US Office of Personnel Management: Dory E. Zamani, Supervisory Financial Management Specialist; Wesley H. Shimamura, Supervisory Personnel Management Specialist; Deborah A. Kendall, Special Assistant, Congressional Relations; Linda M. Watson, Personnel Staff Specialist; James J. Tsugawa, Personnel Management Specialist; Lina A. Savkar, Employee Development Specialist; Phong V. Ngo, Program Analyst; Teresa Chi Chao Yang Huang, Computer Systems Analyst; James Hong, Supervisory Personnel Staffing Specialist; Jeri T. Hara, Personnel Management Specialist; Jaime P. Espiritu, Computer Systems Analyst; May S. Eng, Statistician, Survey; Esterlita De Leon Cueto, Systems Accountant; Sherman M. Chin, Personnel Management Specialist; and Susai Anthony, Computer Programmer Analyst.

Social Security Administration: Glennalee Donnelly, Senior Executive Service, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, Office of Programs and Policy; Tina Sung, Senior Executive Service, On Assignment to the National Performance Review; Leslie S. Chin, Division Director, Office of Systems; Dinesh Kumar, Executive Assistant to the Associate Commission for Telecommunications and Systems Operations; Yuan Jye Liu, Supervisory Computer Specialist, Office of Hearings an Appeals; Donna Y. Mukogawa, Assistant Regional Commissioner for Processing Center Operations, Chicago, Illinois; Chih Yuan D. Wang, Computer Specialist, Office of the Commissioner; Seung H. An Actuary, Office of the Actuary; Lyman Goon, General Attorney, Office of the General Counsel; Gordon C. Gonzalez, Field Office Manager, Pasadena, Texas; Alan W. Heim, Field Office Manager, Anchorage, Alaska; Li Ming Koo, Senior Computer Systems Specialist, Office of Hearings and Appeals; Kenneth M. Lew, Supervisory Criminal Investigator, Office of the Inspector General; Jane Y. Lim, Field Office Manager, Parsippany, New Jersey; Sze Jui Lui, Medical Officer, Office of Human Resources; Martin W. Long, General Attorney, Office of the Regional Chief Counsel, Dallas; Maynard K. Malabey, Supervisory Management Analyst, Office of Operations; Thomas J. McCullough, Field Office Manager, Sarasota, Florida; Gloria L. Tong, Program Analyst, Office of the Commissioner; Yen T. Tra, Senior Computer Systems Specialist, Office of Hearings and Appeals; Jack H. Trudel, Supervisory Auditor, Office of the Inspector General, Richmond, California; Wanda H. Waldman, Field Office Manager, Santa Ana, California; Mitchi A. Weger. Field Office Manager, San Antonio, Texas; and Mark E. Young, Field Office Manager, Bremerton, Washington.

US Agency for International Development: Kumar Krishna, Program Analyst; Carla Montemayor Royalty, Administrative Officer; Gloria Steele, Program Analyst Officer; Rodney S. Azama, International Trade Specialist; Paula Y. Bagasao, Senior Advisor; Dirk W. Dikjerman, Support Program Officer; and Kiertisak Toh, Foreign Affairs Officer.

My warmest congratulations to all of these individuals, and other Asian Pacific American Federal employees not listed, for their labor and accomplishments.

As Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific Caucus, I am pleased to commend the Asian Pacific American community for all it has attained in the past year. We are a growing part of this diverse nation and will only continue to increase the number of successes we are able to celebrate. I would like to extend to all a happy Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Florida [Mr. GOSS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. GOSS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

COMMEMORATE ASIAN-PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH BY HONORING THE FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. FILNER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I rise today to commemorate Asian-Pacific Heritage Month by speaking of a group of true heroes of World War II—the Filipino World War II veterans.

Upon arrival in Congress, I soon learned about the plight of the Filipino World War II veterans—many of whom have died and others who are now in the twilight of their years. I learned that these soldiers were drafted to serve in our Armed Forces by an executive order of President Roosevelt. I learned that they defended the American flag in the now-famous battles of Bataan and Corregidor. I learned that thousands of Filipino prisoners of war died during the Bataan death march and while imprisoned under inhuman conditions. I learned that their actions foiled plans for a quick takeover of the region and allowed the United States the time needed to prepare forces for victory in the Pacific.

Then I learned, unbelievably, that soon after the war was over, Congress voted to take away the benefits and recognition that these Filipino veterans were promised, in the Rescissions Act of 1946.

Filipino World War II veterans and their families have been waiting for over 50 years for the justice, recognition, and benefits that they so richly deserve. I am proud that the President and Congress took the first step last year to restore their dignity by resolving to recognize these brave veterans for their contributions to the successful outcome of the war.

Now it is time to complete the job. Last year, over 100 Members of this body signed on as cosponsors to the Filipino Veterans Equity Act. This year, I have joined with Congressman BEN GILMAN to reintroduce this legislation (H.R. 836)—and we believe it is time to hold hearings on the issue of equity for Filipino World War II veterans.

What better way to celebrate Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month than to take action on behalf of the Filipino World War II veterans, many of whom have become citizens of the United States.

What better way than to finally correct a monumental injustice and to restore the benefits promised to the Filipino World War II veterans for their defense of democratic ideals.

Words to commemorate Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month are fine, but action is better. Join with me in demanding justice and equity for Filipino World War II veterans.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. CAMP] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. CAMP addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. MATSUI] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join my colleagues in commemorating Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month and recognize the many achievements and contributions Asian-Pacific Americans have made to our country. I would also like to thank my colleague from Hawaii, Representative PATSY MINK, for arranging this special order.

The month of May was permanently designated Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month in 1992. Since then, it has become a wonderful opportunity to recognize the many ways in which Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent have enriched our Nation. I would like to take this moment to reflect on the diversity and richness that have so benefited our country.

Asian and Pacific Islanders have a rich history in America that spans over 150 years. As immigrants Asian and Pacific Islanders brought with them unique skills and abilities that enhanced the diversity and richness of our society. Asian-Pacific Americans added to the fabric of our culture through the sharing of values, customs, and perspectives. These same immigrants helped build our rapidly growing Nation during the turn of the century, expanding industries and cultivating farmland in the West.

Over the years, the American experience transformed Asian immigrants as they have in turn transformed America. We, as a nation of immigrants, have shared the same hopes and the same dreams. As a diverse people, Asian-Pacific Americans have enriched our national character. In every area of society, from the arts to business, people of Asian and Pacific Islander ancestry have excelled. In the process, Asian-Pacific Americans have become an integral part of our country's past, and of our country's future.

As one of the fastest growing groups in the Nation, recent Asian-Pacific American immigrants infuse a passionate sense of optimism in the American dream. America has benefited from their collective energy and vision. As these immigrants embrace the ideals and traditions of American life, we must also embrace them and the diversity and new ideas they

bring with them. It is clearly in our national interest to extend to them the same opportunities and equalities that attracted all of our ancestors here.

Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month is a celebration of our heritage and our contributions, but it is also a time for reflection. Amid the accomplishments of the past we must also remember the struggles and discrimination that Asian-Pacific Americans had to overcome. We must use this opportunity to redouble our commitment to the goals that have been the cornerstone of our Nation's great history—to build a country of equal opportunity and where people of all nations would be accepted. Asian-Pacific Americans are said to embody the values of hard work, commitment to family, and pursuit of education. These are not exclusively Asian values, but values we all cherish. During this month of celebration we must strive to uphold these ideals, because the celebration of Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month is ultimately a celebration of America. Because more than anything else, we are all Americans.

WHALE-WATCHING INDUSTRY ON THE WEST COAST ENDANGERED

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Washington [Mr. METCALF] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. METCALF. Mr. Speaker, in the last few years a multi-million dollar tourist industry has been carefully built up in California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. It is whale-watching. It has become a multi-million dollar industry in the last few years, and in fact, just to show Members how much, I stopped at a little hotel several miles from the water out in Washington State and walked over to their rack. I picked up all these brochures, and all of these are ones that deal with whale-watching, just to show the Members what an industry it is.

Mr. Speaker, it is a wonderful industry. Its numerous small entrepreneurs take individuals or groups out onto the Puget Sound or Straits of Juan de Fuca or the Georgia Straits, or actually outside into the Pacific Ocean at certain times.

There are only two species of whales that are targeted near the coast now, the gray whales and the orcas. Over the years, the last 3 or 4 or 5 years, they have become used to boats. It is easy to get close to them. They do not mind the boats there. They are not tame, but they are very tolerant. The people get a wonderful experience to go out and see these huge animals out there in their native state, and they are either moving or lolling, but it is a time that you can really feel close to something that has not been available to people in this way. Sometimes the animals will come up and even rub against the boats.

Mr. Speaker, this is about to change dramatically. This tourist industry is about to be put in jeopardy by the action of the U.S. Government in recommending to the International Whaling Commission. When they meet in the next few weeks, they will recommend that one tribe in Washington State and several tribes in British Columbia be allowed to kill a limited number of whales.

Mr. Speaker, we have to look at this the way it really is. These are very intelligent animals. They are very intelligent animals. They are tolerant today, but when any killing takes place and there is blood in the water and a whale thrashing around, let me tell the Members, those animals are gone. They will not let another boat near them. They will not let you come within a mile, as soon as that starts.

It is today an excellent tourist industry. It is nonpolluting, it is very positive, it is a great experience. People plan to now begin killing whales again, and they do not plan to eat these whales; this is not an historic use of the whales. It happens that gray whales are worth about $1 million each in Japan.

There is another problem. In addition to the possible devastation of an industry that employs a lot of people, and as I say, it is a great industry, Japan and Norway have always wanted to harvest whales and have continued to do a certain amount of harvest. We have opposed that. We have said no, we really are not ready to go back to commercial whaling.

If we now start to allow some of our people to harvest whales, how then do we talk to the Japanese, to Japan and Norway, and say, well, it is okay for ours, but they will say, we have a historic right that goes back thousands and thousands of years.

This is something we must not allow to happen. I hope and I plan to work with some other Members to bring a measure before the House to take some action that can be effective in solving this problem before the International Whaling Commission meets.

HONORING THE LATE JAMES H. SHACKLETT, JR., AN OUTSTANDING AMERICAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FOX] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to highlight to my colleagues the outstanding American who has been a great leader in our community in Pennsylvania, who died this week and leaves behind a great legacy of achievement both in the business community and the civic community of Montgomery County, PA. His name was James H. Shacklett, Jr., internationally known in the label business and a devoted supporter of the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. He died this week in his Lafayette Hill home after a long illness.

He was chairman of the National Label Co., a family-owned business where he previously served as president and chief executive officer. His labels that he designed were exclusive, and were for the pharmaceutical, cosmetic, and consumer electronics industry. He was the first American to serve as the director of FINAT, a worldwide printing and graphics arts association, and was director of the Tag and Label Manufacturers Institute of the United States.

He assumed the head of operations of his family-owned company at the age of 26, after the death of his father. An outstanding graduate of the William Penn Charter School and the Carnegie Mellon University of Pittsburgh, he was a 32d degree Mason who served as chairman of the board of directors of Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia for 35 years, and was a director of the Masonic Homes in Lafayette Hills, which was really his vision and his dream. In 1978 he served as Potentate of the LuLu Temple Shrine Club in Plymouth Meeting.

But above all, this was a compassionate man who cared deeply about his family, his community, his profession, and each individual he met and with whom he came in contact. He saw the good in everyone. He made sure that each individual reached their potential.

He was a great father, a wonderful husband, a great grandfather. His philanthropy was legendary, and his altruism for children, for seniors, and for all those with whom he came in contact made him a living legend, someone who was a great friend to all, and he will be surely missed.

But hopefully the memory of his outstanding service, his caring, his sincerity, and his business leadership principles will be followed for many years to come by those who read and hear about James Shacklett, Jr., a great American and someone who was a great friend to all.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Guam [Mr. UNDERWOOD] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. UNDERWOOD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

TEENAGE PREGNANCY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from Texas [Ms. GRANGER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, it has been said that every journey, no matter how long or how short, begins with a single step. This week Congress chose to take a first step on the journey towards a future of reason and responsibility. Earlier this week, in a truly historic vote, Congress passed the first balanced budget in over 25 years. With this balanced budget Congress made a decision that will truly make a difference.

Balancing the budget is just the first step on a journey to the future. If we