

needs of many veterans. It is only appropriate that those brave men and women who placed themselves in harms way overseas be represented by such an able organization. The members of Post No. 5933 have been receiving just such outstanding service for 50 years now. It is comforting to know that those who served the needs of our country and fought for the principles and ideals of America all over the globe can depend on the support of an organization like Post 5933 back home in upstate New York.

Mr. Speaker, the service of Post 5933 in Ghent is worthy of significant recognition. This post, and others like it, are the reason I fought so hard to attain Department-level status for Veterans Affairs. When Ronald Reagan signed that legislation into law, veterans were finally afforded the degree of national consideration they deserve. The efforts of VFW posts like this one, Mr. Speaker, having served the needs of veterans since 1946, assured veterans the assistance and recognition they deserved prior to approval of this Government Department, and continue to encourage fair consideration of veterans' issues. For this, Mr. Speaker, we owe Post 5933 a tremendous debt of gratitude.

The famous historian George Santayana once said, "Those who do not remember history are bound to repeat it." VFW posts all across America have not forgotten the past or those men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. I ask all Members in the House to rise in tribute to VFW Post 5933 and join me in saluting all the members, past and present, on the occasion of their 50th anniversary.

FREDERIKI PAPPAS AND HER ART EXHIBIT CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to highlight an important event that is taking place this week in Washington. This event celebrates 175 years of friendship, diplomacy, and mutual respect for democracy that is the legacy of the United States and the Republic of Greece. The renowned Greek artist, Ms. Frederiki Pappas is previewing a remarkable collection of portraits of American and Greek leaders today in the Capitol. This exhibit is called: "A Celebration of Democracy: Commemorating 175 Years of Greek and American Democratic Tradition."

Ms. Pappas is a graduate of the Athens School of Fine Art and has exhibited in galleries around the world and has been commissioned by many private clients and public institutions. I have known her for many years and have come to admire her inexhaustible energy and vision in showcasing the history of courage and triumph of our two great nations.

I remind my colleagues that Americans participated in the independence movement in Greece during the last century, sacrificing their lives to ensure that the world's first democracy was again a democracy. From the days of our great leader and democratic visionary, Thomas Jefferson, to the present, Hellenes and

Americans have worked and fought side-by-side for freedom and independence.

As a Greek-American, I am especially proud of this tradition and applaud the continued strength of our mutual diplomatic ties as exemplified by this week's visit by President Constantine Stephanopoulos. The Hellenic Republic remains a key ally and friend and I am especially pleased that Ms. Pappas' exhibit coincides with President Stephanopoulos' visit. Her work serves as a beautiful and appropriate reminder of this long and great friendship between our two democratic nations.

Thomas Jefferson, perhaps underscores the spirit of freedom and independence best in his letter to A. Korais, leader of the Provisional Government of Greece in 1823 in which he states:

Possessing ourselves the combined blessings of liberty and order we wish the same to other countries, and to none more than yours, which the first of civilized nations, presented examples of what man should be.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Pappas' work reminds us of the importance of tradition and mutual love of freedom. I urge all of my colleagues to see if firsthand and reflect upon the importance of celebrating democracy.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR KENSUKE FUKUSHIMA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Mayor Kensuke Fukushima and his delegation from the city of Fukaya, Japan, to the city of Fremont, CA, in California's 13th Congressional District. Mayor Fukushima and his delegation are here to help celebrate the founding of the city of Fremont, Fukaya's sister city, over 40 years ago. I would also like to commend Mayor Fukushima for his dedication to the sister-city program.

The city of Fukaya and the city of Fremont have been sister cities for the past 16 years and the relationship has been a very important one. We have many successful programs with Fukaya, including the arts exchange, the symphony exchange, teacher and student exchanges, little league baseball, Boy Scouts, business exchange, family exchanges, and the city employee exchange. These exchanges have resulted in deep personal friendships and a greater understanding between our two cultures and communities.

We owe much of the success of the sister-city program to Mayor Kensuke Fukushima. He has been a driving force since the very beginning. He was the contact citizen between the city of Fremont and the city of Fukaya prior to the formal sister-city relationship and continued to be active in the program as he held various positions in his city government. Mayor Fukushima has been mayor of the city of Fukaya for the past 8 years and has continued to be a strong advocate for the program throughout his term.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in welcoming Mayor Fukushima and the Japanese delegation to the city of Fremont and in recognizing Mayor Fukushima for his extraordinary efforts in

bringing our two cities and communities closer together.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACK REED

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that on April 18, 1996, the House voting system did not record my vote on roll-call vote 125, final passage of the rule governing debate on the antiterrorism bill.

At the time the vote was held, I was on the floor of the House, having just voted against ordering the previous question.

It was my intent to vote for passage of the rule. Unfortunately, my vote was not properly recorded. I would ask the RECORD to reflect my presence in the Chamber and my intent to vote for passage of the rule.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 641, RYAN WHITE CARE ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 1, 1996

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I join my fellow colleagues today in support of the Ryan White CARE Act conference report. Additionally, I would like to extend my appreciation to the conference team, chairmen BLILEY and DINGELL, and subchairmen BILIRAKIS and WAXMAN for all their hard work to see this legislation through fruition.

I also come forward today for the thousands of men, women, and children whose lives depend on the continuation of the services provided under the Ryan White CARE Act. This legislation is essential to the AIDS community. Ryan White CARE provides people living with AIDS a tool to obtain emergency care services. Ryan White CARE gives the support needed to provide AIDS patients to live their lives to its fullest potential.

Specifically, this bill requires recipients of CARE grants to utilize a portion of their funds to provide health services to women, infants, and children. This bill aims to serve all individuals infected with the AIDS virus, but acknowledges the growing number of infants and children infected with the virus. With advancements in research to deter the virus in infants, the bill targets our future—our children.

The reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act sends another important message. We have worked in a bipartisan manner to ensure passage of this essential legislation. This legislation is an act of simple compassion and humanity that anyone and everyone can support.

I have been a supporter of the Ryan White CARE Act since its inception, and I hope that future Congress will continue to promote its services in future Congresses. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act.

CONGRATULATING BRYAN HIGH SCHOOL ON WINNING THE FED CHALLENGE 1996

HON. JACK FIELDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. FIELDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, at a time when the administration and Congress struggle to fashion a budget that will be in the long-term best interest of our Nation's economy, perhaps we should solicit advice from high school students—specifically, those high school students who participated in the Federal Reserve Board's Fed Challenge 1996 competition.

The Fed Challenge 1996 competition provides talented high school students an opportunity to research and analyze data on the Nation's economy, make educated assumptions about future economic trends, and then recommend to the Federal Reserve specific monetary policies that the students believe will help our Nation's economy and improve the well-being of the American people.

I am proud that a five-member team from Bryan High School in Bryan, TX, recently won the Fed Challenge 1996. Under the guidance of American history teacher Janyce Kinley and economics teacher Laura Wagner, five Bryan High School students wowed a panel of judges that include two Federal Reserve Bank presidents and a member of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors to win this very difficult competition. I have not doubt that those of us in the Congress could benefit from the insightful analysis of Bryan High School students Chris Dyer, Michael Schlabach, Brian Swick, Sarah Novak, and Sarah Stansy—as well as all the students who participated in the Fed Challenge 1996 contest in the 1st, 2nd, 5th and 11th Federal Reserve Districts.

Working closely with Timothy Hopper, an economist in the Houston office of the Dallas Federal Reserve, and Wayne Hast of the Dallas Federal Reserve, students at Bryan High School answered one basic question: "If you served on the Federal Open Market Committee, what monetary policy would you recommend?" In order to answer that question, the students at Bryan High School—and at each of the other high schools around the country who participated in the Challenge—described the current condition of our Nation's economy, made educated assumption about future economic trends, and summarized financial market conditions before making their recommendations. Following each presentation, the panel of judges asked followup questions of the students.

By all accounts, each of the four high school teams that made presentations in Washington greatly impressed the judges. One Federal Reserve official with whom I spoke described the Bryan High School team's presentation as breathtaking.

I've had the opportunity to question Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan on more than one occasion, and I'm a little disappointed that my comments and questions have never been characterized as breathtaking!

I want to commend the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which, as a pilot program, sponsored a similar, but local, competition last year. And I want to commend the Federal Re-

serve System for expanding on this great idea that encourages young people to learn more about the Nation's economy and the impact of monetary policy on the American people. I also want to encourage more Federal Reserve Banks, and more high schools, to participate on this superb competition.

Most of all, I want to congratulate Chris Dyer, Michael Schlabach, Brian Swick, Sarah Novak, Sarah Stansy, Janyce Kinley, Laura Wagner, Timothy Hopper, and Wayne Hast—and all the other students and advisors who helped out in the Fed Challenge 1996—for the outstanding effort they made as a team on behalf of Bryan High School. They remind all of us of the importance of learning more about our economy, and they remind us that anything is possible through hard work, dedication and teamwork.

BILLY GRAHAM'S HOPE FOR AMERICA

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the work and service of two very special people from western North Carolina, Ruth and Billy Graham, who last week received the Congressional Gold Medal.

Reverend Graham was extremely humble in acceptance of this honor but I believe our Nation will have no greater recipients this century than the Grahams. For more than 50 years, they have traveled the globe bringing the word of God to more people than anyone else in history. But their work was not done for the history books but for their love of God and his message of mercy and forgiveness. Based on that message, the Grahams have devoted their lives to address major problems facing our society such as racism, hunger, and homelessness. And still today, they continue their efforts to reverse the decline of our society's moral consciousness by stressing ethical and spiritual values.

In accepting our appreciation for their lifelong commitment "toward improvements in racial equality, morality, and philanthropy," Reverend Graham told us that the message he has devoted his life to represents the cure to our Nation's ills. In his words "There is hope! Our lives can be changed, and our world can be changed."

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Grahams for their lifes' work and ask that Reverend Graham's remarks in accepting the Congressional Gold Medal be inserted in the RECORD for all the world to know his message: "There is hope."

THE HOPE FOR AMERICA

Mr. Vice President; Speaker Newt Gingrich; Majority Leader Bob Dole; Senator Strom Thurmond; Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate; distinguished guests and friends. . .

Ruth and I are overwhelmed by the very kind words that have been spoken today, and especially by the high honor you have just bestowed on both of us. It will always be one of the high points of our lives, and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for this unforgettable event. We are grateful for all of you in the Senate and House who have had a part in it; and President Clinton for his support in signing the resolution.

As we read the list of distinguished Americans who have received the Congressional Gold Medal in the past—beginning with George Washington in 1776—we know we do not belong in the same company with them, and we feel very unworthy. One reason is because we both know this honor ought to be shared with those who have helped us over the years—some of whom are here today. As a young boy I remember gazing at that famous painting of Washington crossing the Delaware. Only later did it occur to me that Washington did not get across that river by himself. He had the help of others—and that has been true of us as well. Our ministry has been a team effort, and without our associates and our family we never could have accomplished anything.

I am especially grateful my wife Ruth and I are both being given this honor. No one has sacrificed more than Ruth has, or been more dedicated to God's calling for the two of us.

However, I would not be here today receiving this honor if it were not for an event that happened to me many years ago as a teenager on the outskirts of Charlotte, North Carolina. An evangelist came through our town for a series of meetings. I came face-to-face with the fact that God loved me, Billy Graham, and had sent His Son to die for my sin. He told how Jesus rose from the dead to give us hope of eternal life.

I never forgot a verse of Scripture that was quoted, "As many as received him, to them gave the power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12, KJV). That meant that I must respond to God's offer of mercy and forgiveness. I had to repent of my own sins and receive Jesus Christ by faith.

When the preacher asked people to surrender their lives to Christ, I responded. I had little or no emotion; I was embarrassed to stand with a number of other people when I knew some of my school peers saw me: but I meant it. And that simple repentance and open commitment to Jesus Christ changed my life. If we have accomplished anything at all in life since then, however, it has only been because of the grace and mercy of God.

As Ruth and I receive this award we know that some day we will lay it at the feet of the One we seek to serve.

As most of you know, the President has issued a proclamation for this day, May 2, 1996, to be a National Day of Prayer. Here in Washington you will see and hear of people throughout the District of Columbia praying today. It is encouraging and thrilling that here, and across the country, people have committed themselves to pray today for our leaders, our nation, our world, and for ourselves as individuals. I am so glad that before business each morning, both the House of Representatives and the Senate have a prayer led by Chaplain Ogilvie of the Senate, who has had so much to do with this event today, and Chaplain Jim Ford, who used to be chaplain at West Point when I went almost every year to bring a message to the cadets.

Exactly 218 years ago today—on May 2, 1778—the first recipient of this award, George Washington, issued a General Order to the American people. He said, "The * * * instances of Providential Goodness which we have experienced and which have now almost crowned our labors with complete success demand from us * * * the warmest returns of Gratitude and Piety to the Supreme Author of all Good." It was a message of hope and trust, and it also was a challenge for the people to turn to God in repentance and faith.

We are standing at a similar point in our history as less than four years from now the world will enter the Third Millennium. What will it hold of us? Will it be a new era of unprecedented peace and prosperity? Or will it