

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO DAVID D. CLEMENT

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to your attention the retirement of Mr. David D. Clement, a key staff member on the Committee on Science. On March 21, 1997, Mr. Clement retired after 35 years of Government service.

Mr. Clement, a native of Vallejo, CA, began his career in the House of Representatives in June 1965 while still attending George Washington University. His early service on Capitol Hill included duty with the U.S. Capitol Police and the Clerk of the House. While serving as administrative assistant to the late Lawrence G. Williams, he was a congressional alternate member of the American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. He also served on the Republican staff of the Committee on Appropriations before joining the Science Committee in the spring of 1977. He was appointed as chief of staff and chief counsel by Congressman Robert S. Walker in January 1989.

Before coming to Washington, Clement served in the U.S. Marine Corps with the 1st Marine Division. He retired from the Naval Reserve in 1995.

He is a graduate of the George Washington University with a B.B.A. in 1969 and a M.S. in 1972. He also graduated from the George Mason University School of Law in 1980 and is a member of the bars of the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Military Appeals, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and Mr. Clement's many friends, in thanking Mr. Clement for his many years of service to the United States of America.

A TRIBUTE TO JOAN AND DAN SILNA

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention Joan and Dan Silna, of Saddle River, NJ. Joan and Dan are being honored by Temple Emanuel of Woodcliff Lake, NJ in celebration of the temple's expansion, Temple 2000.

As members of Temple Emanuel for more than 20 years, Joan and Dan have always looked to the future of their congregation. They were instrumental in the temple's relocation from Westwood to its present location in Woodcliff Lake and have been leaders within the congregation ever since. Dan serves as a trustee on the temple board and Joan has served on numerous committees including, most recently, the catering committee. Dan

also served the temple as the Capital Campaign Chairman, spearheading successful fund-raising efforts for the Temple 2000 expansion, a tremendous time-consuming undertaking which Dan performed with great skill and dignity.

Faithful to the Jewish community, Dan combines business know-how with a concern for the continuity and perpetuation of Jewish culture. He works diligently not only for Temple Emanuel's members, but for the larger Jewish community as well through his commitment as a board member of the UJC of Bergen County and the YM-YMHA of Bergen County.

Joan's contributions have been likewise numerous and significant. Through the use of her artistic talents, she helped bring the very successful handworks fair to Temple Emanuel and continues to dedicate herself to the improvement of the synagogue.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Joan and Dan's children, Tracy and Amy, their family and friends, Temple Emanuel, and the Jewish community of northern New Jersey, in recognizing Joan and Dan Silna's admirable warmth and generosity to the community and for their embodiment of the highest ideals of Jewish giving.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE J. COLLINS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call my colleagues' attention to the passing of a dedicated public servant, Mr. George J. Collins. Mr. Collins served in the Marine Corps and in the private sector before beginning his career with the Government Printing Office in 1962. Mr. Collins served his Government and country with distinction. His commitment to public service serves as a model for all who knew him.

Mr. Collins was a devoted husband, father of 5 daughters, and grandfather of 14 grandchildren. He was a beloved constituent and an outstanding public servant. Please join with me in honoring his memory.

GEORGE J. COLLINS

MANAGER, QUALITY CONTROL AND TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT, GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

George J. Collins, Manager of the Quality Control and Technical Department of the Government Printing Office (GPO), died March 23, 1997. Mr. Collins had a distinguished career of public service at the GPO, and at the time of his death he had general responsibility for the development of product standards and quality attributes, testing, and inspection, as well as the supply of inks, adhesives, and other materials used in Government printing.

A native of Springfield, OH, Mr. Collins served in the United States Marine Corps. He received his bachelor of arts degree from Wittenberg College and pursued additional studies at the University of Cincinnati, Pennsylvania State University, North Da-

kota State College, the National Cash Register (NRC) Company, and with international correspondence schools. He earned certification in a variety of technical specialties, including high polymers, paint technology, water and waste treatment, industrial chemistry, and statistical methods.

Before entering Government service, Mr. Collins worked at NCR as senior research chemist in charge of their polymer group. Earlier experiences included service as a research chemist with the Commonwealth Engineering Company of Ohio, the Chadaloid Corporation, and New Wrinkle, Incorporated. He also worked for the City of Springfield, Ohio, and the Oliver Corporation as a laboratory technician.

Mr. Collins began his career at the GPO in 1962 as supervisory chemist in the Ink and Reprography Division of the Quality Control and Technical Department. He was promoted to Deputy Manager of the Department in December 1974 and to Manager in 1982. During his service with the GPO, Mr. Collins contributed to the development of plastic printing rollers, automated bank checks, and U.S. mail processing based on tagged inks. He chaired the interagency task group that developed the Federal Information Processing (FIPS) Standard for optical character recognition (OCR) form design, which proved to be the most popular FIPS standard ever published.

Mr. Collins initiated the GPO's environmental testing and control program. He established the organization that promulgated the GPO's Quality Assurance Through Attributes (QATAP) Program. The QATAP program was a singular achievement that resulted in the use of quantifiable attributes for measuring quality in Government printing, and it is central to the GPO's program of procuring more than 75 percent of all printing annually from the private sector.

Mr. Collins served on the Joint Committee on Printing's Advisory Council on Paper Specifications, which establishes standards for the acquisition of printing and writing papers for government use, including recycled paper. In 1994 he assisted the enactment of legislation requiring that all Federal lithographic printing be performed utilizing vegetable oil-based inks. Today, the *Congressional Record* and other congressional information products are produced on recycled paper with vegetable-based inks, products that Mr. Collins was instrumental in helping to introduce for Government use. He also worked on increasing the use of permanent papers for the production of records with enduring educational and research value.

Mr. Collins was a member of numerous professional and industry groups, and he represented the GPO on several advisory boards and committees. He was affiliated with the Franklin Technical Society of Washington, DC, the National Association of Litho Clubs (NALC), the Technical Association of the Graphic Arts (TAGA), the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry (TAPPI), the American Chemical Society (ACS), Toastmasters International, and the Committee for Graphic Arts Technologies and Standards (CGATS). He was the recipient of various awards for his professional activities, including the Award of Excellence from the Printing Institute of America's Executive Development Institute, and several GPO awards.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mr. Collins was a devoted husband to his wife Eleanor, father to five daughters, and grandfather to fourteen grandchildren.

Throughout his career, Mr. Collins exemplified skill in his profession and dedication to public service, and his contributions have made Government printing more cost-effective, efficient, and environmentally sound.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NAVY RECRUITING PROCESSING STATION, GUAM—THE 1996 TOP RECRUITING STATION IN THE NATION

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to commend the Navy Recruiting Processing Station [NRPS], Guam, for being named the Nation's top recruiting station for 1996. The Guam station, better known as "Team Guam," is led by NCC(NAC) Dwight K. Keola, the Recruiter-in-Charge. The other members of the team include PN1 Eusebio D. DeLuna, Jr., who is the chief administrator and classification and processing supervisor, as well as production recruiters EMC(SW) Wilfredo C. Pizarro, NC1 Todd E. Hubbard, and AT1(AW) David C. Jubilado.

Under the guidance and leadership of NCC(NAC) Keola, the Guam team beat out other Navy recruiting teams throughout the country and the world to earn this distinction. This was the first time that an overseas station was awarded. In addition to the Team Award, EMC(SW) Wilfredo C. Pizarro was named the 1996 Enlisted Recruiter of the Year, the first time that an overseas officer was selected as the Nation's top recruiter.

For fiscal year 1996, NRPS Guam enlisted 126 applicants, 217 percent of the requirement. NRPS Guam covers the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, the citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and United States citizens and resident aliens residing in Japan, Korea, Singapore, and the Philippines.

The majority of the applicants were guaranteed medical and aviation technical schools and training. Some were guaranteed training in naval engineering, construction, electrical and electronics, computers, nuclear engineering, administrative and logistics, and different mechanical operations. Several applicants were also guaranteed \$30,000 in Navy college funds.

NRPS Guam is the only recruiting station in the Nation which is not physically supported by a Military Processing Station [MEPS]. The MEPS was disestablished on Guam in 1990 and its functions were distributed between the recruiters, the recruiting support personnel, and some Navy commands. Despite this disadvantage, the NRPS Guam was able to accomplish their mission and exceed their goals. My congratulations to the team and to their families.

HONORING JULIA AND BUDDY FARRELL ON THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a wonderful couple as they mark a milestone in their lives, 50 years of marriage. Born and raised in Brooklyn, NY, Julia and Buddy Farrell were married at the church they had both grown up attending, Nativity Church, on June 7, 1947. On this Saturday, April 12, over 125 of their friends and family will honor them at a surprise party to celebrate their anniversary.

Before marrying Julia, Buddy proudly served his country in the U.S. Marines. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Queens, NY, where they raised their five children, Terri, Joan, Kathy, John, and Timmy. In 1964, their niece, Noreen, from County Kerry, Ireland, joined their family here in America.

Julia and Buddy were very active in St. Nicholas of Tolentine parish. Julia headed the "milk mothers," organized the majorettes, helped with the sports association, and volunteered in the gym. Buddy, who worked as a police officer with the New York City Police Department, also was involved in the Holy Name Society and the homeless shelter. Julia and Buddy are known to everyone for their giving natures and always reaching out to help their friends and family.

After working very hard and raising a wonderful family, they are living the good life in retirement in the condo in Leisure Village in Ridge, NY. Julia and Buddy are very proud of their children and adore their 12 grandchildren, Tricia, Maryellen, Danny, Kevin, John, Bridget, Casey, Erin, Matthew, Colin, Elizabeth, and Christopher, who range in age from 4 months to 25 years old. Julia and Buddy enjoy the company of many friends, playing golf, and swimming. In the winter, they go south to Florida, and in the summer, they spend time in Brant Lake, NY.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise with me today in honoring Julia and Buddy Farrell on 50 years of marriage, and in wishing them many more years of happiness together.

NATIONAL UNITY COALITION FOR ISRAEL RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I had the opportunity to address a coalition of Jewish and Christian groups who convened a national unity conference in support of Israel. Prime Minister Netanyahu was the keynote speaker at this important event. The National Unity Coalition consists of more than 200 American Christian and Jewish organizations which collectively represent more than 40 million citizens. Attendance at this event was filled to beyond capacity. Two ballrooms at an area hotel were needed to accommodate all the attendees.

At the conference a resolution of solidarity with Israel was unanimously adopted. Mr.

Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to share with my colleagues the text of this excellent resolution, and to thank those in attendance of their ongoing and dedicated commitment to the people of Israel. We wish the National Unity Conference for Israel much success in their future endeavors on behalf of a strong United States-Israel relationship, and look forward to working with them in the months and years to come.

RESOLUTION OF SOLIDARITY—NATIONAL UNITY CONFERENCE FOR ISRAEL

We, the members and friends of the National Unity Coalition for Israel, give unanimous congratulations and commendation to the people of the State of Israel in their tenacious struggle to survive and flourish in their God-given homeland, Eretz Israel.

We are firmly committed to Jerusalem as the legitimate, undivided capital of the Jewish state. The 3000 year union between the Jewish people and their holy city is a relationship unique in human history. We commend the U.S. Congress for passage of the Jerusalem Embassy Act of 1995 and urge immediate implementation of the move of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

While respecting the legitimate rights of all people in the region to live in peace, we call on responsible parties, particularly Israel and the United States, to halt further negotiations with the Palestinian Authority until Chairman Arafat and the Palestinian Authority take concrete steps to implement basic promises made but thus far blatantly disregarded.

Namely:

1. Amend the PLO charter, which calls for the annihilation of Israel.
2. Close illegal offices in Jerusalem operated in violation of previous agreements.
3. Effectively stop terrorist violence and cease giving the "green light" to violence when contentious issues arise between Israel and the Palestinian Authority.
4. Reduce the Palestinian "Police Force" to the size agreed to in the interim agreement.
5. Comply with legal obligations, including transfer of terrorist suspects.
6. Confiscate illegal arms.
7. Demonstrate a commitment to peace as opposed to continual threats to foment a state of war against Israel among Arab states.

We strongly urge that any funding for the Palestinian Authority, planned or in process, be withheld until compliance is guaranteed.

With due respect and regard for the rights of the Palestinian people and legitimate Arab states in the region, we insist that the basic issue affecting affairs in the Middle East is the survival of the modern State of Israel. Since its rebirth as a nation in 1948, Israel has never posed a threat to any neighbor nation. Israel has only responded to aggressors. It has contributed enormously to the social and economic welfare of the residents of the region. Israel stands as the single bastion of democracy in the Middle East and therefore remains an invaluable ally to the United States and democracies the world over. Israel holds the key to the future prosperity and social development of the region.

Beyond these obvious indispensable benefits, no people in the history of humanity has a more legitimate right to a place in the ancient land of their fathers. We hold that Israel's biblical, historical, and moral right to the land is inviolable, and, as a body representing more than 200 organizations of Zionist Christians and Jews, we stand unanimously with the people of Israel and their right, in the words of "Hatikvah," to live freedom in the land of Zion and Jerusalem.

TRIBUTE TO MING PAO DAILY
NEWS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Ming Pao Daily News, an esteemed newspaper serving the Chinese communities in Hong Kong and Canada. Today they celebrate the debut of their New York edition, the first Ming Pao publication in the United States.

The Ming Pao Daily News began publication in Hong Kong in 1959 and is now the third largest newspaper in Hong Kong in terms of advertising revenue and circulation. Highly regarded for its editorial integrity, Ming Pao has received many awards. In 1995, for the fourth consecutive year, the paper won 7 out of 10 annual awards presented by the Newspaper Society of Hong Kong. In 1996, according to a Hong Kong Chinese university survey, Ming Pao was ranked No. 1 in reader confidence and authoritativeness.

The Ming Pao Daily News currently publishes two Canadian papers which play an integral role in helping the Canadian Chinese communities acculturate to their new societies.

In these editions, Ming Pao has placed great emphasis on reporting Canadian news, local lifestyle, political and social events, and sports and entertainment. In New York, Ming Pao is determined to provide the Chinese speaking population with informative local, national and international news.

Ming Pao intends to continue its service to the Chinese speaking populations in the United States when it expands its publication to include San Francisco and Los Angeles in the near future.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the Ming Pao Daily News, a paper which takes great pride in its service to the North American Chinese population. I ask my colleagues to join me today in this well-deserved tribute to the Ming Pao Daily News as they launch their first edition in the United States. I wish them the greatest success.

HISPANICS HONORED FOR THEIR
NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO
NORTHWEST INDIANA

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, on Saturday, April 12, 1997, numerous outstanding Hispanics from Indiana's First Congressional District will be honored for their notable contributions to northwest Indiana. Student recognition certificates, a President's Award, a Cesar Chavez Community Service Award, and an Outstanding Family Award will be presented by the Northwest Indiana Hispanic Coordinating Council during a banquet held at the American Legion Post No. 369 in East Chicago, IN.

Hispanic students representing northwest Indiana and northeast Illinois high schools will be recognized for academic and athletic achievement. The students who will receive

awards for outstanding academic achievement include: Christina Sanchez and Neil Sharp, Andrean High School; Christine Mendoza, Calumet High School; Christine Siordia, Chesterton High School; Heather Vela, Donald E. Gavit High School; Sandra Martinez, East Chicago Central High School; Michael Soto, George Rogers Clark High School; Deanna Westerfield, Griffith High School; Diana Nevarez, Hammond High School; Christopher Calderon, Highland High School; Eric Chavez, Lake Central High School; Michelle Perez, Merrillville High School; Bethany Diaz, Morton High School; Jeanette Hernandez, Portage High School; Jesse Cisneros, River Forest High School; Elisa Maria Paramo, TF South High School; Kristina Vega, Thomas A. Edison Junior/Senior High School; Mike Cortez, Thornton Fractional North High School; Meghan Dougherty, Valparaiso High School; Antoinette Cardenas, West Side High School; Heather Trojnar, Whiting High School; and Jesse Flores, William A. Wirt High School.

Students who will receive awards for outstanding athletic achievement include: Nick Botts, Calumet High School; Brian Osan, Chesterton High School; Marco Lecea, Donald E. Gavit High School; Joel Rodriguez, East Chicago Central High School; Francisco Rodriguez, George Rogers Clark High School; Daniel Guerrero, Griffith High School; Christopher Moore, Hammond High School; Tony Elder, Highland High School; Vincent Sess, Lake Central High School; Jessica Vargas, Merrillville High School; Jason Mendoza, Morton High School; Leroy Vega, Portage High School; Michael Cortez, River Forest High School; Joe Yanez, Thomas A. Edison Junior/Senior High School; Antonio Diaz, Thornton Fractional North High School; and Jorge Del Real, Whiting High School.

The council will also present the Outstanding Family Award to the Rosillo family. This distinguished family was carefully selected from many qualified families on the basis of their unity and dedication to one another's successes. In addition, Benjamin T. Luna will be presented with the President's Award. This honor is given to an individual exhibiting extraordinary leadership skills by means of guiding and mentoring the Hispanic community at large. Also, Medi-MEX, Inc., a nonprofit organization which provides medical services to the poor in Mexico, will receive the Cesar Chavez Community Service Award. The Cesar Chavez award is presented to an agency or group of individuals which have made noticeable contributions to the Hispanic community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in applauding all of the award recipients chosen by the Northwest Indiana Hispanic Coordinating Council. All of these individuals are most deserving of the honors bestowed upon them. Moreover, I would like to commend the Northwest Indiana Hispanic Coordinating Council, its president, Socorro M. Roman, and all of the council members for committing themselves to the preservation of their culture. It is my privilege to recognize them for their outstanding achievements.

THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
OF STEPHEN AND JANE SCILLIERI

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the momentous occasion of the 50th wedding anniversary of Stephen and Jane Scillieri of Paterson, NJ. Stephen and Jane celebrated their anniversary on February 16, 1997.

Born and raised in Paterson, Stephen and Jane are active members of the community, especially through their involvement with Blessed Sacrament Church, where they are parishioners.

Stephen is the proud owner and president of Scillieri Funeral Home of Paterson and Hawthorne. He has served as former president of both the State Board of Mortuary Science and the Passaic County Funeral Directors Association.

Jane is retired from the Prudential Insurance Co.

The loving couple are proud parents of two children, Stephen Anthony and JoEllen Cox. In addition to being proud parents, the two are also proud grandparents of four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Stephen and Jane's family and friends, Blessed Sacrament Church, and the city of Paterson in recognizing the momentous occasion of Stephen and Jane Scillieri's 50th wedding anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD E. MUIR

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to inform the House of the passing of one of the most effective and respected political leaders in modern California political history, and a very dear friend throughout my adult life, Donald E. Muir of San Francisco. A heavily-attended memorial service this past weekend in San Francisco brought together an enormous assortment of public officials, former officeholders, colleagues, friends—all testimony to the active role Don played in the life of California politics and the Democratic Party over the past 30 years.

Don had been a colleague on the staff of State Senator George Moscone in the 1970's in Sacramento, and since that time was a trusted adviser to many of the leading Democratic officeholders in California at the State and Federal levels.

Don Muir was a political realist, and for him, politics was in part a business. No one performed the business side of politics more expertly or tirelessly. Don was a pro who could read politicians better than anyone, sometimes better than themselves.

But politics was more than business for Don Muir, too. It was very personal.

He was cynical without being a cynic; his easy going style—open-necked shirts and cowboy boots—belied an intensity and a competitiveness that were renowned.

For all his partisanship and fascination with insider intrigue, Don's real love was for our

democratic institutions. He understood as well as anyone the practical pressures confronted by elected officials confronting difficult choices, but he always figured Franklin D. Roosevelt—one of his heroes—had it about right: political leaders should challenge their constituents and their Nation, and shouldn't sacrifice principle and the public good to fleeting whims or political expediency.

At a time when many ran and hid from the stigmatized notion of being a "liberal," Don remained an unabashed and unapologetic believer that government should help the poor and the disenfranchised. He wasn't in the least starry-eyed, utopian, or naive. But he was unwilling to abandon his deep faith in people and our constitutional system because of what was popular or saleable at any particular time.

Don was an adviser, a fundraiser, a strategist, and kibbitzer. He loved the campaign fights and he loved the corridors of the legislatures—state and national—but he also loved sitting for hours in some San Francisco restaurant, a glass of good California wine in his hand, speculating about political developments and digesting political gossip.

Don was born in Roseville, CA, the son of railroad workers, and held degrees from Sierra College, California State University at Sacramento, and San Francisco State. He taught government and English in Roseville until he was sucked into the world of elections and politics during the 1960 Presidential campaign of Senator John F. Kennedy. He subsequently worked in the 1962 reelection campaign in which Pat Brown defeated Richard Nixon, and then in the 1964 Presidential campaign for President Lyndon B. Johnson.

After working in Brown's 1966 campaign, he became the Governor's travel secretary, and began a career in fundraising that continued through every succeeding Presidential campaign, and countless campaigns for State and Federal candidates.

But for all the fun he had and the substantive contributions he made to our political process, I often think that Don's first choice would have been to return to academia, finish up that elusive doctorate, and teach what he had learned about our political system to another generation of Americans.

He did return to teach at San Francisco State, and he would have made a great career professor, just as I am sure he was an inspiring teacher earlier in his career and in his last several years as well. He was knowledgeable, he was passionate, and he was deeply committed. In the end, leukemia would overtake his powerful spirit.

Don leaves a wonderful family, his wife Linda, with whom he built a successful business and raised three accomplished children, Stacey, Maggie and Mike. To them and to the rest of his family, all of us who profited by this man's faith and friendship offer our deep condolences and prayers.

Don's legacy lives on not only in his children and grandchild, but in the scores of people influenced and inspired by him to dedicate themselves to lives of public service for the improvement of our society.

TRIBUTE TO STEVEN BENTLEY

HON. ROBERT A. WEYGAND

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. WEYGAND. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to an exceptional young man, Mr. Steven Bentley, who has devoted much hard-earned effort to achieving the Boy Scout's highest rank of Eagle Scout. This award reflects great initiative, determination, and hard work.

Steven received his Eagle Scout badge by completing sorely needed renovations to Old St. Mary's Church hall, one of the oldest Roman Catholic churches in Rhode Island.

Steven is an example of the best of America's youth, those dedicated to improving life in their community and who strive to reach their highest potential.

The 16-year-old son of Bruce and Patricia Bentley, Steven resides in West Warwick, RI, where he is a student at West Warwick High School. I am sure his parents are extremely proud of their son's achievement. I have confidence that the Boy Scouts have prepared him to face life's challenges with great determination and character. On behalf of the people of Rhode Island, I would like to thank Steven for his service to the community and wish him great success in the future.

RADIO VISION'S 17TH ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION DAY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on April 12, 1997, Radio Vision, a service organization in the 20th District of New York will be celebrating its 17th annual Volunteer Recognition Day.

Radio Vision is a closed-circuit radio broadcasting service that provides news and information for the blind and sight impaired throughout five counties in the Hudson Valley region of New York. Radio Vision, which is staffed completely by volunteers, gives the opportunity for hundreds of sight-impaired persons to learn more of what is occurring around them.

A sight impaired person's access to the media is limited to listening to radio and television broadcasts that only briefly outline national and international news. For a person that has difficulty holding or reading a newspaper, local news and happenings—such as which stores have sales, where new facilities have opened in the vicinity, and what our neighbors are accomplishing—is difficult to obtain.

Radio Vision provides a free-closed-circuit radio to people who require help in getting news. The 105 dedicated volunteers read local news, topical literature, shopping hints and other vital information to more than 400 blind, sight impaired or otherwise disabled Hudson Valley residents who subscribe to the Radio Vision service.

Their voluntary hard work has enriched the lives of many of our constituents, and I am proud to note their good works to my colleagues.

REMEMBERING LARRY BIENSTOCK

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor a courageous man and to try to shed some light on the tragic disease which he courageously fought. Larry Bienstock was my constituent and lived on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. He attended Columbia University and received his law degree from New York University. Everyone who knew him, even in passing, was amazed at his searing intelligence, his fierce independence, and, above all, his unwavering commitment to the cause of dystonia. Unfortunately, Larry knew dystonia well.

Generalized dystonia symptoms began when he was a boy and progressed in adulthood to the point of confining him to a wheelchair. Yet despite the cruel nature of this debilitating disease, Larry's spirit never dampened. During the many years that I knew and worked with Larry, I learned directly from him about his battle with dystonia.

Dystonia is a neurological disorder characterized by severe involuntary muscle contractions and sustained postures. There are several different types of dystonia, such as: generalized dystonia which afflicts many parts of the body and usually begins in childhood; focal dystonias affecting one specific part of the body such as the eyelids, vocal cords, neck, arms, hands or feet; and secondary dystonia which is secondary to injury or other brain illness.

There is no definitive test for dystonia and many primary care doctors have never seen a case of it. These facts coupled with its varied presentations make it difficult to correctly diagnose. It is estimated that 85% of those suffering from dystonia are not diagnosed or have been misdiagnosed. Because of the complications with diagnosing the disease, it is difficult to determine the number of people who are affected by it. The Dystonia Medical Research Foundation estimates that approximately 300,000 individuals in North America alone suffer from some form of dystonia.

Unembarrassed by his condition, Larry and his wheelchair went traveling often—to lobby for funding in the halls of the Capitol, to the boulevards of Paris, to symposia and social events related to dystonia. Throughout his life, Larry was always a fighter for research into the cause and treatment of dystonia.

Larry was active in politics, volunteering on political campaigns and with the local Democratic party. He felt that government belonged to the people and he always took advantage of opportunities to speak out on issues he felt strongly about. He spread his word via the Internet and created a web page for the Dystonia Medical Research Foundation, which can be found at: <http://www.ziplink.net/users/dystonia/>.

Larry saw e-mail and his web page as powerful tools for bringing together people concerned about dystonia and for establishing a strong collective voice for advocacy. Larry Bienstock provided a model of courage, perseverance, and independence.

When he passed away recently, Larry Bienstock left a legacy of activism and advocacy. He taught me about dystonia, and more importantly, about the undying human spirit.

TRIBUTE TO THEODORE HOWARTH,
JR.

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an individual who has given of himself to make his borough a better place to live. I am speaking of Chief Theodore J. Howarth, Jr., the newly elected State Commander of the American Legion Department of New Jersey. Our State is fortunate to have a leader like Chief Howarth in this important position.

Chief Theodore Howarth's dedication to New Jersey and his fellow citizens is exemplary. Chief Howarth is a lifelong resident of Gloucester City. He served in the Navy for two tours in Vietnam, earning the Navy Commendation Ribbon, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, the National Defense Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal. In January 1972, Chief Howarth joined the Gloucester City Police Department, where he steadily rose through the ranks. On December 7, 1988, Theodore Howarth became the chief of police of Gloucester City, a position at which he continues to excel. During his memorable 24-year career in Gloucester City, Chief Howarth has accomplished much. He has established a pathbreaking Juvenile Adjudication Program, established numerous community programs in concert with the school system, and community service organizations, promoted a policy of Community Oriented Policing, and has pursued consistent professionalism in a police organization.

In addition to his impressive police career, Chief Howarth has shown a deep commitment to bettering himself and his community. While serving in the Gloucester City Police Department, Chief Howarth completed his bachelor of science degree in law and justice. He has served the Policemen's Benevolent Association in all elected and appointed positions. Chief Howarth currently serves as vice president of the Camden County Police Chief's Association, and is active on the State and national levels as well. Chief Howarth has also served the people of Gloucester City through such community organizations as the Jaycees, the Carmen Palmiero (Youth) Basketball League, the Police Athletic League, the Gloucester City Municipal Youth Services Commission, the Gloucester City Celebrations Committee, and the Gloucester City Chamber of Commerce, rising to president of each of these organizations. In addition, Chief Howarth is active in Little League baseball, and serves as vice president of the Gloucester City Lions Club. Through his vigorous community involvement, Chief Howarth has been honored many times, received such awards as Outstanding Citizenship Awards from the Jaycees, Sportsman's A.C., and V.F.W. Post #3620, as well as the New Jersey Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award from both the American Legion Department of New Jersey and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of New Jersey.

In addition to his active career and dedication to community service, Chief Theodore Howarth has remained an active participant in the American Legion. He has risen through the ranks, and was elected State Commander of the American Legion Department of New Jersey in 1997.

All who know Chief Theodore Howarth are honored by his service to the people of Gloucester City and of New Jersey. I know that Chief Howarth's wife, Candy, and son, Sean, are as proud of his accomplishments as we all are. Chief Howarth's service has been remarkable, and I congratulate and thank him on behalf of all the citizens of New Jersey.

HELP MAKE THE AMERICAN
DREAM POSSIBLE FOR THOSE
WHO SERVED

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, thousands of former servicemen and servicewomen in a number of States are currently prohibited from receiving State-financed home mortgages. That is why Representative HERGER and I are reintroducing the Veterans American Dream Homeownership Assistance Act.

Under a little-known provision of the 1984 tax bill, veterans in certain States who served in the Armed Forces beginning any time after 1976 are all but prohibited from receiving a State-financed veterans home mortgage. In my State of Wisconsin, this means that most of our fighting men and women in uniform who served in Panama, Grenada, and the gulf war cannot get veterans home mortgages from their own State government, even if the State government would like to grant them. Are those who began serving their country after 1976 any less deserving than those who went before?

Why does this cutoff exist? This cutoff was created to raise additional revenue for the 1984 tax bill by limiting the use of tax-exempt bonds to finance State veterans mortgage programs. When this provision was passed, post-1976 vets were a small percentage of all veterans, without much voice to protest this discriminatory change. But 13 years later, there are thousands who have served our country honorably in that period. The five affected State veterans affairs departments believe that if this bill becomes law, they can help a great number of these post-1976 vets purchase their own home. The States that are currently permitted to use this Federal tax-exempt State bond financing are Wisconsin, California, Texas, Oregon, and Alaska.

This legislation would simply eliminate the cutoff that exists under current law. Under our proposal, former servicemen and servicewomen in the five States who served our country beginning in 1977 or any years after that could be eligible to qualify for a home mortgage loan provided by their States. Our proposal does not increase Federal discretionary spending 1 cent but simply allows the permitted States who so choose to help all their veterans regardless of when they served.

Why should we continue to exclude from State assistance certain vets who have served our country, just because they served recently? We believe that at the Federal level we should at least allow our own States to help those who served our Nation honorably. Please help those veterans of Grenada, Panama, and the gulf war in the affected States who want to own their own home. Please join Representative HERGER and I and the 60 bi-

partisan cosponsors from the 104th Congress in cosponsoring the Veterans American Dream Homeownership Assistance Act.

IN HONOR OF LEO WENE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory and works of a great public citizen, Leo Wene.

Mr. Wene, a retired college physics professor, was actively engaged in his community's most pressing social and economic issues. He headed efforts to establish a municipal electric power distribution system for Chardon, OH, after seeing the value municipal power has provided Cleveland. He criticized foolhardy attempts at unsafely storing nuclear waste and unbraided proponents of the plan.

Mr. Wene was an active participant in the political process and, through his example, showed to many the value of activism. He served as chairman of the Committee for Fair Utility Rates and of the Tri-County Environment and Consumer Advocate Council. He encouraged fellow citizens to become involved in the process and to let their representatives know where they stood.

Mr. Wene was educated at Ohio State University and the University of Idaho, where he received his master's degree.

During World War II, he served with the Army's 83d Infantry Division in Europe. He participated in four major campaigns and was wounded at the Battle of the Bulge. Mr. Wene was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry.

Mr. Wene is survived by his wife of 57 years, Cleo; daughter Jennifer of Westerville, OH; sons, Kenneth of Bethel, CT; Daryl of North Royalton, OH, and Peter of Waldorf, MD; as well as five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Ohio will miss him terribly.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE LITHUANIAN AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LAKE COUNTY, IN

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to congratulate the Lithuanian American Council of Lake County, IN, and the Lithuanian community on the 79th anniversary of Lithuanian independence.

The Lithuanian American Council celebrated Lithuanian independence from the Soviet Union, which occurred in 1918, on Sunday, February 16, 1997, at St. Casimir's Church in Gary, IN. Following tradition, the anniversary ceremony began with a church service starting at 11:30 a.m. After the church service, the Lithuanian American Council held a flag raising ceremony outside of the church to honor those Lithuanians who pledged their allegiance to independence for their people. The event concluded with a dinner in the church hall.

I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Lithuanian American Council of

Lake County and its officers, including: Vincent J. Gumulauskis, who has been president for 5 years; Pete D. Auksel and Casimir Balt, both of whom are vice-presidents; Birute Vilutis, secretary; and Walter Ruzga, treasurer. Allow me to also commend the board of directors, whose members include the Reverend Ignatius Urbonas, Aleksas Degutis, Alex Navardauskas, Dan Pauls, Frank Petrites, Brone Tampuskas, and Izidorius Tavaras. Finally, I would like to commend every member of the Lithuanian American Council for the loyalty and enthusiasm they have displayed.

The Lithuanian American Council of Lake County, IN, is a branch of the Lithuanian American Council, Inc. It was founded in 1940 and originated in large cities such as Boston, Chicago, and New York. The organization in Lake County was initially headquartered at St. Francis Church in East Chicago, IN, until recently when the building was demolished. The organization was then moved to St. Casimir where its home is today.

It is my sincere hope that 1997 will bring renewed prosperity for all members of the Lithuanian community and their families. May this 79th anniversary year prove to be a most joyous one.

TRIBUTE TO DELMA CUCCINELLO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention Delma Cuccinello of Haledon.

Delma is retiring from her position of administrative clerk in the office of the Superintendent of Elections, Passaic County, NJ, after 31 years of public service.

During her 31 years, Delma has worked under five superintendents of election, and has touched the lives of many.

A native of Paterson, Delma now resides in Haledon with her husband, Lou, and the couple celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year. Delma and Lou are the proud parents of two daughters, and the proud grandparents of two grandsons.

Although a resident of Haledon, Delma remains very active in the Riverside Veterans Organization of Paterson, and is an integral part of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Delma's family and friends, and the county of Passaic in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Delma Cuccinello.

"LAND FOR A LIAR'S PROMISES"

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, one of the issues that Israel's Prime Minister Netanyahu highlighted during his visit to Washington this week focused on the lopsided and inaccurate reporting about Israel's role in the Middle East peace process. At two events I attended where the Prime Minister spoke, he made

forceful and convincing arguments that it is Israel which is in compliance with its commitments. However, most of the media have fallen prey to the international propaganda espoused by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and others which blames Israel for every problem that is encountered along the negotiating path, he concluded.

Thankfully, though, there are some individuals, like columnist George Will, whose ability to cut through the obfuscation remains intact. His recent article, which appeared in numerous newspapers around the country, sheds light on the true reality of the current situation. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I wish to share the text of this piece with my colleagues, many of whom have reiterated their concerns to me about Yasser Arafat's true intentions.

[From the Washington Post, Mar. 27, 1997]

LAND FOR A LIAR'S PROMISES

(By George F. Will)

Israel's critics, who are legion and live in safe neighborhoods, says Israel is being provocative. Actually, Israel's being is provocative.

On one day, Palestinian violence is said to have been provoked by the opening of a tunnel. One another day, the provocation is said to be the beginning of construction of apartments. But the real reasons for the violence are: Violence has always been part of the warp and woof of Yasser Arafat's politics (remember, he once wore a pistol to the U.N. podium), and there is no penalty for it. Indeed, in the eyes of the "international community," Palestinian violence is self-legitimizing: It is proof of Israeli provocation.

No Israeli government could allow Arafat to veto the construction of apartments on unoccupied land in East Jerusalem owned by the Israeli state. To allow that would be to make a de facto territorial concession, conceding that Jerusalem is redivided, with Arafat sovereign in part of it.

Arafat released terrorists. Israeli intelligence says that he authorized attacks and that the head of Palestinian Preventative Security organized the Hebron riots. Last Friday, at a rally of 10,000 in Nablus, a speaker announced the "good news" of the terrorist's suicide attack in Tel Aviv, and the crowd cried, "God is great." An Arafat aide said, "The terror of bulldozers led to the terror of explosives." What kind of peace can be made with people who talk like that?

Arafat's recurring resort to violence refutes the premise of the Oslo accords, which was that land was being traded for peace. Something tangible—territory—has indeed been traded for something intangible—promises, a liar's promises. Everything about Arafat's repertoire—the violence, the rhetoric to Arabic-speaking audiences about "combat" and "jihad" and capturing all of Jerusalem, the refusal to fulfill the obligation to remove from the Palestine Charter references to the illegitimacy and destruction of Israel—is consistent with the strategy adopted in 1974. That is the "phased" strategy of founding a Palestinian state from which will be launched the final attack on a diminished Israel.

American diplomats who soothingly refer to Arafat as Israel's "partner in the peace process" visit Arafat's Ramallah office with its wall map of Palestine with Israel's borders erased. Such maps are frequent ornaments of political and cultural programming on Palestinian Authority television. Such maps are used in Palestinian commercial advertising and as jewelry. On the main Bethlehem-Hebron road stands a monument to the Palestinian "martyrs of the Intifada"

in the shape of a map of Palestine, including all the land of Israel. The diplomats probably wonder about the "real" meaning of such maps, just as diplomats wondered what Nazis "really" meant when they spoke of the "destruction" of European Jewry.

Israel lives in a bad neighborhood. One reason it is bad is that the Palestine people have had a long run of execrable leaders: leaders who supported Hitler in World War II, the Soviet Union during the Cold War and Saddam Hussein in the Gulf War. Perhaps things will get better. Perhaps when a full-fledged Palestinian state exists on the West Bank, that 22nd Arab state will be the first Arab democracy. But would those who are asking Israel to bet its life on that be willing to bet theirs?

Former prime minister Shimon Peres, when asked if Israel could safely consent to be again, as before 1967, 10 miles wide at the waist, blandly said that Israel would still be, in effect, 40 miles deep strategically because "all the land we give back must be demilitarized." But although this Palestinian state does not yet fully exist, it already is militarized with at least 30,000 well-armed soldier-policemen. Will the fully emerged state accept restrictions on its sovereignty that no other nation accepts?

And who would enforce such restrictions? The "international community" that dithered during genocide in Bosnia and is inexhaustibly "understanding" about Palestinian violence? Should Israel rely on a U.S. commitment? As Golda Meir said to President Nixon when he suggested something similar, "By the time you get here, we won't be here."

It is said that people hope vaguely but dread precisely. Modern history has provided Israelis a dread that is the premise of their statecraft: No calamity is impossible. So while the "international community" will continue to criticize Israel for the provocations inherent in its existence, Israel's riposte will be Golda Meir's words: Jews are used to collective eulogies, but Israel will not die so that the world will speak well of it.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE REX SATER

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated and caring public servant, the Honorable Judge Rex Sater. Judge Sater is to be commended for 21 years of outstanding service as a judge on the Sonoma County supreme court in Santa Rosa, CA.

Judge Sater earned great respect and admiration for his handling of family law cases. His rule that disputing parties must talk matters over before involving the judge is now a common practice used throughout California known as meet and confer. His respect for juries and the justice system was clear. In fact, Judge Sater was one of the first to start the practice of having participants and spectators rise each time the jury came in and out of the courtroom.

In addition to his exemplary service as a judge, he was involved in the community as an advocate for native American causes and was a founder of the Sonoma County chapter of the ACLU.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to the Honorable Judge Rex Sater.

Sonoma County was very fortunate to have had such a dedicated judge. We thank him for the fair and compassionate manner he always conducted his court. I extend my congratulations and best wishes on his semiretirement to he, his wife, Kate, and their family. He will be missed by all.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES D.
DOUGHERTY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James D. Dougherty, who is stepping down as president of the Gramercy Neighborhood Associates [GNA]. Mr. Dougherty has served as GNA's president since 1990.

Over the past 7 years, as a result of Mr. Dougherty's leadership and vision, GNA has helped improve the Gramercy Park neighborhood in many ways. Among the GNA initiatives undertaken during his tenure, there are two I would like to note. GNA worked to replace 24 cobra lampposts with the more attractive and historically appropriate Bishop's Crook lampposts. Additionally, GNA published the award-winning book, "Gramercy: Its Architectural Surroundings," which is playing a pivotal role in the drive to expand the Gramercy Park Historic District.

Mr. Dougherty first moved to the Gramercy area in 1960 when he was attending Columbia Law School. After 8 years of practicing law on Wall Street, Mr. Dougherty joined Pathmark Supermarkets, Inc., as a lawyer. In 1987, he was appointed president of Pathmark.

Mr. Dougherty's volunteer work does not stop with GNA. Since his retirement from Pathmark in 1990, Mr. Dougherty has also taken an active role in the environment. He served as the chairman of the Nature Conservancy chapter on the east end of Long Island and as a director of the New York League of Conservation Voters.

Mr. Dougherty has also applied his retail experience to several State Department volunteer assignments. He spent a month in Latvia in 1992, during the first winter of its independence from the Soviet Union, helping to establish new distribution channels for scarce food and medical supplies. In 1996, he spent 2 months in Siberia advising a Russian retail chain in the design and opening of its first supermarket.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor James Dougherty, a man who has used his expertise and leadership to serve his own community and the communities of others around the world. I ask my colleagues to join me today in this well deserved tribute to Mr. James Dougherty.

HONORING JOHN Q. HAMMONS

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend John Q. Hammons, who is well known in the

Ozarks and beyond for accomplishments that have affected the lives of many in countless ways. Mr. Hammons has deep roots in southwest Missouri. He was born in Newton County and after finishing high school Mr. Hammons attended Monett Junior College and Southwest Missouri State University where he completed his bachelor's degree. His adult road to success began at Cassville High as a teacher and coach, and then as a cost engineer for the Alaska Highway. He served his country in World War II as a lieutenant (jg) on Navy troop transports in both the Atlantic and the Pacific.

Living in southwest Missouri it is difficult to not be aware of the many real estate developments his vision has produced. Some outstanding projects include the Glen Isle Center, Southern Hills, Village Garden Apartments, Kimberling City, University Plaza Hotel, the Springfield Trade and Convention Center, Highland Springs Country Club, and the Hammons Towers. His most recent and highly recognized development is the Chateau on the Lake Hotel and Convention Center near Table Rock Dam, a resort likely to receive national renown. His business ventures have provided a multitude of jobs and opportunities. John Q. demonstrated his commitment to community improvements by donating the land and the supporting architectural services for the recently built headquarters for the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce.

John Q. is well known to many outside the business community through his contributions to education, the arts, athletics, and medicine. In the field of education Mr. Hammons has generously given back to Southwest Missouri State University including the Hammons House dormitory and the Hammons Student Center, where 9,000 watch Bears basketball. At Drury College he helped to initiate the support and the ensuing construction of the Hammons School of Architecture. He was one of the founders of the Springfield Public Schools Foundation Challenge Grants to increase their computer technology and provide for the distribution of the Springfield News Leader and USA Today in the classroom.

John and his wife, Juanita, recognized the need to continue the development of the arts and gave major contributions to help build the Juanita K. Hammons Hall for the Performing Arts at Southwest Missouri State University. For those individuals who enjoy public television the Hammons provided the founder's gift to establish the Ozarks Public Television station and they have continued their support with Challenge Grants.

For the sports enthusiast, he donated the land and five million dollars to build the Missouri Sports Hall of Fame to help recognize those in Missouri who have excelled athletically. Those individuals in need of medical assistance have been especially thankful to Mr. Hammons for his donations to the St. Johns Regional Health Center which have included the Hammons Life Line emergency helicopter, a heart wing and the Hammons Heart Institute.

It would be easy to mention many other notable accomplishments but perhaps it is enough to remember that he has reached each of these goals one day at a time with persistence and hard work. We thank John Q. Hammons for his contributions and his examples.

A BUDGET THAT INVESTS IN
AMERICA'S FUTURE

HON. GEORGE E. BROWN, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. BROWN of California. Mr. Speaker, for the last 2 months, we have seen a great deal of rhetoric on the budget, but there has been no action. Next week marks the deadline for passage of a budget resolution, but there is no chance that we will meet that goal. We are in a stalemate and seem incapable of moving ahead on the budget or any of the rest of the issues that confront the Congress.

I will be the first to admit that crafting a sensible budget resolution is no easy task. It requires taking public positions that may be uncomfortable, setting spending goals and priorities that may bring questions and criticism, and being willing to take risks in order to gain some progress. I know all of this because I have struggled to develop a comprehensive budget over the last few months.

Today, I am introducing a concurrent resolution on the budget aimed at achieving three major goals. First it will establish moderate budgetary growth and sustained investments in capital expenditures that are associated with future productivity. Second, it will incorporate a new structure to the budget process that more clearly identifies these investments and enforces the budgetary goals we set for these in the future. This approach has come to be called the investment budget and it is my hope that Congress will consider it a first step in reversing the dramatic decline in investments that we have witnessed over the past decade. Third, this investment budget reaches balance by the year 2002.

The 104th Congress was a crucial turning point in addressing the Federal deficit. The White House, the Republican majority, and the Democratic minority have all committed to achieving a fully balanced budget by the year 2002. While this will remain a political imperative, there is not yet a coherent or unifying policy to guide this process. Past proposals Congress has considered range from artful accounting exercises to ideological social blueprints. None have fully addressed the underlying imperative to create an economy that can sustain growth after the year 2002.

The 105th Congress is now struggling to reach a consensus over a wide variety of budgetary issues including tax cuts, adjustments to the Consumer Price Index, defense spending, and entitlement reform. There is a rare opportunity at this time to offer a unifying goal to this discussion. The fundamental challenge Congress faces is the need to shift public spending away from consumption toward investment. My concern over our seeming inability to distinguish investment from consumption has led me to propose this bill today.

In accomplishing these objectives, the investment budget will also eliminate the deficit by the year 2002 by proposing certain changes in entitlement programs, and curbing the growth of other noninvestment discretionary programs. Finally, the investment budget will postpone any proposed tax cuts until the budget is balanced.

As I said before, I am not an expert on the budget and this concurrent resolution borrows heavily from those more familiar with this process than I am. I have drawn inspiration from

my friends in the Conservative Coalition, the so-called Blue Dogs, by adopting some of their entitlement reforms. I have drawn inspiration from the President by adopting his education and worker training programs. I have drawn inspiration from my friends on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee who have been articulately advocating enhanced physical infrastructure expenditures. And, of course, I have listened to colleagues on both sides of the aisle who demand that we lay out a course for Federal policy that will lead to a balanced budget by the year 2002.

The case for investments rests on the long recognized strong relationship between public investments and economic growth. Growth in the gross domestic product is generally due to the growth in the labor force, which is entirely dependent on demographics, and growth in the productivity index, the output produced per unit of input. This later is strongly influenced by investments in technology, capital infrastructure, and human resources. That is, productivity depends directly on the availability of private capital stock, work force skill and training, and the rate at which technology is improved and applied in the workplace.

The corollary to this is that economic growth and economic opportunity are complementary. Economic growth will make resources broadly available to widen opportunity and increase employment. The slowdown in productivity beginning in the 1970's was accompanied both by slower growing family real incomes and by a widening of the income gap.

In order to renew and sustain productivity increases over the next decade, the emerging consensus among economists is that policies should be pursued that increase higher national savings, encourage more open and efficient markets, and shift public spending away from consumption and towards productive investment. It is this later policy goal that is the focus of the investment budget. It should be emphasized, however, that a budget resolution alone cannot address the full scope of the productivity problem. Additional public policies will be called for over the coming decade that complement this in other areas such as overall fiscal control, international trade, and incentives for private capital formation.

The proposed investment budget sets specific targets for growth in investments, such as research and development, physical infrastructure, and education and training. The overall goal for research and development spending is aimed at keeping pace with the growth in the gross domestic product and reversing the declining trend evident in other budget proposals.

The goal for physical infrastructure funding is to achieve productivity gains over the near term by improving surface, water, and air transportation systems and enhancing their efficiency. This is accomplished by increasing discretionary spending to a level that can be efficiently sustained by the existing trust fund revenues.

The third critical element relates to human resources. Aggressive education and training programs will ensure that all Americans can participate in and benefit from these productivity gains. The goal is to narrow the income gap and to enable a workforce that can be integrated into the overall growth in the economy that technology and transportation investments will bring.

In the aggregate, the investment budget identifies \$910 billion in public investments

over the 5-year period ending in 2002. This exceeds the President's request for these investments by over \$70 billion. In the President's fiscal year 1998 budget request, the funding level for Federal investment represents 2.7 percent of the GDP. This is the lowest level of funding for Federal investment since definitional records have been kept. Although the investment budget falls far short of reestablishing the level of investment the Nation made in the past, it does begin to reverse the precipitous decline.

In order to fully address this problem, however, it is not enough to simply propose higher spending levels in the future. It is also necessary to fix the budget process in a manner that more clearly distinguishes capital investments and consumption and enforces any target we set during the appropriations process. This would provide a remedy to a long-recognized irrationality in the budget process that treats investment and consumption as equivalent expenditures whose only uniqueness lies in their outlay rates rather than their functional effect on the economy. There are several factors that account for this state of affairs. First, the President's budget does not specifically identify investments in a manner that can be addressed in the congressional budget process.

Second, the present structure of the congressional budget process for allocating discretionary resources is strongly influenced by the cold war concern for maintaining a strong defense. Thus, Congress has acted to construct a budgetary firewall between defense and nondefense discretionary expenditures. The decisionmaking process then takes place in two separate vacuums. Funding to continue combat-ready reserve units is pitted against weapons modernization, funding to advance new cutting-edge technologies is pitted against new prisons, the space program is pitted against veterans, and so on.

The investment budget, on the other hand, is aimed at restructuring the budget process to directly distinguish between investments and consumption in the decisionmaking process. This will provide a more meaningful contemporary context to the decisionmaking process that will be needed in the coming decades. The firewall that previously existed between defense and nondefense will be transformed into a division between investments and noninvestments. Under this process, specific multiyear targets for investments will be set that can sustain and enhance productivity. The allocation process made under section 602 of the Budget Act will be oriented around investments and noninvestments rather than defense and nondefense.

We are undergoing a number of political, economic, and social changes in this Nation, yet we will be unable to fully debate these issues until we fix the budget problem and move beyond the current congressional stalemate. This investment budget seeks to break the stalemate by suggesting a new approach that allows sensible growth through investment while balancing the budget. This budget also begins to show a way of taking advantage of the changes occurring around us, by investing in a base of knowledge and physical infrastructure that provides us with a wider range of options.

Mr. Speaker, I am enclosing a brief summary of the resolution and a list of assumptions we have made in developing it. I hope

that my colleagues join me in supporting this approach when we consider the budget later this month.

SUMMARY OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
INTRODUCED BY MR. BROWN

The Investment Budget is aimed at maintaining strong Federal investment in areas such as research and development, capital infrastructure, and education and training within an overall balanced budget. The Investment Budget recognizes that in the post-Cold War era, the critical balance should be struck between investments and consumption rather than defense and non-defense. The legislation establishes a process which protects investments from excessive growth in consumption programs.

The following assumptions were used in developing the Investment Budget:

The bill assumes enactment of Title VII of H.R. 2530 introduced in the 104th Congress, adjusted as necessary for current enactment dates. This provides for certain reforms for the Medicaid program and was developed by the House Conservative Coalition.

The bill assumes enactment of Title VIII of H.R. 2530 introduced in the 104th Congress, adjusted as necessary for current enactment dates. This provides for certain reforms for the Medicare program and was developed by the House Conservative Coalition.

The bill assumes a uniform adjustment to the CPI of .5%.

The bill assumes enactment of the President's proposals contained in Table S-7 of the Budget entitled "Eliminate unwarranted benefits and adopt other revenue measures" and "Other provisions that affect receipts".

Key aspects of the Investment Budget are as follows:

Balanced Budget.—The Investment Budget complies with the F.Y. 1998 discretionary spending cap and eliminates the deficit by the year 2002 using CBO assumptions.

Investments.—The legislation identifies \$910 Billion in public investments over the 5 year period. This exceeds the President's request for these programs by over \$70 billion.

Offsets.—In addition to eliminating the Federal deficit, this proposal fully offsets all increases for investments in the bill. A summary of offsets and savings relative to the CBO 5 year baseline is as follows:

Limit Defense spending—\$116 B.

Medicaid Reform—\$25 B.

Medical Reform—\$121 B.

.5% CPI Adjustment—\$64 B.

Eliminate Unwarranted Benefits—\$76 B.

Permanent Savings.—The Investment Budget is fiscally responsible and includes no one-time budget balancing gimmickry. It does not utilize asset sales such as spectrum auctioning as a revenue enhancement to balance the budget. Instead, the Investment Budget proposes to deposit all proceeds from spectrum auctioning in a trust fund in order to meet future public investment needs.

No Tax Cuts.—The legislation assumes no tax cuts before the budget is balanced.

Public investments targeted by the legislation include the following:

All civil R&D programs including NIH, NSF, NIST, DOE, NASA, and Department of Agriculture have been provided an annual growth rate of 5% per year fully offset within a budget that balances by the year 2002. In sum, this bill contains \$409 billion over 5 years for all civil R&D, an increase of \$31 Billion over the President's request. These budgetary targets will allow R&D to keep pace with the overall growth in the economy.

Defense R&D has been increased by \$4.5 billion above the President's request over the 5 year period, primarily in the post 1999 time frame in order to support modernization needs.

Stable funding for all EPA environmental regulatory, research and enforcement programs including the Superfund program. In sum this bill contains over \$24 billion, an increase of \$2 billion over the President's request.

Stable funding for all rural development and economic development assistance programs. This bill contains \$6.4 billion over 5 years, an increase of \$500 million above the Administration's request.

A total of \$218 billion for ground, air and water transportation programs, an increase of \$37 billion over the President's request. This increase will optimize discretionary spending relative to the trust funds for these programs.

A total of \$196 billion for elementary, secondary, vocational education, and higher education programs. This reflects the President's F.Y. 1998 request.

\$34 billion for Social Service programs including the National Service Initiative, and Children and Family Services programs. This reflects the President's F.Y. 1998 request.

\$21 billion for the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC)—President's request.

A TRIBUTE TO EDWARD R.
FARMER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention a truly dedicated public servant in Edward R. Farmer, of Paterson, NJ, as he completes his tenure of public service to the residents of Passaic and Essex Counties.

A highly respected and distinguished individual, Ed has faithfully served as an integral member of my congressional and general assembly staffs, and as the foundation of former Congressman Herb Klein's congressional staff. Through his efforts, Ed has loyally served the people of New Jersey for many years with true distinction.

His extensive record of community and civic involvement includes outstanding service as president of the Passaic County Young Democrats, an organization which, under his dedicated leadership and guidance, has infused the Democratic Party of Passaic County with a plethora of spirited and talented young people.

Within all spheres of life, Ed has set an example in community leadership and responsible citizenship toward which others might strive, and his professional and volunteer public service has been equaled only by his dedication to his family and friends.

The strength and success of the State of New Jersey as well as the United States of America, and the continuation of our American society, depend in large part on the dedication of highly talented and educated individuals like Ed Farmer who have dedicated themselves to the service of others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Ed's wife, Patti, his family and friends, and the State of New Jersey in honoring Ed Farmer for his outstanding and invaluable service to the communities of New Jersey as he seeks a new beginning with his wife, Patti, and their two cats, Dog and Gunther, in Lexington, KY. For his many years of dedi-

cated service, it is only appropriate that the House recognizes Edward R. Farmer today.

HONORING SAUL RUMAN

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to commend Saul Ruman, an outstanding citizen of Indiana's First Congressional District. On Thursday, April 3, 1997, Saul was presented with the 1997 Lifetime Achievement Award by the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association. He received this award during a luncheon at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Indianapolis, IN.

Saul, a resident of Munster, founded the firm Ruman, Clements, Tobin S. Holub shortly after his graduation from the Indiana University School of Law in 1952. From the time of its inception, the firm has concentrated in the areas of personal injury and wrongful death litigation and, over the years, has successfully attracted clients from across the United States. During his distinguished career, Saul has been counsel in over 100 Federal and State appellate cases. He represented Senator Robert Kennedy during his candidacy for President of the United States, several justices on the Indiana Supreme Court, and has litigated numerous cases of significant importance and public interest during his years of trial and appellate practice.

Not only has Saul excelled in his professional life, but he has been a great asset to the Indiana legal community as well. Saul has impacted the judicial process in the State of Indiana through his appointments to the Indiana Supreme Court Character and Fitness Committee on the Board of Law Examiners, the Indiana Judicial Nominating Commission, and the Indiana Supreme Court Committee on Rules. In addition, Saul has secured membership in a variety of professional organizations, including the American Board of Trial Advocates, the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, the National Institute for Trial Advocacy, the Indiana Trial Lawyers Association, and the Trial Lawyers Section of the Indiana State Bar Association. Saul has also devoted much of his time as a member of the board of visitors to the Indiana University School of Law.

Along with being bestowed the ninth annual Lifetime Achievement Award, Saul has earned recognition in the publication "Best Lawyers in America" in 1993 and 1997. Those listed in this publication are selected by their peers on the basis of professional performance and ability.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other esteemed colleague to join me in congratulating Saul on his receipt of the Indiana Trial Lawyers Associations' Lifetime Achievement Award. His wife, Beverlee, and their children, Loral, Melissa, and Elizabeth, can be proud of Saul's exceptional accomplishments. His endeavors within the legal profession are certainly admirable and his outstanding dedication and leadership are a model and inspiration to each and every one of us.

ON BRIAN BLANKENBURG'S
ATTAINMENT OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Brian Blankenburg of North Olmstead, OH, who will be honored this month for his recent attainment of Eagle Scout.

The attainment of Eagle Scout is a high and rare honor requiring years of dedication to self-improvement, hard work, and the community. Each Eagle Scout must earn 21 merit badges, 12 of which are required, including badges in: lifesaving; first aid; citizenship in the community; citizenship in the Nation; citizenship in the world; personal management of time and money; family life; environmental science; and camping.

In addition to acquiring and proving proficiency in those and other skills, an Eagle Scout must hold leadership positions within the troop where he learns to earn the respect and hear the criticism of those he leads.

The Eagle Scout must live by the scouting law, which holds that he must be: trustworthy, loyal, brave, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, clean, and reverent.

And the Eagle Scout must complete an Eagle project, which he must plan, finance, and evaluate on his own. It is no wonder that only 2 percent of all boys entering scouting achieve this rank.

Brian's Eagle project was the repair, refurbishing, and repainting of ticket booths and parking lot lights at North Olmstead High School.

My fellow colleagues, let us join Boy Scouts of America Troop 53 in recognizing and praising Brian for his achievement.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN
ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 20, 1997

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the partial-birth abortion ban legislation which would outlaw gruesome abortion procedures. I sponsored this legislation because it would protect the sanctity of life and prevent the cruel and inhumane killing of unborn children. A living fetus is viable and we should respect its humanity.

We know all too well the arguments on both sides of this important issue. Some present legal or constitutional issues. Some cite the lack of money or adequate resources to support the child. Some women may cite social or psychological problems which hinder their ability to go to full term on their pregnancy. But no matter what the arguments or reasons cited, the partial-birth abortion procedure is brutal and senseless and should never be allowed.

As a nation, we have the fortitude to find humane ways to deal with whatever difficulties or burdens which cause women to resort to partial-birth abortions. But we should not, as a nation, sanction this procedure in any way, shape, or form.

For me personally, and for the people of Guam whom I represent, the worth of children in our culture is a cornerstone in sustaining family values. For us, abortions is never an option; we oppose abortion because it devalues life and destroys our concept of family preservation. For us, the issues are that we continue to protect our children, stop the assault against the innocent unborn, and continue to believe that life is a precious gift from God.

When we stand up for the unborn, we help to fortify our culture, our heritage, and our society. I join my colleagues in supporting this very important legislation.

HONORING THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR ELECTROMEDICAL INFORMATION

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents of the Fifth Congressional District in extending most welcome congratulations to the members of the National Institute for Electromedical Information [NIEI] in celebrating its 13th anniversary. Founded in 1984, by Stanley H. Kornhauser, Ph.D., the NIEI has diligently serviced the borough of Queens as an advocate and educator of electromedicine and has been most effective as a medium for the exchange of information on advances in new electrodiagnostic and electrotherapeutic devices in all areas of medicine.

Since its founding, the NIEI has been an active source of informational distribution to the field of medicine and has emerged as a major facilitator in establishing training and seminar programs in electromedical education. Its impact has been guided and nurtured by the organization's advisory board. The board's strong interdisciplinary members have distinguished themselves in diverse fields of medical and scientific research significantly impacting on the field of health care.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise in recognizing the National Institute of Electromedical Information, its founder and president, Stanley H. Knornhauser, Ph.D., its advisory board and membership as leaders in enhancing the level of understanding and knowledge regarding electromedical education, electromedical technology development, and the effective use of electromedical technology throughout our Nation.

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI'S OTTO G. RICHTER LIBRARY'S CUBAN COLLECTION HELPS KEEP ALIVE CUBAN HISTORY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, two of the many freedoms suppressed by the Castro dictatorship over its 37 years of totalitarian rule have been academic and intellectual freedom that once were a source of great pride in

a democratic Cuba. All books that the Castro regime considered against its interests were systematically banned, all individuals who supported ideas other than the ones the dictatorship favored were exiled, harassed, incarcerated, or murdered.

Fortunately, many of the great books of Cuban history and publications of Cuban writers and intellectuals are now being preserved in the United States at the Cuban Collection of the University of Miami's Otto G. Richter Library. The Cuban Collection at the University of Miami is the largest collection of its kind outside of Cuba, superseding even the collection at the Library of Congress.

The awesome collection contains materials from all periods of Cuba's history and attracts thousands of researchers every year from all parts of the world. Some of its unique holdings include an 1895 photograph of Cuban Mambises who fought for Cuba's independence from Spain, miniature letters from Cuban political prisoners, and copies dating from 1832 of *Diario de la Marina*, the oldest newspaper in Cuba and the Americas until its operation was forcefully shut down by the Castro dictatorship.

South Florida is proud to have among its many assets this outstanding collection that helps keep alive Cuba's history through this dark period of repression that has engulfed the island.

TRIBUTE TO THE ST. STANISLAUS CATHOLIC WAR VETERANS POST 1222

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the many distinguished organizations of my district: St. Stanislaus Catholic War Veterans Post 1222. This organization has given many years of dedicated service to the community.

The Reverend John Grabowski, pastor of St. Stanislaus Church, gathered some 45 individuals and proposed forming a veteran's organization in the community. These men had just returned home after years of service and sacrifice in our Armed Forces during World War II. Father Grabowski knew these men would be willing to extend themselves in service to their church and their community. On February 10, 1947, Post 1222 was granted a charter from the Catholic War Veterans of the United States.

The post's initial efforts were extended to the young people at St. Stanislaus Church and parochial elementary and secondary schools. Keeping the memory of the fallen comrades sacred was uppermost at the time, so on November 7, 1948, the post dedicated a memorial bronze plaque inscribed with the names of the 19 men of St. Stanislaus parish who gave their lives for our freedom.

For over 50 years the post maintained the respect and admiration of the community. The post participates annually in many fundraising events including the Red Cross, United Way, and the March of Dimes campaigns. The members also host events for Catholic High School drives and St. Elizabeth's Hospital. Each member and officer participates in order to maintain the post's high ideals.

Many of post's members were awarded honors from our upper echelons of the organization. Henry Jagielski and Dennis Wilde served as State commanders of the Department of Ohio C.W.V. Both John J. Bury and Thomas C. Rudnicki were recipients of the prestigious John J. Martin Award from the Department of Ohio C.W.V. Over the years, the membership roster at Post 1222 has included mayors, judges, councilmen, and other civic leaders over the years.

Post 1222's first meetings were held in St. Stanislaus Church's basement. The Quonset Hut at 1207 South Avenue served as the home of the post. In 1958, the post undertook construction of a permanent home at a cost of over \$90,000. The mortgage was burned in 1970. This was a remarkable achievement led by the senior trustees: Ed Rudnicki, Jim Gaca, Henry Jagielski, and Henry Kost.

For the past 50 years, Post 1222 has marched in every Memorial Day and Veteran's Day Parade in Youngstown. Rain or shine the post's color guard has answered the call. There is also a special mass offered for all the veterans and deceased members of the post.

Post 1222 sponsors Catholic action programs. These events address issues of the local community such as, education, crime, and serving the poor. The programs also focus on service in the Catholic Church. Post members assist in parish duties including ushers, alter services, and parish council.

The post believes in Catholic education. Thus the organization grants scholarships to help young people attending parochial high school. Bernard Lakovich left part of his estate to the organization for education scholarships. Each year many parochial schools participate in essay and art contests, sponsored by the post and producing many State and national winners.

All veterans' organizations must have a ladies auxiliary. Post 1222 Ladies Auxiliary is tireless in their efforts of assisting the various events the post sponsors.

By sharing with one another, many members of Post 1222 have achieved personal satisfaction. The members are unselfish in their undertakings. They all have toiled so that their children, by active dedication to a cause, will be instilled in the freedoms and benefits that these United States can offer. Patriotism is noble and dignified. Post 1222 has expressed its patriotism by making great contributions to the church and community. Many thanks to the members of St. Stanislaus Post 1222, who over the past 50 years contributed their time and energy to St. Stanislaus Post 1222 Catholic War Veterans.

Current officers of Post 1222 include: Joseph M. Magielski, John Bury, Paul Stopnick, James Mislav, Thomas Rudnicki, Pauline Tybor, Ted Seidler, Sam Naples, Frank Gerchak, George Zakrzewski, Walter Glowacki, John Savaet, Marilyn L. Carroll, and Father Edward J. Neroda.

TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY C. ROWE

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention Dorothy C. Rowe of

Paterson, NJ, an educator who strives for and encourages excellence.

A native of Wilmington, DE, Dorothy moved to Paterson more than 20 years ago, and has since become a prominent resident of the community. Upon settling in Paterson, Dorothy soon became affiliated with the Calvary Baptist Church, where her husband-to-be, the Reverend Dr. Albert P. Rowe, is the pastor. As a member of the congregation, she became involved in numerous church programs and activities including developing the church's day care program, organizing the Golden Keys and Women Fellowship, and organizing the Dorcas Missionary Society.

In addition to her organizing church activities, Dorothy also serves the church as director of the board of Christian Education, director of the Vacation Bible School, director and writer for the Calvary Players, program chairman of the Calvary Building Council for Church Construction, and chairman of the Calvary Stewardship Program for Family Life Center.

Aside from her church activities, Dorothy is also involved with the community through her work as principal of Paterson's School No. 26 where she has served since 1985. Formerly, she has served as principal of the Dale Avenue School, vice-principal of School No. 10, and teacher of history at Kennedy High School, all of the city of Paterson.

Dorothy has always prioritized education. From her own in the public schools of Wilmington, to her undergraduate work in history at Howard University, where she received her bachelor of arts degree, and ultimately her work as a graduate student in social studies at Montclair State College, where she received her master of arts degree. She exemplifies the importance of education. Dorothy is also a member of numerous professional educational organizations, most notably the National Education Association, the Paterson Principals Association, and the National Council of Social Studies.

Her membership in organizations also extends to many civic groups, the most noteworthy of which are the YWCA, where she was a former board member, and the NAACP, where she serves as an elected member of the board of directors and chairperson of the program committee for the Paterson branch. Dorothy is also a volunteer at Barnert Hospital.

She has been recognized for her outstanding work and achievements by being bestowed upon with numerous awards and citations including the Calvary Baptist Christian Education Award, the Paterson Arts Council's Salute to Black Women Award, the NAACP Youth Citation, and the NAACP Outstanding Teacher Award.

Dorothy is happily married to the Reverend Dr. Albert P. Rowe, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Dorothy's husband, Reverend Rowe, their family and friends, Calvary Baptist Church, and the city of Paterson, in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Dorothy C. Rowe.

CONFLICT OR COOPERATION WITH ASIA

HON. BUD SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker. Napoleon said, "when China awakens it will shake the earth" and as we approach the 21st century, not only China, but the entire Pacific rim is emerging to become the world's next economic superpower region. Whether we engage this coming colossus to help build a better world, or confront it as a dangerous adversary will depend in large measure on the wisdom of our policies in facing the realities of a complex and sometimes contradictory challenge.

China with 1.2 billion people, nearly a quarter of the world's population—and increasing to 1.6 billion people in the next 20 years—is booming economically. By moving toward a market economy, promoting both domestic and international private sector competition, it has achieved a sustained 10 percent annual growth rate which is raising the standard of living for most Chinese and creating extraordinary opportunities for American businesses, which means jobs for Americans. A few examples:

A McDonnell Douglas aircraft plan in Shanghai created 1,000 Chinese jobs, but also created 4,000 Americans jobs providing the aircraft parts for assembly in China;

A new General Motors assembly plant will use \$1.15 billion in American manufactured parts;

China's recent \$800 million aircraft order to Boeing means hundreds of American jobs. A high-ranking Chinese official publicly coined the phrase "If it ain't Boeing, I ain't going";

Over 100 McDonalds restaurants are sprouting up in Beijing, using products from America and around the world;

Shanghai has 20,000 major construction projects underway, employing 6 million people, including several United States firms, with 17 percent of the world's construction cranes busily clogging up the skyline, while 600,000 cellular phones are in use by the city's 17 million people.

Five major airports are under construction in China and the \$25 billion Three Gorges Dam project will become one of the wonders of our modern world. While requiring the relocation of 1.3 million people and eliminating 116 square miles of farmland, Three Gorges, now under construction, will harness the mighty flow of central China's Yangtze River, whose floods have already killed 500,000 Chinese in this century. Creating a 360-mile-long lake, it will be the largest hydroelectric power dam in the world, generating 15 percent of China's electricity—over 18,000 megawatts of power, the equivalent of 15 Hoover Dams. The locks and flow control will open up the Yangtze to ocean-going vessels, increasing water transportation by 40 million tons annually and reducing transportation costs on the Yangtze by 30 percent.

China's human rights violations—from the killing of hundreds of students in Tiananmen Square in 1989 to present day curbs on freedom of speech—are to be deplored. But turning our back on China will not make life in China better. By pressing for reforms, within the context of a continuing relationship, we

stand a better chance of moving China toward political freedom to match their recently established economic freedoms. Moreover, strategically we need a friendly China to be part of the balance of power in Asia, and especially as a check on the unstable and irrational dictatorship in North Korea.

While China emerges as the economic colossus of the next century, a technologically advanced Japan continues to grow. Investing over \$30 billion in a single international airport at Kansai, 200 miles southwest of Tokyo, while trying to lock out United States competition in the Asian market, Japan continues as a ferocious competitor seeking dominance in global markets.

When the British flag is lowered on June 30 in Hong Kong and China takes control, the world will watch to see if China keeps its promise to let the Hong Kong miracle survive. Unimpeded, Hong Kong will continue as a gateway to the Orient. With the largest privately owned container port in the world, efficiently moving 2½ times the container cargo of the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles combined, Hong Kong next year will open the largest multimodal airport complex in the world. Costing \$21 billion, it will handle 35 million passengers with 288 check-in counters and 3 million tons of air cargo annually, including the world's largest combined highway-rail suspension bridge.

These multibillion-dollar infrastructure investments being made throughout the Orient clearly show that Asia will be a formidable global competitor in the coming century.

While in America we reduce our investment in infrastructure, potholes on our highways proliferate, water pipes rust, bridges crumble, antiquated computers control the landings in our crowded airports, passenger rail service teeters near bankruptcy, and several of our ocean ports become clogged with silt, Asia is busy building for the future.

If we do not wake up and begin increasing our investment in infrastructure, the shaking Earth that Napoleon predicted will be caused by an oriental bulldozer, burying us beneath its global path.

THOMAS LEWIS RETIRES

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a constituent of mine, Thomas L. Lewis. Mr. Lewis is retiring this week after nearly 41 years as an employee of American Home Foods and as a leader in the United Food and Commercial Workers, local 38 in Milton, PA.

Thomas Lewis began his career at American Home Foods on September 24, 1956, and was initiated into the local 38 leadership as a union steward. He became the secretary-treasurer of the union local in 1965. In 1970 Mr. Lewis began to serve as chief committee person, first shift, and continued in that position as well as secretary-treasurer until 1985 when he was elected to serve as president of the local 38 for the term beginning 1986. He was re-elected to serve as president for three consecutive terms.

Thomas Lewis has also served on the Pennsylvania AFL/CIO legislative and political

committees as well as its fan committee, safety committee, and its job committee. He also served as the Pennsylvania AFL/CIO vice president.

Mr. Lewis has also served as the vice president of the Central Labor Council and has been an active participant in contract negotiations for American Home Foods and has also been instrumental in IUD coordinated bargaining for health and welfare benefits for AFH union members.

When Thomas Lewis became a union member, the union was known as the Amalgamated Meat Cutters. They later merged with the Retail Clerks and changed the name of the union to what we now know as the United Food and Commercial Workers.

Mr. Speaker, Thomas Lewis is a fine example for all Americans because of his hard work and commitment. I would like to congratulate him on all his accomplishments and wish him great success in all his future endeavors.

TAXPAYER BILL OF RIGHTS II

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, throughout my tenure in Congress, I've heard from thousands of constituents who have described to me numerous problems they see with our system of taxation. A common theme has been the intrusive nature of the Internal Revenue Service [IRS]. Last year, the Congress enacted legislation I cosponsored, called the Taxpayer Bill of Rights II, to help taxpayers in their dealings with the IRS. While I believe those necessary reforms were a good start, I believe we need to do more.

That's why I am introducing the IRS Accountability Act in the U.S. House of Representatives. This bill, whose companion has been introduced by Senator PAUL COVERDELL—my counterpart on the Senate leadership team—in the U.S. Senate, is designed to provide citizens greater tax fairness and protections from IRS abuses.

The IRS Accountability Act is wide-ranging and deals with a number of faults within the IRS that have recurred through discussions with constituents, through testimony at hearings from everyday Americans, and through my tenure as a member of the tax-cutting Ways and Means Committee. Wherever I travel in the State or country, consistently concerns are raised about the IRS. This Agency operates too much on the belief that most taxpayers are intending to cheat the Government.

Granted, our Nation suffers under an unfair and incomprehensible Tax Code that takes too much of what we earn. Even worse, some rogue members of the organization responsible for enforcement of the Tax Code—the IRS—have a record of seeking to intimidate and frighten honest, hard-working taxpayers. They also sully the reputation of honest people working at the Agency. We must not tolerate a Tax Code that punishes families and we should not tolerate IRS agents eager to bully and harass taxpayers.

Let me outline my proposal. The IRS Accountability Act:

Criminalizes extortion tactics by an IRS agent. The Act criminalizes the actions of em-

ployees of the Internal Revenue Service [IRS] who abuse their authority by maliciously and willfully disregarding the statutory procedures established for collecting a tax.

Makes IRS agents accountable for their actions. Current law shields IRS employees from holding personal liability for their actions, even if their actions result in civil damages against the United States. Under this section:

In cases where the judgment is against the United States, a Federal judge will have the authority to assign a portion of the damages awarded and court costs incurred to the IRS employee whose actions prompted the suit; and

An IRS employee involved in such a court proceeding may be represented by the United States. However, these costs must be reimbursed fully if the employee is found personally liable.

Protects the privacy of taxpayers. Current law makes it a crime to release tax returns or return information without proper authority. Further, such actions may result in the personal liability of the Federal employee responsible. Under this section:

It will be a crime to willfully access without proper authority a taxpayer's return or return information. This has been called file snooping;

Willfully accessing, without proper authority, a taxpayer's return or return information can result in personal liability; and

The taxpayer will be notified upon discovery that his return or return information has been improperly accessed.

Limits on audits. Current law allows the IRS to audit an entity—taxpaying or tax exempt—for any reason, even if randomly selected. This section requires that all audits be justified. Under this section:

Random audits are prohibited. Proof of reasonable justification for the audit will be available to the taxpayer upon demand;

Reauditing a return or return issue is prohibited unless approved by court order in the course of investigating criminal activity; and

The IRS will be limited to 3 years from the time a return is filed in which to conduct an audit unless approved by court order in the course of investigating criminal activity.

Extension of time to pay tax without penalty. All too often, the IRS itself is the most significant hurdle honest taxpayers must meet when trying to resolve their tax bill. According to the Taxpayer Advocate for the IRS, one of the most common complaints against the IRS is its failure to acknowledge taxpayer correspondence.

Delays, misinformation, and snafus by the IRS all contribute to higher and higher penalties for taxpayers. Extending the period to 90 days before penalties may be applied will give honest taxpayers some welcome relief.

Preserving the integrity of judicial decisions against the IRS. Often, the IRS will choose to nonacquiesce to a court's decision in which it loses. As a result, it will pursue a subsequent case against a different taxpayer under identical or similar circumstances.

This section grants a Federal court the authority to dismiss a case of controversy involving the IRS if it can be shown that a similar or identical case already has been decided within the court's jurisdiction or circuit. The petitioner must previously have exhausted remedies available within the IRS before seeking such court relief.

Limitations on asset seizures and levies. This section requires court approval to proceed with any asset seizure and/or levy.

Limits accrual of interest. This section prevents interest from accruing on the penalty added to a tax owed.

Equal interest rates charged. Current law gives the IRS an advantage over taxpayers by allowing it to charge a more favorable interest rate. Under this section, the interest rate charged by the IRS will be the same as the interest rate charged against the IRS in all cases.

Fairness for mathematical and clerical errors. For mathematical and clerical errors, a.k.a. honest mistakes, the IRS is not required to follow the procedures of notification and collection provided for cases in which a tax is underpaid. Further, penalties and interest may be added to the tax underpaid in cases involving honest mistakes.

Under this section, the taxpayer would have 60 days to either pay the tax or file an abatement request without incurring a penalty or interest accruing. However, should the 60-day period elapse without the taxpayer taking either option, penalties and interest would be owed in full.

The honest American family works too hard and too long to have to deal with unfair and oftentimes overly intrusive IRS agents who trample their rights. The IRS deserves closer scrutiny when it goes beyond acceptable enforcement procedures and commits outright intimidation, or when it is unable to use "common sense" as a yardstick. This bill is part of a continuing effort to ensure that an overzealous Agency will no longer trample the rights of well-intentioned and law-abiding taxpayers.

CHANG-LIN TIEN: PROMOTER OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chancellor Chang-Lin Tien of the University of California, Berkeley, who is being honored this month by the Oakland Chinese Community Council for his leadership and contributions to the Oakland Asian community.

Chancellor Tien was born in China. He came to this country in 1956 and became a naturalized citizen of the United States. Since coming to America, he has tirelessly worked to broaden the democratic reach of education to all groups of the community.

After becoming the first Asian-American to head a major research university, Tien earned a reputation for being openminded, sensitive, and accessible. Determined to stay in touch with the needs of the campus population, Tien frequently lectures to freshman classes and continues to supervise graduate student research. Chancellor Tien's reputation as an educator and a scientist is remarkable. He is internationally recognized for his research in heat transfer technology and has received many awards including the Max Jakob Memorial Award, the highest international honor in the field of heat transfer.

Tien has been a member of the National Academy of Engineering since 1976 and is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and

Sciences. In the Oakland community, Chancellor Tien pushed for education reform programs for both primary and secondary schools. As an active member of the Pacific Council on International Policy and the U.S. Committee for Economic Development, he traveled the globe to promote the American values of democracy and freedom and to pursue greater communication between the East and the West.

After 7 years as chancellor, and over 38 years of service to the University of California, Chancellor Tien will relinquish his position by June 30, 1997. The service of this accomplished educator and dedicated community leader clearly sets an example for our entire community.

I joint the Oakland Chinese Community Council in commending him on his decades of outstanding service to Oakland.

IN MEMORY OF ANN HARRIS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a young and vital member of the northern Virginia community whose life was tragically cut short by gun violence. Ann Harris' life was filled with promise. She came from a wonderful, devoted family; she was a varsity tennis and soccer player at Mount Vernon High School; a member of the National Honor Society; and, she had just been accepted in the early admissions program at Purdue University. Ann's natural vibrance and exuberance for life made her a very popular and outgoing young woman. A former intern of mine, Jennifer Reiley, who was one of Ann's best friends and soccer teammates described Ann as someone who always looked on the bright side and helped others see the best in themselves. She said Ann was a natural leader, who knew when to listen and when to lead.

While on vacation in Washington State visiting a friend and former student at Mount Vernon High School, Ann, just 17 years old, was fatally shot in a drive-by shooting. The unprovoked attack has shocked northern Virginians and Tacoma, WA, residents, who can't believe such a senseless act of violence could happen in such a peaceful community. Ann's parents, Coleman and Jean Harris, have been actively involved in every aspect of Ann's life: Coleman Harris is currently president of the Parent-Teacher Association and Jean Harris is president of the Choral Boosters. Yet, for all of their involvement, they could not prevent the senseless act of violence that stripped them of their talented young daughter.

Mr. Speaker, the violence must stop. Congress must act to ensure that guns are taken off the streets and out of the hands of reckless criminals who have no respect for human life. Our efforts together can help prevent such needless tragedy in the future. As our community mourns Ann's all too brief life and tragic end, we must work to ensure that our children can feel safe and that no other parents will have to endure the kind of suffering that Coleman and Jean Harris now endure.

LA PROGRESIVA PRESBYTERIAN SCHOOL 25TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize La Progresiva Presbyterian School for its 25th school year anniversary.

The Presbyterian school, La Progresiva, was founded in Cardenas, Cuba, by a North American missionary named Dr. Robert L. Wharton on the 11th of November, 1900. On that day, La Progresiva opened its doors with only 14 students and with the reading of the first book of Corinthians chapter.

The school developed into one of the finest educational establishments of Cuba, expanding its facilities to accommodate the increasing enrollment of students. Its growing reputation as a fine center of learning, however, was put to a stop in 1961 with the arrival of communism in the island.

Communism was able to put an end to the material aspect of La Progresiva in Cardenas, but it could never destroy the spirit and ideals which still remained alive. So in September 1971, with the help of the First Spanish Presbyterian Church of Miami and the alumni of the old La Progresiva, the new Progresiva opened its doors. It started with humble beginnings in much the same way it predecessor had.

Like the old school, this new one grew in popularity and as a result of the increasing demand for enrollment, La Progresiva added another wing to its main building in 1978. The school continued its expansion adding more classrooms to accommodate the demand for admittance into the school. Along with growing in educational capacity, La Progresiva also bettered itself in the athletic department, improving over the years in its sports and, presently, plans are being discussed for a gymnasium.

The Progresiva spirit has prevailed through the years to produce a center of learning which will stand long into the future and one which makes all Progresivistas proud.

On this, La Progresivas' 25th school year anniversary, the school's motto is stronger than ever: "Una Vez de La Progresiva, Siempre de La Progresiva."

HONORING THE PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY VALOR AWARD WINNERS

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 1996 Prince William Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Prince William County Greater Manassas Chamber of Commerce Valor Award winners. The Valor Awards honor public service officers who have demonstrated extreme self-sacrifice, personal bravery, and ingenuity in the performance of their duty. Significantly, this year marks the 11th anniversary of the event honoring members of law enforcement and fire and rescue agencies historically servicing Prince William County, Dumfries, Haymarket,

Manassas, Manassas Park, Occoquan, and Quantico. There are five categories: The Gold Medal of Valor, the Silver Medal of Valor, the Bronze Medal of Valor, the Certificate of Valor, and the Lifesaving Award.

The Silver Medal of Valor is the second highest award for bravery and heroism. Awarded in situations when a public safety official knowingly exposes himself/herself to great personal risk in the performance of an official act.

The Silver Medal of Valor Award winners for 1996 are: Technician Anthony J. Adamo, Officer Mark J. Harman, and Officer Craig S. Lawhead.

The Bronze Medal of Valor is awarded in situations where during the course of an emergency, a public safety official demonstrates judgment, ingenuity, or performance at a level that clearly exceeds that required and expected in the performance of his/her duties. May include the saving of a life that is threatened by medical or physical reasons.

The Bronze Medal of Valor Award winner for 1996 is firefighter Brian Morton.

The Certificate of Valor is awarded for acts that involve personal risk and/or demonstration of judgment, zeal, or ingenuity above what is normally expected in the performance of duties.

The Certificate of Valor Award winners for 1996 are: Officer Gene W. Baughan, Officer Robert S. Berkebile, Sgt. Ronald M. Campione, Officer Randall L. Eagal, Lance Cpl. Joe L. Norman, and Officer Brian Walker.

The Lifesaving Award is awarded in recognition of acts taken in a life-threatening situation where an individual's life is in jeopardy, either medically or physically.

The Lifesaving Award winners for 1996 are: technician Scott Boggs, Officer Janet E. Clayton, Lt. Raymond T. Colgan, Sgt. Robert E. Forker, Jr., Officer Steve Hargrave, technician Vincent Kern, technician Tracey LaBass, Lt. Mike Lawson, technician Bryan Ross, emergency communications specialist Catherine M. Tremul, and S. Sgt. Michael S. Wesolowski.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I would like to send my sincere gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to these distinguished public servants, who put their lives on the line every day on behalf of their fellow Virginians.

"COMP TIME" BILL

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am a strong supporter of working men and women, but not an advocate of intrusive Government regulations. When possible, I work toward finding a cooperative solution rather than a regulatory one. It was on this basis that I voted against the so-called comp time bill, H.R. 1.

Although I support the concept of comptime, as I learned more and more about the ways this bill would meddle in the daily operation of businesses and would add another layer of bureaucracy in the workplace, the less I liked it. At first, the President's proposal was an option I considered, because I wanted to be sure that workers could feel confident in their ability to receive overtime pay. But as I said, this employee protection came with a price—more

Government involvement in people's lives. More contentious labor relations is not conducive to productivity. Sometimes Government leaders need to have some faith in people to work out solutions for themselves. We cannot be expected to, nor should we, mandate every aspect of life.

When it came down to making a decision, it was suddenly clear. This bill was bound to be a mess down the road. The National Labor Relations Board does not need any more work, and this bill was going to give it to them. So I cast my vote against H.R. 1, and I hope that both employers and employees will see that I did it because I thought it was not in their best interests.

I am hopeful that as this bill moves through the legislative process, it will be changed to strike a more sensible balance between the needs of employees and employers—without creating an unnecessary regulatory burden.

ADA CATANIA'S 90TH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION

HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the momentous occasion of the 90th birthday of Ada Catania, of Fair Lawn, NJ.

Ada was born on April 28, 1907, in Zurich, Switzerland to Cesare and Bartolo Guidi. The second of four children, Ada's family included her brother, Domenic, and two sisters, Louise and Elvitia. In October 1913, her family emigrated from Switzerland to the United States, coming first to Paterson, NJ, before finally settling in Fair Lawn in 1918. Even today, Ada lives in the house her father built in 1918.

On June 28, 1925, Ada married Frank Catania in Blessed Sacrament Roman Catholic Church, Paterson. She worked in the Silk City textile industry of Paterson and was a proud union member of the ILGWU. Hardworking, Ada, along with Frank, still found the necessary time to happily raise a family of four children, Philomena, Jean, Eugene, and Frank. Today, she can proudly boast of an extended family including 9 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Ada's family and friends, the borough of Fair Lawn, and the city of Paterson, in recognizing the momentous occasion of Ada Catania's 90th birthday.

NEVADA'S WINNING 1997 VFW
ESSAY

HON. JIM GIBBONS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker I would like to submit as an extension of my remarks, for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the following. This represents Nevada's winning audio-essay in the Veterans of Foreign Wars' 1997 Voice of Democracy Program Scholarship competition. As you can see below, this year's theme, "Democracy—Above and Be-

yond" is very well portrayed in Karianne Bodenstein's entry. Karianne is deserving of this honor and recognition for her efforts. It is with pride that on behalf of my constituents, we wish her continued success in her pursuit of a career in physical therapy and teaching.

"DEMOCRACY—ABOVE AND BEYOND"

The year is 1967. If they could just be someplace else, anyplace else. If they could just rest. If only the rain would stop and they could go home. They lie in the wet ground and they fight. No longer are they in the spring time of their lives with their baseball caps, paper routes, spending their summers playing tag and swimming in the pond. They are American soldiers. They move forward, inch by bloody inch and despite all their longing for safety, comfort and relief they advance and fight some more.

Why would our soldiers sacrifice their lives to die on foreign ground, away from family and friends? Could it be their devotion to a democracy that is truly above and beyond all other forms of government. A form of government that instills in its citizens a commitment so strong that no sacrifice is too great.

Every year American mothers and fathers struggle to care for their children. Everyday pressures press in and it seems that there is never enough time, never enough money, never enough resources to get ahead. Hard work and sacrifice are their companion.

This year America's farmers have endured catastrophic floods, drought and economic uncertainty to fill the country's breadbasket. Head bare, face burned, hands throbbing with fatigue they fought to defeat the rising waters, to nourish the earth and to keep the faith.

The nurse nurses the contagious, the handicapped, the incurable, while the teacher teaches tolerance, forbearance and imparts knowledge. The truck driver drives his rig through the cities and towns of America. These committed Americans are caring for, educating and providing for America. These Americans know that the democracy they safeguard is above and beyond all other forms of government.

I'm one of America's youth and sometimes our country's problems seem almost insurmountable. I know that I cannot harvest from the past at a greater pace than I help replenish for the future. I know that I must give and not just take and so I embrace the commitment of the soldier, the parent, the farmer, the teacher, all those who have invested in my future and make their diligence, determination and commitment my standard.

The year is 1996. There is a couple in the winter of their lives following the path to the silent, black granite wall. They stop at panel twenty-two and he lifts his hand. He runs his fingers over the name etched in the cold stone. Their son's name. She kneels and places a worn-out baseball cap on the ground. All around them are old soldiers dressed in dull fatigues, business suits, on crutches, canes and in wheel chairs. These are Americans who have sacrificed to protect our democratic form of government.

As I look to the future, I have no doubt that our democratic form of government will survive and prosper and go on. You show me another country standing so tall, being so proud and having such imagination. Show me another country whose people, whose beating, pounding heart is so caring and so willing to examine its own wounds. And when I hear those voices saying that America is in its eleventh hour. I say no. All I have to do is look to the sacrifices of my parents, to the sacrifice of the soldier, the farmer, the shopkeeper and be willing, as they

have, to safeguard this democracy, the best form of government in the world.

ALBERT C.M. WONG: IT'S BETTER
TO GIVE THAN RECEIVE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Albert C.M. Wong, a giving and selfless servant of the Asian community of Oakland, CA. This year, the Oakland Chinese Community Council will honor Mr. Wong as a keynote speaker at its 29th Annual Fundraising dinner.

The OCCC is a multiservice agency which has provided services to the Oakland Asian community since 1968. Over the years, OCCC has done much to help new immigrants reach their goals, and is best known for its outstanding employment services, training programs, career referral programs, English instruction classes, and voter registration programs. Mr. Wong has had a history of outstanding dedication, generosity, and devotion to these programs and the Asian community in general.

Albert C.M. Wong was born in Hong Kong, and lived in China for 5 years. At the age of 14 he moved to the United States and became a citizen. After working his way through the public school system and Laney College at U.C. Berkeley, he successfully completed a chemistry degree from the University of California, San Francisco.

Mr. Wong's giving acts are testimony to his generosity. He has selflessly donated his time and services to the Oakland Asian Library and the Asian Health Services. Mr. Wong also volunteers as a pharmacy consultant for the Hong Fook Adult Day Health Care Program, sponsored by the OCCC, and was instrumental in coordinating the annual senior luncheon where he helped to serve a nutritional meal to more than 600 seniors. As vice president of the Lion's Club, he helped establish the Lion's Club Annual Health Fair in Chinatown. He is also looking forward to playing an active role in the Mayor's Toy Drive for underprivileged children during the holidays.

Albert Wong is a premier example of the American spirit. Not only is Mr. Wong a great citizen, but in giving back to the people of his community, he helps to fulfill dreams and make the realization of goals possible. We should honor and take note of Mr. Wong's special role in the accomplishments of the Oakland Asian community.

STATEMENT TO HONOR DR. SHIH-I
PAI

HON. BOB FRANKS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory of an outstanding individual, Dr. Shih-I Pai, the father of a dear friend of mine from the seventh district of New Jersey, Mrs. Sue Pai Yang.

For 45 years, Dr. Pai was a dedicated professor at the University of Maryland. He was

a pioneer in the field of aeronautical engineering, and one of the most distinguished and acclaimed educators in the university's history. His numerous scholarly achievements have been recognized the world over. These include 14 technical books and over 130 papers, honorary degrees from preeminent universities throughout Europe and Asia, and a rating in the highest category of achievement by "Who's Who." His prolific mind perpetually broke new ground in the field of fluid dynamics and gas dynamics even while he was in his eighties.

Dr. Pai made one of his most notable contributions to science and to society when he was in his late seventies. As a world expert in biphasic fluid flows, Dr. Pai played a major role in developing technology used to extinguish the oil well fires that blazed in Kuwait during the Persian Gulf war. His contributions were critical in helping reduce the environmental damage from these fires.

Three years ago, Dr. Pai's children established the Shih-I Pai Lectureship at the University of Maryland. Today, April 8, 1997, marks the day of the third annual lecture. It is the first lecture since his passing, and will be the first delivered in his memory. I would therefore like to join Dr. Pai's colleagues, students, friends, and family in honoring his memory on this day. Let us acknowledge and celebrate the contributions of a man who was so unselfishly dedicated to helping humankind.

HONORING THE BEST OF RESTON
AWARD WINNERS FOR 1997

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to pay tribute to the individuals and businesses who are this year's winners of the Best of Reston Awards. The Best of Reston Community Service Award was created to recognize companies, organizations and individuals who have made outstanding contributions to community service, and/or who have improved the lives of people in need in Reston, VA.

Blooms Flowershop for continuous and generous support to the community including sponsoring the "Random Act of Kindness" day where thousands of roses were distributed throughout the community. Blooms also provides arrangements to the elderly and to non-profit groups for events. Owners Karen Weinberg and Gail Dobberfuhr will receive the award on behalf of the business.

Lawrence Cohn owner of Lakeside Pharmacy, who for 25 years, has reached out to those in need. Typical of an old-fashioned pharmacy, Cohn provides a friendly ear, advice, and encouragement to his customers. Rising above the call of duty, Cohn has administered eye drops to those unable to do so for themselves, delivered medicine, supplied groceries at the pharmacy, provided jobs for teenagers, and given prescriptions to those at the Embury Rucker Shelter.

Grant Hill of the Detroit Pistons basketball team. Hill is a role model to young Restonians on and off the court. He is involved in several projects benefiting others. These projects include the Medical Care for Children Partner-

ship, the Grant Hill Basketball Tournament and the Grant Hill chocolate bars. The basketball tournament benefits children's hospitals nationally while the chocolate bars benefit the Technology 2000 Program at South Lakes High School.

INOVA Health System is named for its diversity of programs involving the community including the mall walkers, "Sneakers and Speakers" program, community health screenings, partnership with Reston Interfaith, "Life with Cancer" program, and support of the Special Olympics. More than 200 INOVA employees have volunteered their time for programs including Christmas in April, Volunteerfest, Safe Kids coalition, food drives, Fairfax Fair, the International Children's Festival, the Reston Festival and the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival sponsored by GRACE. INOVA's president is Knox Singleton.

Carolyn Lavalley a chemistry teacher at South Lakes, was chosen for her commitment to education and public service. Her involvement covers a range of activities from leading Girl Scouts, advising youth and coordinating the wetlands project in conjunction with Reston Association.

The Samway Family for their commitment to cancer research. The family created the Kathryn Fox Samway Outback Steakhouse Memorial Golf Tournament which, in the past 4 years, has raised close to \$1 million donated to Fairfax Hospital, National Cancer Institute, and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Thomas Wilkins for being a "man of all seasons" having served as the president of the Reston Association [RA], active in Meals-On-Wheels, offering services as a tutor in public schools, served on the Stonegate Advisory Board, assisted children attending college, and served as a founding board member for the Medical Care for Children Partnership.

Constance L. Pettinger is awarded the Distinguished Community Service Award for 15 years at Reston Interfaith.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in honoring the Best of Reston Award winners for all of their hard work in making their community a better place to live.

ANASTASIA'S STORY: A SPECIAL
TRIBUTE TO ANASTASIA D. KAPTUR

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, on March 20, 1997, our colleague from Ohio, Congresswoman MARCY KAPTUR, suffered the loss of her mother, Anastasia D. Kaptur. Many of us realize that the loss of a mother can be extremely heartbreaking. Our thoughts and prayers go out to MARCY and members of her family as they move through this difficult period of mourning.

On March 24, 1997, MARCY and her family gathered at St. Theresa of the Little Flower Parish for a celebration of life memorial mass in honor of her mother. Friends joined the Kaptur family in reflecting upon the life of Anastasia Kaptur, who was a courageous human being and a very remarkable woman. To celebrate their mother's life, MARCY and her brother, Steve, prepared a special tribute

entitled, "Anastasia's Story." This moving tribute is a testament to Anastasia D. Kaptur, who is called A Woman for all Seasons.

Mr. Speaker, I take pride in submitting "Anastasia's Story" for inclusion in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest condolences to MARCY and members of her family.

ANASTASIA'S STORY

Celebration of Life Memorial Mass, Little Flower Parish, March 24, 1997

Anastasia "Cherie" Delores Mary Rogowska Kaptur

Welcome to St. Theresa of the Little Flower Parish where our family has attended for 52 years.

On behalf of my mother's son and my brother, Steve, and the Kaptur and Rogowski families, especially our loving father Stephen "Kappy" who was laid to rest 28 years ago, as well as mother's mother and father, Teofila and John, and her sister, Anna, her brothers Anthony and Stanley, all of whom preceded her in death; her sister-in-law Esther Kalinska Rogowski; her niece and goddaughter Rose Ann Rogowska Koperski and her nephew John Rogowski; her cousins Theresa and Joe Kaptur, and John and Rita Kaptur, and their children and grandchildren; and her treasured friends, Mrs. Blanche Zalipski, Mrs. Esther Dutkiewicz, Mrs. Sally Zawierucha, and Mrs. Connie (Corrie) Dutched—all of us wish to extend deepest gratitude to you, our friends, for your compassion and for making the effort to celebrate the life of our most beloved mother Anastasia "Cherie" Delores Mary Rogowska Kaptur. We wish also to express the sincerest thanks to the doctors, nurses, and support staff at every level at St. Vincent's Medical Center, especially Dr. Ward Taylor, Drs. A. Zacharias and Thomas Schwann, and Drs. Phillip Horowitz and Allen Markowicz. Our family is also indebted to Mr. H. Ross Perot and the gifted doctors at the Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Dr. Gene Frenkel who made the longest house call in the world, and Dr. A. Harold Urschell. Finally, we cannot express our appreciation adequately to the saintly nurses of Hospice of Northwest Ohio who treated our mother with the tenderest and most humane care.

For us, her children, mother's loss is profound, beyond measure. We know God has blessed our family by affording us the privilege and honor to know and love this heroic woman for half a century. We admire her totally. Our love and respect for her has grown more with each passing day. We shall never know a more loving, unselfish, nor courageous human being. Somehow it is mystical that this service is being held at a time when seasons are converging, as spring dawns in this season of new life. Within the last week, we have experienced freezing rain, bright sunlight with blue skies, winter snowfalls, blustery winds, and spring rains. The geese and birds are returning, and there is a new moon. We believe this is nature's way of welcoming our mother.

My brother and I also must beg our mother's forgiveness. Because, you see, she chose to be a very private person—a woman of deepest humility. She sought no fanfare nor acknowledgement. She would have been quite uncomfortable with the attention being directed her way today. But we couldn't fathom how to avoid this occasion of the celebration of her life.

We would wish for each of you to have in your life the gift of Anastasia—love constantly and freely bestowed, as she has given us for five decades. She has been our life-long partner in all adventures, large and small, and our most ardent supporter—whether it was working with my brother on his latest

patented invention or on his race car—literally, she sat behind the wheel revving the engine while he tinkered under the hood. She acted as my chief political confidante, inspiring me always, as well as touching citizens across this district and nation. Her love for her children could not be contained.

Make no mistake about her resolve. She was a rugged individualist. In an age of materialism, she countered the tide. She coveted no bauble. She preferred “making” to “buying.” In an age of television, she remained a literary woman of the written word, known for her independent thought and resistance to commercialized brain washing. In an age of mega mergers and faceless bureaucracies, she supported the small family businesses—Bayer’s Hardware, Wolfert and Sof’s Markets, Brodbeck’s Greenhouse. We can still see her each spring in that greenhouse, negotiating down all the aisles, appreciating the vast display of acres of flowers under glass, and leaving with carloads of petunias and other sundry selections, along with trunkloads of potting soil. In an age of shallow commitments, her word and her life remain as true as the North Star. For us, she remains ageless, a woman for all seasons.

Our mother’s life symbolizes triumph over adversity, the story of a woman from the working classes who never yielded. Let us tell you Anastasia’s story . . .

Mother was born in Toledo to Polish peasant immigrant parents who had journeyed to America in 1912 before World War I from a tiny village in Burtyn, Ukraine, at the nexus of the Polish and Ukrainian borders. Her father was a forester and her mother a peasant girl of 17 years. They suffered the abuse of making the month long journey to America in steerage class in the bottom of a ship that left from Rotterdam and disembarked at Ellis Island in New York. They sought to improve their lot by working to earn enough money to buy farmland in their native country where they had been forced off the land as land was collectivized and they could no longer graze their cows. But the Russian Revolution intervened, then World War I, and mother’s parents were cut off from their relatives, never able to return home.

Our mother was the second-born of their four children—Anna, Anastasia, Anthony, and Stanley. She was nicknamed “Cherie” in a childhood game they invented in which they renamed one another—Al, Cherie, Fritz, and Skip.

Mother grew up during the Depression utterly poor from a financial standpoint. That searing memory of bitter poverty would remain with her throughout her life. This was a time in America before our social safety net laws were in place. In her early years, the family moved at least eight times—always renters, never owners—from Belmont Avenue, to Avondale, to Vance, to Pulaski, to Lucas, to Montrose, to Blum, to Pine-wood. And with those moves, she was forced to change elementary schools and disrupt those tender learning years—from Indiana School, to Pickett, to St. Teresa where she made her Communion and Confirmation, to Hoag School. At age 13, mom was already working to support her family. She would rise at 4:30 a.m., take two buses across town in Toledo to babysit and also clean houses for her teachers, as well as wealthier people in Toledo. She herself later would write: “Being a child of depression, making \$5 a week, my father out of work for years, my sister dying, no money at all. No hope at all. My two children know the history.”

Though highly gifted academically and an all-A student in the 7th and 8th grades, she was forced to drop out of Libbey High School to work as a waitress to bring home a few dollars a week to help the struggling family

that also took in boarders to make extra cash. Her father, always the last hired and the first fired, could not keep steady work so her mother cooked, washed clothes, did ironing—anything—to earn cash, and also labored at Miller’s Greenhouse picking tomatoes, then in the kitchen at the Commodore Perry, then at Kuhlmann’s Potato Chips, and at Industrial Belt company on Summit—but like her husband always at the bottom of the seniority list. Her treasured and only sister, Anna, one year older than mom, died tragically at age 17 of leakage of the heart, an event that remained deeply poignant to our mother throughout her years. Mom became the oldest surviving child. At age 16, she hired on at Dean’s Confectionery across from St. Anthony’s school for \$5.00 per week. Many times that was all her family had to live on. At 18, she worked at Liberty Lunch for \$8 a week, and then at Broadway Bar-B-Que for \$11.75 a week. The minimum wage law was passed at that time, but her boss made her sign her check, then he cashed it, and she was still paid only \$8 a week. One day a lady came in looking for people to work at Kresge’s downtown, where mom became employed, earning \$14.50 a week.

When she was in her early 20’s, she landed a job at the Champion Spark Plug Company in Toledo where she had applied at the employment office every day for one year. She never missed a day of work between any of her jobs. Here, her weekly wage rose to \$40 a week. She worked the production line at plug tamping where she was paid based on her output and she always did the maximum number each day. It was at Champion that she was elected to the Charter Committee of the Local 12 United Auto Workers Trade Union that was forming. She summarized for her children why she helped form the union—“primarily to assure seniority rights of employment so you couldn’t be fired because the supervisor brought family member to replace you. A bidding system was established so any open job was put up on the board so the one with the most seniority got the job if qualified. Discrimination was outlawed so the foreman could no longer put his pets or relatives on the best job. The right to ask for a pay raise was assured through negotiation and the right to strike granted to employees. Leaves for illness were granted so people wouldn’t be fired if a doctor’s certification was provided. Bathroom privileges were allowed for personal contingencies. Three months leave was allowed for pregnancy. Layoffs would occur according to seniority. And a grievance procedure was established to curb harassment by mean foremen.”

Elected union Secretary, Mom gained respect by both company and union members for her knowledge of the bidding system, her ability to handle grievances, and her detailed grasp of the labor contract.

On November 26, 1938, at 9:00 A.M. at St. Teresa’s Church, she married our happy go-lucky, wonderful father Stephen or “Kappy”—a produce man and truck driver. He came from an even larger family where his mother had 16 children, though many did not survive the illnesses of that period. They lived with mom’s family for awhile but then, together in 1945, they bought a small home in Reynolds Corners in Adams Township, totally retrofitted it, landscaped the property, waterproofed the outside walls, handstripped the woodwork. While they were at it, they gave birth to two children, their daughter Marcia Carolyn in 1946, and their son Stephen Jacob in 1952. Mom left her job at Champion when Steve was born.

In 1952, mom and dad opened their own family meat market and grocery called Supreme Market in Rossford, Ohio on Dixie Highway across from the Libbey Glass Plant. Cherie’s homemade pies were sold there,

along with dad’s fresh and smoked Polish sausage, veal loaf, pickled herring, and lots more. But due to her husband’s illness, the family was forced to sell the store at decade’s end, and dad went to work at Kaiser Jeep to assure the family income and health benefits. He retired from there in 1968. Mom worked at a number of part-time jobs to supplement the family income, with their daughter in college and their son in high school—Daso Bakery, Mareks’ Supermarket, cleaning physicians’ offices, and even pet-sitting.

She continued working after she was widowed in 1969.

During the 1970’s, with her children grown, and after receiving her first Social Security check, Anastasia pursued the life-long dream she had placed on hold while she helped everyone else—completing her high school education and advancing her own formal education. She received her high school certification of graduation from the State of Ohio in 1975, and passed with flying colors. She also enrolled in Russian courses at the University of Toledo, took painting courses at the Toledo Museum of Art, polished her knowledge of the Polish language from books and letter-writing, honing those skills for decades by writing relatives in Poland and the Ukraine. She became the best “Friend of the Library,” faithfully checking out 10-20 books each month. And the reading list was not light—Halberstam, Updike, McCollough, Grisham, Elements of Style, Raven’s Wing, The Recycled Citizen, The Reckoning, Brand Fires on the Ridge. History. Travel. Adventure. Geography. Fiction. Mysteries. Mom often used the expression “thirst for knowledge.” And, she certainly possessed it. She was self-taught in so many facets, cultivated a stellar vocabulary on a daily basis, and was a life-long learner.

She began to travel extensively with her children—throughout the United States, and the world. Her deep interest in geography enlivened at every turn. Niagara Falls, British Columbia, New Orleans, Miami, Montreal, Vermont, Maine, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Chicago, New York, California, Oregon, the Upper and Lower Peninsulas in Michigan, Germany, France, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, the Ukraine, even when the Iron Curtain made travel difficult . . . Mexico, Toronto . . . Her most memorable trip involved discovering the village of her mother and father, hidden inside the western Ukraine, placing flowers on the graves of her grandmothers, and learning of their fates—one starved to death during Lenin’s drive to squelch peasant rebellion in the countryside, and the other shot together with her grandchildren for refusing to divulge the whereabouts of a grandson being sought for conscription into the Russian army. While there, mom discovered a grove of full grown trees at the opening to the village, planted by her mother before she departed for America. While there, she also found her mother’s brother, Casimer, the sole surviving son who had been placed in Siberian concentration camps for 20 years by Joseph Stalin. It was an unforgettable journey as the blanks of 63 years of family history were filled in.

Mother is most at home in the outdoors with nature, and in her gardens. She advised “everything in life must have a center, just like the universe, or a flower, or a family.” She could grow anything—certainly children. But also animals—dogs, ducks, rabbits, birds, squirrels, crescendos of plants and flowers, roses by the thousands, flowers of all varieties—the usual ones like marigolds and sweet peas. But more often the unusual and rare ones—moon flowers, balloon flowers, lupines, tulips, foxglove, columbine. Her own potatoes, planted lovingly each year, were harvested for a special meal. And her

evergreens and spruces, grown from shoots or small seeds, all came to have symbolic value in our yard like the large blue spruce on our front lawn, planted the first year she had both a son and a daughter. If by a loving act of nature, that tree over the years has sprouted two tops.

Always, she was beautiful, so delicate and tiny physically, with the clearest blue eyes my brother and I had ever seen, and flawless skin, rarely wearing makeup. Natural. She wore her hair like no other person we ever met. Distinctive. She wore hats and clothing she crafted herself. She loved to dance, especially polkas in both clockwise and counterclockwise directions. She had a flair, whether it was the way she held a napkin, or planted a garden, or signed her name.

She was always usefully occupied and her project list never ended. She built furniture, designed and sewed clothing, painted oil sketches, landscaped, wrote newsy personal letters, baked, did masonry. She enjoyed people, one at a time, and took a personal interest in each person's story. When she finished a conversation, it was likely the person had told her much more about him or herself than they ever knew about mom. The first day she was admitted to the hospital for tests, a nurse came up to her and said she was going to take extra good care of her because when the nurse's husband was a little boy, he was mom's paper boy and mom always invited him in and fed him cookies.

She would refer to people she truly admired as the "salt of the earth." Indeed, that epitomizes her. And she would remind us the "strongest steel goes through the hottest fire." And she has. She always prayed for others' physical, mental, moral, and spiritual strength. But, she possessed them all. She walked toward physical death with full knowledge, her shoulders straight, trying to bolster us, with her eyes fixed on the horizon. She never flinched once. She never complained. She accepted. And, her spirit triumphed. I only wish we could reveal to you the depths of her courage. She taught us how to live, and she showed us how to die.

We are grateful to God for granting us the time to say goodbye. Never have we known a person of such goodness. She would caution us "Never give anything with the idea of getting something in return." She was completely selfless. In knowing her, we came to know the full meaning of the words—love, truth, beauty, unselfishness, humility, wisdom, generosity, grace, refinement, ingenuity, perseverance, serenity, and courage. For those of you who wonder why she didn't confide in you these last several months, please know she was protecting you, not wanting you to worry. She was always thinking of the other person.

If you ever looked into her sparkling eyes, or shook her hand, you knew you met someone of substantial character and abiding virtue. In the heavens, some stars emanate a pure light, so full, constant and strong, they quietly draw the gaze of earthly creatures, large and small, to their wondrous, serene lustre. They usher in the night and the day. In their light, sojourners never lose their way, never fall, never tire, and are never alone.

In her memory, our family will establish "The Anastasia Fund" (to be formally incorporated as the Anastasia Swiecicki Rogowska Kaptur Fund) for the adoption, education, and medical care of children from the newly democratizing nations of Eastern and Central Europe, beginning with Burtyn, Ukraine, the ancestral home of her parents. Mother would say, "goodness never dies." May this fund honor her memory, that of her mother and father, and their mothers and fathers as we move to a 21st century that offers hope in the most forgotten places.

There is no way to say thank you sufficiently, mother. We love you beyond life and time itself. May eternal rest be granted unto you and may perpetual light shine upon you. Your profoundly grateful son and daughter,

STEVE AND MARCY.

To be established in Memory of our Mother's Life: "The Anastasia Fund" (to be formally incorporated as the Anastasia Swiecicki Rogowska Kaptur Fund) dedicated for the adoption, education and medical care of children from the newly democratizing nations of Eastern and Central Europe beginning with Burtyn, Ukraine, the ancestral home of her parents.

Contributions may be forwarded to: "The Anastasia Fund", c/o Toledo Community Foundation, 608 Madison Avenue, Suite 1540, Toledo, Ohio 43604-1151.

HAITI—AN UPDATE

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee I directed my subcommittee staff director to travel to Haiti during the recent district work period to observe first hand the political, economic, and social situation in that country.

As the House knows, the United States, in partnership with the international community, is trying to help that nation recover from years of dictatorial rule, domestic intimidation, murders and political harassment, human rights abuses, and economic chaos.

For a little over a year now, the government of President Preval has been trying to make progress on many fronts from democratization to the restoration of law and order to economic development and open markets. His efforts are daunting. And while well intentioned and pointed in the right direction, his initiatives have not progressed very far and in many instances are being opposed by forces within that country who do not want him to succeed.

The United States has committed to help Haiti in this reconstruction effort. We all knew this would not be easy and would not happen over night. The staff's observations bear that fact out. I am submitting a summary of their observations for the RECORD. A more detailed report has been submitted to the International Relations Committee and is available from the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee for the Members.

MEMORANDUM—APRIL 7, 1997

To: Chairman, Western Hemisphere Subcommittee; and Ranking Member, Western Hemisphere Subcommittee

From: Vince Morelli, Subcommittee Staff Director; David Adams, Subcommittee Democratic Professional Staff; and Denis McDonough, Full Committee Democratic Professional Staff

Re: Report of STAFFDEL to Haiti

During the period March 24 through March 26 we visited the Republic of Haiti as part of the Committee's oversight responsibilities for the Hemisphere. The purpose of the STAFFDEL was to gain a first-hand account of the political and socio-economic situation in country and the progress to date on the reconstruction of the nation. The STAFFDEL was hosted by U.S. Embassy, Port Au Prince, which is headed by Ambassador William Swing.

During our visit, which included meetings with Haitian government, U.S. State, A.I.D., and Department of Justice representatives, Haitian business sector and the international donor community, STAFFDEL had the extraordinary opportunity to spend one hour with Haitian President Rene Preval to discuss the state of affairs in his country.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

Although our time-in-country was limited, it became obvious to STAFFDEL that the challenges facing the Government of Haiti (GOH) are enormous. Progress to date on some fronts has, at best, been steady if slow and almost negligible on others. The reconstruction of Haiti into a viable democracy with strong institutions and a commitment to the rule of law is progressing and can be achieved within the next few years, but a vibrant, self-sustaining economy may not be achievable in the short-term, even with the privatization goals under discussion at this time.

In any event, the ability of the GOH to achieve even a modest amount of success in the short-term will largely be dependent on continued political stability, a steady pace of reform by the government and a continued commitment of financial and technical assistance from the international community, including the United States.

STAFFDEL was encouraged by President Preval's continued commitment to rebuild Haiti in accordance with the economic plan he presented upon his inauguration despite the many challenges he has had to confront, including on-going political unrest, the occasional outburst of crime and lawlessness, differing levels of commitment among some of his own Ministers, the lack of adequately trained human resources and the March 26 attempt to force a vote of no-confidence against his Prime Minister, Mr. Rosny Smartha.

STAFFDEL would also make the following specific observations.

DEMOCRACY AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION

Although not fully understood or appreciated by many Haitians, the democratization of the country, while still fragile, seems to be taking hold. Over the past two years, Haitians have gone to the polls five times and will vote again on April 6. In general, Haitians equate democracy with the freedom to speak on any subject and to openly criticize the government, a new found experience which many have taken full advantage of. Events such as the March 26 debate in the Parliament over the state of affairs in Haiti, in reaction to a call for a vote of "no confidence" against the Prime Minister, was unprecedented.

However, many in the country blame the democratization process for the rise in crime and violence and the inability of the government to create jobs. And, the government does not appear to be doing an adequate job educating the general population as to how they can effectively participate in the process. Civic education is very low and the lack of political participation, overshadowed by other concerns, is reflected in things such as low voter turnout and politicians with little political base.

While STAFFDEL was in Haiti, final preparations were being made for the Senatorial (9 seats) and local assembly elections. These elections were scheduled for April 6. Representatives from the International Republican Institute (IRI) and the National Democratic Institute (NDI) who are monitoring the elections believed that these elections would be competitive only in a limited way since some parties were boycotting them and because many voters were simply disinterested in yet another election which they saw as meaning little for their current situation. However, observers were concerned

about the low level of interest in the elections and, particularly, that these would be the first elections where security would not be provided by the international community. As a result there were no security arrangements in place as of our visit. Interlocutors noted that while there had been no outright political violence they described "gun play" and "burning tires" as intimidating events and feared that the lack of security would simply cause people to stay home.

Addendum: the April 6 elections were held, apparently without serious incident, or voter participation. It would appear that on average only about 15% of the voting population went to the polls. This was disappointing but not totally unexpected.

GOVERNMENT

The government, as defined through the personality of President Preval still seems to enjoy the support of the majority of Haitians. The President seems sincerely committed to rebuilding Haiti through tough economic reform programs, including privatization, civil service reform, and law and order. Other parts of the government, however, seem to function at various levels of commitment and competence. While some Ministers are considered supporters of former President Aristide and do not entirely subscribe to the current government's direction, others are doing their best with little resources and a dearth of experienced technical managers. This has resulted in little progress in areas such as civil service downsizing and infrastructure development.

Parliament on the other hand seems to get mixed reviews primarily because the concept of a deliberative legislative body, sharing the decision-making power of governing, is so new. The legislators we met seemed to be committed to the task of rebuilding the country and enthusiastic about their role, even if they seemed somewhat unsure of their actual level of authority. However, divisions within the Lavalas political organization, namely between the pro-Preval and pro-Aristide wings which dominate the Parliament, has resulted in a period of legislative paralysis especially with respect to key issues such as passing a budget which is seven months overdue and reconciling two different versions of civil service reform. The April 6 elections could be good news for former President Aristide and bad news for President Preval. Senators elected under the Lavalas Family banner could well control the legislature and could prevent serious reforms from taking place.

LAW AND ORDER

Violence remains a serious and recurring problem. However, most of this seems perpetrated largely by rival gangs seeking dominance in an area or as a result of political infighting largely among the various factions of the Lavalas political movement. Despite the occasional acts of violence, the establishment of public security seems to be on the right track. This growing sense of law and order has been due in large part to the slowly emerging professionalism of the Haitian National Police (HNP). Just over one year old, the HNP has been getting better at its job of policing despite the fact that their training is minimal and that they lack adequate equipment such as armament, communications and transportation. Weaknesses still exist in the area of mid-level management and investigative techniques. Overall, however, the commitment of Secretary of State for State Security, Robert Manuel and HNP Director General, Pierre Denize, to build a truly professional police force was encouraging.

Complicating the law and order process is the simple fact that a professional and capable justice system simply does not exist.

What there is is inefficient and often corrupt. Training programs for judges, lawyers, and courts are underway supported by the U.S. Department of Justice. But a smooth running, competent system is years away. Until then, the efforts of the police to investigate crimes and put criminals away will be severely undermined.

An even bigger test of the security system could come as early as July when the United Nations mandate expires. If the U.N. security force, which today numbers 1,300 uniformed troops, is withdrawn, the HNP could be strained to its limits. In our discussions with various officials, it became clear that the U.N. security presence should be retained in Haiti until at least the end of July, if not longer, in order to give the HNP more time to prepare.

ECONOMY

In general, the Haitian economy is in a state of shambles. On the positive side, the economy is showing some progress in that inflation is being brought under control, the local currency, the gourde, is being stabilized and budget expenditures are being tightened. On the other hand, jobs are not being created and important infrastructure improvements in roads, electricity and the port are at a standstill. In some cases, such as in the privatization of the major utilities and the seaport, political opposition by the anti-economic reformers and the anticipated job loss among the civil service, provide the major impediment. In cases such as road construction and improvement, the lack of qualified government contract managers and skilled contractors, not money, is the problem. With few exceptions, the Haitian private sector has been reluctant to invest within the country because of their uncertainty over the long-term political stability of the government and its commitment to reform. The international investment community is waiting to see the results of the first wave of privatization as well as the commitment of the Haitian private sector. The international lending community is prepared to provide some \$1.5 billion in assistance if the Haitian government continues to initiate political and economic reforms in a timely manner.

While STAFFDEL agreed that privatization was an important barometer of the GOH commitment to economic reform, the importance of this process and the timetable for its accomplishment may be over emphasized. Privatizing closed facilities such as the flour mill and cement factory, while important symbolically, at best would create only a few jobs. The more important facilities such as the telephone and electric companies will take much longer to accomplish for a whole variety of reasons including the fear of foreign ownership of Haiti's important assets since the Haitian private sector is not likely to be able to raise the necessary capital to buy these operations. While this process must be encouraged to proceed as expeditiously as possible, it will not solve Haiti's economic problems and cannot be done overnight as some have suggested. Even the goal of March 1998 for the privatization of all nine public enterprises, given where they are now, seems ambitious. In the interim, there are some more visible reforms which could be achieved which would reaffirm the government's commitment and which would bring revenues into the treasury. Most important of these would be reforms at the port, and especially of the customs department. Loss of revenue among imports of basic staples such as rice and cooking oil are well known. Smuggling of these commodities is growing, representing a significant loss of revenue for the GOH. It would not take much effort to address this problem through measures rang-

ing from "shiprider" agreements with the U.S. Coast Guard to more strict enforcement of cargo reporting and accounting, to a more effective, corruption-free, collection of duties.

OUTLOOK

Despite the recent spate of unrest and violence, which appears to be somewhat over dramatized in the press, it was STAFFDEL's assessment that Haiti was heading in the right direction, if slowly. Although Ambassador Swing likes to say that "everything in Haiti is broken", the most severe problem facing President Preval, and the most difficult to address is the inability of the economy to create jobs. This alone is the issue which creates the climate of unrest. To do this, however, the domestic private sector and the international investment community have to be convinced that they can turn a profitable business while operating in a safe environment. The law and order issue is being addressed as fast as it can by producing a professional police force. However, not every crime will be solved on a timely basis nor will every criminal be put in jail until enough well trained policemen are put on the beat and until a more responsive judicial system comes on line.

Civil service reform legislation has been passed but not yet enacted so the government's plan to downsize will continue slowly. But until economic reforms take hold, as symbolized by the privatization effort, large private sector jobs programs will not be forthcoming. Privatization of the flour mill, cement factory and airport could be accomplished by the end of the summer but none of these will produce large numbers of new jobs. And even though government officials like to point out that the majority of the Haitian people would not care who owned or operated these companies as long as they had electricity and could make a phone call anytime, there is enough political opposition, opposition which President Preval seems unable or unwilling to overcome, to make this a slow process.

Finally, there is the "Aristide" factor. Although the former President has not come out forcefully in opposition to the current direction of the government being promoted by President Preval, Aristide's former Prime Minister, there is speculation that Aristide is working behind the scenes to sabotage the more ambitious plans of the government. It is known that Aristide is contemplating a political comeback by running for President in five years when Preval's term expires. So as not to lose public support as Haiti moves forward toward reconstruction, many believe that Aristide is encouraging the gang violence in the urban centers, especially in the Cite Soleil section where a strong base of his support is located. Many also believe he is orchestrating the political violence among the factions of the Lavalas political movement and it is well known that he is opposed to privatization and has advised his followers in the government, now stronger as a result of the recent elections, to deliberately drag their feet on these reforms.

The question of Aristide's influence and the kinds of force he can bring to bear on the direction of the country is still a matter of debate. But the fact that President Preval, knowing who among his own Ministers oppose his policies, is moving slowly with respect to their removal and replacement, is an acknowledgment that Aristide's power is respected. Similarly, certain members of the Parliament, unsure of the future political landscape, display a reluctance to be more aggressive toward reform.

STAFFDEL concluded that President Preval has chartered the right course for Haiti even if, at times, he seems to be somewhat reluctant to make all the necessary

moves to traverse that course with all speed. The rebuilding of Haiti into a viable democracy with a strong rule of law and a vibrant economy will not be easy and certainly will take time. However, if the economy does not show signs of expanding, political unrest will rise. This slow pace could lead to a new wave of violence designed to undermine confidence in the Preval government and its policies. Any major law and order problem will have negative consequences for Haiti's stability and could throw Haiti back into a period of paralysis, upheaval and possible anarchy.

Lastly, we would be remiss if we failed to acknowledge the hospitality, hard work and cooperation of the U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince. Ambassador Swing and his team were confident that Haiti's chances for success were good despite the difficulties. Ambassador Swing's commitment and dedication were manifest in his willingness to give us as much time out his busy schedule as we needed. And his efforts to have us meet with U.N. Special Representative, Ambassador Ter Horst, Haitian Parliamentarians, and especially President Preval, were more than we expected. Ambassador Swing has been in Haiti longer than a normal posting but his presence, his expertise, his dedication and his relationship with the Haitian leadership are invaluable during these critical times. We also want to acknowledge Political Counselor Sue Ford Patrick for all the work she did in getting us to all of our meetings and for providing valuable insights to conditions in the country.

And finally, we wish to commend Colonel Stull, Commander of the U.S. Support Group, and his troops for the fine work they are doing in Haiti. The dedicated men and women of our Marine, Navy and Army contingents there are providing important humanitarian and civic assistance projects in addition to their normal security mission. Their mission in Haiti is often overlooked, and sometimes even questioned, but their presence is invaluable and a credit to their respective services.

KEY INDIVIDUALS STAFFDEL MET WITH WHILE IN HAITI

Government of Haiti: Mr. Rene Preval, President; Mr. Leslie Delatour, Central Bank Governor; Mr. Robert Manuel, Secretary of State for State Security; Mr. Pierre Denize, Director General, Haitian National Police; and Mr. Jean August Brutus, HNP Commissaire.

Legislative branch: Mr. Macdonald Jean, Senator; Mr. Jean Robert Sabalat, Senator; Mr. Alix Fils-Aime, Deputy; and Mr. St. Juste Momprevil, Deputy.

Representatives of the Council on Modernization of Public Enterprises (CMEP).

Representatives of the Haitian Private Sector.

United Nations: Ambassador Enrique Ter Horst, Special Representative to the Secretary General; and General Pierre Daigle, Commander, U.N. Support Mission on Haiti.

Representatives of the International Donor Group including the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Representatives of other Organizations in Haiti including: Adventist Relief and Development Agency; International Republican Institute; National Democratic Institute; and Inter-American Foundation.

United States Support Group: Colonel Stull, Commander.

WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 19, 1997

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1) to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector:

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Miller substitute.

Mr. MILLER has worked to meet the Republicans halfway in this effort to provide flexibility for working families.

I contend that H.R. 1 does not provide the flexibility that its sponsors claim it does.

Members on the other side of the aisle, trying to appeal to working mothers, claim that under H.R. 1, workers would work overtime and then take comptime whenever they need it—to take a child on a class trip, to tend to a sick parent, to volunteer time at their child's school. However, H.R. 1 also provides that an employer can deny comptime if taking that time would unduly disrupt that business. What good does it do to accrue comptime if your employer can prevent you from taking it when you want it?

Say Mrs. Smith wants to volunteer to be a chaperon for her daughter's class trip to the natural history museum next Tuesday. The employer says that taking leave Tuesday will unduly disrupt the business, but Mrs. Smith can take the time next Friday. What good does that do Mrs. Smith? Is that really choice?

Members on the other side of the aisle will claim that the bill does state that the employee has a choice, and that there are steps he or she can take if the employer wrongfully denies comptime. But if we are talking about the majority of workers today—who make less than 2½ times the minimum wage—we cannot truly state that these individuals have the resources to challenge their employer in court. Many need these jobs and would never consider threatening them even if they were in the right. Others who are bold enough to consider filing suit against their employer do not have the resources to hire an attorney and go to court.

Proponents of H.R. 1 point to the public sector, stating that comptime works well there. Let me tell you, I know of some Federal employees who opt for paid overtime, because they know they'll never get the opportunity to use their comptime when they want to. The public sector is not a business. We offer comptime there because it saves taxpayer dollars. The only reason private businesses will even consider offering comptime is that it saves money and will give employers the opportunity to have employees work longer hours.

Comptime is really a no-interest loan that employees give to their employers. Employees work the overtime, and then get paid later in comptime—if they get a chance to use it at all. Mandated overtime pay has been the law to penalize employers who make their employees work longer than the 40-hour workweek. That is why overtime is paid in time-and-a-half. This also provides a benefit to employees who choose to work longer hours for more

pay. But employees get their compensation as overtime pay in the next paycheck—not a week later or a month later, when it is convenient for the employer.

During the markup, it greatly concerned me that Members on the other side of the aisle referred to comptime as a benefit. Comptime is compensation for time that the employee has worked. The employee has a right to that compensation—it is not something that the employer should have the power to delay or to alter.

Many workers in my district need that overtime pay—they count on it being in every paycheck. Comptime will not help them keep a roof over their heads, food on the table, or clothes on their backs. I don't hear the small businesses in the 31st District clamoring for the option of comptime—many cannot afford to have employees on leave at irregular times. So the only protection to ensure that employees are paid for the time they work is to have overtime pay protections.

Nevertheless, I support Mr. MILLER's substitute so that those businesses and those employees who want comptime can fairly participate in such a program. The substitute ensures that comptime is truly flexible, and that employees have true choice.

Mr. MILLER's substitute puts teeth into the penalties for employers who coerce their employees into taking comptime and who wrongly deny an employee's right to take comptime when he or she wishes.

This measure also prohibits employers from discriminating among employees when offering comptime. It mandates that when an employer chooses to implement a comptime program, he or she must offer that comptime to all similarly situated employees. Therefore, if an employer offers comptime to a particular employee, he or she must also offer it to all the other employees who are doing the same work, on the same schedule, at the same site.

Another very important provision in this substitute is that it allows the Secretary of Labor to require employers to post a bond to assure funds to pay for unused comptime. Thus, employees would be guaranteed to receive their comptime if an employer declared bankruptcy.

I urge my colleagues to reject H.R. 1 and adopt the Miller substitute.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I with my colleague Representative BEN GILMAN, introduced a bipartisan bill to correct a fundamental unfairness to all Federal administrative law judges. The Administrative Law Judge Cost of Living Adjustment [COLA] Reform Act. Since 1992 administrative law judges have not received a cost-of-living adjustment like other Federal employees in the General Schedule and Senior Executive Service. Enactment of the legislation introduced today will remedy this unfair situation.

This legislation amends section 5372 of title 5, U.S. Code, and provides that the cost of living adjustment for administrative law judges will be adjusted by the same percentage and on the same date as the rates of pay for the General Schedule.

Through no fault of their own, ALJ salaries were included as a percentage of the Executive Schedule, which includes Members of Congress and Cabinet Secretaries. Since 1992 Members of Congress have prohibited themselves from receiving COLA's by appropriations bill riders that cover the whole Executive Schedules, including ALJ's. ALJ's in salary structure are more like other Federal employees hired at \$75,000 a year and their average salary is about \$89,000 a year, much less than Members of Congress or Cabinet Secretaries included in the Executive Schedule. The cost of the legislation is not significant, not even raising the \$5 million point of order threshold under the Budget Act. In fact we estimate that the cost of the legislation is under \$4 million.

As a matter of fairness, these Federal employees should receive pay adjustments at the same rate as other Government employees. The salaries of the younger administrative law judges are well below the pay level of Members of Congress. Many of the younger administrative law judges have fallen behind the rates of pay of their former Government colleagues. Senior Government attorneys paid under the General Schedule and the Senior Executive Service have received pay adjustments during the same period which has caused their rates of pay to exceed that of administrative law judges. The administrative law judiciary has traditionally recruited these senior attorneys as administrative law judges. The ability to recruit senior Government attorneys, experienced private practice attorneys, and to retain experienced administrative law judges is being impaired because of the disparity between the current pay of administrative law judges as compared with the pay of senior Government attorneys.

We believe that it is important to keep the Federal administrative judge corps competitive with other senior Government attorney positions. The Federal administrative judiciary must be able to recruit from the most able and experienced legal practitioners in both the private and public sectors, able to adjudicate complex and contested legal disputes. Adjudication of citizens' administrative claims by the Government is often the first contact the public has with the justice system. We want to ensure by passage of this bill, that the public has the quality and standard of service that justice deserves.

CONGRATULATING THE CANCER
INSTITUTE OF NEW JERSEY

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Cancer Institute of New Jersey on being designated as a clinical cancer center by the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Centers Program. This long-sought designation is a well-deserved honor and will mean much not only to the Cancer Institute of New Jersey but cancer patients throughout the State as well.

This designation, a tremendous advancement in health care for New Jerseyans, will allow clinical trials of new cancer therapies sponsored by the U.S. Food and Drug Admin-

istration to take place in New Jersey for the first time. This is a major milestone for the 6-year-old center, which is part of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey's Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. The medical school will receive an \$800,000 Federal grant to help support the center's operations. The designation places the Cancer Institute of New Jersey among the highest regarded cancer centers in the world.

The people of the State of New Jersey deserve the research and care provided by the Cancer Institute of New Jersey. They need to have convenient access to the newest advances in the prevention, diagnosis, and experimental treatment of cancer. Prior to the creation of the institute, New Jersey cancer patients seeking innovative care were forced to travel to either New York or Philadelphia. This was a particular burden for residents of the central portion of the State, which is an hour or more from either city. Such long travel distances are more than inconvenient—with frequent, repeated treatment sometimes needed, they can cause serious disruptions and hardships for the families involved. The opening of the institute has proven a major step forward for New Jersey cancer patients and its new designation as a cancer center brings New Jersey cancer treatment to the state-of-the-art.

The need for the institute is great. New Jersey has nearly 8 million citizens and cancer statistics ranking it as the third highest State in the Nation for estimated cancer deaths and the eighth highest for new cancer cases.

With 120 investigators, the Cancer Institute's clinical care and basic research programs include bone, bone marrow transplantation, gastrointestinal, genitourinary, gynecological, head and neck, leukemia/lymphoma, melanoma/sarcoma, and pediatrics.

The institute becomes one of more than 50 cancer centers designated across the country that engage in multidisciplinary research efforts to reduce cancer incidence, morbidity, and mortality.

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey is a partnership of UMDNJ, Hackensack University Medical Center, New Brunswick Affiliated Hospitals, St. Peter's Medical Center, and Atlantic Health System.

I know personally the tragedy of cancer: My husband, Richard W. Roukema, M.D., and I lost our son, Todd, to leukemia in 1976 at the age of 17. At that time, bone marrow transplants and other techniques that offered hope were only in their experimental stages. Since then, many advances have been made that have spared thousands of other parents the heartbreak we faced. It is thanks to the brilliant researchers and physicians at institutions such as the Cancer Institute of New Jersey that hope can be maintained.

Today, we are within grasp of a cure for many forms of cancer but much research remains to be done. I thank God for those who are willing to labor toward this goal and pray that with their help a cure can be found and that no child will ever again have to suffer from this terrible disease.

SALUTE TO THE CINCINNATI
BURNS INSTITUTE

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Shriners Hospitals for Children and the Cincinnati Burns Institute for their continuing commitment to the treatment and care of burn-injured children in the Cincinnati area, and to congratulate the Shriners on their 75th anniversary. We thank them for the vision and service that they have so generously given to the Greater Cincinnati community.

The Shriners Hospitals for Children is a network of 22 hospitals, 19 orthopedic units, and 3 burns institutes, offering specialized medical care to children up to the age of 18. The Cincinnati Burns Institute is one of the Shriners Hospitals specializing in acute and rehabilitative care of children suffering from burn injuries. As a regional referral hospital, the Cincinnati unit serves children who live within a 1,000-mile radius of Greater Cincinnati.

The mission of the Shriners is to minimize the devastation of burn injuries and enhance the patient's potential and quality of life. The Shriners provide family-centered and holistic pediatric burn care of the highest quality. And, by providing all medical care to patients at no cost to them or their parents or a third party, the Shriners Hospitals and Burns Institutes not only care emotionally for their patients, but financially as well. Through public education and prevention efforts, the Cincinnati Burns Institute, along with the Shriners, has been instrumental in raising public awareness in the management of pediatric burns.

The leadership of these truly dedicated organizations is an asset to our community and to our Nation. All of us in Cincinnati congratulate the Shriners Hospitals for Children on their 75th anniversary. We are grateful for all they have given to Greater Cincinnati.

AMERICA'S FEDERAL CREDIT
UNIONS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support for America's Federal credit unions on behalf of at least 35,000 people residing in the Second Congressional District who depend on them to receive financial services. As you may know, the original legislation that created Federal credit unions in the 1930's required that their members share a "common bond of occupation or association." Over the years, this statute has been interpreted in a fashion that allows employees from many different companies to join the same credit union. However, in the 1994 Federal District Court case of National Credit Union Administration versus First National Bank & Trust and its subsequent appeals, it was ruled that credit unions must have a "single common bond of occupation." In other words, all the members of the credit union must work for the same employer.

Although the Supreme Court has decided to hear this case, credit unions all across the Nation have been forced to cease accepting new

members from employers outside of those who already belong while they wait for the final ruling. In addition to this disruption in the industry, if this case stands, credit unions may be forced to exclude all employers with the exception of the single original employer that the credit union received its charter to serve.

Mr. Speaker, credit unions are the last source of financial services for millions of Americans who do not have the credit background to receive help from traditional banking institutions. If this case is allowed to stand, as many as 10 million current credit union members could be expelled from their credit unions, and services could be interrupted for all 70 million American credit union members. Many critics of credit unions feel that they have become a threat to the banking industry. However, according to the Credit Union National Association, the average credit union has less than \$28 million in assets—less than one-sixteenth the size of the average bank. In fact, Chase and Citibank, the two largest U.S. banks, combined have more assets than the aggregate holdings of all 12,047 credit unions. I do believe that banks play an important role in America's economy, but I believe that a balance can be found between their needs and those of the credit union industry. Banks are likely to remain America's chief source of financial services, but there is no reason that a thriving credit union industry cannot survive and continue to serve those people who cannot be helped by banks. Mr. Speaker, it could take many months before the Supreme Court makes its final decision on this case. The credit union industry can not hang in limbo while it waits for the Supreme Court to act. Representative LATOURETTE has introduced a bill to this Congress in order to clarify this issue. The Credit Union Membership Access Act of 1997, of which I am a cosponsor, will protect the status quo by allowing employees from more than one company to become members of the same credit union. I support this legislation wholeheartedly, and I urge this Congress to act to prevent a disaster for America's credit union industry.

HELP COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY BASE CLOSURE

HON. BILL McCOLLUM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation that will facilitate the swift transfer of closed military bases to local communities. This action is necessary because current law hinders the large and complex transfer of military base property with economic redevelopment in mind.

Many of the laws governing the reuse of military bases are antiquated and filled with confusing terms and conditions. One major existing hindrance is a clause prohibiting the obtaining of profit by local communities. This is a problem because it prevents local communities from generating profits through subleasing for the purpose of reinvestment to maintain and improve landscaping, maintenance, and infrastructure. The remedy for this situation is to replace the clause with legislation embodying the provisions of the base closure laws and amendments of the 1990's.

The interim lease provisions have not been as successful as planned because many of the terms and conditions act as disincentives to economic development conveyance. For example, there is no commitment for final ownership by Federal agencies upon assumption of control or occupancy of transferred property. Commercial firms are willing to enter into leases, but are refusing this option because of the lack of commitment for final ownership. In addition, the new occupants of closed base property are unable to conduct major renovations unless they agree to restore the property to its original condition. Many of the facilities require major alterations from their original condition just to bring them to local code standards. Why are we requiring restoration of undesired conditions? This makes no sense and ultimately results in taxpayer waste.

Prior to 1996, departure of Federal agencies reverted property to the Federal Government for disposal by GSA. A leaseback provision was established in the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1996 to protect communities from a Federal agency revolving door. Under this law, property approved for Federal usage would be transferred to the local redevelopment agency, then leased to a Federal agency at no cost for up to 50 years. The reasoning behind this is to ensure transfer of property to local communities in the event of departure by Federal agencies. The lack of a mandatory requirement for leaseback acceptance allows for circumvention of the legislative intent. In Orlando, FL, the Veterans Administration has requested Orlando Naval Training Center property through the Federal screen process. VA has refused to enter into a long-term lease which would allow enactment of a leaseback provision. This creates major problems for community redevelopment authorities as it limits their ability to finalize reuse plans. My legislation guarantees an option for communities to obtain reuse property after the departure from the property by the first Federal agency lessee.

We must allow common sense to prevail in this base reuse process. There are some instances where it makes sense to lease to organizations affiliated with the branch of service that previously occupied the base property. This is currently prohibited, yet doesn't it make sense to relocate recruiting stations, reserve centers, and military processing centers onto closed base property? This type of action will allow these units to function in a military environment while reducing taxpayer burden generated by lease of civilian property.

The four branches of the U.S. Armed Services are currently able to contract with local governments for fire and police services for 6 months prior to the closure of a base. Families remaining on closed bases need these services, yet there is no provision for bases being closed in phases as the services do not define phased closures as operational. In simpler terms, local communities bear the burden for fire and police services because the service branches are unable to contract for services.

Mr. Speaker, the bill I'm introducing today will make major strides in reforming the base closure reuse process. We must enact this legislation to protect our local communities. I urge my colleagues' support.

HONORING DAVID ALLEX

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend David Allex of Harlingen, TX, and to commend his life's work of improving the economic conditions of south Texas.

David is a legend in south Texas. He has served as the president of the Harlingen Industrial Foundation, Inc. [HIFI] since its inception in 1968. That is an incredible tenure, but David Allex is quite the economic pioneer. Few people have had the effect that David has had on the economic fortunes of the south Texas business and professional community. David is leaving HIFI, and his presence will be sorely missed.

During David's tenure, his efforts attracted a host of industries to the south Texas area. He was actively involved in bringing the following companies to the Rio Grande Valley: Tex Steel, Fruit of the Loom, Anderson, Greenwood and Co., Valley International Cold Storage, Atlantic-Durant Technology, Inc., Tadm, Levi Strauss, William Carter Co., Velcon Filters, and Allocorp.

The high unemployment rate in the valley has always been my paramount concern since coming to Congress. These companies would not have relocated to south Texas if not for David's assertiveness and commitment to the economic development of our area. His vision, innovation, and ideas have made the valley a force in our Nation's new economy.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the quality, loyalty, integrity, and accomplishments of David's service to the economy of south Texas. I offer David my personal thanks and best wishes.

TRIBUTE TO MARCIA STEIN

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, this morning I rise to pay a well earned tribute to Marcia Stein, who retired from this body on January 20, 1997. For 15 years, Marcia provided exemplary service as one of the Official Reporters of the House. She and her husband, Robert P. (Bob) Stein, an oceanographer with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, are present this morning, and I am pleased to have this opportunity to commend Marcia for her outstanding service to this institution.

A native of Abilene, KS, Marcia attended Phillips University in Enid, OK, before relocating to the Washington, DC, area. After working for a number of years at Andrews Air Force Base, she attended Strayer College and graduated as a court reporter in 1975. She worked several years as a freelance reporter before joining the staff of the Official Reporters of the House on November 12, 1981. Marcia especially enjoyed specializing in hearings on national security and intelligence; 10 of her 15 years were spent as a reporter for the Appropriations Subcommittee on National Security. Some of the highlights of her Hill career included reporting the Iran-Contra hearings and

traveling to Bonn, Germany, and other parts of the globe to report field hearings.

Now that Marcia has retired, she is able to devote more time to pursuing her favorite pastimes of golf, she carries an 18 handicap, and duplicate bridge. She has been a life master in duplicate bridge since 1968. She also enjoys reading and snorkeling. Marcia and Bob are the proud parents of 4 children: Danise, David, Adam, and Jason; and 2 grandchildren, Allison and Jacob.

Marcia has enjoyed observing history in the making, and she feels privileged to have been assigned to report some of the most interesting events taking place in this august body. Those of us who have had the pleasure of working with her during her distinguished career, also feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work with an individual of such outstanding ability and professionalism.

Thank you Marcia for your service to your country and to the House of Representatives. I wish you and Bob a long, healthy, and prosperous retirement.

SALUTING WILSON A. ROGERS OF
CLEVELAND, OH

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and hard work of a constituent who has been honored recently for his distinguished service to his field and his community. Wilson A. Rogers of Cleveland, an owner and operator of McDonald's restaurants, was recently bestowed the prestigious Ronald McDonald Award. This award is the highest award given to an owner/operator and covers 40 regions. Mr. Wilson earned this award through this outstanding work in his local community and for outstanding management.

Wilson Rogers has been a part of the McDonald's team for more than 22 years. His interest in becoming a restaurateur was sparked by reading about the opportunities of owning a McDonald's franchise in the newspaper. He had learned the lessons of success through hard work on his family's farm in South Point, OH, but what he has given back to his community comes straight from his heart.

Mr. Rogers has a rich history of involvement with the future of the youth of our community. His passion for academic achievement brought about the creation of the McDonald's Martin Luther King Scholarship and Exhibition at Cuyahoga Community College. This project made a 5-year \$50,000 contribution to the Tri-C/MLK scholarship program and created an exhibit for the college to honor the late civil rights leader. He has also aided many disadvantaged students who might not otherwise attend college through the United Negro College Fund. He has chaired and cochaired the UNCF Telethon and Golf Tournament and now sits on their advisory committee.

Mr. Speaker, among other efforts to help children get ahead, Wilson Rogers was instrumental in helping the Achievement Center for Children secure a grant from Ronald McDonald Children's Charities. Mr. Rogers also helps feed the hungry and homeless, and is a past

board member of the Harvard Community Center. His dedication to the Greater Cleveland area and improving the lives of others speaks volumes about his character. This devoted husband and father, businessman, and philanthropist has brought much to those around him and those he may never meet. I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the admirable personal and professional accomplishments of Mr. Wilson Rogers.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB GRIFFITTS

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a great American, my friend, Bob Griffiths. Bob turns 50 today, and in some ways, I am sure that he does not want a lot of attention called toward this occasion.

Bob has never been one to seek attention or publicity or credit at any time. But this should be a special day in his life, and he deserves a lot more credit and praise than he ever receives.

Bob Griffiths is my district director and long-time closest personal friend. He spends his days quietly helping the constituents of the second district and over the last 8½ years has helped thousands in ways big and small. He works nights, weekends, and holidays and never really leaves the job behind. People would be shocked if they followed him around for a few weeks and saw how many hours he puts in.

Bob serves the people of east Tennessee at a personal financial sacrifice. Before taking his present job, he was a very successful realtor and appraiser.

He handled many commercial real estate deals for groups of doctors and other investors. He had many leading companies as clients of his appraisal business.

Throughout his career, both in business and politics, he has always inspired a great feeling of trust and confidence in all those with whom he has dealt.

There is not a dishonest or unethical bone in Bob Griffiths' body.

Always giving of himself to others, Bob has almost never asked anything for himself.

He has served this Nation well, through our great free enterprise system, in government, and through two other very important ways as well.

First, while he almost never mentions it and no, very few people know it, Bob is a veteran of the frontlines of some of the toughest fighting which went on in Vietnam.

He was and is a courageous, patriotic man who deeply loves this country.

Hardened in numerous wartime battles, he is the kind of man you want beside you when times get tough.

He would be embarrassed to be described in this manner, but to me he is a true American hero.

Secondly, and most important of all, he is a devoted family man.

He has had a long and happy marriage to his wife, Barbara, and his loyalty and friendship to me is without question a distant second to his love for and devotion to her.

There is, though another woman in Bob's life, and no man has ever loved a daughter more than Bob loves his Deena.

Deena has grown into a beautiful young woman, a recent graduate of the University of Tennessee and now getting off to a great start in a career with one of Knoxville's most respected insurance firms.

Deena has never let her dad down and has made him a proud and happy father for many years.

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, Bob Griffiths is the kind of man who has made this country great. He is not rich or famous, but he is well-known and greatly respected in his beloved east Tennessee.

He deserves very much to be considered as one of our Nation's finest citizens.

On this special milestone in his life, I would like say happy birthday and best wishes for many, many more.

I could never repay Bob for all he has done for me, or thank him nearly enough. But I will close by saying that I am very proud to call him my friend.

THE TAXPAYER BROWSING
PROTECTION ACT

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to cosponsor, along with my Democratic and Republican colleagues, a bill titled the "Taxpayer Browsing Protection Act." As the ranking member of the Ways and Means Committee Oversight Subcommittee, I have worked with the IRS Commissioner and the other subcommittee members in support of the legislation being introduced today.

Most recently, the IRS Commissioner wrote me and renewed her request that legislation be introduced to clarify the criminal sanctions for unauthorized access to or inspection of tax information, referred to as browsing, by IRS employees. A copy of the Commissioner's March 10, 1997, letter follows my statement and is included in the RECORD.

Importantly, this bill would prohibit unauthorized review of tax information, retained by the IRS in both paper and electronic form. Violators would be subject to significant criminal sanctions, including monetary fines and imprisonment, and dismissal from IRS employment.

This legislation will significantly enhance the IRS's current zero tolerance policy for illegal browsing of tax information. The public will benefit from this legislation knowing that their tax records are only inspected by IRS employees who need the information as part of their job responsibility. Also, all the hardworking and committed IRS employees nationwide will benefit from this legislation knowing that a bad apple hired by the IRS will be quickly removed from the agency and punished under the law.

I look forward to working with the members of the Committee on Ways and Means, on a bipartisan basis, to approve this legislation and to bring the bill to the House floor in a timely manner.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY,
INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE,
Washington, DC, March 10, 1997.

Hon. WILLIAM J. COYNE,
Subcommittee on Oversight, Committee on Ways
and Means, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. COYNE: I wanted to let you know about a case that was recently decided by

the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, *United States v. Czubinski*, No. 96-1317, 1997 U.S. App. LEXIS 3077 (1st Cir. February 21, 1977) and to request your support for legislation to clarify the criminal sanctions in the Internal Revenue Code for the unauthorized access of taxpayers' accounts by Internal Revenue Service employees.

Since becoming Commissioner, I have repeatedly stated that the IRS will not tolerate violations by employees of the rules against unauthorized access. The Service's zero tolerance policy prohibits any employee access to (and use of) tax information, except to the extent necessary for an employee to perform assigned duties.

In the *Czubinski* case, the First Circuit reversed the conviction of a former IRS employee for improperly accessing taxpayer information in the IRS database. That person had been indicted and convicted of several counts of violating 18 USC §§1343 and 1346 (wire fraud) and 18 USC §1030(a)(4) (computer fraud). In reversing the conviction, the court stated that "unauthorized browsing of taxpayer files, although certainly inappropriate conduct, cannot, without more, sustain [a] federal felony conviction [under 18 USC §§1343, 1346 and 1030(a)(4)]."

This decision and a 1996 acquittal, by a Memphis, Tennessee jury of another former IRS employee who had been indicted for improper access of taxpayer accounts under 26 USC §7213 (Unlawful Disclosure of Tax Return Information), *United States v. Patterson*, Cr. No. 96-20002 (W.D. Tenn. April 10, 1996), are very troubling and make it more difficult for the Service to appropriately discipline employees who violate our policy against unauthorized access.

In the past several years, the IRS has taken a number of steps to ensure that unauthorized access of taxpayer information by IRS employees does not occur. For example, each time an employee logs onto the taxpayer account database, a statement warns of possible prosecution for unauthorized use of the system. All new users receive training on privacy and security of tax information before they are entitled to access the Integrated Data Retrieval System (IDRS). The Service has also installed automated detection programs that monitor employees' actions and accesses to taxpayers' accounts, identify patterns of use, and alert managers to potential misuse. Employees are disciplined according to a Guide for Penalty Determinations that includes dismissal. In the *Czubinski* opinion, the court noted that "the IRS rules plainly stated that employees with passwords and access codes were not permitted to access files on IDRS [the database] outside of the course of their official duties."

In addition to the internal actions, the IRS has recommended and supported legislative efforts to amend the Internal Revenue Code and Title 18 to clarify the criminal sanctions for unauthorized computer access to taxpayer information. A recent amendment to 18 USC §1030(a)(2)(B) by the Economic Espionage Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-294, 110 Stat. 3488 (1996), provides criminal misdemeanor penalties for anyone who intentionally accesses a computer without authorization or who exceeds authorized access and thereby obtains information, including tax information, from any department or agency of the United States. I have been advised by counsel that had this amendment been in effect and applicable to the *Czubinski* and *Patterson* cases, the government very likely would not have lost those cases.

Although the recent amendment to 18 USC §1030(a)(2)(B) will hopefully serve as a significant deterrent to unauthorized computer access of taxpayer information, this statute only applies to unauthorized access of com-

puter records. It does not apply to unauthorized access or inspection of paper tax returns and related tax information. Legislation such as S. 670, introduced in the 104th Congress, would achieve that result. By clarifying the criminal sanctions for unauthorized access or inspection of tax information in section 7213 of the Internal Revenue Code, whether that information is in computer or paper format, the entire confidentiality scheme respecting tax information and related enforcement mechanisms would be appropriately found in the Internal Revenue Code.

An amendment to section 7213 such as was proposed in the 104th Congress would serve important tax administration objectives. (Of course, as is currently the case under section 7213 for convictions resulting from the disclosure of tax information to unauthorized third parties, a conviction of federal officers and employees for the unauthorized access or inspection of tax information would, in addition to imprisonment and fine, continue to result in dismissal from office or discharge from employment.)

We would like to work with you and your staff to assure that improper access can be dealt with appropriately.

Sincerely,

MARGARET MILNER RICHARDSON.

JERRY PACTH, IN MEMORIAM

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, every Member here has a story about the beginning of his or her interest in politics. Mine begins with an extraordinary pixie of a man named Jerry Pacht, who died last week in Los Angeles at age 75.

Before embarking on a distinguished career on the Los Angeles Municipal Court followed by decades on the L.A. County Superior Court, Jerry ran for Congress, twice. His campaigns were high principle and low budget, and he recruited and excited a large band of volunteers.

I was a high school student in 1960, the first year Jerry ran, and led what he called the kiddie brigade. Our colleague, HOWARD BERMAN, then president of the UCLA Young Democrats, played a far more senior role in the campaign.

I learned a lot. My role was confined in substantial part to stuffing envelopes and mimeographing materials, but I saw how valuable those tasks were. In the days before television ads, communication of Jerry's message and his passion depended on people like me. Even in these slicker and more cynical times, the hub of campaigns still is centered on volunteers. Without them, candidates don't win.

Of course it matters what the message is, and whether the messenger is credible. Though Jerry's runs for office may not have persuaded a majority of the voters, the qualities in him that excited me and others were on full display during his long and successful judicial career that followed.

Son of a judge, Jerry's interest in a judicial career became known to Gov. Pat Brown who appointed him to the local bench in 1965 and promoted him a year later.

He was a beloved figure—always insisting that the law be fairly applied, even if the cause it benefited was unpopular. No one ever accused Judge Pacht of any motive other than

servicing the public. In a press interview, he once said: "I am not into making money. I always wanted to make some kind of mark, to change my society, do something to make it run better * * *." He surely achieved his goal.

In his obituary in the Los Angeles Times, I learned that Jerry had visions of becoming a singer, and was delighted to be asked to sing the national anthem at a Dodger game. Jerry, I heard your song. I still do. I always will. My interest in politics goes back to my early experience on your campaign. It goes forward with your melody in my head.

Godspeed.

TRIBUTE TO MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the contributions of Marjory Stoneman Douglas—an American hero who turned 107 years old yesterday. Mrs. Douglas is one of the mightiest protagonists of the Florida Everglades who led the first efforts to raise public awareness of Florida's River of Grass.

In 1947, Mrs. Douglas wrote her landmark book on Florida's largest wetlands ecosystem "The Everglades: River of Grass." This pioneering work was the first to highlight the plight of the everglades and ultimately served to awaken public interest in restoring its health. Still going strong in her 107th year, Mrs. Douglas has dedicated her life to the defense of the Everglades through her extraordinary personal effort and by inspiring countless others to take action. Recognizing these accomplishments, President Clinton awarded her the Medal of Freedom in 1994, the Nation's highest civilian award.

Mr. Speaker, I have introduced legislation which honors Mrs. Douglas' legacy by creating the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness in Everglades National Park. The Marjory Stoneman Douglas Wilderness will serve as a permanent and natural monument to the American hero who helped save North America's greatest wetland ecosystem. This year, as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the park and the first publishing of "The Everglades: River of Grass," I believe it is fitting that we permanently honor Mrs. Douglas' legacy through this legislation.

THE HOPE AND OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 1997

HON. WILLIAM CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 1997

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Hope and Opportunity Act of 1997 proposed by President Clinton. The bill creates a Hope scholarship tax credit of up to \$1,500 per student for tuition and fees in the student's first year, and another \$1,500 in the second year if the student earns at least a B average. The credit will help 4.2 million students next year and will save families \$18.6 billion over 5 years. The HOPE scholarship is

designed to make the first 2 years of college as universal as a high school degree.

The act includes a tax deduction up to \$10,000—\$5,000 maximum in 1997 and 1998—for tuition and fees paid for undergraduate and graduate education, or job training or retraining. The deduction would be "above the line" so it is available even if the taxpayer does not itemize. Some 8 million Americans would benefit from this deduction next year, and it will save families \$17.5 billion over 5 years.

The act increases the maximum Pell grant from \$2,700 to \$3,000, which would be the largest increase in Pell grants in 20 years. Also, some 218,000 older students would become newly eligible for Pell grants by increasing the Pell grant living allowance.

I commend President Clinton for including a Pell grant increase in the bill; however, I think it is critical to demonstrate an even greater commitment to helping low-income families obtain educational opportunities. I propose

that Pell grants spending be made mandatory for the next 5 years, with a commitment to restore the maximum Pell grant to its full value by 2002 and will introduce my own bill to do that shortly.

The President's bill cuts student fees in half for 4 million low- and middle-income students, saving them \$2.6 billion over 5 years. It also reduces the in-school interest rate for 2 million students, saving them an additional \$1 billion.

The bill extends section 127 of the Internal Revenue Code through December 31, 2000, and reinstates the application of that section to graduate students. The provision, scheduled to expire this year, excludes employer paid educational assistance from an employee's gross income and wages. The bill also creates a tax credit for employer provided educational assistance, and provides income exclusion for student loan forgiveness.

The act proposes a number of measures that will level the playing field between the Direct Lending and Federal Family Education

Loan [FFEL] programs so they can fairly compete and operate efficiently. It recalls \$2.5 billion of Federal moneys currently held in reserve by student loan guaranty agencies by clarifying that the Department of Education is the ultimate insurer of all FFEL guarantees. The bill also standardizes repayment plans for the Department of Education loan programs, and increases the percentage lenders and guaranty agencies must bear for student loan defaults.

Unlike proposals made by Republicans who want to give tax breaks to the wealthy, the Hope and Opportunity Act of 1997 gives tax relief to middle-class families struggling to pay for college. It is critical to ensure that middle- and low-income students not face insurmountable barriers to higher education. I believe we should move the President's higher education plan to the top of our legislative agenda.