

promoted a woman. Antoinette "Toni" Filla, to the rank of captain. A 21-year veteran, she commands the Eighth District and formerly headed the internal affairs division.

Capt. Simmons and Filla don't regard their achievements as all that special. But they are special in one important sense. As trailblazers, these two have opened the doors for others who will be less stigmatized by the old question of whether women are physically capable of being cops and firefighters.

#### A TRIBUTE TO LOUISE ST. JEAN

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 1996*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding public service of Louise St. Jean. Louise, the department of economic and community development's executive secretary, is retiring at the end of March after 23 years of exemplary service with the County of San Bernardino in California.

Louise was born in San Bernardino at St. Bernardine Hospital. As the youngest of eight children, she was raised on a 100-acre farm in Bloomington where her dad grew boysenberries. Her mother, who is 91, still lives in Bloomington.

Louise began her professional work with San Bernardino County in 1973 as a clerk with the transportation/flood control department. She was promoted in 1975 and served with the county surveyor's office. A short time later, Louise returned to the county and in 1985 was promoted to executive secretary to the director of Economic and Community Development.

Louise was recognized as the department's County Employee of the Year in 1994 by the board of supervisors. She was particularly instrumental in facilitating the public sector approval process for the issuance of over \$800 million in tax-exempt housing and industrial development bonds to finance new homes, apartments, and commerce in San Bernardino County.

Louise is also well known for her versatility and professionalism which has allowed her to assume many diverse responsibilities. While she has served primarily as the secretary to the ECD director, she was also the secretary for the county's appointed economic and community development commission and secretary to the Agua Mansa Growth Association comprised of elected officials from the cities of Colton, Riverside and Rialto and the Counties of San Bernardino and Riverside.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Louise's husband Ed, their family, and many friends in wishing her many more years of happiness and success in writing that book she has always wanted to write. It is only appropriate that the House recognize Louise St. Jean today for her many years of dedicated service to San Bernardino County.

#### TRIBUTE TO JIM ELLIOTT

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 1996*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Jim Elliott of Milwaukee, who after

39 years in the labor movement, 22 of them as president of the Milwaukee Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, recently retired.

After serving his country in the Air Force, Jim returned to Milwaukee and began working at Otis Elevator, where he joined the Elevator Constructors Local 15. Five years later, while still at Otis, following his parent's examples of union activism and involvement, he was elected full-time business manager for the union, a post he held for 18 years. In 1974, Jim put his years of union experience to work once again and was elected president of the Milwaukee Building and Construction Trades Council, the post he held until his retirement just last month.

During his distinguished career, Jim has served his union brothers and sisters well in various capacities, including the United Way of Greater Milwaukee; the Greater Milwaukee Committee; the Wisconsin Board of Vocational, Technical and Adult Education; the Milwaukee County Labor Council, AFL-CIO; and the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents.

Best wishes, Jim, to you and Sandy, and to your children and grandchildren. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement and thanks for everything over the years. God bless.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 1996*

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, yesterday I was unavoidably detained. As a result, I was unable to vote on rollcall No. 44. However, had I been able to vote, I would have voted "yes."

I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the RECORD following rollcall vote No. 44.

#### HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM BILL

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 1996*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Kennedy-Kassebaum-Roukema health insurance reform bill. Of the more than 43 million Americans who still have no health insurance, 21 million lack coverage because of preexisting conditions. An additional 4 million must stay in their jobs because they fear losing coverage if they leave.

The Roukema bill will expand the availability of health insurance by eliminating preexisting condition restrictions and guaranteeing portability. Americans who want to change jobs will no longer be locked into their current jobs because they fear they will lose their health insurance.

Of course, we should continue our efforts to enact comprehensive health care reform legislation that will control costs and ensure universal coverage. While the Roukema bill is by no means the solution to our Nation's health care crisis, it is a good start.

In his State of the Union Address, President Clinton said he would sign the Kennedy-

Kassebaum-Roukema bill, and he urged Congress to take quick action on this legislation. The House of Representatives has an opportunity to move the Roukema health care reform bill one step closer to the President's desk by passing it as soon as possible. Unfortunately, some Members of this body want to delay enactment of these much-needed reforms by loading the Roukema bill down with controversial provisions.

Mr. Speaker, we can't afford to let this modest, but essential health care reform plan fall by the wayside. The American people need this health care reform bill, and they need it now. I urge my colleagues to support the Roukema health care reform bill.

#### A TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS L. PETERSON

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 1996*

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Phyllis L. Peterson, who is retiring after 12 distinguished years as president of Diablo Valley College in Concord, CA.

Dr. Peterson's career began 37 years ago as a high school French teacher. She later was recruited into community college administration at De Anza College in Cupertino, CA, and later at Cuyamaca College in San Diego County.

In 1984, Dr. Peterson became the fourth president of Diablo Valley College. During her illustrious career at DVC, she helped develop the Center for Higher Education at DVC's satellite center in San Ramon, CA, and led the college to its highest enrollment of 23,000 students. She guided the college's faculty and staff into an era of shared governance and provided the vision for DVC's nationally acclaimed instructional program.

Dr. Peterson has proven herself a leader in higher education. In 1993, she served as head of the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges. The University of Texas Community College Leadership Program recognized her as an outstanding community college president and the Association of California Community College Administrators honored her with the Harry Buttmer Distinguished Administrator Award.

Through her accomplishments as a teacher and administrator, Dr. Peterson embodies the very best in our educational leadership. I personally want to thank her for her years of dedicated service to the education community and wish her the very best in the future.

#### RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL SPORTSMANSHIP DAY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 6, 1996*

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Sportsmanship Day, March 7, 1996. Since 1991, student athletes from across the country have come together to celebrate sportsmanship,