I ask Members to join me in honoring the Exchange Club members in my Texas congressional district and across the country for their dedication and excellence in serving the Nation’s communities.

HONORING DR. WILBUR F. DOLEZAL

HON. JERRY WELLER
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and dedication of an outstanding dentist, Dr. Wilbur F. Dolezal, after 43 successful years of practicing dentistry.

Dr. Dolezal received his bachelor’s degrees from the University of Illinois and his dental degree from Loyola University, Chicago, IL.

Dr. Dolezal served his country in the U.S. Air Force as a dentist from 1954 to 1956. He has had a thriving practice in Morris, IL, for the past 40 years.

Dr. Dolezal has been honored by his peers for his superior knowledge as a Fellow of both the International College of Dentistry and the American College of Dentistry.

Dr. Dolezal has been active in his community as a member of the Morris Rotary Club, the Morris High School Board of Education, and as a member and president of the Grundy County Board of Health.

Dr. Dolezal is a well respected dentist and member of his community and it is with great regret, but also a bright white smile, that his patients see him retire.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the publisher and hard-working staff of the Asia Observer on their 1-year anniversary of outstanding service to the South Asian community. It is an honor to join other elected officials and organizations in lauding the achievements of a weekly publication recognized worldwide for its excellent news coverage and analysis on events and issues affecting the South Asia and South Asians.

In its first full year, the Asia Observer has distinguished itself as a valuable source of information on South Asia affairs. Additionally, it has helped bridge the gap of understanding among the growing Asian-American population in our great Nation. Since its inaugural edition 1 year ago, the Asia Observer has gained the respect and praise of many, including several of my esteemed colleagues in Congress, prominent business owners, professionals, and community leaders. With weekly coverage of socially, politically, and economically significant topics, the Asia Observer has become what many other ethnic news publications can only hope to become, a credible source of information in the United States and throughout the international community.

As the dawning of the next millennium approaches, all regions of the world are shifting ever closer toward globalization. The role of news sources like the Asia Observer will assume a greater importance in the affairs of the United States and our neighbors both home and abroad. It is through the efforts of news journals such as the Asia Observer that our lines of communication with other countries in the South Asia region, including India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Pakistan continue to expand and grow. In just 1 year, this publication has managed to strengthen the sense of cooperation in this important region of the world by providing a useful vehicle for the exchange of information and ideas.

I ask that my colleagues join me today in acknowledging the contributions of the Asia Observer, a publication that has provided a welcome voice to the Asian-American community in issues of international and domestic importance. I firmly believe that by keeping people in touch with the issues that affect their daily lives, the Asia Observer will contribute to the growth of the South Asia region for many years to come. For this reason, I commend Mr. Surinder Zutshi and his entire staff for their efforts in providing the world a window through which it can observe the achievements of the Asian community.

NEW RETIREMENT OPTION FOR SENIORS

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today that will allow older Americans to stay in their homes while taking advantage of the exclusion of up to $125,000 in gains on sale of a principal residence. This is a badly needed option for those who wish to use the equity in their home for retirement needs without having to leave the family home.

An AARP survey showed that 86 percent of seniors prefer to stay in the family home, yet for a great number of older Americans, home equity is a major component of their savings. Seniors who need additional income in their retirement can face a troubling dilemma: they may have to give up the house to meet their needs.

The bill will aid seniors by altering our approach to the $125,000 exclusion. As currently interpreted by the IRS, the exclusion of $125,000 in gain is only available to seniors when they sell their homes and move away, literally hauling out the carpet to pay the tax break. Their other alternatives—both of which allow them to claim the exclusion—are taking out a reverse mortgage or selling their home and leasing it back. Not all seniors will find these devices helpful. Reverse mortgages leave homeowners with the burden of maintaining the home. Sale-leaseback transactions may not provide seniors with the certainty that they will be able to continue occupying their homes.

The bill’s new alternative will permit seniors to sell the “remainder interest”—the right to future occupancy in their home and keep the “life estate”—the right to use the house for the rest of their lives. Such an option does not qualify for the exclusion today.

With all the concern about retirement savings, taxpayers can only benefit through the provision of additional options. I hope my colleagues will join me in making this option available as soon as possible.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE LADY BUDDS

HON. LARRY COMBEST
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great honor to give tribute to the West Texas A&M Lady Buffs of Canyon, TX. The Lady Buffs’ historic winning season ended with an unfortunate, but hard-fought loss in the quarterfinals of the Elite Eight Tournament to California-Davis.

The Lady Buffs, who are led by their coach Bob Schneider, finished the season with 29 victories and only 2 losses. This is the best season that the Lady Buffs have had since the 1990–91 team, and the first time that the Lady Buffs have been in the Elite Eight since the 1987–88 season. As an alumnus of West Texas A&M, I am very proud of the Lady Buffs and their achievement this season.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Lady Buffs on their winning season. They have brought pride and respect to not only their team and coaches, but also to West Texas and the hometowns of all of the players.

EXEMPT SCHOOL BOARDS FROM LIABILITY FOR THE GENERATION AND TRANSPORTATION OF MUNICIPAL WASTE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce two bills to make important changes to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

The first of these bills will address a problem that confronts school districts across the Nation. This legislation would amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act to exempt school boards from liability for the generation and transportation of municipal waste.

Under current law, a number of school boards in New Jersey are involved in legal action as polluters under existing Superfund law. These school districts did nothing more than transport their solid waste to landfills. Under the system of joint and several liability, taxpayers can only benefit through the settlement of the larger issue of Superfund reform has prevented action on an explicit exemption for...
HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY SIMONE M. STEINBRoner

HON. JANé HARMan
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Ms. HARMan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Simone M. Steinbroner of Manhattan Beach, CA, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on April 1.

Simone was born in the tiny village of Co- gnac, France, on April 1, 1897, the oldest of five children of Paul Jean Mounier and Jeanne Praud Mounier. She moved with her family several times as a young girl, first to Paris and then, with the outbreak of World War I to La Rochelle where her father was employed as an interpreter. At the age of 16, Simone became the youngest entrant to teachers college, graduating in 1917.

It was on her summer vacation from teach- ing on the small coastal island of St. Pierre d'Oleron that her mother invited two American soldiers to dinner. There Simone met her future husband, Arthur Steinbroner, a sergeant in the American Expeditionary Force, and fell in love. Arthur and Simone set their wedding for August 1, but on July 5 received the upsetting news that Arthur was to be sent back to the United States the next day. It would be 18 months before enough money could be saved for Simone's passage to America.

Simone left France on January 9, 1921, arriv- ing in Los Angeles, then a sleepy town with fewer than 200,000 residents, on January 24. She and Arthur married on February 3, 1921, and had seven children in 9 years. Arthur passed away suddenly in 1948.

Simone has lived in Los Angeles County for 76 years and has a total of 78 living descend- ants; 8 children, 28 grandchildren, 38 great- grandchildren, and 4 great-great grandchildren, with 2 more expected this year. She still maintains an active pace, teaching French to private students, playing the piano, dancing, reading, and corresponding to her numerous friends and progeny. As a member of the Legion of Mary, she regularly visits local nursing homes to comfort the sick and elderly. She is an inspiration to them all, all of whom are younger than her, and, in hearing her story, she is an inspiration to me as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Simone and in wishing her a happy 100th birthday.

IN HONOR OF DAVID L. COHEN, CHIEF OF STAFF TO MAYOR EDWARD G. RENDELL OF PHILADELPHIA

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a good friend and servant to the city of Philadelphia, David L. Cohen.

In 1987, David Cohen left his position as chief of staff to Philadelphia's terrific mayor, Edward G. Rendell. While there is no doubt that Mayor Rendell has provided the vision and enthusiastic leadership that has brought the city back from the brink of disaster, it is also unquestionably true that without David Cohen's incredible work ethic, unparalleled judgment, and steady dedi- cation to the mayor's vision of reducing the cost of government, the Philadelphia story would be a far different tale. Certainly, it would not be the story that includes four consecutive balanced budgets, and four consecutive bud- get surpluses, including a fiscal year 1996 sur- plus of $118 million, the largest in the modern history of the city.

David Cohen led Ed Rendell's cost-cutting revolution in city government. He was the mayor's primary liaison with city council, without whose cooperation the city's recovery would not have been possible; he served as the principal author of the nationally renowned 5-year financial plan, the city's blueprint for recovery; he has led the interactions between city and federal agencies to facilitate the settlement of substantial claims and settlements with both public and private-sector unions on a variety of issues of importance to the city; he chaired the administration's Initiative Compliance Committee, which oversees the spending habits of every city department right down to the penny, to guard against a return to the free-spending days of Philadel- phia's past; and he has served as an articu- late and passionate spokesman for the critical problems that face America's cities. Through it all, David displayed a superior intelligence, a steady determination to make tough decisions in order to save money for city taxpayers, and an abiding love for Philadelphia, and indeed, for all cities.

Now, after more than 5 years of incredibly effective government service, David Cohen is returning to the private sector, where he will realize a lifelong professional dream by be- coming chairman of his law firm, Ballard Spahr Andrews & Ingersoll.

Mr. Speaker, without question, Ed Rendell deserves credit and praise for his efforts to re- vitalize Philadelphia. But that success would not be a story that includes four consecutive balanced budgets if it were not for the tireless efforts of David Cohen. This talented individual exemplifies public service: working hard, long hours with great sacrifice to himself and his family. He could have chosen a more lucrative private career path, but instead chose to dedi- cate many years of his life to a partnership with the mayor that led to the rebirth of a great city. Every Philadelphian is better off today for that choice.

On behalf of my fellow 1.6 million Philadel- phians, I wish David Cohen and his family great success and hope that they enjoy their future endeavors. We are all deeply indebted for the outstanding dedicated public service that David provided to help restore a bright, hope- ful future for the city that we all love.

IN HONOR OF VIRGIL GLADIEUX

HON. MARCY KAPTUR
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 20, 1997

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the passing of an outstanding citizen,