The Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition conducts town meetings, provides breast exam workshops and distributes educational literature. Moreover, this important organization works with the Suffork County Department of Health Services to provide yearly mammograms at St. Hughes of Lincoln Church in Huntington Station. The success of this independent, grassroots organization has been studied around the world. In fact, the Huntington organization has inspired the creation of the Tokyo Breast Cancer Action Coalition.

The coalition was created on October 12, 1992, by a group of women led by Karen Miller, who cared deeply about the high rate of breast cancer in their community and had been affected personally by this most serious condition. These women educated their families, friends, and neighbors about various prevention and early detection measures. By 1993, the organization had opened administrative offices. Today, the Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition has 1,500 active volunteers, each of whom is committed to putting an end to this serious condition. The organization has sent a woman's breast health survey to 68,000 households throughout Huntington. So far, they have compiled 26,000 responses in their computer database. The coalition eventually wants to use these findings to help determine the cause of the high rate of breast cancer in Huntington. At a dinner on October 1, the coalition will honor the following members who truly demonstrate the selflessness and compassion of an entire organization.

Michael Miller, who is the husband of the founder of the coalition, has been an outstanding leader in our fight against breast cancer. His wife's struggle with breast cancer has led him to nearly a decade of outspoken advocacy. Mr. Miller has owned and operated the A–OK appliance company for 33 years. He is also an active trustee of his synagogue. Michael Miller has lived happily on Long Island with his wife and three children since the 1960's.

Denise Kleinman, another coalition activist, who's husband Cal Kleinman while president of Bennett X-Ray developed the most modern state-of-the-art mammography machine, has worked diligently in the fight against breast cancer. Her volunteer efforts and commitment to the Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition reflect her compassion for this worthy organization and their mission.

A former New York City teacher, Denise has been involved in both her local PTA and in her synagogue. She is also a volunteer for Island Harvest which collects excess food and distributes it to the needy on Long Island. Denis Kleinman currently resides in Dix Hills with her husband and three children.

Carol Caruso has been one of the most active members of the Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition. Aside from her many volunteer efforts on behalf of the organization, she also had a vision, a dream, if you will, to start a Breast Cancer Health Education Center for everyone. She has spearheaded this concept and will devote her energies to making it a reality. Carol is a person who has truly made an extraordinary difference.

Both she and her husband have donated substantial resources from their family business in order to support this worthwhile cause. Her actions demonstrate how a local business can work alongside a volunteer organization in order to further the common interests of an entire community. Carol Caruso has also been an active volunteer in the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation. She currently lives in Oyster Bay where she enjoys the company of her six grandchildren.

The Huntington Breast Cancer Coalition truly represents the ideals of compassion, community, and determination. Their selfless actions will help others overcome their struggles with breast cancer. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these extraordinary individuals and the outstanding work they have done for their community. The organization's dynamic leaders and dedicated volunteers should serve as a model for us all.

HIA FUNDING IN FISCAL YEAR 1997

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 1996

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the recently passed fiscal year 1997 appropriations bill—just signed into law by the President—containing funding for the Department of Defense, included language from the National Security Appropriations Conference Report which directed the Air Force to expend the necessary funds for the operation and maintenance of a site database to be located at the Pennsylvania State University at Harrisburg. The database is to support the former Olmsted Air Force Base Superfund site as it transitions from final DOD restoration to EPA Superfund deletion to public-private sitewide development. That language, from page H11875 of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of September 28, 1996, is presented here:

FORMER OLMSTED AIR FORCE BASE

The conferees are pleased that the final restoration by the Air Force of the former Olmsted Air Force Base in Pennsylvania is proceeding smoothly and the Environmental Protection Agency projects a delisting of the base (Middletown Airfield EPA National Priorities List Site) from the NPL by the end of 1996. The conferees feel that following delisting of the site it will be necessary to maintain near the site a comprehensive database which incorporates data from all current and future environmental investigations to provide a comprehensive look at the environmental status of the site for future development or emergency response situations and to maintain institutional controls. Therefore, the conferees recommend that, commencing in fiscal year 1997, the Air Force expend funds necessary (estimated at $123,000 over five years) for such a comprehensive site database to be located at the Pennsylvania State University at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

I have spoken at length before on the floor of the House of Representatives about the need for this site database and the need for the Air Force to fulfill its commitment to me, to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to the environmental restoration of the site by fully funding the database. The inclusion of language about the site database in the conference report clearly shows widespread congressional support for this funding and location.

Even with the congressional directive expressed in the above conference language there is, however, a concern about the funding that I wish to share with my colleagues. While the conference language states that the Air Force must expend the funds necessary over 5 years to fund the database, it is not clear that the initial startup costs of $72,000 in fiscal year 1997 will be met. From the conference language the understanding is implicit, but not explicit, that if the Congress directs that the site database be established and funded, full and appropriate startup funding needs would be met.

It is my hope that the Department of Defense, and specifically the Air Force, will honor their commitment and the direction of the Congress of the United States, and by his signature the President of the United States, and fully fund this site database in fiscal year 1997 so that it can be fully operational by the time the former Olmsted Air Force Base is deleted from the EPA Superfund list.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1996

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 2, 1996

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the conference committee for S. 1004, the Coast Guard Authorization Act of 1996, I submit the following explanation of several sections included in the conference report on that bill.

SECTION 901. REDUCTION OF OIL SPILLS FROM NON-SELF-PROPELLED TANK VESSELS

The Conference substitute requires the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with the Towing Safety Advisory Committee, to prescribe regulations requiring a single-hull non-self-propelled vessel that operates in the open ocean or coastal waters, or the vessel towing it, to have at least one of the following: (1) a crew member and an operable anchor on board the tank vessel that together are capable of arresting the tank vessel without additional assistance under reasonably foreseeable sea conditions; (2) an emergency system on the tank vessel or towing vessel that without additional assistance under reasonable foreseeable sea conditions will allow the tank vessel to be retrieved by the towing vessel if the tow line ruptures; or (3) any other measure or combination of measures that the Secretary determines will provide protection against grounding of the tank vessel comparable to that provided by the measures described in paragraph (1) or (2).

SECTION 902. REQUIREMENT FOR FIRE SUPPRESSION DEVICES

The Conference substitute allows the Secretary of Transportation to require the installation, maintenance, and use of a fire suppression system or other measures to provide adequate assurance that a fire on board towing vessels can be suppressed under reasonably foreseeable circumstances. In the case of vessels towing non-self-propelled tank vessels, the Secretary is directed to require the use of fire suppression or other measures by not later than October 1, 1997.

SECTION 903. STUDIES ADDRESSING VARIOUS SOURCES OF OIL SPILL RISK

The Conference substitute requires the Secretary of Transportation to complete studies which include studies of group-5 fuel oil automatic fueling shutoff equipment, and lightering.

SECTION 1125. OFFSHORE FACILITY FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The amendments to section 1016(c)(1) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA 90) contained

in section 1125 of the Conference substitute will allow the Minerals Management Service to implement the financial responsibility requirements of OPA 90 for offshore facilities in a reasonable manner. The Minerals Management Service has been unable to implement the offshore facility responsibility requirements under OPA 90 because of the potentially devastating impact on many types of small businesses resulting from the original OPA 90 language. This is because the original language of section 1016 of OPA 90 could be interpreted to (1) include facilities such as onshore refineries, marinas, and even fuel storage facilities located in wetlands as ''offshore facilities''; (2) include all navigable waters of the United States; (3) require $150 million in financial responsibility from each offshore facility despite its oil spill risk; and (4) require financial responsibility certification for facilities that handle even minimum volumes of oil.

The Conference substitute clarifies the original intent of the Congress by ensuring that the financial obligations imposed by section 1016(c)(1) apply solely to ''traditional'' offshore oil facilities located seaward of the line of ordinary low water. The provision makes clear that ''offshore facilities'' do not include traditional land-based facilities. Marinas, refineries, and terminals are ''onshore facilities'' even though docks, piping, wharfs, piers, and other similar appurtenances, connected directly or indirectly to those facilities, may sit on submerged land seaward of the line of ordinary low water. All of the components of those facilities are part of the onshore facility.

The Conference substitute maintains a reasonable financial responsibility requirement of $35 million and allows the President to raise the requirement to a level not exceeding $150 million if he determines that the risks justify the result. The substitute allows facilities which have a small oil spill discharge potential (1000 barrels or less) exempted from the financial responsibility requirement altogether.

The substitute also allows ''direct action'' against a guarantor for an offshore facility only in the following cases: (1) the claimant is the Federal government; (2) a responsibility party for an offshore facility has denied or failed to pay a claim because of insolvency; or (3) a responsible party for an offshore facility has filed a petition for bankruptcy under title 11, United States Code. The substitute clarifies that a guarantor's total liability under OPA '90, including under direct action, is limited to the amount of financial responsibility provided.

SECTION 1141. DREDGING OF RHODE ISLAND WATERWAYS

The Conference substitute requires the Army Corps of Engineers to issue recommendations regarding dredging in Rhode Island state waters.

SECTION 1142. INTERIM PAYMENTS

The experience in Rhode Island in connection with the NORTH CAPE spill shows that partial or interim claim settlement programs are vital when the income of lobstermen or fishermen is interrupted because of an oil spill. These amendments make it clear that interim or partial claim payments are available for loss of profits or earning capacity under Oil Pollution Act. The acceptance of such interim or partial payments will not prevent a claimant from recovering other damages to which he is entitled, but no double recovery by any claimant will be permitted. This section clarifies the availability of partial or interim payments but does not, in any way, preclude a claimant from entering into a final settlement. The limitations imposed by section 1017(f) of the Oil Pollution Act shall apply to partial or interim claims.

SECTION 1143. OIL SPILL INFORMATION

The Conference substitute amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to create a repository for information pertaining to oil spills.

SECTION 1144. COMPLIANCE WITH OIL SPILL RESPONSE PLANS

The Conference substitute amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide greater discretion to the President or the Federal on-scene coordinator regarding oil spill response plans.