The teacher visited our house and tried to convince her to send me back. To begin with, she was not ready even to talk, but later she agreed, on the condition that I should take my younger brother with me. So I bring my baby brother to school. He can't really understand the class because he is only one and a half years old, but I'm glad at least to have a chance to go to school again.

Fatima, from Bangladesh, is 14 years old. Fatima came to Dacca to work as a domestic worker. Her employer used to beat her up often. After four months, when her employer beat her up severely, she ran away, and took shelter in another home. Seeing the bruises on her body, the owner of her house took her to the police station when she was a bit better.

The police brought her back to her old employer's house for investigation. The employers bribed the police and give them a written statement saying that she would be sent back to her village. But after the police left, she was locked in the toilet. She started screaming, and upon hearing her cries for help, the neighbors phoned ASK. ASK Lawyers rescued her and tried to file suit against the employer. While this was going on, the employer offered Fatima's family about 230 U.S. dollars. Fatima's mother took the money and refused to file charges. At present, Fatima is working in a garment factory.

Johoya has to get up at 5 a.m., wash the utensils, sweep the compound, wash the cloths, attend to the demands of the mistress in the kitchen, attend to the old lady in the house, and also look after the pet dog. One day, Johoya was on the road, crying, holding a dog chain in her hand. When approached, she burst out crying, saying, ''the dog has run away. I am afraid. Tomorrow the master will be returning to the house, and he will kill me for losing the dog. My mistress has not given me food for two days because I have lost the dog. Have you seen my dog anywhere?''

The next day the house owner arrived, and Johoya was beaten for her carelessness and told she was not to be given any food until the dog was found. Some days later, the dog was found in the house of a neighbor, and money was paid to them for finding and keeping the dog safely. Johoya was happy the dog was returned, but her salary for the previous month was not given to her mother, when she came, as usual, to collect. She was told it had been paid to the neighbor who found and looked after the dog.

When you look into a child's eyes, you expect to see hope, trust and innocence, but when you see these signs of childhood are replaced by the trail of hunger, fear and suspicion, we need to take serious stock in ourselves and the society we have created.

HONORING CIBOLA SCHOOL FOR ITS DEMONSTRATED RECORD OF OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cibola High School in Yuma, Arizona, for its demonstrated record of outstanding student achievement. Because national statistics, gathered through the U.S. Census and educational surveys, have indicated high Hispanic drop-out rates at both the high school and college levels, I am especially pleased with the achievements of Cibola High School. Its student population is 75 percent Hispanic and Cibola has demonstrated that it is the success orientation of the school that impacts the success of the students. Cibola is not located in a wealthy school district and does not limit its student admissions to only the brightest or most successful students in the school district.

As Jon Walk, Cibola's first and founding principal indicated when the school opened 11 years ago, ''(we) had the opportunity of a lifetime, the chance to establish the culture of a school.'' Fortunately for the children who attended Cibola over the years, Jon Walk, his teachers and his administrators established a culture of success and made it work.

The results of that ''success culture'' are impressive: Daily attendance runs at 96 percent; 89 percent of the class of 2001 went on to college; the graduation rate is 86 percent; the drop out rate is only 2 percent; the class of 2001 was awarded a total of 2.5 million dollars in scholarship money. In addition, Cibola High School achieved an A+ School Award for 1996 and has produced 7 Flinn Scholars since 1995 with 3 of that 7 being in the Spring of 2001.

How did they do it? The secrets to this outstanding success have evolved through caring, committed principals, teachers, administrators and staff. They evolved a system for making the students at Cibola High School believe in themselves, and be diligent about being the best they could be. Cibola promotes a culture of academic achievement that supports both students and teachers. My Cibola High School friends have shared the secrets of their success: Cibola is family and all members will be supported towards success. Freshmen are told they are preparing for college. The entire school builds a shared vision of success. Both teachers and students are supported to achieve their highest potential. It is a healthy environment with a lot of trust. Adults develop strong relationships with students. Positive attitudes and upbeat interactions are encouraged. Communication is emphasized. Each student has a 4 Year Plan. There are Freshmen Counseling Teams that work at getting to know each student. There are Senior Packets. Parents are encouraged to be engaged and active in their student's school life. Cibola sets high academic standards that are paired with appropriate resources.

These are attitudes and formulas that can easily be replicated throughout our nation's schools. We need to see all of our children succeeding. With Cibola High School, we have a model that is working superbly and which emphasizes the interaction of its people as the key. Thank you Cibola High School for all you have done for the children of Yuma and for the guide you have provided for our nation. I work for the day that all of our nation's children will be given this same educational environment.

IAN CHAN OGILVIE MAKES HIS MARK ON THE WORLD

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Clark Ogilvie of my staff and his wife Ms. Deb Chan on the birth of their first child, Master Ian Chan Ogilvie. Ian was born on Tuesday, March 26, 2002 and weighed 7 pounds and 13 ounces. Faye joins me in wishing Clark and Deb great happiness during this very special time in their lives.

As a father of three, I know the immeasurable pride and rewarding challenges that children bring into your life. Their innocence keeps you young-at-heart. Through their inquiring minds and wide-eyed wonder, they show you the world in a fresh, new way and change your perspective on life. A little miracle, a new baby holds all the potential of what human beings can achieve.

I welcome young Ian into the world and wish Clark and Deb all the best as they raise him.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JEFFREY P. KOPLAN

HON. DAVID R. OBEY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Jeffrey P. Koplan and his 26 years of outstanding public service.

Dr. Koplan served as the Director of the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention and the Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, from 1998 until March of this year when he stepped down to continue his career in public health outside of the Federal government.

We are very fortunate in this country to be able to attract some of the best minds and most talented professionals to public service. However, it is typically not their impressive educational training, professional experience, or list of accomplishments that distinguishes their public service careers. What we often remember most is the daily heart and soul that they devote to solving the myriad of problems and challenges that we as a nation expect our Federal, state and local governments to address.

Despite the great responsibility we thrust upon leaders in public service, they toil in relative anonymity behind the agency acronyms that the world comes to rely upon. While Dr. Koplan is certainly well known and respected in the public health community and in Washington, there are untold millions of people in this country and throughout the world who he has in some way touched through his leadership at CDC who will never know his name—who will never know how he has given them the blessing of a healthier life through the often invisible efforts of public health programs that he has promoted and the thousands of CDC employees whom he has led.

Dr. Koplan will be remembered for passion and aggressive actions he spurred CDC to take in addressing some of the most pressing public health concerns of our time. Not only has he led the CDC response to the tumultuous events of last Fall and our nation's first major bioterrorism event, but be has also called for a national response to an epidemic in obesity, efforts to control infectious diseases, reduce smoking, address chronic diseases such as cancer, diabetes, and heart disease, expand immunization coverage, and build the capacity and infrastructure of CDC and state public health departments.

Dr. Koplan is simply an exemplary public servant who has made many personal sacrifices to advance public health. He is a man of great integrity, dedication, and humor. I, along with many Members of Congress, will greatly miss his leadership at CDC, and I wish he and his family all the best as they move on to other pursuits. In closing, just as Dr. Koplan received a standing ovation by CDC employees upon the announcement of his appointment as Director in 1998, upon his departure, I applaud his distinguished tenure and the honor that he has brought to that position.

HONORING DR. JEFFREY P. KOPLAN

HON. RALPH REGULA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. REGULA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the 26 years of service that Dr. Jeffrey P. Koplan has dedicated to improving the public health and the many contributions he has made at the Department of Health and Human Services.

At the end of March of this year, Dr. Koplan stepped down from the dual positions he held since 1998 as the director of the Centers of Disease Control and prevention (CDC) and the Administrator of the Agency for Toxic substances and Disease Registry.

As the Chairman of the appropriations subcommittee responsible for funding the CDC, I have come to know Dr. Koplan during one of the most challenging times in public health—the events of September 11, 2001, the following anthrax attacks, and the urgent call for public health preparedness for possible further bioterrorism attacks.

Dr. Koplan has done a tremendous job leading the CDC response to this national crisis, which included deploying dozens of epidemiologists to New York City to assist the health departments with the response to the attack on the World Trade Center, dispatching personnel and medical supplies to aid the response efforts to the attack on the Pentagon, and coordinating a public health response to prevent, detect and treat anthrax. We are still in the midst of building capacity for an adequate public health response for potential terrorist attacks, but many of the needed improvements are well underway thanks in large part to his leadership.

In addition to responding to terrorist threats, under the leadership of Dr. Koplan, CDC has responded to hundreds of requests from state, local and international health departments to investigate the outbreak of diseases such as West Nile virus, Ebola, tuberculosis, meningitis and other health threats. Just last spring I experienced first hand the response and leadership of the CDC in my own congressional district during a frightening meningitis outbreak. The presence of the CDC on the scene helped to address this situation and bring calm to the community.

Dr. Koplan has also led CDC efforts to reduce tobacco use, improve childhood immunization, prevent birth defects and chronic diseases, and upgrade CDC buildings and facilities. These important efforts are bringing improved health to our nation.

When I visited the CDC in Atlanta last year, I was impressed with the commitment of all of the CDC doctors, scientists, and employees who are pursuing their mission with pride and enthusiasm, and it was evident that that attitude emanates from the top.

In short, CDC plays a critical role in protecting the public health of our nation. From the earlier days of his career working on the eradication of smallpox as an EIS officer to rebuilding the public health system to respond to the health threats of the 21st century as director of CDC, Dr. Koplan has tackled these many tough problems with determination. We will greatly miss his spirit, optimism, and leadership. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YMCA

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity today to laud the efforts of one of the finest international organizations in our nation: the YMCA. The YMCA was founded in England and was based on an openness which transcended class lines. In its 150 years, the YMCA of the USA has come to include men, women and children regardless of race, religion or nationality.

The United States of America today has over 2,400 YMCAs which serve nearly 18 million people. The YMCA of the USA is involved in promoting healthy behaviors in youngsters, teaching them how to become positive members of society. Although each YMCA is different in its approach to serving the needs of its members, they all help make their communities stronger.

The YMCA of Springfield, Massachusetts was founded on May 3, 1852, after J.R. Hixon issued a call for a meeting at the Old First Church on Court Square. Henry Morris, a prominent judge from the area, was elected the first president. Springfield's YMCA is noteworthy for being the workplace of Mr. James Naismith. In 1891, Mr. Naismith was charged with the physical education of a number of rambunctious young men. As the boys were not interested in the typical winter time activities, Mr. Naismith invented a new game to be played indoors. Mr. Naismith posted 13 rules at class one day and created the sport of basketball.

The invention of basketball is an example of the creative thinking that is the hallmark of the YMCA. The staff members roaming the halls of Ys throughout the country are a dedicated group focused on character development and social service.

Today's YMCA in Springfield continues to serve human needs in the city by providing quality programs that promote lifelong personal growth and the balanced development of spirit, mind and body. I would like to thank Steve Clay, the President, and his staff for their tireless dedication and commitment to the community. Congratulations to the YMCA on 150 years of service to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 2002

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday evening April 30, 2001, I was in my District due to a family emergency and as a result missed three rollcall votes.

Had I been present, the following is how I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 119 (On a Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 386—''Supporting a National Charter Schools Week'') ''yea.''

Rollcall No. 118 (On a Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass—S. 2248—''To Extend the Authority of the Export-Import Bank until May 31, 2002'') ''yea.''

Rollcall No. 117 (Suspend the Rules and Agree to Senate Amendments—H.R. 169—''Notification and Federal Employee Anti-discrimination and Retaliation Act'') ''yea.''

COMMEMORATION OF ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in somber remembrance of the horrors of the Armenian Genocide. It is essential to reflect on the evils of the past to ensure that historical lessons are properly understood. It is in an effort to accomplish this that I call on my colleagues, as well as the international community, to remember and recognize the genocide of over a million Armenians by the Ottoman Empire.

During the end of the Ottoman Empire, the Armenian people were the victims of an atrocity of a horrifying magnitude. As many as 1.5 million were massacred through forced exile and murder. Refugees were scattered throughout the region and many found their way to the United States. As events during the Holocaust, as well as in Rwanda and Bosnia, have demonstrated, we have yet to fully internalize the lessons taught us by the dehumanizing actions of the Ottoman Empire against the Armenians. Human rights violations and discrimination due to ethnic background are still prevalent throughout the world. As such it is more important than ever that the genocide experienced by the Armenians is recognized by the world community. It is only through such recognition that we as a society can begin to ensure that such events will not happen again. In line with this goal, I specifically call on the country of Turkey to formally recognize the genocide.

I join with the Armenians today in sad remembrance of the horrible crimes committed against their people. I appreciate the support that the Armenian people have demonstrated as our own nation has dealt with the horrors of September 11. I am confidant that the friendship between Armenia and the U.S. will continue to flourish as we work together for freedom and prosperity in both our nations.