

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING WILLIAM "BILL" BALSER

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, William "Bill" Balser was elected to the high office of Department Commander of Ohio on Sunday, July 10, 2005; and

Whereas, William "Bill" Balser is a 30 year member of the American Legion Post 85, where he has held many offices including Post Commander and Finance Officer; and

Whereas, William "Bill" Balser has exemplified the meaning of successful civic duty through his unselfish role to serve the greater good of the Ohio Valley; and

Whereas, William "Bill" Balser recently celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary with his wife Trudy and is the loving father of 3 children and 3 grandchildren.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in recognizing William "Bill" Balser for his longtime dedication to the residents and children of Ohio's 18th district.

CONGRATULATING COOKE COUNTY 4-H DAIRY JUDGING TEAM

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding performance of the Cooke County 4-H dairy judging team. The team consists of Ben Wyrick, Josh Zimmerer, Cletus Fuhrmann and Amber Fuhrmann.

4-H is a community of more than seven million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. The four "H"s represent the "Head" which stands for clearer thinking and decision-making; "Heart" which stands for greater loyalty, strong personal values, positive self concept, concern for others; "Hands" which stands for larger service, workforce preparedness, useful skills, science and technology literacy; and "Health" which stands for better living, healthy life-styles.

After winning the Texas State 4-H dairy judging contest, the team is headed to Wisconsin for the national contest. The challenge before the team is to distinguish between various breeds of dairy cows, with each contestant judging four classes of four cows. After placing the cows, contestants then present their reasoning before a judge.

I am very proud to recognize these 4-H members today, and I wish them great luck. Their persistence and commitment should serve as an inspiration to us all.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER MIAMI CHAPTER OF THE LINKS, INC.

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Greater Miami Chapter of the Links, Inc. on their 50th year of outstanding commitment to community service. The ceremonies recognizing this important milestone will be held on Sunday, October 16, 2005 at Florida Memorial University.

The Greater Miami Chapter was chartered on Saturday, November 5, 1955 when founding members Maude Maude K. Reid, Mayme E. Williams, and Susie W. Francis brought together 15 other charter members for an installation ceremony at the Carver Hotel in Liberty City.

During its 50th anniversary celebrations, the chapter will honor seven honorees: charter member Susie W. Francis, Frances J. Chambers, Gwendolyn H. Welters, Dorothy H. Fields, Ph.D., Castell V. Bryant, Ed.D., Regina J. Frazier, and Senator Frederica S. Wilson.

The Greater Miami Chapter lists among its many accomplishments programs that bolster the arts, promote awareness of international issues and multicultural events, and assist young people in reaching their full potential.

Nationally, The Links' organization has grown to 275 chapters and approximately 11,000 members who reside in 42 states, the District of Columbia, the Bahamas, Germany and South Africa.

Mr. Speaker, 50 years after their founding, the members of the Greater Miami Chapters of The Links, Inc. are a powerful force for change in the South Florida Community. I thank them for all of their efforts, and wish them another successful 50 years of making a positive impact in the lives of others.

TRIBUTE TO JEFF CHRISTENSEN

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Jeff Christensen, a National Park Service Ranger who tragically lost his life July 29, 2005, while on a backcountry patrol in the Mummy Range area of the majestic Rocky Mountain National Park in Northern Colorado.

Throughout his four seasons of service as a ranger with the National Park Service, Jeff was undoubtedly at home in the midst of some of our country's most scenic and significant park land. I am very grateful for the dedication

and enthusiasm Jeff displayed while serving our Nation in this capacity. He will be profoundly missed by all those whose lives he touched.

Jeff once remarked to a friend, "You know, if I ever die while at work in the mountains, do not cry for me because you will know that I died doing what I love." I pray that Jeff's family and friends will take solace in Jeff's passion for the job he so deeply loved.

I extend my sincere gratitude for the hundreds of concerned citizens who joined in an exhaustive 8 day search for Jeff. The heroic efforts exhibited by members of the National Park Service and countless volunteers have not gone unnoticed.

To Jeff's parents, Dale and Chris Christensen, and his many friends and family members, I express the heart-felt sympathies of a community that shares in their loss. May my colleagues join in celebrating the life and service of Mr. Jeff Christensen.

HONORING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF ED AND HARRIET NIEMIEC

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ed and Harriet Niemiec on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Ed and Harriet both grew up in the Back of the Yards neighborhood in Chicago. They knew each other as kids, even though they attended different schools. Eventually Ed and Harriet became engaged and then married on November 6, 1955. They had their only child, Ed, Jr. in August of 1956.

Following in his parent's footsteps, Ed, Jr. and his wife Maria have been married for twenty-seven years. They have two children, Mark and Christina.

Besides an active involvement with their family, Ed and Harriet have many hobbies. Ed spends a lot of time taking care of his yard and tending to his flowers. According to his son, one would be hard pressed to find a blade of grass out of place or a visible weed. Harriet is a consummate volunteer and organizer. Her philanthropies started while she was working at Dry Storage where running the football pools spilled over into organizing senior trips, church functions and working at Christ Hospital as a "Pink Lady."

Ed and Harriet are fine examples as parents and are wonderful role models as grandparents. I would like to extend my best wishes to Ed and Harriet as they and their family celebrates their 50th anniversary.

• 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN GOLDSTEIN, OUTGOING PRESIDENT OF THE MILWAUKEE COUNTY LABOR COUNCIL

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my constituent, Mr. John Goldstein, in thanks for his distinguished record of leadership of Milwaukee's labor movement. John served as president of the Milwaukee County Labor Council for 8 years, capping off a career of local, national and international labor activism that included stints as secretary/treasurer of the Labor Council and president of the Amalgamated Transit Union. He left the Labor Council in September, 2005, to become the new executive director of Partnership for Working Families.

John's leadership and commitment to advancing workers' causes are well known. In his tenure as president of the Labor Council, he spearheaded several major campaigns, among them brokering a resolution with Milwaukee County that improved the climate for workers attempting to organize new unions. He also worked with Milwaukee's Common Council to pass legislation that ensures uniforms needed for city workers are not sweatshop-produced. More recently, John developed a coalition to advocate for the implementation of economic development policies that would benefit a wide array of workers and neighborhoods.

Throughout these efforts, and many others, John's leadership has been marked by a commitment to building broad coalitions to ensure that labor movement victories brought gains for the wider community. He is widely acknowledged as a pioneer in developing labor-community partnerships designed to address problems created by economic and racial disparities throughout the Milwaukee area. His colleagues included faith leaders, a variety of local union activists, and community organizations.

In his role as Labor Council president and through his career, John has prioritized labor organizing, mobilizing for economic justice, and building a strong member-to-member political organization for the benefit of the working people of Milwaukee County. I know he will continue to demonstrate exemplary leadership in his new position as national program director for the Partnership for Working Families. I am thrilled to know that he will be based in Milwaukee, and that while providing technical assistance and leadership to labor-community coalitions across the country, he will continue to enrich our community.

3RD ANNUAL LATINO AIDS AWARENESS DAY

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of designating October 15, 2005 the 3rd Annual Latino AIDS Awareness Day.

HIV and AIDS have wrecked havoc on millions of lives across the globe for over two decades, ending lives before their time. Today in America, over a million Americans, or about 1 in 300, have HIV or AIDS—a statistic that this Congress must acknowledge. For every American living with HIV or AIDS, a family is traumatized.

Even more staggering is the distribution of those victims. While Hispanics are roughly 14 percent of the population of the United States, they account for 20 percent of America's HIV/AIDS population. To date, nearly 100,000 Hispanics have died with AIDS. Since Hispanics are the fastest growing minority group in the United States, our challenge is even greater.

Minority groups have been hardest hit by the disease, adding another burden on families struggling to make ends meet. Another troubling fact is that as many as 1 in 2 people with HIV/AIDS don't even know they have the disease.

And the fastest growing group of people contracting HIV is young people, putting a tenuous hold on their young lives and future. The more attention we place on HIV/AIDS, the closer we get to eradicating this vicious disease. We have to talk about it, the causes and the prevention.

I encourage all of my colleagues to support Latino AIDS Awareness Day and work to educate Hispanics and other constituents about HIV and AIDS. Education and facts are the best way to wipe out ignorance about HIV/AIDS in the Hispanic populations, and every other demographic in our Nation.

CONGRATULATING UNITED FUND ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the United Fund on the 50th anniversary of its founding.

This fall, the organization celebrates the 50th year of its foundation in 1955. The United Fund has helped many people in the community over the years, and is continuing to do so by hosting an auction themed "Support the Troops". The event is a project by Lincoln High School senior Erin Hunter. The event commences the organization's 2005 campaign.

Over the years United Fund has subsidized transportation cost for community members to get to work. Last year the organization also donated money to Hurricane Ivan flood victims in September.

The fundraising goal for 2005 is \$50,000, which gives the organization the ability to make a positive impact. Richard Basile Sr., director of the organization, leads the effort to give 98 percent of the money that is donated to the United Fund back to the community. Basile is also dedicated to the goal of the United Fund, which is to make a positive impact locally.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the United Fund and its 50 years of service. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute a principled institution like the United Fund.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING DONA SMITH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Dona Smith has provided outstanding service and contributions while serving at the Ross County Community Improvement Corporation from 1990 to 2005; and

Whereas, Dona Smith served her community by helping existing businesses expand and bringing in additional business; and

Whereas, Dona Smith has worked selflessly and with dignity as an integral part of the economic development of her community through 15 years of public service; and

Whereas, Dona Smith has been a devoted and loving caregiver to her husband, children, and grandchildren.

Therefore, I join with Dona Smith's family, friends, the residents of Ross County, and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in commending Dona Smith for her exceptional work and years of service, and wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF BARRY BOESCH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Barry Evans Boesch, the 51-year-old executive editor of the Denton Record-Chronicle, and longtime reporter and editor of the Dallas Morning News.

Barry was born December 5, 1953. He was a graduate of Thomas Jefferson High School in Dallas and the University of Texas in Austin. In 1976, Barry began his newspaper career at the Corpus Christi Caller-Times. Most of his nearly 30-year career was spent with the Dallas Morning News.

In March, Barry was diagnosed with a brain tumor but he continued to work until the summer, when radiation and chemotherapy treatments began taking their toll. He passed away 2005 at Baylor University Medical Center with his wife by his side.

Barry will be remembered for his three passions in life—his wife, Pattie; his daughter, Bailey; and the newspaper business. He will also be remembered for his sense of humor and his love of verbal combat.

Today, I would like to recognize and celebrate Barry Boesch's life. I was honored to have known him over the years. His leadership and charisma will certainly be missed by our hometown paper. Please keep his wife and daughter in your thoughts and prayers.

HONORING THE LATE AUDREY J. KING, MIAMI GARDENS COUNCILWOMAN

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my sad duty to bring to the attention of my colleagues the passing of Miami Gardens City

Councilwoman Audrey J. King, an accomplished professional and tireless community activist, who died Friday, September 30, 2005.

A longtime community leader and an integral part of the incorporation movement for the City of Miami Gardens, Councilwoman King was elected as the first representative of City Council Seat 3 in July 2003 and served in that capacity until her passing. Prior to the incorporation of the City, Councilwoman King was twice elected to the Miami-Dade County Community Council 3, where she served as chairwoman and vice-chairwoman from 1996 to 2002. She also served as vice-chair of the North Dade Community Development Task Force, volunteered in numerous charity activities and was honored throughout her career for her dedication to the people of our community.

She was a life member of the Miami-Dade Branch of the NAACP, serving for several years as the Political Action Chair. Councilwoman King was also a devoted member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; the First Baptist Church of Bunche Park; and a founding member of UP-PAC, Unrepresented Peoples Positive Action Council.

She leaves behind a legacy of achievement and inspiration, for she was an example of what genuine caring and unrelenting commitment can accomplish. Councilwoman King gave tirelessly of herself for the benefit of those around her and will be sorely missed. Funeral services are scheduled for Saturday, October 8th at First Baptist Church of Bunche Park.

HONORING TWO NAVY VETERANS FROM COLORADO

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor two veterans I know personally from my hometown of Fort Morgan, Colorado. Bob "Pete" Hobbs and Dominick Cardoza. I admire these two gentlemen for their service in the Navy, and their devotion to their families and community.

For 2 years, from 1954 to 1956, Pete and Dominick served together in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS *Badoeng Strait*, CVE 116. Both were assigned to the Second Division. Pete was on the deck and Dominick was in the Captain's Gig. It was during this time their friendship was forged, spending time at sea and taking part in a variety of military exercises.

They were also assigned to a gun crew that carried the responsibility of frequent firing exercises on a 40 mm gun. Because of these drills Dominick and Pete both suffer from tinnitus.

The most noteworthy of drills took place in 1956 while the *Badoeng Strait* operated around the Marshall Islands in the South Pacific during Operation Redwing. During these operations, Pete and Dominick were part of the crew that remained on the ship's deck during "Test Series of Atomic Weapons Devices." In the distance, H-bombs were exploded and this ship and the crew were subjected to the long range effects of the blasts, on numerous occasions.

The sailors were simply told not to look at the blast and to turn their backs. They were exposed to ionizing radiation. Afterwards the crew was checked for radiation and required to take a salt water bath. They were required to remove their clothes before entering the lower decks of the boat, and their garments were destroyed because of the radiation. The ship itself was scrubbed with Tide detergent.

They were told that the worst possible effect of the radiation was sterilization, nothing else!

In 1957, the *Badoeng Strait* was put out of commission in Bremerton, Washington. During the decommissioning process, Dominick and Pete were assigned to the lower deck for maintenance. They used air hammers to chip the paint from the decks and bulkheads. They were given no ear protection and, as a result, they both suffer from hearing loss. They were also exposed to asbestos, which covered much of the ship.

Afterwards, Dominick Cardoza was assigned to the USS *Lexington*, CVA 16, an aircraft carrier. Pete Hobbs was assigned to the USS *Vega*, AF 59, a supply ship.

I am touched by the story of Pete's and Dominick's service and sacrifice. As a direct result of the elements they were exposed to, both men are suffering from serious health complications. Pete has thyroid cancer and Dominick has other personal health problems.

Despite their enormous personal challenges, I find these men to be very uplifting and encouraging. They remain good friends today and live in Fort Morgan, Colorado. In addition, their wives Chris Hobbs and Sue Cardoza deserve respect and admiration for supporting their husbands.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor these two veterans who served our country with such distinctions. They are heroes that walk among us. I ask my colleagues in Congress to recognize their work and their sacrifices on behalf of our Nation, as well as the joy for life they have to this day.

May God bless all of our precious veterans and may he continue to bless this great Nation.

HONORING RICHARD E. GUERIN, PRINCIPAL OF SAINT BEDE THE VENERABLE

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Guerin, Principal of Saint Bede the Venerable and recipient of the 2005 National Distinguished Principal Award.

The National Distinguished Principals Program was established in 1984 as an annual event to honor exemplary elementary school principals who set the pace, character, and quality of the education children receive during their early school years. One principal is chosen from each of the 50 States and the District of Columbia, and this year Richard Guerin has been selected as a National Distinguished Principal.

St. Bede the Venerable is a Catholic School that serves the parish community and is both an expression of and a witness to the faith of its people. The school's main responsibility is in the area of Catholic education—preschool through eighth grade.

Believing that a child's development best occurs within the framework of a positive and structured environment, St. Bede School offers innovative educational programs of high quality. The aim of these programs is to challenge each student while teaching basic skills, within a Christian atmosphere where mutual respect, order, and values are a high priority. The core of our curriculum is religious education, both content and practice. Christian attitudes and values are the foundation of this developmental process.

Richard Guerin has been serving and teaching in the Archdiocese of Chicago for 34 years, 28 of those spent as principal of St. Bede. Before coming to St. Bede, he taught at Worth Junior High and Christ the King School. However, he fell in love with the job and the people at St. Bede where he has touched countless lives and been influenced by many lives in the community.

It is my honor to recognize Mr. Richard Guerin who serves as an example of one of the best in PreK-8 school leadership and helps to foster a greater understanding of the principal's key role in meeting the challenging responsibility of educating children.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER MILWAUKEE CHAPTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION FOR THEIR EFFORTS TO COMBAT GLOBAL POVERTY

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud an alliance of dedicated residents of the Fourth Congressional District for their passionate pursuit of peace and justice. On October 8, members of the Greater Milwaukee Chapter of the United Nations Association, together with an array of partner organizations, will host a Call to Action and Celebration of the Global Campaign to Make Poverty History.

This effort is extremely timely. Poverty has a devastating effect on the lives of those in developing countries, and creates structural problems for the global economy that ultimately harm our own economic well-being. The U.N.'s Millennium Development Goals call for progress in eight key sectors, including education, healthcare, environmental sustainability and gender equity. Taken together, these goals comprise a comprehensive strategy for reducing poverty and hunger.

In reality, addressing global poverty requires us to confront the impact of debt on developing countries' ability to invest in the infrastructure and social services needed to improve the quality of their citizens' lives. The weight of the international debt that many developing countries carry poses an enormous obstacle to real progress toward eradicating poverty. Debt payments to international creditors inhibit many countries' efforts to recover from natural disasters, or establish healthcare, education and clean water programs. Impoverished countries in Africa pay on average \$14 per person in debt service payments to international financial institutions, but spend only \$5 per person on healthcare.

In recognition of this fact, I cosponsored the JUBILEE Act, which directs the Secretary of

the Treasury to immediately begin working with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the G8 to cancel the debts owed by the world's 50 most impoverished nations.

I want to thank my constituents for their participation in this effort. I am proud of my community's commitment to pursue justice, dignity, and economic self-sufficiency for all of the world's citizens. I urge my colleagues to join me in championing this global initiative that will help secure a better, more prosperous and peaceful world for generations to come.

HONORING COACH PHIL DANAHER

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an outstanding citizen, teacher and coach from Corpus Christi, Texas: Phil Danaher. Coach Danaher reached an historical milestone on September 9, 2005, by achieving his 300th high school football victory and becoming a member of an elite group of coaches who have amassed such a record.

Coach Danaher is currently serving as the athletic director and head football coach at Calallen Independent School District and is in his 35th year of coaching. He is the winningest active coach in football and is surpassed by only three other coaches in number of victories.

Coach Danaher played high school football for Harlingen High School in Harlingen, Texas, where he was two-time All-District, and two-time All-Valley as quarterback. He continued his love for the game by playing college football at Angelo State University.

Mr. Danaher has proudly served as head coach for Calallen High School for the past 22 years, after beginning his career at San Antonio Edison as an assistant head coach. He later served as head coach for Dilley and Hamshire-Fannett high schools from 1974 to 1983 before arriving at Calallen in 1984.

His remarkable coaching talent was evident from the start, leading Dilley to the district championship and capturing three more district championships over the next 9 years at Hamshire-Fannett. Prior to Mr. Danaher's arrival, Calallen High School had not been to the playoffs in 29 years. After just one season, Coach Danaher turned the program around and led the school to the playoffs for 20 consecutive seasons.

However, for Coach Danaher, it is not all about the number of victories he accumulates. Mr. Danaher believes the real honor in coaching lies in the fact that the athletic program has made a difference in the lives of countless players who have come and gone over the years.

On the night of his 300th career victory, Coach Danaher graciously thanked the fans and his team for their significant contributions. When history remembers Coach Danaher, his win-loss record will be noted—but his most enduring legacy will be his record for teaching young people how to make the most of their talents and their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Coach Phil Danaher for his outstanding achievements and dedication to our south Texas community.

CONGRATULATING JUDIE DONALDSON

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Judie Donaldson for all of the work she has done for her community.

Ms. Donaldson spent many years working in the academia world before entering the non-profit sector full time. Moving from California, she found herself in Pittsburgh serving as the executive director of Grantmakers of Western Pennsylvania, an organization that provides education, networking and other resources to philanthropic organizations.

Her work for this organization earned her the 2005 Athena Award. The award is presented by the Greater Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce and the Allegheny Conference on Community Development. Ms. Donaldson was one of six finalists for the award.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring Ms. Donaldson for her work and dedication to the community. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a principled people in western Pennsylvania.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING NANCY AND MITCH TOTO ON THEIR 45TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Nancy and Mitch Toto were united in marriage October 1, 1960, and are celebrating 45 years of marriage; and

Whereas, Nancy and Mitch Toto were united in marriage at St. Casimirs in Adena, Ohio; and

Whereas, Nancy and Mitch Toto are the loving parents of two children and five grandchildren.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Nancy and Mitch Toto as they celebrate their 45th Wedding Anniversary.

HONORING NORTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Northwest High School, located in Justin, Texas, which has recently been selected as an Intel and Scholastic School of Distinction.

The Intel and Scholastic School of Distinction award recognizes schools that demonstrate excellence in implementing innovative programs to promote positive educational re-

sults. A total of 60 finalist schools across the nation were selected from 10 distinguished categories. Northwest High School has been selected for the Excellence in Leadership category that commends the influential effort of their dynamic leaders.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Northwest High School and to its principal, Jim Chadwell, for receiving this distinguished award given by the Intel Innovation in Education initiative and Scholastic Inc. Education is one of the most important gifts we can give our children, and Northwest High School has admirably contributed to the future of excellence in education.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR OF LIBERTY CITY ON ITS 47TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. I rise to recognize the Church of the Open Door in Liberty City, Miami on its 47th Anniversary, which was celebrated on Sunday, September 18, 2005.

To celebrate its 47th year, the Church hosted civil rights activist and preacher, Rev. Dr. Joseph E. Lowery, a colleague of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Rev. Lowery's powerful sermon was heard by many of the Church's founding members who are still active in the congregation.

Open Door is home to many prominent activists in the Liberty City community. Many members participated in the March on Washington and other key events in the civil rights movement, and they continue to be strong voices in the fight for justice and equality.

The Church of the Open Door was built in 1958 at 6001 NW 8th Avenue, and was founded by the family of Marie Faulkner Brown. To celebrate this anniversary the church unveiled portraits of its founding members and pastors, and hosted four days of guest choirs, fellowship, and worship services for its annual revival week.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Open Door's pastor, Rev. Joaquin Willis, and his congregants on this happy occasion.

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to strongly support House Resolution 276. This resolution will help increase awareness about a horrible disease: Pancreatic cancer.

Few Americans may understand that pancreatic cancer is a horrific killer. This year alone, over 32,180 people will be diagnosed with this disease. Because there are no early detection tools for this cancer, 99% of those diagnosed will lose their lives.

Many Americans are not aware that pancreatic cancer has the highest mortality rate of all cancers; most patients only survive 3 to 6

months after diagnosis. This is why it is a moral imperative for Congress to work to increase awareness of this deadly cancer.

Currently, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (known as "Pan CAN") is the only national advocacy organization available for pancreatic cancer patients and their families and friends. I became aware of Pan CAN through a constituent of mine, Bob Hammen, who lost his wife to this terrible disease. Pan CAN provides patient support and professional education about this disease, while coordinating advocacy programs to focus national attention on finding a cure for pancreatic cancer.

Pan CAN regards each November as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month. With the passage of H. Res. 276, Congress will be supporting Pan CAN's efforts to raise awareness about pancreatic cancer so that scientific advancements can lead to early detection programs and effective treatments.

Mr. Speaker, because all of our fellow citizens have family, friends and neighbors who are regrettably vulnerable to this dreaded disease, I urge support from my distinguished colleagues for this resolution here today.

DEDICATION TO A COMMUNITY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure, a great pleasure, for me to inform you, my colleagues in Congress, and through you the entire nation, about the kind of public service and dedication found in Vermont and, I suspect, in other villages, towns and cities throughout America.

Aileen O'Neil has been the town clerk of Woodford, Vermont for 36 years. For well over three decades she has met the needs of the people in her town of 421 citizens, keeping the town going and its records up to date. Her long and dedicated service was recently recognized by the Vermont Municipal Clerks and Treasurers Association, for they named her Vermont's Town Clerk of the Year.

During all of those 36 years Aileen O'Neil has done what needs to be done, with care, with courtesy, and with a concern for the public life we share with one another. What she told a newspaper reporter recently is a model for all of us, for I think each of us would like to be able to say, while still at work after so many years, "I love my job. I've loved my job all these years. It's a purpose in life for me."

We are lucky to have her, both as a town clerk in Woodford and as an example for all of us.

IN HONOR OF SID BALICK

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Sid Balick for his outstanding contributions to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Delaware. With over 40 years of service under his belt, Sid is the longest serving board member in the history of the organization.

While growing up in Delaware, Sid was a member of the Jackson Street Boys Club. This experience fostered an understanding of the values and lessons instilled by the Boys and Girls Clubs, prompting Sid's longstanding commitment to these important community service organizations.

Tonight, friends, family, and colleagues will honor Sid at a function paying tribute to his contributions to the city of Wilmington as an attorney, civic leader and volunteer. During his distinguished career, he has also served in the Delaware State House of Representatives and as President of the American Civil Liberties Union of Delaware.

Always a generous supporter, Sid has asked that the proceeds from his event be donated to the Boys and Girls Clubs' Capital Campaign. These contributions will serve to enhance education and fitness programs at the various Boys and Girls Clubs throughout the State of Delaware.

In closing Mr. Speaker, I would like to once again congratulate and thank Sid for his tremendous contributions to the State of Delaware. Generations of children owe him a debt of gratitude, and I am pleased to be able to vocalize their appreciation. An exemplary citizen and proud American, we all owe Sid a sincere thank you.

REPORT BY THE CENTER ON NATIONAL POLICY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues a report by the reputable Center on National Policy focusing on early childhood education. There is much in this report that is of value to Congress as we move to eliminate the achievement gap in this. The full report can be found at <http://www.cnponline.org/Education.htm> I am enclosing the executive summary for your review below.

With mounting evidence that high-quality early child care and education can significantly affect life chances, especially for low-income children, a CNP report calls for development of a comprehensive national policy to ensure broad access to effective programs. Authors Jennifer Kolker, David Osborne and Eric Schnurer review data on program availability, adequacy and cost. They assess state efforts, current federal funding and coordination issues. They urge Congress and the President to act so that outcomes improve for all American children.

SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY: 2005 SECRETARY OF DEFENSE EMPLOYER SUPPORT FREEDOM AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to report that South Dakota State University (SDSU) has been awarded the 2005 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award was instituted in 1996 by Secretary of Defense William Perry and the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. The award was created to publicly recognize American employers who provide exceptional support to their employees who serve the Nation in the National Guard and Reserve.

Mr. Speaker, let me express my admiration for SDSU and the South Dakota National Guard and Reserve. South Dakota has one of the highest rates of mobilization in the Nation. This high rate of service is a reflection of the hard work and pride South Dakota National Guard and Reserve members maintain. I am grateful for SDSU's tremendous support of the National Guard and Reserve. The university represents South Dakota principles with remarkable distinction.

SDSU provides differential pay for its employees for the entire length of their activation and student academic progression support. In addition, it grants employees 40 hours of paid personal leave for preparation of a deployment. SDSU's support for its National Guard and Reserve employees and students is admirable and serves as an example for other institutions of higher learning to emulate.

I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my gratitude to SDSU. We are all proud and thankful for their demonstrated commitment to their employees and students who serve the Nation in the National Guard and Reserve.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chairman, on September 29, 2005, I missed rollcall vote 506, the vote on final passage for H.R. 3824. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay." I was unable to take part in this vote because I was attending a constituent funeral.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 3824, which is a threat to the recovery of endangered species.

Mr. Chairman, the original Endangered Species Act was signed into law by President Nixon in 1973 with the goal of protecting species on the brink of extinction, preserving critical habitats from human development and exploitation, and safeguarding the diversity of our natural wildlife for future generations.

This bill would redefine the entire concept of the Endangered Species Act to protect the short term economic interests of western landowners and developers.

Instead of working to protect threatened or endangered species and their habitats for the benefit of everyone, the Federal Government would now be driving the extinction of countless species—and your tax dollars would be paying for it.

We've got to ask ourselves who really needs to be protected here?

Is it our planet, our future? Or is it the right of some developer to build a strip mall?

I urge my colleagues to vote against this cynical attempt to gut the endangered species act.

**A PROCLAMATION THANKING
MATT SMITH FOR HIS SERVICE
TO OUR COUNTRY**

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Matt Smith served in Iraq and is the recipient of numerous awards including the Meritorious Service Award, the Purple Heart, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal; and

Whereas, Matt Smith is to be commended for the honor and bravery that he displayed while serving our Nation in this time of war; and

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

Therefore, I join with the family, friends, and residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in thanking Matt Smith for his service to our country and wishing him the best of luck in all his future endeavors. Your service has made us proud.

**17TH ANNUAL DENTON COUNTY
FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL SERVICE**

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the fallen men and women firefighters who selflessly dedicated their lives to our communities.

Each October, a grateful Nation honors its fallen fire heroes during the National Fire Prevention Week. Fire Prevention Week is a great opportunity to educate all citizens about the dangers of fire and the steps they can take to protect themselves. Each year, more than 4,200 Americans lose their lives to fire. That's more deaths by fire each year than all other natural disasters combined. National Fire Prevention Week has been observed since 1922 the week of October 9th. This marks the date of the Great Chicago Fire in 1871. In that tragic conflagration, more than 250 people were killed. 100,000 were left homeless, 17,400 structures were destroyed, and more than 2000 acres burned.

I want to thank Denton's First United Methodist Church for hosting a special service in honor of those who gave their lives for those of us residing in Denton County. The service and the procession to the Denton County Firefighters Memorial Park that concluded the memorial service truly honors these heroic men and women. This year marks the 17th Annual Memorial Service in Denton County.

I extend my condolences and appreciation to the families and the communities of these

fallen firefighters. This memorial service acts as a tribute to the brave men and women of America's fire service.

**TRIBUTE TO THE VILLAGE OF
NELSONVILLE, NEW YORK**

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the village of Nelsonville, New York, which this month celebrates its sesquicentennial. I extend my sincere congratulations to town officials, residents and supporters on this occasion, which symbolizes an accumulation of 150 years of hard work and diligence by a community.

On an early autumn day in October 1855, the village of Nelsonville was born and with it a quaint community founded on good will and hard work. Some say the essence of the village can be seen in the elaborate picture painted by the landscape of historical buildings on the village's timeless Main Street. This can be seen in the current Village Hall which, prior to 1955, housed the local the Fish and Fur Club for over half a century.

Nelsonville commemorates their 150th Anniversary this month with a parade which surely will prove memorable as local leaders, organizations and community members come together to remember an impressive history that has provided the building blocks for an promising future.

Undoubtedly, the success of Nelsonville could not have been realized without the support and kinship of the surrounding town of Philipstown and Putnam County. For years to come, Nelsonville will remain a great place to live following the lessons of the past and by continuing participation in camaraderie with surrounding communities.

There have been over 30 mayors since the village's inception. From Mayor Purdy in 1855 to Mayor Mitch Dul in 2005, the village has seen many challenges, but has always stayed on steady course. The village retains a timeless quality easily identifiable by those taking a walk down its streets. On behalf of the people of the 19th Congressional District of New York, I wish Nelsonville continued success and another 150 exceptional and prosperous years.

**THREATENED AND ENDANGERED
SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005**

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition to the so-called "Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act," (TESRA).

The sponsors of TESRA claim that they want to "reform" the ESA because it's not helping enough threatened and endangered species recover. In reality, it is aimed at weakening, dismantling, and rendering unenforceable the Endangered Species Act, ESA.

The original Endangered Species Act was a bipartisan effort to protect our natural heritage. Yet today, as we consider how to update and modernize that legislation, we are presented not with a truly bipartisan bill, but a massive special interest giveaway that guts ESA despite a thirty year track record of success. A vote for the passage of TESRA is a vote to abdicate responsible environmental policy and to create a new form of corporate welfare.

Since the enactment of the Endangered Species Act in 1973, tens of millions of acres of land in the United States have been managed for conservation purposes. As a result, of the 1800 species protected under ESA, we have lost only 9 to extinction. That's a 99 percent success rate on extinction prevention.

TESRA's most fundamental change abandons the basic priority of the Endangered Species Act: the commitment to species recovery. The overarching goal of ESA is to bring species back from the brink of extinction to the point where they no longer need to be given special protection. TESRA alters that mission by effectively negating the goal of species recovery. TESRA specifically eliminates the requirement that the Federal Government attempt to restore species to healthy population levels.

Furthermore, under TESRA any species recovery plan the government might conceive would be non-binding. Had ESA had these guidelines in place since 1973, the recovery of many species, including the peregrine falcon and the American alligator, would have been almost inconceivable. In the case of the alligator, recovery was so successful that we are now even able to implement controlled farming of the restored population.

There are two areas of the bill which I found particularly problematic and sought to address through amendments. My first amendment would strike language from TESRA that would turn back the clock on the scientific determination of an endangered species. My second amendment would strike language from TESRA that creates a very dangerous precedent: setting up a system where the government pays people for obeying the law.

Rather than offer these separately on the floor, I am pleased to see their substance included in the bipartisan Miller-Boehlert substitute that we will be considering today.

The use of science is of special importance in the implementation of the species protection program. Rather than using the best available science for species protection, TESRA explicitly prohibits the government from using advanced, modern scientific tools like statistical modeling that we have at our disposal today and that assist us in the implementation of ESA.

By taking away these cutting edge tools, TESRA would make it exceedingly difficult to make determinations on the status of any species whose populations are small, isolated, and scattered. The result will be a weakened and limited scientific process in decisions made under the act, more obstacles and less protection. The substitute bill restores ESA's original approach to science, which is to use the best science available to help save and recover endangered species.

My second proposed amendment addresses a trouble area in TESRA introducing a requirement that the Federal Government actually pay developers and polluters to comply with the law. This provision would have serious and widespread implications: it sets a dangerous precedent in environmental protection. This amounts to a new entitlement program that would result in a windfall for land developers and speculators—at the expense of the taxpayers and the species we seek to protect under ESA.

This provision of TESRA is part of a broader movement to treat all environmental regulation as a form of “property taking” that requires government compensation. It is a novel legal theory that would strike at the heart of virtually every piece of environmental regulation ever passed. The proposal under TESRA is particularly ripe for abuse because it sets no cap or limitations. Under TESRA, someone could purchase cheap land, announce an intention to develop on it, and then demand a check from the government compensating them for the much higher value of the developed property, all without ever even intending to break ground. The same developer could conceivably come back an unlimited number of times for an unlimited number of “projects”. My amendment, the substance of which is mirrored in the Miller-Boehlert substitute, strikes this payment scheme entirely.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose the TESRA roll back of the Endangered Species Act and to support the bipartisan Miller-Boehlert substitute to preserve and strengthen one of the most successful pieces of environmental legislation in 30 years.

THE FEDERAL MINERAL DEVELOPMENT AND LAND PROTECTION EQUITY ACT OF 2005

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, on March 1, 1872, President Ulysses S. Grant signed into law a bill creating the world's first national park: Yellowstone. Known from its inception as “nature's wonderland”, Yellowstone has embodied a simple and straightforward concept of a place unexploited and unspoiled by economic or other development.

In 1872, the vast wilderness of the west was viewed by most Americans as something to be tamed, to be explored, settled, mined, logged, ranched, and farmed. Most people at that time did not value the west for its wilderness, but rather for the material and economic treasures that it could yield. It is therefore remarkable that during such an age, Congress set aside an area roughly the size of my home State, West Virginia, as the world's first national park—an area that would be closed to farming, timbering, mining and open to all Americans for present and future recreation use.

Several months after the 54th Congress created Yellowstone, they sent the General Mining Law to President Grant for signature. Following on the heels of the California Gold Rush, the Mining Law of 1872 was enacted in order to promote orderly mineral exploration and development of the West and to provide certainty and legal protections to those Ameri-

cans willing to take on the task. It is first and foremost a land law; it does not contain environmental or public health and safety provisions.

The Mining Law of 1872 has, like Yellowstone, remained largely intact and unchanged over the past 133 years. While most people would agree that the continued preservation of Yellowstone is a good thing, most would disagree that maintaining and preserving the Mining Law of 1872 is a good thing. To keep a law on the books that has no environmental protection provisions, prevents the Federal Government from stopping ill-advised proposed mines on Federal lands, and has left the headwaters of 40 percent of western waterways polluted by mining, is irresponsible and just plain ridiculous.

Even more absurd, the 1872 Mining Law also allows extraction of valuable minerals from the public domain without payment of royalties to taxpayers and at the same time allows mining companies to purchase mineral rich public lands for no more than \$5 an acre irrespective of lands true value. In recognition of the fiscal irresponsibility of this situation, Congress has since 1994, annually placed moratoria on mineral claim patents in appropriations bills, most recently in the fiscal year 2005 Consolidated Appropriations Act, allowing only patents applied for prior to 1994 to be processed. However, it is far past the time for this moratorium to become permanent rather than being subject to annual renewal.

To be sure, Congress has attempted to comprehensively reform the Mining Law at various times over its history—each time to be thwarted by powerful mining interests. Former Congressman Mo Udall came close in the 1970s. During the 102nd Congress in 1991, I introduced mining reform legislation and we came close to enacting legislation in 1994 that would have updated this archaic law. Unfortunately, at the last moment, after both the House and the Senate had passed separate bills, the conference failed to reach a compromise and the rest, as they say, is history. Since then, I have re-introduced reform legislation in each succeeding Congress.

Today, Representatives JAY INSLEE, CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, and I, joined by our colleagues, MAURICE HINCHEY, DENNIS KUCINICH, EARL BLUMENAUER, GEORGE MILLER, and RAÚL GRIJALVA are introducing legislation similar to what we introduced in earlier Congresses. However, this bill differs from past efforts in one significant way. The Federal Mineral Development and Land Protection Equity Act of 2005 has as its centerpiece, the recognition that there are special places, often sacred sites, that should be off-limits to hardrock mining. This simple but important provision is necessary because under the 1872 Mining Law, the Federal Government can not stop a valid mining claim from being developed on public lands, regardless of what other values are present.

For example, the proposed site for a 1,600-acre, open-pit gold mine in Indian Pass, California, is the sacred place where Quechan Indian tribes “dream trails” were woven. The Bush administration revoked a Clinton-era ruling that said mining operations would cause undue impairment to these ancestral lands, an extremely sacred place to the Quechan Indian tribe. Now the tribe is left fighting for its religious and cultural history. Although the State of California has taken action to help protect

this site, the Federal Government remains poised to permit the gold mine.

Sadly, the threat to Indian Pass is not unique. American Indians, the first Americans, were the first stewards of this land. They respected the earth, water and air. They understood you take only what you need and leave the rest. They demonstrated that you do not desecrate that which is sacred. Most Americans understand a reverence for the great Sistine Chapel, or the United States Capitol. However, there are times when we have difficulty applying the same reverence we give to our sacred man-made places to a mountain, valley, stream or rock formation held sacred to Native Americans.

The Federal Mineral Development and Land Protection Equity Act of 2005 has as its centerpiece, the recognition that there are special places, often sacred sites, that should be off-limits to hardrock mining. Our mining law reform legislation also recognizes that there are other special places in the U.S. with spectacular natural and cultural resources and values that should be protected from the unavoidable, and often irreversible, damage caused by hardrock mining.

Our legislation would bring hardrock mining law into the 21st century. It would protect precious water resources from toxic mine waste with much needed environmental standards, and prevent mining industry rip-offs by requiring the industry to pay a production-related royalty on the extraction of publicly owned minerals. It would also prevent mining operations from endangering federally designated wilderness areas and other special places by requiring land managers to weigh mine proposals against other potential land uses when making permitting decisions.

The lack of a royalty in the 1872 Mining Law and the absence of deterrents or penalties for irresponsible mining have caused enormous taxpayer giveaways and liabilities. Under the Mining Law the Federal Government has given away over \$245 billion in mineral rich public lands. In return, the mining industry has left taxpayers with a cleanup bill, for their business and mining practices, estimated to be in the range of \$32 to \$72 billion for hundreds of thousands of abandoned mines that pollute the western landscape.

It is time, well past time, that the Congress replace this archaic law with one that reflects contemporary economic, environmental and cultural values. Insuring a fair return to the public in exchange for the disposition of public resources, and properly managing our public lands are neither Republican nor Democratic issues. They are simply ones that make sense if we are to be good stewards of America's lands and meet our responsibilities to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, during the years I have labored to reform the Mining Law of 1872 those who defend its privileges—and it is indeed a privilege to be deemed the highest and best use of our public domain lands—have often alleged that my mining reform legislation fails to take into account the contribution of hardrock mining to area economies. They claim that reform would have dire consequences on the industry, that if we did not provide the industry with unfettered access to public lands and public minerals, the industry could no longer survive.

Let me just say that there is no member in the House of Representatives whose Congressional District is more dependent upon mining

for employment and its economic benefits than this gentleman from West Virginia. And when we are talking about the effects of mining, I would suggest that there is little difference between coal mining and gold mining. The effects, whether measured in terms of employment, or in terms of the environment or cultural values, are the same.

With that noted, I have engaged in the effort to reform the Mining Law of 1872 these past many years not just for the apparent reasons—the sins of giving away the public's valuable minerals mined for free, selling off Federal lands available almost for free and providing no comprehensive Federal mining and reclamation standards. But, I continue to wage this effort because I am pro-mining, because I no longer believe that we can expect a viable hardrock mining industry to exist on public domain lands if we do not make corrections to the law. I do so because there are provisions of the existing law which impede efficient and serious mineral exploration and development. And I do so because of the unsettled political climate governing this activity, with reform if not coming in a comprehensive fashion, certainly continuing to come in a piecemeal manner.

I believe that with enough courage, and fortitude, we can continue to address the problems facing mining, and dovetail our need for energy and minerals with the necessity of protecting our environment.

For at stake in this debate over the Mining Law of 1872 is the health, welfare and environmental integrity of our people and our Federal lands. At stake is the public interest of all Americans. And at stake is the ability of the hardrock mining industry to continue to operate on public domain lands in the future, to produce those minerals that are necessary to maintain our standard of living.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JEROME CHURCH IN THE BRONX

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Saint Jerome Church in the Bronx. On October 2, 2005 they will hold rededication ceremonies in honor of the newly renovated Church.

St. Jerome Church was founded on September 24, 1869, and primarily served the large group of Irish immigrants arriving in America during the latter half of the 19th century. In 1898, the cornerstone was laid for the building that St. Jerome Church would call home for the next hundred years. So magnificent was the edifice that to this day it is called "The Cathedral of the Bronx." The stained glass windows and beautifully painted ceilings make Saint Jerome Church truly one of the most visually stunning churches in the city.

Throughout its history, St. Jerome Church has stood fast in good times and bad as a symbol of faith. Through two World Wars, the Korean War and Vietnam, the church has watched as many of its sons and daughters bravely served their country. Those who made the ultimate sacrifice have their names inscribed on the walls of the church as a reminder of the high cost of war.

In the fifties, as Puerto Ricans and others from the Caribbean made the Bronx their home, St. Jerome Church was there to welcome them with open arms. The priests made it a priority to learn Spanish as new spirit was breathed into the surrounding neighborhood. Even today, St. Jerome Church continues its legacy of welcoming newcomers to the Bronx as Mexican immigrants have revitalized the area.

Mr. Speaker, scripture tells us in Deuteronomy 15:7: "If there is a poor man among you, one of your brothers, in any of the towns of the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart, nor close your hand to your poor brother; but you shall freely open your hand to him, and generously lend him sufficient for his need in whatever he lacks." St. Jerome Church has always striven to realize these instructions. Under the spiritual leadership of my friend, Father John Grange, over the last 26 years St. Jerome Church has grown into a powerful healing force in the Bronx, taking in Bronxites of all nationalities and providing them with food for the soul.

As the representative from the South Bronx, the poorest Congressional District in the nation, I am grateful to have a church in my community that works so hard, day in and day out, to provide for those who are in need. In an effort to provide better lives for themselves and their families, many immigrants make the Bronx their first home in the States. During those trying first few years, it is institutions like St. Jerome Church which help them manage their struggle by providing constant spiritual guidance. St. Jerome Church has in the past and continues to freely open their hand to the people of the Bronx. For 136 years of outstanding service to the people of the Bronx, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to St. Jerome Church as it is re-dedicated on October 2, 2005.

HONORING BEATRICE JOYCE ELLINGTON

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and honor Beatrice Joyce Ellington who recently passed away on August 1, 2005.

I have known her since 1980. She was a remarkable person. In fact, if more people just acted as she did, our world would be a better place.

Joyce became the first African American woman to head the San Jose Public Library Commission in 1980. In 1974, Joyce successfully argued before the San Jose Unified School District Board and the City Council that vacant land, a valuable commodity in San Jose where a single-family home can easily cost over a half-million dollars, should be used for a library, instead of being sold. Joyce was recognized for her tenacity in pushing for the library in 2002 when the City Council was persuaded by her neighbors and the community at large to overlook the City's rule not to name a public building after a person still alive. At that time, the Empire Library was renamed to the Joyce Ellington branch library.

In addition to her accomplishments with the library, Mrs. Ellington was a founder in 1965 of the Northside Neighborhood Association, the oldest of its kind in the City of San Jose. Perhaps the greatest tribute to Joyce was her ability to gather community members of all races, creeds and religions to work together toward a common purpose in the community. The Northside community, where Joyce lived and did her service, is also one of the most diverse communities in California with neighbors, friends and families with roots in Africa, Japan, the Philippines, Mexico and elsewhere.

When I attended the service for Joyce, stories abounded of not only her community service, but also of her welcoming heart and home.

Joyce was the sort of person who, when she saw a problem simply took responsibility to be part of the solution. That's why she led the effort to establish a lighting district so that the northside neighborhood could have street lights. That's why she looked after her neighbors. It's why she cared about literacy. It wasn't enough that her own children were readers and getting a good education. She understood that it was also important for all the children in her community to love reading and books. She is most certainly a dearly missed community leader, friend and teacher. She not only taught us lessons of service, but also opened the doors for us to teach ourselves at the library so aptly named after her.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING MS. CHRISTINA TRIPLETT ON WINNING THE RISING UP & MOVING ON AWARD

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Ms. Christina Triplett has overcome adversity and hardship from a young age to become an outstanding young woman; and

Whereas, Ms. Christina Triplett was able to keep her siblings together as a family in a trying environment; and

Whereas, Ms. Christina Triplett has committed herself to helping others in similar situations cope with the ordeal and to being a positive influence to all those around her.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and associates, as well as the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in celebrating your receipt of the Rising Up & Moving On Award. You are an inspiration to us all.

JULIAN BOND AFFIRMS THAT GAY RIGHTS ARE CIVIL RIGHTS

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, for more than 45 years, Julian Bond has provided leadership in the fight against prejudice and its terrible effects in the United States. From his early days as a student leader, to his current position as Board Chair of the NAACP,

with distinguished elected service in between, Julian Bond has been in the forefront of the fight for justice in America. Given his extraordinary leadership in the struggle against discrimination based on race, and given the efforts of some to argue that the fight against homophobia is somehow entirely different from the fight against racism, Julian Bond's eloquent, forceful defense of the right of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people to be treated fairly is noteworthy.

On Saturday, October 1, Mr. Bond addressed another important civil rights organization, the Human Rights Campaign, at the HRC's Washington Dinner. His speech, not surprisingly for a champion of human rights, is a strong defense of the right of people to be free from prejudice based on their sexual orientation, and an explicit affirmation that the fight against racism and the fight against homophobia have a common basis.

As he said in that speech, "denial of rights to anyone is wrong, and . . . struggles for rights are indivisible."

Mr. Speaker, because of the eloquence of his repudiation of the effort to divide those who fight against racism from those who fight against homophobia, and because of his extraordinary stature in the fight to make sure that the rights spelled out in our Constitution are in fact fully enjoy by everyone, Julian Bond's words at the Human Rights Campaign Dinner deserve the attention of every Member of this body, and I ask that those remarks be printed here.

I am more than honored to receive this award, and want to express my thanks to all responsible for it. I want to promise you that I intend to live my life as if I actually deserve it.

I believe it represents a common acknowledgement that denial of rights to anyone is wrong, and that struggles for rights are indivisible.

I feel tonight a little like the great abolitionist Frederick Douglass must have felt in April, 1888. Douglass, by then an old man, was addressing a women's convention in Seneca Falls, New York. They praised him for his devotion to the cause of women's suffrage. Forty years earlier, at the world's first Women's Rights Convention, when Susan B. Anthony made a motion that American women had the right to vote, it was Douglass who seconded the motion.

In 1888, Douglass reflected back on that moment and told his audience, When I ran away from slavery, it was for myself; when I advocated emancipation, it was for my people; but when I stood up for the rights of women, self was out of the question, and I found a little nobility in the act.

You have all made me feel noble tonight.

I am proud to represent an organization that has fought for justice for all for nearly 100 years, and while we've won many victories, we know—you know—there are other battles yet to be waged and won.

At the NAACP, we were proud to have opposed the federal marriage amendment and its wrong-headed versions in several states. President Bush backed amendments banning same-sex marriage, calling marriage "the most fundamental institution of civilization."

Isn't that precisely why one should support, not oppose, gay marriage?

The NAACP recently passed a resolution to strengthen families, including yours. We promised to "pursue all legal and constitutional means to support non-discriminatory policies and practices against persons based on race, gender, sexual orientation, nationality or cultural background."

We know there was a time, not so long ago, when black people in this country couldn't marry the person of their choice either. The California Supreme Court was the first, in 1948, to strike down laws prohibiting interracial marriage.

Now the California legislature has become the first to legalize gay marriage.

As California goes, so goes the Nation. It's just a matter of time.

Almost twenty years after California legalized interracial marriage, the United States Supreme Court heard the aptly named case *Loving v. Virginia*.

A married couple—Richard Loving, a white man, and Mildred Jeter, a black woman—won a ruling from the Court that Virginia's miscegenation laws were unconstitutional. That case enabled me to get married in Virginia. That case recognized marriage as one of the inviolable personal rights pursuant to happiness.

That's why when I am asked, "Are Gay Rights Civil Rights?" my answer is always, "Of course they are."

"Civil rights" are positive legal prerogatives—the right to equal treatment before the law. These are rights shared by all—there is no one in the United States who does not—or should not—share in these rights.

Gay and lesbian rights are not "special rights" in any way. It isn't "special" to be free from discrimination—it is an ordinary, universal entitlement of citizenship. The right not to be discriminated against is a common-place claim we all expect to enjoy under our laws and our founding document, the Constitution. That many had to struggle to gain these rights makes them precious—it does not make them special, and it does not reserve them only for me or restrict them from others.

When others gain these rights, my rights are not reduced in any way. The fight for "civil rights" is a win/win game; the more civil rights are won by others, the stronger the army defending my rights becomes. My rights are not diluted when my neighbor enjoys protection from the law—he or she becomes my ally in defending the rights we all share.

For some, comparisons between the African-American civil rights movement and the movement for gay and lesbian rights seem to diminish the long black historical struggle with all its suffering, sacrifices and endless toil. However, people of color ought to be flattered that our movement has provided so much inspiration for others, that it has been so widely imitated, and that our tactics, methods, heroines and heroes, even our songs, have been appropriated by or served as models for others.

No parallel between movements for rights is exact. African-Americans are the only Americans who were enslaved for more than two centuries, and people of color carry the badge of who we are on our faces. But we are far from the only people suffering discrimination—sadly, so do many others. They deserve the law's protections and civil rights, too.

Sexual disposition parallels race—I was born black and had no choice. I couldn't change and wouldn't change if I could. Like race, our sexuality isn't a preference—it is immutable, unchangeable, and the Constitution protects us all against prejudices and discrimination based on immutable differences.

Those whose bigotry is Bible-based selectively ignore Biblical injunctions in Exodus to execute people who work on the Sabbath and in Leviticus to crack down on those who get haircuts or who wear clothes with more than one kind of thread.

Recently, they've even ignored the sanctity of marriage—just ask Michael Schiavo.

Many gays and lesbians worked side by side with me in the '60s civil rights movement. Am I to now tell them "thanks" for risking life and limb helping me win my rights—but they are excluded because of a condition of their birth? That they cannot share now in the victories they helped to win? That having accepted and embraced them as partners in a common struggle, I can now turn my back on them and deny them the rights they helped me win, that I enjoy because of them?

Not a chance.

In 1965, those of us who worked in the civil rights movement were buoyed by a radio address given by Lyndon Johnson.

His words speak to us today. He said then:

It is difficult to fight for freedom. But I also know how difficult it can be to bend long years of habit and custom to grant it. There is no room for injustice anywhere in the American mansion. But there is always room for understanding those who see the old ways crumbling. And to them today I say simply this: It must come. It is right that it should come. And when it has, you will find that a burden has been lifted from your shoulders too. It is not just a question of guilt, although there is that. It is that men cannot live with a lie and not be stained by it.

One lesson of the civil rights movement of yesterday—and the on-going civil rights movement of today—is that sometimes the simplest of ordinary acts—taking a seat on a bus or a lunch counter, registering to vote, applying for a marriage license—can have extraordinary ramifications. It can change our world, change the way we act and think.

Thank you again for this honor.

The old ways are crumbling.

It must come.

Let us leave here determined to fight on until it does.

HONORING RICK GEHA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rick Geha who is being honored by The Ohlone College Foundation in Fremont, California, as 2005 Citizen of the Year.

Since 1987, the Ohlone College Foundation has awarded a Citizen of the Year Award at its Annual Benefit Luncheon to honor individuals or organizations that have made an exceptional contribution and commitment to the advancement of the community.

Rick Geha is being honored for his "Commitment to Excellence." As a businessman, he is a leader among Bay Area realtors and a mentor in the real estate business.

As a community activist, he is a strong advocate for children and education. He has served on the Ohlone College Foundation Board since 1993 and has held the position of Board Chair for the past eight years. He has served two terms on the Kidango Board of Directors. Kidango, formerly Tri-cities Children's Center, provides a variety of child development programs in 46 locations in three Bay Area Counties. The Fremont Education Foundation honored Rich Geha as the Community Honoree for its 2005 Excellence in Education award.

Rick Geha gives tirelessly to the community through his philanthropy, community service, business expertise, and dedication to making

a positive difference. On October 21, family and friends as well as the grateful recipients of Rich Geha's kind service and financial support to non-profit organizations, will gather to acknowledge his years of community service. I join them in appreciation for his commitment to excellence.

HONORING HEALTHSOURCE
SAGINAW, INC.

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the administration and staff of HealthSource Saginaw, Inc. For 75 years, this facility has provided superior medical care to patients throughout the Saginaw area, and on October 21, they shall break ground on a new, larger facility.

Originally known as Saginaw County Hospital, HealthSource Saginaw was established by county officials in 1930 as a tuberculosis sanitarium. In 1991, it became a Municipal Health Facility Organization and qualified for non-profit status with the Internal Revenue Service. Throughout the years, it has maintained a vision to offer the finest care available, care that meets and exceeds the latest in healthcare, communications, and information technology. At the same time, HealthSource Saginaw has continued to provide the quality level of compassion for which it is known for throughout the State of Michigan.

With 319 inpatient beds, HSS is comprised of three divisions: Behavioral Medicine Services, an Extended Care Center, and a Medical Rehabilitation Center. They offer specialty services such as inpatient and outpatient Chemical Dependency and Mental Health care and treatment, restorative care, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, and the region's only inpatient adolescent mental health program. They receive accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities and the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, who have given them the most optimal level of distinction for their hospital level services.

In addition to its non-profit status, HSS receives significant funding from Medicare, Medicaid, and of course through the support of Saginaw County residents, who have authorized a millage to help with costs. Over 99 percent of their total budget, including funds received by the millage, is earmarked for direct patient care, with the remaining one percent slated for equipment.

Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor and a pleasure for me to have this opportunity to recognize this outstanding group of medical professionals. Many families have benefited from their care and services. The staff considers it their duty and privilege to protect and defend human dignity and the quality of life for their patients. I am grateful for HealthSource Saginaw's commitment to go beyond the ordinary when providing healthcare services, and I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in congratulating and wishing them well on their expansion.

STATEMENT IN REMEMBRANCE OF
KENNETH SMITH

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow I announce the passing of Kenneth Smith of Manahawkin, New Jersey, after a long battle with cancer. Ken dedicated his life toward enhancing the sandy beaches, not only of New Jersey, but of the entire nation.

Ken Smith was a tireless and dedicated advocate for protecting and enhancing our beaches. He knew how much they mean to our state and national economies, and he fought tenaciously to assure the federal government gave beach preservation the priority it deserves. For over a quarter of a century, Ken was America's "Coastal Advocate."

Ken spent eight years as a Vice President and as a Director of the American Shore and Beach Preservation (ASBPA); and is a co-founder of the Alliance for a Living Ocean, formed in response to the terrible summer when garbage and other pollution was washing up on the Jersey shore in 1987. The Alliance for a Living Ocean won the Governor's Award for Volunteerism in 1999. Ken, known as ASBPA's "Tenacious Bulldog at the Beach," won the organization's prestigious Morrough P. O'Brien Award in 1999, followed by its Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004.

The millions of tourists who come to visit and enjoy our beaches each year from across the nation and from around the world, as well as all those whose communities are protected from the ravages of storms by these same dunes and healthy beaches, owe Ken a debt of gratitude for all that he accomplished. Ken was the leading force in bringing an awareness to so many people about the importance of working together to preserve not only our beaches and oceans, but the environment and our natural resources as a whole. His dedication to not only protecting the beaches but educating people on the importance of preservation was unparalleled.

I extend my sympathies to his wife, Pat, and to his entire family and hope that these words of appreciation will comfort them in their time of sorrow.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED
SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Ms. ESHOO of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the Pombo bill and in support of the reforms in the substitute amendment offered by Representatives GEORGE MILLER and SHERWOOD BOEHLERT.

The Endangered Species Act is a cornerstone of environmental protection. I'm very

proud that one of my predecessors in the Congress, Pete McCloskey, was a leader in enacting this bipartisan law.

After more than 30 years, it's worth reevaluating and updating this law to better meet its objectives. I understand some of the frustrations that constituents have with the current law, but I don't think we should throw "the baby out with the bathwater" as the underlying bill would do.

While critics rightfully point out that we need to do more to help endangered species recover so they can be removed from the endangered list, the fact is the Endangered Species Act has been highly successful, with 99 percent of species listed under the ESA being saved from extinction.

I have very deep concerns about the bill before us today.

First, the bill requires the Federal Government to pay developers' costs in complying with the Endangered Species Act whenever even a portion of a property is impacted. There's no limit on the compensation payments that would be paid. The Congressional Budget Office has said this is a new entitlement that will increase spending by billions of dollars and establish a dangerous precedent. Imagine, for example, the Federal Government paying a factory owner for the costs of complying with the Clean Air Act when a decision is made to expand the plant. That's the principle this bill will establish. It's an extraordinary mistake.

Second, the bill removes protections against the use of hazardous pesticides. It's estimated that 67 million birds die each year from the effects of pesticides. These protections must be kept in place. One of the reasons the Endangered Species Act was adopted in the first place was to address declines in the population of the bald eagle caused by DDT.

Third, the bill strips the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of its role in administering the Endangered Species Act, transferring it to the Department of Interior with no assurance whatsoever that this agency will have the resources or the expertise to take on this responsibility.

Fourth, the bill reduces the role of science by ending the current requirement that Federal agencies consult with wildlife biologists before undertaking actions that might harm endangered species.

The Miller-Boehlert Substitute makes great sense if we want to capitalize on the successes and the lessons of the last 30-plus years.

The substitute will repeal the current requirement that the Secretary designate "critical habitat" for endangered fish, wildlife, and plants before formulating a plan for species recovery. Instead, the substitute requires real habitat recovery efforts to conserve rare and threatened fish and wildlife. It ensures that recovery plans include the best possible science and that they're enforceable.

The substitute directs the Secretary to first determine whether public lands are sufficient to protect and save the endangered species before taking other measures that will impact private landowners.

The substitute will help small landowners who may not have the resources to comply with the Act. It will provide dedicated funding for technical assistance for these private property owners and establish a conservation grants program for landowners who help conserve the species on or near their property. It

contains requirements that private citizens get timely answers from ESA enforcement agencies and insists on reporting requirements so that we know how many applications are really going unanswered.

The reforms in the substitute make sense and they should be adopted. The base text should be rejected.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. LINDA
LEONARD

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Linda Leonard, a dedicated member and Executive Director of Long Island Crisis Center, LICC. On October 10, 2005, Ms. Leonard will celebrate 30 years of service to the citizens of Nassau County and Long Island.

Long Island Crisis Center was created in the 1970s by students of Adelphi University to promote counseling for students by students via telephone or face-to-face appointments. Since then, the Center has expanded to help countless Long Islanders with a wide array of programs.

Ms. Leonard has been in charge of the Center since 1979. She has brought support to numerous groups on Long Island and has brought the LICC from its very humble beginnings to an established multi-service agency. The people of Long Island are in debt to the work of this committed woman.

There have been many groundbreaking programs established by Ms. Leonard in her 30 years of service. For example, in the late 1970s runaway and homeless youth had no where to turn to for support. Ms. Leonard changed that in conjunction with the Nassau County Youth Board. She established the Runaway and Homeless Youth Hotline along with housing for these young people. She further led the way in the creation of Nassau Haven, a shelter for these same youth. While this shelter was not opened until 1980, the LICC continued to help these young members of the Long Island community.

Ms. Leonard is also responsible in creating support lines for people from stigmatized populations of Long Island. She had led the fight to create peer counseling and assistance programs for gay and lesbian youth. She pursued this fight through the 1980s, a time where this policy was viewed as highly unpopular. In 1993, LICC formed Pride for Youth with a grant from the Paul Rapoport Foundation. Pride for Youth's mission is to enhance the health and wellness of these youth through education, supportive services, and youth development.

It is the strong leadership of this woman that has allowed the LICC to be an effective organization in helping those members of the Long Island community most needing help. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Linda in her 30 years of service. Best wishes, Linda, and I can only hope you continue serving Long Island in the exceptional way you have for 30 years.

A PROCLAMATION THANKING CAMERON R. AGIN FOR HIS LIFE-LONG DEDICATION TO HIS COMMUNITY AND HIS COUNTRY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas Cameron R. Agin honorably served his country during a time of conflict in World War II; and

Whereas, Cameron R. Agin continued his life of service with the Zanesville Police Department, earning the rank of Captain; and

Whereas, Cameron R. Agin led a life devoted to civic responsibility and true patriotism in the Jaycees, Charity Newsies, American Legion, Boy Scouts, Grotto, Shrine and the VFW.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional district of Ohio in thanking Mr. Cameron R. Agin for his inspiring service both in war and at peace.

RECOGNIZING KATZEN INTERNATIONAL ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the impressive achievements of a company in Ohio's First Congressional District that is celebrating its 50th anniversary. KATZEN International is a leading name in the ethanol industry and has been involved in the design and development of 70 ethanol plants around the world. I think my colleagues would agree that 50 years is a remarkable amount of time to be in any business, and this is no exception.

KATZEN International, Inc. was formed in 1955 by Dr. Raphael Katzen. The company includes a group of highly experienced chemical and mechanical engineers, biologists, and designers who have applied their expertise to provide innovative and advanced design concepts encompassing the agriculture, chemical, sugar, paper, and other industries.

Dr. Katzen pioneered a number of technologies used to produce fuel grade ethanol and as early as 1945 he designed, built, and operated a 17 million gallon per year ethanol plant in Springfield, Oregon using wood as a feedstock. Dr. Katzen and his colleagues have worked to improve the quality of life in rural America by developing some of the most efficient and successful ethanol plants in the country. As the ethanol industry has matured and larger plants have become the norm, KATZEN has retained its agriculture base and continues to work with ethanol plants of all sizes.

On behalf of the people of Ohio's First Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Raphael Katzen and KATZEN International on 50 years of technology, development, environmental stewardship, and support for rural America.

TRIBUTE TO WALT HIERSTEINER

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a moment to bring to the attention of the House of Representatives a profile and interview of one of my leading constituents in Kansas' Third Congressional District, Walter Hiersteiner of Prairie Village, Kansas. Walt recently was the subject of an article in "The Best Times: a newspaper for Johnson County's 60-and-older citizens", which I am including with this statement.

Walt Hiersteiner has a long history of service to his family, friends and community. Since 1946, he has been involved with the management and administration of the Tension Envelope Corporation of Kansas City, Missouri, where he has been responsible for numerous innovations in that field, including 25 United States patents. Just as important, if not more so, has been his dedication to the Kansas City community, including: service on the Shawnee Mission Board of Education; establishment of the Committee for Excellence, which supported several school bond issues; service on the Kansas State Board of Regents, to which he was appointed by Governor Robert Docking; chairing the Legislative Committee for the Johnson County Community College Foundation; and fundraising and direct financial support for numerous worthy community causes, including the Children's Center at Johnson County Community College and the Truman Medical Center.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to place this profile from the Best Times in the RECORD, but I am more pleased to have this opportunity to publicly recognize Walt Hiersteiner as a vitally important community leader and activist in the Third Congressional District, and as my personal friend for many years.

[From The Best Times, Sept. 2005]

WALT HIERSTEINER: COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
OVER A LIFETIME
(By Lynn Anderson)

A native of Des Moines, Iowa, Walter Hiersteiner graduated from the University of Iowa in Iowa City (a member of the Phi Beta Kappa society in 1939) and then Harvard Law School in 1942, where he was an editor of the Harvard Law Review. While a student at the University of Iowa, he met Jean Newburger, whom he married in 1944. After World War II, the couple moved to Kansas City.

Following his graduation from Harvard Law School, he practiced briefly with the Kansas City law firm of Ryland, Stinson, Mag & Thomson. In 1942 he was called in as a commissioned Naval officer, serving until 1946, principally as a naval gunnery officer stationed in Cincinnati, Ohio, and then Long Island, New York.

Following his discharge in 1946, he practiced briefly with the law firm of Margolin & Reinhardt in Kansas City. Then, in 1946, he joined the Tension Envelope Corp., which at that time had four manufacturing facilities. Years later, when Bert Berkowitz and Walter Berkowitz died within three weeks of one another, Bert Berkley, the son of Bert Berkowitz, became president, and Walter became executive vice president, sharing principal management responsibilities with Bert Berkley.

Bert Berkley's son, Bill, has taken over the sole management of the Tension Envelope

Corp., which has manufacturing plants in Malaysia, China, and Taiwan, and eight domestic manufacturing plants, with 30 sales and service offices in major markets. The company manufactures more than 12 billion envelopes a year.

Walt champions multiple civic causes with energy and conviction, particularly in the areas of public education and health care. He was named Johnson Countian of the Year in 2003. Eighty-six years old, he lives in Prairie Village with his wife, Jean. They have four children, all of whom graduated from the Shawnee Mission district public schools, and nine grandchildren. His oldest son, Richard, is a lawyer with the firm of Palmer and Dodge in Boston, Mass.; Mary is a teacher in special education and also a partner in a tutoring business; Joseph practices law in Kansas City with the firm of Seigfried, Bingham; and Dorothy is an art therapist in Boulder, Colo., who exhibits her watercolor paintings.

Lynn Anderson was treated to a warm, stimulating conversation with Hiersteiner in his third-floor office at 819 E. 19th St. in Kansas City, Mo.

Q: Let's begin with a little about your background. You grew up in Iowa, went to the University of Iowa and Harvard Law School, served in the Navy, and finally settled in Kansas City. You've now been in Kansas City for almost 60 years. Why have you wanted to continue making Kansas City your home?

A: Jean and I are both strong Midwesterners and we prefer the Midwest unquestionably. I had many opportunities to practice law in the East, but we chose to stay in the Midwest, primarily because we thought it afforded the very best environment in which to raise children.

We enjoy everything about living in Kansas City, not the least being its people, the educational facilities of Johnson County for our youngsters, and the wonderful company for which I have worked nearly 60 years. We really have had no desire or inkling to go elsewhere!

Q: You have been with the Tension Envelope Corp. since 1947. You started in sales, later became sales manager and subsequently executive vice president, and now are vice chairman of the board. In what ways has the life of a businessman and lawyer suited you?

A: A law school education really amounts to learning how to think, and I was able to use thinking skills in the business world. Initially I was involved in labor relations, but I became actively interested in the envelope business. That interest was acquired quite naturally because I was always interested in riddles, which led to my being fascinated by the complicated envelope equipment, leading to my developing 25 envelope designs that have been patented.

The company employs a cadre of sales representatives. Often they sought me out, expressing a particular interest of a sales prospect, and together we developed a special envelope to fit the customer's needs. Our company's reputation has been founded not only on regular envelopes of all descriptions but on specialty envelopes.

You asked how I would come up with a new design. It's a process of constant and penetrating thought—pensive thoughtfulness—about how to get a better result. I would think about solutions for envelope puzzles at all hours!

Q: Hanging on your office wall are 25 framed patents of envelope designs you created, including an airline ticket envelope and specialty packaging envelopes for Hallmark, among a large number of other customers. Were you always inventive?

A: Twenty-four of the patents are envelopes, but one is of particular interest. In

summer vacations at Cape Cod, our kids would have dry cereal for breakfast—but without closing the boxes satisfactorily, the cereals became moist. I developed a special closure on a box of cereal, and indicated I was going to apply for a patent, to which my youngsters felt “not surprised!” I communicated with the Kellogg Company and General Foods after securing a patent, but the Kellogg Company was inspired to go in a different direction by my concept, and that particular patent never materialized into the acceptance I had hoped.

Our company is still imbued with the philosophy of coming up with something different and better for customers with specialty needs. Today, in most instances, others in our company handle these specialty problems. But if a designer has an interesting challenge and comes to me seeking advice, I'm happy to provide it!

Q: Tension Envelope has a foundation providing grants for worthy nonprofit activities. Do you believe that businesses have a responsibility to contribute profits in ways that benefit the community?

A: Absolutely! Tension Envelope was founded in 1888 by the father of Bert Berkowitz and Walter Berkowitz, and Bert and Walter were always involved in community activities, principally public education and hospitals. Our company continues to push for community involvement because it is so rewarding!

Tension contributes to the community by being a family-focused company. Over the years, we have had two or three generations of the same family working in our company—in part, I think, because our management maintains a genuine interest in its employees. We have a fine retirement program, so many of our former employees are now enjoying the retirement they richly deserve.

And I very definitely believe that community involvement is a responsibility for all corporations. We all take advantage of the good fortune of living in the United States, and specifically in Johnson County, so we should share that good fortune.

Q: Five mornings a week, you are still at your desk at Tension. Do you have opportunities to interact with younger employees and managers? And why don't you simply go home and find recreational and retirement activities?

A: Simply explained, I'm having too much fun to quit. I'm able to have the better of both worlds: semi-retirement and continuing involvement. I am an observer and a consultant, and I try to stay out of the way of the people, many or most of whom I have trained! I engage in some mentoring. I'm finding, though, that it's not so easy to be graceful when you see that those whom you've trained are sometimes doing a better job than you did!

Q: In 1979, you and Jean established an Outstanding Service Award at the University of Kansas School of Law for the graduating student whose service to his or her fellow students was considered by the faculty as demonstrating foremost promise for the legal profession and society. You seem to be encouraging young men and women to think about social service.

A: It's significant to us that many of the Outstanding Service Award winners say they became involved in social service to “pay back” the community. I recognize what they mean by that, but Jean and I don't think of it exactly that way. We just deeply enjoy the pleasure we get from working with the splendid people with whom we collaborate, along with the satisfaction of seeing what we can accomplish together.

Q: You are a member of the New Reform Temple. What makes this synagogue and its people special to you?

A: We all need to have pride in our own faith, whatever it may be, and opportunities to express our faith with others. In fact, Jean helped in the establishment of the New Reform Temple, which now has a new rabbi, Jacques Cukierkorn, very active in the city's Interfaith Alliance and off to a great start.

Q: People of a range of economic levels often want to contribute to their community. What are your thoughts on how we can all do that?

A: Many of the people with whom we associate have a passion for being helpful. There's no “admission fee” for volunteering! Early volunteering of one's energy and support can be equal in importance to larger dollars that could be contributed.

It's a good idea to apply the energy and support even without funds early on, and grow into perhaps more contribution of both energy and support with funds later on.

Q: In 1957, you and Jean moved your four children from Kansas City to Fairway. Did your move to Johnson County have anything to do with the school systems?

A: It had everything to do with the schools! In Kansas City in those days, even in the secondary grades, the schools had sororities and fraternities, which in our judgment interfered with general relationships and activities and subordinated, in many instances, the concentration on academics. I sought out the superintendent of schools to persuade him that their existence was undesirable and at odds with what should be gleaned from public education—but nothing appeared on the horizon, so we moved to Kansas, where the fraternities and sororities then and now have been prohibited by state law except in higher education.

Many of our friends have sent their children to private schools, which we never considered. Our personal view was that our children would receive better preparation for public life—for the mixture of people they would encounter and for how they would need to communicate—through a public school education. I think public schools tend to be more competitive, inspiring youngsters to do well. Public school is a strong preparation for life after school.

Q: In 1968, you were elected to the Board of Education for the Shawnee Mission School District. You became board vice president, then president in 1972. What drew you to that form of public service, and what were some of the most contentious issues and most rewarding moments?

A: One day long ago, I read in the paper that the Shawnee Mission Board of Education had refused to accept government funds to supplement its special education programs, in the fear that those monies might be dominated by their funding source. That didn't appeal to me and I decided that, rather than just complaining, I'd run for the school board. The more I got involved after a successful campaign, the more justified I felt in that investment of time.

Of course, I found some things that I felt were not pleasing, including the fact that girls were denied any athletic competition and confined to participating on drill teams or as cheerleaders. We were able to change that, with the help of the other members of the board, to the point that the principal of Shawnee Mission North once introduced me to his students as “the father of girls' athletics” in the district! That's something of which I still remain very proud.

Another thing I found displeasing was the concentration by the school district and its administrators in the length of students' hair and the length of skirts, about which they had rules that they monitored rather carefully. During that period of time my older son, who was in law school, came home sporting a mustache. I didn't happen to prefer it, and I thought I was being diplomatic

about expressing my objections. However, six months later, when I saw him at law school, he had removed his mustache. When I inquired as to the reason, his explanation really awakened me. He said he simply got tired of it and that if it hadn't been for me, he would have been tired of it three months earlier! When I reported that to the school board and campaigned for a total concentration on comportment in academics, and not on these extraneous things, the board finally agreed to do away with any dress codes. The administrators, to their dismay at the outset, found that students' appearance did not deteriorate as they had anticipated.

One of the things I remember with satisfaction is that I had an intern working with me for awhile when I was on the school board, doing leg work and research, helping me considerably and helping in his own development. I have recommended that a few times since.

Q: In the 1980s, concerned about funding for the school district, you helped organize the Committee for Excellence. You worked with Larry Winn III and Fred Logan. (Since that time, Winn has been elected to the school board and Logan has become a co-sponsor of the Committee for Excellence.) Initially you were very much involved in gaining the support of a levy election and then two bond issues, the last of which was for \$140 million in the Shawnee Mission district.

A: Through the work of the Committee for Excellence, which had hundreds of supporting activists or more, we were able to get three school bond elections passed with 60 to 70 percent of the vote in favor. Recognizing that about 30 percent of those voters did not have children in the schools, I think that is conclusive proof of the commitment to quality education that permeates Johnson County.

The Committee for Excellence has also been active recently in funding for public schools, which has decreased ever since 1992, when the legislators took funding responsibilities away from the districts and returned those responsibilities to Topeka. We shared concern with all Kansas districts about the inadequacy of the funding, and lobbied extensively to represent the youngsters. We feared that many legislators were more interested in getting reelected than in meeting this educational priority. The committee remains very active now, because it is clear that the foundation plan for supporting public schools in the state of Kansas requires major reform.

Q: Tell us briefly about your experience as a member and president of the Kansas Board of Regents.

A: I was appointed in the mid-1970s to the Board of Regents by outgoing Gov. Robert Docking, at the request of the incoming governor, Robert Bennett. This was a practice that indicates the cooperation and civility existing in those days that has largely disappeared in state and national politics.

My experience on the Board of Regents was wonderful and one of the most enjoyable activities in which I have participated in the public arena, largely because of the other members of the board, with whom I had the pleasure to associate in the governance of public-supported colleges and universities in Kansas.

I would not like to have this statement misunderstood, but I have considered Bob Bennett—quite apart from any appreciation for his appointing me to the Board of Regents—to have been the best governor Kansas has had in my experience, and maybe ever. I couldn't be more sincere in saying that, because in my opinion, Gov. Bennett

made decisions in the interest of the whole state quite apart from partisan motivation. I learned a good deal from him in that regard.

Q: You chaired the Legislative Committee for the Johnson County Community College Foundation. What was that committee's mission?

A: There was concern about losing local control over community college funding at the time of the reorganization of the Kansas Board of Regents. There is now a predominant feeling at that college that the situation is stable. However, the committee is ready and willing to reactivate if needed.

Q: In December 2003, the Children's Center at Johnson County Community College was renamed the Hiersteiner Child Development Center in honor of you and Jean. Your financial gift allowed the college to enlarge and renovate its center, making it possible for more students pursuing the curriculum in early-childhood education to move from the waiting list into the program. Has child development had a special place in your heart?

A: We have four children, and when we first moved to Kansas City, my wife, with some others, organized a coop nursery in association with the then University of Kansas City. Science has recently revealed that the brain commences to develop even prior to birth, and that was assurance to my wife and me that children needed the benefit of trained professionals, not just those offering custodial care.

Jean has always had a passion about teaching child development specialists. At the center's dedication, she told the audience that she had always thought the name "Hiersteiner" was a bit long and difficult every time she had to fill out forms or write a check—but her pride in seeing the name on the building was changing her view about the awkwardness of our name!

Q: You co-chaired Truman Medical Center's first major fund-raising effort, which was a \$20 million capital campaign. For many years you have been on Truman's Charitable Foundation board, while Jean has been active in the medical center auxiliary and gift shop, which she co-managed for about 15 years. Additionally, you and Jean have endowed scholarships for nurses. What fuels your passion for health care activism?

A: Everyone recognizes the requirement of adequate health care, but unfortunately, there are any number of individuals without health insurance and without the means of paying for care.

The Menorah Hospital experience that I had for more than 40 years was rewarding, but my involvement at Truman Medical Center for about 20 years is in my judgment absolutely imperative because the mission of Truman is to take care of clients irrespective of their ability to pay. Truman is a wonderful community institution under the expert presidency of John Bluford, meeting a need for those who cannot afford to pay. But it also has an excellent faculty that is good enough to be desired by any number of paying patients. Its equipment is first rate and its faculty is outstanding.

Interestingly enough, I became involved at Truman while still a member of the board at Menorah, because I received a mailing from Truman that had too much postage on the envelope. I called to explain to them that they could save money by being up to date on postal regulations. About 15 minutes after that call, Jim Mongan, who was at that time the president of Truman Medical Center, was in my office inviting me for a tour of the facility, after which he was able to secure my appointment to the board. That has been a very satisfying experience over the years.

Without the assistance of this outstanding institution, most of the private hospitals, if not all of them, would have red ink on their bottom line. No one in the community should be satisfied witnessing people in our community not having any access to health care at all.

Q: You are on the advisory board of the Mainstream Coalition. What parts of that group's mission are most important to you?

A: I believe our goal is education for the community about domestic, national, and foreign issues for which the public needs as much information as possible. The coalition is quite diverse and nonpartisan, with Republican, Democrat, and Independent members.

Q: Countless community leaders have praised the fact that your stand on issues or candidates is never based on ideology or party affiliation, but rather on what you believe is best for the people of Kansas City. What are the keys to maintaining an independent frame of reference?

A: Well, I persist in my personal points of view, and I believe that people involved in their communities do a better job of it if they act in as nonpartisan a way as they can. Organized politics has never been appealing to me, so I try to make my mark outside the realm of parties.

Q: How do you keep your optimism going?

A: Quite often, I don't! But the main tools I use are hope and paying attention to what is going on in my community and what I can do about it.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN ON NATIONAL DAY

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend to the people of Taiwan my heartiest congratulations as we approach October 10 or National Day—the founding day of the Republic of China.

Since the ROC government was founded on the Chinese mainland nearly 100 years ago, the people and government of the republic have made great economic and political strides. Over the last several decades, Taiwan has been transformed from a one-party state, into a thriving global economic powerhouse, a generous and responsible member of the international community, and perhaps the most vibrant multi-party democracy in the Western Pacific.

This year has been an especially eventful year in Taiwan's democratic evolution as voters on the island made historic revisions to the ROC constitution through a referendum process—a process that could never have been conducted on the Chinese mainland. President Chen and the Taiwanese people deserve our respect and admiration for moving forward with this historic election despite pressure from communist China in the face of the recently passed so-called "anti-secession law."

Again, I congratulate the people of Taiwan on this National Day, and I hope that this important national holiday will inspire the people of Taiwan and their elected leaders of all parties to work together to preserve the future of Taiwan.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR.
CLAUDE M. ROHWER

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to express warm thanks and congratulations to Mr. Claude M. Rohwer, upon his retirement as Associate Dean of the University of the Pacific's McGeorge School of Law. After nearly four and a half decades of service as a professor, he now concludes a stellar career in academia.

A native of Dixon, California, Claude grew up raising pigs on his family's Sacramento Valley farm. He received his undergraduate education at the acclaimed University of California at Berkeley, following which he earned his Juris Doctorate degree from Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law in 1958. That same year, he began service to his country in the U.S. Air Force's Judge Advocate General's Corps.

From 1960 to 1961, Claude was a Deputy Attorney General for the State of California. Following this experience, he launched a career in private practice with the firm of Downey, Brand, Seymour and Rohwer in Sacramento. After a few years as an associate in what was then the largest practice in the city, he became a partner from 1965 to 1967.

Mr. Speaker, having taught at the McGeorge School of Law since 1961, Claude decided to leave private practice in 1967 to take a full-time position on the faculty as one of four charter professors. Generations of law students are grateful that he did, for he helped the school develop from a small, unknown entity into a proud institution.

Claude has specialized in international law during his career. From 1982 to 1986, he was the Associate Dean for Graduate and International Programs. And since 2003 he has filled duties as the Associate Dean for International Affairs. He has lectured and consulted all over the world. He has taught commercial and contract law courses in cities including Vienna, Salzburg, Edinburgh, Shanghai, and London. Most recently, he has consulted the Vietnamese Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Trade to help rewrite that nation's civil code and commercial law respectively.

In addition to being an accomplished teacher, Claude has published many legal works. While much of his writing portfolio has an international emphasis, I benefited from his text "Contracts in a Nutshell" when I was his student at McGeorge.

Claude is a member in good standing of the California Bar Association, American Bar Association, and International Bar Association. Among his professional honors, Professor Rohwer belongs to the Order of the Coif, was named an Amicus Lex Scholar in 1982, and was the University of the Pacific Professor of the Year in 1981.

In retirement, Claude plans to write a history of McGeorge. In addition to spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren, he also intends to continue singing bass with the West Valley Chorale and pursuing the love of hunting he inherited from his own father.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure in commending Professor Claude Rohwer for his outstanding service to our country as a member

of the Armed Forces, an able attorney, and a career educator. After all that has been said about him, he is simply a good and decent man, and I am personally thankful for his guidance and instruction he has provided to me and countless other students of the law. May he enjoy this next phase of life with the satisfaction of knowing he has had a tremendous influence on the profession he loves.

HONORING RETIRING ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATOR RAYMOND K. DUSZA

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great labor leader, public official and dear friend and colleague who at the end of this year will retire from active public service as a member of the Erie County Legislature—the man commonly known as "Mr. Cheektowaga," Legislator Raymond K. Dusza.

During the 1990s, I worked closely with Ray, and saw firsthand his gentle yet persistent leadership style. Ray's leadership on so many issues important to taxpayers and consumers won kudos from countless local residents and praise from local taxpayers' groups.

Ray's call to public service came early in life. He enlisted in the United States Army and defended this country as a Paratrooper in the unit known as "America's Guard of Honor," Ray's beloved 82nd Airborne Division. When Ray came home after his military service, he started at the Westinghouse Electric corporation, where his reputation as a "man of the people" became apparent. Ray rose through the ranks and was chosen to represent 4,000 of his labor brothers and sisters as leader of the International Union of Electrical Workers, Local 1581.

In 1988, the 8th District seat in the Erie County Legislature became vacant. After many years of active service in the community and in the Democratic Party, Ray contested and won election that November, representing the residents of the Town of Cheektowaga and the Village of Depew. Over the past 17 years, Republicans and Democrats alike have bowed to the high regard with which this man has been held—Ray has never been seriously challenged for re-election.

Local consumers soon learned that they had no greater defender of their rights than Ray Dusza. Ray led the fight for a new Item Pricing/Scanner Accuracy law for Erie County, to ensure that prices consumers were charged for goods were properly reflecting prices on store shelves. Through Ray's work, scanners in supermarkets, home centers and other retail stores that were estimated to be accurate only 50 percent to 70 percent of the time must now offer consumers 98 percent accuracy. In addition, Ray will always be remembered as the "Coupon King" for his successful fight against the Proctor & Gamble Corporation's attempt to deny local shoppers free access to manufacturer's coupons. Ray fought hard for consumers, residents and taxpayers as Vice Chairman of the Legislature's Public Safety Committee, and as Chairman of two legislative standing committees, the Government Affairs

Committee and the Energy and Environment Committee.

Ray Dusza added one more very important element to his service in County Hall: a robust sense of humor. Ray's philosophy was to "be serious about what you do, but don't take yourself too seriously," and he was indeed good to his word. Ray always added a refreshing sense of humor to the deliberations within County Hall, consistently entering committee meetings with the declaration that "the paratroopers have landed," and sarcastically questioning what time the perennially tardy "nine o'clock caucus" would begin.

Ray's dedication to his community was not limited to his role in the Legislature. The following are just a few of the organizations Ray has dedicated his time and energy toward: the Fraternal Order of Eagles, Knights of Columbus—Father Justin Council, Polish Falcons Club, American Legion Gierlach Post, Depew/Cheektowaga Taxpayers' Association, AMVETS Buddy Knaus Post, Catholic War Veterans Post 1313, the Ushers Society at St. Philip the Apostle Church, and St. Josephat's Parish Holy Name Society. In addition, Ray is the leader of the eponymously-named "Ray Dusza Booster Club," a grouping of political supporters that Ray sentimentally refers to as his "commandos."

Mr. Speaker, I am a lifelong resident of another great Western New York community—South Buffalo, NY, and the highest compliment that folks can pay to someone from South Buffalo is that they remember where they come from, and remember the people who sent them to serve in public office. Few public officials remember from whom and from whence they came the way Ray Dusza does. I am delighted that you have allowed me to take a few moments to honor Ray's service to our community here today, and I am honored even more to call Ray Dusza my friend. To Ray, his wife Terry, to their children, grandchildren and to the entire Dusza Family, I want to offer my sincere thanks, and my wishes of good luck and Godspeed for many years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE DONALD BASYE

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor George Donald Basye, a man who through hard work and dedication has become one of the most respected and accomplished water and flood attorneys in California. As his friends, family and colleagues gather to pay tribute to Mr. Basye's remarkable 50-year career with the Central Valley law firm of Downey Brand, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting this great American success story.

George was born on June 21, 1926 in Porterville, California. After graduating from high school in 1944, George served in the U.S. Navy. As an enlisted sailor, George held the rank of Seaman Second Class Musician Striker and performed in Navy dance bands.

Upon honorable discharge from the Navy in August of 1946, George enrolled in the College of the Pacific and graduated in February

of 1948 with a B.A. in Economics. After graduation, George sought to expand his horizons and enrolled in a one-year graduate program at the University of Stockholm in Sweden.

Upon returning to the United States in 1949, George took an aptitude test which suggested that he was best suited for a career as a social science teacher, not a lawyer. As a result, he enrolled in the UCLA Graduate School of Education in the Spring of 1950 to take up a career in teaching. However, it soon became clear to George that law was undoubtedly his true calling. It was in August of the following year that George applied and was admitted to the new Boalt Hall School of Law at Berkeley.

Although George was about to pursue a legal education, he could never truly abandon his love of music. Thus, in a short stint before law school, he fulfilled one of his lifelong ambitions by playing the upright bass in a traveling jazz trio known as the Krazy Kats.

His decision to enroll in Boalt Hall would prove to be a pivotal point in not only his career in law, but in his personal life as well. It was during his time at Boalt Hall that George began dating Mary Alice Johnson, a student at Mills College. They were married in December of 1952. Today, more than 50 years later, George and Alice are the happy parents of four children, Anne, Jennifer, John, and Paul, and four grandchildren.

George graduated from Boalt Hall 7th in his class with an LLB degree. Upon graduation, George enrolled for a graduate degree in law and spent a year studying at the Uppsala University in Sweden. After returning to the United States in 1955, George began his new job at Downey, Brand, Seymour, and Rohwer starting on September 20, 1955.

While working, George wrote his Master's thesis and obtained his LLM degree from Boalt Hall in 1956.

When George began his career at Downey Brand in 1955, he was one of 8 lawyers in what would later become a 120-lawyer firm. For the first few years, George spent much of his time doing probate work, but then began to focus his efforts on water law and flood control matters for clients such as Reclamation Districts 537, 1000, 900 and 999, the California Central Valley Flood Control Association, and many mutual water companies. For the next 45 years, George's knowledge and experience in water and flood control law became expansive, and George shaped much of the law in these areas through his position as General Counsel for the California Central Valley Flood Control Association.

George also focused significant efforts on making Sacramento and California a better place by acting in leadership positions for the California State Library Foundation, the California Historical Foundation, the California Historical Society, the Sacramento Metropolitan YMCA, the Sacramento Symphony Association, the Crocker Art Museum Association, the Sacramento YMCA Foundation, the California Capitol Historic Preservation Society, the Sacramento Trust for Historic Preservation, the Pfund Family Foundation, and the Sacramento Pioneer Association.

Throughout an almost 50-year career, George Basye has been acknowledged as one of the modern fathers of water and flood law in California. His years of commitment, hard work, and dedication to the Central Val-

ley and the law firm of Downey Brand have undeniably contributed to the firm's amazing growth and positioning as one of the top law practices in the region.

Mr. Speaker, as George's friends, family and colleagues gather to celebrate his admirable career, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most selfless and dedicated citizens. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in wishing George Donald Basye continued success in all his future endeavors.

HONORING DR. TIPKINS HOOD, SR.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of Dr. Tipkins Hood, Sr. of Oakland, California. Dr. Hood was a compassionate physician, devoted husband and father, a leading member of our community and a wonderful friend. He passed away on September 22, 2005 in Oakland, California.

Dr. Hood was born on December 15, 1936 in Camden, Texas, where he was the third of nine children in a loving and close-knit family. A precocious child, he had an unsurpassed zeal for learning, and throughout his primary and secondary education he excelled in reading, the sciences and mathematics. Graduating early from high school, he enrolled at Texas Southern University at age 15, earning a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy and later graduating from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee.

In 1964, Dr. Hood married Ms. Ruth Starnes in St. Louis, Missouri. Sadly, Ruth passed away in 1978, but their union produced a son, Tipkins Hood, Jr. A dedicated family man and hard-working student, Dr. Hood completed his internship at Homer G. Philips Hospital in St. Louis, his general residency at Washington University, and his specialty orthopedic surgery training in St. Louis at the University of Missouri and the nearby Veteran's Administration Hospital.

As a young doctor, Dr. Hood voluntarily served from 1960 until 1970 in the United States Navy-Marine Corps, during which time he was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat V as well as a Meritorious Service Award for serving above and beyond the call of duty. At the end of his military service he was also awarded the Vietnamese Medal of Honor.

After completing his education and military service in 1970, Dr. Hood began his medical practice in Oakland, California. After getting his board certification in Orthopedic Surgery in 1974, he practiced for more than 35 years in Oakland, contributing immeasurably to the health and well being of our entire community. For close to 4 decades, he maintained an extensive inpatient and outpatient practice, and treated a wide range of patients including children, adults, the elderly and low-income individuals. Over the years, his medical expertise benefited groups such as the Oakland Police & Fire Retirement Association, the Oakland Raiders and the Social Security Administration, as well as an untold number of individ-

uals and families who otherwise may not have had access to that kind of medical treatment.

Though Dr. Hood's medical achievements were extraordinary, his accomplishments and leadership extended far beyond the realm of medicine. Throughout his life he was involved in a variety of business, community and academic endeavors, and supported a number of important civic and political causes. He was a tremendous asset to the late Mayor Lionel Wilson of Oakland as well as to Congressman Ron Dellums, and was one of my longtime and consistent supporters. For this, I am deeply grateful.

Additionally, in what he considered to be one of his most important roles, Dr. Hood was a dedicated and lifelong member of the Board of Trustees at his medical alma mater, Meharry Medical College. A deeply spiritual person, Dr. Hood was also a longtime member of Downs Memorial United Methodist Church in Oakland, California.

In 1981, Dr. Hood married Ms. Carol H. Williams, and together they raised two children, Tipkins Hood, Jr. and Carol Henny Hood, Jr. Their life together was enriched by their devotion to each other, and they delighted in the arrival of a grandson, Tipkins Milton Hood. Dr. Hood enjoyed sharing his love of travel, fishing and cooking with his family and friends, and took every opportunity to spend time with them. His dedication to his family was unsurpassed, and throughout his life his loved ones brought him great joy.

As a close personal friend since the early 1970s, I benefited from Tip's advice, keen intellect and remarkable wisdom. He was a "wise man," yet he had a lot of heart. For example, this summer he took the time to provide his medical insights to one of my family members who had also been his patient many years ago. Not only did he give his best thinking regarding treatment options, but he also gave reassurances to call and visit every day during recuperation. Tip comforted those who needed comfort and always went beyond the call of duty.

The last time I saw Tip was in my Washington, DC office very recently. He cared about the aging and sick prison populations and wanted to provide treatment facilities for the Federal and state penal institutions. Tip concluded this very intense meeting by pleading with the Federal prison officials to understand that providing this treatment was the humane way to treat these individuals. His compassion profoundly impacted everyone in the meeting, just as it had always impacted everyone who knew him.

Throughout his life, Dr. Hood "did it his way." He was a man for all seasons whose wit, charm and brilliance will be forever remembered. He will be greatly missed, but his legacy and his spirit will inspire us all, especially young African American men, to soar to heights unseen, and to do so in his memory.

Today Dr. Hood's family and friends come together to celebrate his life and work, and the immeasurable personal and professional impact he has had on all of us. On behalf of the 9th U.S. Congressional District of California, I salute and thank Dr. Tipkins Hood, Sr. for his invaluable contributions to the people of Oakland, the 9th Congressional District, the State of California and our entire country.

IN MEMORY OF ESTHER
WEISSMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, Esther Weissman understood with all her heart that the cause of injured workers is one of society's great moral callings.

Social consciousness infused her daily work as a lawyer. She knew she was fighting not only for just compensation for her clients, she was trying to save their lives from being sacrificed upon the altars of modern industrial society.

They came to Esther on crutches, wearing arm slings, with eye patches and bandages of every sort from their encounters with the hazards of the workplace. They came to her office as pilgrims, migrants to a sacred place, seeking a miracle that would save their lives. Again and again Esther gave them hope, through honest and aggressive representation.

In addition to her advocacy in the courts, Esther actively participated in the electoral system. She rallied other attorneys, labor leaders, and voters to protect the rights of workers and advance social justice at the ballot box. Her legacy includes preserving Ohio's legal protections for injured workers in the popular defeat of the anti-worker ballot initiative known as Issue 2, in 1997.

Esther's was the cause of human dignity. Hers was the cause of economic justice. Hers was the cause of worker rights. Hers was the cause of the safe workplace. Hers was the cause of just compensation for injured workers. Hers was the cause of advocating for those too hurt, those too poor, those too weak to advocate for themselves.

Esther Weissman was the Joan of Arc of injured workers.

Again and again, holding up the banner of worker rights, she fearlessly fought on behalf of her beloved workers, with every fiber of her being, with all of her resources, with her last ounce of courage, to her last breath.

CELEBRATE TAIWAN'S NATIONAL
DAY ON OCTOBER 10

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, the Republic of China (Taiwan) will celebrate its National Day October 10, 2005. I wish to congratulate the President and the People of Taiwan on this festive occasion.

Taiwan is a small island with few natural resources, yet it has prospered because of the opportunity provided by freedom and democracy. With one of the world's largest foreign exchange reserves, its 23 million people enjoy one of the highest standards of living in the world. Politically, Taiwan is a full democracy, with free elections and a free press. Taiwan fully embraces the values of economic liberalization, democracy, rule of law, and respect for human rights.

Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian recently stopped in Miami, Florida en route to Central

America. Through a teleconference, President Chen was honored by the Congressional Human Rights Caucus in recognition of Chen's life-long campaign to promote and safeguard human rights not only in Taiwan but also in other parts of the world. In his teleconference, President Chen told Congressional members that Taiwan's democratic development is irreversible, that China could and should learn from Taiwan's history of democratization and that he would like to have direct talks with China's President without any prior conditions. I hope President Hu will take up President Chen's offer and move toward permanent peace in the Taiwan Strait based on personal freedom and individual liberty.

Mr. Speaker, President Chen is a man of peace. For the good of his country and his people, he has been pleading with Chinese leaders to resume talks over cross-strait disputes. In the meantime, President Chen has been asking the international community, to set up a mechanism to ensure that there would not be unnecessary military conflicts over the Taiwan Strait. I believe that the United States should, at the very least, continue to impress upon the Chinese that we will uphold our commitment and defend Taiwan if it is attacked without provocation.

On Taiwan's National Day, I join my colleagues in congratulating the Taiwanese people. We deeply appreciate our common bonds and friendship with them and look forward to strengthening our relationship in the future.

TRIBUTE TO TAIWAN

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in extending my congratulations to the people of Taiwan on the occasion of 94 years of progress.

In recent years, Taiwan has become a model society. It has excellent schools, outstanding medical care, a strong economy, and many of its people enjoy one of the highest standards of living. Taiwan's social welfare programs have been laudable efforts to raise the standard of living for all. Moreover, Taiwan's constitution guarantees its citizens basic civil liberties, including freedom of peaceful assembly and association, freedom of speech and press, and freedom of religion. Taiwan's full commitment to democracy and human rights is commendable.

We are very appreciative of Taiwan's commitment to fight global terrorism, particularly by cooperating with our law enforcement agencies in sharing intelligence and doing everything possible to protect American interests in Taiwan. We are also aware of Taiwan's contributions to the Twin Towers Fund, the Pentagon Memorial Fund and to the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

We wish the 23 million people of Taiwan continued progress and prosperity.

HONORING CAVION JAMIK
HOLLOWAY

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to a courageous person—a giant among men—that touched many lives in the short seven years he was with us.

Cavion Jamik Holloway slipped the surly bonds of this earth on the wings of angels to the heavens above on September 28th 2005 in Omaha, Nebraska. This is a boy who never gave up and had the courage of a lion, the ferocity of a bear, and the tenderness of a dove to fight the scourge of leukemia until it overcame his body—not his soul.

Cavion is survived by a loving mother, Danielle Holloway, a devout father, Billy Holloway and four compassionate grandparents, Americo and Mary Flaiban of Bohemia, New York and Billy and Anne Holloway of Warner Robins, Georgia.

For over a year, Cavion went toe-to-toe with a disease that ravages the body and demoralizes the soul. Despite this overwhelming challenge, Cavion stood tall with a smile on his face and faith in his heart that he would win this battle and return to a life free of doctors, needles and hospital rooms. With the total dedication of his parents, Cavion knew that courage, conviction, and faith would be his partners on the journey to a life free of this disease. Unfortunately, his body succumbed to the challenges his brain refused to accept. Simply put—Cavion never quit!

Now in the heavens above, Cavion is charged with the duty of serving our Heavenly Father by looking over the family that survived him. To quote one of the many well wishers who left notes for Cavion and his parents, "Cavion will sing to you in the wind; he will call to you from your dreams; he will walk beside you and whisper in your ears—he will always be there with you."

During this fight, Cavion had help from many compassionate folks around this country. I would like to take this opportunity to express a special thanks to the medical professionals that never gave up and were constantly a source of encouragement and compassion for Cavion and his parents. I would like to specifically thank the staff of the University of New Mexico's Pediatric Oncology Department, especially Dr. Jeff Hanrahan, aka "The Commissioner of the Albuquerque Chapter of Hoccerball" and their counterparts at the University of Nebraska's Medical Center, specifically Dr. Bruce Gordon, aka "Doc Hollywood".

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not mention the fact that each one of us has an opportunity to help champions like Cavion have a fighting chance at life. I would like to encourage every eligible person to enroll themselves in the National Marrow Donor Program. This program helps people who need a life-saving marrow or blood cell transplant. The program connects patients, doctors, donors and researchers to resources they need to help folks live longer, healthier lives.

As the days move on, all who knew Cavion will work to lift their hearts and souls to carry on with life. In doing this, we will continue to

cherish his memory; we will point to his selfless example; we will aspire to his bravery; and we will carry on in a world that is better for knowing him. May God bless his soul and the family he is charged to protect.

CONGRATULATING DR. JOHN HALL
FOR WINNING THE 2005 NOBEL
PRIZE FOR PHYSICS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the tremendous accomplishment of one of my constituents. The Royal Swedish Academy of Science awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics to Dr. John Hall of Boulder, Colorado. Dr. Hall and Dr. Theodor Haensch of Munich, Germany won the Nobel Prize for the development of a laser-based precision spectroscopy.

Dr. Hall is a JILA fellow at the University of Colorado and a senior scientist with the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Quantum Physics Division. Dr. Hall has received a series of awards in his distinguished career, including the Department of Commerce Gold Medal on three separate occasions in 1969, 1974, and 2002. He also became a member of the National Academy of Sciences in 1984.

In 1999, Dr. Haensch made a discovery that lasers with short pulses could be used to measure optical frequencies in cesium clocks. Through this the optical frequency comb technique that is based on the evenly distributed frequencies that appear like the teeth of a comb was developed. While the distance between frequencies can be defined through this technique, it did not determine the absolute value of the frequency. In 2000, Dr. Hall developed a simple formula to determine frequency displacement, thus stabilizing the frequency. Haensch and Hall worked together to develop an instrument that currently has wide commercial use.

This instrument can measure frequencies with an accuracy of fifteen digits. Their work has wide ranging application that can improve communication and animation technology, and potentially benefit navigation for spacecraft. Their work also can enable the study of stability of constants of nature over time, improve Global Positioning System, and develop more accurate clocks.

It is clear that their discoveries have opened doors into many sectors of research and industries. The potential for new knowledge is vast and wide ranging. NIST, JILA, and the University of Colorado can now boast three Nobel Laureates, which is testament to the groundbreaking and vital research being performed at these institutions. I am honored that these facilities are located within the Second Congressional District, and particularly honored that Dr. Hall has chosen to perform this research in Colorado. He is an asset to our scientific community, and is an inspiration for many young people who may want to pursue their interests in science.

I, again, congratulate Dr. Hall on his remarkable achievement and the honor that has been bestowed upon him.

RECOGNIZING JUDITH LAPP OF
INVERNESS, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judith Lapp of Inverness, Florida. Mrs. Lapp was recently honored as "The Most Admired Mother in All of Citrus County" by the Citrus Altrusa Club, as well as the Citrus County Chronicle.

Born and raised in Buffalo, New York, Mrs. Lapp married her husband Roger in 1956. After Roger was drafted into the U.S. Army, the Lapps moved to Fort Benning, Georgia for his military service. In 1963, Mrs. Lapp and her husband moved to Clearwater, Florida to start a family. Sadly, only four months after their first son Eric was born, he had an extremely serious seizure that changed the Lapps' lives forever.

The seizure, which was caused by an encephalitis outbreak, left Eric with epilepsy, cerebral palsy, and mental retardation. When Judith first began to deal with the challenges of a disabled son, she found that there were few programs in the region that dealt with disabled and handicapped children. Spurred to action, Judith served on the board of both the Christian Care Foundation for the Mentally Retarded and the Isaiah Foundation. Her work on these charitable organizations improved respite care for the handicapped throughout Florida.

One of the most successful fundraisers Judith organized was for the Upper Pinellas County Florida Association for Retarded Citizens. Called "Favorite Recipes from Famous People," Judith was able to obtain recipes from the likes of Jackie Kennedy, Patricia Nixon, and Mamie Eisenhower.

While Eric is now grown and well cared for, Judith has shouldered burdens of her own. She has successfully battled cancer twice, all while being an incredibly supportive figure for her entire family.

Mr. Speaker, Judith Lapp is a courageous, giving woman. She is a role model for the entire Citrus County community, and deserves recognition for her service to the handicapped and disabled community, her son Eric, and to her family.

NATIONAL FORESTS REHABILITATION
AND RECOVERY ACT OF
2005

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to authorize the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to carry out five collaboratively created pilot projects dealing with post-disturbance rehabilitation.

For those communities that remain at risk from wildland fire or other disturbances, it is important to consider, in advance, scenarios

for rehabilitation should a wildland fire, insect infestation, hurricane, or other disturbance event occur. The National Forests Rehabilitation and Recovery Act does just that—this legislation promotes pro-active planning and collaboration to accelerate the approval of rehabilitation projects following uncharacteristic disturbance events.

The National Forests Rehabilitation and Recovery Act will create five pilot projects for post-disturbance rehabilitation. Federal forest land communities can apply to participate in the pilot program by meeting a number of different criteria, with specific consideration given to communities that have a proven track record of working in a collaborative manner to resolve natural resource issues.

This bill includes independent, third-party monitoring of the forest areas following rehabilitation operations to track the short-term and long-term impacts of logging, replanting, stream restoration, road removal, or other rehabilitation activities. The legislation further creates a National Oversight Committee of scientists to provide scientific and socioeconomic monitoring and evaluation of the pilot program. The National Oversight Committee will submit reports to Congress on the short and long-term results of the pilot project. The results of this report will allow Congress to make the most informed decisions on post-disturbance rehabilitation in the future.

Community collaboration has shown great promise in resolving controversial issues before Federal agencies. While I reserved concerns with the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003, Public law 108-148, one good that came out of the legislation is that it recognized the promise in collaboration by encouraging the development of community wildfire protection plans. These plans have allowed communities across the country to work in a collaborative manner to resolve natural resource issues concerning wildfire protection.

There is no doubt that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. When Congress passed the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003, Congress clearly recognized the priority of preventing wildfires through active thinning of Federal lands in the wildland-urban interface. It is just common sense that we need to invest more on the front end in the name of fire prevention to avert major spending postfire.

While I believe that there were inadequacies with the Healthy Forests Restoration Act, I do believe that we are being penny wise and pound foolish by cheating our budget for forest thinning. To date, forest thinning has not been funded nearly to the level of what was Congressionally authorized. This needs to improve for the sake of protecting our communities and public lands.

Mr. Speaker, the National Forests Rehabilitation and Recovery Act represents a balanced and collaborative approach to post-disturbance rehabilitation. I am pleased to introduce my legislation today with my colleagues Mr. NICK RAHALL and Mr. RAÚL GRIJALVA. I urge my other colleagues to support this bill so that we can promote a collaborative approach to restoring forest ecosystem health and diversity following unusually intense disturbances.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED
SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. Chairman, regarding the authority of Indian tribes under H.R. 3824, nothing in the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act is intended, or shall be construed to expand, diminish or alter the authority of Indian tribes, as defined in this bill, with respect to the management of fish and wildlife on non-reservation lands.

In Addition, H.R. 3824 repeals the Endangered Species Act critical habitat requirements; however, it preserves the impact analysis requirement at the time of listing. Using language similar to that now located at Endangered Species Act section 4(b)(2), 16 U.S.C. 1533(b)(2), FWS is required to analyze the economic impact and benefit of the listing determination; the impact and benefit on national security of that determination; and any other relevant impact and benefit of that determination. For each listing, the Fish and Wildlife Service analysis may conclude that there is no benefit, or it may conclude that there is a benefit, and that benefit must be based on reasonably ascertainable and calculable data. H.R. 3824 clarifies that the listing decision continues to be made solely on the basis of the criteria enumerated in section 4(a)(1).

H.R. 3824 requires, and the Resources Committee fully expects, that the Fish and Wildlife Service will perform this analysis concurrently with all listing decisions. Further, by expanding the scope of the analysis to include all consequences of the listing (rather than those attributable to critical habitat designation), the Committee expects the impact analyses under H.R. 3824 will be better and more useful than those prepared under current law. This impact analysis requirement will provide not only legal notice, but truly meaningful information concerning proposed listing decisions to all those affected, including individuals, corporations, property owners, State and local governments, the military services, and other Federal agencies. It is expected that this opportunity for greater participation by all potentially affected parties at the front end of the listing process will provide additional assurance that the Fish and Wildlife Service will adequately consider all relevant data associated with each proposal to list a species. Further, the Committee expects that the Fish and Wildlife Service will take advantage of developments that have occurred in genetics testing and other technical advances in the years since enactment of the original Endangered Species Act, to make the most scientifically sound listing decisions possible.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED
SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. Chairman, recently the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3824, the "Threatened and Endangered Species Act of 2005." During floor consideration of this important measure, the distinguished Chairman of the Resources Committee, Richard Pombo, offered an en bloc amendment to the bill. This amendment, which was adopted, included my provision to require the four Power Marketing Administrations, PMAs, to list Endangered Species Act-related costs as a line-item in each of their customers' monthly billings. These agencies—the Bonneville Power Administration, the Western Area Power Administration, the Southwestern Power Administration and the Southeastern Power Administration—market the surplus hydropower generated at Federal dams, selling this electricity to 1,450 wholesale customers throughout the Nation. These customers, in turn, provide this federally generated electricity to almost 54 million retail consumers.

The Endangered Species Act substantially impacts Federal electricity service and rates. For instance, the Bonneville Power Administration and the Western Area Power Administration experience high, double-digit compliance costs for Endangered Species Act and related statutes. During a hearing earlier this year, the House Resources Committee found that compliance played a significant role in recent rate increases and led to higher energy costs that were passed directly to consumers.

The Bonneville Power Administration spends the most of all Federal agencies to comply with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act. It also has similar responsibilities under the Northwest Power Act. Many have pushed the agency to increase the accountability of its rapidly growing fish and wildlife programs and to develop measurable performance objectives that will lead to long-term stability and recovery of certain species. The intent of this provision, however, is limited to requiring that the PMAs notify electric power customers how these programs impact their monthly electric rates.

As the bill language in Section 23 makes clear, the agency and the other PMAs shall inform their customers of all the direct and indirect costs associated with meeting Endangered Species Act and other related fish and wildlife obligations. While the PMAs have provided general costs associated with the Endangered Species Act in past years, the agencies have not provided their customers a detailed or "unbundled" explanation of these costs. This section simply gives electricity consumers the right to know how much of their monthly bills are being used to comply with the requirements of the Endangered Species Act and related programs. That enables cus-

tomers to make informed decisions about their energy choices, as well as to better understand the market implications of public policies. Without such information, customers are deprived of the kind of cost signal that is essential to an efficient free-market economy.

It is my understanding that the authorizing committees expect the PMAs to provide a detailed explanation of these monthly costs in a readable and transparent format. It is important that the PMAs consult with their customers before implementing this provision. In addition, it is my understanding that the PMAs can comply with this section without hiring additional staff or upgrading computer systems since it simply involves the creation of new computer billing codes.

Mr. Chairman, in conclusion, I thank Chairman POMBO for including my provision in H.R. 3824. I look forward to working with him and my Senate colleagues in seeing this important bill enacted.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the following vote on Tuesday, September 27 and Wednesday, September 28, 2005, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 501: I would have voted "aye" on the Department of Justice Authorization Act, H.R. 3402. Despite passage of the Manager's amendment, this bill does ensure that programs which help prevent violence and assist survivors are continued. I also support provisions in this bill that help local communities with additional resources to provide better support and security to victims of domestic violence.

Rollcall vote 500: I would have voted "aye" on the Democratic Motion to Recommit, offered by Representative STUPAK, which would have given the Justice Department authority to prosecute oil companies engaged in price gouging.

Rollcall vote 499: I would have voted "nay" on the Managers Amendment offered by Representative SENSENBRENNER. The amendment significantly weakens the bill's emphasis on domestic violence grant funding for communities of color. Racial and ethnic minorities already face complex issues in reporting and accessing assistance for domestic violence; we cannot shortchange this population.

Rollcall vote 498: I would have voted "nay" on the Rule for consideration of H.R. 3402, because it did not allow for consideration of many important Democratic and bipartisan amendments.

Rollcall vote 497: I would have voted "aye" on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2360, offered by Representative SABO, which would have prevented the reorganization of the Department of Homeland Security from further weakening federal emergency preparedness capability.

Rollcall vote 496: I would have voted "aye" on H. Con. Res. 209, supporting the goals and ideals of Domestic Violence Awareness Month and expressing the sense of Congress that Congress should raise awareness of domestic

violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families.

Rollcall vote 495: I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 438, a bill to name a postal facility in Berkeley, California, after Maudelle Shirek. Ms. Shirek has provided a significant service to this country fighting against injustice, poverty, and housing discrimination.

Rollcall vote 494: I would have voted "aye" on H.J. Res. 66, supporting the goals and ideals of "Lights On Afterschool," a national celebration of after-school programs.

IN HONOR OF GARY ANUND
KNUTSON

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank Gary Anund Knutson, a dedicated public servant. Mr. Knutson, County Auditor-Controller of Santa Cruz, will retire after 35 years of public service, 19 of which were spent as the County Auditor-Controller. Mr. Knutson will be retiring on December 30, 2005, bringing an end to nearly four decades of outstanding service.

Mr. Knutson, who has spent a great deal of time maintaining a great working environment in his office, has decided to pursue other ambitions. His retirement will be enjoyed spending time on other personal activities. Mr. Knutson has done an exceptional job and his service is truly appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, when he retires, Gary Anund Knutson will be leaving behind 35 years of excellence and professionalism. I applaud Mr. Knutson for his work and contributions. He has left a lasting impact on his community, and we would like to wish him well in his upcoming retirement.

ON THE OCCASION OF TAIWAN'S
NATIONAL DAY OF CELEBRATION

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, the Republic of China (Taiwan) will be celebrating its National Day this October 10, and I wish to express my congratulations to Taiwan President Chen Shuibian and the people of Taiwan.

Over the years, Taiwan and the United States have enjoyed strong trading relations. Trade between our two countries have been growing steadily. As a member of the House Agriculture Committee, I notice that Taiwan is one of our best buyers of agricultural products and services. Last month, Taiwan sent an agricultural goodwill mission to the United States and it pledged to purchase more than three billions dollars worth of U.S. corn, wheat, soybeans and hide in the next two years. I will encourage farmers in my home state of North Carolina to take advantage of Taiwan's "Buy American" program.

Also, as a member of the Armed Services Committee, I am hopeful that there will be permanent peace and stability in the Taiwan Strait in the very near future.

Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to praise the good work of Taiwan Representative David Tawei Lee. He is a fine diplomat who has kept us informed and well briefed on all of the latest developments in Taiwan.

Happy Birthday to Taiwan.

RECOGNITION OF DR. KERRY
CLEGG

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Kerry Clegg, a school board member for the Sulphur Springs Union Elementary School District in my district, for his service as the 2004-2005 President of the California School Boards Association.

As a sixteen year member of the Sulphur Springs Union Elementary School District board of trustees, Dr. Clegg served three terms as president. In addition, Dr. Clegg served as president and secretary-treasurer for the Santa Clarita Valley School Trustees Association.

His contributions to the California School Boards Association have distinguished him as instrumental in answering the needs of California schools. In addition to his role as president this past year, Dr. Clegg served as a representative in CSBA's Delegate Assembly and as an active member of CSBA's Board of Directors for four years. Among Dr. Clegg's further contributions to the CSBA are his roles on CSBA's Budget Committee, Nominating Committee, Policy Platform Committee, Federal Issues Council, K-Higher Education Remediation Task Force, and as a site validator for CSBA's Golden Bell Awards. In 2004, Dr. Clegg also chaired CSBA's Legislative Committee, and this year, he is chairing the Joint Task Force on Science, the Education Legal Alliance Steering Committee, and the Superintendents Council. His contributions are currently reaching a national level as he serves as a delegate to the National School Boards Association.

Dr. Kerry Clegg graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles with a doctorate in Biology. Outside of his California School Boards Association duties, Dr. Clegg is a biological research manager for Sepulveda Research Corporation, and is also the CEO of a local Federal Credit Union. He and his wife, Rosanna, have five children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Dr. Kerry Clegg for his service to the Sulphur Springs Union Elementary School District and for his service as president of the California School Boards Association.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
UNITED STATES CAPITOL PAGE
SCHOOL CLASS OF 1981 ON THEIR
REUNION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, it is great pride that I rise to congratulate the United

States Capitol Page School Class of 1981 on their upcoming 25th anniversary. The Class of 1981 served the Congress honorably both in this chamber and in the other body.

Over the past 25 years these young men and women have started families and become leaders in our society.

As they gather in our Nation's Capital for their reunion this weekend, I offer my congratulations on behalf this body and ask all of my colleagues to welcome them back to the hallowed halls of Congress.

HONORING NATIONAL SCHOOL
LUNCH WEEK

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize National School Lunch Week. This year, the event is being held during the week of October 10-14, 2005. In honor of this event, I would like to take a moment to share with you a few facts relating to the National School Lunch Program:

President Harry Truman established the National School Lunch Program in 1946 in response to the large number of World War II recruits that were rejected due to malnutrition.

Today, the school lunch program serves more than 28 million students each day.

Just over half of those students who participate in the school lunch program receive their lunch free or at a reduced cost.

Over 92 percent of all students nationwide have access to school lunch and about 58 percent of those students participate on a given day.

The school lunch program operates in 99 percent of all public schools and 85 percent of private schools. That's a total of 99,538 public and non-profit private schools.

The National School Lunch Program is the largest of the federal child nutrition programs both in terms of spending and children served.

In fiscal year 2005, \$6.8 billion was appropriated for the school lunch program.

For some children, a school lunch is the only healthy meal they eat all day. School lunches can contribute positively to children's health, and can improve academic performance by increasing children's learning capacity and lengthening their attention spans. The National School Lunch Program plays an important role in protecting the health and well-being of many of the nation's school-age children.

I commend the nation's dedicated educators, food service professionals, and most of all, parents who work to ensure the ongoing success of the National School Lunch Program, and to ensure that children have access to nutritious and balanced meals at school.

A TRIBUTE TO TIBOR (TED)
RUBIN—RECIPIENT OF THE CON-
GRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR

TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to

Tibor (Ted) Rubin, who received the Medal of Honor from President George W. Bush at a ceremony in the White House just a few days ago for his heroic and extraordinarily selfless acts during the Korean War. His story is inspirational and his deeds are stirring and should be known by all Americans.

Mr. Rubin was born between the First and Second World Wars in Paszto, Hungary, a small Jewish village of only 120 people in 1929. At age 13, he was shipped to the Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria, where he spent 14 months. When he was liberated by American troops, he was starving and on the brink of death. Although Tibor survived, both his parents and two of his sisters perished in the Holocaust.

Mr. Speaker, Tibor Rubin immigrated to New York in 1948 where he worked first as a shoemaker and later as a butcher. When he attempted to enter the U.S. Army butcher's school in 1949, he was denied admission after failing the English test, but in 1950 he passed. By July of that year, he was assigned to the infantry and stationed on the front lines in Korea. Mr. Rubin volunteered for missions that no one else would undertake. On one occasion, he secured the retreat route for his company by single-handedly defending a hill for 24 hours against waves of North Korean soldiers.

In October 1950 a massive Chinese attack was mounted across the border into North Korea. The offensive surprised Americans troops, including Tibor Rubin's unit. After most of his regiment had been wiped out and he was severely wounded, he was captured and spent the next 30 months in a prisoner of war camp. The Chinese offered him food and a chance to go back to Hungary throughout his ordeal, but he refused to leave his American brothers. Mr. Rubin would sneak out of the his prison every night and steal food from Chinese and North Korean supply depots and feed the rest of his fellow POWs with the food he found. His fellow prisoners felt that he single-handedly kept 35 men alive.

He became an American citizen after returning from Korea in 1953. Tibor was found to be 100 percent disabled by his war-time injuries by the Veterans Administration. He tried to return to his profession as a butcher, but his injuries prevented that. Today, Mr. Rubin lives in Garden Grove, California, with his wife of 42 years, Yvonne, a Dutch Holocaust survivor, and they have two children—a son, Frank, an Air Force veteran, and a daughter, Rosalyn.

Mr. Speaker, for his outstanding military service, Tibor Rubin was recommended four times for the Congressional Medal of Honor by his commanding officers and comrades, twice for the Distinguished Service Cross and twice for the Silver Star—but he did not receive any of these honors, though he did receive two Purple Hearts. Tibor's immediate superiors recommended him for the Medal of Honor, but before the paperwork could be processed these officers were killed, and a sergeant who might have sent the papers up refused to do so because Tibor was Jewish. "Not on my watch," he reportedly said.

Because of his remarkable bravery and courage in Korea, private bills were introduced in the Congress on a number of occasions to give him the honor he deserved. Finally, just a few days ago, the long-delayed but richly-deserved Medal of Honor was presented to Tibor Ruben by the President.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the heroism of Ted

Ruben, and extending to him our gratitude for his service to our country—service that was well above and beyond the call of duty.

WHAT EMANCIPATION MEANS TO JAMAICA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 167th anniversary of Jamaican Emancipation, established on August 1, 1838.

On August 1, 1838, when the enslaved Jamaicans found out that they were freed, tears flowed incessantly, while shouts of freedom rang from every direction. The sentiment of the day was jubilation; however, there was an underlying reverence for the freedom of hundreds of thousands enslaved men, women, and children. They had been freed from the oppressive social and economic system to which they had been subjected to for generations.

Similar to the Quakers in the United States, the Quakers of Jamaica were very instrumental in aiding the fight for the abolition of slavery. Many of them started campaigns against the slave system, one of which was led by the "Society for Effecting the Abolition of the Slave Trade". This community of abolitionists believed that slavery was against the will of God and a denial of civilization. Freedom and only freedom was and is the true natural state of man. The booming rise in the sugar industry quickly fostered economic excuses in favor of slavery, which quashed the Quaker's efforts within the 17th century.

However, entrance into the 18th century, and the initial decline of the sugar industry ushered in much opportunity that encouraged a resurgence of the abolitionist movement within Jamaica. In 1807, abolitionists gained their first victory through the "Total and Immediate Abolition of the Slave Trade" in the British Parliament, ending Jamaican involvement in the Trans Atlantic Slave Trade, cutting off their human cargo from Africa and the influx of more potential slaves. Meanwhile, enslaved Jamaicans were taking their freedom into their own hands through the many slave revolts staged across the island. The most famous revolt took place a few days after Christmas in 1831. Reverend Samuel Sharpe, who was a leader of a secret society of slaves, and is today recognized as a national hero of Jamaica, planned that the slaves should simply stop work, present their demand for freedom, and then hold fast in resistance until the demand was met, which was one of the first acts of organized civil disobedience, prior to our modern day examples. However, the slaves still armed themselves, in case they needed to defend themselves, as of course they did. The strike turned into a running series of fights, which accumulated and spread, to over two hundred plantations. Slaves did not take the initiative in attacking their white masters, but they did systematically destroy plantation houses and equipment. Within a short time, they had control over settlements and communications in virtually all the western end of the island. This 10 day rebellion mobilized some 60,000 slaves, numbers that quickly got the attention of Parliament.

With the possibility of a general uprising looming, the idea of abolishing slavery was once again proposed to Parliament. In 1833, it decided that slavery was no longer an effective economic system. The Emancipation Act of 1834 declared that all enslaved peoples under the age of six and those born after the enactment of the bill were legally free. Those who were older were forced to become apprenticed to their former masters up until August 1, 1838, after which they would be free. Indeed, in 1838 all those who were once enslaved were made free.

Emancipation Day is celebrated across the island within churches and town squares where there are a variety of all night vigils that take place. Then at midnight, there is a nation wide celebration of drumming, pealing of bells, and much more which carry on into the dawn of the "First of August". All this is done to simulate or re-create the atmosphere that existed during that morning when slavery was abolished. The celebration of Emancipation Day is of the utmost importance to the historical integrity of Jamaica. It not only pays homage to those millions of Africans that were subjected to one of the worst crimes against humanity, it provides a historical foundation for the country to evolve from. As Rev. Dr. Burchell K. Taylor, Pastor of Bethel Baptist Church, states "an event as significant as the Emancipation of our people from slavery and all it signifies in terms of human cruelty, suffering, sacrifice, folly, courage, deception, greed, triumph of the human spirit and faith and hope, cannot be allowed to slip from our collective memory. There are lessons to be learned that are of lasting value. Remembering Emancipation can itself be an ongoing liberating experience."

I submit to you an editorial written by the Honorable P.J. Patterson, Prime Minister of Jamaica, found in the August 9th edition of the *CaribNews* newspaper, addressing the people of Jamaica and the significant lessons that this celebration brings with its 167th year.

There are many lessons that we, the U.S., can learn from Jamaica and its national and cultural acceptance of their past. We truly cannot know where we as a country are headed unless we first recognize, reconcile and then celebrate our history, all of our history. Emancipation is a celebration that should not be reserved for those who are descendants of slaves and abolitionists. As the Prime Minister suggests, "the abolition of slavery meant more than the emancipation of slaves. It also meant the emancipation of those who held them in bondage, at least from the burden of callousness and greed-factors that devalue human life and desecrate any society intended to nurture that life." We too must engage in similar reconciliatory celebrations and find strength in our past.

WHAT EMANCIPATION MEANS TO JAMAICA AND ITS PEOPLE

(By P.J. Patterson)

One hundred and sixty seven years ago, our forebears gathered in churches all over this island (of Jamaica) to give thanks for the release of some 400,000 former slaves into full freedom. On that day, a clear message was sent to the world that, as children of a Common Creator, no one could rightly, justly or morally be the property of another.

The assertive character of Jamaican has never allowed us to sit idly by and allow that part of our history to be either forgotten or ignored. It is our solemn duty to secure the gains won by the invincibility of the human

spirit against such great odds with passion and loving care.

We are about to celebrate yet again that freedom which set hundreds of thousands of our ancestors free and to give the society they were to inherit, as free men and free women, the capacity to become civil, tolerant and enduringly humane.

The great Haitian leader, Touissant l'Ouverture in his memorable reply to the President of France, the colonial ruler asserted (and I quote) "It is not a circumstantial liberty conceded to us that we wish, but the unequivocal adoption of the principle that no man whether he is born red, black or white can become the property of his fellow man".

It is that spirit of determination to effect human equity and equality for which we here in Jamaica have struggled, regardless of race, colour, political affiliation or creed.

The celebration of August First, then, remains an important observance for all who inhabit this land of ours. Today's challenges may appear formidable. But the fact that our forebears could overcome the greatest hardship of all—that of being enslaved—is cause enough, both for hope and for the strengthening of our resolve, to overcome every obstacle.

We dare not betray the trust placed in us who have come after the generation of 1838. We must never give up the fight to become the self-directed, liberated human beings we were created to be.

The abolition of slavery meant more than the emancipation of the slaves. It also meant the emancipation of those who held them in bondage, at least from the burden of callousness and greed—factors that devalue human life and desecrate any society intended to nurture that life.

So, let us again say thanks for that Emancipation which allowed thousands of others, whose descendants now call Jamaica "home", to enter a free society. They were still being exploited on contract during the period of indentured labour, but at least there were prescribed rules of engagement covering conditions of work.

They bequeathed this precious legacy to our workers and their trade unions, to our professionals and their staff associations, to our citizens and their right to choose their leaders who hold power in trust on their behalf. It was this legacy which was to help guide us into Independence, another milestone that we will observe in a few days. This legacy set us on the road to civil society, democratic governance and peaceful co-existence.

Our Emancipation Day observance is therefore a fitting tribute to that legacy of determination and inner strength which our freedom-loving ancestors have given to posterity.

May I wish blessed and pleasant Emancipation Day to everyone!

(P.J. Patterson is Jamaica's Prime Minister. The Emancipation Day Message was read to hundreds of worshippers at a Thanksgiving Service on Sunday afternoon at Hanson Place Central Methodist Church in Brooklyn by Dr. Basil Bryan, Jamaica's Consul-General in New York).

INTRODUCTION OF THE AFFORDABLE GAS PRICE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Affordable Gas Price Act. This legislation

reduces gas prices by reforming government policies that artificially inflate the price of gas. As I need not remind my colleagues, the American people have been hard hit in recent months by skyrocketing gas prices. In some parts of the country, gas prices have risen to as much as \$4 per gallon.

This increase in the price of gas threatens our already fragile economy and diminishes the quality of life for all Americans. One industry that is particularly hard hit is the trucking industry. The effects of high gas prices on the trucking industry will be reflected in increased costs for numerous consumer goods, thus further harming American consumers.

Unfortunately, many proposals to address the problem of higher energy prices involve increasing government interference in the market through policies such as price controls. These big government solutions will, at best, prove ineffective and, at worst, bring back the fuel shortages and gas lines of the seventies.

Instead of expanding government, Congress should repeal Federal laws and policies that raise the price of gas, either directly through taxes or indirectly through regulations that discourage the development of new fuel sources. This is why my legislation repeals the Federal moratorium on offshore drilling and allows oil exploration in the ANWR reserve in Alaska. My bill also ensures that the National Environmental Policy Act's environmental impact statement requirement will no longer be used as a tool to force refiners to waste valuable time and capital on nuisance litigation. The Affordable Gas Price Act also provides tax incentives to encourage investment in new refineries.

Federal fuel taxes are a major part of gasoline's cost. The Affordable Gas Price Act suspends the Federal gasoline tax any time the average gas prices exceeds \$3 per gallon. During the suspension, the Federal Government will have a legal responsibility to ensure the Federal highway trust fund remains funded. My bill also raises the amount of mileage reimbursement not subject to taxes, and, during times of high oil prices, provides the same mileage reimbursement benefit to charity and medical organizations as provided to businesses.

Misguided and outdated trade policies are also artificially raising the price of gas. For instance, even though Russia and Kazakhstan allow their citizens the right and opportunity to emigrate, they are still subject to Jackson-Vanik sanctions, even though Jackson-Vanik was a reaction to the Soviet Union's highly restrictive emigration policy. Eliminating Jackson-Vanik's threat of trade-restricting sanctions would increase the United States access to oil supplies from non-Arab countries. Thus, my bill terminates the application of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974 to Russia and Kazakhstan, allowing Americans to enjoy the benefits of free trade with these oil-producing nations.

Finally, the Affordable Gas Price Act creates a Federal study on how the abandonment of the gold standard and the adoption of freely floating currencies are affecting the price of oil. It is no coincidence that oil prices first became an issue shortly after President Nixon unilaterally severed the dollar's last connection to gold. The system of fiat money makes consumers vulnerable to inflation and to constant fluctuations in the prices of essential goods such as oil.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the Affordable Gas Price Act and end government policies that increase the cost of gasoline.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF KEVORK "GEORGE" ARSLANIAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mr. Kevork "George" Arslanian, loving family man, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and dear friend to many, as his friends and loved ones gather in honor and celebration of his 100th birthday.

Mr. Arslanian's life reflects a brilliant spectrum of survival, courage, tenacity, triumph, devotion to family and service to others. As a young child, Mr. Arslanian and his two brothers became orphans. During WWI, 40 members of the Arslanian family, including their father and mother, were killed in the horrific Armenian massacre by the Turkish military. The Armenian genocide resulted in the deaths of 1.5 million Armenians. A Turkish neighbor hid the three boys in her home, saving their lives. Soon after, they were sent to a Red Cross orphanage in Syria, where they barely survived among 60,000 other orphans.

Throughout their years of struggle, Mr. Arslanian and his brothers remained focused on the promise of a new life in America. They left the Syrian orphanage and journeyed to Cuba, from where they had heard that entry into the U.S. would be easier. They soon discovered this was not the truth. The children spent 5 years in Cuba, surviving with nothing more than their own determination, courage and the promise of reaching the shores of America. In 1927, the boys, who had by now become young men, made the escape out of Cuba as stowaways on a ship that delivered them to a life of freedom, hope and possibility in America.

The Arslanian brothers settled with relatives in Cleveland. Mr. Arslanian attended Miller Barber College in Cleveland, where he initially honed the art of his trade without pay. He then earned twenty dollars a week for 25 cent hair cuts. He soon became a licensed barber—the 11th in the State of Ohio, and in 1932, opened up his own shop in Garfield Heights. Six days a week for seventy-five years, Mr. Arslanian worked in the shop with his brother, and continued giving hair cuts until just a couple of years ago. Together, Mr. Arslanian and his beloved, late wife, Virginia, raised three sons. George and Virginia Arslanian were married for 67 years. Mr. Arslanian, one hundred years young, continues to be the foundation, center and light of his family—a family that includes his three sons, seven grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren.

His life-long devotion to his family and to his shop extends throughout the community, and is evidenced within his strong faith and his dedication to preserving the history, faith and culture of Armenia. Mr. Arslanian continues to be deeply involved with the Armenian Orthodox Church, and led the effort to establish St. Gregory of Narek Armenian Church. His unwavering support for immigrant families and for the preservation of Armenian culture is reflected in his long-time involvement with the

Armenian General Benevolent Union and the Tekeyan Cultural Society.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mr. Kevork "George" Arslanian, whose brave heart, warm smile and fascinating life continues to educate and inspire those who know and love him well, especially his family and friends. Mr. Arslanian's life, outlined by hard work, integrity and family, personifies the phrase 'American citizen.'

The remarkable story of the young Arslanian brothers, their courageous journey and creation of new lives in America, is the story of the American immigrant, retold in a thousand languages, connecting all of humanity by the will to survive and the promise of freedom and peace. The incredible journey of citizens such as Kevork "George" Arslanian is the strength and foundation of our country. In honor of Mr. Arslanian's 100th birthday, we offer him an abundance of peace, health and happiness, and offer our gratitude to him for enriching our community and our nation. His great love for his family, community and for his beloved Armenia, transcends time and distance, serving as a bridge of goodwill, forever connecting America to Armenia.

TRIBUTE TO CATHOLIC CHARITIES

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and commend Catholic Charities, an organization that is celebrating 50 years of service to the Santa Clara Valley community.

Catholic Charities strives to empower the working poor to move beyond basic subsistence to a state of meaningful, quality living by encouraging economic, familial and emotional stability. It does this by developing cultural programs, supplying educational resources about ailments affecting older adults, and providing all of its services in various languages.

While born out of Catholic gospel values, Catholic Charities serves people of all beliefs, cultures, ethnicities and ages. The organization's mission is to create a more just and compassionate community in which people of all cultures and beliefs can fully participate and thrive. They serve a diverse population from various ethnic backgrounds including Vietnamese, Chinese, Filipino, Mexican, Sudanese and Bosnian people. The agency works under the premise that the most effective way to affect a person is to connect with them from their personal, cultural perspective.

Catholic Charities integrates services address the multiple factors that impact one's ability to be self sufficient and stable. Because these issues have an intergenerational impact, agency programs are geared across age groups to reach entire families. Their services include older adult programs, immigrant and refugee assistance, and housing programs. The agency also offers employment, youth, financial education and behavioral health services in addition to operating neighborhood centers.

I have worked with Catholic Charities for over twenty years, and I can tell you from first-

hand experience that I am proud of the leadership, volunteers and network of supporters whose dedication have built Catholic Charities into an integral part of the fabric of our local community.

INDUCTION OF THOMAS JAMES KATONA INTO THE UPPER PENINSULA LABOR HALL OF FAME

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a leader who truly left his mark on the labor movement in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan as well as throughout the United States. Thomas James Katona has increased union effectiveness by partnering the historic strengths of labor unions with the innovation of technology. Mr. Katona's induction into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame is warranted and deserved.

As a dedicated Staff Representative for the Office and Professional Employees International Union (O.P.E.I.U.), Local Union 512 of the AFL-CIO and a proud member of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW), Mr. Katona was a committed organizer of working people in the public and private sectors. He has devoted himself to their cause of fair and just representation in the work place.

Mr. Katona has been on the forefront of worker education by designing and delivering labor education classes for employees and staff. Always advocating for his membership, Mr. Katona was constantly arguing before the National Labor Relations Board, the Michigan Employment Relations Commission and Administrative Law Judges. He served his larger community as a volunteer mediator for the Delta County Resolution Services, UPCA and was an active member and participant in the Association Conflict Resolution.

Mr. Katona has been described by his union brothers and sisters as a great leader showing persistence and assertiveness as an advocate and problem solver for his union and fellow workers. Mr. Katona was a trusted labor and community leader.

However, while Mr. Katona will always be remembered by his colleagues and friends for many accomplishments, he has left his mark through his tireless commitment to the development and propagation of "cyber unionism" as a means of strengthening and improving communications within the labor movement. As a published author on the subject, Mr. Katona blazed the trail for technological improvements including helping trade unionists design, post and maintain Web pages, Web sites and e-mail magazines.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in thanking Mr. Thomas James Katona and his family for his dedication and service to the labor movement and to the Office and Professional Employees International Union, Local Union 512, AFL-CIO. Mr. Katona has more than earned his place in Michigan's Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame for his commitment to his community and the labor movement.

IN RECOGNITION OF HAROLD AND JUANITA BLAIR'S 57TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and honor Harold and Juanita Blair who celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary on September 15th. Harold and Juanita have been lifelong companions, having literally grown up next door to each other in North Braddock, Pennsylvania.

Their life together began when Harold asked Juanita out for a date on a dare during their high school years. Harold, who was 17 at the time, was a star on the high school basketball team, while Juanita, at 15, was focused on her school studies. As a result, Juanita didn't really take interest in him until after he had asked her out.

Because of America's culture of segregation during the 1940s, Harold was denied a basketball scholarship to any college, so he enlisted in the army, while Juanita attended college in Maryland.

After Harold was discharged from the Army, they married on September 15, 1948. However, because of their ages, they initially kept their marriage a secret from their families until they moved to Detroit, Michigan where they have lived since 1949.

They have three beautiful children: Harold Jr., Joseph and Lori, my daughter-in-law, and five beautiful grandchildren. Juanita still wears the original wedding ring that Harold gave her in 1948. And although over the years Harold has given Juanita newer and more expensive rings as a show of his love and affection, Juanita continues to wear the original ring that sealed their lifelong journey together.

In celebration of their more than half a century of devotion and love, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Harold and Juanita Blair as they celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary.

IN HONOR OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the National Conference of State Legislatures Leadership Institute for 10 years of dedication and excellence in the formation of effective public policy makers. Over 300 State Legislators have participated in the Leadership Institute through its first 10 years.

The National Conference of State Legislatures is a bi-partisan organization that serves the legislators and staffs of the United States and its commonwealths and territories. NCSL provides research, technical assistance, and a forum in which policy makers can exchange ideas.

The primary goals of NCSL are to improve the quality and effectiveness of state legislatures, to promote policy innovation and communication among state legislatures, and to

ensure state legislatures a strong, cohesive voice in the federal system.

The ideals of strong and effective leadership are the cornerstones upon which the NCSL Leadership Institute was founded. Leadership is an essential ingredient of any legislature. Moving beyond conflict and partisanship to meet the real needs of people is the fundamental test of legislative leadership.

The NCSL Leadership Institute seminars foster lively discussions and provocative case studies, where promising leaders can explore their common values and the future of the legislature in a bi-partisan setting.

Numerous State Legislators have attended the Leadership Institute in its 10 years of operation. The future of our government depends on the quality and creativity of the men and women who lead it and is imperative that we endorse programs that instill leadership qualities. On behalf of past, present and future Legislators, I extend my continued support and appreciation of the NCSL Leadership Institute.

HONORING THE MULTI-TALENTED SUGAR RAY ROBINSON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor the esteemed boxer Sugar Ray Robinson for his positive impact on the athletic world as one of the greatest boxers of all time, and to honor his service as a role model with an extraordinary positive influence on his community. Sugar Ray Robinson was a prime example of an American role model, a man from an era where blacks were seen and treated as second class citizens and he focused on his talent in order to achieve greatness, the story of a true hero. At a time when African American youth did not have African American icons to idolize; Sugar Ray more than filled this void, by being an enormous boxing influence to a variety of African American children, some of whom became Muhammad Ali, and Sugar Ray Leonard whom even took Robinson's nickname. He gave these kids something to believe in and something to be proud of.

The phrase "pound for pound the best" was coined in honor of Sugar Ray's boxing success, and has been used to reference successful boxers ever since. Walker "Sugar Ray" Smith was born in Detroit, Michigan in 1921. He began boxing as an amateur in New York City, where he quickly advanced to the professional circuit in 1940. New York has always been a tough city and to make it there as Sugar Ray Robinson did, you have to be among the best of the best. From 1946 to 1951 he became the world welterweight champion and the world middleweight title holder. Sugar Ray's athletic ability clearly outmatched his opponents, fight after fight. A fierce competitor, Sugar Ray's final record was an utterly amazing 174 wins, 109 of them being knockouts, and only 19 losses and 6 draws; this being a remarkable testament to Sugar Ray's amazing athletic accomplishments within the boxing circuit.

Sugar Ray Robinson was a Renaissance man; he did not restrict himself to solely box-

ing and athletics. He used his fame as keys to experiment in the musical world and also acting. Nevertheless his fame is attributed to his remarkable achievements in his boxing. He was one of the first athletic stars to cross over into different mediums of public spotlight. Sugar was known for his huge entourages and public displays of success, truly a man who enjoyed the life he lived. He showed generations of young African Americans that raw physical talent was not enough. Skill, ability and education were also important.

In 1989 Sugar Ray Robinson died a month before his birthday, leaving behind a plethora of fans, along with countless influences and friends. Sugar Ray Robinson represented hope and optimism for the African American community during an era of blatant and systematic racial oppression. He aided in racial relations in athletics while giving African Americans a sense of pride as an example of African American perseverance and strength over the negative barriers. Sugar Ray broke these barriers, charging forward for his people to be seen, to be respected and to be loved. It was a fight to show that African American people were not inferior and should be granted equal opportunity.

The African American hero, the American idol, Sugar Ray Robinson showed the American people a black man that was a powerful warrior, and clearly the best of his time in and out of the ring. I have reintroduced legislation in the 109th Congress to recognize the stellar career of Sugar Ray Robinson. It is an honor which Sugar Ray Robinson very well deserves and I truly hope my colleagues will join me in this effort.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NURSING HOME EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Nursing Home Emergency Assistance Act. This act makes private, for-profit nursing homes eligible for the same federal aid as is currently available to public nursing homes. Under current federal law, only public nursing homes may receive federal disaster assistance. However, hurricanes, tornadoes, and earthquakes do not distinguish between private and public, or for-profit and not-for-profit, nursing homes.

As I have recently seen in my district, all nursing homes face unique challenges coping with natural disasters and their aftermaths. It is not fair to the taxpayers who work in, reside in, or have entrusted the care of their loved ones to, a private nursing home that private nursing homes are denied the same federal aid available to their public counterparts. Mr. Speaker, the Nursing Home Emergency Assistance Act ensures all residents of nursing homes can benefit from federal disaster aid. I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE STOCK- YARD REDEVELOPMENT ORGANI- ZATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Stockyard Redevelopment Organization (SRO), which has done much to oversee the redevelopment of Cleveland's Stockyard neighborhood in Ohio's 10th Congressional District. Once the center of Cleveland's stockyard industry, this neighborhood, like many such neighborhoods in Cleveland and around the country in the decades following World War II, became blighted as companies fled to the suburbs, sunbelt, or overseas while residents followed the new free-ways out of town.

In March 2000, when SRO's newly appointed director Alex Brazynetz visited my office for the first time, he brought big dreams, significant problems, and a small request. His dream was the revitalization of this long-neglected inner city neighborhood. The problem was that the privately owned and crumbling West 67th Place was not eligible for highway funding or local road maintenance, while the owner was unable to provide the maintenance. The request was for a creative way to get this street fixed to retain the last remaining businesses and to attract new business to this blighted neighborhood. The key to overcoming the obstacle and realizing the dream was a federal Economic Development Administration (EDA) grant to fix West 6th Place.

In conjunction with the SRO, the Westside Industrial Retention and Expansion Network (WIRE-Net) and the EDA, the City of Cleveland agreed to purchase West 67th Place for a nominal fee, making the street eligible for a federal grant. The \$1.2 million grant was the key to completing a \$1.8 million infrastructure investment. This investment then leveraged \$24.7 million in additional and proposed investment in the immediate area, along with realizing 362 additional jobs.

Building on the success of the West 67th Place project, the SRO is currently undertaking a Land Use Study of the West 65th Street, Denison Avenue & Ridge Road corridors in collaboration with WIRE-Net and with support from Councilmen Matthew Zone (Ward 17) and Kevin Kelley (Ward 16) and the nearby City of Brooklyn, Ohio.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, the success in Cleveland's Stockyard neighborhood proves that small federal investments in our nation's cities can be stretched and leveraged to go a long way to help rebuild our cities. More of these opportunities must be made available. We must continue to rebuild the commercial, industrial, and residential bases of our nation's cities like Cleveland and neighborhoods like the Stockyard, with the help of federal investments like what we've seen successfully done in conjunction with the federal Economic Development Administration, the City of Cleveland, and the Stockyard Redevelopment Organization.

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JUSTICE STUDIES DEPARTMENT AT SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Justice Studies Department at San José State University.

The Justice Studies Department at San José State was the first degree-granting program in criminal justice in the United States. It was founded in 1930 by August Vollmer, then Chief of Police in Berkeley, California, and T.W. MacQuarrie, the President of San José State College. In 1935, nation's oldest professional law enforcement fraternity, Chi Pi Sigma, was founded at San José State.

The department prepares students for positions of responsibility and leadership in federal, state and local law enforcement, in government investigative branches, in institutional and community correctional offices, the court system, social services, public health, and in the educational field. Alumni of the program have gone on to become leaders and innovators in our community, and have made a positive impact on countless lives.

As a Member of Congress, I fully understand the importance and impact that this program plays in securing the safety of our community and ensuring that our laws are carried out fairly and responsibly. I am proud to stand here today to recognize the Justice Studies Department at San José State University and I urge them to continue the important work of educating the next generation of justice professionals.

INDUCTION OF ARNOLD KORPI INTO THE UPPER PENINSULA LABOR HALL OF FAME

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an educator who has played a key role in organizing teachers in Michigan's Upper Peninsula for seventeen years. It is for this lifelong dedication to his noble profession of teaching and contributions to the labor movement that Arnold Korpi so richly deserves to be inducted into the Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame.

After spending nearly two decades, from 1946 to 1964, as a business education teacher in Rockland and Wakefield, Michigan and as a professor at Gogebic Community College, Mr. Korpi became an early labor leader for the teachers of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Mr. Korpi was tireless in his commitment as a leader in the labor cause. Mr. Korpi held a number of prestigious positions throughout the Michigan Education Association (MEA) and civic organizations, including his service on the Board of Directors of the Michigan Education Special Services Association (MESSA), as President of Michigan Education Associa-

tion Region 18, as President of the Upper Peninsula Business Teachers' Association, as President of the Gogebic County District of the Michigan Education Association, as President of the Wisconsin Alumni Association and as a board member and President of the Northern Michigan University "N" Club.

Mr. Korpi further served the MEA as President and Treasurer of the Michigan Education Association Professional Staff Association serving all Uni-Serv Directors in Michigan; as President of the National Staff Organization; and as the Uni-Serv Director for the Michigan Education Association/National Education Association from 1964 until 1981.

In addition to holding many high ranking positions within the MEA, Mr. Korpi was also the founder, leader, organizer and Treasurer of the Upper Peninsula Education Association, which continues to be a valuable organization for teachers bargaining labor contracts across the Upper Peninsula.

Arnold Korpi is known for far more than his brilliant organizing and advocacy skills. Described as an early leader and a moving force for the Michigan Teacher Tenure Act, Mr. Korpi helped lay the groundwork for the professional teachers' bargaining and job security issues. He was part of the historic Teacher Tenure legislation which enabled classroom educators to teach and act without fear of reprisal, thus fostering and encouraging the academic freedoms for all Michigan teachers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in thanking Mr. Arnold Korpi and his family for his dedication to the education labor movement in Michigan. Arnold Korpi has more than earned his place in Michigan's Upper Peninsula Labor Hall of Fame for his commitment to his community and his teaching profession.

IN CELEBRATION OF VERA MCDONALD'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my mother-in-law, Mrs. Vera McDonald of Los Angeles, California, who celebrated her 90th birthday on July 18th of this year.

Vera Jackson McDonald was born in Memphis, Tennessee on July 18, 1915, to Walter and Lola Jackson. As a young girl and the oldest of 6 children, Vera spent her formative years assisting her parents in caring for her younger siblings and running the household while her parents worked.

In 1942 at the age of 22, Vera married Artie Lee Miller. Although they did not have any children of their own, they raised a large family after they took custody of their neighbor's six children following the parents' tragic and premature death.

On September 16, 1977, we welcomed Vera into our family when she married James McDonald, my father in law, following the passing of her first husband, Mr. Miller. At 90 years old, Vera remains a source of inspiration and happiness for our entire family. Vera would be the first to tell you that, despite her remarkable age, she remains active and independent. She doesn't suffer from arthritis or

the aches and pains of age, and does not need to wear her glasses when reading. She is also a woman of strong Christian faith.

In recognition of a lifetime of generosity and love, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Vera McDonald as she celebrates her 90th birthday.

IN HONOR OF JIM BOREN, NATIONAL MEDIA CITATION AWARD WINNER

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim Boren for receiving national recognition as an outstanding journalist by the Journalism Education Association which recently awarded Mr. Boren with the National Media Citation Award.

Jim Boren is an established journalist who has won numerous awards and recognition from national organizations and community groups. Jim Boren was one of California State University, Fresno's finest graduates and had many opportunities to leave the Valley in pursuit of prestige. Being the dedicated Fresno that he is, however, Jim chose to stay in his community and share his talent with his hometown.

Beginning his career in 1972, Jim joined the Fresno Bee. He worked his way up from a general assignment reporter to becoming the Fresno Bee's main political writer. He spent 15 years in that position keeping the San Joaquin Valley informed about local and national events by covering local elections, gubernatorial races and presidential campaigns. In 1995 Jim Boren became Editor of the editorial page in the Fresno Bee.

Jim Boren has a well-deserved reputation as a skilled and reliable investigative reporter. His journalistic abilities, compassion, and belief in justice are credited in the release of innocent prisoners charged for crimes they did not commit.

Mr. Boren has been the recipient of numerous awards for his talent as a journalist. He has received notoriety from various organizations, including an investigative reporting award from the Society of Professional Journalists, the Jim Tucker Award from California State University, Fresno, and the national honor of receiving the Friend of Scholastic Journalism Award from the Journalism Education Association.

For his contributions and loyalty to the community, it is with great pleasure that I extend the gratitude and appreciation of the residents of the San Joaquin Valley to Jim Boren.

A REDESIGN OF THE \$1 COIN TO COMMEMORATE THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite Congress to join me in cosponsoring

H.R. 1432 to require the Secretary of the Treasury to redesign the \$1 coin to commemorate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

On December 5, 1955, after civil rights activist Rosa Parks refused to observe the segregation policy on buses, the residents of Montgomery, Alabama launched a bus boycott. The success of the boycott which desegregated the city bus system propelled Dr. King into national prominence. He organized and led strategic marches, protests and demonstrations for blacks' right to vote, desegregation, fair hiring practices and other basic civil rights. He led these marches under the philosophy of non-violence and civil disobedience, which gained national and international media attention. Through his influence, the world began to see first hand the inhumanity of segregation.

It wasn't until his 1963 "I have a dream" speech during the March on Washington, did America begin to see Dr. King as a prophetic visionary. The eloquence and optimism of his speech and vision truly inspired the collective conscience of the American public. As his message began to spread, the Nation began to change. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 became manifestations of the dreams and hopes of equality and justice for all that Dr. King so effectively represented.

Although Dr. King, once Time Magazine's "Man of the Year 1963" and the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize was quickly and violently taken from us, his dream still lives on. He had insight into a reality that was not yet this world's reality. Peace on Earth and goodwill towards all was not yet this world's reality. But he believed that it could be; that it ought to be. His philosophy of nonviolent direct action, and his strategies for national and non-destructive social change, galvanized the conscience of this Nation and reordered its priorities. His wisdom, his words, his actions, his commitment, and his dream for a new way of life of equality and justice for all have been intertwined with the American experience.

There is no man more deserving to have their image engraved on the face of the \$1 coin than, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Not only would this be a national recognition of his many contributions to American history, but it would be a constant reminder that we have not yet fulfilled the dream, Peace on Earth and good will to all men, and equality and justice for all.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO MAKE AMENDMENTS TO THE IRAN NONPROLIFERATION ACT OF 2000 RELATED TO INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION PAYMENTS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to make amendments to the Iran Nonproliferation Act of 2000 related to International Space Station payments. It is critical that we pass this legislation to preserve NASA's ability to perform such core functions as transporting astronauts to the International

Space Station. Indeed, the International Space Station program may be threatened if the United States is prevented from purchasing from Russia the space hardware and services required to meet U.S. obligations.

Currently, the Iran Nonproliferation Act of 2000 forbids any such purchase because Russia is said to be assisting Iran in pursuit of its atomic energy program. Mr. Speaker, this situation demonstrates very clearly the negative unintended consequences of our counterproductive policy of restricting trade and placing trade sanctions on other countries. It would be ironic if in our zeal to punish Russia for engaging in trade with Iran we in fact end up punishing scores of Americans who work in the space industry in the United States.

I very much hope that my colleagues will join me in this effort to prevent these indirect sanctions from unfairly harming the American space program.

IN HONOR OF THE ANNUAL PULASKI DAY CEREMONIAL OBSERVANCE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Polonia Foundation of Ohio and the Ohio Polish Legion of American Veterans, U.S.A., as they unite the community in remembrance and celebration of Gen. Kazimierz Pulaski, for his legacy of courage and selfless dedication to the people of Poland and the people of the United States of America.

Born on March 4, 1747 in Warzka, Poland, General Pulaski achieved great military success in Poland with his focused leadership and brilliant strategies in fighting the Russian domination of Poland. By 1777, General Pulaski had become one of the most renowned cavalymen in Europe, and while in Paris that year, he was actively recruited by Benjamin Franklin to assist in the American quest for liberation.

Sympathetic to the American cause, General Pulaski sailed to America and was made head of the newly formed American cavalry during the Revolutionary War. General Pulaski's deep level of commitment to the American cause was framed by energy and style. He reportedly wore a plumed hat, flashing saber, and an elaborate uniform, and spent his own money to feed and equip his troops. General Pulaski was involved in many significant battles during the Revolution. His ultimate stand took place in Savannah, GA in October 1779, where he led a valiant charge against British artillery. General Pulaski was shot and died a few days later.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Gen. Kazimierz Pulaski, who made the ultimate sacrifice in his valiant fight to secure the ideals of the American Revolution. An American hero, General Pulaski's life and legacy serves as a significant reminder of the vital contributions and great achievements by Polish immigrants within our Cleveland community, and throughout America.

H. RES. 466—ALZHEIMER'S SEMI-POSTAL STAMP

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bipartisan resolution urging the United States Postal Service to act on a pending petition for an Alzheimer's Semi-Postal Stamp. I am proud to have partnered with my colleagues, Representatives ED MARKEY, CHRIS SMITH, and JOHN BOOZMAN in introducing this legislation that encourages a long-overdue opportunity for the public to make an investment in the research that could find a cure to Alzheimer's disease.

Nancy Reagan described the slow decline of her husband, President Reagan, to Alzheimer's disease as "the long goodbye." Far too many Americans are enduring that same long goodbye today. More than 4 million Americans have Alzheimer's disease, a number that is expected to triple within the next 50 years. Nineteen million Americans are caring for someone with Alzheimer's. That is why I have fought so hard to increase federal funding for Alzheimer's disease research.

Scientists around the world, including some of our best minds at the National Institutes of Health, believe we are on the verge of breakthroughs in Alzheimer's detection, diagnosis, and prevention. With an annual cost of more than \$100 billion to care for people with Alzheimer's, and an immeasurable amount of heartache, America must invest in hastening the day when Alzheimer's disease is no longer—we cannot afford not to.

That is why we are encouraging the Postal Service to act now on an Alzheimer's stamp. Semi-postal stamps are authorized by Congress as a tool for the Postal Service to raise funds and awareness of worthy causes. Tens of thousands of Americans, from across the country, have signed a petition of support for this stamp, yet its issue is still pending with the Postal Service after four years. There is no more worthy cause today than a fight against Alzheimer's disease, and time is of the essence. By allowing the public to directly contribute to research funds through a postal stamp, we could be one step closer to a treatment, or even a cure.

I hope that my colleagues will join me to encourage the Postal Service to allow Americans to invest in the fight against Alzheimer's disease through a semi-postal stamp.

A TRIBUTE TO JAMAICAN CUISINE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, in celebration of Jamaica's 43rd anniversary of independence I rise today to insert in the RECORD an article from the July 20th New York Times highlighting Jamaican cuisine and its impact on New York City.

The influx of Jamaican cuisine in New York and other cities throughout the U.S. is a testament to the richness which immigration has brought to the city of New York and our Nation. The diversity of cuisine now available to

us is but one example of the benefits we New Yorkers and Americans derive from the cultures and customs brought to the U.S. from all over the world.

The vibrant cuisine of Jamaica is a reflection of its culture and is as diverse as its people, drawing inspiration from a medley of sources. Jamaican cooking can be best described as a culinary melting pot that combines a hint of Spanish, a dash of English and a heaping teaspoon of Indian and Chinese with a cup or two of African ingredients to serve up some of the Caribbean's most creative cuisine.

As a native New Yorker I have been a Jamaican food enthusiast since my youth. It is a cuisine full of flavor and vibrancy.

Jamaicans have been immigrating to the United States for centuries and have undeniably left their mark on cities throughout our Nation. Their contributions can be seen at the center of our neighborhoods and industries, in every sector from music to cuisine.

The Jamaican American community is a prime example of a community which has and is contributing greatly to New York City and their adopted nation. Special praise is due for what the entrepreneurs of this community are contributing to the cuisine of the city and their efforts are appropriately recognized in this article.

ISLAND FLAVORS IN A YELLOW ENVELOPE

(By Julia Moskin and Kim Severson)

Long before the BlackBerry and the PlayStation Portable, New Yorkers loved their hand-helds. The folded pizza slice, the hot dog and the crusty knish have a built-in mobility that lets hungry New Yorkers eat on the street, and enough density to carry them through to the next meal.

New immigrants have added to the on-the-go family, introducing Colombian arepas, Mexican tacos and Uzbek samsas. But the hand-held with the best shot at making the list of classic New York noshes is the Jamaican beef patty, a rectangle of flaky yellow crust filled with ground beef shot through with onion, thyme and the inimitable heat and perfume of Scotch bonnet chili peppers.

The patties are familiar to New Yorkers who order bland commercial versions sold at numerous pizzerias. But they cannot compare to the fresh, handcrafted patties found at a handful of Jamaican bakeries here. The flakiest crusts are still made with a hefty percentage of beef suet, and the most memorable fillings are unabashedly hot.

"That little country pepper takes you right back to Jamaica," said Ronald Patterson, a customer at Buff Patty in Fort Greene, Brooklyn, using a Jamaican term for the Scotch bonnet chili pepper, which has a fruity, almost floral taste that balances its considerable heat.

Since the 1970's, Jamaicans have been among the largest immigrant groups in New York City, with many arrivals settling in Brooklyn. There are large Jamaican communities in the Wakefield section of the Bronx and (coincidentally) in Jamaica, Queens. But the city's best Jamaican food is concentrated in Brooklyn, along Flatbush, Nostrand and Utica Avenues.

"We use Black Angus beef and fat from the caps of the prime rib," said Desmond Patterson, an owner of Jamaican Pride Bakery in Prospect-Lefferts Gardens, Brooklyn. There, Mr. Patterson and his crew turn out 2,000 patties from scratch every morning and bake them throughout the day.

Jamaican Pride's ground beef filling combines plenty of black pepper and Scotch bonnet, and a whiff of fresh thyme and allspice

(Jamaicans call it pimento), two signature seasonings in Jamaican cooking. It is slightly soupy, not unlike a sloppy Joe. Patties at most New York shops tend to be drier, with the meat pastelike, in the traditional style.

Patties, it turns out, are an immensely personal matter. Preferences for meat texture, crust style and spicing levels are often determined by how and where one was raised.

Jamaican cooking combines local ingredients with an overlay of Spanish, British, Indian and Chinese influences. The patty could be a descendant of the empanada or of the meat paste, the traditional lunch of miners in Cornwall in southwest England, who needed portable lunches that they could take deep into the mines.

Other islands with British influence make patties. In Trinidad a distinct curry flavor reflects that island's many Indian cooks (try the patties at Al Cholo Bakery in the Bronx); the bakers at Shaborn Juice Bar, a Guyanese bakery in Flatbush, make round patties no bigger than the palm of a hand. The filling is flavored with a little basil, and the crust is rich and crumbly.

The Jamaican patty is served wrapped in coco bread, which is like an oversize, slightly sweet hamburger bun. It is called coco bread not because it contains coconut (it doesn't), but because you split it open like a coconut. Although the combination first appears dauntingly starchy, the soft sweetness of the bread nicely offsets the spicy filling and the crisp crust.

"You eat it with the coco bread to soak up the spice and the juice," said Shana Bennett Reid, who works at Angel Flake Patties in Flatbush.

In different times and places, the distinctive yellow-orange color of the classic patty crust has come from palm oil, annatto seeds, yellow food coloring and turmeric. Some upscale patties bear a natural pale-brown crust, rather than the traditional yellow. In developing a recipe for home cooks, we found that using turmeric and a bit of West Indian curry powder added a pleasant pungency and the classic yellow color. We also found that although vegetable shortening makes a perfectly good crust, beef suet makes a spectacular one.

Not all patties are spicy. Vegetable patties in a whole-wheat crust may seem like an American health food invention, but they are authentically Jamaican. Many Jamaicans are at least part-time vegetarians because of the dietary laws of Rastafarianism.

Jerk chicken patties, a relatively new creation gaining popularity here and in Jamaica, can be hot or not, but they are always heavily perfumed with allspice and thyme, the classic jerk spices. At Jamaican Pride, one popular patty is filled with ackee, a soft, slippery-sweet fruit that resembles scrambled eggs when baked inside a crisp crust.

Besides coco bread, the squeal of brakes seems to be a constant accompaniment to patties; many of the best patty shops are near bus and subway stops. At any time of day, customers rush in holding two dollar bills, the usual tariff for a patty in coco bread.

"In Jamaica people eat patties first thing in the morning and last thing at night," said Patrick Anthony, whose father owns the One Stop Patty Shop on Amsterdam Avenue in Harlem. "Every neighborhood has its own patty shop, and every patty shop has its own recipe."

Kingston, the capital of Jamaica, is the hotbed of the country's patty wars, with chains of Tastee Patties and Juici Patties battling for dominance.

"I have heard of people making a living buying Tastee Patties by the case in Kingston airport and flying them to Miami, just

going back and forth," Ronald Patterson said. His favorite patty shop, Buff Patty, carries Royal Caribbean patties, a local commercial product that stood out in our tastings. They are sold nationally under the Caribbean Food Delights label in Costco stores and in other large grocery chains.

Caribbean Food Delights, Tower Isle and Golden Krust, which sells its patties to hundreds of franchisees, are the big players in the market. The companies, which turn out hundreds of thousands of patties a day, are determined to make patties as popular as hamburgers and pizza.

Vincent and Jeanette HoSang, who founded Royal Caribbean, import Scotch bonnets and thyme from Jamaica so their patties will taste the way they do on the island. "But everyone buys them," said their daughter, Sabrina, the bakery's director of operations. "Not only Jamaicans, but Caucasians and especially Hispanics—a patty is a lot like an empanada."

Or a lot like a calzone, a samosa or even a knish. But no matter what your roots, the patty travels well. Especially through the streets of New York.

WELCOME TO HIS HOLINESS ARAM I

HON. LUCILE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to join the many Armenian Americans whom I represent in welcoming His Holiness Aram I, Catholicos of the Great House of Cilicia, to California's 34th Congressional District on October 14, 2005. The pontiff is visiting California at the invitation of His Eminence, Archbishop Moushegh Mardirossian of the Western Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America.

His Holiness is one of the most prominent Christian leaders in the Middle East and a spiritual leader for hundreds of thousands of Armenians around the world. The pontiff presently serves as the moderator for the World Council of Churches. The World Council of Churches represents over 400 million Christians throughout the globe, and is comprised of more than 340 churches from different cultures and countries. Currently serving his second term, His Holiness is the first Orthodox and the youngest person to be elevated to moderator. As the moderator of the World Council of Churches, the pontiff has led the way to build bridges between people of faith.

On this special day, His Holiness will meet at Los Angeles City Hall with a number of local, State and Federal public officials who represent the nearly 400,000 Armenian Americans who live in and around southern California. His Holiness will also present the main address at a symposium to be held at the University of Southern California that will focus on how Christians respond to violence.

I am confident that when he delivers his address on October 14 entitled, "Christianity in the Middle East—Challenges Facing Inter-religious Dialogue" at the Los Angeles World Affairs Council, Armenian Americans and Los Angeles residents will hear a valuable message.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that His Holiness has included a visit to California's 34th Congressional District during his upcoming visit to

California, The main theme of his pontifical visit, "Towards the Light of Knowledge" is a welcome reminder of the powerful role a good education can have in promoting a better and more peaceful world. I know that my colleagues join me in recognizing His Holiness Aram I, a man who has been a strong voice for mutual understanding among religions, cultures and civilizations; a true spiritual leader committed to peace, justice, and human rights.

NATIONAL LATINO AIDS AWARENESS DAY AND THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE RYAN WHITE CARE ACT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to support the National Latino HIV/AIDS Awareness, October 15, 2005. The National Latino HIV/AIDS Awareness Day is a time of national reflection for all Americans affected by HIV/AIDS.

Residents of Brooklyn, NY disproportionately represent newly reported HIV/AIDS cases in the U.S. According to national figures, New York City Latinos account for 7 percent of the U.S. Latino population, but more than 25 percent of the Latino AIDS cases nationwide. Simply put, the City of New York has more Latinos diagnosed with AIDS than Miami and Los Angeles combined.

For nearly 25 years, tremendous strides have been made in developing comprehensive approaches to education, prevention, diagnosis and treatment for those infected by this destructive disease. Yet, far too many people are becoming infected by HIV/AIDS and are without access to quality care.

As we move toward the reauthorization of the Ryan White Care Act, let the National Latino HIV/AIDS Awareness Day provide a time to remember the significant role this key legislation has made in the decline of HIV/AIDS cases throughout this country. Future Ryan White funding levels must be adequate to respond effectively to those who desperately need the medical care, prescription drugs, and key support services these funds provide.

I urge my colleagues of both sides of the aisle to act together to reauthorize and adequately fund the Ryan White CARE Act in a timely manner as we commemorate the goals and ideals of the National Latino HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

IN HONOR OF SACRAMENTO'S PRESTIGIOUS FIRE DEPARTMENTS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to the men and women of Sacramento Fire Department's Swiftwater Rescue Team and the Sacramento Urban Search and Rescue Team for their tireless and heroic actions in response to Hurricane Katrina. Between the Sacramento Fire Department and the Sac-

ramento Metropolitan Fire District, sixty-one senior level managers, firefighters and rescuers went to the devastated areas in New Orleans and across the Gulf Coast to help those most in need. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring and thanking some of our nation's finest first responders.

At the behest of FEMA, senior leaders from both departments were called on to manage the rescue efforts that grew to include hundreds of personnel from across the country. Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District Chief Rick Martinez led an Incident Support Team in Gulfport, Mississippi with Assistant Chief Mike Johnson, Dave Stoddard, Dave Odgers and Hank Linscott. Coordinating rescue efforts in New Orleans from this Incident Support Team was Assistant Chief Ed Vasques, Ford Davies and Larry Hopkins from the Sacramento Fire Department, along with Ron Pierce and Hernando Carson from the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District.

Sacramento's Swiftwater Rescue Team quickly responded to the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina by immediately flying to New Orleans to assist in the rescue efforts. Trained on the often unpredictable currents of the Sacramento and American Rivers, they quickly adapted to the situation in New Orleans. This team led by Sacramento Fire Department Assistant Chief Jay Bowdler and Battalion Chief Kristi Seargeant included Chris Costamagna, Craig Wiedenhoef, Michael Bartley, Charley Sprague, Jeff Cooke, Niko King, Brian Morr, Chris Swarbrick, Martin Cordeiro, Sage Peart, Dave Baldwin and Greg Powell.

Once on site, the team worked long days in the flooded city to rescue hundreds of people stuck on rooftops, trapped in their attics and stranded in the streets. Working in challenging and unfriendly conditions—at risk to their own health and safety—these dedicated individuals brought hope and medical care to those most in need.

Members of Sacramento's well praised and highly trained Urban Search and Rescue Team also spent over two weeks working in many severely damaged communities along the Gulf Coast—searching for survivors trapped in their homes and in other buildings where they had sought shelter from the storm. Many on this team had previously responded to crises in Oklahoma City and at the World Trade Center following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Leading this team was Dave Whitt, a Battalion Commander with the Sacramento Fire Department.

Serving on the Urban Search and Rescue Team from the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District were Dave Brown, Jeff Metzinger, Kyle Johnson, Mark Wells, Mike McGuirk, Ron Von Allworden, Randy Gross, Mike Daw, Mike Hazlett, Jim Johnson, Chris Anaya, Bob Gorman, Randy Wootton, Tyler Wagaman, Mike Wiggington, Bob Santee and Phil Allen.

Also on this team from the Sacramento Fire Department were Erik Saari, Rick Lee, Teresa Ortenberger, Lisa Stumpf, Doug Ross, Ernie Partridge, Randy Browning, Rodney Tateishi, Micki Anacleto, Scott Williams, Ken Murray, Joe Jackson and Ed Crum. They were joined by Dr. Dennis Gardner, Blake Rothfuss and Mike Kaszpurenko who served as medical and structural support staff. Teresa Ortenberger handled the cadaver dog.

Additionally, Darren Taylor, Scott McKenney and Larry Savage of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District headed-up an Incident Lo-

gistic Management Team at the Stennis Space Center in Mississippi.

Each of these men and women left their families and loved ones in Sacramento; placing their lives on the line to come to the aid of their fellow citizens from the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. And when Hurricane Rita hit land mere weeks later, many again answered the call for assistance. For their efforts, we owe them our thanks. I am truly honored to represent these renowned individuals and the fire departments they work for in Congress. Once again, I thank the women and men of the Sacramento Fire Department's Swiftwater Rescue Team and the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District's Urban Search and Rescue Team for their unwavering dedication and service to our country during this tragedy.

THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JOSEPH H. RAINEY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to one of the most significant men in my life and in the Congressional history, John H. Rainey, the first African American to serve in the United States House of Representatives and the second Black U.S. Congressman. Without his courage, strength and will to represent the issues and concerns of the once voiceless community of freed slaves, I would not be what and who I am today.

Joseph H. Rainey was born on June 21, 1832 in Georgetown, South Carolina. His parents were both slaves, but his father, Edward, had a successful business as a barber, enabling him to purchase his family's freedom shortly after Joseph Rainey's birth. As an adult, Rainey followed his father by becoming a barber. In 1861, with the outbreak of the American Civil War, Rainey was drafted by the Confederate government to work on fortifications in Charleston, South Carolina, as well as to work as a laborer on blockade-runner ships. In 1862, he and his wife were able to escape to the West Indies. They settled in St. Georges, Bermuda, where Rainey continued to work as a barber for the duration of the war.

In 1866, following the war's end, Rainey returned to South Carolina. He quickly involved himself in politics, joining the executive committee of the state Republican Party. In 1868, he was a delegate to the convention which wrote the state's new constitution. In 1870, Rainey was elected to the State Senate of South Carolina. Later that year, he was elected to fill a vacancy in the Forty-first Congress of the United States as a Republican. This vacancy had been created when the previous incumbent, B. Franklin Whittemore, was censured by the House for corruption and subsequently re-elected, after which the House refused to seat him. Rainey was seated December 12, 1870 and was re-elected to Congress four times; he served until March 3, 1879, which made him the longest-serving black Congressman prior to William L. Dawson in the 1950s.

During his term in Congress, Rainey focused on supporting legislation to protect the

civil rights of Southern blacks. This pursuit eventually proved unsuccessful, with the end of Reconstruction effectively meaning that the black electorate lost all political power. In 1876, Rainey won re-election against Democratic candidate John Smythe Richardson;

Richardson however challenged the result as invalid on the grounds of intimidation by federal soldiers and black militias. Two years later, as the opponents of Reconstruction solidified their control over South Carolina politics; Rainey was defeated in a second contest with Richardson.

After leaving Congress, Joseph Rainey was appointed internal-revenue agent of South Carolina. He held this position for two years, after which he began a career in private commerce. Rainey retired in 1886 and died the following year in Georgetown, the city in which he was born.

Joseph H. Rainey set a standard which all U.S. Representatives should seek to emulate. His strength and courage was unparalleled, and his will and commitment to his people, his state and his country were admirable. Thank you, Mr. Rainey for paving the way for African Americans like me in Congress, and for reminding us that we too must continue the fight for true liberty and justice for all.

The Honorable Chaka Fattah, Member of Congress and the Honorable Robert W. Ney, Chairman, the House Fine Arts Board, cordially invite you to the Official Unveiling of the Portrait of the Honorable Joseph H. Rainey, the first African-American to serve in the United States House of Representatives, the Rayburn Foyer, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C., Wednesday, September 21, 2005, 2:00 p.m.

TRIBUTE TO KKLA-FM CHRISTIAN TALK RADIO

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and celebrate the 20th Anniversary of KKLA-FM Christian Talk Radio in Los Angeles, California.

KKLA-FM began broadcasting out of a small studio in North Hollywood on October 15, 1985. The launch of an afternoon drive call-in talk show, "Live From L.A.," in 1986 moved the station into position as the voice of the Southern California Christian community on local and national issues. KKLA-FM was the first station in Los Angeles—and the second in the country—to stream programming live on the Internet, beginning in late 1995.

In the late 1990s, KKLA-FM's success led parent company Salem Communications Corporation to acquire and develop other stations around it in a cluster, including News/Talk 870 KRLA-AM, 95.9 KFSH-FM (The Fish), News/Talk 590 KTIE-AM and 1190 KXMX-AM. Salem Los Angeles, as the cluster is known today, encompasses nearly the entire 5th floor of its Glendale headquarters with 11 studios and production suites, and satellite offices in Orange County and the Inland Empire.

For 20 years, KKLA-FM has provided a place for Southern Californians to tune in and listen to the Christian perspective on national events. Their success is also due to the generosity of their listeners who voluntarily con-

tribute to pay for programming rather than expecting it from the taxpayer. I congratulate them on 2 decades of excellence and look forward to another 20 years of quality Christian talk radio.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. ANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Ann Catholic School on the occasion of its 80th Anniversary.

Located in the heart of downtown West Palm Beach, Florida, St. Ann is the oldest continually active Roman Catholic Church and school in South Florida. Built in 1925, St. Ann is an integral part of a historic campus with four buildings. In 2004, the City of West Palm Beach designated the campus buildings as local historic district. St. Ann has been nominated for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Under the leadership of Principal Karen DeMar and Father Seamus Murtagh, St. Ann School provides a wonderful education choice for parents in Palm Beach County. The philosophical basis for the curriculum is the belief that each child is unique and free to develop spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially to the full extent of his or her potential.

St. Ann Catholic School has a diverse population of approximately 300 students, pre-K through eighth grade. Many parents selected the school not only for its curriculum but to be close to their children while they work in the governmental and professional offices in the surrounding neighborhood.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the families, friends, faculty and staff as they celebrate the 80th Anniversary of St. Ann Catholic School.

TRIBUTE TO THE PUERTO RICAN PANORAMA AND DIEGO CASTELLANOS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Puerto Rican Panorama and Diego Castellanos.

Puerto Rican Panorama is a weekly television show on 6 ABC, the leading television station in Philadelphia. Although the show is broadcast in English, it deals exclusively with Hispanic issues and Latin culture. Panorama has been on the air uninterrupted since September 1970, making it the world's longest-running TV show of its type thus landing its host, Diego Castellanos, in the Philadelphia Broadcast Pioneers Hall of Fame.

Dr. Castellanos is a native of Puerto Rico who has resided in the Greater Philadelphia area most of his life. He was trained as a journalist at Marquette University in Milwaukee, holds a master's degree from Montclair State University, and earned a doctor's degree in

education from Fairleigh Dickinson University. He also graduated from the New Jersey Military Academy and served as a commissioned officer in the New Jersey National Guard. He is a licensed pilot, a published author, has taught at several colleges and universities and has the skilled talent of playing the guitar.

His show, Puerto Rican Panorama, has served not only to inform the Hispanic community of issues that affect their lives, but just as important, to provide an opportunity for the mainstream audience to learn about Latinos and their culture.

Through Dr. Castellanos' hard work and dedication to his career he has been able to share a wonderful culture with many others. In recognition of his years of service to the Latino community I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate him.

HONORING THE SPINA BIFIDA ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN AND COMMEMORATING OCTOBER AS NATIONAL SPINA BIFIDA AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Spina Bifida Association of America (SBAA)—an organization that has helped those living with and affected by this debilitating disease for over 30 years—and recognize the observance of October as National Spina Bifida Awareness Month, and to pay tribute to the more than 250,000 Americans in the Spina Bifida Association of America Community.

Currently, it is estimated that approximately 70,000 people in the United States are living with Spina Bifida, the most common permanently disabling birth defect. For those of my colleagues who may be unfamiliar with this disease, Spina Bifida is the broad term used to describe a series of neural tube defects that occurs in the first month of pregnancy when the spinal column doesn't completely close. In fact, there are three different distinct forms of Spina Bifida, often referred to as Occulta, Meningocele and Myelomeningocele.

The Occulta form of Spina Bifida is often referred to as hidden Spina Bifida, as the spinal cord and the nerves are usually normal and there is no opening on the back. Instead, in this usually harmless form of Spina Bifida, there is a small defect or gap in a few of the small bones (vertebrae) that make up the spine. There may be no motor or sensory impairments evident at birth, but subtle, progressive neurologic deterioration often becomes evident in late childhood or early adulthood.

The Meningocele form of Spina Bifida is when the protective coating covering the spinal cord (meninges) push outward through an open part of the spine like a sac. Cerebrospinal fluid fills the sac, but there is usually no nerve damage. Individuals may suffer minor disabilities at the onset, but new problems can develop later in life. Finally, the Myelomeningocele form of Spina Bifida—the most serious type of Spina Bifida, which causes nerve damage and more severe disabilities—occurs when the meninges and the

spinal nerves both come through an open part of the spine.

While medical science has not yet discovered the exact cause of Spina Bifida—it is a birth defect that can strike anyone—we do know that a woman taking 400 mcg of folic acid whether as part of a multivitamin/drug formula or alone, prior to and in the early weeks of pregnancy, reduces her risk of having a baby with Spina Bifida or another neural tube defect by as much as 70 percent. That is why since February 1996 and at the direction of Food and Drug Administration, all U.S. food manufacturers started adding folic acid to most enriched breads, flours, corn meals, pastas, rice and other grain products to reduce the risk of birth defects in newborns. Following the fortification of cereal grains, the incidences of these types of birth defects decreased by about 20 percent.

However, surveys and research suggest that only about 30 percent of American women consume the daily recommended amount of folic acid. As a result, today in America there are still some 60 million women at risk of having a baby born with Spina Bifida, and everyday, an average of 8 babies are affected by Spina Bifida or a similar birth defect of the brain and spine. Annually, approximately 3,000 pregnancies are affected by these birth defects.

These devastating birth defects cannot be cured, so they must be prevented, and the evidence of folic acid's benefits as a preventative is extremely compelling. The solution is education and awareness. Since 1973, the Spina Bifida Association of America—the nation's only organization solely dedicated to advocating on behalf of the Spina Bifida community—has been leading the charge. Through their almost 60 chapters in more than 125 communities, the SBAA has helped bring thousands of expectant parents together with parents of children who suffer from the disease. This type of one-on-one interaction helps concerned parents get answers to their questions, but most importantly it lends support and gives people essential information and hope. Thanks to SBAA's efforts, millions of people have received vital information about Spina Bifida and how it affects those who live with it; countless women have learned about the importance of taking folic acid prior to pregnancy to reduce the risk of Spina Bifida and other neural tube defects; and, countless individuals afflicted with Spina Bifida have gotten the help they need to live life to its fullest and achieve their full potential.

A very special lady who works with me in my office, Ms. Donna Jones, in fact happens to have Spina Bifida. Since the day she came on board, she has done a great job and helped me understand first-hand the challenge of living with this disease. Ever since I've known her, Donna has always believed that change can come if even one individual believes in themselves and strives to make a difference no matter how hard the challenge. And she has never let the challenge of living with her disease slow her down or stop her from pursuing her dream of making a difference and advocating for persons with disabilities. I was happy to be able to give her the opportunity to come to Washington and try to make her dream a reality; and I have no doubt that because of her tireless efforts to raise awareness of Spina Bifida on Capitol Hill, the incidence of Spina Bifida will decrease

and fewer children will have to endure the road she has had to travel.

Even with all the challenges she faces, I have never seen Donna without a smile on her face. She definitely has an infectious love of life, and when the world looks at her it doesn't see a person unobtrusively going through the motions of everyday life, it sees an outspoken, dynamic and active person willing to get involved in the issues that she cares about, particularly those that affect disabled individuals in our country.

I believe that Donna is perhaps the best advocate the Spina Bifida community could have on Capitol Hill because each and every day, she serves as living proof that someone with Spina Bifida need never take a back seat to anyone. I wish more young people in America had the same fire and commitment as Donna. In fact, it is largely thanks to Donna that I became aware of and joined the Congressional Spina Bifida Caucus. I hope that many of my colleagues listening today will also join the Caucus and work to spread awareness and education about this disease. Working together we can do so much to improve the quality of life to those living with Spina Bifida.

Just this past Wednesday, October 5, 2005, the SBAA's held its 17th Annual Gala here in Washington to benefit the Association and its many chapters around the nation. The event was a tremendous success and the funds raised will help the SBAA and its chapters around the country continue the good work they do in preventing more occurrences of this devastating disease, and reducing the suffering of those 70,000 Americans living with Spina Bifida. I firmly believe that we owe SBAA a great debt for what they have accomplished.

In my home State of Indiana, SBAA, the Spina Bifida Association (SBA) of Central Indiana and the SBA of Northern Indiana have formed a collaborative partnership to make a difference in the lives of Hoosier families living with Spina Bifida by helping them meet the challenges and enjoy the rewards of raising their children. In addition, in response to the devastation of the Gulf region of this country by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Indiana's Spina Bifida chapters answered the call by participating in the Spina Bifida Hurricane Emergency Life Support Program (SBHELSP). Established by the SBAA, the SBHELSP, assisted in getting vitally needed supplies to victims of the hurricanes and to put displaced families affected by Spina Bifida in touch with others who understand their special needs and can help them. I cannot say enough good things about the hard work, dedication and compassion of the volunteers and staff at all the Indiana chapters of SBAA; I can only thank them on behalf of all Hoosiers for all they have done and all that they will continue to do.

SBAA and its local chapters are making a difference one life at a time. With National Spina Bifida Awareness Month upon us again, I would say to my colleagues in closing that the time for us to start making a difference is now.

CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, FISCAL YEAR 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 68, the Continuing Appropriations Resolution for FY 2006. By funding the government at the lower of the House bill, the Senate bill, or current rate, this continuing resolution would require immediate cuts in programs that address the very problems that America's families are facing this fall—unemployment, education, health care, and emergency preparedness.

Right now, there are 7.4 million unemployed Americans—1.4 million of whom have been jobless for more than 26 weeks. Thousands more are applying for benefits in the wake of Katrina and Rita, yet this bill would cut essential Federal training and employment services below last year's level, including \$138 million, or 4 percent, from job training formula grant programs. Just as students are going back to school, this legislation calls for an \$800 million cut in education programs. With 45.8 million uninsured Americans, this bill fails to provide necessary assistance to the Community Health Centers that serve these very citizens. In a time when emergency preparedness should be a high priority, the bill cuts Hospital Preparedness Grants by \$15 million and Public Health Preparedness Grants by \$66 million.

In light of these pressing concerns for all Americans and rising deficits, we must spend our dollars wisely. Yet, we have been presented with a bill that shortchanges the very programs that promise to rebuild our workforce, educate our children and protect the health and well being of our citizens. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting fiscal responsibility by voting against H.J. Res. 68.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO STARR COMMONWEALTH ON THE OCCA- SION OF ITS EXPANDED MONTCALM SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to a special organization in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. This October, the Montcalm School for Girls at Starr Commonwealth's Van Wert campus celebrates its first anniversary celebration.

Mr. Speaker, Starr Commonwealth has been nationally recognized for serving thousands of children, families and professionals throughout America. For nearly a century, the dedicated staff of Starr Commonwealth has committed themselves to diffusing violence, healing racism and developing positive environments in the children which they serve. With five locations in Michigan and Ohio, Starr Commonwealth operates dozens of programs for troubled youth and their families. By instilling the core values of integrity, excellence, compassion and faith, Starr Commonwealth has been effective at redirecting misdirected children across our nation.

In 1951, Floyd Starr expanded Starr Commonwealth to a campus outside of Van Wert in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Staff members at the Van Wert campus help boys with social, emotional and behavioral problems as they attempt to turn their lives around. In addition, the school is celebrating its one-year anniversary of operating the Montcalm School for Girls. The Montcalm School provides residential treatment for young women who have experienced abuse, depression, behavioral or academic problems.

The services provided by Starr Commonwealth and the Montcalm School are good for our children and good for our society. Students who attend the Montcalm School have fallen off the path in life and need our assistance to become productive members of society once again. These students have engaged in activities which warrant our attention but they also possess a passion to be rehabilitated. By attending the Montcalm School, students are provided with a therapeutic environment to allow them to grow as individuals and avoid a life of delinquency. The school boasts a 95 percent success rate and has given back to our society those who had before been forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, it is not everyday that we can recognize programs which provide such an important service to our community as Starr Commonwealth. In Van Wert, citizens of the Fifth District have committed to protecting and rehabilitating our children through the Montcalm School. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Starr Commonwealth for its commitment to a better America. As all who benefit from Starr Commonwealth gather to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the Montcalm School, I am confident that the services provided in Van Wert will continue to better our society into the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HOWARD BEAVER

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, it is with regret and deep sadness that I rise to honor Howard Beaver, a resident of Tucson, AZ, who passed away on October 3, 2005. For over 27 years he sold or rented thousands of musical instruments to Tucson children. I myself bought my first harmonica at his store. He was a pillar of Tucson society, an impassioned musician, beloved husband, father, and grandfather.

Howard Beaver was born in Beaver, AR, and raised in Odessa, TX. He moved to Tucson in 1949 for his freshman year at the University of Arizona, where he received his bachelor's degree in music. He later went on to earn a master's degree from Northern Arizona University.

Howard opened Beaver's Band Box in 1964, a music store where he rented and sold instruments as well as provided music lessons. In 1991 he sold the store to his son, Dan, who then proceeded to open a second Beaver's Band Box.

He was a very dynamic member of the Tucson music community; in 1966 he founded Beaver's Tucson Concert Band, was influential

in the beginning of the UA alumni band and was active in many community bands.

Howard's life was filled with music and family, two things that were very important to him. His love of music began early in life, with his first Trombone in seventh or eighth grade, though he would later know how to play them all. The other love of his life was family. He is survived by his wife Liz, five children (Dan, Heidi, Carl, Krista, and Erica) and 15 grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO HISPANICS ACHIEVING AND CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Ms. Lucia Alfaro, Ms. Cristina Cartagena, Ms. Amanda Gonzalez, Ms. Genesis Melendez, Ms. Daniela Ortiz Bahamonde, Mr. Esteban Pacheco, Ms. Sylvia Roman, Mr. Enrique Sanchez, Ms. Elizabeth Zamora, Mr. David Hernandez, Ms. Mayra Jara, Mr. Josue Malaver, Ms. Sufeilly Rohena, Ms. Linette Serrano, Mr. Nolberto Alvarenga, Mr. Angel Amaral, Mr. Eric Familia, Mr. Karl Gonzalez, Ms. Makisha Rodriguez, Mr. Cruz Rosado, Mr. Benito Vega, Ms. Katherine Cortes, Ms. Carol Esparza, Mr. Narcisco Fernandez, Mr. Miguel Fuentes, Ms. Jessica Perez, Mr. Eric Sanchez, and Ms. Christina Gonzalez. These fine young people from the city of Worcester have recently been recognized at the annual HACE Youth Awards and Recognition Dinner.

The Hispanics Achieving and Celebrating Excellence Committee, HACE, was created in 1985 by the faculty and staff at Quinsigamond Community College. The goal of HACE is to raise community awareness of the richness of Hispanic culture. The organization recognizes the achievements of young people, provides positive role models, and encourages youths to focus on education. Honorees are nominated by school principals, teachers, coaches, community leaders and agencies. Along with the honor, each student receives a scholarship.

Each year, HACE holds an annual dinner to recognize youth leaders. The honorees from this year's annual dinner, include 28 students from Worcester high schools. These select few have distinguished themselves in five categories: the arts, athletics, academics, community service and/or leadership. This year's honorees will receive a gift in the amount of \$200, as an incentive and encouragement to continue along the path of excellence.

Over a span of 20 years, HACE is proud to have given monetary awards totaling over \$57,000 in recognition of the achievements each honoree has accomplished.

The committee members who dedicate themselves to coordinating HACE include Ms. Maria Addison, Ms. Olga Lopez-Hill, Mr. John Rodriguez, Mr. Dan de la Torre, Ms. Susan Laprade, Ms. Brenda Safford, Ms. Kirshner Donis, Ms. Viviana Troche, Honorable Harriette Chandler, Ms. Maria Florez, Mr. Javier Salort, Mr. Albert Vasquez, and Ms. Dolly Vazquez.

I am sure all my colleagues and fellow constituents will join me in applauding the accom-

plishments of these young leaders, and praise HACE for the great service they perform in the city of Worcester.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT ANDREW JOSEPH DERRICK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, Sgt. Andrew Joseph Derrick of Columbia, South Carolina died in Baghdad, Iraq on September 25, 2005. I am greatly saddened by his death and humbled by his sacrifice. As citizens throughout our community continue to cope with this tragic loss, my thoughts and prayers will remain with Sgt. Derrick's family, his friends and his fellow service members.

The following obituary was published in The State newspaper on Saturday, October 1, 2005.

Joseph was a loving son, brother and fiancé. Known for his positive attitude and playfulness, he was able to uplift the spirits of everyone he encountered. He was a superlative soldier and a man of honor and integrity. As a man of strong Christian faith, he was selfless, giving, kind, tenderhearted and never afraid to share the hope he had in Christ. He now rests in eternal peace with his Savior.

Sgt. Derrick died Sunday, September 25, 2005, while stationed in Baghdad, Iraq. Born in Columbia, he was a son of Suzanne McCormick Shealy and Andrew Carroll "Butch" Derrick. He was a 1998 graduate of Marion Military Institute and attended Francis Marion University. While a student at Marion Military Institute, Joseph played and lettered in Varsity football, baseball and basketball. He was named the Class of 1998's "Best All Round Athlete" and was named to the State of Alabama's All Star Baseball Team in 1998.

During his military career, Joseph graduated from the Primary Leadership Development Course and was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Army Achievement Medal (with one Oak Leaf Cluster), the National Defense Service Ribbon, the Iraqi Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terror Medal, the Korean Defense Service medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Combat Action Badge, the Marksmanship Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal.

Surviving are his mother, Suzanne "Suzy" McCormick Shealy of Columbia; stepfather, Carey William Shealy of Columbia; brother, William James Shealy of Columbia; sister, Elizabeth Anne Shealy of Columbia; father, Butch Derrick of Columbia and his wife, Deborah R. Derrick; half sister, Chelsea Campbell Derrick and Austin Reid Royal; paternal grandmother, Barbara Jean Shealy of Columbia; maternal aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. L. Stephen Quatannens (Jo Anne) of Campobello, S.C.; Shealy paternal aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Whitfield Milling Howard (Rebecca) of Surfside Beach, S.C.; paternal uncle, Robert William Derrick of Columbia; paternal aunt, Barbara Rainey of Greensboro, Ga.; first cousins, Mrs. Jamey Scheuch (Andrea), Mrs. Bob Elder (Catherine) and Mr. Kenneth Whitfield Howard; and numerous second cousins. He is also survived by his fiancée, Miss Shaunna Marie Miller of Phoenix, Ariz.

He was predeceased by his uncle, Kenneth James Shealy; grandparents, Samuel James

McCormick, Jr., Marjorie N. McCormick, Marvin Jacob Shealy, Katherine Yates Derrick and Robert Heyward Derrick.

THE OPENING OF THE DE YOUNG MUSEUM

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to announce the reopening and dedication of the de Young Museum in San Francisco on October 15, 2005. I join with the Mayor and the people of San Francisco in celebrating the new de Young in our vibrant arts community.

Founded in 1895, the de Young Museum has been an integral part of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park for over 100 years. We have the de Young family to thank for establishing this vital center for the arts. M.H. de Young was the driving force behind establishing a permanent home for exhibits featured in the California Midwinter International Exposition of 1894. He set about establishing a diverse and fascinating permanent collection accessible to all San Franciscans that he hoped one day would become "the pride of the Golden State."

After sustaining extensive damage in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, the de Young building was closed in 2000 to make way for a new and seismically stable home for the city's treasured art collections. Designed to complement its natural surroundings, the new de Young will allow museum guests and park visitors alike to travel effortlessly from the park's pathways to the museum's entryways and the sculpture and children's gardens surrounding the museum. The new de Young offers twice the exhibition space of the old building, doubles its arts education space and programming in the new Hamon Education Tower and allows access to a third of the museum free of charge.

In addition to showcasing the permanent collection, the new building will mean that the de Young is once again the Bay Area's premier venue for special exhibitions. The de Young will inaugurate its new special exhibition galleries with an ambitious exhibition showcasing objects from Egypt's Golden Age, Hatshepsut: From Queen to Pharaoh.

Over one hundred objects from this period will be on view, including treasures from these conquered territories, ornate royal possessions, and monumental sculptures and reliefs.

Its groundbreaking design will provide a spectacular art habitat for the extensive and diverse collections of the de Young, which will encompass American painting and decorative arts, and arts of the Americas, the Pacific Island, and Africa. The new de Young will present visitors with an exceptional view of the distinctions and connections among the art of different cultures and eras of creativity.

I would also like to recognize the work of Dede Wilsey, President of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco's Board of Trustees. Mrs. Wilsey has served as Chairman of the de Young's capital campaign since 1995 and President of the Board of Trustees since 1998. As Chairman of the capital campaign, she has successfully led the museum in securing over

\$190 million in funding from nearly 7,000 private donors, making the new de Young the largest privately funded cultural gift ever amassed for the City of San Francisco. Mrs. Wilsey mobilized a broad spectrum of support from trustees, museum members, community leaders and elected officials to support and contribute to the new de Young.

Harry S. Parker III, Director for the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, has spearheaded the design and collections to be housed in the new de Young. His critical eye, his unwavering commitment, and his distinct understanding of art have brought the de Young to its stature in the world.

The de Young and its sister museum, the Legion of Honor, make up the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco—the largest public arts institution in the City of San Francisco and one of the largest and most celebrated arts museums in the United States. The Museums remain committed to presenting stellar art collections for San Franciscans and visitors to San Francisco. Today we have a world-class museum, and a national treasure, in our community to share with the world.

THE INTERROGATION PROCEDURES ACT OF 2005

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, last night the Senate passed an amendment to the Defense Appropriations Act that would establish clear guidelines for interrogating prisoners we capture in war zones or counter-terrorism operations.

The amendment was co-sponsored by Sens. McCain, Lindsay Graham, Warner, Hagel, Gordon Smith, and Collins and passed overwhelmingly by a vote of 90–9. Today we are introducing a bill which is identical to the Senate-passed amendment.

Our legislation would clarify that no person may be subject to torture or cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment—regardless of whether they are Americans, and regardless of whether they are held outside the U.S. (i.e., in Guantanamo Bay).

The legislation would also mandate that all DOD personnel employ only those interrogation techniques that are authorized by the Army Field Manual.

Interrogations are vital to obtaining intelligence in the fight against terrorism. But cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment violates U.S. treaty obligations and undermines our moral authority. It has also been shown to be ineffective at eliciting actionable intelligence.

Our troops and intelligence personnel have been forced to operate in a "fog of law"—a patchwork of post 9/11 legal memos and policies that appeared to have condoned cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment. Our legislation would clarify the rules governing interrogations so that there can be no doubt what conduct is authorized.

Our legislation has been endorsed by a group of 29 retired military officers, including 3 "four stars"—General Joseph Hoar, General John Shalikashvili, and General Donn Starry. It has also been endorsed by a broad cross-section of civil liberties groups.

There are some complimentary proposals which may be introduced at a later date. But in the meantime, this excellent proposal has momentum and bipartisan support, and we urge the House to support it.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FUEL SAVINGS, SMARTER TRAVEL, EFFICIENT ROADWAYS (FASTER) ACT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that calls on the Secretary of Energy to examine the potential of intelligent transportation systems to conserve fuel and help consumers plan their travel and avoid delays.

Imagine driving to work and having real-time information tell you the best route to save 10 minutes off your commute. Or imagine accessing information on your cell phone that tells you not only when the bus is scheduled to arrive, but also where the bus actually is at any given moment.

In recent years Intelligent Transportation Systems have made significant advancements towards making these ideas a reality. This innovative technology is beginning to alter the transportation sector and has the potential to reduce congestion, increase safety, improve the efficiency of transit and commercial vehicles, and reduce the environmental impact of our growing transportation needs.

However, the potential fuel savings from intelligent transportation systems and the various ways these systems could help consumers plan their travel and avoid delays is not fully known. That is why I have introduced legislation calling on the Secretaries of Energy and Transportation to report on the potential benefits associated with using intelligent transportation systems. My legislation will provide current and future users of these systems with detailed information regarding potential fuel savings, system costs, universal applicability and evaluation of case studies, best practices, and emerging technologies from the private and public sector.

I believe that we need to further examine this exciting new technology and its possible applications. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF CATHERINE GIVENS RIFENBERG

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the birthday of Catherine Givens Rifenberg, born Catherine Hanorah Givens on October 16, 1905 in Holland Center, Ontario, Canada.

Born to Hanorah Kenefick Givens and James Givens, Katherine was the youngest of her six brothers and two sisters: Robert "Jack," James "Ted," Philip, Leo, Albert, Harvey, Mary and Margaret. Catherine and her family faced several tragedies, including the

early death of their mother and the total destruction by fire to their family home. As a result, Catherine was raised by her mother's relatives, the Kenefick family, and remained in Canada through her early teenage years.

As a young adult, Catherine migrated to the United States, settling in Detroit, Michigan with her brother, Albert, and his wife, Ruby, before moving to Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada to join her sister Mary. Catherine finally moved to Buffalo, New York in the mid 1920's where she continues to live her long, healthy and happy life.

Catherine Givens married Francis Rifenberg in 1930 and the two of them spent the greater part of their adult lives together in the Elmwood Avenue area of Buffalo, an area that Catherine truly loves for its excitement, diversity and warmth of the people. She has resided in the Stuyvesant Apartments for the last twenty years, where she continues to cook her own meals and be amazingly self-sufficient.

Catherine worked as a waitress for over forty-five years in Buffalo. Her genuine love of people and warm and welcoming ways made her a favorite at area restaurants; including, the renowned, historic "Kathryn Lawrence's Tea Room," "Laube's Old Spain" and "The Place Restaurant."

Catherine has kept close contact with her beloved Givens family offspring living in the United States and Canada. Her large family of nieces and nephews and extended family of three generations fondly refer to her as Aunt Kitty. Kitty has enjoyed a friendship of over sixty years with her dear friend Mary Marchese and she will happily tell the world that Dr. Jeremiah O'Sullivan has the answer to all her health care needs.

Catherine Givens Rifenberg, residing in the City of Buffalo, will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on the 16th day of October in the year 2005. I join today with her family and friends from near and far in celebrating this very special occasion.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION ON NATIONAL LATINO AIDS AWARE- NESS DAY

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the 3rd National Latino Aids Awareness Day on October 15, 2005. This is a national day of awareness and prevention against HIV/AIDS in the Latino community.

The epidemic of HIV/AIDS continues to have a deleterious effect on minority communities nationwide. The Latino community has been disproportionately affected by AIDS. According to the latest data and statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Latinos represent 14 percent of the population of the United States but account for 20 percent (over 164,000) of AIDS cases nationally. AIDS-related illnesses represent the fourth leading cause of death among Latinos ages 25 to 44. By the end of 2002, nearly 88,000 Latinos had died with AIDS.

Latino communities face challenges in their fight against HIV/AIDS, including cultural stig-

ma associated with HIV/AIDS, language barriers, lack of access to adequate healthcare, and high poverty levels. I want to highlight these concerns and also bring together our nation and community towards the commitment of creating new alliances, adopting culturally specific and appropriate interventions, and advocating for new funding and resources targeted to those communities most adversely affected by this horrible epidemic.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day salutes the more than 76,000 Latino AIDS survivors in the United States and the efforts of victims, volunteers, and professionals who combat AIDS each day. It also recognizes and applauds national and community organizations for their work in promoting awareness about AIDS, providing information, and offering treatment to those who suffer from the disease. National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is a renewed commitment to ending the spread of HIV/AIDS and ensuring quality of life to those with HIV/AIDS in the Latino community. This day of observance is an important opportunity to bring the community together to focus on the current state of HIV/AIDS in Latino communities across the nation.

I encourage Latinos and all Americans to learn more about HIV/AIDS prevention, testing and treatment. I ask that we remember those who have lost their lives to AIDS, show compassion toward and support for those currently living with the disease, and pray for all families and communities whose lives have been touched in some way. This nation can no longer afford to close its eyes and avoid the impact of HIV/AIDS. Let us commit to eliminating HIV/AIDS, not only in the Latino community, but also from all communities throughout the country and the world. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting National Latino AIDS Awareness Day.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 3824, a bill to bring much-needed reforms to the outdated Endangered Species Act (ESA). While I believe Congress must work to ensure its policies protect and preserve our nation's natural resources and environment, the current interpretation of the ESA has strayed significantly from the original intent of the law and done little to protect our nation's endangered species.

While the ESA has the laudable goal of preventing the extinction of species, the fact is the law is broken and has created an adverse relationship between the government and America's farmers, ranchers, and private property owners. For example, of the 1,304 species that have been listed as endangered over the last 31 years, only 12 have been de-listed,

a one percent success rate. Although our understanding of what is required to protect and recover endangered species has grown and become more sophisticated, the ESA has remained a blunt set of mandates that do not reflect or accommodate these advancements. I firmly believe we must allow the states and the federal government to work together to ensure the true intent of the ESA, to help preserve and recover endangered species, can be accomplished.

H.R. 3824, the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act, repairs many of the problems inherent in the ESA by requiring the use of the best scientific data in all listing decisions, replacing the broken critical habitat program with a more integrated recovery planning process, and strengthening the role of states. In addition, this bill makes great strides to ensure regulatory certainty for private property owners by providing compensation for lands vital to species rehabilitation, increasing transparency throughout the process, and encouraging voluntary conservation efforts. These provisions will help ensure that species conservation efforts take a more collaborative and less confrontational approach to protecting endangered species.

Now is the time to modernize the ESA and move forward to update this law to bring it into the 21st century. I urge my colleagues to pass this important measure to ensure the protection and recovery of America's wildlife, while balancing the needs of the communities in which we live and work.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF GERALD K. SUMIDA

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gerald K. Sumida as he retires after serving nearly 23 years as Program Director of the Hawaii Senior Companion Program (SCP).

Gerald's career with the Hawaii state government began in July 1975, where he worked in the then Corrections Division and the Adult Services Unit of the then Department of Social Services and Housing. On March 16, 1983, he began his tenure with SCP and has dedicated his time and compassion in helping improve the lives of our beloved kupuna or elders. Under the direction of Gerald, the SCP and the Respite Companion Service Program (RCSP) have gained the recognition and respectability in the aging community.

Through Gerald's guidance the Senior Companion Program has expanded its senior companion services to include Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and Kauai. Gerald's tireless efforts have provided Hawaii the opportunity to be continually blessed with two federally funded programs providing much needed services to the frail elderly population. Through Gerald's foresight, the SCP and RCSP have continued to improve the quality of life for thousands of frail elderly individuals, and the RCSP has provided hundreds of its participants the opportunity for unsubsidized employment as "older workers" in today's workforce.

Gerald's gentle and compassionate nature has given many elderly low-income individuals, with limited resources and command of

the English language, hope and encouragement to become productive seniors in the community. He will truly be missed at the Hawaii Senior Companion Program, but I believe that he will remain an active member of the community. Mahalo nui loa for all of your hard work, Gerald! Aloha and Imua!

HONORING HULET HORNBECK

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Hulet Hornbeck, a long-time friend and strong advocate for the East Bay Regional Park District in California, on the occasion of his 86th birthday and the dedication of the Hornbeck Trail at Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline.

The East Bay Regional Park District is bestowing the honor of naming a segment of the California Hiking and Riding Trail at Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline in recognition of Hulet's many and significant contributions to the East Bay Regional Park District as well as to the environmental and trails movement throughout the United States.

Hulet Hornbeck, a Contra Costa County resident, has been a leader in the grassroots citizen's movement, which resulted in the annexation of most of Contra Costa County to the East Bay Regional Park District in 1964. He served the East Bay Regional Park District as Chief of Land Acquisition from 1965 through 1985 leading land acquisition efforts during one of the Park District's greatest expansion period. During this time the Park District grew from 8 parks totaling 13,000 acres to 46 parks encompassing 62,000 acres at his retirement in 1985.

During his tenure with the Park District and continuing over the next 20 years, Hulet was a leading force in the initiation of the East Bay Regional Park District's regional trail system as well as being an active volunteer advocate for the acquisition and development of trails locally, nationally and internationally. He has been a life-long conservationist, outdoorsman, and environmentalist who has provided leadership for such organizations as the California Conservation Council, the American Hiking Society, the National Trails Council, the Martinez Land Trust, the Trails and Greenways Foundation, American Trails, Heritage Trails Fund, Amigos de Anza, the California Recreational Trails Committee, the East Bay Area Trails Council, the American Trails Association, Solano County Farmlands and Open Space Foundation, and the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize Hulet Hornbeck for his vision and leadership in providing trails and regional parks throughout Contra Costa County and congratulate him on the occasion of his 86th birthday and the naming of the Hornbeck Trail at Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MIKLÓS VÁSÁRHELYI, HUNGARIAN PATRIOT AND MAN OF PRINCIPLE

TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the Congress of the United States to join me today in paying tribute to the late Miklós Vásárhelyi, a Hungarian of great courage and integrity who played a critically important role before and during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, and again in the 1970s and 1980s, in the struggle to transform Hungary from a one-party communist state into a multi-party democracy.

On October 14, Mr. Speaker, members of Miklós Vásárhelyi's family, friends, and admirers will gather in the city that was called Fiume, Hungary, when he was born there on October 9, 1917, and which today is Rijeka, Croatia. They will place a plaque honoring him on the wall of the very house where Mr. Vásárhelyi was born.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize his significant contributions to the cause of freedom and democracy. After university studies in Rome and Debrecen (Hungary), he became involved in anti-Fascist political activities. As a result, he spent two years in a forced labor battalion during World War II, and he joined the anti-Nazi resistance.

From 1953 to 1955, Mr. Vásárhelyi served as press secretary to Hungary's reform-minded Prime Minister, Imre Nagy. In that capacity, he successfully fought for more freedom of the press from central control. During the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, he again assumed a key role in the Imre Nagy government that was established after the uprising broke out. He was one of three high-ranking officials who convinced Prime Minister Nagy to open a dialogue with the freedom fighters.

When the Soviet Union crushed the 1956 Revolution, Mr. Vásárhelyi was one of the senior government officials who with Nagy accepted an offer of asylum at the Yugoslav embassy. They left the embassy under a guarantee of safety by the Hungarian government, but he and the others were immediately seized by Soviet troops and taken to Romania. In a secret trial he was given a five-year prison term, and he remained in prison until an amnesty in 1960.

In the 1970s and 1980s, Miklós Vásárhelyi continued the struggle against repression. Combining courage and personal charm, and maintaining a unique sense of optimism about the future, he was a leader of the democratic opposition that brought immense changes in 1989.

In the late 1980s, Mr. Vásárhelyi was the founder of the Hungarian Open Society Foundation. He was one of the leaders who laid the groundwork for a vibrant civic society in his country.

He not only worked through the Open Society Foundation in Hungary, but he became one of the leading figures in the democratic opposition that began to emerge in the late 1980s. In 1990, a grateful nation elected him to serve in Hungary's free parliament as a representative of the Association of Free Democrats.

I am pleased to add that Mr. Vásárhelyi was not only a genuine democrat but also a true

friend of the United States and of Hungarian-American cooperation.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the commemorative event that is taking place on October 14 at the house in Rijeka/Fiume where Miklós Vásárhelyi was born. I invite my colleagues to join me in commending his family, friends, and colleagues to celebrate the memory of this quiet, persistent, and effective man who kept faith with his ideals under the most difficult of circumstances.

A RESOLUTION THAT COMMEMORATES THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF NOSTRA AETATE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week the Jewish community in the United States and around the world celebrated Rosh Hashanah and the start of the Jewish New Year. With the new year comes a new sense of hope and optimism that anti-Semitism and religious hatred will finally be overcome. October also is the start of the Ramadan and month of fasting for Muslims around the globe.

These events remind us that we need to be accepting and tolerant of all people and their religions. We need also to celebrate our religious diversity. It is essential that we encourage cooperation and dialogue between members of all religions. Interreligious respect is vitally important in the fight against religious bigotry.

Today, I introduced a resolution that commemorates the 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, a landmark declaration by the Catholic Church on religious tolerance and interfaith relations. My resolution also calls for the United States to continue to condemn and combat anti-Semitism and all forms of religious hatred and racial bigotry worldwide.

On October 28, 1965, after an overwhelming vote of 2221 to 88 by the bishops of the Catholic Church, Pope Paul VI issued Nostra Aetate, officially known as the Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions. Nostra Aetate, for the first time in 2,000 years, was an authoritative declaration on Catholic-Jewish relations and also on Catholic-interfaith relations.

Nostra Aetate, "In Our Time" in English, opened the doors for interfaith dialogue and respect between Catholics and Non-Christian religions. It originally began as a declaration on solely Catholic-Jewish relations but was expanded to include Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and other traditional religions. The declaration that resulted revolutionized attitudes within the Christian world towards Jews and members of the world's other religions. It was Pope John XXIII who initiated the Second Vatican Council, the event which gave birth to the "Nostra Aetate" declaration, a document that highlighted the Jewish roots of Christianity, in an attempt to repair centuries of hostilities between the two religions.

The 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate is a time for all people to become reacquainted with its historic importance and to work for even greater religious tolerance and dialogue. In Nostra Aetate the Catholic Church for the first time condemned anti-Semitism and other

forms of religious bigotry. The declaration says that “no foundation therefore remains for any theory or practice that leads to discrimination between man and man or people and people, so far as their human dignity and the rights flowing from it are concerned.” It also deplored “all hatreds, persecutions, displays of anti-Semitism directed against Jews at any time or from any source.”

Over the past 40 years, there have been visible triumphs of the spirit and ideals of Nostra Aetate. Pope John Paul II took the message of Nostra Aetate to heart when he visited a synagogue in Rome in 1986, the first such visit by a Catholic Pope, and again when he visited Israel in 2000. But we need to ensure we carry this message of religious tolerance in our own hearts and in our own daily lives. We cannot sit idly by while anti-Semitic comments are made or other forms of religious bigotry and hate are spewed forth. We must continue to oppose these forms of hatred and support continued interreligious dialogue.

That is why I have introduced this resolution today. My resolution:

Commemorates the 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate;

Celebrates the historic relationship between Jews, Catholics and other religions worldwide that has resulted;

Expresses the need for continued interreligious dialogue and cooperation between all people of all faiths; and

Condemns anti-Semitism and encourages the United States to be a leader in ending religious intolerance and discrimination worldwide.

Forty years after Nostra Aetate's adoption we have a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the progress that has occurred in religious cooperation and tolerance and remind ourselves of the work that remains to be done. We can, and we must, continue to strive to be a more tolerant people. Our common humanity deserves and demands nothing less.

THE EROSION OF AMERICAN DENTAL HEALTH STANDARDS

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, when this House passed CAFTA, I objected to provisions that overturn the state licensing standards of doctors and dentists.

I was told that my fears—and those of the American Dental Association—were unfounded.

This, in spite of the fact CAFTA contains clauses that allow foreign dentists to challenge U.S. licensing standards in international tribunals.

Then according to the September 16 San Antonio Express, we had the CDC “working feverishly” to allow Mexican dentists to practice in Texas without a Texas Dental license, as part of Hurricane relief efforts. That is so easy to do under NAFTA.

Everyone realizes disaster relief is a unique situation. We must also realize that a precedent is now set—the U.S. Government stating that Mexican health care providers be allowed to circumvent our state licensing standards.

We can fully expect this precedent to be cited in future cases by those CAFTA tribunals.

Now we also have U.S. citizens without dental licenses, without even dental degrees, being allowed to circumvent the state licensing process in Alaska.

The Federal government has decided to overrule the Alaska Board of Dental Examiners, and to instead create a new federal license—a Dental Health Aide license.

According to the September 10 Anchorage Daily News, the Alaska Attorney General has ruled that these new federal regulations preempt state health licensing laws.

This allows dental health aides to practice in Native Health Clinics with licenses granted by the federal Community Health Aide Certification Board instead of the State of Alaska.

We again recognize a unique situation of remote Native villages.

However, as a licensed Dental Surgeon, I can testify to my colleagues that many of the procedures performed by dentists are surgical procedures, which should be performed only by someone who has graduated from an accredited dental school and is licensed to do so by their state.

There is a real need for dental health aides in remote locations for disease prevention and detection services, and coordinating necessary surgical care with a licensed dentist when needed.

The ADA and the Alaska Board of Dental Examiners have supported an expanded role for dental health aides in this limited and properly coordinated capacity.

But once again the Federal government has chosen to disagree and set a new precedent that undermines our historic dental licensing standards.

Mr. Speaker, dental health care quality is now on a very slippery slope as a result of these federal actions.

We need look no further than our southern border to see where this downhill slide will lead if we continue.

In the Mexican border towns, dental care costs less than half of what we pay here in the United States.

But according to travel industry warnings, 60% of those performing dental services are not properly licensed or trained, even by Mexican standards.

Accessing quality care under these eroded licensing conditions is simply a matter of luck of the draw.

In spite of the need to improve the overall American health care system, there is one thing we can all be proud of—we have the highest quality health care in the world.

And here is an awesome fact to consider as to the origins of these unparalleled quality standards.

The Federal government didn't have one darn thing to do with them.

They came entirely from the minds and hearts of physicians and dentists, who wanted to improve the quality of health care delivery and their professions.

They did so in the most appropriate way—through the states.

The licenses to practice medicine and dentistry throughout our Nation's history have been granted virtually exclusively by the States, not the Federal government.

Now the Federal government, which has convoluted and corrupted public health policy in countless instances, wants to slither into licensing—then share the spoils in trade agreements and international tribunals.

No one can doubt that there will be continuing harmonization of standards across many industries with our international trading partners.

But this body needs to resolve that at least in health care, the United States will lead that process, rather than follow.

We should export our standards—the highest, the toughest, the noblest in the world—rather than import incompetence, charlatanism, infection, and death.

Mr. Speaker, we don't need unqualified dental health aides cutting into people in Alaska.

We don't need to accept Mexican and Guatemalan dental licenses in Texas or Georgia, licenses highly likely to have been issued from the nearest false document mill spawned by illegal immigration.

Ironically, this body doesn't really need to do anything, other than keep the bureaucrats of the Federal government and the New World Order out of the way of our 50 sovereign States.

And it's past time we started doing just that.