

Barbara was married in 1964 and, shortly after her wedding, Barbara and her husband served their country by moving to Germany for three years where she taught military servicemen and women general education courses they needed to finish their high school educations.

In 1983, ten years after Barbara and her family moved back to Pennsylvania and settled in Valley Forge, Barbara went back to school and earned her Masters degree in interior design from Drexel University. During this time, she was also a full-time mother, driving her children to and from soccer practices, dancing lessons, Hebrew School and many other activities.

In addition to her busy schedule and many accomplishments, Barbara has been actively involved in her community since returning to the States in the 1970's. Barbara serves as a volunteer guide for the Friends of Independence National Historic Park, and as a volunteer guide for the Foundation for Architecture that gives walking tours of historic sites in Philadelphia. Barbara has also served as a board member for the Chester County Tourist Bureau and for the Schuylkill River Greenway Association. Barbara spearheaded an EPA brownfields initiative grant for Phoenixville Borough as Director of the Phoenixville Area Economic Development Corporation and Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce. And she has provided unparalleled leadership and direction for a wide variety of public improvement and revitalization efforts in Phoenixville. Due to Barbara's tireless efforts, almost 4 million dollars has been raised in the revitalization effort and the Borough now stands on the threshold of a magnificent resurgence.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring this extraordinary woman for the years of good work she has done at home and abroad and for the many distinguished and remarkable contributions she has made to this community and the people whose lives she has graciously touched.

TRIBUTE TO EPWORTH MANOR

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Epworth Manor for its service to the community, and to congratulate all those involved with the facility on its celebration of 85 years in operation.

Throughout this nation's history, taking care of the elderly has never been more critical to our progress than it is now. With so many citizens reaching the age of retirement while having the ability to live longer due to advances in medical science, the services that care centers provide have become vital to a community's subsistence. The legacy of consistent service that the Manor as built throughout the last 85 years has helped to earn people's trust, making them more willing to seek medical help when in need. Facilities like Epworth Manor allow a region to thrive because of the assurance that quality health care is available, and its impact has been invaluable.

Established in 1919 when the Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Church

purchased the S.S. Blair Mansion, the facility, formerly known as the Methodist Home for the Aged, initially housed fourteen residents. After numerous expansions, extensive remodeling, and investment in new technology, Epworth Manor has expanded into a 144-bed comprehensive health care facility.

Epworth Manor has demonstrated an unyielding enthusiasm and care for the public which it serves, and its employees have worked diligently throughout its tenure, instilling a sense of pride and comfort into the area's citizens. The center has not only enriched the lives of its residents, but of those in the surrounding communities who have undoubtedly benefitted from the outstanding service that they have repeatedly provided.

For its incomparable generosity, service to the community, and unabated commitment to excellence, Epworth Manor deserves the highest recognition. The center continues to grow and maintain a high level of quality, providing an example that all businesses should follow. I congratulate Epworth Manor on its 85th anniversary and eagerly await its future progress.

ALL LEGISLATION SHOULD BE
AVAILABLE ON INTERNET 24
HOURS BEFORE A VOTE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, last month Congress passed the FY2005 Omnibus Appropriations Bill. The version that passed the House included a provision that would allow Appropriations Chairmen access to IRS tax returns. Once this provision was noticed, the Senate passed a resolution to strip it and the House was forced to go back into a pro forma session to adopt the Senate language. Two years ago, outrage followed the passage of an omnibus bill that included indemnification language for vaccine makers against autism lawsuits.

Earlier this year, I introduced H.R. 4971, the Restoring Democracy to the United States Congress Act. This legislation sought to enact a series of reforms that I believe would have prevented this from happening. If the bill was law, among other things, it would have required the legislation to be online in a searchable form for a minimum of 24 hours before we voted on it.

As an opportunity for Members to clearly state that the current manner in which we often consider legislation is not good for the institution, I am introducing legislation that would require all legislation be available to the public on the Internet and in a searchable form for a minimum of 24 hours before a vote could be considered.

INCREASING THE PUBLIC DEBT
LIMIT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 18, 2004

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to S. 2986, legislation to

raise the debt limit by a total of \$800 billion, to \$8.18 trillion. This marks the third time in three years that Congress has been forced to vote to raise the debt limit and burden our children and grandchildren for decades to come, raising the debt limit by a total of \$2.2 trillion since 2001.

It is completely irresponsible to be voting to raise the debt limit today without taking additional measures to put our fiscal policy back on track and institute the common sense pay-as-you-go rules which were in effect from 1990 through 2002 requiring that both tax cuts and spending increases be paid for.

Five tax cuts in four years, soaring defense spending on the war in Iraq, in addition to our stifled economy have turned the record surpluses inherited by President Bush into a record deficit of \$413 billion in the past fiscal year.

Unfortunately, we are not considering a reform of our current fiscal policies today, allowing our national debt to continue to rise. As a result, the amount of interest on the national debt—the “debt tax”—that each American family will have to pay will climb to \$9,400 by 2014. America's growing debt will ensure that our taxes will go toward paying interest on our debt instead of keeping our nation safe and strong, strengthening Social Security, or improving education for our children.

I will not vote to raise the debt limit by \$800 billion today, and will only support an increase of the debt limit along with the reinstated common sense fiscal policy reforms.

RECOGNIZING THE DEDICATION OF
THE SOLANO COUNTY GOVERNMENT
CENTER COMPLEX

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the December 16, 2004 dedication of the Government Center Complex in Fairfield, California, the county seat of Solano County.

The new Government Center Complex is the most ambitious capital improvement project in the history of the county and I laud the project's energy efficiency measures.

The Government Center Complex contains a six-story County Administration Center that achieves the lowest energy cost per square foot for any government facility in the State of California.

The Government Center Complex also contains a five-level parking structure with over 1,000 parking stalls, 20 electric vehicle slots, and a rooftop photovoltaic solar array that generates 119 kilowatts of clean, emissions free power.

Again, I commend county staff and the county's private partners on the timely and fiscally responsible completion of what is truly a landmark building for the citizens of Solano County.