in the 21st Century. Just as important, this facility is yet another critical addition to the Community Regional Medical Center campus in downtown Fresno, a long time vision for this community and now a reality.

In this building, students of medicine will have the opportunity to learn the intricacies of medicine and its impact on the broader community. Simultaneously, the center will provide individuals the insight to the various health issues challenging the residents of this region.

This facility has been years in the making, and the entire community will reap the rewards of the newest addition to UCSF-Fresno.

HONORING OFFICER WILLIAM S. KIMBLE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer William ''Bill'' S. Kimble for his exemplary service with Turlock Police Services and to his community. An event to celebrate the retirement of Officer Kimble will be held on Friday, April 15, 2005 in Turlock, CA.

Bill Kimble was born in Patterson, CA on April 12, 1955. After graduating from Patterson High School in 1973, Bill enrolled in the Modesto Regional Criminal Justice Training Academy, class number F–2. Upon completing his training, Bill was hired by Turlock Police Chief John Johnson to serve and protect his community on June 5, 1980.

Throughout his entire career, Officer Kimble has served in various capacities, he has functioned as field training officer, officer in charge, traffic officer, school resource officer, D.A.R.E. officer, SWAT officer—sniper, community services supervisor, and detective. He served as President and on the Board of Directors of the Turlock Associated Police Officers. Since 1985, Officer Kimble has been a senior Major Accident Investigation Team investigator. He was privileged to serve under the tenures of former Turlock Police Services Chief(s) John Johnson, Robert Johnson, and current Chief Lonald Lott.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Officer William ''Bill'' S. Kimble for his 25 years of service with Turlock Police Services. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Kimble upon retirement and in wishing him many more years of continued success.

IN MEMORY OF POLLY GONZALEZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my condolences to the family and friends of Polly Gonzalez. Anyone that lives in the Las Vegas Valley knows the contribution that Polly gave not only to Channel 8 Eye Witness News, but also to her family, friends, and community. This was even exemplified in her death on March 28th as she was taking her two daughters to see the wildflowers in Death Valley.

Polly Gonzalez started her career in journalism 20 years ago at the San Jose State University. Overcoming a rough and troubled childhood living in a home where her mother would sell street drugs to provide food for her children, Polly became an award winning anchorwoman. As an anchorwoman in Salina, California she was one of the first journalists to uncover the growing gang problem within this tiny community. She eventually joined Channel 8 in 1994 and became a co-anchor for the twelve o'clock and four thirty news casts. During her career at Channel 8 she covered such stories as the Oklahoma Bombing in 1995.

She was the first Latino anchor in Las Vegas and was very proud of this fact. She considered herself to be a role model to her two daughters and to the other Latino women she knew and represented. She wanted them to know that anything is achievable through hard work and dedication and used her life story as an example.

As a Nevadan and Channel 8 viewer, I will always remember the professional, yet warm and friendly way Polly delivered the news into my home. I felt that Polly had a sincere desire to bring accurate and fair news to my family as if she were a close personal friend or family member herself.

I would like to express my sincere sympathy to the family, friends, and co-workers of Polly Gonzalez. Our hearts go out to those individuals mourning the loss of a family member, friend, and role model. As we move forward in our lives, may we never forget the achievements and contributions of Ms. Polly Gonzalez.

HONORING MS. ELLEN GIBSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and wish well in retirement Ms. Ellen Gibson of Fresno, California. Ellen has diligently served her community for over 30 years.

Ms. Gibson began her public service career in 1972 with Congressman Bernie Sisk. Through the years Ellen became an instrumental team member in the district offices of two other Congressional Representatives. She joined the staff of Congressman Tony Coelho in 1979 and, my predecessor, Congressman Cal Dooley in 1991.

Ellen began as a District Aide to Congressmen Sisk where she generated press releases, performed general office duties and handled constituent casework. After her time there she joined Congressman Coelho as an Office Director. In this capacity Ellen managed the Fresno district office, trained new staff people, and was responsible for federal casework. Finally, Ellen became Congressman Dooley's Senior Casework Manager.

While her responsibilities were many, Ellen was devoted to, and excellent at, one of the most important aspect of a district office—casework. To this day her coworkers laud Ellen's assiduous efforts to help the people of the San Joaquin Valley. This type of work is one of the most demanding tasks a Congressional staff member faces, and Ellen not only embraced, but also effectively managed this large responsibility.

Ellen's work positively impacted the lives of the many people she touched. Whether she helped somebody attain their citizenship, or their social security benefits, Ellen met each and every case with renewed energy and desire to help.

Ellen has set the standard for individuals who follow in her footsteps, and her shoes will be difficult to fill. Her retirement is bittersweet. While we will miss her greatly, this time is much deserved.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN W. IVES, INSTALLATION COMMANDER OF FT. GEORGE G. MEADE

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Col. John W. Ives, Installation Commander of Ft. George G. Meade. Col. Ives will retire from the military in June, and I want to personally thank him for his years of service to our Nation.

Col. Ives began his distinguished Army career as an enlisted soldier in 1972. In 1981, he was commissioned as a military intelligence officer, and he has spent much of his Army career in military intelligence. Col. Ives became Installation Commander of Ft. Meade in 2002 and he has been instrumental in efforts to modernize and upgrade the 5,400-acre base located in Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

As Installation Commander, he has overseen the first stages of a $400 million housing redevelopment, the demolition of 100 aging structures from World War I and World War II, and the continuing environmental cleanup of the Army post, which is listed as a Superfund site. In addition, he has supervised important security improvements that have become necessary since 9/11.

The Colonel also has positioned Ft. Meade for the future. He understands that Ft. Meade is part of a larger community and has worked with Anne Arundel County officials to enhance future development opportunities, both on and off the base. He understands that Ft. Meade must keep pace with the future needs of our Nation.

I hope my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in saluting Col. Ives for his dedication and service to our nation. His leadership and understanding of complex issues have made him one of the most successful Installation Commanders in recent memory.

SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT

HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. CHANDLER. Mr. Speaker. I want to thank my colleague from Texas, Mr. TED POE, for his leadership on this important subject

and for inviting me during Nation Crime Victim's Week to express my support for the Victims of Crime Act.

As many of you know, Congress enacted this landmark legislation over two decades ago to make sure victims of crime receive the care and treatment they need to recover from tragic incidents. This legislation sent a clear message to victims across America that Congress will not turn its back on anyone during these difficult times. Unfortunately, the President's proposed budget is on the verge of breaking that promise. His budget would cut $1.2 billion from this successful program and use it to pay off mounting deficits. This cut will translate directly into less money for programs that help victims throughout our Nation.

The people in my home district of Central Kentucky will immediately feel the effects of this cut. This program has provided millions of dollars for the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center, which this year alone helped over 750 rape victims. For the last 30 years, the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center has served 17 counties throughout Central Kentucky. It was the first rape crisis center in the state and one of the first in the nation.

Thanks to the Center's services, over 750 women this year have had a friend to face what could have been the most traumatic event of their life. If the President's budget goes through, the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center will have to drastically cut its services, layoff experienced staff, and close the doors of their offices throughout Central Kentucky. Without this funding, there will be fewer staff members to answer calls at the Center's 24-hour crisis line.

Do we really want to leave a 19 year old young woman on hold as she is reaching out for help after a tragic incident? Or even worse, less funding will result in fewer rape crisis counselors to meet a woman at the hospital and sit with her as she undergoes a rape exam and a police interview. Are we willing to have a woman wait alone in the hospital because her hometown does not have a designated rape counselor? And what are we going to say to the women who continue to experience trauma beyond the hospital or the police station. A funding cut would also leave hundreds of rape victims without counselors to help them as they experience flashbacks or relapses. How is a woman expected to rebuild her life if we strip away the tools she needs to do so?

On behalf of all the residents in Kentucky who have suffered terrible crimes and are working to put their lives back in order, I encourage all of my colleagues to support a budget that protects victim's rights. We must keep our promise to these individuals and not leave them waiting at the hospital alone without a friend or counselor to provide relief. We made a promise in 1984 to care for these individuals and we have a responsibility to fulfill that promise. All I am asking is that we do what Congress said it would do in the first place.

IN MEMORY OF DR. VINCENT LEEROY BLOOM OF FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Dr. Vincent Leeroy Bloom of Fresno, California. He is survived by his wife, Melanie, son, David and daughter, Rebecca.

Dr. Bloom, retired chair of the Communication Department at California State University, Fresno, is remembered by all as a dedicated scholar, a loving husband, a passionate teacher, and a strong community member. Students, faculty, colleagues, family and friends not only mourn his passing, but also celebrate his life.

Born in Cambridge, Minnesota, Vince received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Bethel College in St. Paul, Minnesota. He continued his education at Colorado State College and received his Master of Arts Degree in Speech Communication in 1967. Ever the dedicated student, Vince attained his Ph.D. in Communication from Ohio University in 1970.

Fresnans were soon to enjoy the intellectual stimulation of the Doctors Bloom when Vince and his wife Melanie moved to California and joined the Communication Department at California State University, Fresno.

While at CSU Fresno, Dr. Bloom managed to touch the lives of many. He served as department chair for three years, developed a course for shy students, and served as chair of the Academic Senate Standards and Grading Committee. Vince was also chair of the Athletic Advisory Council. In this capacity, Dr. Bloom was instrumental in forming the committees on campus that upheld athletic academic standards.

Dr. Bloom's efforts, however, did not solely focus on Fresno State. Vince served as chair of the National Communication Association Commission on Communication Apprehension and Avoidance; whose newsletter he edited. He was also active in the Western States Communication Association.

While he effectively negotiated the scholastic sphere of his life, Vince also ventured outside of academia. He was a member of Northwest Church, where he served on its Deacon Board. In his efforts to motivate youth he sponsored the College Age Group at his church and taught Sunday school.

It goes without saying that Dr. Vince Bloom was an integral part of the community. His journey through life was guided by his level of commitment to others—a level matched by very few. Although he has passed on, his memory will forever have an impact on the lives of the people who knew him.

IN SUPPORT OF THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT FUND

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, too often the dignity and respect that crime victims deserve are lost in the system, a system that is supposed to ensure justice for all.

Last October Congress passed and the President signed into law the Justice For All Act which brought some justice back to victims through an established and enforceable set of rights, including the right to be present during proceedings, the right to confront assailants in proceedings, and the right to be notified about the release or escape of the perpetrator from custody.

If these funds are diverted from the Victims of Crime Act Fund, crime victims will suffer again.

The Victims of Crime Act Fund, VOCA, was established by Congress in 1984 as a way to ensure the continued support and protection for the victims of crime. It is funded through fines, forfeitures, and fees assessed against criminal defendants and is directed toward states where it is used to provide services to those organizations that serve crime victims. It is not funded through general tax revenue.

In my own district in Cincinnati the organization ProKids is one such organization that benefits from VOCA funding. ProKids trains special court appointed advocates to serve as a voice for children who have been abused or neglected. VOCA funds provide a substantial portion of the organization's operating budget, without which the protection that ProKids provides to children will end.

We cannot continue to deny those who suffer most from crime. I urge my colleagues to oppose using these funds for any purpose other than for which Congress intended.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, April 14, 2005, through an inadvertent error during voting on S. 256, the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act, I was recorded as not voting. I ask unanimous consent that the permanent record indicates that on rollcall vote No. 108 I would have been recorded as having voted in the negative.

BANKRUPTCY ABUSE PREVENTION AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2005

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I want to address my remarks to an important provision of S. 256, that is a clarification of Section 303 of the Bankruptcy Code. Section 1234 restates and strengthens Congress' long-standing intent that an involuntary bankruptcy action should not be predicated on disputed claims. Otherwise, opportunistic litigants seeking to gain advantage in contract disputes may improperly employ the leverage of the bankruptcy court.

Because bankruptcy courts should not be used to resolve disputed claims in involuntary cases, the clarification in Section 1234 reemphasizes that a person who disputes the