold you in the palm of His hand
—Irish Proverb

INTRODUCING THE JOBS FOR
AMERICA ACT

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today I am joining with 25 of my colleagues to introduce the Jobs for America

Act—legislation that will help protect American workers who face job outsourcing.

Every day, more Americans watch their jobs get shipped overseas. Jobs are disappearing from every sector of the economy—from high tech call centers to health care workers—leaving hundreds of thousands of families and their communities in the lurch.

According to some estimates, 40 percent of Fortune 1000 companies are currently using some form of overseas outsourcing, and as many as 3.3 million jobs may be offshored in the next 15 years. The latest study from Forrester Research finds that offshoring of white-collar jobs is accelerating, with the number of U.S. business service and software jobs moving overseas reaching 588,000 in 2005, up from 315,000 in 2003. By 2005, the total loss of software programming, customer call-center, and legal paperwork positions will hit 830,000 jobs—an increase of 40 percent from this year.

The Jobs for America Act amends the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification (WARN) Act to require companies to disclose and report whenever they lay off workers to send jobs overseas. It would require that when a company plans to lay off 15 or more workers and send those jobs overseas, it must:

Inform affected workers, the Department of Labor, State agencies responsible for helping laid off employees, and local government officials;

Disclose how many jobs are affected, where the jobs are going, and why they are being offshored; and

Provide employees at least 3 months advance notice.

Also, the Jobs for America Act strengthens the WARN Act by:

Requiring the Department of Labor to compile statistics of offshored jobs and report them on an annual basis to the Congress and the public;

Clarifying that WARN Act protections, including the 3 months advance notice, apply to all cases where 50 or more workers are laid off, regardless of the reason for the layoff; and

Ensuring effective remedies for workers who are injured by a company's violation of the WARN Act.

While companies export jobs overseas for cheap labor, American workers deserve—at an absolute minimum—the earliest warning of a job loss. In today's economy, with massive longterm unemployment, workers need as much time as possible to begin looking for a new job or begin retraining for a new career. This bill will expand the amount of time available to workers to adjust to the loss of a job. It will also increase penalties on employers who choose to ignore these simple requirements, providing real make-whole remedies for workers who are injured by WARN violations, including consequential damages.

Moreover, for the first time, the Secretary of Labor will be collecting and reporting large-scale data on offshore outsourcing. Such data collection will help us to better understand the scope and dynamics of this phenomenon and its threat to our standard of living, enabling us to craft more comprehensive solutions to the problem.

While this bill will not by itself solve the outsourcing problem, it does provide critical tools—such as time and information—which will benefit both workers and Congress in their

efforts to stem the hemorrhaging of jobs from this country.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE UNITED
NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY
IN SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF
TORTURE

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, and in support of a program in my district that provides critical healing services to San Diegans who have fled torture and persecution in countries all over the world.

The greater San Diego area is home to an estimated 11,000 survivors of politically motivated torture. They have come from more than 40 countries and endured unimaginable human rights abuses. They are not strangers or anonymous victims who we will never meet. They are our neighbors, our colleagues, the families with which we attend religious services, and the children that attend schools with our children. Torture survivors in San Diego are strong, resilient, resourceful people who bring diversity to our city and have many talents and experiences to offer our community.

Torture robs strong, healthy, productive people of their vitality, identity, and dignity, often in the prime of their lives. Political torture does not just randomly occur as an act of isolated terror; it is a tool of oppression, a system of violence that targets people because of their race, ethnicity, religion, social group, gender or political affiliation. People are tortured because of who they are, what they believe and what they represent.

Torture survivors in San Diego have been tortured because as journalists they wrote the unwelcome truth, as attorneys they fought for the legal rights of unpopular minorities, as community leaders they spoke up, organized unions, or staffed clinics. Some requested the right to representation by their government, or the right to be autonomous when the government failed to represent them. Others sought healthcare, believed in religions not "sanctioned" by the government, and rejected the conscription of children into militias.

In San Diego, and in all places where they seek safety and solace, torture survivors bear out the consequences of the abuse they have endured. Anxiety, depression, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder, chronic pain, head injuries, dental trauma, and nerve damage are all consequences of torture. Though many torture survivors choose not to reveal the details of what they have endured, they never forget, and without appropriate care, most will not improve. They re-live their suffering in nightmares, flashbacks and intrusive memories. Chronic physical pain, muscle weakness and an inability to trust, confide or relax are too often daily reminders of the injuries they endured.

The consequences of torture are also a significant public health concern. Not only do they impair the health of the person who was victimized, but they create anxiety, fear and depression among whole families and communities. The transgenerational effects of trauma

are well researched and well documented. The effects of torture will cascade down through the generations and negatively affect the mental health of the children and even grandchildren of those who endure torture. The effects of torture will ripple through our cities weakening the ties that bind us together, and bolstering the barriers that keep us apart. The consequences of torture represent a public health problem which only grow without care, and prevent hardworking, talented people from being able to fully-integrated, productive, participating members of our communities.

I invite all of my colleagues and all Americans to recommit themselves today, on the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, and everyday to the eradication of the use of torture throughout the world wherever it may be used. The consequences of torture for individuals, families and communities are far too heinous to not be condemned and spoken against.

Today, I am happy to be able to commend the important work and the successes of Survivors of Torture, International. This non-profit organization, made up of concerned San Diegans has provided direct medical, mental health, legal and social services to more than 500 torture survivors in the greater San Diego area. Furthermore, this organization has worked to train hundreds of doctors, nurses, attorneys, teachers, clergy, and mental health professionals to work with torture survivors as well. They have committed themselves to building a San Diego where torture survivors do not suffer in silence, but have access to the assistance the need to become healthy, productive and self-sufficient Americans.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MILDRED
"MILLIE" JEFFREY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mildred "Millie" Jeffrey, a pioneer who was at the forefront of our country's most powerful social and political movements. Millie passed away in March, and on Saturday she will be honored at her beloved Wayne State University in Detroit.

Millie once said, "the secret to change, that is change for the better, starts with involvement." No one lived that mantra more than Millie. She was a powerful voice for our Nation's workers, fighting for their right to organize and to ensure fair treatment in the workplace. Millie marched in the South with Dr. King, and trained other civil rights activists as they worked to break down racial barriers. As a leading feminist, Millie worked tirelessly to open the doors for equality of future women leaders. She was the guiding force in the effort to nominate Geraldine Ferraro as Walter Mondale's running mate in 1984. Four years ago, President Clinton awarded Millie the Medal of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian honor.

The Reuther family brought Millie to Michigan, and it is the place she called home for over 5 decades. Many people don't know this, but Millie was, in fact, an elected official in our State, serving 16 years on the Wayne State

Board of Governors. She loved living on campus, showing visitors "her neighborhood" and interacting with the students. She took great pride in watching the election of the first woman Senator from Michigan, DEBBIE STABENOW, and the first woman Governor, Jennifer Granholm. Many of today's leaders count Mildred "Millie" Jeffrey as their mentor and friend. I was personally enriched by her example, her endless energy, and her friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Millie and her contributions to Michigan and our Nation.

HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF PASSAGE OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I commend my colleague, Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, for authoring H. Res. 676 and ensuring that this Congress appropriately marks the passage of the most comprehensive civil rights legislation in our Nation's history.

This year our Nation has honored and celebrated several extraordinary accomplishments that were born of the Civil Rights Movement. Last month we observed the 50th anniversary of the May 19, 1954, *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. That landmark decision not only struck down the doctrine of "separate, but equal" and desegregated public schools. It ultimately led to the passage of key federal legislation that desegregated every segment of our society—the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

In every real sense, the 1964 Act was a response to the Civil Rights Movement sweeping the country. This Act could not have been achieved without the tireless effort of the great, civil rights leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It was Dr. King that motivated hundreds of thousands of activists—of all colors—to demand that this Nation realize equality for all. It was because of his leadership that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 was conceptualized and implemented.

The Act, which was signed into law on July 2, 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson, established safeguards and legal remedies to combat both the de jure and de facto discrimination that plagued minorities in almost every aspect of their lives.

First, and foremost, the Act moved to ensure an equal right to vote. The unequal application of voter registration requirements that effectively disenfranchised millions of African-Americans—poll taxes, literacy tests, grandfather clauses—was deemed unlawful in Title I of the Act. This provision made state and local governments accountable to their citizens and opened the path for equal political participation.

Titles II and III of the Act created a federal remedy to fight discrimination in public accommodations. Through these provisions, the Attorney General had the appropriate means to obtain injunctive relief and bring suit in in-

stances where equal access to a public facility had been denied. The lunch counter sit-ins and marches now had real effect in that the federal government could intervene to ensure equal treatment in society, regardless of race or other factors.

The language of "all deliberate speed" in the *Brown* decision was given meaning, as the federal government now had the tools in Title IV of the Act to end segregation in public schools. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 would serve as strong legislative policy against discrimination in public schools and colleges because it stood on the shoulders of the profound *Brown* decision, in which Chief Justice Warren, writing for a unanimous court, declared that "in the field of education, the doctrine of 'separate, but equal' has no place."

More broadly, under Title V of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Commission on Civil Rights, established in 1957, was provided with additional guidance in its charge to study, investigate, and report on civil rights policy.

Title VI of the Act protects persons from discrimination based on their race, color, or national origin in programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. This provision has been broadly used to ensure that entities receiving federal funds cannot deny service, provide different services, or segregate or separately treat individuals.

The Title VII provision of the Act would grow to become one of its most important and extensively utilized provisions. Going beyond its impact in the racial and ethnic minority community, Title VII acknowledged that sex discrimination in the workplace was a major problem and would be widely used to ensure protections for women in the workplace.

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), which was also created in the 1964 Act to serve as the premier vanguard of workplace discrimination, had its authority enhanced with amendments in 1972 and 1991.

In 1972, the EEOC was given the right to sue non-government respondents and the federal government, state and local governments, as well as educational institutions, were made subject to Title VII. The 1991 amendments allowed plaintiffs to recover fees and costs in suits in which they prevailed, as well as entitled plaintiffs to recover compensatory and punitive damages in intentional employment discrimination suits.

INJUSTICES REMAIN IN 2004

Without doubt, substantial progress toward equality has been made as a result of the passage of the 1964 Act, but there remains substantial work. I can recount a list of sobering statistics in the realm of employment, education, healthcare, and the political process:

In terms of employment, the average white woman earns only 73 cents for every dollar earned by the average white man. The average African American woman earns just 63 cents to every dollar earned by the average white man.

With regard to education, today, sadly, most schools have become resegregated. In the 2001–2002 school year, the Civil Rights Project found that the average African American attended a school where minorities formed almost 70 percent of the student body. The average Latino school child attended a school that was 71 percent minority. By contrast, the average white student attended a school where whites composed 79 percent of the student body.

In the realm of healthcare, the disparities are startling. Minority Americans are at least twice as likely as white Americans to be uninsured. More than 30 percent of Latinos and 20 percent of African Americans do not have health insurance.

Minorities remain disenfranchised from the political process. The precious right to vote was repeatedly violated in the much contested Presidential election of 2000. In the state of Florida and at polling booths across the county, a disproportionate number of people of color were excluded from the political process.

In addition to the modern day disparities that serve to undermine the Act, several Supreme Court decisions have whittled away at some of its key protections. In *Alexander v. Sandoval*, 532 U.S. 275 (2001), the Supreme Court held that there is no private right of action to enforce Title VI regulations forbidding practices that have an unjustified discriminatory effect on the basis of race, national origin, or color. Also, a dangerous precedent may have been set in *Barnes v. Gorman*, 536 U.S. 181 (2002), a case in which the Supreme Court held that punitive damages are unavailable for intentional violations of laws protecting those with disabilities. We must ensure that such punitive damages that are awarded for intentional discrimination under Title VI and Title VII are protected. We must also ensure that the true intent of the Act is adhered to.

THE FUTURE OF THE 1964 ACT

Congresswoman NORTON's resolution encourages all Americans to recognize and celebrate the important historical milestone of the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. However, rather than engaging in mere self congratulation, we should recommit ourselves to continuing and building on the progress created by the 1964 Act. We must pledge to acknowledge and address the modern day disparities that prevent the country from fully realizing the potential embodied in the Civil Rights Act. I look forward to working with every Member of Congress in doing just that in the months and years ahead.

HELPING HANDS FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2004

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 4363, the Helping Hands for Homeownership Act of 2004. This bill will be considered under the suspension of the rules. This legislation passed the House Financial Services Committee, by a unanimous bipartisan voice vote on June 3, 2004.

This legislation was introduced by the distinguished gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GREEN). This bill will simply make a technical correction to the "Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996" to permit families who receive homes from groups such as Habitat for Humanity (Habitat) to fulfill the "sweat equity" requirement for receiving Self-Help Homeownership Opportunity Program (SHOP) funds by helping to build other Habitat homes in the community, in addition to their own.

In 1996, Congress created the SHOP, which provides competitive grants for groups such as

Habitat to help with land and infrastructure expenses. In order to receive SHOP funds, the recipients of a home from groups such as Habitat must contribute a certain amount of physical labor to the home-building process, also known as "sweat equity." In FY 2004, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the first time interpreted the law to preclude the families who receive these homes from fulfilling their "sweat equity" requirements by working on program homes other than their own.

This new interpretation could cause problems for Habitat affiliates all over the country. Habitat allows its home recipients to obtain its "sweat equity" requirement by working on Habitat homes for others in the community, as well as their own home. H.R. 4363 makes the needed technical change to make sure that Habitat and similar programs can continue to promote homeownership.

Furthermore, H.R. 4363 also contains a provision which names the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Section 502 single-family loan guarantee program after my friend and colleague, the distinguished gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER). This program, like Habitat, promotes the goal of homeownership among those who might otherwise find it out of reach. Those are precisely the people that Mr. BEREUTER has spent his career serving, and this provision represents a small thank-you for those efforts.

As many of you know, the distinguished gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) is leaving the House at the end of August to become the President of the Asia Foundation. He was elected to the House in 1978 to represent the constituents of the First District of Nebraska. Mr. BEREUTER has served on the House Financial Services Committee and its predecessor, the House Banking Committee, since 1981. During his service on these committees, he has authored a number of significant bipartisan bills which were enacted into law.

One of his most successful legislative accomplishments is the USDA Section 502 single-family loan guarantee program. This initiative was enacted into law as part of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act in 1990 and authorizes the Department of Agriculture to guarantee a single-family loan made by a commercial lender to moderate-income families in small towns and rural areas where conventional mortgage financing may not always be available.

Since the program's creation in 1991, 316,625 single-family loans have been guaranteed by the USDA. The State of Ohio has been a major beneficiary with 629 single-family loans valued at over \$58 million having been guaranteed in Ohio under this program so far this year. This program, like Mr. BEREUTER's legislative career, has been a huge success.

In conclusion, I want to urge your support for H.R. 4363. This bipartisan bill contains important provisions to promote homeownership.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MATTHEW
STEPANEK

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, this June 22nd, a courageous young man was taken from our midst. Thirteen-year-old Matthew Stepanek was full of life, happiness, and brilliance.

Mattie, as he liked to be called, had a life-long struggle with muscular dystrophy, but never let the disease curb his enthusiasm, nor hinder his creativity. In 2001, Mattie courageously stated, "My life mission is to spread peace to the world." Despite losing his battle with muscular dystrophy at such a young age, Mattie managed to spread happiness to the world through his poems.

Mattie began writing poetry at age three to cope with the death of a brother. In his short life, this tireless young man wrote five volumes of poetry that sold millions of copies. Three of the volumes reached the New York Times' best-seller list.

Mattie is survived by his loving mother Jeni, who first recognized Mattie's talent and wrote down his poems for him. Unfortunately, Jeni also suffers from the adult-onset form of the disease. The disease also took the lives of his two brothers and sister.

Mr. Speaker, today, I ask this House to celebrate and remember the life of Mattie Stepanek. He was a brave young man whose genius impacted everyone who encountered him. His selflessness, courage, and talent are something we can all honor and admire.

HONORING CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLYMAN
MERVYN DYMALLY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the historic achievements of California Assemblyman Mervyn Dymally, on the occasion of the thirty-year anniversary of his election as the first African American Lieutenant Governor in California and the United States.

Assemblyman Dymally's distinguished political career began in 1962 when he was elected to the California State Assembly. After serving for four years, in 1966 he became the first African American to be elected to the California State Senate. Following his service as a State Legislator, Dymally again made history by becoming the first elected African American Lieutenant Governor in 1974.

In 1980 Dymally ran for Congress representing South Los Angeles County, and became the first foreign-born black to serve in the United States Congress. While serving in the 97th through 101st Congresses, he was Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus and of the Subcommittee on Africa within the Committee of Foreign Affairs. After retiring from Congress in 1992, he has served in numerous academic positions and remained an active participant in international affairs. In 2002 Assemblyman Dymally returned to the California State legislature, where he currently represents the fifty-second district.

On June 24th, the Oakland Black Caucus honored the anniversary of Assemblyman Dymally's historic election to the California Lieutenant Governorship. I would like to mark this occasion by commending the exceptional political achievements of Assemblyman Dymally, and by recognizing the broader social and historic implications of his extraordinary career.

By remaining committed to public service and education throughout his life, Assemblyman Dymally has contributed enormously not only to the State of California, but also to the global community. I want to express my deep appreciation and respect for Assemblyman Dymally and his relentless pursuit of equality and social justice for African Americans and all people.

IN HONOR OF U.S. MARINE CORPS
LANCE CORPORAL RUSSELL
WHITE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a brave young Marine who was accidentally killed while performing guard duty at Camp Bulldog, Bagram Air Base on Sunday, June 20, 2004. United States Marine Corps Lance Corporal Russell White was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, based in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and was part of a brave unit sent to Afghanistan to track down Osama bin Laden.

Lance Corporal White was a Sussex County native, attended Indian River High School in Frankford, Delaware, where he played football, and enjoyed hunting, skiing and the outdoors. He hoped one day to run his father's home building business and make Sussex County his permanent home. His family and friends describe him as loyal, determined, ambitious and fiercely passionate about defending the security of our nation. When terrorists struck our great nation on that fateful day in 2001, Russell White was only in high school, yet felt determined to help. He eventually joined the Marine Corps where the values he held true were exemplified in his brave service in Operation Enduring Freedom.

Lance Corporal White chose the daily rigors of military service because he valued the well-being of others. And he felt that by working to track down the terrorists who were responsible for killing so many Americans, he would be able to contribute to our nation. That is an extremely brave attitude for a young man of only 19 years of age. His friend Matthew Mitchell remarked, "He was proud of himself and we were proud of him. He's braver than any of us." What a true statement that is. Lance Corporal White will be missed tremendously by his family and friends, who will remember a courageous, young man who willingly took on the role of a U.S. soldier during a time of war.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere privilege to honor the life of a proud Marine and heroic representative of the State of Delaware. Lance Corporal White deserves our gratitude and respect.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, as a result of my participation in CODEL Hoekstra to Iraq, I regret that I was not able to vote on the following bills on June 21, 2004 in the House of Representatives, due to official business. If I had been present to vote, I would have voted in the following manner:

H. Res. 591.—Expressing the gratitude of the House of Representatives for the contributions made by America's community banks to the Nation's economic well-being and prosperity and the sense of the House of Representatives that a month should be designated as "Community Banking Month"—yes.

H.R. 4363.—Helping Hands for Homeownership Act of 2004 (Technical correction to the Housing Opportunity Extension Act relating to the Habitat for Humanity Program)—yes.

H. Res. 660.—Congratulating Randy Johnson of the Arizona Diamondbacks on pitching a perfect game on May 18, 2004—yes.

A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINA SUNDSTROM ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Christina Sundstrom at the conclusion of a remarkable career in public service in California's San Joaquin Valley. After many years dedicated to improving the Valley's rural communities, Ms. Sundstrom is retiring from her position as Director of Empowerment Programs for the USDA Rural Development office in Visalia, California, the capstone of a distinguished career.

Ms. Sundstrom began her career in public service working for the Army National Training Center at Fort Irwin in Barstow, California. After several years spent raising a family in Los Angeles, Ms. Sundstrom devoted a significant portion of her career to helping retirees and disabled citizens in the Social Security Administration office in Visalia. In this role she became intimately familiar with the needs of our vibrant, yet economically challenged region.

Christina Sundstrom's tireless dedication to serving the Central Valley's families and her efforts to improve the Valley's communities earned her the respect of her peers in state and federal agencies and made her a key community leader in the region. I was fortunate to have her join my Congressional staff after my election in 1990 as my District Director. Over the next seven years, Ms. Sundstrom excelled as my representative in the district and as a skilled liaison between state and federal agencies, community groups, and constituencies. As my District Director, Ms. Sundstrom played a significant role in providing relief to many Valley agricultural communities following a crop freeze in the early 1990's. She played a key role in addressing this region's compelling needs by helping to

secure key economic development grants and coordinating visits by Cabinet officials and by the President of the United States in the mid-1990's.

As an extension of her proven commitment to the Central Valley's economic development, Ms. Sundstrom later accepted a position as Programs Coordinator with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Office in Visalia. In this capacity, she assisted many struggling Valley communities in their efforts to obtain grant funding, tax incentives, and other forms of assistance necessary to combat the Valley's persistent double-digit unemployment. Many local leaders have praised Ms. Sundstrom as an effective and invaluable resource to the region.

Christina Sundstrom's retirement this week from the Department of Agriculture marks a significant loss for the San Joaquin Valley, which has come to rely on her as one of its best and brightest advocates for positive change. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career of Christina Sundstrom and her notable record of service to our community on this special occasion.

HONORING MERLE KILGORE

HON. JIM McCRERY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. McCRERY. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor a living legend in the world of country music, who also happens to be a fellow citizen of the great state of Louisiana. From singer to songwriter and manager to actor, Merle Kilgore has been involved in every conceivable facet of modern show business. Throughout his entertainment career, he has been unique for the breadth of his entertainment experience and unsurpassed in his talent. It is the lifelong achievements of such a great man that I wish to honor here tonight.

Merle Kilgore was born Wyatt Merle Kilgore on August 9, 1934 in Chickasha, Oklahoma. His family moved to Shreveport, Louisiana before he began school. He attended Byrd High School in Shreveport and later attended college at Louisiana Tech in Ruston.

He first became involved with music at the young age of 14, carrying the guitar of another famous country musician, Hank Williams, Sr., at the famous Louisiana Hayride. Just two years later, in 1950, he began his show business career, performing at the Louisiana Hayride at just 16.

His first job was as a Disc Jockey at a radio station in Ruston, Louisiana and in 1953, he even hosted his own television and radio show as "The Tall Texan".

Merle made his songwriting debut when he wrote his first number one hit, "More and More," in 1953; he was just 18 years old. The song was recorded by Webb Pierce and became a million-seller in 1954. His success as a songwriter seemed to be assured by the popularity of his first song, but he was far from finished.

Surpassing his own songwriting accomplishments seemed to be another of Merle's talents. Not long after writing "More and More", Merle wrote the 10 million-seller "Wolverton Mountain", which was recorded by Claude

King. Still not satisfied, he and June Carter Cash wrote the country music hit 'Ring of Fire,' which was recorded by Johnny Cash and sold more than 16 million records. To this day, Merle Kilgore has continued to be a prolific songwriter, cataloging more than 300 songs and selling almost 50 million records.

He recorded his first top 10 record in 1959, the self-penned "Dear Mama", while he was a DJ and the manager of a radio station in Louisiana. In his signature style of never being satisfied with just one big hit, Merle added the records "Love has made you beautiful," "42 in Chicago," and "Fast Talking Louisiana Man" among others to his already impressive collection of songs and records. Merle's favorite record, entitled "Mr. Garfield" by Merle Kilgore and Friends was recorded with longtime friends and fellow country music legends Hank Williams, Jr. and Johnny Cash.

As if his accomplishments in recording and songwriting were not enough, Merle Kilgore's talents in the entertainment industry extend even further. As an actor, he has appeared in the box office hits "Coal Miner's Daughter," Robert Altman's "Nashville," "W.W. and the Dixie Dance Kings," "Roadie," and the CBS-TV movie, "Willa." He also played himself in NBC-Telecom's Living Proof, the life story of Hank Williams, Jr.

While lesser men would have been satisfied with such an impressive list of lifetime accomplishments, Merle Kilgore went further. In 1962, Merle moved to Nashville to open and manage the Nashville branch of the prestigious Shapiro Bernstein and Al Gallico music publishing companies. He became the general manager of Hank Williams, Jr.'s music publishing companies in 1969 and on April 7, 1986 was named Executive Vice President and head of management of Hank Williams, Jr. Enterprises. Merle Kilgore has been affiliated with Hank Williams, Jr. for more than 30 years and has served as his personal manager for the last 16 years.

The management experience and leadership of Merle have been tested and proven in a number of successful business ventures and industry leadership positions. He has been involved as Vice President of the Country Music Association and has served on that organization's Board of Directors for the last fourteen years. He has been the President of both the Nashville Songwriter's Foundation and the Nashville Songwriter's Association International; a fitting position for an individual of his talent.

Merle Kilgore's outstanding accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. In 1987, he was named as an honorary State Senator for the State of Tennessee. He was selected by his fellow entertainers as Country Music Association's first ever Manager of the Year in 1990. Three years later, in 1993, Merle was inducted into the Louisiana State Hall of Fame in Lafayette and was also inducted into the Shreveport's Byrd High School Hall of Fame. In 1998, Merle received the Legendary Songwriter's Award from the North American Country Music Association and was inducted into the Nashville Songwriters' Hall of Fame.

Merle continues to direct the operations of Hank Williams, Jr. Enterprises in Paris, Tennessee and Merle Kilgore Management in Nashville.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to pay tribute to a living legend in American entertainment and an icon of Amer-

ican country music. Mr. Merle Kilgore has consistently outperformed and exceeded even his own high achievements. I join all of his fans around the world in saying "Thank You" for sharing his incredible talent with all of us and wish him many more years of health, happiness, and continued success.

NORTHEAST REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill I authored that will create the Northeast Regional Development Commission. The Commission would be charged with investing federal resources for economic development and job creation in the most distressed areas of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York.

This is an idea whose time has come. Its roots can be traced as far back as 1965, when Congress approved the creation of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). This unique Federal-State partnership was charged with promoting development in the depressed Appalachian area through regional planning, technical assistance, and funding of projects aimed at encouraging economic prosperity.

It was a bold idea, and it worked. According to the National Association of Development Organizations, since its creation, the ARC has reduced the number of distressed counties in their region from 219 to 100. It has cut the poverty rate from 31 percent to 15 percent, and helped 1,400 businesses create 26,000 new jobs in the region since 1977.

With a record like that, other regions began to look at this model, and realize that they needed the same thing in their own area. Over the past decade, this has led to the creation of three additional commissions and proposals for two more.

When I arrived in Congress and saw these proposals, it became clear that other regions were catching on to a good idea, but that the Northeast could be missing the boat. There is currently no single body focused on the need for jobs and economic development in the Northeast region.

The Northeast has a clear, compelling case for coordinated federal investment. Compared to the counties of some of the other regions that have an existing or proposed commission, a sample of Northeast counties along the Northern border showed higher unemployment, much higher outmigration, and extremely similar, and low, household income. All of these measures were far worse than the national average.

Creating a regional commission would give us the chance to look at economic development in a whole new way: as a challenge that we can tackle together as a region. Together we all face declining natural resource industries, aging infrastructure, and youth who are leaving to seek opportunity elsewhere. But together, we also still possess abundant resources, a good geographic location with opportunities to ship our products to the world, and a trained workforce that is ready to take on new challenges.

The Commission created in my bill would utilize the successful ARC approach where

local development districts and other non-profit organizations bring project ideas and priorities to the Commission from the local level. Because local plans are approved by the state, no state would have mandates thrust upon it from outside.

Whether the need is new irrigation systems for agriculture, land and forestry conservation to maintain productive traditional uses, investment in our fishing infrastructure, new roads, or health care facilities—a Federal commission can play a key role in investing in our economy. Our region needs this kind of investment.

Already, the interest that this proposal has generated among many diverse groups has been a step in the right direction, as it has helped to bring people together from many different sectors to think creatively, constructively, and cooperatively about our future. We are off to a good start, and now there is a lot more work to be done.

HONORING JOSEPH A. PICHLER ON
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
KROGER COMPANY

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a friend and constituent, Joseph A. Pichler, who retired on June 24, 2004 as Chairman of the Board of The Kroger Company, which is headquartered in my hometown of Cincinnati. He has been an exemplary leader in academia, business and our community.

After earning an undergraduate degree from Notre Dame and a Master's and Ph.D. from the University of Chicago, Joe taught for 15 years at the University of Kansas School of Business, and served as Dean for six years. From 1968 to 1970, he was Special Assistant to the U.S. Department of Labor's Assistant Secretary for Manpower.

Joe has had a truly extraordinary business career, bringing energy, hard work and leadership to every assignment. Before his election as Kroger's Chairman, Joe served the company as Chief Executive Officer; President and Chief Operating Officer; and Executive Vice President. Joe joined Dillon Companies in 1980 as Executive Vice President, and was elected to Kroger's Board of Directors when Dillon merged with Kroger in 1983.

Joe has pursued community service in our area with equal enthusiasm. He heads the Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation's (3CDC) working group that created a new development strategy for Cincinnati's Washington Park area. For many years, Joe and his wife, Susan, have volunteered in the historic Over-the-Rhine neighborhood near Kroger's headquarters building, and we worked together on the new National Underground Railroad Freedom Center.

Last year, Joe asked me to help craft a legislative solution that would allow Cincinnati's "One Stop" Employment Center to continue serving clients in the Over-the-Rhine area. Since then, other Ohio counties have received similar legislative assistance. Joe's role in keeping these key job training facilities open cannot be overstated.

All of us in Cincinnati congratulate Joe on his retirement from Kroger and wish him the best in the new challenges ahead.

HONORING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF
PASSAGE OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACT
OF 1964

SPEECH OF
HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution.

First, I would like to thank the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, Ms. NORTON, for introducing House Resolution 676, which recognizes and honors the 40th anniversary of congressional passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and for her work in getting this bill on the House floor today.

H. Res. 676 recognizes the advancements we have made in the 40 years since the Civil Rights Act was passed, and reaffirms the work we need to do, not only to retain what progress has been made, but also to continue to move toward greater social existence and inclusion.

But I want to take a step back for a moment and trace some of the history that led up to the passage of the Civil Rights Act.

Many of us can remember what it was like in America back in the tumultuous era of the 1960's. It was a time of social unrest marked by riots and protests across the country.

Growing up in this era, we were all galvanized by the passion and commitment of our civil rights leaders who worked to end America's immoral practice of discrimination.

The 1960's and the decades preceding were marked by unprecedented resistance to racial segregation and discrimination captured by the 'freedom rides' throughout the south, the Lunch counter sit-ins, forced school integration in segregated schools, Supreme Court cases challenging Jim Crow practices and the individual stances that our parents took at their jobs and in their neighborhoods.

Here in Washington, A. Phillip Randolph and Bayard Rustin, along with a young activist from Georgia by the name of JOHN LEWIS, coordinated and organized a non-violent march on Washington on August 28, 1963 bringing more than 200,000 people to the Nation's Capital to hear Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and other speakers and to demand the dignity, justice, and jobs that were promised by the government, and to have their economic and political concerns heard.

To be Black in America at the time meant you had no voice in the government, could not attend good schools, could not get good jobs, and in short, could not live a free life.

For over 100 years after slavery was abolished, Blacks and other minority groups were relegated to second class citizenship.

And because of all these facts, the March on Washington was nothing short of revolutionary in the precedent it set as the culmination of a national social movement.

But the real test of the movement was whether it could accomplish change.

As Bayard Rustin wrote of the March in his magazine, *Liberation* in 1963:

"What counted most at the Lincoln Memorial was not the speeches, eloquent as they were, but the pledge of a quarter million Americans, black and white, to carry the civil rights revolution into the streets. Our task is now to fulfill this pledge through nonviolent uprisings in hundreds of cities."

It was on February 10, 1964 that Congress finally passed an unprecedented and highly contentious bill to support and protect the civil liberties and rights of all people.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 in many ways turned a new page on the history of our nation, and all people, regardless of race, class or gender, were acknowledged as equal citizens of our nation.

Signed into law on July 2, 1964, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlawed segregation in businesses such as theaters, restaurants, and hotels.

It banned discriminatory practices in employment and ended segregation in public places such as swimming pools, libraries, and other public facilities.

And while it is often misconceived that the Civil Rights Act only affected the lives of Black Americans in the 1960s, this landmark legislation also protected the rights of women for the first time in history.

But as we all know, by itself the legislation could not transform the hearts and minds of those who truly believed in segregation. Only time could truly do that.

Yet the injustices that Blacks and other minorities faced with the tacit approval of the government were finally over.

But today our March, our struggle, and our cause are not over.

Today we are still attempting to understand and counteract the ramifications of the physical and mental enslavement which our ancestors were subjected to.

Profound inequalities remain imbedded in American society.

For example, black women are less likely to have breast cancer, but are more likely to die from this terrible disease because of the discrepancies in our health care system.

And according to the AFL-CIO, the average 25-year-old working woman will lose more than \$523,000 due to unequal pay during her working life.

Facts such as these indicate that our work is far from complete.

Our Nation's capital, the icon of our collective American legacy pays sparse tribute to the African forefathers of this country and our Civil Rights leaders.

Despite the fact that this country was built on the backs of slaves, there are few commemorative statues or paintings that demonstrate as much.

Perhaps most glaringly, there is still no national memorial dedicated to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on our National Mall.

And in this day and age, it is even more important that we continue to fight for our civil right and civil liberties, especially in light of the Patriot Act.

The resolution we are discussing today not only recognizes how far our country has come along, but it also praises the sweat and blood that was sacrificed to make sure that we got here.

This commemorative resolution is a testament to the shift in this country toward the spirit of inclusion and equality.

It also reminds us of how much we have left to do.

Our great society is highly regarded around the globe because of our laws, which ensure the integrity of our constitution and perpetuate the belief that all men and women are created equal.

The legacies of those who marched, protested, and died for our cause capture the true

sentiment of our nation. By passing this resolution we continue to commemorate their struggle, our struggle.

It is the ultimate sacrifice of individuals like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., from which we all benefit.

We must honor their memory by continuing to work to realize their vision.

And today we will honor their memory by passing this resolution.

RECOGNIZING THE EIGHTIETH
BIRTHDAY OF GOVERNOR PHIL
HOFF

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, it is a very great personal pleasure to extend best wishes on his eightieth birthday to Governor Philip H. Hoff of Vermont.

During my own years of service to Vermont, I have found no finer example, no better counselor, no more steadfast friend, than Phil Hoff, the Governor of Vermont from 1962 to 1969.

Educated at Williams College and Cornell University, Phil Hoff ran for Governor of Vermont in 1962. His was an uphill battle: Although Democrat William Meyer had been elected to one term in the U.S. House in 1958, no Democrat had won the governorship in the state of Vermont since before the Civil War. Vermont was steadfastly, resolutely, a one-party state, even resisting national plebiscites for Democratic candidates, standing alone with Utah in voting for William Taft in the Woodrow Wilson victory in 1912, alone with Maine in the Franklin Delano Roosevelt landslide in 1936.

With energy, vision and a great personal warmth that touched voters deeply, Phil Hoff boldly took a simple message to Vermont's citizens: It was time for a change. And people listened, and agreed. Phil Hoff was elected Governor of Vermont in 1962 by defeating the incumbent chief executive, F. Ray Keyser Jr. His vigor was put in service of his dual linked commitments, to social justice and to making those changes that would bring it about. During the next six years, everything in Vermont was changed, opened up, made more responsive to the people, reshaped in the visionary spirit of those exciting times of growth and renewed democracy. With Phil Hoff as governor, it seemed anything was possible: Stale tradition, entrenched power, historical limitations, all gave way to the bold vision and active involvement of this remarkable human being.

While we have many differences, many different points of view, in our state, for many years Vermont has been to people all over America a beacon for what politics can be. Here, ideological conservatism does not rule, nor narrow self-interest, nor recriminations of one group against another. Our political figures far more often than not speak out on the side of justice and fairness. That is the legacy of Phil Hoff, who not only governed our state but left a legacy that ever afterwards politics would be about inclusion and not exclusion, about moving confidently into the future rather than cowering in the shadow of the past.

Phil Hoff kept up an active life in the public sector, serving in more recent years as a Vermont State Senator, as a Trustee and

President of Vermont Law School, as Chairperson of Vermont Advisory Committee of U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. His greatest honors have come not from institutions, corporations, bureaucracies, but from the place held for him in the hearts of his fellow citizens. Deeply honored and revered by all in Vermont, Phil Hoff remains accessible and warm, a good neighbor, a good friend, a model citizen, to thousands and thousands of Vermonters.

On my own behalf and on behalf of the entire state of Vermont, Let me conclude by wishing Phil Hoff, our finest public citizen, our model of what a human being can and should be, a very, very happy eightieth birthday. Phil, the nation, as well as Vermont, is proud of you.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO STOP FORUM SHOPPING BY NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce The Stop Forum Shopping Act of 2004. The trend of forum shopping by Native American Tribes for the ideal venue to locate a casino has become quite troubling. Tribes with no connection to lands, sometimes hundreds of miles from their home area, are seeking to place these lands into trust solely for gaming purposes. Today, I urge my colleagues to join me in curbing this trend by amending the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) to define ambiguous language and clearly reflect the intent of the law.

Recent events in my home state of Louisiana best illustrate the need for these definitions. A Tribe that has been federally recognized since 1995 has only recently sought to obtain their "initial reservation" on lands over one hundred miles from their historical lands. They have also secured distant land for a casino that would have a negative economic impact on the five non-tribal, tax-paying casinos that operate less than 50 miles away. While the IGRA permits tribes to take such distant land into trust for gaming under very limited circumstances, the law did not intend for tribes to use such exceptions to shop for real estate.

The Stop Forum Shopping Act of 2004 will prevent tribes from cherry picking land for a casino by clarifying the meaning of initial reservation and consultation. Essentially, this Act will heighten the level of scrutiny given to such action and increase the required notice to impacted parties. This Act will stay true to the intent of the IGRA by limiting an initial reservation to a tribe's service area, where more than 50 percent of the tribal members reside, or where the tribe has historically resided. Furthermore, this act will increase the requirements of the consultation process so that all impacted parties are provided adequate notice of any gaming proposals within 50 miles of their area and an opportunity to participate in the process.

I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing that venue shopping by Native American Tribes is an increasing problem that must be addressed. Not only is it against the intent

of the IGRA, it is unfair to the many tribes that abide by the rules and work hard in remote locations to provide economic benefits to their members. Allowing any tribe to circumvent the intent of the IGRA and randomly select the most economically advantageous lands should not be an option.

CONGRATULATING THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, it is a bit surreal for Congress to pass a Resolution congratulating a peaceful Iraqi transition on one of the bloodiest days of the insurgency movement. This Resolution seems more an exercise in self deception. I am hopeful that in the coming days, Congress and this administration will focus instead on how to stem the violence that continues to escalate, and to address the deep questions about our policies and management.

Congressional oversight is needed to examine the long term costs and consequences, and to determine what went wrong and how to fix it. It is critical to improving the safety of our soldiers and the people of Iraq who are struggling to rebuild their country.

Until we can be honest with our soldiers, the American public and the Iraqi people I think it is decidedly inappropriate to continue with resolutions of this nature.

A TRIBUTE TO KENNETH V. TURVEY

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Kenneth V. Turvey, who for the past fifty years has served as the Organist and Director of Music for my church, the First United Methodist Church in Huntsville, Alabama.

Ken was born in Dayton, Ohio and became a church organist while still a freshman in High School. While receiving both his Bachelor and Master of Music Degrees from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, Ken served as the Associate Organist-Choirmaster at Cincinnati Christ Episcopal Church.

Ken went on to serve his country proudly as a Chaplain's Assistant in the United States Army. While in the Army, he served seventeen months in Korea and organized an Easter Sunrise service of "Handel's Hallelujah Chorus" for Commanding General Maxwell Taylor.

On January 17, 1955, Ken began his work at the First United Methodist Church as its Organist and Music Director, a position he has held ever since. Through the decades, he has been a constant and reassuring presence for many of us in North Alabama. He is highly respected and committed to helping others throughout North Alabama.

On June 30, 2004, Ken is retiring from First United Methodist Church. I am so privileged to have heard this talented man in person. It will

be strange not seeing him at the organ leading the church choir but all of us in North Alabama are fortunate to have known Ken and have him as a member of our community. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ken Turvey on his wonderful service to First United Methodist Church and wish him the very best for a well-deserved rest.

CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. J. ROBERT BEYSTER

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Dr. J. Robert Beyster, the founder of Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC). Thirty-five years ago, Bob Beyster and a small group of scientists founded SAIC in my home town of San Diego. During this 35th anniversary, I would like to recognize Bob for his accomplishments in creating and leading a company dedicated to helping the United States government protect and serve its people.

Today, SAIC is one of the nation's top federal prime contractors. One unique aspect of this corporation is the fact that it is truly "employee-owned." Dr. Beyster believed strongly that "those who helped him build the company should own the company." Most of the 40,000 plus employees currently own SAIC stock.

SAIC has always worked with the U.S. Government, and has played a key role in our national security by providing systems engineering and integration support for our Armed Forces and allied powers. In addition, SAIC serves 12 of 13 Cabinet-level U.S. civilian agencies and has supported all 22 agencies of the newly created Department of Homeland Security.

In the aftermath of September 11, it provided wide-ranging support in New York City and Washington, D.C., and for military and government agencies. Today, SAIC support helps safeguard the nation's critical infrastructure and the information assets of government agencies. Its systems and networks are used to thwart crime and terrorism, and its technologies are used to examine vehicles and containers at ports and borders without impeding the flow of commerce.

SAIC designed and developed the Composite Health Care System for U.S. military hospitals, worldwide. Now, the company's Frederick subsidiary manages the National Cancer Institute's leading center for cancer and AIDS research.

Telcordia Technologies, an SAIC subsidiary, is the leading provider of telecommunications network software and new wireless solutions for military and criminal justice initiatives.

Decades of service to energy, the environment and our space programs have improved cost efficiencies, reduced risk and produced measurable results. Agencies have selected SAIC to help them modernize and manage huge volumes of data and to develop internet-based systems praised for setting new standards for e-government.

Dr. Beyster's contributions to the nation as a leader in applying science, technology and innovation to meet national needs stand as a tribute to the American entrepreneur and truly

demonstrate American business at its very best. I am truly honored to call Bob Beyster my friend.

HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to three soldiers from the 21st Congressional District who gave their lives during combat in Iraq.

It is for the greater good that they joined the military, serving their country with honor and distinction. These native sons of ours played an integral part in securing peace in Iraq and giving freedom to an oppressed people.

They represent the best of our community and of our military. All three men grew up from humble means, working hard to achieve in school, sports, and work. They were of good moral character, quick to stand up for what is right and to defend those who needed it—friends and strangers alike.

Army 1st Lt. Osbaldo Orozco, 26, of Earlmarl died when his Bradley Fighting Vehicle rolled over as his unit rushed to help others under attack near Tikrit on April 25, 2003. Lt. Orozco was a true leader and role model for those around him. He excelled in everything he did—school, sports, and life itself—inspiring those around him along the way.

Army Sgt. Michael W. Mitchell, 25, who grew up in Porterville, was shot by a sniper April 4, 2004, in Iraq as he stood in the open hatch of a tank. He was a bright young man with tremendous determination who was gifted athletically and who excelled at being a soldier.

Army Spc. Daniel Paul Unger, 19, was killed by shrapnel from a rocket-propelled grenade as he helped Iraqi civilians take cover during an attack May 24, 2004. He loved being a soldier. He also loved to share with others the love for God he kept in his heart. He was a compassionate young man whose ambition drove him to achieve in every arena in life.

Theirs was a sacrifice we cannot repay. We will cherish their memory. We will point to their selfless example. We will aspire to their bravery, and we will carry on under the liberty they defended. May God bless their souls and the families they left behind.

CONGRATULATING THE DESIGNERS, SPONSORS, AND PILOT OF SPACESHIPONE ON BEING THE FIRST PRIVATELY-FINANCED VEHICLE TO LEAVE THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and commend the designers, builders, sponsors, and pilot of SpaceShipOne on the occasion of its successful flight out of earth's atmosphere on June 21, 2004. What is most remarkable about SpaceShipOne, of course, is that it is the first privately-financed and pri-

vately built vehicle to leave the Earth's atmosphere.

SpaceShipOne was designed and built by Burt Rutan and piloted by test pilot Michael W. Melvill. It was launched successfully from Mojave California, reaching a height of 100 KM (62 miles) above the Earth's surface. Remarkably, SpaceShipOne is entirely privately-financed, chiefly by Microsoft co-founder Paul G. Allen.

According to the designers and financiers of SpaceShipOne, the mission of this project is to demonstrate the viability of commercial space flight and to open the door for private space tourism. The successful completion of SpaceShipOne's maiden voyage demonstrates that relatively modest amounts of private funding can significantly increase the boundaries of commercial space technology. It constitutes a major leap toward their goal and demonstrates that private capital and private enterprise can be applied to enormous success all on its own. Those associated with this project represent the best of our American traditions, embodied in our enterprising and pioneering spirit.

Their success should also be read as a cautionary tale for all of us in government. If only the United States had a taxation policy that limited government and thereby freed up more private capital, there is no telling how many more like Burt Rutan, Paul Allen, and Michael Melvill would be able to do great things to the benefit all of mankind. This not just in space exploration, but in medical research, alternative energy research, and any number of the problems that continue to perplex mankind. Private enterprise depends on results and success and therefore private capital is always targeted much more wisely than is monies confiscated by governments.

With this successful maiden voyage, SpaceShipOne is now the leading contender for the \$10 million Ansari X Prize, which is to be awarded to the first privately financed three-seat aircraft that reaches an altitude of 62 miles and repeats the feat within two weeks. I wish all those involved in this remarkable project the best of luck.

HONORING JAY LOVELL ON THE COMPLETION OF HIS INTERNSHIP

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Jay Lovell for his service during his internship this summer. Jay is a fellow Middle Tennessean, and he has been a great help and service to my constituents in Tennessee's Sixth Congressional District.

Jay just finished his sophomore year at the University of Missouri. Despite his youth, he has already shown himself to be dedicated to public service. While attending high school at Nashville's Montgomery Bell Academy, he worked in a soup kitchen and was a member of Habitat for Humanity. He is always ready to lend a hand and a kind word to others.

Jay has experienced the many facets of Congress first-hand. He has been very helpful in answering constituent concerns, guiding schoolchildren through the U.S. Capitol and assisting me and my staff with countless projects.

I hope Jay has enjoyed this learning experience as much as we have enjoyed having his help in the office. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF REV. DR. JOSEPH E. LOWERY ON THE EVE OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on the 40th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, now is an especially appropriate time to acknowledge and commend the historic contributions of a great civil rights fighter, The Reverend Doctor Joseph E. Lowery.

Dr. Lowery is the Co-founder, President Emeritus, Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Chairman Emeritus, Black Leadership Forum, Inc. and Convener of the Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda (GEPAA).

As co-founder with Martin Luther King, Jr., of the SCLC in 1957; Dr. Lowery served as vice president (1957–67); chairman of the board (1967–77); and as president and chief executive officer from Feb. 1977–Jan. 15, 1998. Dr. King named him chairman of the delegation to take demands of the Selma-to-Montgomery March (1965) to Gov. George Wallace. Wallace had ordered the marchers beaten ("Bloody Sunday") but apologized to Lowery in 1995 as he led the 30th anniversary re-enactment of the historic march, which led to the passage of the Voting Rights Act.

His genesis as a civil rights advocate was in the early '50s in Mobile, AL where he headed the Alabama Civic Affairs Association, which led the movement for the desegregation of buses and public accommodations. While in Mobile, his property was seized by the Alabama courts in an historic libel suit: Sullivan v. NYTimes, Abernathy, Lowery, Shuttlesworth, & Seay. The U.S. Supreme Court vindicated the ministers in a landmark ruling on libel (Read Make No Law by Anthony Lewis, 1964)

Lowery led the historic Alabama to Washington pilgrimage (1982) to free Maggie Bozeman and Julia Wilder, falsely convicted of voter fraud. This march helped gain the extension of provisions of the Voting Rights Act to 2007. Nationally recognized as a strong proponent of affirmative action, he also led the movement in Nashville to desegregate public accommodations. In Birmingham, he served as president of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, which spearheaded the hiring of Birmingham's first black police officers, etc. As a United Methodist minister, he was elected as delegate to three General Conferences, and presided over an Annual Conference (acting bishop in 1966).

He is co-founder and chairman emeritus of the Black Leadership Forum, a consortium of national black advocacy organizations, and served as third president following Vernon Jordan and Benjamin Hooks. As president of SCLC, he negotiated covenants with major corporations for employment advances and business contracts with minority companies. One of the first protest campaigns he led was against the Atlanta based Southern Company

for contracting to purchase ten million tons of coal from South Africa (12977). He was among the first five persons arrested at the South African Embassy in Washington, D.C. in the "Free South Africa" campaign (1984). He co-chaired the 1990 Nelson Mandela visit to Atlanta following his release from prison and awarded Mandela the SCLC/Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Award. He was keynote speaker at the African Renaissance Dinner in Durban in 1998 honoring Mandela's retirement. He was invited to keynote the dedication of a school and hospital in East Germany honoring Martin Luther King, Jr. He led a peace delegation to the Middle East and met with the president of Lebanon and Yassir Arafat to seek justice in the Middle East by non-violent means. He led protests against the dumping of toxic waste in Warren County, N.C., and was arrested twice in this campaign which gave birth to the environmental justice movement.

He served on the board of directors of MARTA (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) for 23 years and was chairman for three years (during the '96 Olympics), and was instrumental in securing millions in contracts for minority businesses. Since retiring from the pulpit in 1997 and SCLC in January 1998, he has helped black farmers secure a federal court decree valued at \$2 billion against the Department of Agriculture for discrimination. He assisted black auto dealers to seek redress from discrimination claims against auto manufacturers. He has supported black concert promoters in their fight against exclusionary policies of talent agencies. As convener of the Georgia Coalition for the People's Agenda (CPA), he is active in election reform and voter empowerment, economic justice, criminal justice reform, including alternative sentencing and a moratorium on the death penalty.

He is married to Evelyn Gibson Lowery, an activist in her own right, founder of SCLC/WOMEN and is the father of five children.

Lowery has received numerous awards, including an NAACP Lifetime Achievement Award and the Martin Luther King Center Peace Award. Essence has twice named him as one of the Fifteen Greatest Black Preachers. Lowery is married to Evelyn Gibson Lowery, an activist in her own right.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained in meetings with the regional leaders of my Congressional district. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcalls 282, 283, 284 and 285.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LITERACY, EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION ACT (LERA)

HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Literacy, Education and

Rehabilitation Act (LERA). The purpose of LERA is to reduce recidivism and the victimization and costs, fiscal and social, associated with such recidivism. Studies have shown that inmate participation in education, vocational and job training, prison work skills development, drug abuse, mental health and other treatment programs, all reduce recidivism, significantly.

The Federal prison population has increased more than 7-fold over the past 20 years. In 1984, the population was about 25,000 prisoners. Today, there are more than 175,000 prisoners, and the population is growing. According to the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), the primary reasons for this tremendous growth has been longer sentences resulting from the 1984 Sentencing Reform Act and mandatory minimum sentences. The Sentencing Reform Act established determinate sentencing, abolished parole, and dramatically reduced good time credits. Other sentencing policy by Congressional or administrative action has increasingly limited the discretion of judges and prison officials to impact sentence lengths or confinement options.

During the same period, the annual number of prisoners returning to communities has also increased several fold. Currently, about 40,000 prisoners leave Federal prisons each year. The question is whether they leave prison better prepared to lead law-abiding lives, or in a worse position to do so. The addition of a felony record and a Federal prison stay is not, in and of itself, likely to add to a person's job or social development prospects.

Unfortunately, the elimination of incentives such as parole, good time credits and funding for college courses, means that fewer inmates participate in and excel in literacy, education, treatment and other development programs. LERA provides incentives and recognitions for achievement by giving the BOP Director the discretion to grant up to 60 sentence credit days per year to an inmate for successful participation in literacy, education, work training, treatment and other development programs. LERA will not only prevent crime victimizations, but also save taxpayers money. Many sentences are excessively long because mandatory sentencing policies do not allow sentencing judges the discretion to distinguish between hardened criminals and those amenable to rehabilitation and preparation for successful re-entry. LERA allows offenders to distinguish themselves.

FREEDOM FOR FABIO PRIETO LLORENTE

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Fabio Prieto Llorente a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Prieto Llorente is an independent journalist for the independent press agency of Isla de Pinos. Instead of the false propaganda mandated by the regime, he writes about the reality of the reprehensible repression inflicted on the Cuban people by the dictatorship. Because of his belief in truth in print, truth for the people of Cuba and truth to enable the world

to better comprehend the daily horrors of totalitarian Cuba, Mr. Prieto Llorente was a target of the totalitarian regime.

According to Amnesty International, Mr. Prieto Llorente received threats and warnings from Castro's thugs in order to prevent him from pursuing his career as a truthful journalist. He was detained in January 2002 simply because he reported on an opposition demonstration. On March 19, 2003, Mr. Prieto Llorente was arrested because he published the facts about the tyrannical regime.

He was arrested as part of the despicable island wide crackdown of that month on peaceful pro-democracy activists. In a sham trial, Mr. Prieto Llorente was sentenced to 20 years in the infernal totalitarian gulag. While incarcerated in the grotesque squalor of the atrocious gulag, he has been held in solitary confinement, confined with common criminals, suffered from violent headaches and lack of medical care. Let us be very clear, Mr. Prieto Llorente is languishing in unspeakable squalor because he published the truth.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that journalists such as Mr. Prieto Llorente are locked in dungeons for writing and publishing the facts about the nightmare that is the Castro regime. At the dawn of the 21st Century, it must no longer be acceptable for anyone in the world, anywhere in the world, to be locked in a gulag for writing the truth. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of Fabio Prieto Llorente and every prisoner of conscience languishing in the Cuban dictatorship's abhorrent gulag.

WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL DEDICATION A SUCCESS; WEEKEND OF MAY 29, 2004

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the staff of the American Battle Monuments Commission and the World War II Project for all their efforts in ensuring a very successful dedication of the World War II National Memorial: General P.X. Kelley, Chairman, American Battle Monuments Commission; Major General John Herring, Secretary, American Battle Monuments Commission; Mr. Kenneth Pond, Executive Director, American Battle Monuments Commission; Mr. Mike Conley, Associate Executive Director, National World War II Memorial Project; Mr. Bob Patrick, Director, National World War II Memorial Dedication; Mr. Dick Couture, Director, Marketing and Member Services, National World War II Memorial; Ms. Betsy Glick, Director, Communications, National World War II Memorial Project; and Mr. Barry Owenby, Project Executive, National World War II Memorial Project.

These individuals, along with their staffs, worked untold months to ensure that the weekend of May 29, 2004, will live on in the hearts of the veterans and families of the "Greatest Generation."

More than 150,000 people attended the May 29, 2004, dedication ceremony of the first national memorial built to honor all of the Americans who served their country during World War II. Millions more were able to watch the

dedication through live television feeds to the national broadcasting networks, the History Channel, and C-Span.

Additional events throughout the weekend drew large crowds who gathered for reunions and celebrations. A four-day National World War II Reunion held in conjunction with the Smithsonian Institution Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage drew over 300,000 people, and three two-hour ceremonial and musical performances held at the MCI Center were sold out. A Service of Celebration at the Washington National Cathedral was well attended by military and civilian clergy and World War II dignitaries.

Mr. Speaker, the enthusiasm, performance, and commitment of all the staff at the American Battle Monuments Commission, the National WWII Memorial Project, and the National WWII Memorial Dedication do not go unnoticed, and I thank them for their exceptional work on behalf of our Nation's veterans.

HONORING SAUK CITY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sauk City as it celebrates its sesquicentennial. Sauk City is Wisconsin's oldest incorporated village; it was founded in 1854, just 6 years after the great state of Wisconsin.

This scenic part of my district is situated on the beautiful Wisconsin River and attracts thousands of visitors each year to boat, hike, camp, and bike. Sauk City's great outdoors provide not only a wonderful backdrop for leisure activities, but also have proved to sustain this community and its strong investment in agricultural trade.

Sauk City can pride itself on being a community which has always placed an emphasis on the safety of its residents. It is home to Wisconsin's oldest-standing fire station and volunteer fire department; Sauk City is also a member of the oldest joint law enforcement agency in our state.

I am honored to be participating in Sauk City's sesquicentennial festivities, which will kick off with a parade through town, complete with horse-drawn carriages, old tractors, classic cars, and floats depicting life in Sauk City from 1854 to today. Residents will be able to see scenes of old school rooms and a quilting bee and veterans will be driving authentic military vehicles. The parade will conclude at August Derleth Park, where community members can view circus wagons from the Circus World Museum, see horses pulling a Leinenkugel Beer Wagon, watch cloggers, singers, jugglers, and Mexican and Latin-American dancing demonstrations. There will even be a beard contest and a hot dog-eating contest for those who feel particularly competitive. A fireworks display will conclude the festivities.

This celebration of 150 years for Sauk City demonstrates the strength of this closely-knit community and offers the promise of continued stability in the future.

CONGRATULATING MACARTHUR HIGH SCHOOL

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate MacArthur High School for receiving the Intel/Scholastic Twenty-First Century Schools of Distinction Award. Located in my district of Irving, Texas, MacArthur High School received the award announced yesterday by Intel Corporation. The school will receive a \$25,000 grant from the Intel Foundation, in addition to technology tools and assistance.

Mr. Speaker, this is truly an honor for everyone at MacArthur High School who participated in this highly competitive contest and chosen as one of two recipients as the "Best of the Best". Recipients were selected for their performance in comprehensive programs exhibiting excellence in the use of technology, parental and community involvement, professional development, teamwork and high academic standards.

Each student at MacArthur is issued a school-issued laptop and access to a co-op curriculum, which includes work study and advanced placement programs, as well as concurrent enrollment at a nearby college. Teamwork, leadership programs, experimental lab activities and interactive student presentations are just a few examples of how these students make learning an adventure. For the past four years, the school has received the state's highest academic rating.

It has been discussed on numerous occasions and in numerous venues that the United States will not be able to lead—or for that matter, successfully compete—in the global economy if we cannot put a stop to the continuing shortage of highly qualified scientific and technology brainpower in this country.

This award is of particular significance, as I have long championed the need for more emphasis in science and math education, particularly for young children. I believe these students and others like them will become tomorrow's leaders in the fields of science and technology. Showing students the importance and the value of the science and technology fields is a life long process. It cannot happen overnight. It begins here and now. I implore our community leaders to also encourage science education in young men and women.

I would like to commend the Intel Foundation and Intel CEO Craig Barrett for their leadership and commitment to this initiative. The additional contributions of their corporate partners should also be acknowledged.

Mr. Speaker, again, I congratulate the students, teachers, principals and parents of MacArthur High School on this distinguished honor.

TRIBUTE TO WALLACE FOWLER

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who embodies philanthropy.

Wallace Fowler has worked for years growing the business communities of rural America. His successes are many, but it is his unabashed willingness to give back to his community that demands recognition.

Mr. Fowler was educated in Arkansas and has worked in The Natural State since the 1950's. Today, he serves as Chairman or vice-chairman for a half-dozen companies in Arkansas. He sits on several civic commissions, planning associations, and development councils. His list of honors is long and distinguished.

Blessed with an appreciation of local and rural business communities, Mr. Fowler has dedicated his life to growing rural America one business at a time. As Chairman of several local banks, he knows better than most how to give a helping hand when it's needed. More importantly he has learned rural America is capable of achieving its goals if given a chance.

He has been awarded most recently with the Arkansas State University (ASU) Indian Club's Distinguished Service Award, the Jonesboro, Arkansas, University Rotary Club's Vocational Excellence Award and ASU College of Business' Executive of the Year. These awards, along with the several others he has earned, are ample proof of his unrelenting drive and his strength of character; but they do not accurately depict his generosity.

On behalf of the Congress, I extend the utmost respect and thanks to a man who not only grew businesses and communities through his professional life, but also gave his personal time to the same goals. Mr. Fowler is a devout family man and a distinguished Arkansan and I am honored to recognize him, a great friend, in this Congress.

IN HONOR OF RAFAEL LÓPEZ

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the great young leaders I have had the privilege to know and work with. Rafael López of Watsonville, California, will be leaving his post as founding Executive Director of First 5 Santa Cruz County to attend Harvard University and pursue a Master's degree in Public Policy and Administration.

Rafael is a native of Watsonville, where his family worked as migrant agriculture workers. One of the many noteworthy facts about his life is that he was the first in his family to graduate from both high school and college. Rafael graduated from Watsonville High School and attended Vassar College in New York and the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he earned a degree with honors in American Studies and was awarded a Distinguished College Service Award. Rafael's resume reflects his deep commitment to his community and our nation: an internship with a Member of Congress, staff member of the UCSC Chicano Latino Research Center; Coordinator for Residential Education at Merrill College, UCSC; working with groups such as the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, the El Andar Foundation, the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County, the City of Watsonville, the County of Santa Cruz, the list goes on and on.

Most recently, however, Rafael has truly shown what it means to be a community leader. In 1999, he ran for a seat on the Watsonville City Council in a special election, and won with over 70 percent of the vote. At the time, Rafael was the youngest person in Watsonville's history to serve on the council, and he approached this position with a passion and commitment that reflected his love of his hometown. As in all things in his life, he felt called to serve his constituency to the best of his ability, and reached out to those he served in an unprecedented manner.

Shortly after his election victory he was tapped as the founding Executive Director of First 5 Santa Cruz County, a countywide program implemented through the passage of the California Children and Families First Act (Proposition 10). Once again Rafael rose to the challenge of working with and implementing a program aimed at serving children from zero to five years old and their families out of whole cloth. While the act itself does provide many specifications for how each county's commission would operate, it also provides the flexibility necessary for each commission to implement the act in a way that helps its constituency best. For Rafael and the commissioners, this included grant funding to large and small programs; countywide analysis with partners such as the United Way on the state of families and children in Santa Cruz County; and perhaps most groundbreaking is the upcoming implementation of guaranteed health care for all children from zero to eighteen. This last program has been the vision of many individuals and organizations in the county, and is the result of a unique and exciting partnership, but without a doubt Rafael's energy, focus and passion for this program shines through.

Mr. Speaker, there are few individuals who have left as large an impact on the Pajaro Valley and Santa Cruz County as Rafael López. I am honored to know him, and equally saddened to see him go. I would like to take this opportunity to wish him and his wife, Rosa Ramirez, all of the best in success and happiness as they enter this new stage in their lives.

REMEMBERING MR. CHARLES HAWKINS, NOTED BUSINESSMAN, COMMUNITY LEADER, NASHVILLE BENEFACTOR

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the remarkable life of Mr. Charles Hawkins of Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Hawkins was a beloved figure in our community, recognized for his leadership in the business community, his enthusiastic and generous support to so many Nashville organizations and his constant willingness to offer a helping hand to anyone in need.

Charlie Hawkins was Nashville through-and-through. You might say it was a role in life he was simply born to do. His ancestors first called Nashville home in the 1860s, making Charlie, who was born there in 1932, the fourth generation in his family committed to building a greater Nashville for all.

Whatever Charlie did, he did with passion, loyalty and a commitment that was lifelong. He graduated from Montgomery Bell Academy in 1950 where we was named an all-city athlete in three sports. Years later, he would return to serve the school in many ways, including time spent on its board of directors. And Charlie's love of MBA went beyond his affection for the school itself. It was through MBA that he met the love of his life and his wife of 49 years, Lee Ann Allen Hawkins, the daughter of Howard Lee Allen, his high school coach.

From MBA Charlie went to Vanderbilt University and graduated in 1954. Charlie followed in the footsteps of his father and played baseball at Vanderbilt from 1952 to 1954. He became a star pitcher for the Commodores, celebrated as the first Vanderbilt pitcher to earn all-Southeastern Conference honors. His time on the Vanderbilt baseball team was just the beginning of his commitment to the sport, the Vanderbilt team and sharing his passion for the game with others. He donated \$2 million to Vanderbilt for the construction of new stadium for the Commodores which opened in 2002. Today, the Charles Hawkins Field is enjoyed by Nashville families and the university community alike, as well as being recognized as one of the best baseball stadiums in the South.

Charlie Hawkins was a generous financial supporter of the Vanderbilt Commodores but it was his generosity of spirit and daily support to the individual students on the team that was truly outstanding. He never missed a game. He rode on the bus with the team to away games. His daughter, Leslie, baked 'good luck' cookies for the team before every game. And his door at home was always open to any player in need of a home cooked meal or a little grandfatherly advice and support. As news of his recent battle with cancer became known, this year's Commodores rallied to his support. When his illness prevented his joining the team for one recent road trip, the team took the bus to Charlie, dropping by for a good luck send-off as they headed out of town. Even though he was not able to make some of the Commodores' final games this season, Charlie was there on the field with his team who had his initials added to their baseball caps. Clearly, Charlie inspired his beloved team. The Commodores finished the season with its best record ever, winning its first NCAA Regional title and its first appearance in an NCAA Super Regional.

Charlie Hawkins touched and helped Nashvillians in many walks of life. He founded one of the city's most respected real estate development companies, the Charles Hawkins Company. Headquartered in downtown Nashville, Charlie and his company were active in bringing new growth to the area in recent years. He served on the board of the Nashville Red Cross, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Watkins Institute, Big Brothers of Nashville, the Junior League of Nashville and the Downtown Rotary of Nashville. He also served as President of the Nashville Board of Realtors and a member of the Metropolitan Port Authority. He was also a charter member of the Woodmont Christian Church where he served as an elder and Sunday school teacher. In addition for 20 years, he conducted church services at the Retired Teachers Home in his Green Hills neighborhood.

My hometown lost a very special friend with the recent death of Charlie Hawkins at the age

of 72. On behalf of the fifth district of Tennessee, I send my deepest condolences to Lee Ann Hawkins and to their four children, daughters Leslie, Mary, Julia Ann and son Bill. Charlie Hawkins' generous and joyful presence will be missed in Nashville but his spirit lives on in the many programs and individuals he inspired and supported every day.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO
PAUL OLLILA

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding educator in my district. Paul Ollila is retiring this year as the Superintendent of the Copper Country Intermediate School District (ISD), closing the final chapter of a career dedicated to the children of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Mr. Ollila's 40 years as a teacher, administrator, and leader serve as a shining example of his profession.

Paul Ollila earned his bachelor's degree in social work/sociology and secondary education from Northern Michigan University in 1964. That same year, he began his career as a special education teacher and teacher consultant with the Adams Township School District. In addition to working with his own students, Mr. Ollila taught special education students throughout the Copper Country ISD.

In 1976, after twelve years as a teacher for both Adams Township Schools and the Copper Country ISD, Mr. Ollila was asked to become the Assistant Superintendent and Director of Special Education for the ISD. He accepted this position, and for the next 16 years, special needs students throughout the Copper Country benefited from his experience, leadership, and compassion.

In 1993, Mr. Ollila became the Superintendent of the Copper Country ISD. In this role, he has been responsible for delivering a range of services to school districts and their students. In addition to special education, the ISD assists school districts with compliance and coordination services, and provides a number of specialized programs for students. These include alternative education, outdoor education, career preparation, vocational education, gifted and talented programs, and health curriculum. The ISD also operates the outstanding Western Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education.

Throughout his years as an educator, Paul Ollila has recognized the importance of ongoing education both for his own career, and for his ability to better serve his students. In 1966, he earned a Master's degree in special education/educational administration, and in 1989 he earned a Specialist's degree in educational administration, both from Northern Michigan University.

Mr. Speaker, Paul Ollila's service as a teacher and administrator has been outstanding, but it is even more remarkable when you consider the numerous leadership roles he has taken on at the state, Upper Peninsula, and local levels. In addition to taking leadership roles in various professional associations, Mr. Ollila has served on the State Special Education Advisory Committee, the UP Center

for Educational Development, Upper Great Lakes Education Technologies, Inc., the Copper Country Americorps, the Finlandia University Community Advisory Board, and the Copper Country Superintendents' Round Table to name just a few. Finally, there are three school districts in the Copper Country ISD without their own superintendent, and Mr. Ollila has served in this capacity whenever he was needed.

As much as he has given to his career though, Paul Ollila has always had time for his family. He has been happily married to his wife Joyce for 44 years, and together they have six children and 6 grandchildren. He is also an avid golfer and travel enthusiast.

Mr. Speaker, Paul Ollila's commitment to his family, his community, and the students of Michigan's Upper Peninsula serves as an example to all of us. I ask the House to join me in honoring him and thanking him for his service.

70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PASSAGE OF THE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION ACT

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the passage of the Federal Credit Union Act. Recognizing that every credit union exists "for the purpose of promoting thrift among its members and creating a source of credit for provident or productive purposes," Congress passed the Federal Credit Union Act on June 26, 1934 and in so doing gave birth to the network of federal credit unions that continues to serve our nation's citizens today.

While federal credit unions have grown since 1934, their basic mission remains the same today as it was 70 years ago:

Federal credit unions now as they did then provide low cost financial services to their members; and

Federal credit unions now as then continue to emphasize their traditional cooperative values of democratic control and volunteerism.

The unique democratic spirit of credit unions is what sets them apart from other financial institutions. Seventy years after passage of the Federal Credit Union Act, federal credit union boards of directors are still elected democratically with every single member of the credit union (regardless of the amount of his or her savings) having an equal vote. What's more, the vast majority of credit union board members volunteer their time for the betterment of the credit union, without compensation of any kind.

Although credit unions are a very small segment of the financial services industry, that democratic spirit and sense of volunteerism has helped them grow over the course of the past seventy years to serve more than 85 million Americans. Today, credit unions serve as a viable, healthy alternative to other traditional providers of financial services.

Credit unions also continue to serve a growing number of people of modest means. By building branches in distressed neighborhoods absent other traditional financial institutions, credit unions have helped encourage entrepre-

neurship and improve access to basic financial services.

I commend the Nation's federal credit unions for the good work they have done for the last 70 years and the good work they will, no doubt, continue to do for the next 70 years.

CHILD NUTRITION AND WIC REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 2507, the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004, which both reflects—and improves upon—the bipartisan child nutrition bill we passed in the House on March 24 of this year.

Like H.R. 3873, the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act will provide food security to more children and families than ever before, eliminate needless paperwork for program providers and place a renewed emphasis on obesity prevention through improved nutrition and greater exercise.

But—fortunately for America's children—S. 2507 goes further. It expands the popular Lugar summer food pilot to two additional states. It gives five states new authority to look at eliminating the "reduced price" category for school lunch. It establishes important new cost containment measures to ensure the integrity of the WIC program. And—perhaps most significantly for those of us interested in increasing participation rates among eligible children—S. 2507 provides mandatory funding for all schools to directly certify food stamp-eligible children for free school lunch by 2008—and greater flexibility for schools to verify income through third party sources like TANF and Medicaid. These measures take an important step towards eliminating at least some of the barriers that currently keep otherwise eligible children from accessing these critical programs.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I'd like to thank Chairman BOEHNER, our ranking member Mr. MILLER, Mr. CASTLE and Ms. WOOLSEY—along with Senators COCHRAN and HARKIN—for all of their hard work on this important legislation. I think we can all be proud that—at least on this issue—we have done the people's work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 18, 2004, I was unable to participate in legislative business due to an important, long-standing commitment in my district. Had I been present for legislative business on June 18, 2004, I would have voted "yea" on House Amendments 580, 581, 585 and 592; and would have voted "nay" on House Amendments 578, 583, 584, and 589.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of H.R. 4567, the Fiscal Year 2005 Homeland Security Appropriations Act.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GUAM'S FIRST CHAMORRO TERRITORIAL LIBRARIAN: MAGDALENA "MAGGIE" SANTOS TAITANO

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Magdalena "Maggie" Santos Taitano, Familian Oncho, who passed away on June 17, 2004. I also extend my deepest sympathies and prayers to her family and friends.

Maggie was born on July 1, 1928. She was married to the late Guam Senator Richard Flores Taitano, and was mother to Taling Maria, Richard Jr., John Joseph, and Carmen Teresita. She was also a grandmother, great-grandmother, wife, sister, auntie, godmother, and friend. A devoted mother and wife, Maggie was also a religious person who demonstrated her commitment to her community through her involvement in various civic organizations. She was active politically as well, and recognized the importance of protecting Guam's heritage and history for future generations.

This belief was reflected in her passion for the library sciences, an interest Maggie first developed while working in a library while still in high school. After graduating from George Washington High School in 1950, Maggie began working as a library assistant at the Guam Public Library. From there, Maggie pursued higher education, receiving a full scholarship to attend Mount Mary's Catholic College in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where she received her Bachelor's in business administration. She continued her studies at Texas Women's University in Denton, Texas, becoming the first Chamorro to earn a Master's degree in library sciences.

Maggie then returned home to begin a distinguished career in service to the people of Guam. In 1960, she became the first Chamorro Territorial Librarian of the Guam Public Library—later renamed the Nieves M. Flores Memorial Library. Some of her achievements included instituting the Summer Reading Program, the Saturday Storytelling Program, the Pacific Area Collections, and making the library more accessible to the community. Although Maggie retired in 1987, she could not stay away from the library for long, returning to serve part-time at the University of Guam's Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Library. She later transferred to the Micronesian Area Research Center (MARC) where she had a prominent role in putting together the papers of public officials, including those of my husband, the late Governor Ricardo Bordallo. It was fitting that in 1997, MARC was renamed the Richard F. Taitano Research Center in honor of the institution's creator, her late husband.

I have been blessed to also call Maggie a friend. We first knew each other in high school, and I was honored to be Godmother to her daughter Carmencita. Our husbands were also running mates in the 1970 Gubernatorial election, running on the slogan "A New Day for Guam." I am deeply saddened by Maggie's passing, but know that she has left behind a legacy that will be treasured for generations to come.

OHIO NUTRITION AND WIC
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give my enthusiastic support to S. 2507, "The Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act of 2004".

In January of this year, I urged the Committee on Education and the Workforce to include in this Reauthorization Act provisions to authorize fruit and vegetable pilot programs for the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program.

The bill expands this program as well as the Summer Food Service Program. It also provides training and technical assistance to schools in program administration and targets benefits to low-income children.

The passage of this bill today is truly a landmark achievement, as it represents the most extensive amendments to the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA) and the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (CNA). This legislation reauthorizes national school lunch and breakfast, child and adult care food, after-school snack, summer food service and special supplemental nutrition programs for (WIC), among others.

The bill also amends the Commodity Distribution Reform Act and WIC Amendments of 1987 and the Food Stamps Act of 1977 to streamline applications for school meal program benefits. It does so by establishing agreements between State Food Stamp Agencies and School Food Authorities.

Like my colleagues, I believe it is critical that our Nation's children have access to healthy and nutritional foods while attending school. The pilot program provided in this bill makes this possible.

Mr. Speaker, we are all well aware that childhood obesity is a major health issue in this Nation that must be addressed. Our children deserve to have healthy choices for their breakfast and lunch meals. For many of our children these meals are the only nutritionally complete meals they will eat throughout the week.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), an estimated 15 percent of children and adolescents ages 6–19 years were overweight in 1999–2000. This represents a 4 percent increase from the previous 1988–1994 estimates. Passage of this bill represents bipartisan and bicameral efforts to benefit the children of our country.

I firmly believe that this is the right bill at the right time for America's women and children.

IN MEMORY OF U.S. ARMY
PRIVATE VAN RYAN MARCUM**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of U.S. Army Private Van Ryan Marcum. Ryan passed away on June 19, 2004

during a training accident in Ft. Benning, GA. He was just 21 years old and a native of my hometown, Prescott, AR.

Upon graduation from high school, Ryan enlisted in the U.S. Army and was qualified for the elite Rangers program. Those who knew Ryan well say he was extremely intelligent, resourceful and determined. He had a love of flying and this passion drove him to become an airborne ranger.

Ryan enlisted for full time service in the U.S. Army where he received the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the Army Service Ribbon.

My heartfelt condolences go out to Ryan's family. We have a lost a brave young man and his legacy will live on through those who knew him well and counted him as a friend.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MICHI
OKA ONUMA**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary life and accomplishments of Michi Oka Onuma, a native San Franciscan who died peacefully at the age of 96 on May 15, 2004. Michi Onuma represented the best of San Francisco. She was a talented leader with a generous heart. She will be greatly missed.

Michi Onuma overcame many obstacles in her life. Graduating from the University of California at Berkeley in 1931, she was one of the few women college graduates of her generation of Japanese Americans. She managed as a single parent at a time when divorce was taboo. She overcame the prejudice that came with being Japanese American, including suffering interment, along with 120,000 fellow Japanese Americans, during World War 11.

During her long life, Michi Onuma had various careers, including as a social worker and a community newspaper reporter and editor. She never fully retired, working well into her eighties before cancer slowed her down. Fortunately, she recovered and remained vital and engaged until the end.

In the process of raising a family and having a career, Michi helped build and sustain community institutions that continue to flourish today. Michi Onuma persuaded the inaugural board of directors of the Japanese Community and Cultural Center of Northern California to build a community center. Michi Onuma was on the YWCA board in its early days when foresighted first generation Japanese American women raised funds to purchase a building for community use in perpetuity. Since these women were not allowed to own property outright, they left the property in trust with the YWCA organization with the understanding that the YWCA would follow their wishes. When the YWCA went back on its promise, Michi Onuma provided the historical documentation needed to negotiate the return of the YWCA into community hands. Nihonmachi Little Friends, a child care center serving the Japanese American community, is now the proud owner of the building.

Other recipients of Michi Onuma's leadership included organizations that she founded such as the Red Dots, a community golf club;

the Japanese Women's Alumnae Association at UC Berkeley; and Satsuki Kai, a Japanese wives group. Michi received a star on the Walk of Fame on Gene E. Suttle Plaza in 2003 for her work in the Western Addition of San Francisco, especially during the upheaval that redevelopment caused in the Japanese and African American communities in the late 1950s. She was also honored as a women warrior by the Pacific Asian American Women Bay Area Coalition as a symbol of what strong women can accomplish.

Michi Onuma was a visionary, a pioneer, and a strong leader who had a lasting impact on San Francisco. We are grateful to have had her with us for so long.

H.R. 4715, THE SPECTRUM
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**HON. JIM NUSSLE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. NUSSLE. Mr. Speaker, I come before the House today to introduce H.R. 4715, the Spectrum Accountability Act, which supports the adherence to sound principles of spectrum auction management, particularly the use of competitive bidding. This bill addresses the requirement for spectrum auctions and the need for the efficient management of this finite resource. The competitive bidding process has already shown us that a fair market value is best attained through the use of competitive bidding.

At present, there is a disagreement over the proper statutory application of the Federal Communications Commission's requirement to conduct spectrum auctions. There are some who suggest that current communications law is unclear as to when an auction is required. This bill reaffirms the obvious intent of Congress to use the auction process and competitive bidding for the grant of commercial spectrum, and clarifies when the auction requirement is applicable.

Congress has a duty to efficiently manage Federal resources. This duty is the same whether the resource is actual taxpayer dollars or public assets, such as electromagnetic spectrum, which are held by the Government. While it is the Federal Communications Commission's role to handle the operational aspects of spectrum management, this function must be carried out as prescribed by communications law. Congress was quite clear that auctions and the competitive bidding process provide the most efficient and appropriate means for spectrum management; this bill will dispel any remaining misconceptions on the matter.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2005

SPEECH OF

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R.

4567) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Chairman, I wish to state for the record my vehement opposition to this amendment.

This amendment purports to deny funds to any state that permits undocumented immigrants to obtain driver's licenses or other "comparable" identification documents and to deny funds to any state or local government that has passed a policy that limits disclosure of immigration status to federal authorities.

Withholding funds from local governments and from our frontline first responders in local level would undermine their effectiveness in a critical mission.

Local law enforcement authorities across the country have made it clear that if the federal government abrogates their responsibility and forces them to take on what is a federal obligation with regard to immigration enforcement, this will be an unfunded mandate, depleting critical resources of time and funding.

The effectiveness of local law enforcement, and our safety, depends on their being able to count on cooperation from their neighbors, regardless of their immigration status. When local authorities are perceived as immigration enforcers, immigrant communities, who may have critical information with regard to homeland security, will be very reluctant to cooperate or even speak with law enforcement.

Due to unfunded mandates and a neglect of real security needs at the local level, municipal governments and local police are already strained, and this amendment would increase that strain.

This would undermine homeland security, and the safety of immigrants themselves. In particular, victims of domestic violence would have to decide whether they are willing to risk deportation before seeking help from authorities.

This amendment would undermine security for all who reside in this country, and the safety of immigrants in particular. Immigrants who are victims of domestic violence would have to decide whether they are willing to risk deportation before seeking help and reporting abuse to authorities.

The provision withholding federal funds from states that permit undocumented immigrants to obtain driver's licenses or other "comparable" identification documents is similarly nonsensical and counterintuitive.

I would think that those who rail against the presence of the undocumented in this country would welcome the opportunity to increase safety by allowing those who are undocumented to be identified by authorities. Allowing undocumented immigrants to obtain forms of identification would make the job of law enforcement easier, and allow immigrants access to necessary basic services such as opening a bank account. All other things being equal, it would be better to have more of the people who are in this country identified and to have as many drivers as possible obtain a proper license. Both of these conditions would contribute to increased public safety.

This amendment is an attempt to blackmail local governments into following an agenda that would endanger their safety, by threatening to take away critical resources. The States that would suffer the most from passage of this amendment include my own state

of Arizona as well as Alaska, California, Colorado, Washington, DC, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wisconsin.

I find it outrageous that a member of this body would suggest withholding critical funds, from programs such as the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, Byrne grants, and many others, just to impose an extreme personal view about what local governments should be doing. This is not the time for zealots to push unfunded mandates through bills providing for the security of us all.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN DAVID REYNOLDS, III

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to acknowledge John David Reynolds, III of Memphis, Tennessee, in his dedication to service in his community. On Wednesday, June 16th, I joined John at the America's Promise to our Youth Inaugural Gala in Washington.

Founded in 1997 after the President's Summit for America's Future, America's Promise helps bring together communities to improve children's lives by making five promises. The five promises are: (1) ongoing relationships with caring adults—parents, mentors, tutors or coaches; (2) safe places with structured activities; (3) a healthy start and future; (4) marketable skills through an effective education; and (5) opportunities to serve through community service.

Given John's commitment to his peers and to community service, we owe it to him to fulfill these promises. To that end, I was pleased to join with America's Promise in making a down payment on those promises by presenting him at the gala a scholarship for post-secondary education.

He stands among his peers as a leader within their eyes and inspires them to reach within themselves to accomplish their goals. Therefore, it is appropriate to recognize his accomplishments before this body of Congress and this Nation.

John is a graduate of Kingsbury High School, where he took on many leadership roles. He was elected to student office in: FCCLA, President; BPA, Vice President; and DECA, President for the 2003–2004 school term. As an active member of all three chapters, he attended Peace Jam at Rhodes College in the Spring of 2004 and met with Nobel Peace Laureate Rigoberto Menchu Tum. During his time at Peace Jam, his FCCLA Chapter presented their own peace plans with over 20 other schools.

In BPA, John taught elementary school students computer basics and data entry skills, helping them prepare for junior high school. As a secondary project, he also helped the Memphis Food Bank with food drives and sorting food.

In DECA this John was part of an effort to collect 10,000 Pennies for Penguins in a drive for Le Bonheur Children's Hospital. The organization conducted a fashion show where they

collected \$700 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. John also participated in the creation of the "Johnville Project." This project was used to teach middle school students the importance of budgeting money, self-worth, and achieving goals.

I would also like to commend John for his accomplishments in numerous FCCLA, BPA, and DECA competitions. John placed second at FCCLA Regional and State BPA, and went to Nationals in DECA. He used each point as a stepping stone to improve upon his project, which took an entire eight months of diligent effort. In addition, he focused on creating a fitness center dedicated to improving the mental and physical health of teens.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend John David Reynolds for his tireless efforts to enrich the lives of the people in his community. Through his ability to confront challenges, and challenge others, he has become a leader among his peers. I commend him for his achievements and ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to him in the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF KATHY MCCARTHY FOR HER YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today before this house I would like to honor and recognize Kathy McCarthy for her hard work and dedication to the citizens of Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District. After serving 14 years in both my office and that of former Congressman Toby Roth, Kathy has chosen to retire and pursue new endeavors outside of federal service.

Kathy McCarthy began her career in public service as a staff assistant and office manager with Congressman Roth. In that time she fulfilled a number of vital roles and coordinated numerous projects, including casework duties and student nominations to the United States Service Academies. During her tenure with Congressman Roth, Kathy earned the reputation of being a fierce advocate for constituents, and an indispensable member of the office.

After joining my staff in 1999, Kathy's expertise and acute understanding of casework issues proved vital in getting my office up and running. She was able to successfully assist thousands of constituents in navigating the maze of federal agencies, helping folks receive all the benefits and services they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize my friend Kathy McCarthy for her years of dedicated public service. My constituents, my staff and I are sad to see her go, but we are consoled by the fact that Kathy will soon be enjoying a long retirement with her family. From the bottom of my heart I say thank you, and wish her all the best in retirement.

OPPOSING THE FISCALLY IRRESPONSIBLE REPUBLICAN BUDGET PROCESS LEGISLATION

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 4663, the so-called Spending Control Act of 2004. This bill is another shameless attempt by the Republican majority to shove their radical, right wing agenda down the throats of the American people. What are they going after this time? Medicare and Social Security. And what are they trying to protect? Tax cuts.

What a surprise. What a surprise that the Republicans would put tax cuts over Medicare and Social Security. I guess it shouldn't surprise us anymore.

This bill purports to be a budget bill. It is supposed to set up rules to restrain spending and reduce the national budget deficit. That's a worthy goal. Too bad the bill doesn't advance us toward that goal. One provision which purports to advance this goal is the pay-as-you go (PAYGO) rule. Under such a plan, any new spending on one program must be paid for by a reduction in spending from another. Such a rule is problematic. Under this plan, if I want to add an important benefit to the Medicare program, I must cut spending elsewhere in the Medicare, or in some other vital program like Medicaid or the State Children's Health Insurance Program. In this time of huge budget deficits, I know we must control our spending habits. But robbing Peter to pay Paul makes no sense when we are talking about the health and well being of our fellow citizens.

That said, I would have no problem supporting PAYGO rules for mandatory spending if the Republicans made them apply to tax cuts as well. But guess what? Under this proposal, tax cuts would be exempt from the PAYGO rules! In other words, we have to eliminate programs to add something to Medicare, but the Republicans can cut taxes until the cows come home! The Republicans could therefore pass another huge tax cut for millionaires without replacing the lost revenue with spending cuts. This then leads to huge deficits because of the exponentially widening gap between spending and revenue. Does this make any sense at all? Of course not!

What makes this bill worse is the fact that increasing mandatory spending for programs like Medicare cannot be paid for by closing tax loopholes and increasing revenue by charging taxpayers what they really owe. For example, if I proposed legislation to fill in the doughnut hole in the Republican prescription drug benefit, I could not pay for that expanded benefit by closing corporate tax loopholes that effectively allow most corporations to go untaxed. In fact, a report by the General Accounting Office found that, on average, 61 percent of all U.S. corporations reported no tax liability between 1996 and 2000. But under this budget legislation we couldn't make a single one of those corporations pay the taxes they owe so that I could provide Medicare beneficiaries the prescription drug benefit they deserve.

Not so many years ago we enjoyed a projected \$5.6 trillion surplus that could have put a huge dent in our national debt, or paid for

health insurance for the 44 million uninsured in this country. Since the original PAYGO rules expired and the Republicans started cutting taxes for their wealthy friends, that surplus has turned into a \$2.9 trillion deficit, which will push our total debt over \$9 trillion. Who do you think is going to pay for that debt if we fail to reinstate PAYGO rules that work? You and I will not foot the bill for this irresponsible policy. Our children, grandchildren and great grandchildren will.

This bill is another colossal mistake which the Republicans want to inflict on our country. I urge my colleagues to support the Spratt substitute, which applies PAYGO to both spending and tax cuts, and to vote against this one-sided Republican bill.

SMALL COMMUNITY OPTIONS FOR REGULATORY EQUITY ACT

HON. C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Small Community Options for Regulatory Equity Act. Rural communities across my state and elsewhere are being unfairly burdened by Environmental Protection Agency regulations that have questionable benefit.

While we all want to ensure a clean, safe drinking water supply for our communities, we must remember that fiscal restraints sometimes require tradeoffs and accommodations. Many small communities believe that EPA regulations will do more harm than good by wasting limited public health funds complying with standards that do little to advance the interests of public health.

For those of you who may have forgotten the arsenic debate of just a few years ago, let me refresh your memory. The Safe Drinking Water Act was used in the past to clean up pollution caused by previous business practices. Now the EPA is using the act to clean up Mother Nature herself. Arsenic is a naturally occurring component in the soil and water of many Western states, including Idaho. Using questionable science, the EPA has committed to ensuring all domestic water systems meet the arbitrary 10 parts-per-billion standard for arsenic—no matter how small those systems are. This is down from the 50 parts-per-billion standard set in 1975.

When the Safe Drinking Water Act was passed, Congress provided flexibility for EPA to determine whether it is economically or technologically feasible to obtain a certain level of reduced contamination. Essentially, the act states that if it's too expensive, smaller systems simply need to get as close to the standard as they reasonably can. Unfortunately EPA has decided not to use that flexibility. EPA has determined that paying \$1,000 per year per user for the smaller water systems to meet the arsenic standard is affordable.

We know that many of our rural communities have low-income residents who make difficult decisions each month. They must choose which bills to pay and which to put off. These folks aren't worried about the cable bill; they're worried about being able to cover their heat, food, power and even prescription drug

costs every month. And when faced with those choices, they'll choose to pay their water bill first. But the EPA—in its infinite wisdom—has decided to place a higher priority on marginal reductions in arsenic level than such basic needs as food and shelter.

That is unacceptable, which is why I am introducing legislation today to allow small and rural communities, those under 10,000 in population, to choose whether they want EPA to enforce regulations on naturally occurring contaminants. If the eligible community determines it is too costly to comply with the rule it can request an exemption from the regulation, which EPA must grant.

No one is talking about removing all the arsenic from the water. We are talking about removing parts per billion, which is removing a very small amount of something that is barely even there. There is no bright line of concentration at the parts-per-billion level beyond which arsenic becomes unsafe. EPA views 9.9 parts-per-billion as safe and 10.1 as unsafe, despite the fact that there is little health difference between such small differences. EPA can't determine how much arsenic ingestion above the federal standard is harmful. While EPA has said that arsenic concentrations above its standard don't necessarily present an unreasonable risk to health, concentrations above 10 parts-per-billion do create a significant financial burden for small communities.

This mandate doesn't consider the unintended consequences and it can't balance competing local priorities. Local communities are in the best position to determine where their scarce resources need to go. EPA is not going to the communities and suggesting ways they can comply or technology they can use. Rather than being a good partner, EPA is once again just an enforcer, and is waiting until 2006 to impose fines on communities that are not in compliance. Such one-size-fits-all government "solutions" do nothing to make the water cleaner. They only provoke bitterness and stifle cooperation.

One small community in Idaho already has had to lay off its only police officer in order to afford studies and other requirements related to complying with the arsenic regulation. Now we are asking people to choose between real public safety and a theoretical health benefit. Further compounding the problem for this rural community, the EPA recently denied its request for a compliance extension, as provided for in the agency's own regulation. Community leaders know they can't comply by 2006 and are trying to do the right thing—but EPA refuses to help them.

We are supposed to have a democratic process here in the United States. In this case, the EPA is overriding the will of local citizens. I believe it's time to put the power back into the hands of those most impacted to determine what truly is best for them.

I remain concerned that this regulation will have very adverse economic impacts on thousands of rural communities across the nation, without addressing legitimate human health concerns. Since there is no economically feasible way for small communities to meet this standard and the standard may result in no health benefits, I support allowing each eligible rural community to decide whether to comply. I encourage you to join me in cosponsoring the Small Community Options for Regulatory Equity Act

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I missed some votes on June 23rd and June 24th, 2004. Had I been able to, I would have voted:

June 23—"No" on the Boehlert amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 291); "No" on the Johnson amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 292); "No" on the Rogers amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 293); "Yes" on the Shays amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 294); "Yes" on the Kucinich amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 295); "Yes" on the Simmons amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 296); "Yes" on the Reyes amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 297); "No" on the Johnson amendment to H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 298); "Yes" on the motion to recommit H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 299); "No" on final passage of H.R. 4548 (rollcall vote No. 300).

June 24—"Yes" on H. Res. 685 (rollcall vote No. 301); "No" on the previous question (rollcall vote No. 302); "No" on the rule for H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 303); "Yes" on H. Res. 676 (rollcall vote No. 304); "No" on the Brady amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 305); "No" on the Chocola amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 306) "No" on the Castle amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 307); "No" on the Hensarling amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 308); "No" on the Hensarling amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 309); "No" on the Kirk amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 310); "No" on the Ryan amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 311); "No" on the Ryan amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 312); "No" on the Ryan amendment to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 313); "Yes" on the Spratt substitute to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 314); "No" on the Hensarling substitute to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 315); "No" on the Kirk substitute to H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 316); "Yes" on the motion to recommit (rollcall vote No. 317); "No" on final passage of H.R. 4663 (rollcall vote No. 318); "No" on H. Res. 691 (rollcall vote No. 319).

"A HERO WALKED AMONG US"

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last Sunday, the people of Massachusetts, and particularly of the town of Sharon in my Congressional district, lost a great priest to illness. Father Robert Bullock exemplified the virtues of the priesthood. He was a wise, loving, kind man of great compassion and unimpeachable integrity. His death at 75 saddened all who knew of him and indeed all who knew of his great work. On Tuesday, June 22, the Boston Herald published a pithy but profound editorial about the death of this wonderful priest and I ask that it be reprinted here.

[From the Boston Herald, June 22, 2004]

A HERO WALKED AMONG US

Heroes come in many forms, often shaped by their times.

The Rev. Robert W. Bullock, who died this weekend at age 75, had been an everyday kind of hero for a very long time. A chaplain at Brandeis University and later a parish priest in Sharon, he forged lasting ties with the Jewish community, visiting Israel, writing on the Holocaust and speaking out against anti-Semitism.

But when the scandal of clergy sexual abuse broke, Father Bullock went from quiet hero to noisy and courageous critic of the church hierarchy and Bernard Cardinal Law in particular. He headed the Boston Priests Forum, which called on Law to step down in December 2002.

His was a courage born of faith, the kind of courage that will truly be missed around here. But the inspiration that his life was lives on.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the following statement appear in the appropriate place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD behind the votes for Thursday, June 24, 2004: unfortunately, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present for the recorded Rollcall votes Nos. 301–319, I would have voted in the following way:

No. 301, H. Res. 685—Resolution offered by Mr. OBEY of Wisconsin revising the concurrent resolution on the budget for FY 2005. I would have voted "yes."

No. 302, On ordering the previous question providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 4663. I would have voted "no."

No. 303, Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 4663—Pay-as-you-go Budget Enforcement bill. I would have voted "no."

No. 304, H. Res. 676—40th Anniversary of passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. I would have voted "aye."

No. 305, Brady/Turner Amendment to establish a Commission on Elimination of Federal Agencies. I would have voted "no."

No. 306, Chocola Amendment to replace the 20 budget functions with a one page budget that divides spending into 5 categories. I would have voted "no."

No. 307, Hastings/Castle amendment to eliminate the requirement to include 20 budget functions and replace it with 4 basic pieces of budget data. I would have voted "no."

No. 308, Hensarling #11 Amendment setting yearly caps on total entitlement spending. I would have voted "no."

No. 309, Hensarling #12 Amendment which would have provided for an automatic Continuing Resolution if spending bills are not passed by the beginning of the fiscal year. I would have voted "no."

No. 310, Kirk Amendment which would require the CBO to report by February 15 on spending priorities exceeding projections. I would have voted "no."

No. 311, The Ryan (WI)/Gutknecht amendment converting the concurrent resolution on the budget into a joint resolution. I would have voted "no."

No. 312, Ryan (WI)/Neugebauer on the lock box approach to budget savings. I would have voted "no."

No. 313, Ryan (WI)/Stenholm/Castle—an amendment providing for expedited rescissions. I would have voted "no."

No. 314, Spratt Substitute—To extend the PAYGO requirement through September 30, 2009. I would have voted "yes."

No. 315, Hensarling Substitute which sets yearly caps on total entitlement spending. I would have voted "no."

No. 316, Kirk Substitute—Caps spending on all entitlements other than Social Security, medicare and Railroad Retirement. I would have voted "no."

No. 317, Motion to Recommit—The Stenholm motion would restore the Pay-as-you-go law requiring both taxcuts and spending be paid for. I would have voted "yes."

No. 318, Final Passage of H.R. 4663—Pay-as-you-go Budget Enforcement bill. I would have voted "no."

No. 319, H. Res. 691—Congratulating the interim government of Iraq on its assumption of full responsibility and authority as a sovereign government. I would have voted "yes."

SUPPORTING NEARLY 200,000 AMERICANS WORKING TO SECURE, RECONSTRUCT AND ESTABLISH STABILITY IN IRAQ

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the nearly 200,000 American servicemen and women, civilian government officials and private contractors working to secure, reconstruct and establish stability in Iraq. Their collective service and sacrifices, and the sacrifices made by their families in their absence, are to be honored and profoundly respected.

The brave and proud people of Iraq also deserve to be recognized for enduring a very difficult and often violent transition from brutal authoritarian rule to the beginnings of self-rule. There remains years of work ahead by the Iraqi people and their journey will be difficult and bloody, but the path to an open, stable and prosperous Iraq now lies ahead of them.

The current situation in Iraq and the June 30, 2004 transfer of limited sovereignty requires U.S. policy makers and elected leaders to examine the very difficult reality of today and tomorrow with determination and honesty, rather than the best-case planning and irrational optimism that has plagued the occupation for the past twelve months. The U.S. occupation will continue on July 1, 2004 and tens of thousands of Americans remain working in a very dangerous war zone for an indefinite number of months or years.

Today, over one hundred Iraqis and three American soldiers were killed in a series of coordinated attacks across Iraq. Hundred more Iraqis were seriously wounded. Yet, today in this House we debate House Resolution 691 which calls for the American people to "celebrate the restoration of freedom in Iraq" with the June 30th transfer of authority. The absurdity and contradiction between the reality in Iraq and this resolution's call for Americans to celebrate in the face of a murderous day and difficult days, months and years ahead is something I cannot support.

Iraq is a war zone, where guerilla-style attacks take place everyday and our troops operate in an extremely hazardous environment.

There is a phenomenal amount of work that still needs to be done before Iraq and the world can celebrate sovereignty.

Mr. Speaker, I know the people of Minnesota honor the service of tens of thousands of brave Americans serving in Iraq with their thoughts and prayers every day, as do I. We also share in the mourning with the families of service men and women who have died in Iraq. We support the men and women who have come home wounded and need support and time to heal. We witness the tragic deaths of Iraqi women, men and children and feel anguish at the unending violence.

Mr. Speaker, this is no time for the American people or the people of the world to celebrate as House Resolution 691 urges. On July 1, 2004, the first step toward Iraqi autonomy will be taken and the long and difficult path to peace, security and hope begins. It is at the end of this path—when Iraqi sovereignty does not require 140,000 U.S. troops to support it and when peace is real and the Iraqi people are celebrating their own freedom from occupation and violence—that the Congress, the American people and the world should join them in the celebration.

We should be planning for success in Iraq, not planning for a celebration.

THE 2004 INTERNATIONAL DAY IN
SUPPORT OF VICTIMS OF TORTURE

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow we will observe the seventh International Day in Support of Victims of Torture. The date June 26 is no accident: it was on June 26, 1987 that the International Convention Against Torture came into effect, and on June 26, 1945 the United Nations Charter was signed. Tragically, torture and other severe human rights abuses continue in many countries around the globe to this day.

Even more tragically, the world has seen in the past few months that the United States is not as firmly placed as it should be among those nations that abhor and fully reject torture. The prison abuses at Abu Ghraib have disappointed all Americans. Although President Bush has asserted that “the values of this country are such that torture is not a part of our soul and our being” much of the world remains skeptical about the Bush administration’s commitment to repudiation of torture in light of the recent revelations about internal administration legal memoranda which attempted to carve out broad exemptions from domestic and international prohibitions on torture based on the Presidential power as Commander-in-Chief.

While the Abu Ghraib revelations were appalling, there is another practice going on right now which merits equal attention, and that is the outsourcing of torture by this administration. Under a practice known as “extraordinary rendition,” the CIA delivers terrorism suspects in U.S. custody both domestically and abroad to foreign governments known to use torture for the purpose of interrogation. This extra judicial practice has received little attention because of the great secrecy with which it oc-

curs. Attention was drawn to the practice in September 2002 when Maher Arar, a Canadian citizen, was seized while in transit to Canada through JFK airport, and sent to Jordan and later Syria at the request of the CIA. While in Syria, Arar was tortured and held in a dark, 3-by-6-foot cell for nearly a year. He was ultimately released and detailed his story to the media upon his return to Canada.

In October 2002, outgoing CIA director George Tenet testified to the 9/11 Commission that over 70 people had been subject to extraordinary rendition before September 11, 2001. The numbers since then are classified. Human rights organizations including Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, the Center for Constitutional Rights and the ACLU have detailed numerous cases of extraordinary rendition and are pursuing litigation in some of them. On June 21, the Canadian government launched an investigation into Arar’s case.

This practice is inconsistent with U.S. and international law and is a moral outrage. It must be stopped. If the Bush administration continues to permit this sort of outsourced, third-party torture, it is more likely that our own troops in Iraq could be subject to the same type of brutal treatment. I have recently introduced legislation, H.R. 4674, that directs the State Department to compile a list of countries that commonly practice torture or cruel, inhumane or degrading treatment during detention and interrogation, and prohibits rendition to any nation on this list, unless the Secretary of State certifies that the nation has made significant progress in human rights. The bill explicitly permits legal, treaty-based extradition, in which suspects have the right to appeal in a U.S. court to block the proposed transfer based on the likelihood that they would be subjected to torture or other inhumane treatment.

Extraordinary rendition to countries known to practice torture amounts to outsourcing torture. It is morally repugnant to allow such a practice to continue. H.R. 4674 is designed to ensure that we not only ban torture conducted by our own forces but we also stop the practice of contracting out torture to other nations. Torture enabled by extraordinary rendition is outrageous and could expose our own forces to the same type of treatment.

It is also deeply foolish of the Bush administration to allow any questions to be raised as to America’s rejection of torture. Quite simply, actions such as those at Abu Ghraib and the ongoing practice of extraordinary rendition endanger American soldiers and civilians who may be captured in Iraq, Afghanistan or elsewhere. By failing to firmly bar methods of torture with U.S. detainees, the Bush administration has increased the likelihood that Americans overseas will be tortured or subjected to inhumane treatment.

BALKAN ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the establishment of a new and innovative non-profit foundation whose sole ob-

jective is to rationalize and accelerate the transition of the Balkan countries to full market economies. The purpose behind the Balkan Organization for National Financial Development (BONAFIDE) is the promotion of U.S. investment in the region by facilitating the harmonization of the ethics, laws and regulations governing business, investment and the financial markets in these countries with those of the United States.

History is clear, Mr. Speaker. The greatest speed, quality and durability of the transition to democracy in this culturally and politically complex region will not be achieved solely through diplomatic pressure and direct foreign assistance. Instead, this transition is best achieved through positive pressures developed within these economies through the positive participation our companies and institutions in legitimately participating in their growth.

In the past, there was an accepted and established manner of conducting business and working with government in these countries that was, by most measures, corrupt. The reality is that the lack of laws promoted this weakness. Today, with anti-corruption laws in place, the lack of enforcement institutions and transparency are in some cases promoting the perpetuation of these practices. The situation is improving, but it is by no means where it needs to be. As I see it, we can sit on the sidelines and lament the corruption of the past and the present, or we can support constructive programs and look to the future.

We can sit back and allow the other nations and their companies to participate in the tremendous economic potential in the region while imposing their own models of business ethics on these developing economies, or we can aggressively promote competitive U.S. investment and develop business ethics like ours. We need to help concentrated wealth achieved in a time when there was an absence of law transitioned into a framework of legitimate business. This is the purpose of the BONAFIDE organization.

BONAFIDE is funded exclusively by business and industry in the Balkans, including companies and individuals from the banking, railroad, mining, petroleum, telecommunications, and agriculture industries, as well as individuals who see the clear benefits of a closer alignment with the United States and its economic principles and practices, such as leading financial institutions and corporations from the Republic of Serbia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Republica Srpska and Bulgaria, as well as individuals who have come, not unscathed, through this period of vague law, such as Sorin Vintu of Romania. These companies and individuals are concerned that the concentration of investment from countries other than the U.S. will have the effect of stagnating reforms and, therefore, growth. They are now committed to the early adoption and implementation of regulatory and enforcement reforms and transparency in their countries on the U.S. model, not the German or Russian model.

BONAFIDE, through its headquarters in Washington, will promote the accelerated harmonization of national laws, regulations and best business practices for the Balkans with those of the United States through an aggressive education exchange and cooperation program. BONAFIDE will facilitate collaborative

working visits of U.S. legislators and regulators with their counterparts in the region; between leaders of industry, financial services and law and their counterparts in the Balkans; and of academic leaders with government, business and educational institutions in these countries.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the establishment of this new organization and organizations like it and I strongly support the objectives they promote.

RECOGNIZING SCORE

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 25, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a valuable, non-profit association helping America's small businesses and entrepreneurs. The organization I speak of is SCORE, Counselors to America's Small Businesses.

Small businesses are vital to our communities and our economy. They add jobs, add dollars to local economies, and provide a valuable sense of community. However starting

and operating a small business is a serious risk, and it is not easy.

Many hard-working, skilled, brilliant Americans have all the ambition and specialized knowledge to take that risk—but they lack the business knowledge and experience necessary to be successful. That is why I'd like to thank everyone at SCORE for giving these ambitious, eager, hard-working Americans the last tool they need to make their endeavor a success.

I'd like to thank SCORE and all of their members and employees for their philanthropy, advocacy, and dedication to American small businesses. I'm pleased to honor them on the floor of this House.