Israeli-Palestinian relations. I am further encouraged that the Palestinian Authority and Egypt seem to agree, and are working to ensure security in post-disengagement Gaza. For these reasons, I support the resolution and urge my colleagues to do the same.

CONGRATULATING PROFESSOR ROSALIE LEVINSON

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate one of Northwest Indiana's most caring and dedicated citizens, Professor Rosalie Levinson. Her career as a Professor at Valparaiso University has allowed her the opportunity to touch the lives of numerous students, both in and out of the classroom. In honor of her gracious service to Valparaiso University, on May 1, 2004 she was named the first Phyllis and Richard Duesenberg professor of law. Rosalie's appointment was announced during a gala at Chicago's Field Museum celebrating the 125th anniversary of Valparaiso University's School of Law.

Rosalie Levinson has accomplished many visionary goals throughout her career. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at Indiana University and her law degree from Valparaiso University. Rosalie has been a law professor at Valparaiso University since 1973. She has argued several civil rights cases before the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals and is a frequent lecturer on continuing legal education, including the Federal Judicial Center for Federal Judges and the Practice Law Institute programs. Rosalie has team taught with the United States Supreme Court Justices Antonin Scalia, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and Clarence Thomas at the Valparaiso University's study center in Cambridge, England.

Numerous articles written by Rosalie have been published in national law journals. She has co-authored with Professor Bodensteiner a four volume treatise entitled ''Civil Rights Liability'' and also a textbook entitled ''Civil Rights Legislation and Litigation.'' Rosalie served as chair of the Civil Rights Section of the Association of American Law Schools and as a board member on the Jewish Human Relations Council of Northwest Indiana.

Although Rosalie has served on numerous Law School and University Committees and has donated time to the students at Valparaiso University, she has never neglected to provide support and love to her family. Rosalie and her husband Don have two children and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Rosalie has given her time and efforts selflessly to the students at Valparaiso University throughout her years of service. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Professor Rosalie Levinson for her outstanding contributions. I am proud to commend her for her lifetime of service and dedication.

HONORING BILL McSWEEN

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Bill McSween upon his retirement after 26 years of service to our community.

After graduating from Brown University on a hockey scholarship, Bill McSween served our country in the United States Army. In 1978, the same year he was inducted into the Michigan Amateur Athletic Hall of Fame for his exceptional hockey career, Bill came to the Redford Township Parks and Recreation Department as Assistant Director. In 1992, Bill was promoted to Director of Parks and Recreation.

Over the past 26 years, Bill has left an undeniable mark upon our community. Citizen participation in recreation programs throughout the township has flourished under his direction. Bill successfully negotiated two projects involving school lands being leased to the township for one dollar, which fostered the creation of new recreational programs for both the township and the schools involved; and successfully passed on his passion for sports and recreation to our entire community.

Let there be no doubt: Bill McSween is a paragon of public service.

His wife, Marge, and his children, Katie, Kelly and Bill, should be rightly and extremely proud of the undeniable mark he has left on the life of our community; while, we all will sorely miss and always benefit from his dedication and leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my sincere appreciation to Mr. Bill McSween, upon his retirement as Director of Parks and Recreation for Redford Township, for his fine service to our community and our country.

CONCERNS ON THE STATE OF IMMIGRATION

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my concerns with the alarming state of immigration in this country. As a member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, I have heard numerous officials testify to the porous state of both our northern and southern borders. For example, the U.S. Border Patrol has reported a jump in illegal migration rates of 25% to 535,000. In Tucson, Arizona alone, the Border Patrol averages daily arrests of 2,000. Border Patrol agents continue to be overworked and understaffed. The U.S. continues to add millions of illegal aliens to its population. We must start taking a hard look at how to handle the influx of people entering into the U.S. I believe that any discussion of our immigration policy should begin with the security of our borders. As we continue to combat terrorism and heightened terrorist threats, we must begin working towards solutions to help our agents and secure our borders.

As the tragic events of 9/11 demonstrated, our immigration system needs a major and comprehensive review. Our borders are a security gap that must be addressed now. The challenges we face with our immigration policy are well known to Congress, the Department of Homeland Security, and the Administration. The time has come for us to act now on preserving our security and liberty.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF 2004 LEGRAND SMITH OUTSTANDING TEACH AWARD WINNER SCOTT GERMAN OF COLDWATER, MICHIGAN

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to our Nation's future prosperity and security. The formidable responsibility of molding and inspiring young minds to the avenues of hope, opportunity and achievement partially rests in the hands of our teachers. Today, I would like to recognize a teacher from Coldwater, Michigan who significantly influenced and motivated exceptional students in academics and leadership who were winners of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship.

Scott German teaches Biology at Bronson High School in Bronson, Michigan. He is credited with instilling in students an enthusiasm for not only these subjects, but also for life. As one of his students, Bobby Jo Ludwick said, ''Mr. German has taught me the importance of good leadership and community service. The self-confidence that I've gained from his support will play a role in my life everyday. He has taught me that I can make a difference. I thank him for making a difference for me.'' The respect and gratitude of his students speaks well of Scott's ability to challenge young minds and encourage them to always put forth their best effort.

Scott German's extraordinary work as a teacher has challenged and inspired countless students to move beyond the teenage tendency of superficial study and encourage them to foster deeper thought and connections to the real world. Arguably, no profession is more important because of its daily influence upon the future leaders of our community and our country, and Scott's impact on his students is certainly worthy of recognition.

On behalf of the Congress of the United States of America, I am proud to extend our highest praise to Scott German. We thank him for his continuing dedication to teaching and his willingness and ability to challenge and inspire students to strive for success.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. LESTER R. CURTISS AND MRS. MADLYN L. CURTISS

HON. JOEL HEFLEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, with recent dedication of the WWII Memorial and the 60th anniversary of D-Day, all Americans were reminded of the courage and sacrifices made by members of the Greatest Generation. In particular, we've gained a greater appreciation

from our fellow citizens that served in the Armed Forces and their families alike. Today I choose to honor Lt Col (U.S. Army retired) Les and Mrs. Madlyn Curtiss, who began their military service to our Nation that extended 24 years and three wars. Colonel and Mrs. Curtiss are patriotic volunteers in the truest sense.

Colonel Les Curtiss enlisted in the Army as a Private and rose through the ranks to Master Sergeant. He served in the 13th and 82d Airborne Divisions, and later in the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team during the Korean Conflict. He received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1952, and was the Distinguished and Honor Graduate of his Officer Candidate Class. In 1958, he transferred from the Infantry to the Signal Corps.

As a Signal Corps Officer, Colonel Les Curtiss served as an Airborne Battle Group Signal Officer and Advisor to the 5th Military Region, Vietnam; Instructor at the Signal Officers Advance Course, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey; Deputy Commander, U.S. Army Element NATO, and Camp Commandant, Camp Voluceau, NATO, Paris, France; and attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Both Colonel Les Curtiss and his life's partner Madlyn believed that no word was ever spoken that has held out greater hope than Freedom; and nothing demands greater sacrifice, needs to be nurtured, and comes closer to bring God's will on earth. They both believed that Freedom is worth fighting for; and while her husband served in a variety of Army command and staff positions, Mrs. Madlyn Curtiss faithfully performed her duty as well.

The World War II Generation made their mark in American History as soldiers; and they were undoubtedly very successful as veterans as well. In every field, they quickly assumed positions of leadership, often transforming entire industries, research fields, and professions, or creating new ones. After his retirement from the U.S. Army, Colonel Les Curtiss and his wife Madlyn moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado, and pursued a life-long dream of teaching. He assumed a position on the faculty at Falcon School District #49. Mr. Les Curtiss taught Speech, Mathematics, World Geography, Government, and History. He also served as the Chairman of the Social Science Department and President of the Falcon Teachers Association.

These two great American's were born in the immediate aftermath of WWI, they survived the Great Depression and answered their country's summons when totalitarianism and fascism threatened the world. As General George Marshall stated, "they have made history, a great history for the good of mankind," and today I honor them for their service and commitment.

CLE ELUM LAND EXCHANGE

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to transfer lands along the Cle Elum River in Washington. This legislation will transfer about 400 acres of land along the Cle Elum River in Washington state from the Secretary of Agriculture to the administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior. The bill also provides for a subsequent land exchange involving a portion of these lands—about 40 acres—with a neighboring private landholder. This land is part of a larger tract that was acquired in the 1930s by the U.S. Reclamation Service to construct Cle Elum Dam and Reservoir. The land was in turn transferred to the Forest Service in 1966, after the Interior Department concluded it was no longer needed for Reclamation project purposes. The legislation I am introducing completes the cycle of returning a portion of the property back to Interior, and a smaller portion back to private ownership. This legislation enables a public-private partnership to develop much-need infrastructure and simplifies property boundaries. This legislation enjoys the support of local elected officials and many local organizations, businesses. I ask that you please refer this legislation to the proper committee for consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 17, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4568) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Chairman, I would like to submit this letter which I sent to Secretary Norton. This letter concerns an amendment to H.R. 4568 regarding winter use of snowmobiles at Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 18, 2004

Hon. GAIL A. NORTON,
Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.

DEAR SECRETARY NORTON: I am writing regarding winter use of snowmobiles at Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway.

As you know, this week the House of Representatives voted narrowly to defeat an amendment to the House Interior Appropriations bill, which provided for a total ban of snowmobile access to the parks. I voted against the amendment, but only with the understanding that the National Park Service intends to implement a plan that ensures the protection of the wildlife and natural beauty of these American treasures for current and future generations.

I believe the concerns of snowmobile emissions and noise at the parks are valid and must be addressed. I realize that the newer "four-stroke" snowmobiles reduce emissions and noise significantly. While I believe these advances in snowmobile technology merit reconsideration of winter use at the parks, I believe the Park Service must carefully consider the short and long-term alternatives. I seek your assurance that NPS will determine an appropriate winter use plan that balances the need to protect the parks' unique environment with appropriate means of access, even if that includes the snowcoach only alternative.

I understand the Park Service is considering alternatives that include one that would allow only snowcoaches, and others that include restrictions on the number of snowmobiles that may enter the parks each day, technology requirements, guiding requirements, and where snowmobile travel is appropriate. I do believe our parks should be accessible. But if an alternative that includes snowmobile access is to be implemented, I think it is critical that such access not detract from the experiences of those who prefer to explore the parks in other ways.

I appreciate the Park Service's efforts to find a balanced solution that I hope will enhance the experiences for everyone who visits these magnificent parks. Thank you for considering my comments as NPS moves forward with its short and long-term winter use revisions.

Sincerely,

ROB PORTMAN,
Representative.

DEATH IN DARFUR

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2004

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD three new articles regarding the continuing crisis in Darfur, Sudan. I will continue to submit articles exposing the crimes occurring against the people of Darfur. I will not stop until the world takes notice and the unnecessary death of innocent civilians ends.

[From the New York Times, June 23, 2004]

MAGBOULA'S BRUSH WITH GENOCIDE

(By Nicholas D. Kristof)

Along the Sudan-Chad Border—Meet Magboula Muhammad Khattar and her baby, Nada. I wrote about Ms. Khattar in my last two columns, recounting how the Janjaweed Arab militia burned her village, murdered her parents and finally tracked her family down in the mountains. Ms. Khattar hid, but the Janjaweed caught her husband and his brothers, only 4, 6 and 8 years old, and killed them all.

Ms. Khattar decided that the only hope for saving her two daughters and her baby sister was to lead them by night to Chad. They had to avoid wells where the Janjaweed kept watch, but eight days later, half-dead with hunger and thirst, they staggered across the dry riverbed that marks the border with Chad.

That's where I found Ms. Khattar. She is part of a wave of 1.2 million people left homeless by the genocide in Darfur.

Among those I met was Haiga Ibrahim, a 16-year-old girl who said her father and three older brothers had been killed by the Janjaweed. So Haiga led her crippled mother and younger brothers and sisters to Chad. But the place they reached along the border, Bamina, was too remote to get help from overtaxed aid agencies.

So when I found her, Haiga was leading her brothers and sisters 30 miles across the desert to the town of Bahai. "My mother can't walk any more," she said wearily. "First I'm taking my brother and sisters, and then I hope to go back and bring my mother."

There is no childhood here. I saw a 4-year-old orphan girl, Nijah Ahmed, carrying her