to the Bellaire community and Belmont County.

Over the past 50 years, the Bellaire Lions Club has had many dedicated members. These members adopted the motto ''We Serve'' and chose work associated with the prevention and awareness of vision related illnesses. To promote the well-being of the community and awareness of vision related illnesses, the Bellaire Lions Club has sponsored eye testing, glaucoma clinics, and street signs. The club has also been active in area schools by donating science awards for Bellaire High School and St. John's High School as well as trophies for area sports teams.

The Bellaire Lions Club has stood as an example of the importance of volunteerism and helping one's neighbors. Their commitment to the Ohio Valley and to service continues today as they celebrate the 50th anniversary of their charter. I am proud to represent the members of this organization who generously give their time to others and work to improve their community. I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating the Bellaire Lions Club members on the 50th anniversary of their charter, and to wish them continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SONNY BONO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I am writing to explain that on Tuesday, May 20, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 139. If I was present, I certainly would have voted ''aye'' in support of approving the journal. Thank you for recognizing my position regarding this vote.

DOES MONEY TALK?

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, they say that money talks. If it doesn't, enough of it certainly seems to gain access to the White House. At least, that seemed to be the case for the Riady family of Indonesia. A recent Washington Times editorial reminds us that the Riady family has given various Democrat candidates and committees nearly $2 million since 1991. It also seems to have been money well spent, because Riady managed to have one of their own, John Huang, strategically placed at the Commerce Committee.

Mr. Speaker, a White House or a foreign policy for sale is not a laughing matter. I submit the Washington Times editorial in today's RECORD.

WHAT MR. RIADY WANTS

The Pacific Leadership Council (PLC), a fund-raising and influence-seeking organization formed in the 1980s by Lippo Group magnate James Riady, Maria Hsia and John Huang, all of whom figure prominently in the Democratic Party's growing money scandal, was anything but indirect about its motives. One original PLC member acknowledged to the Los Angeles Times recently that the group's political support ''wasn't altruistic at all.'' The Riady family and its PLC colleagues ''wanted to know what kinds of appointments and what kinds of contracts we could get out of all this,'' the member candidly admitted.

How much is ''all this''? According to the Times, the now-disbanded PLC and its members donated about $500,000 through 1990, $250,000 of it to the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC). Since 1991, Riady-controlled corporations, their executives and close associates have donated nearly $2 million to various Democratic committees and candidates, including more than $850,000 to the Democratic National Committee (DNC). Since the presidential election, the DNC has returned $450,000 it received from the daughter and son-in-law of a Riady business partner.

At one PLC fund-raiser held in his home in April 1988, Mr. Riady raised $110,000 for the DSCC. Four days later, Mr. Riady wrote a highly detailed three-page memo to Ms. Hsia instructing her to ''follow up and let me know of progress'' in pursuing the numerous quid pro quos Mr. Riady meticulously outlined in a summary appropriately headlined, ''DSCC Issues and Agenda.'' Indeed, so blatantly and crassly self-interested was Mr. Riady's modus operandi that the then-DSCC chairman, Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, later described Mr. Riady's letter to Ms. Hsia as a ''raw, graphic memo'' reflecting the kind of special-interest agenda that is ''usually communicated discreetly and verbally, not in writing.'' Mr. Riady was even more direct in a second memo that month, this one sent to DSCC Executive Director Robert Chlopak: ''The issues and concerns that were discussed [at the Riady fund-raiser] need to be followed up and actions need to be delivered.''

Among other things, Mr. Riady wanted the Democratic senators to ''impress upon Taiwan to allow Asian-American banks (or at least the Bank of Trade [the former name of LippoBank] to be allowed to open a branch office in Taiwan.'' He also sought ''appointments of Asian-Americans to policy-making positions in the federal government.'' As it later developed, thanks in part to a letter of recommendation overflowing with praise from Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, Mr. Riady's former top U.S. executive, Mr. Huang, was appointed to an influential position in the Commerce Department, where he received more than 100 secret briefings, including CIA information about China, and routinely telephoned LippoBank from his office. The FBI is now investigating whether economic espionage occurred and whether the Riadys, Mr. Huang or anyone else may have laundered and then funneled illegal campaign contributions from the Chinese government. In March, the vice president of the Asian-American Business Roundtable charged Mr. Huang with attempting to funnel $250,000 illegally to the DNC through the group's members. Meanwhile, Mr. Huang has asserted his Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination in refusing to cooperate with a congressional investigative committee.

And whaddya know? After Sen. Daschle could ''personally attest to John's strong background'' in a 1992 letter to the Clinton transition team, Sen. Daschle's aide recently told the Times that the senator ''actually doesn't know John Huang well at all.'' Moreover, after receiving a telephone call from an irate President Clinton at one o'clock in the morning following Wisconsin Sen. Russell Feingold's call for an independent counsel to investigate Mr. Clinton's 1996 fund-raising, Sen. Daschle has managed to close the barn door, locking in all the other Democrats except Daniel Patrick Moynihan of New York.

As for Ms. Hsia, she later helped Mr. Huang arrange the illegal fund-raiser at the tax-exempt California Buddhist temple where Vice President Gore shook down impoverished monks, bagging nearly $150,000, much of which the DNC has promised to return. More laundering problems. As a founding member of the PLC, Ms. Hsia enticed then-Sen. Gore to visit Taiwan in 1989, promising him in a letter that she ''will persuade all my colleagues in the future to play a leader role in your [next] presidential race'' if ''you decide to join this trip.'' Although political contributions from foreign nationals who are not U.S. residents are expressly forbidden, the PLC had planned to use that trip ''to recruit new members overseas and potentially to raise some money for PLC,'' according to a document obtained by the Los Angeles Times.

Whether it is bankrolling Webster Hubbell to the tune of $100,000 during the period when he was supposed to be cooperating with the Whitewater prosecutor or whether it is orchestrating nearly $2 million in political contributions from family and associates to Mr. Clinton and associates, one thing ought to be clear by now: James Riady does nothing for nobody that is not intended to benefit his interests, including White House access to lobby for expanding trade with China and to downplay Indonesia's notorious human-rights record on East Timor.

COMMENDING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF PRESIDENT LEE TENG-HUI AS TAIWAN'S FIRST DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED PRESIDENT

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me today in commending the Republic of China on the first anniversary of President Lee Teng-hui as Taiwan's first democratically elected President. I was part of the official delegation President Clinton sent to mark the occasion last year.

President Lee was directly elected by the people of Taiwan as their ninth President and inaugurated 1 year ago today. Despite an attempt at intimidation, democracy won. The United States has vital economic and military interests in this area of the world, and it is important for our country to commend the democratic efforts in this region.

One year after his inauguration, President Lee is considered a beacon of democracy in the Far East. Taiwan's democratization should be an inspiring model for governments around the world. The United States is a government that rewards democracy and capitalism, so Taiwan's free and fair elections are indeed cause to celebrate.

Both President Bill Clinton and House Speaker Newt Gingrich have made clear that Taiwan is our friend, so it is appropriate today that we pay tribute to this young democracy on the first anniversary of President Lee's inauguration.

I also ask my colleagues to join me in commending Foreign Minister John Chang as he begins his second year of promoting stronger relations between the United States and Taiwan.

CELEBRATING PRESIDENT LEE'S FIRST YEAR AS PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. THOMAS J. MANTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. MANTON. Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago this week the 2 million people of Taiwan went to the polls to participate in the first direct election of a President for the Republic of China. Voter turnout was high despite the attempts by the People's Republic of China to intimidate the electorate by conducting military exercises in the Taiwan Straits.

The voters of Taiwan overwhelmingly elected Lee Teng-Hui as President of the ROC. President Lee defeated three other candidates in a free and fair election. In doing so, President Lee became the first popular elected head of state in Chinese history. His election was the culmination of a 10-year period of democratization for the Republic of China. Today, the ROC is a full-fledged democracy with a strong, multiparty system. Government officials from the President to members of the local legislatures are all selected by the people of Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, this week also marks the 1-year anniversary of the selection by President Lee of John Chang as the Republic of China's Foreign Minister. Under Mr. Chang's leadership, the already excellent relationship between the United States and Republic of China has grown even stronger. During the past year, many members of this body have traveled to Taiwan to see firsthand Taiwan's impressive economic growth. Furthermore, many senior ROC Government officials have visited the United States and have met with Members of Congress and other United States officials. All of this activity is a tribute to Foreign Minister Chang.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to note that nearly 1 year has passed since Jason Hu assumed the post of Taipei's Economic and Cultural Representative in Washington. The Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative's office serves as the unofficial embassy in the United States, and Ambassador Hu, who previously served as President Lee's spokesman and a member of the Legislative Yuan, has done a very good job promoting a dialog between Congress and the people of Taiwan. He has worked tirelessly to visit with Members of this body and to inform Members of the current activities in Taiwan. Representative Hu, like Foreign Minister Chang, is proof that President Lee has made many fine choices in filling the senior appointed positions of his government. I am certain with President Lee's leadership, our relationship with the ROC will continue to be on a steady and even keel in the years ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1997

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, for more than three decades, the Older Americans Act has been providing our Nation's seniors with the services that help them enjoy security, health, and independence. Therefore, it is with great pleasure that I introduce the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1997, which will update this statute for the 21st century and beyond.

The majority of this legislation is based upon the administration's proposal for reauthorization of the Older Americans Act which I introduced during the 104th Congress. It includes provisions that grant flexibility to States, area agencies on aging, and providers which will foster new and creative ways to design and administer services for the elderly. This measure also allows for the expansion of cooperative partnerships for the identification of local needs and delivery of comprehensive services. Most importantly, all this is accomplished with a strong commitment to those protections that have and will continue to ensure seniors' health and well-being for years to come.

Despite my support for much of what is contained in the administration's proposal there are some areas which I feel warrant change and further negotiation. One area in particular concerns the future of the Senior Community Services Employment Program [SCSEP]. While the administration would transfer the SCSEP to the Administration on Aging, the legislation I introduce today retains the program within the Department of Labor. While in principle and practice I have previously supported various proposals to consolidate and coordinate related Federal programs and services, the fact that the SCSEP is fundamentally an employment program compels me to support maintaining the program within the Labor Department.

As take up the Older Americans Act reauthorization again this year, I look forward to working with the administration and my colleagues on both sides of this aisle to fashion bipartisan legislation that continues to protect our Nation's seniors.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. ROBERT SMITH

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of President Lee Teng-hui's first anniversary in office, I wish to make a few remarks.

President Lee is the first democratically elected head of state in China's history. He is a man committed to preserving political freedom for his 23 million fellow citizens.

President Lee is also committed to economic growth. In the last year Taiwan has maintained its economic expansion and its position as a major trading partner of the United States. Many of our agricultural products find ready markets in Taiwan.

On behalf of my constituents, I send my best wishes and congratulations to President Lee Teng-hui, Dr. Jason Hu, Taiwan's top representative in Washington, and the people of Taiwan as they celebrate May 20, 1997, the first anniversary of President Lee's first term in office.

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF JOHNSTON

HON. LINDSEY O. GRAHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, the rich heritage of the town of Johnston, SC, began during the Colonial days with three families: The Lott family to the east, the Gomillion family to the south, and the Bush family on land that is in the present town center. Before the Revolutionary War, a gentleman by the name of Richard Bush accumulated land in the area. In the mid-19th century, his descendant, Isaac Bush, sold 1,200 acres of land to Dr. Edward J. Mims of the nearby town of Edgefield. Dr. Mims and his family moved onto this newly acquired land which is the original townsite of Johnston.

The name of the town was not established until its inhabitants saw the rapid expansion of the railroad throughout the South. Dr. Mims was determined to include his community in the booming opportunity the railroad provided. He successfully petitioned William Johnston, president of the Charlotte, Columbia, and Augusta Railroad, to route the railway through the land on the Mims plantation. In return, Dr. Mims agreed to name the town for Mr. Johnston. Earlier the village was called Johnston Station, then Johnston's Turn Out, and finally, on May 25, 1897, it was chartered as its present name, Johnston.

Today, Johnston, known as the Peach Capital of the World celebrates the centennial of its charter. The Johnston Historic District, a collection of 146 houses, businesses, and churches dating from the 1870's to the 1920's is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. From the 1870's Johnston had a renowned educational institution, first called the Johnston Academy, then the Johnston Institute, and later Johnston High School. The town of Johnston remains proud of its history and maintains its early emphasis on agriculture and education. However, the town also has a strong present and future with state-of-the-art manufacturing technology in its many textile mills. With firm roots and forward progress, Johnston will continue to prosper well into the 21st century.

KEEP THE PROMISE

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, we all remember the promise President Clinton made to end welfare as we know it.

But when given a chance to do so, in the form of a sound program by Texas Governor Bush, the President did everything possible to scuttle the plan. The plan would have meant a savings in welfare administration costs of 20 to 35 percent for the people of Texas.

This is not the first promise this administration has broken. I suggest members read the Wall Street Journal editorial in today's RECORD as a reminder:

[From the Wall Street Journal]

CLINTON PROMISES

Trying to provide better health care coverage for some 150,000 needy children, Texas