

evoke in us a sense of wonder and mystery. I have known that poignant feeling as I looked out across the rows of white crosses and Stars of David in Europe, in the Philippines, and the military cemeteries here in our own land. Each one marks the resting place of an American hero. Each died for a cause he considered more important than his own life, for the values which make up what we call civilization."

Freedom of speech and freedom to choose our religion, the responsibility of participating in our democracy through the ballot, the opportunity for achieving an education and earning a living—these are the defining pillars upon which our Nation is built, and these are the values that we must defend and pass along to our children.

This day leaves few hearts unmoved in recalling the brave men and women who died in defense of these values of freedom and democracy. Memorial Day is not about war or peace. It is about people who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our Nation.

How can we best honor their memory? We must make our lives a tribute to them by sustaining the values for which they fought. We must teach our children the freedoms we enjoy are due to the sacrifices by the Americans who were willing to die for freedom. We must pass along to future generations the importance of education and work. We must remind our youth that their right to free speech and to vote must not be taken lightly. We must provide opportunities for all our children to participate in this Nation's abundance. We must retain such basic rights as health care, decent food and housing, protection of our precious environment, and education by making them our highest priorities.

In doing so, we will build a lasting memorial to our loved ones. Let us keep these commitments in our hearts as we commemorate Memorial Day, 1996.

A SALUTE TO ELIZABETH SPAULDING ALEXANDER

HON. THOMAS M. FOGLIETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. FOGLIETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Elizabeth Spaulding Alexander on the occasion of her retirement from the Philadelphia School District.

Ms. Alexander educated at Fayetteville State University, Marywood College, Temple University, University of the Arts and St. Joseph's University both in Philadelphia, began her tenure with the Philadelphia School District over 30 years ago. Ms. Alexander's teaching career has been marked by numerous awards and many classes of outstanding students. Alexander received the Celebration of Excellence in Teaching Award in 1986 and the Rose Lindebaum Improvement-of-Education Award in 1987. These awards presented to Ms. Alexander were in recognition of her creative teaching techniques, her willingness to involve her students in extracurriculum activities, and her volunteer activities as a tutor in the Adult Literacy Program. Ms. Alexander is an outstanding person who should be commended for her numerous contributions to the field of education in the Philadelphia community.

I wish to join today with the Philadelphia School District, Ms. Alexander's family and friends in recognizing her for her many years of service with the school district and the Philadelphia community. I wish you health, happiness, and prosperity in your retirement years. It is well deserved.

FREE PRESS IN INDIA

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, the facade of a free press in India is crumbling before our eyes. Just the other day the Indian Government seized all the copies of the Kashmir Times newspaper. The seizure was reported in the May 13 issues of the Tribune of Chandigarh. I am introducing this article into the RECORD. According to the report, the newspaper was seized for printing objectionable material about the election process. This objectionable material is not specified. An Urdu-language newspaper, Awam, had been seized previously for similar reasons. India likes to tell the world that it has a free press, but this episode shows that this claim is false.

These seizures would be bad enough if they were isolated incidents. They are not. This repeats a pattern of Indian Government behavior which has previously been prevalent in Punjab, Khalistan, as well as Kashmir, and other states seeking self-determination. Many of us condemned those incidents, including a blanket censorship order imposed on Punjab, Khalistan, back in 1994. I hope that the new Government of India will move to put an end to this kind of repressive activity and that India will finally live up to its democratic principles.

[From the Tribune, May 13, 1996]

COPIES OF KASHMIR TIMES SEIZED

SRINAGAR, May 12.—The state authorities today seized all copies of the Jammu-based leading English daily, The Kashmir Times, at Srinagar airport.

The step was taken as the copies of the daily carried "objectionable material" regarding the on-going election process, the police said here.

The police had seized all copies of a national Urdu daily, Awam, for similar reasons on Friday last.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 21, 1996, the House of Representatives voted to repeal the 4.3-cent-per-gallon tax on gasoline. Although I was unable to vote on this measure, H.R. 3415, I would have cast an "aye" vote in favor of the repeal.

While the history of excise taxes on motor fuel dates back to 1919, the 1993 gas tax increase was unprecedented. Part of the largest tax increase in U.S. history, it funneled dollars collected at the gas pumps not to help maintain and improve the safety and efficiency of our roads, but to fund the operations of the Federal Government.

As I have stated time and time again, and demonstrated in my votes on the House floor, I am a strong supporter of balancing the budget and reducing the Federal deficit. At the same time, I strongly believe that user-generated taxes, like the 4.3-cent gas tax, should be utilized for long-term capital improvement through the highway trust fund. As far as our budgetary woes in the general fund are concerned, our problem is not that we tax too little, but that we spend too much.

Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District is a sprawling terrain encompassing all or parts of 17 counties. It is the people who live in Warren, Renovo, and our other communities who are forced to pay higher prices at the pump. In the past few weeks, it has become more expensive for people to take their children to school; travel to and from work; or take a family vacation as summer travel begins. Especially now, they are in need of this relief.

By repealing the 4.3-cent tax, we will cease breaking faith with the American people. Meanwhile, to reduce the deficit, there are many avenues to pursue in search of Government streamlining and increased efficiency of Federal operations. People in rural Pennsylvania and from coast to coast should not be penalized with higher gas prices because of taxes that fund Big Government instead of badly needed roadway improvements.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICO VESPUCCI NAPOLITANO

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we enter the Memorial Day weekend to pay tribute to a truly great American, Americo Vespucci Napolitano. Nappy, as he is known by friends, served his country in Ireland, England, and Normandy as a member of General George Patton's 3rd Army Division. He was awarded the Purple Heart after being wounded during a battle in Brez, France.

Following his 6 years of service in the military, Nappy joined the U.S. Postal Service, where he was employed for 30 years.

After moving from Bridgeport to Trumbull, CT, Nappy joined American Legion Post 141 in the mid 1950's. Since that time he has been a stalwart member of the Post and is personally responsible for spearheading many of the organization's initiatives over the years. Having held every major position in the Post, he served as Post Commander on six occasions. Nappy was responsible for starting the Salvation Army bell-ringing project, the American Legion baseball team and the college scholarship program, as well as the Post's academic and scouting awards programs.

He is well-known as a tireless worker for his community and country and has given back to both in exemplary fashion over the years. He is a model for our youth and a symbol of that which is best in our country.

It has been my pleasure to pay respect to this great American as the entire country prepares to remember all those who served our Nation in its times of need.

THE MONTANA FREEMEN

HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, we now know that the so-called Freeman in Montana received huge amounts of free money from the Federal Government before they declared that our American Government is un-American. Typical.

Spoil someone who is not in need and he'll be the first to hate you.

These well-heeled welfare recipients, these somewhat citizens have misnamed themselves. They say they are Freeman, whereas in fact they are Freebeemen.

For that matter, after a fair trial they might well be known by this name: Common old fashion criminals with a new twist on resisting arrest.

DORIS WILLIAMS IS A CREDIT TO
HER PROFESSION

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the only thing better than a job well done is a person who does the job well every time. Many of my constituents in the Fifth Congressional District of Michigan have benefited over the years from the dedicated, professional, and consistently excellent efforts of Doris Williams, the executive director of the Home Builders Association of Saginaw for the past 16½ years. Doris is being feted tomorrow at a retirement event that will only begin to detail the many achievements of her outstanding career.

Nothing is more personal than the decision of building a house. People certainly put their hard-earned dollars into the design and construction of their residence. But more importantly people put their emotions and desires into each structure. As we all know, sometimes those emotions and desires are rewarded with a tremendous facility constructed by true professionals. Yet at other times, those hopes have to be tempered by the reality of what can be done, and at what cost. The National Association of Home Builders works to guarantee that professional standards will be consistently met—not only standards of construction, but also standards of dealing. Local chapters, like the Home Builders Association of Saginaw, put these standards into effect, and professionals like Doris Williams make sure that they are followed.

Doris' influence goes well beyond the Saginaw area as she has been actively involved in the Women's Council of the National Association of Home Builders and a member of the National Association of Home Builders Executive Officers Council. She was recognized just 2 years ago as the Executive Officer of the Year—only the fourth recipient ever of this prestigious award—for her leadership in association management. She also has served as an officer and president of the Michigan Executive Officers Council of the Michigan Association of Home Builders.

And like a true professional, Doris will be sure to leave a legacy of excellence, including

her service as a member of the advisory board for residential construction at Delta College. Her service at Delta is most appropriate given that she was the first female student to ever attend the residential construction classes at Delta.

People who do their jobs well are remembered, appreciated, and missed when they step down. Doris will be all of these, but at least we know she will continue to be available as a consultant to associations who need help with their day-to-day operations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing Doris Williams well as she enters retirement, and in thanking her for her devoted years of exemplary assistance to building professionals and their clients.

A TRIBUTE TO THE "MINNEHAHA"
AND HER MANY VOLUNTEERS
ON THE BOAT'S SECOND MAIDEN
VOYAGE

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to a unique community which has pulled together in a truly inspiring way to accomplish something remarkable.

On Saturday, May 25, 1996, a dream will be fulfilled and history will be relived.

On that day, a canary yellow, 70-foot-long, 76,000-pound, authentically steampowered craft—the express, or streetcar, boat *Minnehaha*—will once again be officially back on the beautiful and historic waters of Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota, making its maiden voyage from Excelsior to Wayzata.

Mr. Speaker, on Saturday there will be oceanwide smiles on the faces of boaters in a celebrating flotilla of accompanying watercraft and spectators on the shores of Minnesota's most history-steeped lake.

This historic event is the product of 6 years—and 80,000 hours—of hard work by dedicated, committed volunteers organized through the Minnesota Transportation Museum over the last decade and a half. Area children, citizens, and corporations gave \$500,000 to make this dream possible.

On behalf of all the people of our area, State, and Nation, I want to offer my heartfelt thanks and deepest appreciation to all of them for resurrecting part of our history.

Once upon a time, 1906 to be exact, a half dozen of these fast, steam-powered express boats were launched on Lake Minnetonka: *Minnehaha*; *White Bear*; *Hopkins*; *Stillwater*; *Como*; and *Harriet*.

For two decades, these yellow vessels provided not so much a source of pleasure boating as they were the critical transportation of the time to the many communities stretched out across this lake of many bays.

To provide a bit of history, please let me read a brief excerpt from Eric Sayer Peterson's "The Little Yellow Fleet; A History of the Lake Minnetonka Streetcar Boats":

At the turn of the century, Thomas Lowry's renowned Twin City Rapid Transit Company was hard at work carving its own special niche in American history. To provide his patrons with even more services,

Lowry decided to build a fleet of six steamboats to travel the waters of beautiful Lake Minnetonka, complementing his immense electric streetcar line which stretched all the way from Stillwater to the lakeshore at Excelsior, Minnesota. Lake Minnetonka was one of the few places in the world where passengers could transfer from a land-based streetcar and continue their journey in a steamboat that was owned and operated by the parent streetcar company. The unique vessels that Lowry built were the famed Lake Minnetonka streetcar boats.

But time, 20 years, and the Model 'T' brought the demise of this proud fleet. In 1926, the *Minnehaha* filed with red clay roofing tiles and scuttled north of Big Island.

Relocated in 1979 in 70 feet of water at the bottom of Lake Minnetonka and successfully raised to the surface in 1980, the boat then rotted on shore for another 10 years. In fact, less damage occurred to her structure through more than a half century mired in the lake bottom than in the decade up on shore prior to the launch of the restoration effort.

Then the Minnesota Transportation Museum and an energetic legion of volunteers and boat lovers went to work. The *Minnehaha* was lovingly and painstakingly taken apart and pieced back together. The people of our Lake Minnetonka community came forward with original parts from the streetcar boats they had stored in the corners of their homes.

And on Saturday, May 25, 1996, in Excelsior, MN, the culmination of all that hard work will take place. Bands will play. Then the *Minnehaha* will be rechristened and headed for Wayzata and other ports of Lake Minnetonka.

The *Minnehaha* will continue to make those runs now, just as it did in Lake Minnetonka's glory days of the past, all summer long. And for many summers to come.

Rescued from the bottom of Lake Minnetonka, restored lovingly through the boundless generosity of hard-working volunteers, and rechristened with communitywide affection this Saturday, the *Minnehaha* will now be as much a part of our area's future as it has been our past.

For that, and for all the hard work and dedication of so many volunteers, we are eternally grateful.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY
OF WILKES-BARRE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 1996

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th anniversary of the city of Wilkes-Barre, PA. Tomorrow, May 23, 1996, marks the passing of 125 years since the founding of the city of Wilkes-Barre. I am pleased to have been asked to join Mayor Tom McGroarty in commemorating this event, and I take pride in recognizing Wilkes-Barre's anniversary on the House floor today.

As the city of Wilkes-Barre celebrates its 125th anniversary, its citizens will remember the city's long and historically significant past. City residents will also look to the future when officials seal a time capsule that will remain closed until the 175th anniversary of the city.

The history of Wilkes-Barre begins in 1769 when it was settled by colonists from New