

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JONATHAN OLIVITO

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Jonathan Olivito has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Jonathan Olivito has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, Jonathan Olivito has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Jonathan Olivito must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award.

Therefore, I join with the residents of Carrollton, the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio, Jonathan's family and friends in congratulating Jonathan Olivito as he receives the Eagle Scout Award.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, due to other obligations in my district, I unfortunately missed the following votes on the House floor on Monday, May 23, 2005.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 200 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—the Internet Spyware (I-SPY) Prevention Act), and rollcall vote No. 201 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—the Securely Protect Yourself Against Cyber Trespass Act). I strongly support these two bills because they take important steps to protect the identity and privacy of computer users.

I also ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 202 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended—Recognizing the 57th Anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel). As a cosponsor of this legislation, H. Con. Res. 149, I congratulate Israel on its 57th Anniversary of Independence and their allegiance to the principles of freedom and democracy. Israel has consistently been a vital and strategically ally to the United States in the Middle East.

### CELEBRATING ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I introduced House Resolution 280 to honor the immeasurable contributions of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans to our Nation. I want to specifically thank our distinguished Majority Leader for scheduling this resolution during May, which the Congress has designated as "Asian Pacific American Heritage Month" since 1978.

The month of May is important to Asian and Pacific Islander Americans because of two key events. The first occurred on May 7, 1843, when the first Japanese immigrants to the United States arrived. The second important event took place on May 10, 1869, a day known as "Golden Spike Day," as the first North American transcontinental railroad was completed. The Central Pacific Railroad, which was built heading east from Sacramento, California, and the Union Pacific Railroad, built west from Omaha, Nebraska, met near the Great Salt Lake in Utah. Ever since, the country could be traversed by rail from coast to coast. This momentous accomplishment was made possible by thousands of rail workers, the majority of whom emigrated from China.

Like Black History Month in February, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month was established by an act of Congress. A former member of this body, Frank Horton of New York, led Congress to first establish "Asian/Pacific American Heritage Week" through Public Law 95-419 in 1978. Each year, the Week was to begin May 4 to include the important dates of May 7 and May 10. Then, in 1992, Congress expanded the commemoration to designate the entire month of May as "Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month." I am pleased the House is celebrating this significant designation today.

The Census Bureau revealed last year that 5 percent of the total U.S. population is of either Asian, native Hawaiian or other Pacific island heritage. As an example of their achievements, half of Asian-Americans over age 25 have earned a college degree, the highest proportion of college graduates of any ethnic group in the U.S. The corresponding rate for all American adults is 27 percent.

In addition, as the War on Terror continues, it is relevant to recognize the more than 300,000 Asian and Pacific Americans who have served our Nation in the armed forces. Asian and Pacific American service men and women are fighting on foreign soil today, and their sacrifices should be deeply respected. Indeed, they have performed with incredible valor during our Nation's history.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 2005 is being celebrated in numerous settings from community festivals to school events across the country. This year's theme—Freedom for All—A Nation We Call Our Own—is very appropriate to the more than 14 million U.S. residents of Asian and Pacific island heritage who call America home.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of House Resolution 280.

### A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF RUDY J. ZATEZALO

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and community of Rudy J. Zatezalo; and

Whereas, Rudy J. Zatezalo was a retired press operator with Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel Corporation; and

Whereas, Rudy J. Zatezalo was a member of St. John's Catholic Church in Bellaire, the Knights of Columbus, and the Bellaire Lions Club; and

Whereas, Rudy J. Zatezalo bravely defended our country in the Army during World War II; and

Whereas, the understanding and caring to which he gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. His life and example inspired all who knew him.

Therefore, while I understand how words cannot express our grief at this most trying of times, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family, friends, and colleagues of Rudy J. Zatezalo.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, due to other obligations, I unfortunately missed a recorded vote on the House floor on Thursday, May 19, 2005.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "yes" on Rollcall vote No. 196 (On Agreeing to the Amendment—prohibiting the use of funds for the sale or slaughter of wild free-roaming horses and burros.)

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
MODERNIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 2066, the General Services Administration Modernization Act, was introduced by myself and Armed Services Chairman Hunter last month and approved by the Committee on Government Reform by unanimous consent on May 5, 2005.

The legislation would authorize a much needed reorganization and streamlining of the General Services Administration, the federal agency charged with leveraging the federal government's buying power to purchase commercial goods and services for the federal government at the best value possible in order to maximize the use of taxpayer funds.

This legislation has been under consideration in the Government Reform Committee for a number of years and has been the subject of multiple legislative and oversight hearings. It was also included in the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2006.

Mr. Speaker, each year GSA buys products and services from the private sector worth well over \$30 billion and resells them to federal agencies through two different Services. The Federal Technology Service uses the Information Technology Fund to purchase information technology, and the Federal Supply Service uses the General Supply Fund to purchase commercial goods and services.

This bifurcated system may have made sense when the IT fund was created two decades ago, when information technology was in its infancy. Today, however, laptop computers, cell phones, and e-mail are as ubiquitous as desks and phones. The business case for a separate system to handle IT goods and services no longer exists. In fact, the bifurcated system has become a barrier to coordinated acquisition of management services and the technology needed to support a total solution.

Since 2002, Administrator Perry has instituted and is currently carrying out an internal reorganization aimed at establishing GSA as a modern enterprise more reflective of the current market. H.R. 2066 would assist those efforts. Critical to Administrator Perry's efforts to modernize the General Services Administration is ensuring that the structural reforms are memorialized in GSA's organic legislation so that the remedies will endure.

To accomplish this, H.R. 2066 would consolidate the Federal Supply Service and the Federal Technology Service into a single entity operating out of a unified fund, providing federal agencies with a one-stop shop to acquire all of their commercial goods and services. This change in statute would provide GSA with the structure it needs to bring it in line with the current commercial market.

Specifically, the legislation would amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to create a new "Federal Acquisition Service," to be headed by a high-level Commissioner appointed by the GSA Administrator. H.R. 2066 would also provide that the new Federal Acquisition Service be supported by a newly created "Acquisition Services Fund" consisting of the assets of the old Information Technology and Supply Funds.

In addition, H.R. 2066 would authorize the GSA Administrator to appoint up to five "Regional Executives" for the Federal Acquisition Service to facilitate closer oversight and more management control over acquisition-related activities.

Finally, Mr./Madam Speaker, the General Services Administration Modernization Act would authorize retention bonuses and reemployment relief aimed at maintaining the strength and experience of the federal government's civilian acquisition workforce.

The environment in which the federal government purchases goods and services has changed dramatically in recent decades. Relinquishing the federal agency charged with purchasing goods and services for the rest of the federal government to an organizational structure that was constructed to function in a different era is a waste of taxpayer dollars. H.R. 2066 would remove the old structures that inhibit efficient federal purchases of solutions that are a mix of products, services and technology. The federal marketplace should reflect the best of the commercial marketplace: both in the products and services we buy and the way we buy them.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
THE OHIO ARMY NATIONAL  
GUARD'S 216TH ENGINEER BATTALION**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, the 216th was mobilized in January 2004 and supported the 1st Infantry Division in Iraq from March 2004 to February 2005; and

Whereas, the 216th conducted four hundred and fifty combat patrols and completed over three hundred and fifty missions at forty separate locations in north central Iraq and An Najaf; and

Whereas, the 216th played a critical role in improving force protection at forward operating bases and fixed check points as well as in preparation of Iraq's national election.

Therefore, I congratulate the Ohio National Guard's 216th Engineer Battalion on their receipt of the Meritorious Unit Commendation for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services during military operations against an armed enemy.

BUSINESS CHECKING FREEDOM  
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1224, the Business Checking Freedom Act of 2005, which repeals antiquated banking laws that prohibit banks from paying interest on business checking accounts and the Federal Reserve from paying interest on funds that banks and other depository institutions are required by law to maintain at the Federal Reserve Banks.

Mr. Speaker, it may surprise some of our colleagues to know that since 1933, banks have been unable to pay interest on business checking accounts. The law was originally intended to ensure that larger banks did not use higher interest payments to lure deposits away from small, rural banks to fund stock market speculation. While at the time this law may have been wise public policy—although even that is debatable—in the year 2005 it is a relic of a financial world that no longer exists.

There is little doubt that now, with the current complex and competitive nature of the financial services industry, all depository institutions would benefit from the ability to offer business checking accounts and are more than able to manage the potential risks involved.

In fact, as the financial services industry grows more competitive and more complex, antiquated laws that limit the competitive capacities of financial institutions only harm the customer's ability to find appropriate financial solutions. Repealing the ban on interest on business checking accounts will free banks to compete for business customers on a level playing field, and promote the development of bank products and services geared toward a small business clientele that is ill-served by the current prohibition.

In addition to providing small businesses with much-needed regulatory relief, H.R. 1224 would authorize the payment of interest on certain reserves that depository institutions are required to maintain at the Federal Reserve. Current law prohibits such payments, thereby imposing a "hidden tax" on depository institutions and placing them at a competitive disadvantage relative to non-bank financial firms and foreign banks that are not subject to the same reserve requirements. If, under the Federal Reserve Act, banks, thrifts, and credit unions are required to hold funds against transaction accounts, simple fairness dictates that the Federal Reserve should be required to pay interest on those reserve balances. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan has testified on numerous occasions that repealing the current prohibition would have the additional benefit of facilitating the Federal Reserve's management of U.S. monetary policy.

The bill also contains a hard fought compromise by Mr. GILLMOR of Ohio and Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts that addresses the authority of industrial loan companies (ILCs) to offer interest-bearing accounts to their business customers. The provision specifies that an ILC which obtained deposit insurance prior to October 1, 2003, is authorized to pay interest on a business account, provided the ILC is owned by the same parent company that owned it as of that date. Other ILCs could also offer such interest-bearing accounts, provided that at least 85 percent of the gross revenues of their parent company and other affiliates were derived from activities that were financial in nature or incidental to a financial activity during at least three of the prior four calendar quarters.

Mr. Speaker, legislation substantially similar to H.R. 1224 has been approved by this body on several prior occasions, including twice in the last Congress. The Bush administration has previously endorsed authorizing banks to pay interest on business checking accounts. In addition, H.R. 1224 is strongly supported by all segments of the small business community, including the National Federation of Independent Business and the U.S. Chamber of

Commerce, and by America's Community Bankers.

I want to conclude by thanking two valued Members of the Financial Services Committee, the gentlelady from New York, Mrs. KELLY and Mr. GILLMOR from Ohio, who have worked tirelessly over several Congresses to advance this legislation, as well as our Ranking Minority Member, Mr. FRANK, who has contributed greatly to this legislation and has been strongly supportive of the overall effort on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 1224.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, due to family obligations in South Carolina, I unfortunately missed recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, May 23, 2005.

I ask that the Record reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 200 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 744—Internet Spyware (I-SPY) Prevention Act of 2005), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 201 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 29—Securely Protect Yourself Against Cyber Trespass Act), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 202 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Con. Res. 149—Recognizing the 57th Anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel).

#### A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING TAMALA LONGABERGER

### HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Tamala Longaberger has been appointed by President George W. Bush to chair the National Women's Business Council; and

Whereas, Tamala Longaberger will oversee the bipartisan federal advisory body to provide advice to the President, Congress, and the United States Small Business Administration on economic issues important to women business owners; and

Whereas, Tamala Longaberger has served as the chief executive officer of the number one maker of handmade baskets, Longaberger Company, for ten years; and

Whereas, Tamala Longaberger should be commended for her service in the Newark, Ohio and surrounding areas and to the Republican Party.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in honoring and congratulating Tamala Longaberger for her outstanding appointment.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF  
QUINTEN S. WISE ON HIS AP-  
POINTMENT TO ATTEND THE  
UNITED STATES MILITARY  
ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

### HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Quinten S. Wise of Waterville, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Quinten's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2009. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Quinten brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Anthony Wayne High School in Whitehouse, Ohio, Quinten has attained a grade point average of 3.95, which places him near the top of his class of more than three hundred students. While a gifted athlete, Quinten has maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. Quinten has been a member of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll, and has earned awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, Quinten has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, he has earned letters in both Varsity Football and Baseball. Quinten has served as class president for four years and was selected as a 2004 delegate to the American Legion's Boys State. Quinten's dedication and service to the community and his peers has proven his ability to excel among the leaders at West Point. I have no doubt that Quinten will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to West Point.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Quinten S. Wise on his appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Quinten will do very well during his career at West Point and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 23, 2005 I was unable to vote on a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 744,

the Internet Spyware Prevention Act of 2005 (rollcall No. 200); H.R. 29, Securely Protect Yourself Against Cyber Trespass Act (rollcall No. 201); and H. Con. Res. 149, Recognizing the 57th Anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel (rollcall No. 202). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all three measures.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES E. WALKER

### HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Charles E. Walker.

Charles Walker is a Government Affairs Officer with the Army Corps of Engineers and he will be retiring this year after thirty years of outstanding work in the Federal service.

Charles Walker has consistently demonstrated a high level of performance throughout his career serving our nation, starting with his service in the United States Army. He joined the Army in 1966 and fought in the Vietnam conflict. He left the Army in 1969 and returned to continue his education.

He earned his Russian Language Certificate from Leningrad University and a P.h.D. from West Virginia University in 1973. Prior to Vietnam, Charles Walker had been a secondary school teacher in Baltimore City. He returned to teaching in 1973 as a History Lecturer at Anne Arundel Community College and remained there until 1974.

In 1975, Charles Walker entered the Federal service as a historian in the Historical Office of the Headquarters of the Army Corps of Engineers. He left the Corps in 1978 to become an aide to the Mayor of Baltimore City and returned to teaching in 1979, taking a position as a U.S. Government instructor at Towson University.

Since 1980, Charles Walker has been working exclusively as a member of the Federal service. First as a Senior Soviet Research Analyst at the Library of Congress in 1980, he became a Public Affairs Specialist with the Corps of Engineers. He again left the Corps in 1982. In 1987, Charles Walker became the Public Affairs Director for the Maryland Department of the Environment.

In 1991, Charles Walker began his current position as a Government Affairs Officer with the Army Corps of Engineers. His professionalism, dedication, diligence and enthusiasm have had a significant positive impact on the Corps as it serves its mission.

The Baltimore District of the Corps serves five states and helps to design and construct facilities and provide real estate services to support America's Army. The Corps also plays an active role in maintaining important navigation channels to secure the safety of national commerce in addition to the many public service engineering projects it performs in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Charles E. Walker for his service to our nation and honoring him on the occasion of his retirement.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
ARLENE WHITBECK KRUEGER

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Arlene May Whitbeck was born in Albany, New York on May 21, 1921; and

Whereas, Arlene Whitbeck married Robert Krueger on October 25, 1947; and

Whereas, Arlene and Robert raised their two children, John and Karen; and

Whereas, Arlene Krueger's professional career was spent in the family business, Whitbeck Motors, in Troy, New York, where she succeeded her father as President in 1965; and

Whereas, Arlene and Robert retired to Florida in the mid-1970s, but missing their family, now including their two grandchildren, Christopher and Sarah, they have returned to the New York of their roots to enjoy their golden years; and

Whereas, Arlene Krueger has exemplified a love of life, caring, and service for her family and neighbors.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Arlene Whitbeck Krueger as she celebrates her 84th Birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM KOLBE**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on May 19, I missed the vote on agreeing to the Terry amendment to H.R. 2361, making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006 (#193). I intended to vote "nay."

RECOGNIZING 57TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF INDEPENDENCE OF STATE OF  
ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution marking the 57th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel, and to extend my congratulations to the Israeli people.

Israel has had to overcome many obstacles in its 57 years of existence. On May 14, 1948, Israel proclaimed its independence. Less than 24 hours later, the armies of Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq invaded the country, forcing Israel to defend itself. In what became known as Israel's War of Independence, the

newly formed, poorly equipped Israel Defense Forces held off the invaders in fierce fighting, which lasted 15 months and claimed over 6,000 Israeli lives, nearly one percent of the country's Jewish population at the time.

This war characterized the struggles the Israeli people have endured since 1948. However, in the face of this hostility from their neighbors, and the numerous terrorist attacks they have suffered, Israel has maintained the ideals it was founded on, pluralism, freedom, and human rights. Israel has served as a beacon of democracy in the Middle East and its shared values with the United States has led to a natural friendship between the two nations. We in Congress stand firmly behind Israel. The United States has a stake in the future of Israel and in the entire region, and we must make every effort to assist Israel in its struggle for security by helping reach a lasting peace with its neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, the commemoration of the independence of Israel is an important reminder of the contributions of Israel to democracy worldwide. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Israel's independence by supporting House Concurrent Resolution 149.

TRIBUTE TO MOHAMMED KHAN,  
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE  
MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL  
TRANSIT

**HON. JOHN W. OLVER**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mohammed Khan, Administrator of the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority, in recognition of his work in meeting the needs of transportation-disadvantaged individuals throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Today, the Secretary of Transportation will award Mr. Khan and the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority the 2005 United We Ride National Leadership Award from the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council on Access and Mobility. The Montachusett Regional Transit Authority is one of only five organizations nationwide that will be recognized this year for exemplary coordination of transportation services for older adults, people with disabilities, and individuals with lower incomes. Through Mr. Khan's leadership, the Montachusett Regional Transit Authority is specifically being recognized for their Brokerage Services Program, a service that contracts with approximately 160 private sector vendors to provide over 11,000 rides a day.

It is not often that we are able to pay adequate tribute to our Nation's community leaders. Mr. Khan has been a strong force for progressive, efficient public service in the area of transportation. It is through Mr. Khan's humility, integrity and vision that many transportation-disadvantaged individuals receive quality, reliable transit services in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Mr. Khan has made outstanding contributions to his community and, is therefore, worthy of our thanks.

STOP COUNTERFEITING IN  
MANUFACTURED GOODS ACT

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, as a proud cosponsor of H.R. 32, the Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Good Act, I rise in support of this legislation. In a time when U.S. manufacturing has been tested again and again by foreign markets, we must do everything we can to ensure that this vital industry continues to grow stronger. The Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act will do just that.

With its two pronged approach to destroy equipment used to manufacture counterfeit goods and to prohibit the trafficking of such goods, this legislation will save American manufacturers billions of dollars every year. Furthermore, the Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act will provide the same type of protection under the law for manufacturers that we now grant to copyright owners. This legislation is a welcome addition to the numerous efforts this Congress has undertaken to preserve the manufacturing sector.

I commend Congressman KNOLLENBERG for his interest in helping to protect manufacturing by granting law enforcement authorities the tools they need to put an end to counterfeiting practices. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation that will not only go a long way in helping to preserve an American way of life, but it will also protect all Americans from the deception of counterfeit goods.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
RYAN KEITH GELTMEIER

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Ryan Keith Geltmeier has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Ryan Keith Geltmeier has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, Ryan Keith Geltmeier has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Ryan Keith Geltmeier must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award.

Therefore, I join with the residents of Sandyville, the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio, Ryan's family and friends in congratulating Ryan Keith Geltmeier as he receives the Eagle Scout Award.

MINNESOTA'S HISTORIC OLD LOG  
THEATER MARKS RECORD RUN  
OF 65 YEARS

**HON. JIM RAMSTAD**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a historic Minnesota and national treasure, the Old Log Theater.

The Old Log is a pioneering lighthouse in the history of theater in our Nation, located on the shores of Lake Minnetonka in Greenwood, next to Excelsior, Minnesota.

Just as Lake Minnetonka for generations has been a powerful attraction for visitors from all over the world trying to escape the summer heat, the rich tradition of the Old Log Theater has been a magnet for theater fans around the globe.

On June 9th, the Old Log Theater will celebrate its 65th anniversary, a truly remarkable accomplishment that is most deserving of special recognition.

Mr. Speaker, the Old Log Theater, under the visionary guidance of Don Stolz, is the Nation's oldest, continuously running professional theater.

Don is largely responsible for the Old Log's legendary 65-year run.

He has worn every hat: producer, artistic director, company member, ticket seller, public address announcer, theater host and many more.

Don's distinguished presence, the great respect he enjoys in the community and the profession, and his wonderful sense of humor have as much to do with the success of the Old Log as any other factor.

The enduring legacy of this great theater is that, at its roots, the Old Log is a family affair. Don, his wife, Joan, and their sons, Tim, Tom, Dony, John and Peter, have acted as a team, filling every role.

And author and public relations manager Bob Williams is really a member of the Stolz family, too.

Originally opened in the spring of 1940 as a summer stock company in a log stable, the Old Log has entertained over 6 million patrons over the past six and a half decades.

In 1960, a new theater opened and the Old Log started running year-round its stable of the best in contemporary comedies from Broadway and London's West End.

Theater buffs can find some of the best comedic talent in the country in the Old Log's resident company of Equity actors.

Famous stars too numerous to mention have started their careers at the Old Log. Radio and TV personalities have graced its stage year after year.

But those of us who have been in the audience—and we come back time and again!—have been graced the most by the continuing excellence of the Old Log.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Don Stolz and the Stolz family on the 65th anniversary of the Old Log Theater.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of May 23, I missed three rollcall votes. I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position on rollcall votes. It was my intention to vote: yes on H.R. 744—Internet Spyware (I-SPY) Prevention Act of 2005; yes on H.R. 29—Securely Protect Yourself Against Cyber Trespass Act; yes on H. Con. Res. 149—Recognizing the 57th anniversary of the independence of the State of Israel.

At this time I would ask for unanimous consent that my positions be entered into the RECORD following those votes or in the appropriate portion of the RECORD.

NARCO-TERRORISM ENFORCEMENT  
ACT OF 2005

**HON. HENRY J. HYDE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce today the "Narco-Terrorism Enforcement Act of 2005." This legislation will provide yet another tool for our law enforcement agencies in the struggle against global terrorism and illicit drugs, and against those who traffick in the illicit narcotics which help finance terrorism.

In a recent hearing before our International Relations Committee on the heroin crisis in Afghanistan, our excellent and knowledgeable Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) indicated that nearly half of the U.S. Government-designated Foreign Terrorist Organizations (FTOs) around the globe have links to illicit narcotics (18 of 40). The nexus between terrorism and illicit narcotics grows more and more as evidence emerges of their common, supportive links and as the use also increases of drug trafficking routes to move both narcotics and terrorists.

In the case of the Afghan narcotics, which help finance several of the terrorist organizations that are today attacking American troops and the new Afghan democratic government, much of the heroin produced there is supplied to Europe and Asia, not to the United States. In cases where there is not yet any known nexus to U.S. trafficking or any domestic destinations here at home, our DEA agents on the front line often rely on another foreign transiting nation or the producing nation itself to bring indictments of these drug trafficking cases and proceed with difficult and challenging prosecutions.

This bill makes clear that, even without direct U.S. nexus, if these drugs help support or sustain a foreign terrorist organization, the producers and traffickers can, and should be, prosecuted for material support of terrorism, whether or not the illicit narcotics are ever intended for, or enter, the United States. In addition, this bill raises the penalties under the

material support-for-terrorism statute to reflect the seriousness of this offense. This bill reflects the new reality, emerging challenges, and ever-clearer drug links on the global terrorism front.

I look forward to enacting this reform as Congress continues its effort to provide our national law enforcement agencies with the tools needed to win the war on global terrorism.

WATER STORAGE

**HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, If there's one thing Idahoans understand, it's the importance of matching our limited water supplies to what seem to be unlimited demands on the water we have. Every year our water supplies face demands from irrigation, power generation, industrial and municipal users, as well as from environmental groups for fish recovery and other Endangered Species Act requirements.

These demands are constantly growing, yet every spring we watch hundreds of thousands of acre-feet of water pass through our system that could and should be stored for beneficial uses. This is water that could be used for aquifer recharge, expanding municipal systems or even environmental mitigation.

I have been told that the days of building new dams are over. However, I am not that easily convinced. Recently I convened a group of interested water users to look at additional storage opportunities in Idaho. The group is focusing on the Treasure Valley, but we are hopeful that the group can find some success and we can use a similar process in other regions of the state. We are not just talking about building dams; we also are looking at adding to existing structures, off-site storage, recharge and a host of other ideas.

As part of this process, the Bureau of Reclamation in Idaho is undertaking the appraisal level study for the Boise and Payette river systems. The legislation I am introducing today is the next step in the process. It is a broad authorization for the Bureau to conduct feasibility studies on the Snake, Boise, and Payette River systems.

Our communities, our economy and our families all depend on water to survive, grow and prosper. Deciding how to use such a rare commodity in a way that does the greatest good for the greatest number, while hewing to the principles of law and equity on which our society is based, is an enormous challenge. The task is further complicated, and brought into sharp focus, by the continuing drought plaguing Idaho and much of the arid West.

Our energy, our economy and our environment all will depend on the ability to anticipate and prioritize future water needs. Our children, our grandchildren and generations to come all are depending on the choices we make today. Preserving water rights while providing for continued growth are a top priority of mine and I will continue to work to achieve that goal.

IN TRIBUTE TO ROBERT PETERS,  
OUTSTANDING MILWAUKEE EDU-  
CATOR

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude to an outstanding leader within the Milwaukee educational community, Mr. Robert L. Peters. Mr. Peters, who worked in the Milwaukee Public Schools for over thirty years, is retiring this month as Principal of James Madison University High School. As an educator and principal, he made a difference in the lives of thousands of young Milwaukee residents.

Mr. Peters came to Milwaukee from Mississippi. He received a B.S. cum laude from Jackson State University in 1972, earning his M.S. shortly thereafter from the University of Southern Mississippi.

As a principal, Mr. Peters sought to address long-standing problems—like discipline and attendance—in new ways. Ever an educator, he continued to teach and to develop new curricula throughout his career as an administrator. Mr. Peters developed five Milwaukee Public High Schools into praiseworthy educational facilities, creating nurturing, safe instructional environments that fostered student learning and academic excellence.

Mr. Peters is also an upstanding member of the Milwaukee community, taking an active role in his church, Tabernacle Baptist Church, and participating in numerous civic organizations and community activities. As a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), he was active in the Annual Fund Raising Campaign. As a volunteer with Project Return, he provided counseling to local residents attempting to make the difficult transition from incarceration to regular society. He found ways to integrate this community leadership with his educational mission, for example, by developing a curriculum and conducting workshops for teachers to prepare for Black History Month.

His awards and commendations are numerous. Mr. Peters was recognized as one of North America's 100 Best Educational Administrators by Executive Educator and has been selected as Wisconsin's Principal of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mr. Robert L. Peters for the immeasurable service he has rendered to our country and his community. I sincerely thank Mr. Peters for his enduring commitment to Milwaukee's children, and wish him a long, enjoyable retirement.

BUFFALO NEWS ARTICLE: CLOSE  
BASE ON LONG ISLAND, NOT IN NIAGARA,  
SAYS PENTAGON OFFICIAL FROM REAGAN YEARS

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to enter into the RECORD an article that appeared

in the Buffalo News on May 24. The article details how a former Assistant Secretary of Defense under President Ronald Reagan has disagreed with Secretary Rumsfeld's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

[From the Buffalo News, May 24, 2005]

CLOSE BASE ON LONG ISLAND, NOT IN NIAGARA,  
SAYS PENTAGON OFFICIAL FROM REAGAN YEARS

(By Jerry Zremski and Sharon Linstedt)

A former assistant secretary of defense under President Ronald Reagan has rushed to the defense of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, saying the Pentagon should consider closing a base on Long Island instead.

Lawrence J. Korb, who oversaw personnel and base issues at the Pentagon from 1981 to 1985, wrote an op-ed article for the New York Times' Long Island regional edition Sunday that criticized the proposed Niagara closing.

He urged the independent commission that is reviewing the Pentagon's base-closure recommendations to instead consider shutting an Air National Guard station at Francis S. Gabreski Airport in Westhampton Beach.

"It should take a close look at Niagara and Gabreski," Korb wrote.

The two bases perform different tasks. The Niagara base services a Guard unit that performs refueling missions and an Air Reserve unit that hauls cargo, while the Gabreski base services a search-and-rescue Guard unit.

Korb suggested that the search-and-rescue team be moved to Stewart Air Force Base in Newburgh, north of New York City, and that Niagara stay open for several reasons.

For one, he said, such a move would keep jobs in-state and prevent the Niagara operations from being dispersed to Arkansas, Maine and Georgia.

"Moreover, the Pentagon will need to spend a lot just to bring Gabreski up to minimum standards," Korb wrote. "Paradoxically, Congress allotted Niagara more than \$14 million last year for upgrades."

Korb, a native of Long Island, noted that while Gabreski contributes about \$100 million to Long Island's economy, the Niagara base generates more than \$150 million. "Suffolk County is better positioned than Niagara to absorb the cutbacks," he said.

In an interview, Korb said he decided to write the opinion article after reviewing the Pentagon's proposed closures. "This just doesn't make sense" that Gabreski would stay open and Niagara would close, he said.

He said that it would be very difficult for part-time air personnel from Niagara to travel to out-of-state bases to train and that Long Island would be better able than Western New York to withstand a base closing economically.

Korb, now a senior fellow at the liberal-leaning Center for American Progress in Washington, is one of Washington's most prominent and oft-quoted defense experts.

In another development, the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority board of commissioners is throwing its support behind efforts to keep the Niagara Falls base open and will ask NFTA workers to do the same.

The NFTA board Monday unanimously approved a resolution backing the Niagara Military Affairs Council in its efforts to get the base off the list for closing.

Commissioners also approved a plan to send letters to the NFTA's 1,500 employees asking them to write to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission showing their support for keeping the base open.

"This is an important issue for the Niagara Falls community and all of Western New

York. I think we need a full-court press," said Commissioner Henry M. Sloma, who represents Niagara County.

"It makes a lot of sense to show support," NFTA Chairman Luiz F. Kahl said of the USA Niagara-led effort to amass 10,000 letters before a June 27 hearing in Buffalo on the Pentagon proposal.

COMMENDING VINCENT PAUL  
DIEGO, PH.D.

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Vince P. Diego for the completion of his Doctor of Philosophy in Anthropology from the State University of New York at Binghamton. I had the privilege of attending Dr. Diego's Doctoral degree presentation on May 14, 2005, and was extremely impressed by the accomplishments of this promising man who hails from the village of Inarajan and completed his undergraduate studies in biology at the University of Guam. Vince is an outstanding role model for young Chamorros in Guam and a shining example that perseverance, dedication and excellence will be recognized and rewarded.

One of Dr. Diego's primary research interests is the rare neurodegenerative disease amyotrophic lateral sclerosis/Parkinsons-dementia complex, which has a historically high prevalence in Guam where it is known as lytico-bodig. Dr. Diego's ongoing research with his dissertation advisor Dr. Ralph M. Garruto seeks to provide a greater understanding of this disease, which is one of the most compelling unresolved mysteries of modern medicine. He would like to return to Guam after he completes his training to carry out his own research on the biomedical problems of Chamorros, the indigenous people of Guam, and other Micronesians.

His research interests also include diseases that are described as "metabolic syndromes," which include heart disease, diabetes, hypertension and obesity. Chamorros, Filipinos, and other Asian and Pacific Islander American groups in Guam suffer disproportionately from these diseases. As the Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus's Health Task Force, I have called for the need to better understand how our communities are affected by these devastating diseases. Dr. Diego is one of the scientists who is on the front line of learning more about these diseases and how they can be prevented and treated in our communities. His current research activities as a post-doctoral scientist at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research's Department of Genetics include the statistical genetics of the metabolic syndrome in American Indians, Alaskan Natives, and Mexican Americans of San Antonio and on theoretical modeling in statistical genetics.

Dr. Diego's parents are Frank Paulino Diego and Teresita Taitague Diego of Inarajan and he is the youngest of six children. He graduated from Guam's Father Duenas Memorial School in 1990.

REMARKS OF SECRETARY OF STATE CONDOLEEZZA RICE TO THE AMERICAN ISRAEL PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) is holding its annual policy conference in Washington this week, and most of us will be receiving visits this week from our constituents who are here for this important yearly event.

Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, our Secretary of State, Condoleezza Rice, delivered the key address on behalf of the Administration to the AIPAC conference. Secretary Rice articulated in a clear and elegant manner the diverse and intense ties that bind the United States and our democratic ally Israel. As Secretary Rice reaffirmed as she began her speech, "Israel has no greater friend and no stronger supporter than the United States of America."

The strength of our relationship with Israel has transcended administrations and political parties. It was a critical and an intense relationship from the founding of the state of Israel in 1948, when President Harry Truman extended U.S. recognition to the Jewish state only eleven minutes after its independence was proclaimed. This relationship has continued through 57 years and eleven presidential administrations of both parties. Israel continues to enjoy strong bipartisan and bicameral support here in the Congress of the United States.

Though Israel and the United States have had close ties for more than half a century, conditions have changed, the world has changed, and our relationship has changed with the times as well. Secretary Rice has put American-Israeli ties in the framework of our ongoing fight against terrorism and our increasingly globalized world. She has emphasized the continuing importance of America's relationship with Israel to the American people and its relevance to the Administration's effort to foster democracy and respect for human rights and the rule of law throughout the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Secretary Rice's address be placed in the RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to read and give attention to her thoughtful remarks.

SECRETARY OF STATE CONDOLEEZZA RICE, REMARKS AT THE AIPAC ANNUAL POLICY CONFERENCE MAY 23, 2005

Thank you very much. Let me begin by saying that Israel has no greater friend and no stronger supporter than the United States of America. For over half a century, AIPAC has strengthened the religious, cultural and political bonds that unite our two great nations, and I thank you for that.

The United States and Israel share much in common. We both affirm the innate freedom and dignity of every human life, not as prizes that people confer to one another, but as divine gifts of the Almighty. As Thomas Jefferson once wrote, "The God that gave us liberty and life gave them to us at the same time."

Moral clarity is an essential virtue in our world today and for 60 years cynics and skeptics have proven that we have been looking to false choices in the Middle East. They

have claimed that we must choose either freedom or stability, either democracy or security. They have said that the United States could either uphold its principles or advance its policies.

But by trying to purchase stability at the price of liberty, we achieved neither and we saw the result of that on a fine September morning. That is why President Bush has rejected 60 years of false choices in the Middle East. And as he said last week at the International Republican Institute, "The United States has a new policy, a strategy that recognizes that the best way to defeat the ideology that uses terror as a weapon is to spread freedom and democracy."

The President holds the deep belief that all human beings desire and deserve to live in liberty. This idea, of course, did not immediately find favor. Many continued to defend the false choices of the past. But we knew then and we know now America's message is clear, our principles are sound and our policies are right, and today the nations of the world are finally joining with the United States to support the cause of freedom.

We measure our success in the democratic revolutions that have stunned the entire world: vibrant revolutions of rose and orange and purple and tulip and cedar. The destiny of the Middle East is bound up in this global expansion of freedom. The days of thinking that this region was somehow immune to democracy are over. Working with our G-8 partners, the United States has created the Broader Middle East and North Africa Initiative to build partnerships with people in the region who are working for greater liberty.

The flagship of this bold new policy is the Forum for the Future, an unprecedented international venue to amplify the voices of reform that are redefining the region. Together, we will tackle the urgent goals of the Forum: political openness, economic liberty, educational opportunity and the empowerment of women.

Today, nations all across the world are speaking a common language of reform and they are helping citizens throughout the broader Middle East to transform the parameters of debate in their societies. The people of this region are expressing ideas and taking actions that would have been unthinkable only one year ago.

Some in the Arab media have even asked why the only real democracies in the Middle East are found in the "occupied lands" of Iraq and the Palestinian territories. What an incredible thought. Today, citizens in the region are demanding that their governments respond to this simple, audacious question.

And many states will have to answer their people's call for genuine reform. Jordan and Bahrain and Qatar and Morocco are all taking steps to introduce greater openness into their political systems. Egypt has amended its constitution with electoral reform. And even Saudi Arabia has held multiple elections. And just last week, remarkably, the Kuwaiti legislature granted its women citizens the right to vote.

Kuwait's recognition that it must include all of its people in political life is, hopefully, an example that its neighbors will follow. In Lebanon, hundreds of thousands of citizens have demanded an end to the foreign suffocation of their country. With strong international support, led by the United States and by France, and with an explicit mandate from the United Nations Security Council, Syria has gotten the message loud and clear that it is not welcome in Lebanon.

The Syrian regime has withdrawn its decades-long military presence. And at the end of this month, the Lebanese people will go to the polls and set a new course of action. But we cannot rest. Syria must also remove its intelligence forces and allow the Lebanese people to be free.

To be sure, a vital source of inspiration for all of these reformers comes from the people of Iraq, who defied threats of murder to vote in free elections in January. They declared with one voice that the will of the people, not the whim of a dictator, would determine Iraq's future. They declared with that same voice that no Iraqi regime would ever again torture its people, invade its neighbors, attack its neighbors and offer financial incentives to Palestinian homicide bombers.

Today, Iraq has a transitional government that will soon begin framing a new national constitution. Free nations everywhere have rallied to Iraq's side. There is a coalition of 30 countries helping the Iraqi people to defend themselves from murderers and terrorists. NATO is training Iraq's army officers, police forces and civilian administrators. And next month, at the request of Iraq's new government, the United States and the European Union will co-host an international conference to build greater support for democracy, prosperity and security.

Now, I speak to these reform efforts because the United States looks to a future and has a vision of a day when Israel is no longer the sole democracy in the Middle East. This aspiration shapes the very heart of our approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as well. For four years, President Bush refused to meet with Yasser Arafat. He did so because Arafat valued neither Israel's security nor his own people's liberty.

There were those who ridiculed this principled decision as if the refusal to negotiate with a man who aided and abetted terrorism somehow revealed a lack of concern for peace. America and Israel had tried before to gain peace where democracy did not exist and we are not going down that road again.

Instead, President Bush advanced a vision of two democratic states: Israel and Palestine living side by side in peace and security. And today, the Palestinian people are trying to meet this democratic challenge. In January, they voted in historic elections for a leader who rejects violence as a path to peace. President Abbas has committed to both freedom and security and President Bush has offered his hand in friendship, just as he promised he would.

In three days, when they meet together here in Washington, they will build a relationship that is one that is based on the good faith that only democratic leaders can bring. The President will be clear that there are goals to be met, but that democracy is a goal that is unassailable and incontrovertible.

Prime Minister Sharon has also recognized that Israel is gaining a legitimate partner for peace and he has made courageous decisions that could change the course of history. Beginning in August, Prime Minister Sharon will implement his plan to withdraw from Gaza and parts of the West Bank. Israel's disengagement strategy presents an unprecedented and incredibly delicate opportunity for peace and we must all work together to capitalize on this precious moment.

To strengthen our present opportunities, all nations must meet their obligations. Israel must take no actions that prejudice a final settlement or jeopardize the true viability of the Palestinian state. And Israel must help to create the conditions for the emergence of that democratic state.

The Palestinian Authority must advance democratic reform and it must dismantle all terrorist networks in its society.

Arab states must end incitement in their media, cut off all support for terrorism and extremist education, and establish normal relations with Israel.

To nurture our present opportunity, President Bush proposed and the Quartet nations



endorsed the appointment of James Wolfensohn as Special Envoy for Gaza Disengagement. Jim Wolfensohn will help the Israelis and Palestinians coordinate on non-military aspects of their disengagement, including disposition of assets and revitalization of the Palestinian economy.

To protect our present opportunity, President Bush has sent General William Ward to help the Palestinians reform their security services. General Ward is also coordinating all international security assistance to the Palestinians, including training and equipment.

To expand our present opportunity, the United States has greatly increased our financial assistance to the Palestinian people. We are pledging \$350 million to help the Palestinians build the free institutions of their democratic state. This is an unprecedented contribution to the future of peace and freedom in the Middle East.

Yes, this past year has brought forth a dramatic shift in the political landscape of the Middle East. But this moment of transformation is very fragile and it still has committed enemies, particularly the Government of Iran, which is the world's leading sponsor of terrorism.

The United States has focused the world's attention on Iran's pursuit of weapons of mass destruction. And along with our allies, we are working to gain full disclosure of Iran's efforts to obtain nuclear weapons. The world must not tolerate any Iranian attempt to develop a nuclear weapon. Nor can it tolerate Iran's efforts to subvert democratic governments through terrorism.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Middle East is changing and even the unselected leaders in Tehran must recognize this fact. They must know that the energy of reform that is building all around them will one day inspire Iran's citizens to demand their liberty and their rights. The United States stands with the people of Iran.

President Bush has declared that advancing the cause of freedom is the calling of our time and in the broader Middle East, his policies are expanding the scope of what many thought possible. With our support, the people of the region are demonstrating that all great human achievement begins with free individuals who do not accept that the reality of today must also be the reality of tomorrow. Of course, there will always be cynics and skeptics who hold the misguided belief that if they can not see their goal, then it cannot be possible. They will try to elevate their cynicism by calling it realism and they will criticize all who echo the stirring words of Theodore Hertzl, "If you will it, it is no dream."

In 1776, cynics and skeptics could not see an independent America, so they doubted that it could be so. They saw only 13 colonies that could never hang together and would surely hang separately. But there were others who had a vision, a vision of the United States as a free and great nation, a democracy, and one day, a complete multiethnic society. With perseverance, the American people made that vision a reality. In 1948, cynics and skeptics could not see the promise of Israel, so they doubted it, said it could never be fulfilled. They saw only a wounded and wandering people beset on all sides by hostile armies.

But there were those who had another vision, a vision of a Jewish state that would shelter its children, defend its sacred homeland, turn its desert soil green and reaffirm the principles of freedom and democracy. With courage, the Israeli people made that vision a reality.

Today, cynics and skeptics cannot see a democratic Middle East, so they doubt that it is a realistic goal. They focus only on the

despotism that has shaped the region's past and still defines much of its present. But ladies and gentlemen, make no mistake, freedom is on the march in Afghanistan and Iraq and in Lebanon and in Georgia and Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan and in the Palestinian territories.

Yes, it is hard and progress is uneven. There are violent men who will stop at nothing to prevent democracy's rise. Yet people all across the Middle East today are talking and demonstrating and sharing their vision for a democratic future. Many have given their very lives to this noble purpose.

The United States and Israel must defend the aspirations of all people who long to be free. And with our unwavering support, we can help to make the promise of democracy a reality for the entire region. Thank you very much.

#### NORTH SAN DIEGO COUNTY AREA WATER RECYCLING PROJECT

### HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today that will authorize the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to continue to participate in the construction of the North San Diego County Area Water Recycling Project which also includes, as a new component, Phase II of the Olivenhain Water Treatment Plant. This project is very important in the overall water supply plan in my Congressional District and I am proud to offer this legislation that will assist in its further development.

The North San Diego County Water Recycling Project is a regional cooperative effort by the San Elijo Joint Powers Authority, the Leucadia County Water District, the City of Carlsbad and the Olivenhain Municipal Water District. When completed, the project will add up to 5 billion gallons annually to the San Diego region's local water supply. With years of drought, exploding growth rates and California's reduced intake of Colorado River water, this recycled water has become vital to the region and it is extremely important that the project is completed to its full potential.

In addition to the benefits to the San Diego County region, numerous federal objectives are advanced through the development of the North County Water Recycling Project. The project will directly reduce the surrounding region's demand for imported water from the environmentally sensitive California Bay/Delta and will help California live within its 4.4 million acre-feet allocation of water from the Colorado River. The project will also reduce the amount of effluent discharged into coastal waters and advance D.S./Mexico border environmental initiatives.

The legislation I offer today will increase the overall authorization ceiling for this project from \$20 million to \$35 million within the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI program. It is important to note that the majority of the funds necessary to construct this project are coming from local sources which represent a heavy financial burden on local agencies. Federal participation will help make this innovative water supply project a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this legislation be given prompt consideration.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT  
JOSE M. LOPEZ

### HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a true American hero even though that title is far too often overused. Master Sergeant Jose M. Lopez of San Antonio passed away on May 16th of this year at the age of 94 which in and of itself is remarkable but even more so when one learns of this amazing man's story. Sgt. Lopez was the nation's oldest living Hispanic Medal of Honor winner for his valor during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II. Sgt. Lopez represents the best of us and stands as a shining example of selflessness and sacrifice.

Perhaps it should not be a surprise Sgt. Lopez distinguished himself in battle since he often told one of his granddaughters, June Pedraza, "Fear is the one thing that will hold you back in life." Living that credo time and again throughout his life, Sgt. Lopez faced and overcame seemingly insurmountable odds. Born in Mexico in 1910, Sgt. Lopez's mother died when he was 8 leaving him an orphan since he never met his father. He then worked a series of hardscrabble jobs and eventually made his way to the Rio Grande Valley where a family took pity on him and let him sleep in their shed. Later, he rode trains across America and in Atlanta, a bigger man antagonized Sgt. Lopez until he fought and thoroughly whipped his larger opponent. Coincidentally, a boxing manager happened to see the incident unfold and realized potential even though it was packaged in a 5'5", 130 lb. frame and began training Sgt. Lopez. Rechristened Kid Mendoza, he went on to a professional record of 52 wins and 3 losses and later recounted meeting Babe Ruth as the highlight of his career.

In 1936, Sgt. Lopez joined the U.S. Merchant Marines and later worked a number of other maritime jobs. Once, he found himself adrift on a cargo ship without food except for bananas. After the start of World War II, Sgt. Lopez enlisted in the Army and was among the troops who hit the beaches at Normandy a day after D-Day commenced. Sgt. Lopez was wounded as a bullet nicked his hip and as he told Bill Moyers in 1990 for a PBS documentary "I was really very, very afraid. I wanted to cry, and we saw other people laying wounded and screaming and everything, and there's nothing you could do. We could see them groaning in the water, and we had to keep walking." And, he kept going despite his fears until he found himself at another of World War II's turning points, the Battle of the Bulge.

On December 17th, 1944 shortly after the sun rose, Sgt. Lopez and his troops in Company K were outside Krinkelt, Belgium when the Germans launched their last-ditch offensive which came to be known as the Battle of the Bulge. Patrolling in advance of Company K, Sgt. Lopez heard a tank which he assumed was Allied since a soldier hundreds of yards away failed to alert him otherwise. Carrying a Browning machine gun, he jumped into a shallow hole when he realized the tank was a German Tiger and the troops following it were German. Concerned for his men, he opened



fired even though he was exposed from the waist up. First, he killed the 10 soldiers arrayed around the tank. After the tank fired three shell blasts that knocked him over and left him concussed, Sgt. Lopez got to his feet again and cut down 25 more soldiers until he saw that the advancing Germans would soon outflank his position. He lugged his machine gun to a fall back spot and fired again. Officers witnessing the scene stopped counting when the death toll reached 100. After delaying the German onslaught for precious minutes, Sgt. Lopez dashed into the forest while dodging enemy fire until he rejoined the men he had saved. The American forces in Kriinke1t burrowed in and forced the Germans to bypass the town.

His Medal of Honor citation commended his "seemingly suicidal missions in which he killed at least 100 of the enemy . . . [and which] were almost solely responsible for allowing Company K to avoid being enveloped, to withdraw successfully and to give other forces coming up in support time to build a line which repelled the enemy drive." Despite his obvious valor, Sgt. Lopez remained a modest man who later told the San Antonio Express-News in 2001, "You learn to protect the line and do the best you can with the ammunition you have, and I did it."

Later, Sgt. Lopez served during the Korean War, and undertook a variety of jobs within the Army including overseeing a motor pool. He retired in 1973, yet continued to be physically active as he jogged until he was 88 and only gave up seeing a trainer three months ago. He was a committed family man whose beloved wife passed away in February of last year. As his son John Lopez said "He was a great hero, without being a hero around his family." He is survived by five children, 19 grandchildren, and 10 great grandchildren.

This quintessential American story reaffirms my belief in our nation as a beacon for those willing to work and sacrifice to improve their lot in life no matter how meager and humble one's beginning may have been.

TRIBUTE TO THE NEW MICHIGAN CHAPTER OF JUSTICE FOR CHILDREN AND DIRECTOR, CHIP ST. CLAIR

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I join the people of the 9th Congressional District and the State of Michigan in announcing the opening of the Michigan Chapter of Justice for Children. JFC is the only nonprofit corporation formed to save at risk unprotected children who have been physically abused or neglected.

Justice for Children intervenes on behalf of abused children when child protection agencies and courts fail to protect them. They help children whose cases have been closed by Children's Protective Services before help has been provided and have no Court Appointed Special Advocate or who even with CASA support, are on the verge of being sent back to an abusive home.

Last year Mr. Chip St. Clair, a Rochester Hills resident, called the JFC National Office in

Houston and said he wanted to make something good arise from his childhood of abuse and violence. Becoming a regional director for JFC fulfills that desire and the abused children of Michigan now have an ardent advocate to save them from the life he had to endure as a child.

Mr. St. Clair was a victim of terrible abuse at the hands of his father—Michael Grant—who was a convicted child murderer. That murder took place in 1970 in Indiana. Grant escaped from the Indiana State Penitentiary in 1973 with the aid of the woman who would become Chip's mother. St. Clair was born in 1975 and did not discover that his father was a murderer until 1998 when he was 23 years old.

"I emptied the glass which was full of horror stories of my childhood and began filling that glass with nobility and honor. Joining JFC and helping abused children represents a major step in the Journey of Justice which began on that fateful day in 1998," said St. Clair.

Justice for Children has been acclaimed by the American Bar Association, jurists from around the country, national television networks, news programs, and bipartisan congressional leaders for its work on behalf of abused and neglected children. Today we honor the Michigan Chapter of Justice for Children and Director, Chip St. Clair for their dedication to help abused and neglected children.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF RUSSIAN CHESS CHAMPION GARRY KASPAROV

**HON. CHRISTOPHER COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take a moment to honor the world's greatest chess player, Garry Kasparov, on the occasion of his retirement.

To chess enthusiasts around the world, Garry Kasparov's announced retirement from professional chess comes as an enormous disappointment. By the standards of international chess he is the greatest chess player of all time. His retirement at the relatively youthful age of 41 raises questions about unfulfilled possibilities. But given his legendary achievements, we can only stand in profound admiration. He is a true champion.

Throughout his career, Garry Kasparov has been a champion of human rights as well. He has been resolutely committed to the freedom of Russia and all of her citizens, and to the replacement of the grisly legacy of Soviet communism with genuine democracy, free speech, freedom of the press, religious liberty, and the rule of law. As chairman of Committee 2008: Free Choice, Mr. Kasparov is leading a natural coalition of concerned Russians dedicated to safeguarding democratic institutions in that country. It is a task worthy of his considerable ability.

Mr. Speaker, for over a decade I have had the privilege of calling Garry Kasparov a good friend. I know that everyone in this chamber shares with me their good wishes for his continued success, of gratitude for all that he has given of himself and to make the world a better place.

HONORING JOHN REX DE VLAMING, JR.

**HON. JEB HENSARLING**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor the memory of John Rex de Vlaming, Jr. who passed away earlier this year at the age of 85. A distinguished Navy veteran of World War II, John was instrumental in organizing and planning the Kaufman County Veteran's Memorial Park currently under construction in Kaufman.

John was a lifetime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the American Legion, serving as the Post Commander of the Kaufman VFW from 1976–1978, and later as Post Commander of the American Legion, Hamlet P. Jones Post #165 from 1981–1986. In 1990, John earned the Meritorious Service Award from the American Legion, and in 1997, he was recognized by the VFW for his 55 years of membership.

President Calvin Coolidge once said, "The nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten." As a veteran, John understood that better than most Americans, and throughout his life he did his very best to ensure that our nation never forgets the sacrifices that our soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen made to defend our freedom.

As the Congressional representative for the Fifth District of Texas, today I would like to honor the life of John Rex de Vlaming, Jr. and the outstanding work he did on behalf of our nation's veterans.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DISAPPEARANCE OF RAOUL WALLENBERG

**TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, later this week, the distinguished Swedish Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Jan Eliasson, will give a briefing to members of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus on the life-saving humanitarian work of Swedish citizen Raoul Wallenberg.

Mr. Speaker, this is a particularly appropriate time for us to recall Wallenberg's sacrifices to serve his fellow man. Earlier this month, we celebrated the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe, and shortly before that we marked Yom HaShoah, the Day of Holocaust Remembrance. In January the United Nations General Assembly held an extraordinary session to mark the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz and other Nazi concentration camps during World War II.

This year also marks the 60th anniversary of the disappearance of Raoul Wallenberg. After courageously saving the lives of tens of thousands of people in Budapest during the Holocaust, Wallenberg was arrested by Soviet troops in January 1945 and disappeared into the Soviet gulag. His action during the Holocaust in Hungary led the Israeli Knesset to bestow upon him the title "Righteous Among the Nations" ("Righteous Gentile").

Born in August 1912 in Stockholm, Sweden, Raoul Gustav Wallenberg, could have lived out his life in luxury and relative obscurity as a member of one of Sweden's most prominent families. At the University of Michigan in 1935, he earned a bachelor's degree in architecture with honors, as well as a medal for his outstanding academic record. After returning to Sweden from America, he worked for the family business selling building supplies in South Africa, and he worked in a bank in Haifa, in what is now Israel.

In Haifa on the eve of World War II, he met many Jews who had escaped the horrors of Hitler's Germany, and he became an impassioned defender after hearing tales of horror under the Fascist state.

In March 1944, Mr. Speaker, the Germany army invaded Hungary, and Adolf Eichmann arrived in Budapest to supervise the deportation of Hungarian Jews to the Nazi death camps. At the request and with the support of the United States government, Raoul Wallenberg arrived in Budapest in June of 1944. Over the following six months, he became a legend at saving Jewish lives, and his remarkable heroism and creative efforts are now repeated with respect and awe around the world.

When the Soviet Army finally liberated Budapest in January 1945, Wallenberg believed, or at least hoped, that he was finally safe, and he went to the headquarters of the Soviet military command in eastern Hungary to report on conditions in Budapest and to ask for food and medicine for the surviving victims. The Soviet officers did not believe his story. They were convinced that he was an American spy. He was arrested on January 17, 1945, and he has never been officially heard from since that day.

Mr. Speaker, the Russians have never provided a full and complete account of the disappearance of Wallenberg. Numerous sightings of him within the brutal Soviet gulag were reported for decades after his untimely disappearance in Hungary. These sightings raise serious doubts about the official Soviet position that he died of a heart attack in a prison near Moscow in 1947.

In February of this year, 2005 the Israeli Knesset honored Wallenberg by officially granting him the title of "Righteous Among the Nations" ("Righteous Gentile"). President Moshe Katzav and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon spoke with great eloquence about his heroic and selfless actions. Many close family members were present for the wonderful event honoring this great man.

Last October, the city of San Francisco in my congressional district extended honorary citizenship to Wallenberg, just as the United States by Act of Congress did 23 years earlier. Raoul Wallenberg is the second person after Sir Winston Churchill to receive honorary United States citizenship. His bust, which was placed in the United States Capitol Building, is seen by tens of thousands of visitors to our Capitol every year.

Mr. Speaker, as we mark the 60th anniversary of the triumph of the democracy and freedom over Nazi brutality and horror, I invite my colleagues to join with me in commemorating the heroic actions of Raoul Wallenberg. His gift to the world is not merely the tens of thousands of lives he saved, but as important is the inspiration he is to so many people around the world.

#### TRIBUTE TO STEVEN SIYI HAO

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steven Siyi Hao for his prize winning entry in the 56th Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

Last week, over 1,400 pre-college students participated in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix. Students from several countries submitted entries in hopes that they would win a portion of the \$3 million in scholarships, tuition grants, internships and scientific field trips given away. This annual competition awarded six of nine Bay Area students for their entries, three of whom reside in San Jose.

Steven is a 17 year old student from Silver Creek High School. His project titled, "The Effects of Oxidative Damage on Protein Translation Efficiency" studied the negative effects of oxygen-free-radicals on protein production and DNA. His entry won him a paid summer internship at an Agilent Technologies site.

The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair promotes education and creativity in a way that is vital to a youth's development. These types of activities encourage students to explore the fields of science and engineering. This kind of innovation will drive the United State's economy into the future. Being from Silicon Valley, I fully understand the importance and impact that these studies have on America's prosperity.

I am proud to stand here today and recognize Steven for his accomplishments. I urge him and youth alike to continue to take interest in these fields, and lead the United States in its development of science and engineering exploration.

#### LIVING WORD BAPTIST CHURCH MEMORIAL SERVICE IN HONOR OF SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN, PRESENT AND PAST

### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, and so it was said by Pericles, the Athenian leader some 24 centuries ago, "Not only are they commemorated by columns and inscriptions, but there dwells also an unwritten memorial of them, graven not on stone but in the hearts of men."

Those words resonate true today as they did centuries ago. Above all, I am awed by a greater sense of pride and appreciation for our fallen soldiers and those serving abroad. We approach this day with solemn affirmations of the sacrifices of our brave men and women, and in celebration for every joy and freedom bestowed to us from the Almighty.

This day was born of human necessity and the answer to an overwhelming desire to honor those who have given the ultimate sacrifice so that we may live not with fear, but with hope. No matter where he or she has served, a soldier stands in place for you, for me, for us as a country and for freedom everywhere.

May they always be honored for their commitment and respected for their bravery. For the stance taken by each man and woman is written down in the archives of history. The stories and memories shape our vision of the world and provide footsteps for future generations.

Bow one head; say one prayer; lay one flower; remember one soldier; and may we all give thanks to God and honor Veterans today.

#### HONORING ALLISON MORGAN AND HER FOURTH GRADE CLASS- MATES AT THE CRANBERRY PINES SCHOOL IN MEDFORD, NJ

### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I recently visited the Cranberry Pines School in Medford, NJ, where I met with a group of exceptional fourth graders. They expressed to me their interest in saving wild horses from being slaughtered. One exceptional young girl, Allison Morgan, wrote me a letter about this issue which I have included below. I encourage my colleagues in Congress to support this important cause.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN ANDREWS, Lately, I've been hearing things on the news about how so many wild horses are being slaughtered. You probably know that. You probably also know that millions of people are concerned. Well, I'm one of those people. I think wild horses deserve some help. Let's make laws to save these spectacular creatures. Horses have rights, too!

There are many reasons why we should protect the wild horses. First, the wild horses have helped us in many ways. We rode them in wars, and they helped us win those wars. Also, Paul Revere rode a horse to warn us if the British were coming by land or sea. If he had to walk, he'd be too late for his message to matter. In addition, horses helped us get mail across the country in the Pony Express. They helped people all over the country communicate. Last, horses helped us get places. Without them, we'd have to walk a long way.

Besides for helping us, horses deserve to be saved for another reason. That reason is that they are animals too; they deserve rights. First, horses never did things that annoyed us. We kill these poor, innocent creatures. Second, do you think animals want to die? Well, they don't; do you? Third, we treat horses like dust in the wind. I bet you don't want to be dust in the wind. Last, how would you like it if horses started slaughtering us?

We've treated the wild horses horribly for so long, now they are in danger of becoming extinct. First, people sometimes kill wild horses just for fun. Next, in 1860 we had two million wild horses. By 1970 there were only 17,000 left. The horse population dropped dramatically then, it might do the same now. Last, ranchers use wild horses to round up cattle. Wild horses round up their herd all the time, so rounding up cows is easy for them. They can guess where a cow will move before it even turns. Domestic horses don't have that "cow sense."

Horses are amazing animals and deserve to live. Without them, so many things would be different. So please, make laws to save these amazing animals—the wild horses.

Sincerely,

ALLISON M. MORGAN.

## TRIBUTE TO PETE REYES

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, Mr. COSTA and I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Pete Reyes, who is being honored this weekend as an Eagle Award winner by the Adelante foundation. Mr. Reyes is an individual of great distinction, and we join with family and friends in honoring his remarkable achievements and expressing great pride in the honor that is to be bestowed on him.

Mr. Reyes has devoted his life to helping students through his chosen profession in education. He has been an incredible resource to the Clovis Unified School District and continues to work every day to improve the school community.

For the past 38 years, Mr. Reyes has dedicated himself to educating the young minds of tomorrow and is currently serving the Fancher Creek Elementary School as Principal. In this capacity, he has been an integral contributor to the management and administration of the school, as well as leading the school to numerous awards in excellence in performance.

Through his tenure as an educator, Mr. Reyes has exhibited kindness, love, humility, and a deep resolve to ameliorate all aspects of community life, so it is only appropriate that he receive this award from Adelante.

We join with family and friends in thanking him for his 38 years of service. He is a symbol of all that is good in his profession and an inspiration to all that know him.

And so, Mr. Speaker, we salute Mr. Pete Reyes. We express admiration in his career and hope that others may recognize his good works in the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF LINCOLN  
PARK HIGH SCHOOL**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of Lincoln Park High School, recently selected by Newsweek Magazine as one of America's best high schools.

Lincoln Park High School, formerly named Robert A. Waller High School, has served the students and families of Chicago's North Side for over 100 years. Lincoln Park High School provides its students with exciting opportunities for academic, athletic and artistic growth, while instilling values that will serve its students throughout their lives.

The students at Lincoln Park High School have established an impressive record of academic achievement. Eighty-seven percent of the school's 2004 graduates enrolled in a college or university. Lincoln Park High School currently has 8 National Merit Semi-Finalists in 2005, and has had more National Merit Semi-Finalists over the last 15 years than all other Chicago Public Schools combined.

Students at Lincoln Park High School enjoy the support of strong parent and alumni associations which take an active role in over 60 extra curricular activities and clubs. Commu-

nity partnerships with institutions such as Children's Memorial Hospital, Charlie Trotter's Restaurant and the Lincoln Park Zoo also provide learning opportunities outside of the classroom in a wide range of disciplines.

These activities and experiences teach students the importance of academic achievement while also providing a balanced perspective on life that promotes responsibility, justice and social service.

Mr. Speaker, Lincoln Park High School is a shining example of public education at its best. I am proud of the students, faculty and families of Lincoln Park High School and I wish them continued success in the coming years.

## TRIBUTE TO TERIK DALY

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Terik Daly for his prize winning entry in the 56th Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

Last week, over 1,400 pre-college students participated in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix. Students from several countries submitted entries in hopes that they would win a portion of the \$3 million in scholarships, tuition grants, internships and scientific field trips given away. This annual competition awarded six of nine Bay Area students for their entries, three of whom reside in San Jose.

Terik is a 15-year-old student from Oak Grove High School. His project titled, "The Derivation and Interpretation of Geochemical Ratios Generated by Meteoritic Impact" derived meteor composition by examining chemical composition of granite before and after impact. His entry won him a fourth-place prize (\$500) in earth science; \$8,000 tuition scholarship from Office of Naval Research (on behalf of U.S. Navy and Marine Corps).

The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair promote education and creativity in a way that is vital to a youth's development. These types of activities encourage students to explore the fields of science and engineering. This kind of innovation will drive the United State's economy into the future. Being from Silicon Valley, I fully understand the importance and impact that these studies have on America's prosperity.

I am proud to stand here today and recognize Terik for his accomplishments. I urge him and youth alike to continue to take interest in these fields, and lead the United States in its development of science and engineering exploration.

IN HONOR OF MATTHEW W.  
FREEMAN**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man, like so many others in our Nation, who were truly American: Matthew Walden Freeman.

Although I did not personally know Midshipman Matthew Freeman, I knew of his valor and patriotism. His passing is somberly remembered by those who knew him best. A senior at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in New York, Matt had shown a dedication to service his entire life. A graduate of Ryan High School in Denton, Matt was honored to be awarded status as an Eagle Scout.

While Midshipman Freeman was not activated, he was a reservist and served as Navy Second Class. During his time at the Academy, Midshipman Freeman devoted time and effort into helping others. The Superintendent of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) issued an Academy Achievement Ribbon for Meritorious Service to Matt for his waterborne rescue and relief efforts following the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York City. As an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Matt interfaced with the midshipmen volunteers who manned Academy vessels used to ferry firefighters, rescue personnel and emergency equipment throughout New York Harbor in support of the New York City Fire Department's emergency operations. He personally participated in three watch tours and spent over 40 hours on the scene. As an EMT, he provided first-aid services to firefighters working ashore near the disaster and to midshipmen rescue personnel traveling aboard Academy vessels. He also helped manage the EMT watch throughout the Academy's operation and assisted with their blood drive on 9/11.

Along with the 89 other midshipmen participants, he displayed the highest levels of leadership, professionalism and compassion and served as an inspiration to his peers during the difficult days of the rescue and recovery operation. Through his unselfish service, Midshipman Freeman brought great credit to the Regiment of Midshipmen during a time on national crisis and served as role model to his fellow midshipmen, the 4th class in particular. His actions were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Regiment of Midshipmen and the USMMA. He received a citation for outstanding performance in support of Operation Guarding Liberty, following the attack on WTC.

Today, we honor Matt Freeman for his commitment to America. I want you to know, on behalf of a grateful Nation, we say, "Thank you." He will always be remembered for his kindness and generosity to others, and may he serve as a role model for others in the future.

## TRIBUTE TO COACH JOE SOLTERO

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, Mr. COSTA and I rise to pay tribute to Coach Joe Soltero who has coached Little League in Delano, CA for over 37 years. By receiving the Adelante Eagle Award, Coach Soltero is being recognized for his years of selfless service to his community and it gives us great pleasure to acknowledge his years as a coach and mentor to the students of Delano.

Coach Soltero is an exceptional individual who has not only devoted his life to helping the Delano community at-large but has also

been an important pillar of support for generations of children. His kindness and passionate spirit render him a vital resource and a beloved member of his community.

As a little league coach, he instilled the values of teamwork, dedication and perseverance. He is an inspiration to those who know him and influenced countless people with his work ethic and love of teaching. He has been an integral contributor to his community, as well as an active participant and positive influence on the lives of his little league players.

During his 30-plus years, Coach Soltero has played in 16 championships, winning 12 of them. He taught the values of sportsmanship and winning humbly.

And so, Mr. Speaker, we salute Coach Joe Soltero. We join with family and friends in honoring his incomparable accomplishments and congratulate him on this well-deserved award.

#### SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 16, 2005*

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 266, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day. Police officers make extraordinary sacrifices in fulfilling their mission to serve and protect, and I am pleased to join my colleagues in saying thank you to Peace Officers Memorial Day. I am privileged to know many fine police officers including my Uncle Les, a dedicated and long time officer with the Chicago Police Department.

The heroism of our nation's police officers can be seen both in their responses to emergencies and in their everyday work serving our neighborhoods. In Chicago, the fine work done by the police department has reduced crime in almost every category in the past year, bringing serious crimes to a 13 year low and homicides to a historic 38 year low.

Police departments across the country continue to play an important role in building and maintaining stable, safe communities. The Chicago Police Department assists with community policing programs and plays an important role in youth counseling and recreation programs to help at-risk teenagers reach their full potential as contributing members of society.

In 2004, 153 peace officers nationwide gave their lives in the protection of our families and communities. The death of any police officer is a tragedy and a loss felt deeply in our communities. I join with my colleagues in honoring the memory and sacrifices of these heroes, and I applaud the continued service of law enforcement officers and all public safety workers who face danger every day while protecting our streets, our schools, and our communities.

Mr. Speaker, we have a responsibility to support our nation's law enforcement officers and supply them with the tools and resources they need to ensure their safety and ours. I am proud to join my colleagues today in honoring the contributions of our nation's peace officers, and I ask that my colleagues join me

in working to provide sufficient support to the 87,000 heroes who make up our nation's local law enforcement community.

#### TRIBUTE TO DAVID I. MARASH-WHITMAN

#### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize David I. Marsh-Whitman for his prize winning entry in the 56th Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

Last week, over 1,400 pre-college students participated in the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix. Students from several countries submitted entries in hopes that they would win a portion of the \$3 million in scholarships, tuition grants, internships and scientific field trips given away. This annual competition awarded six of nine Bay Area students for their entries, three of whom reside in San Jose.

David is a 13-year-old student from Kehillah Jewish High School. His project, titled "Design for Biodegradation: Harnessing Natural Decay by Managing Physical and Chemical Dynamics" investigated optimal nitrogen-carbon ratios, moisture and aeration for increasing the rate and total degradation of compost. His entry won him a second-place prize (\$1,500) in environmental sciences.

The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair promotes education and creativity in a way that is vital to a youth's development. These types of activities encourage students to explore the fields of science and engineering. This kind of innovation will drive the United States' economy into the future. Being from Silicon Valley, I fully understand the importance and impact that these studies have on America's prosperity.

I am proud to stand here today and recognize David for his accomplishments. I urge him and all youth alike to continue to take interest in these fields, and lead the United States in its development of science and engineering exploration.

#### HONORING THE CIRCLE OF HOPE AWARD NOMINEES

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and commitment of Sherry Davidoff, Morgan Harvard and Julianna Tisdale. These individuals have shown great dedication and loyalty in mentoring and making a difference to those in need of it most.

Ms. Davidoff, Ms. Harvard, and Ms. Tisdale were recently honored by The Colleyville Woman's Club at the annual Youth Volunteer Service Awards with the Circle of Hope Award. This prestigious award recognizes youth who have demonstrated laudable public service throughout their community. The selfless way in which they serve as mentors and volunteers speaks volumes to their loyalty and adherence to better assist those who require

it most. It is the noble efforts of individuals such as the aforementioned that improve our community and strengthen America.

It is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize these ladies who have dedicated their young lives to assisting others. Their contribution and services should serve as an inspiration to others in their field and those who wish to make a positive difference in the lives of others.

#### 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALU LIKE, INC.

#### HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate a remarkable organization, Alu Like, Inc., as it marks its 30th anniversary of service to my Hawai'i's Native Hawaiian community.

Alu Like, which means "striving (working) together," was established in 1975 to promote social and economic self-sufficiency among Native Hawaiians. The organization was given its name by kupuna Mary Kawena Pukui, and its motto, "E alu like mai kākou, e nā 'ōiwi o Hawai'i" (Let us work together natives of Hawai'i), by kupuna Edith Kanaka'ole.

Now with 238 employees located throughout the State of Hawai'i (Hawai'i, Kaua'i, Lāna'i, Maui, Moloka'i, and O'ahu), it has grown into one of Hawai'i's most successful service agencies and has been instrumental in improving the quality of life for our Native Hawaiian community from early childhood to kūpuna (elderly) programs. These include a range of services and activities such as economic development, business assistance, employment preparation, training, library services, and educational and childcare services for families with young children, all tailored to the specific often unique, needs of Hawai'i's indigenous people. Current services include: Ho'okahua—Early Childhood; Ho'olōkahi—High Risk Reduction; Ho'omānea 'Ōiwi—Education and Employment; Ka Ipu Kā'eo—Education and Training; Kūlia Like—Financial Literacy and Kumu Kahi—Elderly Services.

Throughout its thirty years, Alu Like has served more than 100,000 people, and continues to form strong partnerships with other service providers. To increase its outreach to our community, Alu Like has also worked closely and collaboratively to expand its commitment to education and language preservation through its Native Hawaiian Library and to community service through its AmeriCorps Project.

As always, the success of any organization requires strong and sustained leadership from its staff and board of directors, and Alu Like has benefited greatly from a whole generation of such leaders. These include its visionaries—Myron "Pinky" Thompson, Alvin Shim, James Bacon, Yukio Naito, David Peters, and Winona Ellis Rubin—and directors over the years, as well as its Presidents/CEOs, who have included: Winona Ellis Rubin, Myron "Pinky" Thompson, David Helela, Masaru Oshiro, S. Haunani Apoliona, and Tara Lulani Arquette.

Under the current leadership of Mervina K.M. Cash-Kaeo, President/CEO, I have every

confidence that Alu Like will continue to be a leading service organization in its promotion of social and economic self-sufficiency for all Native Hawaiians. But today is a time for us simply to reflect on the great success of our Alu Like 'ohana (family), all of whom deserve our praise and commendation for a job truly well done.

Mahalo, and aloha!

IN HONOR AND MEMORY OF  
SPECIALIST STEVEN RAY GIVENS

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, just over ten days ago the First Congressional District of Alabama and indeed, our entire state and nation, said goodbye to another casualty of war in Iraq.

Army Specialist Steven Ray Givens, a native of Houston, Texas, and a longtime resident of Mobile, Alabama, had recently volunteered for a second tour of duty in Iraq after having already completed an earlier 14-month tour. Steven, a member of the Third Infantry, Third Brigade, of Fort Benning, Georgia, returned to Iraq in mid-January, 2005, and had planned to make a career with the Army. Unfortunately, on May 8, 2005, he was fatally wounded during an attack by Iraqi insurgents.

During his career with the Army, Steven set a standard of excellence and displayed the qualities of discipline, devotion, and dedication to country that are the hallmarks of men and women throughout the long and distinguished history of the American military.

While serving his country with all his ability, Steven also showed great concern and charity for those he fought to liberate, frequently asking his friends and family back at home to send toys and snacks for the children in Iraq. As he left for his second tour he told his family, "I can do something," and he truly did. This dedication to devote his life to serving his country and his concern and charity towards the children are a telling sign of what kind of man Steven was. This young man has shown America and the world the values and ideals our great country stands for.

It is appropriate for us to pause and thank God that there are still young men like Steven, whose life personified the very best America has to offer.

Mr. Speaker, as you can imagine, south Alabama is truly mourning the loss of this fine young man. I urge my colleagues to take a moment to pay tribute to Army Specialist Steven Ray Givens and his selfless devotion to not only our country and the freedom we enjoy, but to a people who are in the infant stages of a new life—a new freedom—in their own land.

We should remember his wife, Cayssia Givens, and his two-year-old son, his parents, Joyce and Mike McDuffie, and his other family members and many friends. Our prayer is that God will give them all the strength and courage that only He can provide to sustain them during the difficult days ahead.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF DANIEL R. BORCHERDT ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT

**HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Daniel R. Borchardt of Archbold, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Daniel's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming cadet class of 2009. Attending one of our nation's military academies is an invaluable experience that offers a world-class education and demands the very best that these young men and women have to offer. Truly, it is one of the most challenging and rewarding undertakings of their lives.

Daniel brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming class of West Point cadets. While attending Archbold High School in Archbold, Ohio, Daniel has attained a grade point average of 3.80, which places him near the top of his class of more than one hundred students. While a gifted athlete, Daniel has maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics, choosing to enroll and excel in Advanced Placement classes throughout high school. In addition, Daniel has earned awards and accolades as a scholar and an athlete.

Outside the classroom, Daniel has distinguished himself as an excellent student-athlete. On the fields of competition, Daniel has excelled in Varsity Basketball where he was selected as First-Team All Ohio. Daniel's dedication and service to the community and his peers has proven his ability to excel among the leaders at West Point. I have no doubt that Daniel will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to West Point.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Daniel R. Borchardt on his appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available anywhere in the world. I am sure that Daniel will do very well during his career at West Point and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his service to the nation.

FDA AND GENETICALLY  
ENGINEERED FOODS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring the following article to the attention of my colleagues. We must continue to challenge the FDA's assumption that all genetically engineered food is safe.

[From the Independent, May 22, 2005.]

REVEALED: HEALTH FEARS OVER SECRET  
STUDY INTO GM FOOD

(By Geoffrey Lean)

Rats fed on a diet rich in genetically modified corn developed abnormalities to internal organs and changes to their blood, raising fears that human health could be affected by eating GM food.

The Independent on Sunday can today reveal details of secret research carried out by Monsanto, the GM food giant, which shows that rats fed the modified corn had smaller kidneys and variations in the composition of their blood.

According to the confidential 1,139-page report, these health problems were absent from another batch of rodents fed non-GM food as part of the research project.

The disclosures come as European countries, including Britain, prepare to vote on whether the GM-modified corn should go on sale to the public. A vote last week by the European Union failed to secure agreement over whether the product should be sold here, after Britain and nine other countries voted in favour.

However, the disclosure of the health effects on the Monsanto rats has intensified the row over whether the corn is safe to eat without further research. Doctors said the changes in the blood of the rodents could indicate that the rat's immune system had been damaged or that a disorder such as a tumour had grown and the system was mobilising to fight it.

Dr. Vyvyan Howard, a senior lecturer on human anatomy and cell biology at Liverpool University, called for the publication of the full study, saying the summary gave "prima facie cause for concern".

Dr. Michael Antoniu, an expert in molecular genetics at Guy's Hospital Medical School, described the findings as "very worrying from a medical point of view", adding: "I have been amazed at the number of significant differences they found [in the rat experiment]."

Although Monsanto last night dismissed the abnormalities in rats as meaningless and due to chance, reflecting normal variations between rats, a senior British government source said ministers were so worried by the findings that they had called for further information.

Environmentalists will see the findings as vindication of British research seven years ago, which suggested that rats that ate GM potatoes suffered damage to their health. That research, which was roundly denounced by ministers and the British scientific establishment, was halted and Dr. Arpad Pusztai, the scientist behind the controversial findings, was forced into retirement amid a huge row over the claim.

Dr. Pusztai reported a "huge list of significant differences" between rats fed GM and conventional corn, saying the results strongly indicate that eating significant amounts of it can damage health. The new study is into a corn, codenamed MON 863, which has been modified by Monsanto to protect itself against corn rootworm, which the company describes as "one of the most pernicious pests affecting maize crops around the world".

Now, however, any decision to allow the corn to be marketed in the UK will cause widespread alarm. The full details of the rat research are included in the main report, which Monsanto refuses to release on the grounds that "it contains confidential business information which could be of commercial use to our competitors".

A Monsanto spokesman said yesterday: "If any such well-known anti-biotech critics had doubts about the credibility of these studies

they should have raised them with the regulators. After all, MON 863 isn't new, having been approved to be as safe as conventional maize by nine other global authorities since 2003."

THE 85TH BIRTHDAY OF HELEN  
COLLINS FOOTE

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, Mr. HOYER and I rise today to honor Helen Foote, a woman of faith, family, a selfless spirit and infectious laughter.

Ms. Foote was born to the late Reverend Benjamin Collins and Henrietta Collins in South River, Maryland. One of eight children, Helen received her education in a one-room school and spent her free time like most children, fishing, hunting and picking apples from the trees in a nearby orchard. On Sundays, Helen and her cousins spent time learning the art of playing the piano. It was here, during those lessons, her already well-known laughter earned her the nickname "KeeKee" embodying the sound of her continuous and infectious laugh.

As she grew up, Ms. Foote developed a reputation for spreading joy both through her laugh and through her altruistic nature. Whether helping wallpaper her parent's bedroom, caring for her ailing mother or donating her time to her church, Helen Foote was the very model of selfless dedication. In fact, her benevolence eventually led Hope Memorial St. Mark United Methodist Church to name her Mother of the Year in 2004. And as a mother of five daughters, one stepdaughter, 10 grandchildren, 5 step-grandchildren, 9 great-grandchildren, 6 step-great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild, that award was well-earned.

The daughter of a Reverend, religion always remained a pivotal aspect of Ms. Foote's family life. At a young age she attended Chews United Methodist Church in Owensville, Maryland. In her later years she became a member of Hope Chapel now referred to as Hope Memorial St. Mark United Methodist Church. It was here Ms. Foote served as a Communion Steward, an Usher and a member of the United Methodist Women.

Today you can still find Ms. Foote doing the things she loves best: working in her yard, cooking meals for her family, rooting for her beloved Baltimore Orioles, and, occasionally, wallpapering a bedroom.

Helen Foote is truly a blessing to all she encounters. She is an inspiration, a foundation for the young and dedicated, and a distinguished and divine family woman. Helen Foote is truly a woman of strength and I am honored to rise today and honor her in this Congress.

THE FAIR LAND TRANSFER  
COMPENSATION ACT OF 2005

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Fair Land Transfer Compensa-

tion Act, a bill for fee simple transfer of certain federal lands to the District of Columbia to provide partial in-kind compensation for the federally imposed structural balance documented in a 2003 GAO report to be "between \$470 million and up to more than \$1.1 billion." My bill would transfer 65.73 acres of land in Southeast Washington, D.C. known as Reservation 13 and the parcel known as Poplar Point, also in Southeast. The bill introduced today would assist in providing the compensation that would be authorized by H.R. 1586, the Fair Federal Compensation Act (FFCA) introduced by the bipartisan House regional delegation and me in April. The FFCA would authorize an annual federal contribution of \$800 million (to increase annually with the consumer price index) to partially compensate the city and relieve a dangerous structural imbalance.

The extensively documented GAO report confirming exclusive federal responsibility for the District's structural imbalance and the bipartisan sponsorship of the FFCA demonstrate the need for federal action. However, neither the administration nor the Congress has responded, despite the District's continuing apprehension and repeated introduction of the FFCA. Today's bill providing valuable land to partially compensate the District would mark the first significant federal response to the FFCA.

The District of Columbia has had administrative control of Reservation 13, a GSA property, for 150 years and has used the parcel for the D.C. General Hospital, the District of Columbia jail, and other public facilities. Poplar Point is a strip of land owned by the National Park Service but has never been developed for use as a park.

The transfer authorized in this bill has several advantages for the District and for the federal government: an immediate benefit in partial payment that the District has long sought from the federal government to compensate the city for the structural imbalance; satisfaction, through the transfer of valuable federal land, of some of the responsibility the GAO reports that the federal government bears for the District's structural imbalance; the highest and best use for underused land that the District desires for mixed uses that are unavailable if the District continues to have administrative control but not ownership; a continuing revenue stream in the nature of an annual contribution from investments the District will be able to attract following transfer of the land; and compliance with the Federal Property Act (FPA) requirement that the federal government receive value for the transfer. The bill requires an appraisal and estimates of the financial benefit to the District that are necessary to determine the extent to which the bill would reduce the federal government's responsibility for the structural deficit.

The federal government has never used the parcels in my bill, and has no intention of doing so. At the same time, the District is unable to get value from this strategically located land in the city. Achieving maximum use of available sites located in the nation's capital, where the federal government owns and occupies the most valuable land, is essential to maintaining the financial stability of the District of Columbia.

This bill would compensate the District for some of the costs responsible of the structural imbalance which include the federal removal

from the tax rolls of more than 40 percent of District's land for federal and other purposes; services provided by the District to 200,000 federal employees, notwithstanding a ban on taxation of commuters, most of whom are federal employees; and the District's responsibility for several state costs, although the city is not a state and lacks the broad tax base of a state.

The costs to the District to cover this structural deficit are unsustainable. Among the most serious are the city's debt service, the highest in the country; its taxes, among the highest; and deferral of major capital improvements for vital facilities such as schools and for roads, a major factor inhibiting economic and population stability and growth.

The existence, source and danger of the structural deficit imposed by federal mandates have been fully acknowledged and are no longer debatable. In addition to the definitive GAO report and the findings of the District's Chief Financial Officer, the details are reported in two other studies (McKinsey, March 2002, requested by the Federal City Council consisting of regional business representatives; and Brookings, October 2002, led by Alice Rivlin, former director of the CBO and of the OMB).

According to the GAO, the only available options to eliminate the federally imposed deficit are "to expand the District's tax base or to provide additional financial support." The bill I introduce today will "expand the District's tax base," creating a continuing revenue stream because ownership will allow the District to get the highest and best use of valuable land through its own development initiative. I ask that the House begin the process of compensating the District for the federal deficit carried by the city by enacting the Fair Land Transfer Compensation Act.

A TRIBUTE TO RABBI LEONARD  
AND MRS. CAROLYNNE GUTTMAN

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Council of Young Israel Shofar Award recipient Rabbi Leonard Guttman and his wife, Carolynne, and pay tribute to their involvement and commitment to the Young Israel movement and to worldwide Jewry.

Rabbi Leonard B. Guttman Esq. is an Assistant Vice President for Intergovernmental Relations at the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, the largest public health system in the United States. His prime responsibility is to serve as an advocate in Washington for New York's publicly funded hospitals and its over 1.3 million patients. While new to the Young Israel Ohab Zedek of North Riverdale-Yonkers, in 1988-1989 he worked at the National Council of Young Israel where one of his responsibilities was serving as editor of the Young Israel Viewpoint. He has also been an adjunct Professor at the Borough of Manhattan Community College and Touro College and an Assistant Commissioner of the New York City Department for the Aging. From 1994-1996, he served as First Deputy Commissioner/General Counsel at the New York



City Commission for the United Nations and Consular Corps. He often worked behind the scenes to help Israel and Jewish individuals who are suffering.

Rabbi Guttman is active in a vast array of non-profit organizations. Among these activities, he serves on the Board of the American Friends of the Sanz Laniado Medical Center (Netanya, Israel), which awarded him and his wife its Community Service Award in May 2000, and also on the board of the Metropolitan Council of the American Jewish Congress. Since 1997, Rabbi Guttman has quietly taught a Torah class at the United Nations for its Judaica Club. He has published articles in *Midstream*, *New York Affairs*, *Congress Monthly* and *The Jewish Press* on issues as varied as the Holocaust, Islam and Jewish and Communal affairs and has also lectured extensively. Carolynne, originally from Toronto, Canada, comes from a distinguished family active in Jewish and Communal affairs both in Toronto and Houston, Texas where she spent her formative years. A known expert on medical reimbursements, she serves as billing manager at New Rochelle Radiology.

Mr. Speaker, I have been fortunate to witness the revitalization of the National Council of Young Israel (NCYI). Nationally, the Departments of Synagogue and Rabbinic Services and the Women's Division and the Youth Department provide Young Israel congregations with much appreciated support. When an Orthodox synagogue needs assistance, NCYI is known as the organization to contact. On the international scene, NCYI is at the forefront of speaking out in support of the State of Israel, and to ensure the return of Israel's soldiers who are missing in action. NCYI has spearheaded a campaign to provide the Israel Defense Forces with Torah Scrolls for its troops who are in mobile and isolated posts. NCYI has delivered over 100 Torah scrolls and has not only facilitated but also encouraged many other individuals and organizations to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is incumbent upon this body to recognize the accomplishments of Rabbi & Mrs. Guttman for their outstanding efforts in the betterment of the Jewish community and the City of New York.

**BUSINESS CHECKING FREEDOM  
ACT OF 2005**

SPEECH OF

**HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2005*

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Business Checking Freedom Act of 2005, H.R. 1224. Among other things, H.R. 1224 would repeal the prohibition against banks paying interest on checking accounts and authorize the Federal Reserve to pay interest on reserve balances maintained by depository institutions at Federal Reserve Banks. The bill is almost identical to previous legislation on the subject passed by the House, including H.R. 758, which passed in 2003.

H.R. 1224 contains some long overdue changes. I am particularly pleased that this legislation will permit small businesses to earn interest on their checking account balances. Individuals have been able to receive interest

on checking accounts for some time, and small businesses, many of which are individually owned and operated, should have the same ability to receive an equitable return on their checking deposits.

Small businesses face an array of barriers to accessing the capital they need for start-up, operation and expansion. One of these barriers is the Depression-era law that prohibits interest-bearing checking accounts. The law, enacted as part of the Banking Act of 1933, was meant to keep banks solvent during the Great Depression. Almost 70 years later, the law is still in effect, despite evidence that it is no longer valid—or necessary.

In fact, a 1996 joint report issued by the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, and the Office of Thrift Supervision stated that the law barring payment on business checking accounts “no longer serves a public purpose.” H.R. 1224 effectively repeals this ban and permits small businesses to earn interest on their checking accounts.

Similar to past House bills, H.R. 1224 also includes a section entitled Rules of Construction, which ensure that the existing regulatory treatment of certain services and benefits provided by banks in lieu of interest on escrow accounts maintained to complete the settlement of real estate closing transactions remains as it is today.

Currently, the Federal Reserve's Regulation Q permits banks to offer services and benefits in lieu of interest to depositors. It also specifically provides that the provision or the receipt of such services and benefits does not constitute interest. Using this option, title companies and agents receive bank services, such as free safe deposit and night depository facilities and low-interest loans, in lieu of interest.

This arrangement lowers the cost of maintaining real estate escrows, which in turn lowers the cost of these services to customers of title companies and title agents. H.R. 1224 does not change Regulation Q or any regulatory standard regarding the definition of interest. Rather, it ensures the continued delivery of cost-effective real estate closing services.

H.R. 1224 provides for a long overdue change to federal banking laws that will enable small businesses to gain parity with larger firms that are already able to essentially receive interest on their checking accounts. By doing so, small businesses will be better able to grow and create the new jobs that our country so desperately needs.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

**HONORING JACK HORKHEIMER  
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION  
TO THE SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY**

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to pay tribute to Jack Horkheimer, the Executive Director of the Miami Space Transit Planetarium. For over 25 years, Jack has been a pioneer in the advancement of science exploration and discovery.

Jack Horkheimer has worked diligently throughout his tenure at the Miami of Science to enhance and transform planetarium presentations. He is best known as the creator, producer and host of the television show, “Star Hustler/Star Gazer,” that has been shown weekly for over 25 years. His sign-off motto, “Keep Looking Up,” has become familiar to many. Mr. Horkheimer has appeared on major television and radio networks, and has led several solar eclipse expeditions, as well as the first Halley's Comet Chase. Presently, Mr. Horkheimer is assisting associates position a telescope on the International Space Station.

In January 2001, the International Astronomical Union renamed “Asteroid 1999 FD,” the asteroid that orbits between Mars and Jupiter, to “Asteroid Horkheimer” in honor of his contributions to astronomy. Mr. Horkheimer has also received the Outstanding Achievement Award from the Astronomical League, as well as the 12 Good Men Award presented to him by the Ronald McDonald House. In May 2000, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree by the International Fine Arts College, and was also the recipient of the Klumpke-Roberts Award from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. He is the Founding Member of the International Planetarium Society, co-editor of “The Planetarium,” and past editor of “Southern Skies.”

In addition, Mr. Horkheimer has established several annual scholarship funds for young students, providing them the opportunity to study astronomy.

Mr. Speaker, many in my home state of Florida have benefited immeasurably from Mr. Horkheimer's leadership and involvement in our community. My daughters are among many South Floridians that have had the unique opportunity to visit this exceptional facility. It is truly an asset to our community, and I encourage my colleagues in the House to pay tribute to Mr. Jack Horkheimer.

**HONORING SAUL STERN, RECIPIENT OF THE PROJECT INTERCHANGE AM YISRAEL CHAI AWARD**

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Saul Stern who will receive the Project Interchange Am Yisrael Chai Award on May 25, 2005 at the Park Hyatt Hotel in Washington, DC.

This award is presented by Project Interchange to Mr. Stern to honor his contribution to the organization. Project Interchange is the only national organization solely dedicated to providing educational seminars in Israel for America's policy and opinion makers. With exceptional leadership, Mr. Stern has guided more than 3,500 prominent Americans, including Members of Congress, congressional aides, state officials and other community leaders to experience Israel through intensive seminars. These seminars allow political and civil leaders to witness democracy at work in Israel and to provide an understanding to the complex challenges that face that country.

The Project Interchange Am Yisrael Chai Award recognizes Mr. Stern's contribution to



the Jewish community including his work in advocating Jewish interests, strengthening public support for Israel, building ties with other faith, minority, and ethnic groups and establishing a framework for social action for over six decades.

Mr. Stern has served as a life-long civic leader and truly believes in the mission of Project Interchange. In his own words, he believes the eyewitness experience in Israel is one of the most effective ways to understand the value of the U.S.-Israel relationship. While Mr. Stern has impacted the Jewish Community at the international and national level, he is also extremely influential in local Jewish and secular community associations. He has served as an advisor and a dependable colleague to local elected officials, business leaders, academicians and community activists.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to congratulate Mr. Stern on receiving this award. His significant contributions are much appreciated and greatly admired. I call upon my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Stern and wishing him the best of luck in all future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLORADO  
HISTORY DAY WINNERS

**HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR**  
OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Caitlyn Darnell and all the other students who will represent Colorado in the National History Day competition from June 12–16, 2005.

Caitlyn placed second in the Colorado History Day competition with her dramatic performance “Anne Sullivan: Reaching Behind Closed Doors,” which chronicles the life of the great teacher who taught Helen Keller to communicate.

National History Day is a year-long education program for middle and high school students across the nation. Students produce documentaries, dramatic performances, exhibits, or research papers related to the annual theme. They then compete in a series of local and state competitions, with the very best traveling to the national competition.

I would like to recognize Caitlyn and all the students representing the state of Colorado for their excellence and hard work. These extraordinary students represent educational excellence in America. I would also like to recognize the students’ teachers, whose support and dedication have encouraged students like Caitlyn to strive for excellence.

INTRODUCTION STATEMENT OF  
THE HONORABLE ALCEE L.  
HASTINGS FOR THE HAITI COM-  
PASSION ACT

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**  
OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Haiti Compassion

Act. Do our colleagues know that before Haiti had even achieved its own independence in 1804, 500 Haitian troops joined American colonists in an attempt to drive the British from Savannah, Georgia? In that one battle, Haitians made up the largest military unit to fight in the 1779 siege. Haiti demonstrated through noble action and sacrifice its loyal friendship to the United States more than 225 years ago. It is now time for Congress to do the responsible thing and protect the lives and well-being of those who have stood by us for centuries.

2004 was a debilitating and tragic year for Haiti and her people. Haiti remains severely devastated by the combined effects of ongoing political turmoil and the aftermath of the natural disasters of 2004, such as Tropical Storm Jeanne and Hurricane Ivan. Political oppression and human rights violations are rife in Haiti while poverty and homelessness have become the norm for too many innocent people. To return a Haitian national back to Haiti is not only morally unjustifiable, but poses a severe threat to their personal safety.

If you don’t take my word, then ask, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. On March 11, 2005 the U.S. Department of State issued a travel warning to U.S. Citizens, warning them of the “absence of an effective police force in much of Haiti, the potential for looting, the presence of intermittent roadblocks set by armed gangs or by the police, and the possibility of random violent crime, including kidnapping, car-jacking, and assault.” The Department of State’s Consular Information Sheet states, “There are no “safe areas” in Haiti.” As a result, “U.S. Citizens should avoid travel to Haiti at this time.”

At a time when current U.S. policy is to compel its own citizens not to travel to Haiti, it is unjust to return Haitian nationals to this type of dangerous situation. To return a Haitian national back to Haiti where there is ongoing violence and a devastating environmental situation would pose a severe threat to one’s personal safety. Both Democrats and Republicans have mentioned the history of blatant discrimination and mistreatment of Haitians in the immigration process. Therefore, the time has arrived for us to offer some much-deserved compassion and effective action on the behalf of our loyal friends.

My legislation would designate Haiti under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act in order to render nationals of Haiti eligible for temporary protected status. In light of the political, civil, and governmental crisis and tragic conditions caused by the recent environmental disasters in Haiti, my legislation would make nationals of Haiti eligible for temporary protected status.

I ask for my colleagues’ support and urge the House Leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,  
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 19, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House in the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2361) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment to the Interior Appropriations bill submitted by Representatives SLAUGHTER, SHAYS, DICKS, LEACH, and PRICE to increase funds for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

As a member of the Congressional Arts and Humanities Caucuses, and former chair of the California Legislature’s Joint Committee on the Arts, I have had the opportunity to see first hand the tremendous role that the arts play in the education and development of our children. Several academic studies have demonstrated the connection between music, dance, visual arts, and the development of the human brain. It is a fact that arts education cultivates critical thinking skills that are so important in this information-age economy. Children who learn to read music or to play an instrument show improved proficiency in mathematics and sciences.

Today, I am proud to support an increase of \$10 million for the National Endowment for the Arts and a \$5 million increase in funds for the National Endowment for the Humanities.

One of the initiatives under the NEA, Challenge America, expands the National Endowment for the Arts reach to connect families and communities to local arts programs and educational components. Meanwhile, funds to support the National Endowment for the Humanities will continue to assist “We the People” to strengthen the teaching, study, and understanding of American History and culture.

The arts are not only about appreciation and enjoyment, they are also a strong component of our economy. A recent study from Americans for the Arts found that the nonprofit art industry alone generated \$134 billion in economic activity, including full time jobs, household income and tax revenues. More than \$80 billion of this is spent by audiences who enthusiastically attend events in their local communities.

In my own district, there are more than 2,700 arts-related businesses and more than 37,000 jobs including those in visual arts, design, and the performing arts. In addition, the film, television, and radio industry generates more than 26,000 jobs in the district I represent.

I am proud to host an annual Congressional Arts Competition in my district that allows high school students to showcase their artistic talents in painting, drawing, and photography to the community. I have constantly been impressed with the artistic vision and creativity of our young people. This vision and creativity should be fostered, not discouraged.

By supporting the arts and humanities, the federal government can partner with state and local efforts to bolster the quality of life as well as economic and educational opportunities in our communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast rollcall votes No. 176 through 199 on May 17 through 19, 2005 because I was attending to a personal matter. Had I been present I would have cast the following votes: On rollcall No. 176, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 177, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 178, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 179, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 180, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 181, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 182, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 183, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 184, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 185, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 186, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 187, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 188, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 189, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 190, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 191, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 192, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 193, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 194, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 195, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 196, I would have voted

"yes"; On rollcall No. 197, I would have voted "no"; On rollcall No. 198, I would have voted "yes"; On rollcall No. 199, I would have voted "no."

HONORING DR. RAJIV RANJAN

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2005*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Dr. Rajiv Ranjan and would like to honor his extraordinary contributions and pioneering research work in the field of magnetic recording, which have led to a number of technological breakthroughs.

Dr. Ranjan has led the effort in the next generation of perpendicular media technology that is destined for the market place in the near future. His focus is in the field of low noise media. Prior to the mid-1980s, industry recorded information on oxide media. These media had limitations to attaining high areal density (recording density per unit area). One proposed alternative was sputtered thin-film media, but the media had high-levels of media noise. Rajiv, along with his team, demonstrated low-noise possibilities for thin film media.

This work led to an industry-wide transition to sputtered thin-media. These low-noise media led to a tremendous increase in areal density and resulted in lower cost data storage products, followed by a wider usage in the personal computers. These products are now being incorporated into consumer electronic products, such as MP3 players, PDA, cell-phones and more.

Another of his key inventions is laser texturing of a selective area of the disc surface. This enabled the recording head to fly closer to the medium surface and enabled increased areal density. This also enabled a faster take-off of the head and reliable landing of the head during power on/off. The net result is higher areal density and a more reliable and safer drive. Over a billion disc-drives have been sold with laser-textured media.

Rajiv holds over 54 U.S. patents, many of them currently used in data-storage products.

Dr. Rajiv Ranjan has devoted his life to enrich and advance society through technology, and his contribution deserves to be honored to serve as an inspiration.

I am proud that Dr. Rajiv Ranjan lives in the 16th Congressional District where he is an active and respected member of his community as well as an admired scientist. Please join me, Mr. Speaker, in offering our congratulations for his success and our admiration for his leadership both in technology and the arts, but also in his family and community.