

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.