

values you learn can bring lifelong benefit[s]." Jeffrey has certainly amassed a number of such skills, as a high school varsity athlete, and captain of his high school ice hockey team. He has also passed the benefit of his skills and work ethic along to younger athletes, by coaching youth roller hockey teams, and by assisting with player development clinics.

Mr. Reisenauer has demonstrated his ability to tackle life's challenges by training for, and embarking on a 16-day backpacking trek through the southwestern United States. This experience, at the Boy Scout High Adventure Ranch in Cimarron, New Mexico, was best summed up by Mr. Reisenauer in his own words. "You learn to go beyond what you think are your physical and mental limits. It was the most challenging and rewarding experience of my life."

By applying the principles of dedication, hard work, and commitment, Jeffrey Reisenauer has become a shining example for others to follow. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jeffrey Reisenauer on his accomplishments and on his receipt of the Congressional Award Gold Medal.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ARC OF HILO AND LANAKILA

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Arc of Hilo and Lanakila for their hard work and dedication in improving the quality of life for people with developmental or other disabilities in Hawaii. I also want to pay tribute to the many achievements and contributions of Michael Gleason, the Arc of Hilo's executive director, and Marian Tsuji, President/CEO of Lanakila. The Arc of Hilo and Lanakila are a Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program (often referred to as JWOD), which provides job skills and training to those who are blind or who have other severe disabilities so they may earn good wages and benefits and gain a greater independence and the quality of life. Overall, the JWOD program empowers people with disabilities who traditionally face an unemployment rate of 70 percent and rely heavily on social support programs such as welfare and Supplemental Security Income (SSI).

The Arc of Hilo's mission is to improve the quality of life for people with developmental and other disabilities in Hawaii through educational, recreational, vocational, and skill training as well as employment and residential opportunities. Lanakila's mission is to offer programs and services for adults with cognitive, physical, social or age-related challenges that build and support higher levels of independence and an improved quality of life. By employing people who are blind or who have other severe disabilities, the Arc of Hilo and Lanakila are able to increase independence and self-esteem by helping these individuals enjoy full participation in their communities and market their JWOD skills to other public/private sector employers.

Demonstrating an excellent federal-private sector partnership, NISH, NIB, and local non-

profits such as the Arc of Hilo and Lanakila enhance the opportunities for economic and personal independence of people who are blind or who have other severe disabilities, primarily through creating, sustaining, and improving employment. Through the JWOD program, the Arc of Hilo provides employment opportunities and training for 60 people with visual and other severe disabilities enabling them to lead more productive and meaningful lives, support their families, and gain important work experience.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the important contributions of the Arc of Hilo and Lanakila in the great aloha state of Hawaii. I commend all persons who are committed to and work towards enhancing employment opportunities for people with visual and other severe disabilities.

IN HONOR OF JACK KASHUBECK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mr. Jack Kashubeck, U.S. Veteran, internationally known author, poet, artist and lecturer, whose inspiring work rises beyond the borders of Cleveland, bridging our community with the great poets, writers and artists throughout the world.

His extensive body of work reflects a personal passage of exploration, a journey of experience, as he explores the cultures, history and people of distant lands. Mr. Kashubeck's introspective and poignant observations serve to highlight the human spirit, revealing the common elements of humanity that connect every one of us.

From Egypt, to South America, to Cleveland, Mr. Kashubeck's poetry and prose reflects upon the confining boundaries and soaring possibilities dually inherent within the human condition, offering us an introspective look back, and a hopeful vision rising on the horizon.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Jack Kashubeck, whose evolving life's work reflects the core of our existence—the tragedy and the triumph. The heart and soul of any society is held aloft by the artists who flourish within it, and the poetic works of Jack Kashubeck, words that pierce the darkness and carry critical social issues into the rational light of day, serve to elevate the Cleveland community, and far beyond.

ON THE RETIREMENT OF DIANE FURNAS FROM THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Diane Furnas' retirement as Chair of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). Since her

election in 2003 as the first female Chair of the NAFCU Board, Ms. Furnas has been a leader in the credit union community both nationally and within the great state of Texas.

For the past two years, Ms. Furnas has been balancing her time as NAFCU Chair and President/CEO of Southwest Airlines Federal Credit Union, headquartered in my District. At her credit union, Ms. Furnas has fostered several savings programs targeted to today's youth at her credit union by teaching the importance of saving through targeted programs ranging from kindergarten through college. She has promoted financial education programs and has armed her members with protecting themselves against identity theft.

Throughout her tenure as Chair of the NAFCU Board of Directors, Ms. Furnas worked tirelessly to enhance the federal credit union charter by working with Congress for regulatory relief legislation for credit unions. As Chair, she has also helped maintain NAFCU's status as a leading credit union trade association. She was first elected to the NAFCU Board in 1998, the same year she received NAFCU's prestigious "Professional of the Year" award. Ms. Furnas is also the silver award recipient in the 2005 Society of National Association Publications Excel Awards for a column published in The Federal Credit Union magazine.

I rise today to congratulate Ms. Diane Furnas on all of her fine work throughout her illustrious tenure as Chair of NAFCU. With her more than 30 years' experience in the credit union community, there is no doubt in my mind that our good friends at NAFCU will feel a great void once Ms. Furnas steps down. Ms. Furnas deserves our heartfelt thanks for her years of dedicated service and our best wishes for the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, due to attendance at my daughter's school graduation on June 15, 2005, I was regrettably absent during the following votes.

Please add to the official record how I would have voted on the following rollcall votes: rollcall No. 254—"nay," rollcall No. 255—"yea," rollcall No. 256—"nay," rollcall No. 257—"yea," rollcall No. 258—"nay."

THE LONG TERM CARE SUPPORT AND INCENTIVE ACT

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2005

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about an important issue facing our community: the affordability of long-term care. People today are living longer and healthier lives than ever before.

When the Declaration of Independence was signed, the average life expectancy was 23. In the United States today, life expectancy is 83 years.