the Society of St. Vincent De Paul has benefited for the past 42 years from the selfless efforts of one of its members, Emory Nestor, who is retiring as the president of the Bay County Council.

This gentleman has devoted a great deal of time to the work of the Bay County Council, having been a charter member of the St. Hyacinth Conference, one of the nine conferences in the Bay County Council, and the president of the council since 1990. His skills and leadership have also enabled him to serve as a member of the St. Vincent De Paul Mid East Region Eldercare Committee, which serves as a conduit for providing information about the special needs of the elderly, and an assessment of the various programs of assistance offered to the elderly throughout the region. He also was appointed to the Eastern Michigan Senior Advisory Committee Community Service Commission, where his familiarity with programs for the elderly has been an essential element of the commission's operations.

The key focus of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul has been to provide essential assistance at times of emergencies. Food assistance has been provided for families and individuals. Clothing has been provided through a thrift store. Help with utility bills has been given when urgently needed. And to a limited extent shelter has been provided when emergency conditions create a need, a need which is too often filled only by organizations like the Society of St. Vincent De Paul.

Mr. Nestor's devotion to helping others is equaled with his devotion to his religious faith. He has been a commissioned law minister at St. Hyacinth Parish since 1987. He has helped people at the parish, as well as through the Bay Area Stroke Support Group, at times of great personal difficulty and challenges.

A married gentleman who has been blessed with his loving wife Jean and who knows the value of community service after a long career at General Motors, Emory Nestor is the kind of man that we would all like to have as a neighbor and as a model for our young people.

As he retires from the presidency, and is recognized this weekend by the other members of the Bay County Council, I urge you and all of our colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me in thanking Emory Nestor for his devotion, his service, and his leadership.

FAREWELL TO THE GREATEST LEGISLATIVE BODY IN THE WORLD

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, September 19 is a memorable day in American history. Two hundred years ago today, our first President, George Washington, gave the American people his Farewell Address. This address is read annually to Congress. In it, George Washington offered the American people precious advice, which for the most part they have followed.

Today I'd like to offer my own farewell to Congress, but one that is simply a thank you to my family, friends and associates, who have meant so much to me since I entered this great institution.

Eighteen years ago I first walked onto this floor to be sworn in as a freshman member of the 96th Congress. It was one of the proudest moments of my life. To be elected by one's fellow citizens to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives is a special honor, one that I will always cherish and treasure.

Throughout those 18 years, I've kept in mind something Abraham Lincoln said about the turbulence of public life: ''I do the very best I know how—the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end.''

I couldn't have done it without my family, particularly my wife, Barb. From the beginning, I have been blessed with a supportive and understanding family. Every member of this House knows the sacrifices their families are required to make. Barb, Toby Jr., Vicky, Barbie, and my daughter-in-law Jeanne often went above and beyond what anyone reasonably could expect. I love them dearly—and to give them a big hug of love and thanks.

Representing the people of northeast Wisconsin has been a family affair. Barb has been my unofficial director of constituent affairs and chief campaigner, as well as the finest political strategist I could have ever had. Toby Jr., Vicky, Barbie, and Jeanne have marched with me in countless parades, typed labels, licked stamps, maintained voter lists, manned the telephones and staffed election night headquarters. As a result, they know more about the realities of American politics, I suspect, than the political science faculty at any university. For their help and encouragement I will always be grateful.

I couldn't have done it without the strong support and friendship of the people of northeast Wisconsin. I have made lasting friendships with the people of my district. I have spent every bit of time back in the district that I could, attending community meetings, speaking to small business groups, visiting homes for the elderly, and cheering on high school football teams.

Not once did I feel a trip back home was a chore. No place in America has greater natural beauty: the forests, the inland lakes, the riverways, the hills, the shores and bays of Lake Michigan, from Washington Island west to Northern Highland State Forest, through some of America's most scenic counties: Brown, Calumet, Door, Florence, Forest, Kewaunee, Langlade, Maintowoc, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, Outagamie, Shawano, and Vilas.

Above all, no Member of Congress has a more big-hearted, fun-loving, hard-working, family-oriented group of Americans to represent. Working for them in Washington and visiting them at home has been an honor and a pleasure.

For 18 years, they have placed their trust in me. Fifteen times, in primary and general elections, I asked the people of northeast Wisconsin for a vote of confidence. Fifteen times, they gave me their support. I hope I have met their high expectations.

I couldn't have done it without my staff. They have shared my deep commitment to public service, and they have served the people of Wisconsin and the American people well.

Finally, I couldn't have done it without the friendship and support of my fellow Members. This is a special place, and those who serve here are exceptional people. I have been proud to serve with you; I have learned much from you; and I believe it can be said that together we have made a lasting contribution to this great Nation. God bless all of you and God bless America.

Six months ago, when I announced that after 18 years of service in Congress I would move on to other endeavors, I did so in a statement to the people of northeast Wisconsin. I'd like to insert those comments in the RECORD.

We all know the passage from Ecclesiastes: ''All things have their season, and in their times all things pass under heaven.''

In short, there is a time for everything. Eighteen years ago, I announced my candidacy for Congress. I have devoted nearly two decades of my life to working for the people of Northeast Wisconsin. I have always worked hard—giving one thousand percent. So has my wife Barb and so have my children. Public service involves a commitment from everyone in my family. And the people have seen that.

In nine general elections and two primaries, the people have placed their trust and confidence in me, to represent them in the United States Congress. For me, this has been the highest honor. The people of Northeast Wisconsin are the finest people on earth. Everyday, they have shown me kindness, generosity and friendship. They have been good to me beyond measure, and it has made my job a pleasure as well as an honor.

Now, after eighteen years, it is the right time for me to come home. Therefore I am announcing today that I will not be a candidate for reelection this November. When the people of Northeast Wisconsin first elected me to Congress, Jimmy Carter was President, the Cold War still raged, the Soviet Union was the enemy and the Iron Curtain divided Europe.

As I reflect on my time in office, it has been an era of monumental change. Today, we are at peace. No nation threatens us. Our economy is strong, especially here at home in Northeast Wisconsin. To be sure, we have problems in our society, but I see America returning to the values that built our country and made us strong. My goal has always been to contribute to a better future for our country, and today I am optimistic for the children of America. I have cherished every moment of my service in Congress. When the American people, through their votes, freely choose a citizen to represent them in Congress, they not only vest a person with the power to make the laws, they reaffirm the power of the people to govern themselves. The Congress truly is the people's house. I will always be grateful to the people of Northeast Wisconsin.

As the Irish proverb goes, ''May God in His wonderful love hold each of you in the hollow of his hand.''

This has been a great journey of eighteen years. Thank you.

UNITED STATES AMBASSADORS TO HUNGARY AND ROMANIA ASSESS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE RECENTLY SIGNED HUNGARIAN-ROMANIAN TREATY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on Monday of this week, a Treaty of Understanding, Cooperation and Good Neighborliness was signed by representatives of the Governments

of Romania and Hungary in the Romanian city of Timisoara/Temesvar. The document was signed by leaders of both governments—Romanian President Ion Iliescu, Hungarian Prime Minister Gyula Horn, and Romanian Prime Minister Nicolae Vacaroiu. The treaty represents another milestone in the process of reconciliation and improved relations between these two important central European countries.

The United States is particularly fortunate at this important time to have in Budapest and in Bucharest two outstanding ambassadors who have had an immense positive influence on U.S. relations with both countries and an equally positive influence as these two countries have made great strides in working to resolve the differences between them and to place their relationship on a higher level.

Donald M. Blinken, the United States Ambassador to Hungary, has had a distinguished career as an investment banker with an international reputation. He has served as our envoy in Budapest since late 1993. Alfred H. Moses, the United States Ambassador to Romania, is a distinguished attorney from Washington, DC, who has been active in a number of national organizations.

Today, the Washington Post has published a article written by these two prominent American diplomats which places in historical context the significance of the signing of the Treaty of Understanding, Cooperation and Good Neighborliness. I ask, Mr. Speaker, that this article be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to give thoughtful consideration to the informed views of these outstanding representatives of the United States.

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 19, 1996]

LOOKING BEYOND BOSNIA

(By Donald M. Blinken and Alfred H. Moses)

The attention devoted to events in Bosnia overlooks other important and positive developments in the region which, in history's ledger, could prove equally important. This week Hungary and Romania signed a basic bilateral treaty marking the end to centuries of contention. The treaty has the same significance to Central Europe as the Franco-German reconciliation had to Western Europe. Similar treaties have been concluded between longtime rivals Slovakia and Hungary and between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece.

Historic rivalry between Hungary and Romania dates back at least a thousand years to the Magyar migrations from Central Asia. This led to Hungarian domination of the Carpathian basin, including modern day Transylvania, now in Romania, which was part of Hungary until 1919, when the Treaty of Trianon put an end to 300 years of Austro-Hungarian dominance in the region. Unfortunately, Trianon did not end the rivalry, and at the end of World War II, Budapest found itself occupied by Romanian troops for the second time in this century.

The people of Romania and Hungary liberated themselves from communism seven years ago. But their rivalry remained. Now, together, they are engaged in one final act of liberation, this time from the unresolved legacies of their own tragic and angry past.

The heart of the treaty also is the heart of post-Cold War Europe's security challenges: how to reconcile the rights and responsibilities of minorities with majorities in a part of the world where peoples and borders do not match.

Bosnia is a brutal reminder of the power of these ethnic and nationalistic hatreds. It shows how dangerous this power is to peace not just in the Balkans but to Europe as a whole, and how important it is to defuse ethnic grievances before they explode.

The basic treaty obligates both countries to protect the civil liberties and cultural identity of their national minorities. Education at all levels is guaranteed by the state in the minority's native tongue, as is the right to use one's historic language in administrative and judicial proceedings in areas of minority concentration. The same is true of road signs, print and broadcast media and almost every other aspect of communal life.

The test, of course, will come with implementation, but the overwhelming support for the treaty in both countries is reason for optimism. Moreover, both sides are committed because both know the treaty clears an important hurdle to an even more historic goal: integration with the West.

President Clinton's January 1994 decision, embraced by our allies, to open NATO to new members and new partners, together with efforts by the European Union to enlarge eastward, has given every nation of Central Europe an incentive to strengthen democracy and improve relations with its neighbors.

Both Hungary and Romania have been active participants in the Partnership for Peace, the innovative U.S. initiative that has as one of its purposes to prepare NATO aspirants for eventual membership. Romania was the first to join. And Hungary hosts U.S. forces engaged in Bosnia. Troops from both countries participate in joint Partnership for Peace exercises on the territory of the other and are serving with the implementation force in Bosnia.

NATO and the European Union have made it clear that states aspiring to membership that have unresolved border disputes or are unable to respect international norms on the treatment of minorities ''need not apply.''

This clear message moved Hungary and Romania to look beyond traditional boundaries and historical divisions toward a new vision of a secure and prosperous continent no longer mired in the conflicts of the past. In this spirit, both nations have committed in the basic treaty to support NATO and EU membership for the other.

By embracing countries in Central Europe that show the will and the means to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the continent as a whole, the EU and NATO can help bring an end to historic enmities based on ethnic, cultural and religious differences, including the historic divide between Catholic West and Orthodox East. The example of Hungary and Romania may point to the end of a millennium of Central European history marked by perpetual conflict and human tragedies past counting.

DISCOMFITTING DETAILS OF LATE-TERM ABORTIONS INTENSIFY DISPUTE

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD.

HARSH DETAILS SHIFT TENOR OF ABORTION FIGHT

From the moment the medical paper arrived anonymously at the offices of the National Right to Life Committee three years ago, antiabortion activists knew they had been handed a powerful weapon.

The eight-page, double-spaced document described in precise, straightforward language an abortion procedure sometimes used during the second half of pregnancy, at 20 weeks and beyond. A copy of a medical paper that had been delivered at a recent seminar, it was written by an Ohio doctor who had performed the procedure hundreds of times.

It provide what abortion foes had long believed was crucial in turning public opinion their way: a graphic description of one type of abortion they felt would offend many, perhaps most, Americans. In this procedure, the doctor delivered the body of the fetus—feet first and sometimes still alive—into the birth canal before collapsing the skull so that the head could be drawn through the opening of the uterus. The medical world called the procedure ''intact dilation and evacuation,'' but antiabortion activists soon coined a new name for it: ''partial-birth'' abortion.

The activists believed that publicizing the details of the procedure would fuel a national debate, pull many abortion rights liberals to their side and prompt Congress for the first time to ban a specific abortion procedure.

They were right.

President Clinton vetoed the legislation last April. But Congress is gearing up to vote on it again before adjourning at the end of next week. Although proponents of the ban believe they may have the necessary two-thirds vote in the House to override the veto, they acknowledge they still are at least a dozen short in the Senate.

Ongoing efforts to enact the ban have been aided by the considerable weight of leading Catholic clerics, who visited members of Congress last week to lobby for an override, and whose followers have deluged Capitol Hill with millions of postcards.

The issue also has played a role in the presidential campaign. Robert J. Dole, the Republican nominee who supports a constitutional amendment banning nearly all abortions, has said that Clinton's veto ''pushed the limits of decency too far.'' Ten days ago, he told an audience of Catholics, ''whether you're pro-life or pro-choice, there is one thing everyone can agree on: Partial-birth abortion is wrong.''

Whatever the bill's ultimate fate, the clash over late-term abortions will be remembered as a benchmark in the decades-old abortion debate.

It has forced members of Congress and the general public to confront what happens during abortion—and most people find such details grisly, no matter what surgical method is used. It also has ignited a discussion of the ethical justifications for abortions performed when a pregnancy is more than half over. Such procedures—of which the procedure banned by the legislation is only one of several—make up only 1.3 percent of the 1.3 million abortions done in the United States each year, but they provoke ambivalence and discomfort even among abortion rights supporters.

''This legislation has so mobilized prolifers, that the effect of it . . . will strengthen them for a very long time,'' said Helen Alvare, spokeswoman for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. ''For years, the best we've been able to do in Congress is preserve some funding restrictions. To get from that into the question of abortion itself was a huge leap.''

Those on the other side of the debate view the bill's success in Congress as an ominous precedent, and suggest that, if it were law, abortion opponents would try to expand or broadly interpret the ban to cover other kinds of abortions.

''This is the first time Congress has ever attempted to regulate the practice of medicine and abortion,'' said Kathryn Kolbert, vice president of the Center for Reproductive