spelling contest as well as competing on her high school debate team. Her studies were always very important to her and this earned her the honor of valedictorian at her high school graduation.

It was not her achievements in her younger years that Ruth will be remembered for, rather it was her work for the communities of Gypsum and Eagle that will forever keep her name alive. For over three decades Ruth worked with the Eagle County Social Services helping citizens of her community overcome great challenges in their lives. She is also known for her dedication to the American Legion Auxiliary and her work with the Eagle County Historical Society Museum.

Ruth Beasley was very committed to her community. Her dedication and compassion for her fellow human beings will not soon be forgotten and will live on in the hearts of all that knew her. She was a loving person and she touched the hearts of all that she came in contact with. She will be greatly missed.

IN HONOR OF PEACE WEEK IN SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, as this session of Congress races to a close, we often lose sight of some of the wonderful things happening at home in our communities, and this is especially true when Washington, D.C. is consumed by political battles. That is why I rise today to commend the remarkable city of Santa Maria, California, which I am very proud to represent, for its fourth annual Peace Week.

Mr. Speaker, two years ago, I stood on the House floor to congratulate Santa Maria on being named one of 10 All-America Cities. This high honor was justly granted to a city that has distinguished itself by its diversity and the fact that all the residents of Santa Maria work together to find innovative ways to solve their problems.

One glowing example of this community cohesiveness is Peace Week, which will begin tomorrow, October 13. The goal of Peace Week is to stress nonviolence and conflict mediation. Each day brings a focus on a new topic and allows community members of all ages and cultures to discover ways they can make a difference in their own lives and in the lives of their neighbors.

Examples of daily Peace Week activities include a candlelight march, nonviolence education, and children's friendship games. Participants will enjoy a free community breakfast on ''Community Peacemaker Day'' and a keynote address given by Clayton Barbeau. There will also be stress relief through massage and Reiki therapists, a workshop on healing racism, and an Ecumenical Musical Reflective Peace Service.

Mr. Speaker, Peace Week is the product of an entire city and its enlightened leadership. I want to pay special tribute to my friend, Sister Janet Corcoran of Marian Medical Center Mission Services, for her remarkable dedication and tireless work on behalf of her community and the precious cause of peace. She is a role model for me and a role model for us all.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENACTMENT OF THE STAGGERS ACT

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, twenty years ago, on October 14, 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed the Staggers Rail Act of 1980 into law. This landmark legislation transformed the nation's freight railroad industry from a state of physical deterioration and widespread bankruptcy to the modern system we have today that is the envy of the world.

In the 1970s, after years of federal regulation that did not allow the railroad industry to compete effectively with other modes of transportation, the railroads were in severe decline. Twenty percent of railroad mileage was being operated in bankruptcy. Capital investment was not being made. Infrastructure suffered from deferred maintenance, and accidents were on the rise.

The Staggers Act partially deregulated the railroads and freed them to operate in the free market system like other industries. It allowed the railroads to make their own business decisions, to establish their own routes, to set rates based on market demand and to invest in new technologies and infrastructure.

Our nation's economy has benefited enormously from the Staggers Act. Lower railroad rates mean consumers pay less for the goods they buy. Railroad customers have more money to invest in their own businesses. Fewer accidents mean a safer working environment for railroad employees.

Mr. Speaker, twenty years ago the enactment of the Staggers Act set the stage for the renewal of the railroad industry and today our nation's economy continues to benefit from this important law.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRANK DAVIS' PARTICIPATION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OVER 60 HEALTH CENTER, BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the participation of Berkeley activist and realtor Frank Davis in the establishment of the Over 60 Health Center in Berkeley, California.

Mr. Davis has been a resident of Berkeley for over 50 years and owned the property where the Over 60 Clinic now calls home. While Mr. Davis had many offers to sell his property at a larger profit, he rejected those offers to sell until he was moved by the idea and challenge of a combination senior housing and health care project. Mr. Davis sold his property to the Over 60 Building Project, which ultimately helped create this unique facility that combines a health clinic downstairs with affordable housing for seniors upstairs.

The Over 60 Building is a unique collaboration of three local non-profit organizations. Over 60, a division of LifeLong Medical Care, is the oldest community health center serving seniors in the United States; the Center for Elders Independence is one of 13 nationally-acclaimed ''Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly'' (PACE); and Resources for Community Development is a developer of low-income housing in Alameda County. This partnership offers medical and community-based long term care services for low-income elders while allowing them to remain independent, socially active and live in the same community throughout their life span.

Mr. Davis is a native of Mississippi who came to California to ''seek a better quality of life and to get away from discrimination.'' He is the current Chair of the Black Property Owners Association, President of the Tyler King Neighborhood Association, and remains active in helping to improve the quality of life for South Berkeley.

The Over 60 Building is truly an innovative model of care for seniors, quickly becoming a source of civic pride and a valuable resource for the citizens of Berkeley. I applaud the vision that Mr. Davis had to sell his property to this important project despite personal financial gains had he sold to for-profit developers.

HONORING SUSAN LOHR

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to congratulate Susan Lohr, on her recent award. Susan is one of two recipients of the Cranmer Award, sponsored by Colorado Open Lands. Susan is the co-founder of Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy, an organization that works to preserve family-owned ranchland in southern Colorado. Together with ranchers and community leaders the organization is attempting to preserve and protect over 20,000 acres of land.

Susan is no stranger when it comes to conserving farm and ranchland. She is currently president of a private land conservation consulting firm, Lohr Associates. She also recently retired as Director of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory, where she worked for over a decade. Susan serves the Legacy in the capacity of Founding Director and Board Member Secretary/Treasurer.

Susan has worked very hard to ensure that family ranchlands are protected throughout southern Colorado. This dedication has helped a great number of people preserve thousands of acres of land and for that she deserves the recognition of this body. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the State of Colorado and the US Congress I congratulate Susan on this prestigious and well-deserved award.

Congratulations!

FLAWED ELECTIONS IN BELARUS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 12, 2000

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, October 15th, Belarus will hold parliamentary elections. Based on the run-up to the elections, the possibility of free and fair