EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

D.C. FLAT FEDERAL TAX

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recommend the following editorial to my colleagues, entitled ''Fixing a Flat,'' which appeared in the May 19, 1997, Wall Street Journal. I commend the Congresswoman for fighting against the District of Columbia's destructively high tax policies and for a pro-growth, pro-investment flat tax:

FIXING A FLAT

Summer's almost here, which means soon tourists will be pouring into Washington, D.C., to see the sights in their beloved capital city, a municipality so broke, so inept, so seemingly beyond hope that the financial control board that oversees its affairs is weighing a plan to appoint a city manager and largely supplant Mayor Marion Barry. There has to be a better way to save the capital, and believe it or not, some of the attending politicians may have hit on an answer: a flat 15% federal income tax and elimination of all capital gains taxes in the District of Columbia.

It's closer to reality than you might imagine. Last week, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott won rousing cheers from a crowd of D.C. residents when he and four other Senators embraced a flat tax sponsored by Eleanor Holmes Norton, the District's Democratic Delegate.

The Norton plan would levy a flat 15% federal tax on all bona fide District residents. The first $25,000 of income would be exempt for single filers and the first $30,000 for married couples. Her plan would zero out capital gains taxes on investments in the District made by residents. Senator Lott would go further: no residency requirement for investors and he'd add a $5,000 tax credit for first-time home buyers to encourage a return of the middle-class. Since 1950, the District's population has plummeted to less than 520,000 from 800,000.

Ms. Norton says that the combined support of Senator Lott and Speaker Newt Gingrich has convinced her that ''there is going to be some configuration of tax cuts for District residents'' this year. She has other powerful allies, including Democratic Senator Joe Lieberman and GOP Senators Connie Mack and Sam Brownback.

No one pretends that a new tax regime will solve all the District's problems, but Delegate Norton says a dramatic confidence-building measure is needed to stop the exodus. She says her tax plan has ''united black, whites and Hispanics'' and in every part of the city ''the enthusiasm and the chorus is the same: Do it and we'll stay.''

The opposition to a flat tax for D.C. comes in two forms. Some claim it wouldn't spur economic growth and that rising property values will create a zero-sum housing crisis. ''There are not enough homes for the poor now,'' says liberal activist Mark Thompson. ''Where are they going to live when all these people start coming back in the city?'' As far as we can see, every city with the exception of rent-controlled New York City manages to build housing for a variety of incomes. A tax-liberated D.C. would likely see an explosive growth in construction.

Others object that a D.C. flat tax is unfair to nearby suburbs and other states; D.C. residents get a tax break while other Americans endure combined marginal tax rates of more than 40%. A fair point, we suppose, but hardly cause to condemn the District to economic and social collapse. And if it succeeded, the idea would spread rapidly elsewhere.

That, of course, is precisely why it's believed President Clinton will persist in his opposition to Delegate Norton's flat tax. The opposition of old-line Democratic constituency groups to any idea they didn't dream up 25 years ago is utterly pro-forma by now. Delegate Norton thinks the first step is to get her bill onto the President's desk. Senator Lott seems to agree. Keep pushing.

A TRIBUTE TO RISA MUNITZ-GRUBERGER

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Risa Munitz-Gruberger for her dedication to teaching Judaism throughout the Conejo Valley community. I recognize Risa on behalf of the Chabad of the Conejo as the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award.

This award is given to thank Risa for imparting her educational training on the Jewish Community. Risa has had great success achieving her goals—spreading a sense of values, morals, and ethics throughout our community and assisting the needy when they are troubled physically or spiritually. It is for this success that we are honoring her today.

Risa's contributions to Judaic education include countless hours of volunteering and lecturing, but most importantly, the design and distribution of her own innovative educational materials. These materials encourage young and old to embrace their Jewish identity.

Risa's recognition here today is long overdue. Shortly after moving to the area, Risa read about Chabad and knew she wanted to become a part of it. She immediately began planning a communitywide parent education series in conjunction with the Jewish Community Center and the Conejo Jewish Academy which explored Jewish ideas and theology. Risa has since sponsored several other programs and continues to support Judaism in our community.

In the spirit of building the bridge—a bridge to the past, future, and all people, I join our community in honoring Risa Munitz-Gruberger for her hard work and recognition of the Lifetime Achievement Award.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER LANSING BUSINESS MONTHLY

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago J. Christopher Holman founded the Greater Lansing Business Monthly in hopes of publicizing and promoting local business within the community of Lansing. This week the Greater Lansing Business Monthly will celebrate its 10th anniversary.

I wish to acknowledge the efforts of Chris Holman and his staff to promote the strengths of the Lansing business community. With readership of over 30,000, the Greater Lansing Business Monthly is distributed to all non-resident addresses in Lansing, Mason, Holt, Grand Ledge, East Lansing, Haslett, and Okemos. The monthly features local stocks, profiles products made in the Lansing area, and provides updates on the overall Michigan economy.

The Greater Lansing Business Monthly serves as a base of local economic information to the community and its commitment to local small businesses is unmatched. It is much more than a periodical trumpeting Greater Lansing as a marvelous place to do business. It is also an integral part of the business community with the formation of CEO networks, directors luncheons, and the entrepreneurial awards.

On behalf of all the citizens of Michigan's eighth district, I extend congratulations and best wishes to Chris Holman and his staff.

THE FAILURE OF RACIAL PREFERENCES

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, President Clinton delivered a speech in San Diego criticizing the people of California for enacting the California Civil Rights Initiative [CCRI]. The wisdom of CCRI in outlawing special preferences based solely on race, said Mr. Clinton, should be suppressed in favor of continued race-based classifications by our Government. The following essay, published in the New York Times the same weekend, describes why Californians—and Americans—are indeed wise to abhor Government-mandated racial preferences.

[From the New York Times, June 15, 1997]

FACE THE FAILURE OF RACIAL PREFERENCES

(By Newt Gingrich and Ward Connerly; Newt Gingrich is Speaker of the House of Representatives. Ward Connerly is chairman of the American Civil Rights Institute and a University of California regent)

In August 1963, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave heartfelt voice to his dream of

a world where children are judged by the content of their character rather than the color of their skin. A few months later, in May 1964, President Lyndon Johnson told the graduating class of the University of Michigan, ''The Great Society is a place where every child can find knowledge to enrich his mind and to enlarge his talents.''

Unfortunately, three decades and $5.4 trillion of Federal Government spending later, Dr. King's dream still remains unfulfilled and nearly all of America knows that the Great Society has become an expensive failed tribute to the collective liberal imagination. Over the years, Federal welfare programs for the poor were enacted that created and sustained an illusion of activity but that, in reality, did more harm than good.

Even worse, a complicated set of Government rules and regulations were developed in almost every area of life, the intent of which was to eliminate discrimination. Yet the cruel fact has been that Government has brought about nearly as much discrimination as it has eliminated—just in a different form—and has masked the very real problems that still exist.

President Clinton's speech on race yesterday in San Diego was actually a missed opportunity to address these issues; there was little indication that his advisory board on race includes anyone who will critically examine the impact of racial preferences on society. But more important, we wish he could have laid out a plan for real education reform that would produce genuine equality of opportunity for all.

Let us take a look at the record. Welfare spending is more than eight times what it was in 1965, adjusted for inflation, and it's time to ask, What do our children have to show for it? Well, for starters, over four million more of them are now living in poverty—43 percent of all black children and 41 percent of all Hispanic children. Violent crime has skyrocketed, especially in the inner cities.

But for evidence of the Great Society's greatest failure, look no further than the current state of public education and President Clinton's politically expedient but totally indefensible support for racially based ''Band-Aid'' measures. Rather than face up to the catastrophic failure of inner-city educational systems and deal honestly with their essential problems, the President, like others holding on to this failed system, refuses to reform a system that fails morally as well as practically.

Like so many whose political fortunes depend on unions and bureaucracy, Mr. Clinton, sadly, refuses to acknowledge that the ill-conceived education policies of the 1960's deserted the children who needed help the most.

The education bureaucracy won't concede that, despite spending trillions of dollars on education over the past 30 years, American children are further behind today. It doesn't want to admit that the S.A.T. scores of African-American children, which average 100 points less than the scores of white children, are the direct result of the current policies. The National Education Association doesn't want to bear the blame for the fact that 40 percent of all 9-year-olds can't meet basic literacy standards or that 66 percent of African-American fourth graders fail national geography standards. These are not racial inadequacies, they are education inadequacies.

Nor will the education bureaucracy admit that low-income high school students are giving up on school in ever increasing numbers. The fact is that disadvantaged children are not receiving the ''knowledge to enrich their minds and to enlarge their talents,'' as President Johnson promised. Instead, many education and minority leaders cling to a system of racial preferences using the diplomas of an arbitrary few to paper over what has become a national human catastrophe. For the sake of all our children, these people must face the cold, hard truth: Every time we use racial preference to effect change, it is proof that we have failed a child somewhere.

President Clinton refuses to face the core of the problem: Money without reform will not educate our children. Look at the spending in inner-city schools today. The District of Columbia spends more money to educate its children than any state in the country—more than $9,000 per student per year—and yet its children rank at or near the bottom of national test scores. Something is very wrong with the schools of our nation's capital; both the teachers and their students are being shortchanged by a stagnant, uncaring educational bureaucracy.

Government-imposed quotas are no substitute for education reform. Racial preferences may offer an illusory way out for a few students, but sadly, the vast majority of children in the inner cities are being deprived by their schools of the opportunity to go to college. We've all seen recently the dramatic drop in minority admissions to the University of California at Berkeley and the University of Texas School of Law, institutions that did away with race-based preferences. This shamefully underscores how much race and race alone has been used instead of merit in our halls of higher education.

Supporters of preferences see those numbers as vindication for their claims of racism in America; they are simply wrong. The real villain in this 30-year morality play isn't bigotry or the University of California Board of Regents or the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. The original affirmative action policies were indeed well-intentioned efforts to redress centuries of racial discrimination. Yet they have been perverted over the years. The racial preferences used in their name have been used as masks to avoid real reform. They have become an excuse to perpetuate an inner-city system to cheat those children most in need out of a real future.

Failing to save these children should cause shame to all Americans. No one has chosen to help our underprivileged develop their talents. No one has insisted they have schools in which they can succeed. As a country, we all share that shame, but the creation of a small minority professional class through racial preferences to ease elitist guilt is an unacceptable and unconscionable alternative. And applying racial preferences to business practices is no better.

Yet the education bureaucracy warns that ''radical'' reform could harm children. It is difficult to imagine that any of the education proposals being offered today could do any more damage than the failed policies of the last 30 years.

There are promising solutions: In the 104th Congress, for the first time ever, a legitimate school voucher initiative for the children of the District of Columbia was passed in the House; there were enough votes to pass it in the Senate.

Unfortunately, unions, resistant to change, prevented it from coming to a vote. Representative Dick Armey of Texas, the majority leader, has introduced a similar measure this year. Is giving poor parents the same opportunity as wealthy ones to send their children to the school of their choice a risky venture?

Is giving poor parents the opportunity to send their children to a safe school truly dangerous or just threatening to those dependent on the status quo? Is it harmful to the future of our children to demand that they be able to read before they are passed on, or do real standards bring too many of the failures of the current bureaucratic system to light? Does lowering the standards of graduate school admissions for certain individuals really address inequality of opportunity or simply give one group a place at the table while trampling on the basic rights of another? Do we bring the people of this country closer together when we reject one of America's most basic principles—the notion that people should be judged individually on merit, not collectively by the color of their skin—or do we breed new resentment and doubt?

Education is the key to a productive, healthy citizenship. But our system of racial preferences is the wrong door. The failed Great Society policies have devastated and divided two generations. We have seen how Government-imposed racial preferences actually stand in the way of true educational reform. The President must abandon the misguided belief that our society should ever use discrimination to end discrimination.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN TALLMAN

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and dedication of John Tallman who is retiring from the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District board of trustees after 48 years of service. Mr. Tallman has been Bourbonnais' Fire Protection District's only president since 1948 until his official retirement on September 19, 1997.

John Tallman has been instrumental in helping the fire district to grow and modernize. In 1948, a four-wheeled cart containing an ax and a hose was pulled by car to the fire scene. The first fire engine arrived in 1950. Today, The Bourbonnais Fire Protection District consists of three pumpers, two tankers, two ambulances, one grass fire truck, one rescue truck, one disaster trailer, one boat, two automobiles, extrication equipment, high angle rescue equipment, and gumby suits, all housed in a new fire station.

In addition to his work with the fire protection district, John Tallman farmed over 500 acres of land. He and his wife, Eileen, have raised four children on their farm. John has also served as a school board chairman and has served on the county board.

John Tallman's commitment and impact on his community is not only deserving of congressional recognition, but should serve as a model for others to follow.

At a time when our Nation's leaders are asking the people of this country to make serving their community a core value of citizenship, honoring John Tallman is both timely and appropriate.

I urge this body to identify and recognize others in their communities whose actions have so greatly benefited and enlightened America's communities.

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate several constituents from my district for their participation in National History Day.

National History Day inspires students to learn and think critically about people, places and events that have shaped history. Every year National History Day selects a theme. For the 1996–97 school year their theme was ''Triumph & Tragedy in History.''

Those who participated in this contest competed against fellow students at the district, State and national levels, presenting what they learned with creative and original performances, media presentations, papers, or three-dimensional projects. Encouraged to understand and comprehend the full historical importance of their topics, students then asked insightful questions about when and why the event they had researched occurred, what it's subsequent historical significance.

In a day and age when far too many of our Nation's youth seem to be ignorant of our rich heritage, it is encouraging to see how the students involved in the National History Day contest took an active interest in remembering the events of the past.

I would especially like to congratulate my constituents, Dean Walker, Dana Frishkorn, Jonathan Patrick, Jonathan Wise, Alexis Bohan, and their teachers, Dale Wagner, and Diane McAfee, for their outstanding achievements in this year's National History Day competition.

They are a credit to education in Pennsylvania and an inspiration to all of the students in the Fourth Congressional of Pennsylvania. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing their exceptional work.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1997

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, just this past weekend the President gave a commencement address in San Diego, CA, in which he announced the beginning of his race initiative that over the next year will seek to engage the American people in an honest and open dialog on race relations. Through this initiative, the President has set a goal of focusing national attention on lessening the barriers that divide our nation along racial lines and developing concrete policy solutions that will unite us as one America. I commend the President and his advisory panel, chaired by the distinguished scholar Dr. John Hope Franklin, as they begin a journey, that if successful, will bring us closer to realizing our fullest potential as a nation. It is a journey on which I hope they will be joined by all of the American people.

But unlike the President who has chosen to lead us down a path toward racial reconciliation, today, once again Republicans in Congress have chosen to take the hackneyed and politically expedient path of exploiting racial division by reintroducing legislation that seeks to erase the gains that many women and minorities have made toward achieving equal opportunity. Today, Representative CANADY and Senator MCCONNELL introduce what they call the ''Civil Rights Act of 1997,'' a bill that would abolish affirmative action in Federal Government employment and contracting.

Those who support the Canady-McConnell bill claim that affirmative action is unfair because it uses ''quotas'' and gives ''preferences'' to undeserving and unqualified women and minorities. But they could not be further from the truth. The majority of American people support affirmative action because they know that it is a moderate and effective remedy for providing equal opportunity to those who have historically been treated unfairly. Affirmative action, like other Federal civil rights laws, is a bipartisan solution that has enjoyed the support of Democratic and Republican Presidents, Democratic and Republican Members of Congress, and continues to have the support of Republican Governors like Christine Todd Whitman of New Jersey, Jim Edgar of Illinois, Bill Weld of Massachusetts, Tom Ridge of Pennsylvania, and others including Retired Gen. Colin Powell.

We as a Congress must reject the path of racial divisiveness represented by the Canady-McConnell bill and chart our own path that will complement the efforts of the President's race initiative. As we begin the appropriations process, let us provide the funding necessary to the agencies of the Federal Government that enforce our antidiscrimination laws. This is an action that we must take to demonstrate our continued commitment to the full enforcement of these laws.

If we are to realize the potential of our democracy, then the choice is clear. We must continue to open the doors of opportunity in the classroom and the workplace to all our citizens and come to fully appreciate that the growing diversity of our great Nation is truly our greatest resource. Let us heal the wounds of race, not reopen them. Let us not abandon affirmative action.

IN HONOR OF WESTERN QUEENS GAZETTE 15TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, one of the pleasures of serving in this legislative body is the opportunity we occasionally get to acknowledge publicly the outstanding pillars of our communities.

I rise today to pay tribute to the Western Queens Gazette on the occasion of its 15th anniversary by placing their name in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

The Western Queens Gazette has served as a vehicle to inform and educate the residents of the Queens community for 15 years. I would like to take this opportunity to commend its publisher and founder, Mr. Tony Barsamian, for his initiative and insight in starting and maintaining this paper for so many years. During these times when news seems more focus on highlighting the negative events taking place in our society, it is good to know that individuals, like Mr. Barsamian, still believe there is something useful to delivering good news and relevant information to his friends and neighbors.

The healthy sense of community that exist in that neighborhood today, I believe, can easily be attributed to the Western Queens Gazette. Mr. Barsamian has done a tremendous job at delivering the good news to Queens. Highlighting the good works of the Queens community is good business and the best type of service to provide.

Thank you Western Queens Gazette and Mr. Barsamian for your years of dedicated service to improving public opinion. I ask my colleagues today to join me in saluting this fine citizen and the institution he has built.

TRIBUTE TO RUTH BLOCK

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ruth Block, an exemplary individual who has selflessly devoted herself to the community and tirelessly sought to foster an ecumenical climate of understanding. Ruth in being honored by the American Jewish Committee with its 1997 Community Service Award and I would like to add my accolades for this outstanding citizen.

The Talmud states that ''Charity knows neither race nor creed,'' and Ruth's devotion to working on behalf of the entire community illustrates that service to others also recognizes no such boundaries. Ruth Block's accomplishments are truly remarkable and these brief remarks can hardly hope to fully acknowledge all that she has done for the community.

Ruth Block has selflessly devoted her time and energy to numerous causes, including the Rockefeller Foundation, the League of Women Voters and has been an active leader of the American Jewish Committee. Additionally, Ruth's diligent work to foster understanding extends to the international sphere as well. She was awarded the Gold Medal of Honor by the Austrian Government and has also been presented with the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit by the German Government for her efforts to build bridges of understanding between the German and Jewish people.

What makes Ruth truly amazing is that despite her countless hours of community service, she has also found the time to raise a family and spend time with her grandchild. I am proud to pay tribute to such an outstanding citizen as Ruth Block.

RECOGNITION OF MICHIGAN WOMEN'S HISTORICAL CENTER ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago the Michigan Women's Studies Association opened the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame.

During this landmark year, I commend the Michigan Women's Studies Association for their outstanding efforts.

Through the years, the Michigan Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame's publications, programs, and traveling exhibits, have enabled the people of Michigan to learn more about outstanding women leaders in our State. These leaders have made an enduring contribution to our State and our society. Without the MWSA, their work might not ever have been acknowledged.

The Michigan Women's Studies Association and the Historical Center and Hall of Fame have been a catalyst in bringing the diverse roles of women to the forefront in Michigan. Through their work, the accomplishments of hundreds of women have now become an important part of the social fabric and collective memory of the State.

Michigan's history is rich in the achievements and contributions of our State's women. I am proud that we have a way of honoring the women who have been shining examples to us all.

ON THE NEED FOR IRS OVERSIGHT

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. COX of California. Mr. Speaker, the Internal Revenue Service has too much power in Americans' lives. This recent example, from the Associated Press, shows why greater congressional oversight of IRS mismanagement and taxpayer abuse is so vitally necessary.

IRS IS FOUND TO HAVE RETALIATED OVER AN INSULT

(By Margaret Katz)

DENVER (AP).—In hindsight, insulting the IRS agent during an audit was probably not a good idea.

But Carole Ward, who this week moved to Albuquerque from Colorado Springs, let fly with this gem: ''Honey, from what I can see of your accounting skills, the country would be better served if you were dishing up chicken-fried steak on some interstate in west Texas, with all the clunky jewelry and big hair.''

A short time later, federal agents raided Ward's business and then released confidential information about her taxes to the media in what Ward called ''character assassination.''

This week, a federal judge reprimanded the IRS for its actions and awarded the woman about $325,000 in damages and attorney's fees.

''By this award, this court gives notice to the IRS that reprehensible abuse of authority by one of its employees cannot and will not be tolerated,'' U.S. District Judge William Downes said after the non-jury trial. ''Part of that responsibility requires that you accept criticism, however inaccurate and/or unjustified, in silence.''

Ward, 49, said she is not proud of what she said to auditor Paula Dzierzanowski during the 1993 audit. The meeting was one of several regarding income taxes owed by the children's clothing stores owned by her son, Tristan, then 20.

Two weeks later, IRS agents seized and padlocked the stores with a so-called jeopardy assessment demanding $325,000 in back taxes from Ward. Such an order is considered extreme and is normally used when the IRS fears it is in danger of never collecting the taxes, said Ward's attorney, William C. Waller.

Ward's family depended on the stores as their sole source of income, and the seizure put them in desperate straits. She said her family even lost their electricity because they were unable to pay bills.

Why the IRS targeted Ward rather than her son is unclear, said Dennis Mark, another of Ward's attorneys.

''They took the position that Carole Ward owned the stores,'' Mark said.

By July, Ward had hired a tax attorney and the parties had agreed that the actual amount owed by Ward was about $3,500.

''It was over and done,'' Waller said. But then the IRS went public with information about Ward that was the crux of her lawsuit.

IRS District Director Gerald Swanson and his assistant Patricia Callahan appeared on a Colorado Springs talk show and disclosed tax return information. They also discussed the original $325,000 dispute and allegations against Ward even though the case had been settled, Waller said.

The IRS also disclosed information to TV's ''Inside Edition'' in the form of a fact sheet about the dispute.

The IRS agents said that since Ward had already gone public with information about the dispute, they were within their rights. However, the judge found their behavior negligent.

Another IRS agent, James Scholan, further disclosed information about the dispute in a letter published in a local newspaper. Scholan said he had obtained that information from newspaper accounts, but the judge ruled that he had obtained it as an IRS employee, committing a ''blatant violation.''

Ward was also upset about notices posted in the windows of the stores during the seizure that she said implied she was a drug smuggler.

The judge found that the IRS had caused mental distress, emotional damage and humiliation to Ward.

''Public servants cannot be arbitrarily selective in their treatment of citizens, dispensing equity to those who please them and withholding it from those who do not,'' the judge said.

The IRS had no comment on the case. Nor did the Justice Department's tax division.

Ward said she is glad to be vindicated. But her son's stores are still struggling, she said, and the fight took a huge toll on her personally.

''When you take on these people . . . it would be wonderful if I felt like dancing on graves, but by the time you get the victory, it doesn't feel like a victory,'' Ward said. ''They take out the joy.''

LITTLE WONDERS OF THE WORLD: WINNERS OF THE ART OF COOPERATION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to highlight the great achievement of Ms. Shadia Borum, president and CEO of the Little Wonders of the World, Inc., and the 10 young talented wonders of Public School 137, located at 121 Saratoga Avenue in Brooklyn. On May 30, 1997, each of these children received $1,000 in U.S. savings bonds held in trust until their 18th birthday or entrance into college.

Little Wonders of the World, Inc., is the only organization of it's kind; a Brooklyn based, not for profit 501(c)(3) education management company. The purpose of this organization is to raise children's educational standards and to uplift their self-esteem by increasing their opportunities for intellectual growth. This organization's dedication to children is exemplified by its development of educational programs, the organization of special events and creation of motivational contests for inner-city school children between the ages of 4–12 years of age in grades K–6.

Little Wonders of the World, Inc., created ''The Art of Cooperation Contest.'' This contest is a motivation contest, open to children in third, forth, and fifth grades, that promotes cooperative behavior between the children, teachers, and family. The goal of this contest is to have all the participants develop their own successful method of cooperation through poetry, art of essay. This year's winners are: Chinae Albritton, Wesley Bankes, Christin Barratt, Crystal Brown, Crystal Foster, Crystal Hawley, Kenneth Jenkins, Chanelle Lugo, Luis Ortiz, and Roberto Ortiz.

I am delighted that the Little Wonders of the World, Inc., is available to the young children of Brooklyn. I commend Ms. Shadia Borum and Little Wonders of the World, Inc., for its vision and execution in developing this outstanding service center.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to authorize and direct a land exchange which will greatly benefit the town of Sitka, AK. This bill has several components to the exchange. First, it will ensure that an important water system now currently under an easement will be conveyed to the city of Sitka in order to provide its residents with an assured water supply into the future.

This exchange will also provide for a spectacular inholding on Admiralty Island National Monument to be added to the monument. Admiralty Island is considered to be an area holding outstanding conservation values within the American conservation system. The land exchange authorized in the bill I am sponsoring will ensure that this private inholding is included in the monument and in the wilderness.

The final component of the exchange will be the extinguishment of a reversionary interest on land owned at Sitka by the Alaska Pulp Corp. The corporation also owns the valuable inholding at Admiralty Island and the lands which the city of Sitka wishes to have conveyed to it. In return for the extinguishment of the reversionary interest, the corporation will convey the inholding to the monument and the water system lands to the city.

This exchange is supported by the city and borough of Sitka, and the city administrator has requested me to sponsor this legislation and expedite the exchange.

This exchange is truly in the best interests of all involved. The U.S. Government even comes out ahead on value. Recent appraisals for the various lands and interests exchanged show that the Admiralty Island land is valued at more than the reversionary interest which will be exchanged. As a condition of my legislation, the corporation is required to waive its

right to any compensation for this difference in value.

In summary, as a result of this exchange the Admiralty Island Monument land ownership pattern will be consolidated, the city of Sitka will receive valuable lands in fee ownership on which parts of its water system are located, and the corporation will be free of a problematic reversionary interest in its property. As a bonus, the Federal Government realizes a net benefit in the value of the exchange. This is a sound deal in the best interests of all parties.

It is my hope that this legislation can pass this body and the Congress in the near future.

HONORING THE DETROIT RED WINGS STANLEY CUP VICTORY

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, the Detroit Red Wings were rewarded for their excellence last Saturday night by sweeping the Philadelphia Flyers and bringing home the Stanley Cup for the first time in 42 years. Several images from the Red Wings triumphant run for the Cup will forever be imbedded in the hearts and memories of Wings fans everywhere. The steel-jawed determination of head coach Scotty Bowman, who became the first coach to win the Stanley Cup with three different teams; the spectacular performance of playoff-MVP goaltender Mike Vernon, who turned away shot after opposing shot; or the gritty play of Brendan Shanahan, Darren MacCarty, the ''Grind Line''; and of course the international flair of the team, led by the likes of Sergei Fedorov and Igor Larionov.

However no player demonstrated the unwavering intensity and unselfishness of the team more than the captain Steve Yzerman. After years of personal triumphs, Yzerman's leadership finally brought home the Stanley Cup to the great State of Michigan. His perseverance and unwavering dedication gave one of the classiest players in pro sports the recognition he has so long deserved.

The Red Wings are an example of a team working together in the pursuit of excellence. Their play and accomplishments should be applauded, along with the integrity and commitment to overcome the many obstacles that stood before them. The State of Michigan is proud to salute the 1997 Stanley Cup Champions, the Detroit Red Wings.

HONORING AARON EDD JACKSON HENRY, ''DOC''

HON. MIKE PARKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. PARKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special man and a great American who has recently passed away. Aaron Edd Jackson Henry, better known to friends and family as ''Doc,'' was born July 2, 1922, and died May 19, 1997.

During his life, Doc Henry served as 1 of the 200 U.S. soldiers during World War II to live in a multiracial experiment leading to the 1945 congressional bill outlawing segregated military housing, he organized the Coahoma County Branch of the NAACP in 1953, he was president emeritus of the Mississippi State Conference NAACP, and he owned and operated the Fourth Street Drug Store which is famous locally for being a center of civil rights activity.

Doc Henry also served on numerous other boards and organizations, such as the National Caucus and Center for Black Aged, the Federal Council on Aging, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Southern Regional Council, the Mississippi Council on Human Relations, Mississippi Action for Progress, Inc., and the Civic Communications Corp. He was involved in such civic organizations as the American Legion, the Elks, the Masonic Order, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. Yet through all of this community involvement, he still made personal time for his wife, Noelle Celestine Henry, and his daughter, Rebecca Elizabeth Henry.

Doc Henry's quest for equality took him across the Nation and around the world. He was instrumental in enacting laws that impacted the core of human rights in our Nation. For these accomplishments, he has been recognized with honorary doctorates from Mississippi Baptist Seminary, Tougaloo College, Rust College, Mary Homes College, Prentiss Institute, Queens College, and Boston University. He also received accolades such as the Distinguished Mississippians Award, the Clarksdale Hall of Fame Award, the NAACP's Living Legacy Award, the Jammie Whitten Award, and the prestigious Hubert H. Humphrey Award.

Though the voice of a great humanitarian has ceased to resound to believers of civil rights everywhere, Doc Henry will live forever in our hearts and memories.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Hammond, IN, on the joyous occasion of its centennial celebration this Sunday, June 22, 1997. The day's festivities will begin with a Mass of Thanksgiving at 3:00 p.m., officiated by the Most Reverend Dale J. Melczek. Following the mass, a gala reception will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the parish's Panel Room Banquet Hall. The reception will include dinner, several guest speakers, and live performances by the Lubo Pala Slovak Folk Band, the Vychodna Slovak Folk Dance Ensemble, soprano, Dorothy Hoover, the St. John adult choir, and the Stanley Paul Orchestra.

The founding of St. John the Baptist Church is one of struggle and triumph. In the spring of 1897, after successfully petitioning Bishop Joseph Radermacher for a Czechoslovakian priest to serve those in the community of Slovak heritage, a welcoming committee met Father Benedict Rajcany in Hammond on April 17, Holy Saturday. His first mass was offered on Easter Sunday 1897 at Sacred Heart Church in Whiting, IN, since no Slovak church existed at the time. Soon after, the Slovak Catholic Union Branch 130 transformed its meeting hall into a church, which was dedicated on July 4, 1897. The church was dedicated to St. John the Baptist because the new pastor stated he felt like ''one crying in the wilderness'' in his new assignment in the United States.

By the time World War I began in 1914, the church had been enlarged to accommodate 650 parishioners. By 1921, the first regular assistant, Father Michael Kosko, was appointed to the church. During his ministry, Father Rajcany continued to place emphasis on the English language and on the Americanization of his parishioners. Some objected, but their reluctance was soon overcome. At approximately the same time, priests from St. Joseph College in Rensselaer, IN, journeyed to assist the parish on weekends.

By 1925, it became apparent that a new and larger church would be needed. That same year, the future pastor of St. John, Reverend John Kostik, C.P.P.S., arrived as a permanent assistant. Later, at the suggestion of Father Rajcany, Father Kostik was appointed pastor of St. John by Bishop John F. Noll. Also during that year, the parish was placed under the supervision of the Society of the Precious Blood, and it continues to be served by priests of the society to this day.

Groundwork for the new church, the work of Chicago architect Herman Gaul, began in May, 1930. Knowing the economic seriousness of the times and the dangers of bankruptcy, Father Kostik placed the success of the $300,000 venture in the hands of St. Therese, the Little Flower of Jesus. Amazingly, during this period of financial disaster, the parish lost only $340, and the entire debt was retired by 1942. The new Romanesque style church, with its 190-foot steeple, stands as a tribute to God from those founders of Slovak heritage.

In the late 1940's, much-needed additions to the parish were begun. Plans conceived by then-pastor Father John F. Lafko, C.P.P.S., were carried out by his successor, Father Gabriel Brenkus, C.P.P.S. In 1948, construction on the first phase of the new school, consisting of classrooms, a convent, and the Panel Room Banquet Hall, began. After its completion in 1951, the second phase of construction, consisting of an auditorium, gymnasium, and additional classrooms, began in 1955. The final addition to the St. John the Baptist complex was a new rectory, which was completed in 1967.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the parish family of St. John the Baptist, under the guidance of Father John Kalicky, C.P.P.S., and former pastor-in-residence Father Edward Homco, C.P.P.S., as they prepare to celebrate their centennial in 1997. Their slogan, ''We Remember, We Celebrate, We Believe,'' reverberates throughout the community in a celebration of faith—faith in God, faith in country, and faith in people. In this spirit, St. John has enhanced the quality of life within the Hammond community through its religious, educational, and cultural contributions for the past 100 years.

THE PASSING OF JAY B. WHITE, ''AMERICA'S FINEST LAWYER''

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I announce the passing of Attorney Jay B. White. Jay was a lifelong friend and a giant in the legal profession. Cleveland, OH, mourns the loss of one of her most distinguished sons, and a man who was one of the Nation's finest criminal defense lawyers. My wife, Jay, joins me in expressing our deepest sympathy to Jay's loving wife, Addye, and members of his family.

A few days ago, on June 13, 1997, the Cleveland Bar Association honored Jay for 50 years as a practicing lawyer, an honor representing a very special milestone in his legal career. Jay and I were boyhood friends and I always knew that he would achieve great things. As a young man, he knew the value of perseverance and hard work.

Jay was born in Cleveland and graduated from West Virginia State College. He earned his law degree from Western Reserve University Law School in 1946. After graduating, Jay began his law practice in Cleveland. At a time when law firms were not opening their doors to hire black lawyers, Jay was more determined than ever to succeed. He concentrated on representing persons charged with crimes and became an outstanding trial lawyer. It was in this capacity that he became one of the founders of the National Association of Defense Lawyers in Criminal Cases, which was founded in 1958 at Northwestern University Law School. He also served on its board for many years. Jay was a past president of the John Harlan Law Club and a member of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity.

Mr. Speaker, saying goodbye to those whom we hold dear is difficult. In the days ahead, I will miss my good friend, Jay White. Not only did we share a special friendship, but we also enjoyed a special bond through our marriages. It was Jay White who introduced me to my wife, Jay. In turn, she introduced Jay to Addye, his devoted wife of 33 years. Jay's love of people garnered a host of friends and admirers all over the Nation who loved him and mourn the lost of their friend.

I am proud to have been a lifelong friend of Attorney Jay B. White. Our thoughts and prayers are with Addye, their son, Jay B., daughter, Joy, Jay's brother, Reggie, and members of the White family during this difficult period. Jay was a very special individual who, with his unique personality, carved out his own niche in this community. He was unlike anyone else I have ever known. Jay will always be remembered in his own famous words, as ''America's finest lawyer.''

CLINTON MEMORIAL AME ZION CHURCH ROOF DEDICATION CEREMONY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday witnessed the dedication of a new roof for the Clinton Memorial AME Zion Church at 151 Broadway in Newark, NJ. This accomplishment is truly significant to this particular house of worship. For many years the Clinton Memorial AME Zion Church had no stable church home. The early history of the church was marked by ups and downs and much movement from one location to another. The church was founded in 1822, the same year that free Black men went to Liberia to found Monrovia. This is just one example of the type of vision and moral and social commitment that has permeated the leadership and membership of this church throughout its existence.

While the church was founded in 1822 it did not find its present home until 1930 when Rev. J.M. Hoggard was pastor. Reverend Hoggard was a resident of my childhood neighborhood. He had a great impact on our community and many of its people.

I was fortunate to be affiliated with this church when I was a young man. It was one of the most progressive institutions around. It had the foresight to provide the youth with activities such as socials and sports in a setting that was moralistically sound. While the youngsters were being kept occupied and happy they learned the importance of morals, faith and religion. I think my participation in these programs helped shape my concepts of the youth programs I would run for the YMCA when I became an adult.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues would have wanted to join me as I extended my congratulations and best wishes to the congregants of the Clinton Memorial AME Zion Church of Newark, NJ.

TRIBUTE TO IRA KLEIN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ira Klein, a young man who has demonstrated outstanding scholastic achievement. Ira is in Washington representing the State of California in the National History Day competition and I would like to congratulate this remarkable eighth-grader on his award-winning report.

The theme of this year's National History Day competition was ''Triumph and Tragedy in History'' and Ira's exemplary paper focused on the impact of the polio epidemic in America. What makes his report, entitled ''Polio: Triumph and Tragedy,'' truly exceptional is that it focused on the individual victims of this dreaded disease, giving a voice to those countless persons who were afflicted by polio. Furthermore, Ira also brought to light the effect of Post-Polio Syndrome which continues to affect the victims of this diseases even 40 years after its initial onset. The interest in this subject was inspired by Ira's unlce's own battle with polio and Ira transformed this personal connection with the ravages of polio into a truly insightful piece of history.

In successfully completing such an ambitious project, Ira demonstrated a level of academic achievement that far exceeds his age. I would like to commend Ira Klein for his exceptional academic accomplishment.

BROOKLYN ELEMENTARY STUDENTS: THE CREATIVE THINKERS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have given special recognition and honor to the children of class 4–304 of New York City Public School 208 at 4801 Avenue D in Brooklyn on May 30, 1997.

I am delighted to have presented to the children of class 4–304 official Congressional Triumph Certificates for their magnificent drawings, poems and short stories on immigration. The following children interviewed their parents and represented their cultures through their art; bringing to life the special aspects of their homes:

Efuru Ballantyne; Richina Bicette; Laurae Caruth; Trevor Cayenne; Daniella Marie Clarke; Harrah Creary; Crystal Crossman; Valerie Delice; Kentasha Dickson; Dana Doyley; Ajani Edwards; Adonna Ferrell; Shariel Goldson; Zanita Green; Martin Gustave; Brandon Haynes; Colleen Hinkson; Shawn Hobbs; Alex James; Jodel Jeremie; Lauren Jones; Casey Gabriella Jones; Virginia Lowe; Makeda Marshall; Terrill Ocona; Torin Perez; Ricardo Suares; and Samantha Ward.

These students' creative expressions detailed how immigration laws affect their families, specifically because they come from all parts of the world: Haiti, Africa, Japan, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Grendada, St. Vincent, and Guyana. The teacher of this brilliant class is Ms. Sandra Cinkay. I commend Ms. Cinkay for her tutorage.

TRIBUTE TO RABBI MORTON HOFFMAN

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to Rabbi Morton Hoffman upon his retirement from Temple Shaaraey Zedek. Rabbi Hoffman has served the people of East Lansing and the congregation of Temple Shaaraey Zedek since 1983. As a rabbi, he has served God and the families of East Lansing through his leadership in his temple, his knowledge of religion and history, and his commitment to his community and family.

Along with his duties as rabbi, Rabbi Hoffman has served as education director for Temple Shaaraey Zedek's religious schools, and has served on the Governor's Committee for the Establishment of the Annual Martin Luther King Day of Observance and the Governor's Committee for the Annual State Observance of the Holocaust Memorial Day. He is a member of the East Lansing Clergy Coalition and, in May 1990, earned the doctor of Hebrew letter degree from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

Rabbi Morton Hoffman's commitment to his community is unparalleled and his leadership will be missed.

I speak for all the people of the eighth district in thanking him for his service. I wish Rabbi Hoffman mazel tov in the future.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL GRADUATE OF NEW YORK'S 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WITH PERFECT ATTENDANCE

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to acknowledge the achievement of a very special graduate of the 12th Congressional District who has had perfect attendance for 6 years; since enrolling in kindergarten at Edward Bush Public School 18 in Brooklyn, NY. This graduate has been undaunted by obstacles and has demonstrated a true commitment to her educational goals.

She has learned that education is priceless and that she will be provided with the tools and opportunities to be successful in any endeavor she pursues by dedicating herself to her studies. Her success is a tribute not only to her strength and discipline but also to the supportive parents and teachers who have encouraged her. I am confident that the combination of these forces will lead her to many more achievements.

Mr. Speaker, as congressional Representatives we often discuss solutions to the plight of our Nation's educational system. We diligently strive to encourage educational excellence and dedication to higher learning. This student's unique achievement can serve as an example to others and I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House Representatives to join me in congratulating her. May her future be filed with many more successes. Congratulations to Kimberly Rodriguez.

A TRIBUTE TO JAMES D. ERICSON

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute today to one of Milwaukee's truly outstanding citizens, Mr. James D. Ericson. As the Wisconsin Chapter of the State of Israel Bonds gathers this evening to present Mr. Ericson with its 1997 LaSociete Award, I would like to take a moment to reflect on his remarkable contributions to the State of Israel Bonds, the city of Milwaukee, and the State of Wisconsin.

As the president and CEO of Northwestern Mutual Life since 1990, Jim Ericson has skillfully led one of the Nation's largest and most respected insurance companies to unprecedented levels of success. Named the ''Most Admired Company'' among insurance executives in a recent Fortune magazine survey, Northwestern Mutual has been a responsible and innovative corporate citizen, thanks in no small part to Jim Ericson's hands-on leadership and management capabilities. During the past 5 years, Northwestern Mutual has contributed more than $20 million to an array of educational, health, community, and civic endeavors. And as the president of Northwestern Mutual, Jim Ericson has always encouraged the company's 3,500 employees to volunteer their time and energy to make a real difference in our community. To honor the efforts of his employees, Jim Ericson established the Agent Community Service awards to recognize specific agents for volunteer commitment to their local communities.

Jim Ericson is know throughout Milwaukee and all of Wisconsin for his impressive civic accomplishments. From his initial organization of the Milwaukee Redevelopment Commission, to his successful work to bring professional baseball back to Milwaukee, Jim Ericson has always been at the forefront of all matters important to the economic progress of our city. In addition to his undeniable commitment to the State of Israel Bonds, Jim Ericson has served on more than a dozen boards and advisory panels. Most notably, he is a director of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce, and serves on the boards of the United Way of Milwaukee, Wisconsin Literacy Services, and the Blood Center of Milwaukee, just to name a few. In 1996, Jim Ericson received the prestigious St. Francis Children's Center Community Service Award for his leadership and personal commitment to our community.

The State of Israel Bonds plays a vital role in Wisconsin by creating a public awareness about the importance of maintaining a strong state of Israel. The organization also raises critical capital through Israel bonds which will ensure the long-term economic security and viability of the country. Jim Ericson has always recognized the importance of Israel bonds, and is well deserving of the organization's appreciation.

I would like to congratulate Jim Ericson's wife Patricia, their four children, and four grandchildren on this most special occasion. Thank you Jim Ericson, for all of your hard work and dedication. Your selfless efforts and persistence epitomizes Milwaukee's spirit of giving and sense of community.

REV. DR. EDWARD D. SMART, JR.—A MAN OF PRINCIPLE AND COURAGE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues an event that was held this past Saturday. It was a reception held for Rev. Dr. Edward D. Smart, Jr. Rev. Dr. Smart is the shepherd of the Israel Memorial AME Church in Newark, NJ.

Rev. Dr. Smart is the epitome of leadership. He is courageous and committed to serving the members of our community, especially our young people. Serving by example is his method. He attended Fisk University where he was a Fisk Jubilee singer. He is a graduate of Penn State University with a degree in political science. He did graduate work at Shippenburg University and received his ministerial preparation at Gettysburg Theological Seminary. He holds a doctorate from the University of California. He is a member of the Essex County Welfare to Workfare Task Force. He is the co-chairperson of the Newark Fighting Back Partnership, a program to reduce the demand for illicit drugs and alcohol. He has been involved since its inception. He has been integrally involved with the development of the Interfaith Clergy Community Alliance which is an effort to increase the aftercare for people in recovery by the faith community.

Israel Memorial AME Church has continued to grow under the stewardship of Reverend Smart. It has grown both financially and spiritually since his arrival in May 1991. He has faithfully worked to carry out its mission, ''Israel Memorial AME Church strives to maintain a standard of Christian living within the metropolitan Newark area through evangelism, proclamation of the Word, stewardship, worship, bible study, and prayer meeting.'' He has been innovative in his approach to making life better for everyone he serves, which is the entire community. He is not one to take the safe way out always. He is a thoughtful risktaker when he feels he is justified in his position on certain issues. Because of this, he has garnered the respect and support of many.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure my colleagues would have joined me as I congratulated Reverend Smart on his dedication to his faith, our community, and our young people.

BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend three schools in my California district which the Department of Education recognized as Blue Ribbon schools. All three schools share as their mission an integrated approach to working with the community and with parents to educate and assist children in realizing their full potential as responsible, productive, contributing members of society.

The Philip J. Reilly School in Mission Viejo stands as an example of excellence in the community. The school provides a consolidated facility allowing disabled and non-disabled students to learn side by side and from each other. Architects received awards for designing the school to be entirely physically accessible to all students.

School success rests squarely on both the efforts of teachers and parents. At Barcelona Hills Elementary School, volunteers contributed over 10,000 hours of service just last year alone. Community efforts allowed the school to upgrade and integrate technology into every area of the curriculum. In addition to building students' academic prowess, teachers place emphasis on promoting integrity, responsibility, good citizenship, and perseverance.

Similarly, Laguna Niguel's George L. White Elementary School sets high academic and behavioral standards. White Elementary earned three commendations during its first program quality review. Further, the schoolteacher teaches children to give back to the community, sponsoring the kids in community service program. Projects include beach cleanups, corresponding with nursing home residents, and collecting food for the less fortunate.

As a former school board member, I am keenly aware of the challenges our schools face today. All of us in Congress agree that educating our youth should be one of this Nation's top priorities. A good solid education is the best tool to achieve success and ensure

progress. With so many opportunities now available to our young women and men today, it would be a shame if they were not prepared and ready to take advantage of them. We must make sure that our education system is the absolute best it can be, providing students with the basic skills and academics to succeed in college and in the global marketplace.

IN HONOR OF THE GRAND OPENING OF PICKERING PLACE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, on June 18, 1997, the city of Fremont and the Mid-Peninsula Housing Coalition will celebrate the grand opening of Pickering Place, a 43 unit affordable housing development, in the city of Fremont in California's 13th Congressional District. I commend both the Mid-Peninsula Housing Coalition and the city of Fremont for coming together to complete this project.

Affordable housing is an urgent need in California and the Mid-Peninsula Housing Coalition has been a leader in the development of affordable housing. They have developed over 3,300 units in the Greater Bay Area and are currently working on eight more projects. This new project, Pickering Place, will provide 43 affordable townhouse apartments for low-income families in our community.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Fremont City Council and the city of Fremont staff who worked together with the Mid-Peninsula Housing Coalition to develop the vision and the plan for Pickering Place. This development would not have been possible without the funding and support from a variety of sources in the community, including a loan from the Fremont Redevelopment Agency.

Mr. Speaker, Pickering Place is an example of an extraordinary partnership. I applaud all of those who were involved in bringing this project to our community.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 54, PROHIBITING THE PHYSICAL DESECRATION OF THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. VINCE SNOWBARGER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 1997

Mr. SNOWBARGER. Mr. Speaker, today the House is debating an amendment to the Constitution which will give the people's elected Representatives the authority to protect our Nation's most important and enduring symbol. This emblem is a powerful distillation of our commitment to individual freedom and constitutional democracy. The fact this image is sewn onto the shirt sleeves of Boy Scouts and emblazoned on the heat resistant tiles that protect our Nation's space shuttle fleet, is further testimony to this symbol's relationship to the American character.

This American flag is more than a banner to lead armies. It is the rallying point for our national conversation about freedom. Many have died defending this Nation, not because some great royal family or despot commanded it, but so that each American would continue to enjoy the blessings of liberty. There is a reason why veterans' organizations like the American Legion support this measure. These men and women know, perhaps more than others, what it means to defend America. Their sacrifice is memorialized in the flag itself. The red stripes, which are so recognizable, are representative of the blood spilled by America's sons to defend our treasured liberty. These Kansans of the American Legion want us to stop hoodlums and thugs from desecrating the flag to attack their legacy.

This flag represents America's historic and principled past and these struggles to extend freedom to all Americans. However, it is more than just a symbol of past triumphs. This flag is important to all freedom loving people around the world who long to construct for themselves a similar constitutional order. When Chinese dissidents wanted to communicate the desire for American-style liberty, they chose our flag to convey that message. They didn't want to be Americans; they wanted the freedom that our flag represents.

It is curious to me, Mr. Speaker, that opposition to flag protection persists. Our country has long recognized the icons and trademarks of American business through the patent and copyrighted acts. These corporate symbols are a valuable form of property that companies spend millions of dollars each year to augment and enhance. We have given America's business community the right to protect and defend their own emblems. Why should the most sacred and important symbol of America be treated differently?

At the very least, we should be allowed to criminalize violent destruction of our flag. This act approximates a personal attack on veterans and patriotic Americans. Remember, as other members—like the distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee—have pointed out, we have carved out this type of narrow restriction on expression before. Consider our hate crime laws that prohibit individuals from engaging in certain types of abhorrent speech to which constitutional protection does not apply. Clearly, Mr. Speaker, acts of contempt like burning a cross or displaying racial epithets do not amount to ''speech,'' in the common meaning of the word. To the contrary, these activities fall into a class of behavior meant only to frighten, intimidate, and discourage the very political discourse contemplated by the Framers of the Constitution.

To put all of these issues together, Mr. Speaker, when individuals see an American flag passing in a Labor Day parade or in the fist of an enthusiastic child cheering a returning hero, they feel proud. When Americans see or hear about the desecration of their flag, they feel a tremendous pain. This is not a question about free speech or the right of dissent. Burning a flag is not speech. Nor is it dissent. Dissent is saying how you disagree. It implies a dialog.

This amendment is about preventing an attack on American citizens, collectively and individually. That is why our Kansas Legislature, and the legislatures of 40 other States, have petitioned this Congress to act. We owe it to these Americans, and Americans yet to be born, to extend protection to this transcendent national symbol.

TRIBUTE TO CHICAGO

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, June 18, 1997, the Congressional Black Caucus [CBC] will gather in the Rayburn House Office Building to celebrate the unprecedented success of the smash hit premiere national touring musical ''Chicago's'' in our Nation's Capital. The CBC will honor ''Chicago'' brilliantly innovative and charismatic cast, and will pay special tribute to the stars: Jasmine Guy, Obba Babatunde, and Carol Woods.

A congressional reception was held April 8, 1997, hosted by the Illinois delegation and featuring the ''Singing Senators,'' Senators TRENT LOTT, JOHN ASHCROFT, LARRY CRAIG, and JIM JEFFORDS to welcome the cast to Washington, DC. Also in attendance were the Honorables BILL BARRETT, HOWARD COBLE, JOHN CONYERS, ASA HUTCHINSON, HENRY HYDE, WILLIAM JENKINS, DENNIS KUCINICH, NITA LOWEY, MICHAEL MCNULTY, CONSTANCE MORELLA, SILVESTRE REYES, TIM ROEMER, CARLOS ROMERO-BARCELÓ, JOHN SHIMKUS, LOUISE SLAUGHTER, and Secretary William Daley. ''Chicago'' cast members, Obba Babatunde and ''The Girls,'' performed for the distinguished audience.

''Chicago'' has broken box office records at the National Theatre and in New York City with its Broadway cast. ''Chicago'' is also the season's biggest musical hit.

The Broadway cast received six Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival, Best Director—Walter Bobbie, Best Choreography—Ann Reinking, and Best Lighting Design—Ken Billington. This wave of recognition continues with nominations from the prestigious New York Drama Desk for Outstanding Musical Revival, Outstanding Direction, Outstanding Choreography, Outstanding Actress in a Musical, Outstanding Actor in a Musical, Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Musical, Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical, and Outstanding Lighting Design. The New York Drama Critics Circle, the Nation's second oldest theatre award, after the Pulitzer Prize, voted a special award to the cast and creative team of ''Chicago'' for outstanding contribution to Broadway. ''Chicago'' continues to win raves and awards with five Outer Critics Circle Awards, including Best Musical Revival, Best Director, and Best Choreography.

The Musical is based on the 1926 play of the same name by Maurine Dallas Watkins. The play inspired the 1942 movie, ''Roxie Hart,'' starring Ginger Rogers. The John Kander-Fred Ebb-Bob Fosse musical premiered in 1975 and the new revival, under the direction of Walter Bobbie and choreography—in the style of Bob Fosse—by Ann Reinking, opened on Broadway on November 14, 1996. ''Chicago'' has been hailed as ''A triumph'' by Time magazine. The New York Times raves ''Chicago'' is a musical for the ages with the sexiest, most sophisticated dancing seen on Broadway for years. It flies us right into musical heaven.

The Congressional Black Caucus will honor these talented and ambitious African-Americans for their inspiring success as artists and human beings. For it is individuals such as

these who raise our aspirations, motivate our youth, and provide us with powerful national role models of integrity and spirit. We thank you for your commitment and honor your achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SHEPARD ACCELERATED SCHOOL

HON. RICHARD A. GEPHARDT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. GEPHARDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Shepard Accelerated School in my district for being named a national Blue Ribbon School recipient.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program identifies and gives national recognition to a diverse group of public and private schools that are unusually effective in meeting local, State, and national goals and in educating all of their students. The program seeks to promote school improvement nationwide through the collaborative self-evaluation required of local school communities that participate. In addition, recognized schools serve as models for other schools and communities seeking to provide high quality education for all their students.

Shepard Accelerated School was one of only 264 schools across the United States recognized as a Blue Ribbon School. Now, you might think that sounds like a lot of schools. But think about this—there are about 76,000 public and private elementary and middle schools in America. That means that one out of every 288 elementary and middle schools in the entire United States has been named a Blue Ribbon School for 1997. And I'm pleased that Shepard Accelerated School right here in St. Louis, MO, is one of those schools.

To qualify for this award, I know Shepard went through rigorous reviews by some of the Nation's leading educators. The school impressed everybody and they deserve the highest praise for that. The innovative programs and supportive community Shepard has established truly demonstrate the importance of a positive learning environment.

Shepard Accelerated School has a shared purpose among faculty, students, and parents to improve the education of the 600 children who attend. I am proud of Shepard for being named a national Blue Ribbon School recipient. Ms. Savannah Young, all the teachers, and especially the students should be saluted for their dedication to high standards and excellence in teaching and learning.

Congratulations Shepard Accelerated School.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET S. BENEDIKT

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to convey the sad message of the death of a great American, Margaret S. Benedikt.

Widowed in the 1950's with a dependent child, Peggy Benedikt submersed herself learning all there was to investment and construction. Her daughter remembers awaking late at night to find her mother reading and was amazed at her mother's extraordinary ability to retain what she read. Peggy moved to south Florida in the 1960's and established what would become a very successful construction and development company. Knowledgeable in all areas of the construction business, she felt equally at home donning a hard hat on the building site or dressed for presentations in the sales office.

As her successes grew, Peggy Benedikt was generous with both her time and her money in supporting a wide variety of organizations in her adopted hometown, Fort Lauderdale, FL. She touched many in the community through her efforts with such diverse groups as Kids in Distress, the Opera Guild, the Humane Society, the American Cancer Association, and the Freedoms Foundation.

Margaret S. Benedikt loved Republican politics but she stands as a symbol for Democrats and Republicans alike. Through her actions, she taught all of us that we should stand tight for what we believe in. If there are politics in heaven, Peggy is already in the thick of it.

Margaret S. Benedikt was a great lady and a good friend. Peggy, we love you. We'll miss you.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL GRADUATES OF NEW YORK'S 12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, with great pride I would like to congratulate some special graduates of the 12th Congressional District of New York. I am certain that this day marks the culmination of much hard work and many valiant efforts for these students; work and effort which have led and will lead them to continued success. They have overcome the obstacles of overcrowded and dilapidated classrooms, antiquated and insufficient instructional materials, the all too frequent distractions of random violence and pervasive drug activity, and, for some, having to adapt to a new language and new customs. But these students have persevered despite the odds. Their success is a tribute not only to their own strength, but also to the supportive parents and teachers who have encouraged them to achieve.

These students have learned that education is priceless. They know that education will provide them with the tools and opportunities to be successful in any endeavor they pursue. In many respects, this is the most important lesson they will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

In closing, I would like to say that youth in America must be encouraged to stay on course and complete their educations so they can pave the way for a better future. Let us not forget that their future is the future of this Nation. These successful graduates of the 12th Congressional District take the charge to lead our Nation very seriously as their commitment to their education has demonstrated. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the following graduates who have triumphed despite adversity and who have achieved outstanding academic standing.

Congratulations to the 1997 graduates of the 12th Congressional District:

Sherlley Medina, John Denton and Geimy Colon—El Puente Academy for Peace and Justice High School.

Evelyn Reynoso and Carlos Segura—Eastern District High School.

Naisha Arthur and Ragon Atkhas—Bushwick High School.

Dawn Stokes and Alberto Sanchez—East New York High School.

Jetaime Toliver and Shykia Bell—Maxwell High School.

Dory Garcia and Kaleena Torres—Intermediate School 291.

Christina Rodriguez and Bartosz Bernatowicz—Charles O. Dewey Middle School.

Nina Soto—Middle School 88.

Delaila Catalino and Edwin Carrion—Public School 86.

LAVAR FOSTER AND SHALIEK RIVERA: COMMUNITY HEROES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend two incredibly brave youth, Lavar Foster and Shaliek Rivera, for their heroic efforts.

On May 5, 1997, these P.S. 346 sixth graders rescued a senior citizen from an attacker. Not only did they save her life, but their detailed descriptions ultimately led to the criminal's capture. What makes their accomplishments so remarkable is that they did not let their young age or small size prevent them from extending a helping hand to a fellow citizen. For their fearless efforts, they were also named ''New Yorkers of the Week'' by New York 1 News.

Lavar and Shaliek are shining beacons of hope for the future of our community. Citizens such as these are few and far between. They are truly role models for Brooklyn and the entire Nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Lavar Foster and Shaliek Rivera for their outstanding contributions to the Brooklyn community.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN AND IRIS GAINES

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stephen and Iris Gaines for their contributions to the Chabad of the Conejo Adult Education Program. In the spirit of Jewish unity, the Chabad of the Conejo recognizes the Gaines family for their time and dedication.

Stephen and Irish were inspired by their children to not only join an adult education program but promote adult education throughout our community. After sending Brandon and Ryan to Chabad, the Gaines' realized that Chabad would also be useful in their own lives.

The Gaines were so inspired by their own personal growth, and desired to contribute more to Chabad, they helped to establish the Gaines Family Adult Educational Institute. This institute in conjunction with Chabad's goals truly builds bridges toward Jewish unity. The institute has served thousands of people providing quality Jewish education, particularly helping those in spiritual need. Without the Gaines' help many members of our community would go unfulfilled.

The Gaines extraordinary vision for the future has made them a grand success in their philanthropic world. They leave a legacy for their children and other members of our community to follow.

It is an honor to join the family and friends of Stephen and Iris in recognizing them for their great work in our community.

WESTHILL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM WINS NYS CLASS B CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I ask today that my colleagues join me in recognizing the 1996–97 New York State Lady's Varsity Class B Soccer Champions from Westhill High School in Syracuse, NY.

This is the same team, though some new players have come on board, for whom I asked recognition last year when they won the New York State Class C Championship.

At a school where both academics and athletics are points of intense pride, the girls soccer program at Westhill has been particularly exceptional. This year, goalie Wallis Patulski saved 147 goals while Courtney Spencer, Megan Rogers, and Alissa Hoover scored 32, 30 and 24 goals respectively in a 24–0–1 overall season record on the way to the class B State championship title. Coach Ann Riva's assistant this year was Amy Ehlinger.

Coach Riva has tasted victory before. Under her, the last 2 years' teams have won the class C State championship title.

In addition to those named above, team members include: Jessica Adydan, Gabby Gaspe, Julie Guinn, Lindsay Lazarski, Karen Guinn, Sharon Gates, Jess Vosseteig, Sara Murphy, Jen Conway, Julie Carpenter, Michelle Mahaney, Sheida Tabaie, Shannan Card, and Jen Kirsch. Kirsi Donovan was brought up from JV's for the sectionals and the state championship tournament.

As a parent of Westhill student athletes, I know most of the students who play a sport at Westhill. They have demonstrated not only individual skills and team cohesiveness—but also a collective strength which draws from the entire Westhill community: parents, faculty, staff.

From all of us, congratulations to the team for an impressive accomplishment.

HONORING DANISE CANTLON OF ELLIOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. STABENOW Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Michigan's Eighth Congressional District, I am pleased to honor Danise Joan Cantlon, a math teacher from Elliott Elementary School in Holt, MI, on the occasion of her receipt of the 1996 Presidential Award in Mathematics and Science Training.

The Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Training are designed to recognize and reward outstanding teachers in the area of science and math. In addition to the national recognition, Danise will receive a National Science Federation grant of $7,500 to be used under her direction.

Teachers such as Ms. Cantlon are role models to our students. Through the receipt of this prestigious award, I hope the students of Elliot Elementary will be even more encouraged and stimulated to excel in math and science. Most importantly, this award should be an inspiration to many young girls in mid-Michigan. Research conducted by the American Association of University Women recently concluded that, in many of our schools, there remains a gender gap in science course enrollment, advanced math courses, and scientific and technological careers. By recognizing successful women in the field of math and science, we also inspire and encourage girls to pursue interests and careers in these areas.

I applaud the work Danise Cantlon has done at Elliot Elementary School. We are very lucky to have her teaching our children.

TRIBUTE TO SANDRA EPPS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding educator and a dear friend, Sandra Epps. Mrs. Epps will be honored by her peers at her retirement dinner on Friday, June 20, in Flint, MI.

Sandra Epps is retiring after 33 years of service to the children of Flint. She has worked tirelessly as an educator in the Flint Community Schools during this time. A graduate of the Flint school system, Sandra returned to her community after completing her studies at Eastern Michigan University.

Specializing in elementary education, Sandra started teaching in 1964. Sandra's exemplary teaching style quickly earned accolades from her supervisors. In 1973 she was promoted to the position of assistant principal at Pierson Community School. She served in this capacity during the 1973–74 school year. During the 1974–75 school year she held the same post at Merrill Community School. In 1975 Sandra was elevated to the position of principal at Dewey Community School. In addition to serving as principal of Dewey, Sandra also spent several years as principal of Martin Luther King Community School and Potter Multicultural Global School. Sandra's commitment to her students reached far beyond the administrator's chair. She understood that problems in the classroom were often closely linked to problems outside the classroom. She took the time over the years to listen to and help her students. Over and over again her students returned the favor. She is an unsung hero in the field of education.

Despite the pressures of raising a family, Sandra has devoted a large part of her life to many community organizations. She is the president of the Flint Human Relations Commission, the coordinator of the Victorious Christian Women Inc., and the vice president of the Flint Neighborhood Improvement and Preservation project. These are just a few of the community activities Sandra is dedicated too. The complete list is extensive.

Sandra Epps is an oustanding educator and an outstanding person. I have known Sandra for many, many, years. Along with her husband John, her children Mark, Randy, and Trayce, Sandra has encouraged and supported me over the years. I very much treasure our friendship. I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me today to honor a truly great educator, Sandra Epps.

IN HONOR OF MARY STRASSMEYER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mary Strassmeyer as she retires from journalism after 39 years of reporting on the social scene in Cleveland, OH.

After studying history and English at Notre Dame College Mary went on to do graduate work in history at the University of Toledo. In 1983, she graduated from Cleveland Marshall College of Law and passed the bar the same year. Mary held a variety of jobs after graduation, but began her career in journalism in earnest when she quit a Federal job, took a pay cut and joined the editorial staff at the Cleveland News where she stayed for 4 years covering women's news, education and the PTA.

She was hired by the Plain Dealer in 1960 to serve as women's features writer and later became beauty editor and assistant travel editor. In 1965, Mary was named society editor, where she really started to shake things up. She could make or break an event, or even someone's career, simply by what she wrote in her column. She has covered everything from fashion and food to movies and, even though she will not divulge them, knows all the secrets behind the secrets on the business and social scene in Cleveland.

After 4 years as society editor, Mary organized a group of reporters called the Society of American Social Scribes [SASS]. The group's members later elected her president. In the same year, she was listed in Status Magazine as one of the best big-city society editors in the Nation.

In her retirement, Mary plans to devote more time to putting her law degree to use, working at Gerry's International Travel Agency, in which she is a shareholder, and of course, more writing. Mr. Speaker, let us recognize the achievements of Mary Strassmeyer, just as her colleagues and friends will on June 23, 1997. Her weekly witty writings will be missed at the Plain Dealer.

HONORING BISHOP J. NEAUL HAYNES FOR HIS 20 YEARS OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize 20 years of dedicated service of a dear friend and the jurisdictional prelate of the Texas Northeast Churches of God in Christ, my friend Bishop James Neaul Haynes. His distinguished service in our religious community will be recognized on Thursday, June 26, 1997, in the sanctuary of Saintsville Sanctuary Church of God in Christ in Dallas at 2200 South Marsalis Avenue.

Bishop James Neaul Hayes was born in Denton, TX, and graduated with honors from Fred Moore High School. He received his bachelor's degree, and went on to study at the University of Denver in Colorado, then at the Dallas Theological Seminary.

He began his service in April 1949, and was licensed as a minister and ordained as elder in the Church of God in Christ in 1950. His first ministerial job was at the Church of God in Christ in Pampa, TX, in 1952. During the early years of his distinguished career he served as pastor of Saint Emanuel Church of God in Christ in Denison, TX, from 1960 to 1969. From 1969 to 1979, he relocated to Wheatley Church of God in Christ in Dallas—the city which he now calls home. He stayed in Dallas and served in many of the great churches of our city: Haynes Chapel Church of God in Christ from 1977 to 1979, and in 1979, he became pastor of the Saintsville Sanctuary Church of God in Christ where he currently serves today.

During his distinguished career, he served the Texas Northeast Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ, in many capacities. In 1964, he served on the Texas Jurisdiction Trustee Board, and as district superintendent of the West District of the Texas Northeast Jurisdiction in 1967. In 1969, he served as assistant State secretary of the organization. He was appointed as administrative assistant to the State Bishop in 1973 and in 1978, took the position of presiding prelate of Texas Northeast Jurisdiction. Also during this time, Bishop Haynes served The Church of God in Christ, Inc., which has a membership of 8.5 million.

In 1972, he served as a member of the trustee board of the Church of God in Christ, and assistant secretary of registration from 1972 to 1984. In 1984, he was elected to serve as member of the General Board of Bishops, Presidium, of The Church of God in Christ, Inc., and then was appointed second assistant presiding Bishop of the same organization.

His distinguished service in our community is illustrated by the amount of time he has devoted to Dallas' religious community. His leadership is exemplified by Bishop Haynes' vision and compassion which are sought and respected throughout our Nation. Because of his commitment to the service of mankind, Bishop Haynes has received a number of citations, awards, and plaques. Among these are: 1977 Minister of the Year Award, from the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, and the Community Appreciation Award, from the Governor of Texas in 1978.

No matter what board, organization, or committee, Bishop Haynes has served, he has always worked to help people in Dallas by making sure he spent his time helping others and giving back to his community which has given so much to him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues assembled here today to join me in recognizing my good friend and the fine Bishop from Saintsville Sanctuary Church of God in Christ for his 20 years of dedicated service to the city of Dallas. All of Dallas and the State of Texas are extremely lucky to have such a great pastor, and I am certain his work for the next 20 years will continue to be full of meaningful accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MARCIA BURNAM

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marcia Burnam, whose outstanding commitment to helping others is being recognized by the American Jewish Committee with its 1997 Community Service Award. I would like to add my praise for this remarkable woman.

Marcia Burnam truly embodies the spirit of service to others. A wise man once said that ''The best charity is good will'' and Marcia has certainly demonstrated her good will. She has spent countless hours working for various organizations, such as the Wilstein Institute of Jewish Policy Studies, the Leo Baeck Temple and has also been an active alumnus of Vassar College. Additionally, Marcia was chair of the Portraits of American Women and the Jewish Federation's Volunteer Bureau.

Since 1950's American Jewish Committee President Irving Engel first introduced her to the AJC, Marcia has devoted long hours to this organization in numerous capacities, including working for the Jewish Family Center, directing the committee's fight for civil rights and acting as a national vice president for the organization.

Despite these innumerable hours devoted to others, Marcia was still able to raise a family and now spends time with her four grandchildren. It is a great honor to pay tribute to Marcia Burnam for receiving this award and I would like to add my praise for her hard work and dedication to our community.

THE COMPUTER SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 1903, the Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997. I would like to thank Technology Subcommittee Chairwoman CONSTANCE MORELLA, and the full committee and subcommittee ranking minority members, Congressmen GEORGE BROWN and BART GORDON, for their efforts in crafting a bipartisan bill which should help strengthen computer security throughout the Federal Government.

The lack of adequate security for Federal civilian computer systems is a significant problem. Since June 1993, the General Accounting Office [GAO] has issued over 30 reports detailing serious information security weaknesses at Federal agencies. This year, GAO highlighted computer security as a governmentwide, high-risk issue in its high risk series.

H.R. 1903 is intended to address this problem by strengthening the National Institute of Standards and Technology's [NIST] historic role in computer security. The bill updates the Computer Security Act of 1987 (P.L. 100–235) to give NIST the tools it needs to ensure that appropriate attention and effort is concentrated on securing our Federal information technology infrastructure.

The Computer Security Act gives NIST the lead responsibility for computer security for Federal civilian agencies. The act requires NIST to develop the standards and guidelines needed to ensure cost-effective security and privacy of sensitive information in Federal computer systems.

H.R. 1903 updates the act to take into account the evolution of computer networks and their use by both the Federal Government and the private sector. Further, the bill's authorizations are consistent with authorizations that have already passed the House as part of H.R. 1274, the NIST Authorization Act of 1997.

Specifically, the bill:

Reduces the cost and improves the availability of computer security technologies for Federal agencies by requiring NIST to promote the Federal use of off-the-shelf products for meeting civilian agency computer security needs.

Enhances the role of the independent Computer System Security and Privacy Advisory Board in NIST's decisionmaking process. The board, which is made up of representatives from industry, Federal agencies and other outside experts, should assist NIST in its development of standards and guidelines for Federal systems.

Requires NIST to develop standardized tests and procedures to evaluate the strength of foreign encryption products. Through such tests and procedures, NIST, with assistance from the private sector, will be able to judge the relative strength of foreign encryption, thereby defusing some of the concerns associated with the export of domestic encryption products.

Limits NIST's involvement to the development of standards and guidelines for Federal civilian systems. The bill clarifies that NIST standards and guidelines are to be used for the acquisition of security technologies for the Federal Government and are not intended as restrictions on the production or use of encryption by the private sector.

Updates the Computer Security Act to address changes in technology over the last decade. Significant changes in the manner in which information technology is used by the Federal Government has occurred since the enactment of the Computer Security Act. The bill updates the act, taking these changes into account.

Establishes a new computer science fellowship program for graduate and undergraduate students studying computer security. The bill sets aside $250,000 a year, for each of the

next two fiscal years, to enable NIST to finance computer security fellowships under an existing NIST grant program.

Requires the National Research Council to conduct a study to assess the desirability of, and the technology required to, support public key infrastructures.

It has been 10 years since Congress passed the Computer Security Act. Over that time, computer technology has changed at a breathtaking rate. The Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997 will help NIST and the rest of our Federal civilian agencies adapt to those changes.

Mr. Speaker, ensuring that our agencies' computer systems as secure is a priority. H.R. 1903 is an important step toward this goal, and I urge all my colleagues to cosponsor this bipartisan bill.

THE COMPUTER SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join Science Committee Chairman SENSENBRENNER and ranking committee and subcommittee members BROWN and GORDON in introducing H.R. 1903, The Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997. H.R. 1903 is designed to improve the security of computer systems throughout the Government.

In 1987, Congress passed the Computer Security Act which gave the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST] the lead responsibility for developing security standards and technical guidelines for civilian government agency computer systems. H.R. 1903 updates this 10-year-old statute.

The networking revolution of the last decade has improved the ability of Federal agencies to process and transfer data. It has also made that same data more vulnerable to corruption and theft.

In February, the General Accounting Office [GAO] highlighted computer security as a government-wide, high-risk issue in its high risk series. Concurrent with the release of GAO's high risk report, I held the second in a series of briefing on computer security. During the briefing, members of the Science Committee heard from some of the most respected experts in the field of electronic information security. They all agreed that the Federal Government must do more to secure sensitive electronic data.

The Federal Government is not alone in its need to secure electronic information. The corruption of electronic data threatens every sector of our economy. The market for high-quality computer security products is enormous, and the U.S. software and hardware industries are responding. The Federal Government, through NIST, can harness these market forces to improve computer security within Federal agencies at a fraction of the cost of developing its own hardware and software.

The Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997 will assist in this process. The bill reduces the cost and improves the availability of computer security technologies for Federal agencies by requiring NIST to promote the use of off-the-shelf products for meeting civilian agency computer security needs.

The bill also enhances the role of the independent Computer System Security and Privacy Advisory Board in NIST's decisionmaking process. The board, which is made up of representatives from industry, federal agencies as well as other outside experts, should assist NIST in its development of standards and guidelines for Federal systems which are compatible with existing private sector technologies.

Further, the bill requires NIST to develop standardized tests and procedures to evaluate the strength of foreign encryption products. Through such tests and procedures, NIST, with assistance from the private sector, will be able to judge the relative strength of foreign encryption, thereby defusing some of the concerns associated with the export of domestic encryption products.

The bill also clarifies that NIST standards and guidelines are to be used for the acquisition of security technologies for the Federal Government and are not intended as restrictions on the production or use of encryption by the private sector.

Additionally, H.R. 1903 addresses the shortage of university students studying computer security. Of the 5500 Ph.D's in computer science awarded over the last 5 years in Canada and the United States, only 16 were in fields related to computer security. To help address such shortfalls, the bill establishes a new computer science fellowship program for graduate and undergraduate students studying computer security. The bill sets aside $250,000 a year, for each of the next two fiscal years, to enable NIST to finance computer security fellowships under an existing NIST grant program.

The provisions of the Computer Security Enhancement Act should help maintain a strong domestic computer security industry. A strong industry will not only help our economy but also significantly improve the security of Federal computer systems.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1903 alone will not solve the Federal Government's computer security problems. It is, however, an important step in the right direction. I commend Chairman SENSENBRENNER for crafting a bipartisan bill that should substantially improve computer security for the Federal Government, and I encourage all of my colleagues to join in cosponsoring the Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPUTER SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1997, H.R. 1903

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join Chairman SENSENBRENNER, Ranking Member BROWN, Chairwoman MORELLA and other members of the Committee on Science in introducing the Computer Security Act of 1997.

Not a day that goes by that we don't see some reference to the Internet and the explosive growth of electronic commerce. What was originally envisioned as a network for defense communications and university researchers is now an international communications network of which we are just beginning to realize its potential.

Both Office of Technology Assessment and National Research Council reports have identified a major obstacle to the growth of electronic commerce—the lack of the widespread use of encryption products. The bill we are introducing today is the first step to encourage the use of encryption products, both by Federal agencies and the private sector. This in turn will support the growth of electronic commerce.

The Computer Security Enhancement Act of 1997, which amends the Computer Security Act of 1987 (P.L. 100–235) builds on the close collaboration and cooperation between the National Institute of Standards and Technology [NIST] and industry to develop standard reference materials and the standards that are key to the seamless commerce we take for granted today. This legislation highlights the need for NIST to expand its activities in the area of electronic commerce.

Our legislation also strengthens the NIST's role in coordinating Federal agencies' effort to utilize encryption and digital identification products. It encourages Federal agencies to adopt and use commercially available encryption technologies whenever possible. This legislation allows NIST to evaluate the technical merit of industry claims of the strength of generally available foreign encryption products. Hopefully, this will defuse some of the tension surrounding the issue of export of domestic encryption products.

Not only is this legislation consistent with the recommendations of the Office of Technology Assessment and the National Research Council, it is also in-line with a set of resolutions adopted by NIST's Computer System Security and Privacy Advisory Board on June 6, 1997. Finally, I believe this bill is consistent with the goals President's Clinton's upcoming policy announcement on electronic commerce.

It has been a pleasure working with Chairwoman MORELLA on crafting this piece of legislation and I look forward to continuing to work with her to move this bill through the legislative process.

HONORING ARABELLA MARTINEZ

HON. RONALD V. DELLUMS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, Arabella Martinez has been a leader in motivating, organizing, and improving the Fruitvale community. A graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, with a masters in social work, Arabella has been a strong clear voice articulating the dimensions of what must be done, and pulling together participation from both the private and public sectors.

As CEO of the Spanish Speaking Unity Council from 1969 to 1974, she immersed herself in the development of programs to build responsibility and economic preparedness in the Latino community. She built the organization into a strong economic development and community organization with considerable assets.

Her abilities and dynamism gained the attention of former President Jimmy Carter, who

appointed her Assistant Secretary, Office of Human Development Services, U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, in 1977. In 1980, she returned to Oakland as president of the Center for Policy Development.

Five years ago, when the Unity Council was on the verge of bankruptcy, Arabella was persuaded to come back. She immediately developed a plan to address the organization's complex financial problems. Through her enormous skills, hard work, and dedication, not only has the organization survived the crisis, but it is thriving once again.

The Spanish Speaking Unity Council's assets, including the Community Resource Center, the Education Para Adelantar Building, the Esperanza Center, the Infant Care Center, the De Colores Pre-School, were all saved.

Under Arabella's leadership, all eyes are now on the Unity Council because of its Fruitvale BART project and its sponsorship of the Fruitvale Community Collaborative, formed to bring together residents, community groups, churches, schools, merchants, and agencies to improve the quality of life for children and families who live in the area. Residents are learning organization skills, they're learning how to access services, how to plan a project, and much more. Their philosophy is, ''Working together as neighbors and friends, we can make our neighborhood a healthy place to live and keep it that way.''

Another effort now underway, spearheaded by Arabella Martinez and the Spanish Speaking Unity Council, is a transit village with a mix of new residential, retail open space and a regional cultural center—within the confines and adjacent to the Fruitvale BART station. A new residential base would help support these shops as would the foot traffic from BART. While the proposed transit village is far from being accomplished, we have confidence that Arabella's drive, determination, negotiation skills, and ability to make things happen, will cause the transit village to happen. It's only a matter of time.

In addition to her service to the Fruitvale area, Arabella has lent her talents to numerous community board and commissions, including: The Women's Initiative for Self-Employment, the Oakland Business Development Corporation, the Bank of America's Police Advisory Committee, the New Oakland Committee, the Oakland Housing Authority, the Oakland Parks and Recreation Commission, and the University/Oakland Metropolitan Forum.

In the civic and community realms, her sagacious leadership, foresight, and compassion have clearly earned her the Oakland Citizen of the Year Award for lifetime achievement.

IN MEMORY OF HARRY (BUDDY) W. CORMIER, JR.

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the memory of Buddy Cormier, who passed away last night after a long fight with cancer.

Buddy Cormier was a lifelong resident of DeWitt, AR, a little town not far from my home in Gillett. Buddy ran a small rice mill that his father had founded many years ago and he epitomized the small businessman and community activist that has characterized so many small towns in Arkansas.

When I ran my farming operation, there was no one that was more of a joy to do business with than Buddy Cormier. He was always fair in his dealings and was as concerned about my bottom line as he was about his own—a rare characteristic in today's business world. He was a leader in the rice industry in Arkansas and in the country because he cared about preserving our heritage.

Buddy Cormier was a big man in every sense of the word. He had a limitless appetite for life and for the well-being of those around him. When we did business together, I often found myself with him a little longer than would be normal, simply because he so lifted my spirits. He had boundless energy and a good humor that was simply infectious.

This is the way that I will remember my friend: As a man who embraced the world; who cared deeply about those around him; who worked to make his corner of the world a better place. His body may have succumbed to illness, but his spirit will always live on. Rest in peace my friend, we'll miss you.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT C. JASNA

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute today to one of Milwaukee's truly outstanding citizens, and one of America's top educators. As the Milwaukee Public Schools joins with friends throughout Wisconsin to honor superintendent of schools Robert C. Jasna on the occasion of his retirement, I would like to take a moment to reflect on Bob's remarkable career and his many contributions to public education in Milwaukee and our community as a whole.

A native of Milwaukee, Bob Jasna earned his degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and soon began his teaching career at Lincoln Elementary School in Appleton, WI. Bob then served his Nation as a platoon leader in the Army. Following his military service, Bob returned to Milwaukee and the classroom as a teacher at Juneau Junior/Senior High School, and quickly began to rise through the ranks of the Milwaukee Public Schools System. From 1973 to 1987, Bob served as principal at West Division, North Division, James Madison, and Riverside University High Schools, where the impact of his unique and innovative methods of teaching and leadership are still clear today.

In July 1989, Bob became associate superintendent of the Milwaukee Public Schools, and by 1991 he had become deputy superintendent. Since 1995, Bob has served as superintendent of the Milwaukee Public Schools, supervising all activities of the school system, and providing leadership and management expertise at every level of the system.

Let me be clear about the undeniable role Bob Jasna has played in the improvement of public education in Milwaukee's public schools. Under his steady hand, the Milwaukee Public School District has embraced a series of highly acclaimed reforms which have already made a difference in the quality of education in our schools. Through the implementation of rigorous standards, students are now challenged to pass a series of proficiency examinations, and graduation requirements have been strengthened. Our students have met these challenges, and continue to achieve progress.

Anyone who has had the pleasure of working with Bob Jasna is immediately struck by his passion for education, and by his belief that all children should be able to receive a top notch education, regardless of their economic standing. Bob's hands-on approach to his job as the leader of the Milwaukee Public Schools has made a real difference in the lives of our teachers, and more importantly, our students. In an era of declining resources, aging school infrastructure, and student violence, Bob Jasna has been a beacon of leadership and hope for our schools.

I want to extend my good wishes to Bob's wife Judith, and his two children. Bob will be missed by our schools, but I have no doubt that Bob will enjoy his retirement and will continue to maintain an active presence in our community. Congratulations, Bob Jasna, on this most special occasion.

STATEMENT BY SARAH WACHTEL REGARDING ILLITERACY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by a high school student from Vermont, who was speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

Ms. WACHTEL. Two years ago an elderly New York City woman almost died. Why? She ingested too much medication because she could not read the prescription label on the bottle. This woman is not in the minority. One-quarter of the world's population, 905 million people, cannot read. One in five American adults is functionally illiterate and 44 percent of American adults do not read even one book in the course of a year.

Statistics clearly show that illiteracy is on the increase and that fewer than ten percent of those in need are being reached. in 1985 Proctor and Gamble spent more on advertising than the U.S. Government spent on adult basic education.

The truth is by cutting funding for literacy programs we are threatening the future of our nation. The cost of illiteracy to business and the taxpayer is estimated at 20 billion dollars per year.

President Clinton has made literacy a priority with his America Reads initiative. He says such efforts will help us to reach a critical goal, that every American child will be able to read on his or her own by the third grade, but there are large numbers of people who cannot even read to their own children.

Public awareness is key. Parents must realize the importance of education and of literacy. They must know they are their child's first teacher. Illiteracy is a very quite problem which needs attention.

Illiteracy plagues rural areas, not only urban ones. Literacy programs are needed not just in cities but all across the country. Programs for employees can be installed at large corporations. The library system must

be supported. It encourages and provides great opportunities for education.

As President Clinton said, literacy is more than reading. It is about opportunity and giving people the tools they need to make the most of their potential. Literacy is one things that can never be taken away. It determines the future of us, our nation, our world.

This is necessary not only because it's literacy but because we need literacy to understand all the problems that we face today, and without an understanding, we have no way of solving them.

RECOGNITION OF COL. RICHARD E. MATLAK

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Col. Richard E. Matlak for his 28 years of honorable and outstanding service to the U.S. Army and to the Nation. On Friday, June 13, 1997, Col. Richard E. Matlak was honored at the Algonquin Club in Boston, MA. I recognize him here in honor of this event.

Colonel Matlak has a long tradition of service and has received numerous decorations. He has received the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with an Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two Overseas Service Bars, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Time Device, Army Service Ribbon, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 Device. The personal extolments of his superiors, subordinates, evaluators, and peers, however most colorfully decorate the colonel as a great soldier and military leader.

Not only has Colonel Matlak shown exemplary character in his over 27 years of commissioned service, but he also dedicated his life to the field of education. The list of awards the colonel received through his work as an educator is equally prestigious. In addition to his numerous academic recognitions, the colonel has authored dozens of books, articles, reviews and conference papers on the subjects of Literature and Poetry.

Col. Richard E. Matlak is a dedicated leader, an accomplished academic, a learned professor, a superior mentor, and an honorable citizen of our Nation. I am proud to commend him for his admirable years of service to his community, to our institutions of learning, and to the United States of America.

DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 1997

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. LAFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today a number of my Democratic colleagues are joining with me to introduce comprehensive consumer protection legislation. It is our hope that key elements of this legislation can become part of the financial modernization legislation we will begin marking up in the Banking Committee later today.

I support financial modernization legislation because I believe It potentially holds out many benefits for consumers and taxpayers. Product diversification and broader competition should increase the safety and soundness of our financial system, improve efficiency and make available more services at lower cost to consumers.

But the continual modernization of financial services holds risks as well as benefits. In limited contexts, banks already participate in the insurance and securities businesses. The result of the pending legislation would be that banks will be entering fully into these businesses, and other financial firms will be able to enter into the banking business.

As consumers deal increasingly with banks that may be part of large-scale diversified financial institutions, they potentially become more vulnerable. Congress must ensure their interests are protected.

Consumers are already experiencing some serious difficulties. There are all too many examples of situations in which consumers have been coerced, misled or confused, and have suffered and endured financial losses as a result.

Banks remain a unique part of our financial services system. They are insured depository institutions, backed by the Federal Government through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. They therefore offer consumers a level of protection—and intuitively instill a sense of confidence—that is not so automatically characteristic of other financial services providers. As a result, they must bear unique responsibilities.

Consumers will no longer simply be using banks to make deposits or purchase a limited array of investments products. They may also be using their bank to pursue a broad range of investment opportunities or purchase a full array of insurance products.

The potential for one-stop shopping and consumer savings is real and substantial. But so is the potential for confusion. It will be increasingly important that consumers fully understand the exact nature of, and risk associated with, the product they are purchasing. And it will be equally important that they understand their rights. Consumers must be assured that applications for extensions of credit will be judged only on their merits.

Some of the key elements in the legislation I am introducing today are:

Clear disclosure requirements which would ensure that consumers know precisely whether a product is or is not an insured product, and what risk is associated with it;

A strong prohibition against misrepresentation about the insured status of, or risk associated with, any product;

Anticoercion requirements that prohibit extensions of credit from being made conditional upon the purchase of another nondeposit product;

A suitability standard to ensure that the nondeposit product is suitable and appropriate based on the financial information disclosed by the consumer;

Provisions requiring reasonable physical segregation of the conduct of banking and nonbanking activities;

A provision requiring the development of a consumer dispute resolution mechanism so that consumers can readily have their concerns heard and any violations of the consumer protection requirements can be redressed; and

Procedures which would allow consumers to exercise more control over the sharing of information related to their financial transactions.

As changes occur in the marketplace in reaction to any modernization legislation we pass, it will be important that we monitor the situation closely to see how well consumers are being served. But this legislation should help ensure they receive the benefits financial modernization has to offer, and are protected from the risks.

THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY 4–H AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY PROGRAM WINS SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE'S HONOR AWARD

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the Los Angeles County 4–H After School Activity Program for exemplary work in helping at-risk youth overcome many barriers and realize their dreams. Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman presented the program with one of the 1997 Department of Agriculture Secretary's Honor Awards.

Some of the best legislation the House has passed so far in this term is designed to improve opportunities for America's at-risk youth. The historic juvenile justice reform bill we approved last month will help deter children from going down the path of crime. By removing work disincentives and fostering a more diverse mix of families in public housing, the landmark public housing bill the House also passed last month will give children who live in public housing more adult role models who work.

The Los Angeles County 4–H After School Activity Program is a step ahead of the federal government in improving the lives of underprivileged children in the nation's second-largest metropolitan area. Administered by the University of California, the program provides a positive, nurturing environment for children ages 7 to 13 who live in public housing. These children are young enough for positive adult role models to have an impact on their lives. But without this program, they could well fall victim to the pressure to join a gang, drop out of school when they get older, or get caught in the terrible trap of drug addiction.

The program was organized in the wake of the 1992 riots. It was so successful that it quickly grew to serve more than 1,500 children in Los Angeles County. Children attend the program 2 to 5 days a week from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., and they participate in homework assistance and tutoring sessions, learn-by-doing projects, physical recreation, and community service projects. The children's projects focus on subjects ranging from gardening and plant science to computers, from photography and video to leadership development. The 4–H program also expects older children to participate as peer role models who can assist with special projects.

In a refreshing example of a wide range of organizations working together to improve

their community, the program is run as a collaborative effort involving educational, governmental, business, and other organizations. The University of California Cooperative Extension provides overall administrative support and staff, with other support coming from the Unocal Corp., the Los Angeles Unified School District, the City of Los Angeles Housing Authority, the Corporation for National Service, the National 4–H Council, and the California 4–H Foundation.

The After School Activity Program has had a major impact on the lives of the participating children. Seventy percent of participants' teachers noted some or much improvement in the children's interest in schoolwork and their ability to solve problems. More than 60 percent of the teachers also reported some or much improvement in participants' ability to adapt to new situations and in their cooperation levels with peers. The children participating have seen a positive impact on their lives: 96 percent say they feel safe at 4–H, and 85 percent say 4–H helps them stay out of gangs.

Too many urban children have no positive role models, so they turn to gangs for acceptance. Too many children in our cities have underdeveloped academic skills, so they face an even steeper hill to climb when they grow up and have to find a job. Too many inner-city children see little hope in their lives, so they seek false solace in drugs and alcohol. The Los Angeles County 4–H After School Activity Program is saving L.A. children from lives of despair. This innovative program is a collaborative effort that is making a real difference in children's lives. My congratulations and deepest appreciation go to George Rendell, who is the director of the University of California's Los Angeles County Cooperative Extension, Resource Development Coordinator Ray Grabinski, and all the dedicated staff members, volunteers and other community-minded individuals who have made this program an outstanding success.

LEE VICTORY, A CAREER OF SERVICE TO SMYRNA AND RUTHERFORD COUNTY

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual from the Sixth District of Tennessee who is being honored upon his retirement, Mr. Lee Victory.

Mr. Victory has spent his life improving the quality of life for those of the town of Smyrna, TN. For the last several years, he has been the moving force in recreation in Smyrna.

His energy and vision have been the key to providing Smyrna with recreation facilities no other city its size possesses.

He and Mr. W.E. Carter built Smyrna's first Little League baseball fields which were located behind the old Meadowlawn Homes. He personally wired the lights and ran the plumbing to these ballfields.

There is truly no way to tell how many children have been kept out of trouble through his efforts, not only by providing them with recreational opportunities, but by providing a place to stay for many youngsters who needed help as well. He and his late wife, Ruie, opened their home and their hearts to countless youngsters.

As for the future, Mr. Victory plans to spend more time working on his antique clocks, watching his grandchildren play baseball and visiting his many friends. However, for a man with such community spirit, for a man who knows that one person can still make a difference, old habits do not die easily. Fortunately, I am sure he will continue to provide Smyrna and Rutherford County with his tremendous vision and commitment by serving on the Middle Tennessee Electric Board and the Board of the Rutherford County Highway Department.

Lee Victory's record of achievement explains why those in Smyrna and Tennesseans all across the State are honoring him on Friday, June 20, 1997. I join with them to thank Lee Victory for his tireless dedication and innumerable contributions. We wish for him a happy and fulfilling retirement.

HONORING BENTELER OF GOSHEN, INDIANA

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I share with our colleagues today a milestone reached by an important business in the Third District of Indiana. Today, Benteler Automotive Corp. of Goshen, IN will receive an outstanding quality award from Honda of America Manufacturing. Benteler will receive this recognition for exceeding Honda's quality targets by greater than 50 percent in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, only 16 of Honda's 380 suppliers are receiving this award. This deserving accolade is in recognition of Benteler's performance in its impact management systems product line, namely steel doorbeams which are placed in front and rear doors to prevent passengers from injury in side-impact collisions. The ceremony took place this morning at the Benteler Plant in Goshen, and Honda presented the award to Benteler employees who were joined by community officials in celebration.

Benteler started out small, incorporating with just a few people in 1980 but growing to some 1,800 employees today. Benteler uses state-of-the-art technologies in manufacturing chassis systems, front exhaust systems and impact management systems for worldwide distribution. The award today is ongoing evidence that they are leaders in these fields. They have related facilities in Goshen and in Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo, MI, and another in Fort Wayne, IN. Annual U.S. sales exceed $300 million in the United States, and reach about $2.5 billion worldwide. Benteler's market niches include passenger safety, fuel economy, and environmental protection through emissions control. The process of creating quality products in a successful business that improve quality of life is not to be found everyday, and we can learn from the successful efforts of Benteler and its employees.

Mr. Speaker, Benteler's proud heritage extends around the world, from Indiana and Michigan, to Europe, to Mexico and through Asia. The original company was founded by visionary Carl Benteler in 1876, and today is one of the largest steel producers and automotive suppliers in Europe. The Benteler worldwide network of companies encompasses 27 worldwide plants and agencies, and employs over 11,000.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to acknowledge the accomplishments of the Benteler facility in Goshen, IN. I am honored to help recognize the accomplishments of the Benteler employees on this significant occasion in being recognized for excellence in manufacturing. They are a shining example of Hoosier dedication to hard work and quality. I know they are proud of this accomplishment, and I am pleased to add to the praise they receive from family, friends, and community.

RAND STUDY QUESTIONS CURRENT DRUG SENTENCING POLICY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I have believed for some time that our policy for mandatory minimum sentences for nonviolent drug offenses at the Federal level represents a poor policy choice, given the resources available to us. A uniform mandatory minimum policy results in unfair sentences to some and an unwise expenditure of funds in many other cases, if our goal is in fact to reduce drug use and drug-related crime.

I was therefore interested to read of the recent study by researchers at the RAND Drug Policy Research Center. Jonathan Caulkins, C. Peter Rydell, William Schwabe, and James Chiesa report that, ''mandatory minimums produce the smallest bang for the buck by far'', compared to conventional enforcement and treatment of heavy drug users. Indeed, their conclusion is that, ''treatment of heavy drug users produces the biggest bang of all.''

Because of the importance of this as a public policy question, and because I believe that this RAND research report confirms that we are making a serious error in our current allocation of resources in drug policy, I ask that the RAND Drug Policy Research Center brief on mandatory minimum drug sentences' cost effective be printed here.

WASHINGTON, DC MAY 12.—If cutting drug consumption and drug-related crime are the nation's prime drug control objectives, then the mandatory minimum drug sentencing laws in force at the federal level and in most states are not the way to get there.

this is the key finding of Mandatory Minimum Drug Sentences: Throwing Away the Key or the Taxpayer's Money?, a new RAND study that provides the first quantitative analysis of how successful these measures are in achieving what Director Barry McCaffrey of the Office of National Drug Control Policy has called ''our central purpose and mission—reducing illicit drug use and its consequences.''

Researchers Jonathan P. Caulkins, C. Peter Rydell, William Schwebe and James Chiesa estimate the cost-effectiveness of extended sentences in reducing cocaine consumption and crime, compare the results to those for two other drug control strategies, and show that mandatory minimums produce the smallest bang for the buck by far. Conventional enforcement (meaning

more drug dealer arrests, confiscations, prosecutions and standard-length incarcerations) is a substantially better investment. Treatment of heavy drug users producers the biggest bang of all.

Mandatory minimum drug sentencing laws, dating largely to the 1980s, have been among the most popular crime-fighting measures of recent years. Details vary with the jurisdiction, but all of these statutes stipulate a sentence of specified length given certain triggering criteria, notably the quantity of an illicit drug possessed at time of arrest. For example, federal law requires judges to impose a sentence of at least five years for anyone convicted of possessing half a kilogram of cocaine powder or five grams of crack cocaine.

Caulkins and his colleagues begin their analysis by estimating the effects of spending an additional $1 million on each of several alternative strategies over a 15-year period. The results:

Spending the money on mandatory minimum-length sentences for a representative national sample of drug dealers can reduce total national cocaine consumption by 13 kilograms. Spending it on conventional enforcement against such dealers cuts use by 27 kilograms. Spending it to treat heavy users reduces consumption by over 100 kilograms. A principal reason that long sentences are not more cost-effective is the high cost of incarceration.

If the analysis is restricted to drug dealers at a somewhat higher level—those prosecuted by the federal government and in possession of enough drugs to trigger a federal mandatory-minimum sentence—the numbers change but the rankings remain the same. In fact, mandatory minimums are the least cost-effective way to reduce consumption under any set of conditions save one: They could be efficient if judges were given leeway to apply them only to certain very high-level dealers. Unfortunately, these laws are not selective and do not allow judges to use discretion.

Dollar for dollar, conventional enforcement efforts reduce 70 percent more crimes against persons than longer sentences. Treatment reduces about 10 times more serious crime than conventional enforcement and 15 times more than mandatory minimums. Explanation: Most drug-related crime is economically motivated and associated with the amount of money flowing through the cocaine market. Incarceration has little effect on this flow because it suppresses drug use by driving up drug prices. In contrast, treatment removes some users from the market altogether (both those who are in treatment and the minority who do not relapse afterwards).

To their proponents, the certainty and severity of mandatory minimums ensure that drug criminals will be punished, be kept off the streets for extended periods, and be examples that deter others. Critics protest that the laws foreclose discretionary judgment where it is most needed and often result in unjust punishment or even racial bias. In mid-April, the Supreme Court refused to hear a claim that the distinction between cocaine powder and crack amounts is discriminatory because crack arrestees are predominantly african-american. Two weeks ago, the U.S. sentencing commission recommended reducing the disparities between sentences for possession of crack and powder cocaine.

The RAND study focuses on what is arguably the most problematic substance—cocaine—and provides quantitative answers to a different but fundamental question: How effective are mandatory minimums relative to other means of achieving the nation's drug control goals?

''Our results indicate that we would make greater drug control progress by sentencing more dealers to standard prison terms than by sentencing fewer dealers to longer, mandatory terms,'' summarizes study leader Caulkins. ''They also suggest that treatment should receive higher priority than it does today. But the shift toward treatment should not be pushed too far. After all, it often takes enforcement to provide willing clients for treatment.''

This research was supported by a gift from Florida businessman Richard B. Wolf and by funding from The Ford Foundation and was carried out by RAND's Drug Policy Research Center. RAND is a private, not-for-profit organization that helps improve public policy through research and analysis.

Mandatory minimum sentencing laws have been among the more popular crime-fighting measures of recent years. Such laws require that a judge impose a sentence of at least a specified length if certain criteria are met. For example, a person convicted by a federal court of possessing half a kilogram or more of cocaine powder must be sentenced to at least five years in prison.

Mandatory minimums have enjoyed strong bipartisan support. To proponents, their certainty and severity help ensure that incarceration's goals will be achieved. Those goals include punishing the convicted and keeping them from committing more crimes for a period of time, as well as deterring others not in prison from committing similar crimes. Critics, however, believe that mandatory minimums foreclose discretionary judgment where it may most be needed, and they fear these laws result in instances of unjust punishment.

These are all important considerations, but mandatory minimums associated with drug crimes may also be viewed as a means of achieving the nation's drug control objectives. As such, who do they compare with other means? Do they contribute to the central objective—decreasing the nation's drug consumption and related consequences—at a cost that compares favorably with other approaches? Jonathan P. Caulkins, C. Peter Rydell, William L. Schwabe, and James Chiesa have estimated how successful mandatory minimum sentences are, relative to other control strategies, at reducing drug consumption and drug-related crime.

The DPRC researchers focused on cocaine, which many view as the most problematic drug in America today. They took two approaches to mathematically model the market for cocaine and arrived at the same basic conclusion: Mandatory minimum sentences are not justifiable on the basis of cost-effectiveness at reducing cocaine consumption or drug-related crime. Mandatory minimums reduce cocaine consumption less per million taxpayer dollars spent than spending the same amount on enforcement under the previous sentencing regime. And either enforcement approach reduces drug consumption less, per million dollars spent, than putting heavy users through treatment programs. Mandatory minimums are also less cost-effective than either alternative at reducing cocaine-related crime. A principal reason for these findings is the high cost of incarceration.

REDUCING CONSUMPTION: MORE ENFORCEMENT AGAINST TYPICAL DEALERS

Caulkins, Rydell, and their colleagues first estimated the cost-effectiveness of additional expenditures on enforcement against the average drug dealer apprehended in the United States (whether that apprehension is by federal, state, or local authorities). Increased enforcement places additional costs on dealers, which they pass along to cocaine consumers in the form of higher prices. Studies have shown that higher cocaine prices discourage consumption. By mathematically modeling how cocaine market demand and supply respond to price, the researchers were able to estimate the changes in total cocaine consumption over 15 years for an additional million dollars invested in different cocaine control strategies. These consumption changes, discounted to present value, are shown by the first two bars in Figure 1.

Those bars show the results of spending a million dollars[1] on additional enforcement against a representative sample of drug dealers. As shown by the first bar, if that money were used to extend to federal mandatory minimum lengths the sentences of dealers who would have been arrested anyway, U.S. cocaine consumption would be reduced by almost 13 kilograms.[2] If, however, the money were used to arrest, confiscate the assets of, prosecute, and incarcerate more dealers (for prison terms of conventional length), cocaine consumption would be reduced by over 27 kilograms. As a point of comparison, spending the million dollars to treat heavy users would reduce cocaine consumption by a little over 100 kilograms (rightmost bar).

The results from spending an additional million dollars can be extrapolated to multiples thereof. A case can thus be made for shifting resources from longer sentences to a broader mix of enforcement measures. A case might also be made for shifting resources to treatment, although legislators might find such a shift less palatable. In any event, extrapolation is valid only up to a point. These results certainly do not support shifting all drug control resources from one approach to another, e.g., from enforcement to treatment. Very large changes in enforcement levels or in the number of persons treated would change cocaine supply and demand relations in ways that are not predictable with much confidence.

REDUCING CONSUMPTION: MORE ENFORCEMENT AGAINST HIGHER-LEVEL DEALERS

The first two bars in Figure 1 represent enforcement approaches applied to a representative sample of drug dealers. Perhaps mandatory minimum sentences would be more cost-effective if they were applied only to higher-level dealers, who make more money and thus have more to lose from intensive enforcement. To approximate such a restriction, Caulkins and his colleagues limited the set of dealers analyzed to those prosecuted at the federal level who possess enough drugs to trigger a federal mandatory minimum sentence. Again, they analyzed how costs imposed on dealers influence cocaine market demand and supply. The results are shown in the dark bars in Figure 1.

Spending a million dollars on mandatory minimum sentences for higher-level dealers does indeed have a bigger effect on cocaine consumption than spending the same amount on either enforcement approach against typical dealers. Nonetheless, against any given type of dealer (or at any given level of government), mandatory minimums are less cost-effective than conventional enforcement. Moreover, although federal mandatory minimums do better relative to treating heavy users than do longer sentences for all dealers, treatment is still more cost-effective.

Why is conventional enforcement more cost-effective than mandatory minimums? Drug enforcement imposes costs on dealers through arrest and conviction, which includes seizure of drugs and other assets, and through incarceration, which involves loss of income. It turns out that, per dollar spent, the cost burden from seizures is greater. A million dollars spent extending sentences

thus imposes less cost on dealers—less than a million dollars spent on conventional enforcement, which includes asset seizures.[3]

REDUCING COCAINE-RELATED CRIME

Many Americans are worried about the crime associated with cocaine production, distribution, and use. Working with data on the causes of drug-related crime, Caulkins and his colleagues estimated the crime reduction benefits of the various alternatives. They found no difference between conventional enforcement and mandatory minimums in relation to property crime. Conventional enforcement, however, should reduce crimes against persons by about 70 percent more than mandatory minimums. But treatment should reduce serious crimes (against both property and persons) the most per million dollars spent—on the order of fifteen times as much as would the incarceration alternatives.

Why is treatment so much better? Most drug-related crime is economically motivated—undertaken, for example, to procure money to support a habit or to settle scores between rival dealers. The level of economically motivated crime is related to the amount of money flowing through the cocaine market. When a treated dealer stays off drugs, that means less money flowing into the market—therefore, less crime. When a dealer facing greater enforcement pressure raises his price to compensate for the increased risk, buyers will reduce the amount of cocaine they purchase. Money flow equals price times quantity bought. Which effect predominates—the rise in price or the drop in consumption? The best evidence suggests that they cancel each other out, so the total revenue flowing through the cocaine market stays about the same. The effect of the enforcement alternatives is therefore limited almost entirely to the relatively small number of crimes that are the direct result of drug consumption—crimes ''under the influence.''

SENSITIVITY OF THE RESULTS TO CHANGES IN ASSUMPTIONS

The values shown in Figure 1 are dependent, of course, on various assumptions the researchers made. If the assumptions are changed, the values change. As an example, the results are dependent on the time horizon of interest to those making decisions about cocaine control strategy. Figure 1, for example, ignores any benefits and costs accruing more than 15 years beyond program initiation. A 15-year horizon is a typical one for analyzing public-policy effects. But what if that horizon were closer?

Figure 2 shows the relative cost-effectiveness of treatment and the enforcement alternatives against typical dealers, analyzed when time horizons are set at various points from 1 to 15 years. At 15 years, the lines match the heights of the two short bars and the tallest bar in Figure 1. As the horizon is shortened, treatment looks worse, because treatment's costs, which accrue immediately, remain, while the benefits, which accrue as long as treated individuals reduce their consumption, are cut back. If the horizon is made short enough, long sentences look better, because the costs of additional years of imprisonment are ignored, while the benefits remain. Those benefits, again, are the cocaine price increase and consumption decrease that occur as soon as the imprisonment risk increases. The time horizon must be shortened to three years before long sentences look preferable to additional conventional enforcement, and to little more than two years before they look preferable to treatment. Hence, longer sentences for typical drug dealers appear cost-effective only to the highly myopic.

More generally, large departures from the assumptions underlying the analysis are required for mandatory minimums to be the most cost-effective approach. Figure 3, for example, displays departures from two key assumptions underlying the results in Figure 1: that it costs the federal government $20,000 to arrest a dealer and that a dealer wants additional drug sales income amounting to $85,000 for risking an additional year of imprisonment. These two assumed values are depicted by the star in Figure 3. The bounded areas and labels indicate which program is the most cost-effective for any combination of substitutes for those two numbers. As the figure shows, mandatory minimums would be the most cost-effective alternative only if arrest cost were to exceed $30,000 and a dealer were to value his time at over $250,000 per year. Such figures would typify only those dealers who are both unusually difficult to arrest and at a fairly high level in the cocaine trade. For dealers costing less than $30,000 to arrest, cocaine control dollars would be better spent on further conventional enforcement. For dealers demanding less than $250,000 compensation for imprisonment risk, the money would be better spent treating heavy users.

Long sentences could thus be a smart strategy if selectively applied. Unfortunately, because mandatory minimum sentences are triggered by quantity of drug possessed, they are not selectively applied to the highest-level dealers. Such dealers often do not physically possess the drugs they own and control; they hire others to carry the drugs and incur the associated risk.

CONCLUSION

Long sentences for serious crimes have intuitive appeal. They respond to deeply held beliefs about punishment for evil actions, and in many cases they ensure that, by removing a criminal from the streets, further crimes that would have been committed will not be. But in the case of black-market crimes like drug dealing, a jailed supplier is often replaced by another supplier. Limited cocaine control resources can, however, be profitably directed toward other important objectives—reducing cocaine *consumption* and the violence and theft that accompany the cocaine market. If those are the goals, more can be achieved by spending additional money arresting, prosecuting, and sentencing dealers to standard prison terms than by spending it sentencing fewer dealers to longer, mandatory terms. The DPRC researchers found an exception in the case of the highest-level dealers, where sentences of mandatory minimum length appear to be the most cost-effective approach. However, it is difficult to identify those dealers solely by quantity of drug possessed. It might be easier to identify them if, in passing sentence, the criminal justice system could consider additional factors, e.g., evidence regarding a dealer's position in the distribution hierarchy. Such factors, ignored by mandatory minimums, can be taken into account by judges working under discretionary sentencing.

FOOTNOTES

[1] All cost calculations in this brief are in 1992 dollars. To convert costs in 1992 dollars to 1996 dollars (the latest year for which inflation data are available), multiply by 1.119. To convert kilograms of cocaine consumption reduced per million 1992 dollars spent to kilograms reduced per million 1996 dollars, divide by 1.119.

[2] Data on quantities possessed by convicted dealers are not readily available below the federal level, so for typical dealers, the researchers assessed, in lieu of the true mandatory minimums, a program applying longer sentences to *all* who were convicted.

[3] As shown in earlier RAND research, treatment is more cost-effective than enforcement, even though the great majority of users revert to their cocaine habit following treatment. Treatment is so much cheaper than enforcement that many more users can be targeted for the same amount of money—so many more that the sum of the small individual effects expected are larger than the effects expected from enforcement.

STATEMENTS BY KRISTEN GARNER, SHYLA BLAIR, AND SHELLY OUELLETTE, REGARDING SAME SEX MARRIAGE

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by high school students from Proctor, VT, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

MS. BLAIR. Recently in December Hawaii ruled that the state must recognize single-sex marriages. Judge Kevin Chang based his ruling on the fact that there's no legal reason against it. He also ruled on the theory that sexual orientation is fixed at birth and denying them the right to marry is sexual discrimination. Because of this ruling about 20 states have passed laws restricting homosexual marriages. We intend to prove that there is no legal argument against it and that there are only moral arguments based on prejudice.

MS. GARNER. Some people think of homosexuals as promiscuous or abnormally sexually active, but that has nothing to do with sexual preference. Homosexuals are very committed to their partners. A 1992 study showed that 55.5 percent of all gay men and 71.2 percent of lesbians are in a steady relationship. There are between 1 million and 5 million lesbian mothers and between 1 million and 3 million gay fathers in the United States today. Although the majority of children come from previous homosexual marriages, homosexuals are still acting as active parents. Homosexuals who have not been in a heterosexual relationship in which to have children have many options. Adoption, foster parenting or artificial insemination are also ways of becoming parents.

Some people think that homosexuals will influence their children to become homosexuals, but 35 different studies have showed that the children of gay and lesbians are no more likely to be homosexual than the children of homosexual parents.

MS. OUELLETTE. Homosexuals have good reasons for wanting to marry. They don't want to marry just to make people mad or start an argument. Homosexuals want to marry for the same reasons heterosexuals want to marry: Love, companionship, shared interests, common goals, emotional and financial security and to raise a family. If we deny homosexuals the right to marry, they will not have the automatic right to medical, legal or financial decisions on behalf of their partner. They can be denied access to visit their partner in the intensive care unit or other hospital departments.

Homosexuals want to feel emotionally and financially safe just like heterosexuals. Homosexuals can attain some benefits of legal marriage when many homosexuals do not have the time or money it takes to get legal aid. Until the United States allows same sex couples to marry, homosexuals will not have rights and benefits that heterosexuals have. By not letting homosexuals marry, we are denying them rights every person should have.

MS. GARNER. Prejudice is a common threat that people of minorities and different opinions face every day. Homosexuals are a large

target. The way they live is constantly opposed by people from every direction. The battle homosexuals fight today for the right to marry is not unlike the battle fought nearly 40 years ago also for the right to marry. This was the case of Loving versus Virginia, a black woman, Diana Jetter, and a white man, Harvey Loving, because interracial marriage was banned in the state of Virginia. They went to Washington, D.C. and got married. Because of the law, when they returned to the state they were arrested and sentenced to one year in prison. This sentence was only suspended because they promised not to return to the state for 25 years. In today's society, most people would think this unheard of, two consenting adults unable to marry because of a petty difference? Maybe 40 years from now people will look back at the prejudice we are bestowing on homosexuals and ask how could we?

It's not fair to sterotype that heterosexuals are immoral because of their sexual preference, that they should be denied access to plans or things that heterosexuals get just because of their sexual preference.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RALPH CUTLER

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention the fine work and outstanding medical service of Dr. Ralph Cutler of the Loma Linda University Medical Center and the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans Hospital in Loma Linda, California. Dr. Cutler is retiring on July 14 after a highly distinguished medical career and will be recognized for his 40 years of service to others at an event in his honor on June 26.

Ralph Cutler graduated with honors from UCLA in 1952. After completing his medical degree in 1956, Dr. Cutler began his postgraduate training as an intern and medical resident at the Los Angeles County General Hospital. He served in the U.S. Navy Medical Corps from 1961–63 and worked as the department head of the Metabolic and Arthritis section at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Oakland.

Dr. Cutler has also had a most remarkable academic career at both the University of Washington School of Medicine and the University of Loma Linda School of Medicine. He joined the University of Washington faculty in 1963 and served for 18 years as the chief of nephrology at Harborview Medical Center. In 1981, Dr. Cutler joined the faculty of the University of Loma Linda School of Medicine as a professor of medicine and pharmacology and the chief of pharmacology. He has also spent much of his time working at the Jerry L. Pettis Memorial Veterans Medical Center as the chief of nephrology.

Over the years, Dr. Cutler has been a mentor, teacher, friend, and inspiration to numerous men and women pursuing their dream of practicing medicine. He has also been a leader through his involvement in numerous professional medical organizations. His research and extensive writings have reshaped the body of medical knowledge in a number of areas. To say the least, Dr. Cutler has made and continues to make a difference in the lives of those people he touches.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Cutler provides an example of leadership that is deeply respected and admired by his professional colleagues and the community at large. I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and Dr. Cutler's many admirers in thanking him for his remarkable medical service over the years and wishing he and Carol the very best in the years ahead.

STAND DOWN '97

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding program and the outstanding group of individuals who run it each year in Long Beach, CA. Stand Down '97, a comprehensive program designed to help homeless veterans reenter mainstream society, will be held in Long Beach on June 20–22.

The seventh annual Stand Down will add to the 3,500 homeless veterans who already have been served in previous years by the tireless work of hundreds of volunteers and a dedicated core group of committee chairs. Stand Down provides a wide range of services to homeless veterans, including medical and legal assistance, employment counseling, mental health services, financial counseling, showers, haircuts, and counseling for substance abuse, AIDS, stress, and exposure to agent orange. The veterans also receive donated shoes and clothing, shelter, and all the food they can eat, in addition to being treated to two variety shows.

These committee chairs do not seek recognition for their contributions, but I would like to take the opportunity to applaud their work. They are: Gus Hein, Gary Quiggle, Randy Scottini, Sergeant Dave Anderson, Pam Welty, Kenny Elmore, William Frink, Dr. Becky Gill, Tom Crochet, Earl and Volney Dunavan, Dr. Bob Delzell, Frank McGrath, Ted Mandl, Paul Ashby, Lori Debose, Don Richardson, Dr. Cal Farmer, John Ek, Mary Lou Hein, Mike Campbell, David L. C. David, Dave Holden, Howard Hargrove, Craig Mandeville, and Al Hamilton.

The ultimate thanks to each of these individuals comes from the smiles on the faces of the homeless veterans at the end of this outstanding 3-day event.

I extend my heartfelt thanks and congratulations to each of the committee chairs and other volunteers. Each has made invaluable contributions to the veteran population and the community at large. Homeless veterans not only need our help, they deserve it. Veterans have a hallowed place in American society for the sacrifices they made, and we owe them all the help we can give. Stand Down '97 will give a needed and well-deserved hand-up to homeless veterans in our area.

STATEMENT BY KATE HAYES REGARDING NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS FUNDING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD this statement by a high school student from Vermont, who was speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

Ms. HAYES. Writer Justice Conrad said the artist appeals to that part of our being which is not dependent on wisdom, to that in us which is a gift and not an acquisition and, therefore, more permanently enduring. He speaks to our capacity to delight, for delight and wonder, to the sense of mystery surrounding our lives, to our sense of pity, beauty and pain.

The arts cross geographical, ethnic and socioeconomic barriers to enter into the lives of both children and adults. The arts are the heritage we leave to our children and a vital arts environment helps the economic development of this country. You may not know it, but attendance there shows that throughout the United States more people attend art galleries, museums, ballet, theater, opera and symphony concerts in a year than go to all the major professional sports combined. That's good box office, it's good business and it's good for the country.

In particular, I know how important funding is to the arts and the joy and happiness that exposure to arts brings to our residents. For the past six years I have performed in a traveling youth circus that has brought the thrill and antics of the big top to communities throughout New England. Our performances cross all age barriers. The child, the teenager and adults alike all share in the excitement of seeing live performances. If funding disappears, how will we provide that experience of such entertainment to the thousands of Vermonters who cannot travel to the big top in New York?

I've heard people suggest that the Government has no role in supporting the arts and humanities yet in Europe, governments recognize that arts are part of the economy and add essential vitality to modern life. Most European countries support their museums, orchestras, dancers, poets and visual artists to a far greater degree than the U.S. Government has ever done. With the creation of the National Endowment for the Arts in the 1960s, we took a step forward in providing a rich cultural advantage to all citizens. Now in the 1990s we are faced with the attacks by foes who are picking insignificant battles and efforts to undermine the support of the arts.

With cuts up to 40 percent survival is paramount. The focus on funding public arts programs will be on the projects of very wide public appeal and accessibility. Gone will be the funding for public programs of great scholarly significance but smaller audience draw. The proposals to shrink government by severely reducing or eliminating funds for the National Endowment for the Arts is also a move of far-reaching effects on the strength of all art programs.

There are creative ways to fund the arts. In my research I've discovered many new and innovative ways already successful on the state level. In particular, I believe we need to take a look at endowment funds, income tax check-offs and lotteries. Together with local initiatives, we can guarantee support for the arts. Just look at what some state initiatives are, license plate programs, corporate filing fees, special tax districts, local option taxes earmarked for the arts and bond issues.

Endowment funds offer long-term investment opportunities for the arts by using interest only to fund current affairs. Should we offer our wealthy citizens a tax haven through contributions to the arts endowment, we will build up a significant amount to fund the arts well into the next century. Just like the presidential campaign check-

offs, let's allow our citizenry to express their support for the arts through a voluntary contribution of their tax refund to such a worthwhile cause.

I propose to further these ideas through a regional petition drive urging Congress to support funding for the National Endowment for the Arts.

I believe I recognize the problems that are going on within the United States, but I also believe that the arts provide a fundamental part of life. You can't really experience life without experiencing the arts because they really show the true human emotion and no human can live without emotion. I believe we can fund it through a number of the things that I listed which were the endowment funds and such, and I believe that if we really try, we can find funding for it if we realize that it is such an important part of our life.

At Burr & Burton we've been provided a lot of educational things that have helped us out. We've had some dancers that have come, some drummers. We've also had plays that have been put on here in the Smith Center for us and I believe that it's been an important part of our school life. It helps us to just know that there's more out there than what we see every day.

I believe that art is subjective and if the person that didn't like it should also recognize that now he knows what he doesn't like and he knows that—what true art is now. He knows what he likes to look for and he also knows what he will never see again, so it is also enriching his life.

I believe that everyone should have the right to go see it if they want to. If they're not funded, then they may not be wide for public appeal and you may not even if you wanted to have the chance to go see it. You have the choice not to go see it and that's your choice, but by federal funding, it allows the people who may not be able to go see it. Like some people can't get up to New York to see the plays and everything and this brings it home to Vermont so everyone is allowed the equal opportunity to see these things.

THE CRIME STOPPERS CLUB OF D.C.

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Crime Stoppers Club of D.C., a wonderful 30-year old organization in the District that teaches youth in D.C. to ''Stop crime by not committing crime.'' Since it began this valuable work, almost 25,000 boys and girls have become members and taken the Crime Stoppers pledge: ''We, the Crime Stoppers of D.C., pledge to obey all laws, respect police officers and all other citizens.''

Recently this club celebrated its 30-year history at a special proclamation ceremony at Eastern High School in D.C. where they delivered speeches and celebrated living their lives crime-free. These youth have every reason to celebrate and to be honored by the community. They are contributing to the significant reduction we are seeing in crime in the District. Most important, the commitment of these youth to grow into adulthood without the burden and stigma of a police record shows how bright and successful their futures can be.

Crime and its results have destroyed the lives of many children in many communities. How fortunate District residents are that this grassroots club of great effectiveness continues its work and that it is successful in encouraging children to stop crime and to become tomorrow's law-abiding citizens.

The founder of this club, Margie Wilbur, is the driving force behind this thriving club whose spirit and commitment has made it so effective in reaching youth in D.C. A retired Federal employee, Ms. Wilbur deserves much praise for actively nurturing this club and keeping it alive throughout the years, sometimes with her own funds.

It is my particular pleasure and honor to congratulate and salute the present members of the Crime Stopper's Club and the 25,000 boys and girls whose lives have been changed by its 30-year presence in Washington DC. You look forward to a future full of achievement and opportunity.

TRIBUTE TO MILDRED HELMS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring a very special person who has made an enormous contribution through 40 years of dedicated service to our community, Mrs. Mildred Helms. On June 20, there will be a ceremony in Newark, NJ to pay tribute to Mrs. Helms, who serves as president of Clinton Hill Area Redevelopment Corporation, for her lifetime of service providing housing for residents of Newark and recreational activities for children.

Mrs. Helms is the founder of two housing corporations which provide affordable home ownership to local residents. It was in 1963 that she first approached the Newark Housing Authority Urban Renewal office with a plan to develop new housing for the city. She has shown a great deal of determination, pushing forward for over 15 years until her group, the Clinton Hill Area Redevelopment Corporation, was finally able to see their first project become a reality. When I served as a councilman, I had the pleasure of working with Mrs. Helms to expand housing opportunities. In fact, I first became involved with Mrs. Helms in 1958 at a community meeting at Southside High School where I once taught and which is now called Malcolm X Shabazz High School. Other housing activists at that time included Stanley Winters and Rev. Kim Jefferson.

In addition to her work on housing opportunities, Mrs. Helms gave her time and talents to many volunteer efforts, especially with children and young people. I was pleased to become involved with a youth group she organized which became known as the Clintonians. She organized a group which became active in the Newark YMWCA. She also organized a Summer Fun Day Camp sponsored by her church and a Jewish synagogue. She also planned an annual Halloween Party and parade, involving local merchants who served as sponsors. Among the many awards and accolades Mrs. Helms has received are the 1986 Human Rights Award from the New Jersey Institute of Technology, the Private Sector Initiative Award from President Ronald Reagan, the 1983 Woman of the Year Award from the Sharpe James Civic Association. The Mildred Helms Park is named in her honor. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud of this extraordinary woman who has done so much for our community. I know my colleagues join me in sending congratulations and very best wishes for many more productive and fulfilling years.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DAVID HERBST

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a community leader and my friend, David Herbst, on his completion of a successful year as the president of the Westchester/LAX Chamber of Commerce.

It has been my pleasure to participate with David in a number of important events, beginning with his magnificent installation ceremony on the campus of his alma mater, Loyola Marymount University.

Under David's tenure, the Westchester/LAX chamber has also played host to important dignitaries, many of whom I cohosted, among them Mickey Kantor, then Secretary of Commerce, and Secretary of Defense William Cohen, who spoke to a breakfast of 400 business leaders just last month.

David deserves a great deal of credit for superb leadership, yielding successful growth in the chamber's financial performance, community support, and interaction with governmental bodies.

I salute David for being one of those rare people who is not only successful in the business world, but dedicated to our community. Westchester is a better place because of his work.

THE OLIVER PROJECT

HON. EDWARD A. PEASE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to a very unique teen leadership program being held here in Washington, DC., this week; the Orphan Foundation of America's 1997 Oliver Project. The Oliver Project was established to highlight the hope and potential of America's foster youth by focussing a positive spotlight on their abilities and accomplishments.

The 12 youths participating in the 1997 Oliver Project are bright and shining examples of what's right in America. Despite having young lives that were filled with loss, disappointment, and chaos, these young men and women have shown us that the American spirit is still alive and strong. Instead of feeling sorry for themselves each of these students made a decision to fight for themselves, and what was important to them. Each knew instinctively that education was the key. Even though their turbulent lives sometimes made staying focussed difficult, they each persevered.

All 12 have also expressed a sincere desire to give back to their communities, and indeed they have already begun to do so by being active in everything from church youth groups

and choirs, to community clean-up projects, to feeding the homeless and homebound AIDS patients, to working with physically and mentally challenged youngsters. They have played sports, joined teams, held down jobs, and been recognized and honored—both locally and nationally—for their scholastic abilities. In short, these six young women and six young men have shown us that, if given a chance, every child has the ability to succeed.

And so, Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally commend each of the 12 students participating in the 1997 Oliver Project, as well as the Orphan Foundation of America for giving these young Americans a chance to be tomorrow's leaders.

EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, if our economy is so great, than why are American workers losing their jobs? If our economy is so great, than why are American workers going bankrupt in record numbers? If our economy is so great, why do many families need three jobs just to pay their bills? And Mr. Speaker, if our economy is so great, why are so many manufacturing plants going out of business?

On May 31, 1997, something happened in my congressional district that deeply affected 70 of my constituents and their families. The Camcar Textron Brainard Rivet plant in Girard, OH closed its doors and told its workers to go home. The workers at this plant, scared for their futures and the futures of their families, wanted to work with the parent company of Camcar, Textron to negotiate an employee buyout through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan [ESOP]. Unfortunately, Textron did not feel that selling the plant to the employeees through an ESOP would be in the best interests of the company. I was particularly concerned over the fact that Textron has referred 50 former Brainard Rivet customers to another non-Textron company. These customers could have been the base for an employee-owned company.

Mr. Speaker, Congress needs to do all it to encourage ESOP's. That is why today I am introducing legislation, the Employee Ownership Enhancement Act, to require that an employer closing a manufacturing plant to offer the employees an opportunity to purchase the business through an ESOP. This legislation would exempt companies that are planning to continue using the assets and/or capital from a closed plant at another location or the companies that close a plant but still are manufacturing the same product at another plant.

The current economy presents many challenges for both workers and employers. Congress needs to put in place reasonable laws to enable hard working Americans a chance to own and operate manufacturing plants if the owners don't want to anymore. My bill would apply to only a handful of plant closing a year, but would provide hope and opportunity to thousands of workers and their families. It is that simple.

I urge all my colleagues to support this very important piece of legislation.

STATEMENTS BY TISON CAMPBELL AND JONATHAN LAFARGE REGARDING THE U.S. IN THE 21ST CENTURY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 17, 1997

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues I would like to have printed in the RECORD these statements by high school students from Vermont, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people.

Mr. CAMPBELL. In the next three years the United States will enter the 21st Century. We will fined ourselves faced with many challenges that will be difficult but not impossible to overcome. These challenges are overcoming the national debt, dealing with fossil fuel shortages, threats to national security and the future of the global community.

As we near the beginning of the next century, we face a growing national debt. This debt is consuming more and more government money. We must act before this debt gets so large that it causes the downfall of our economy.

In order to solve this problem, the government must raise more money. The most practical way to do this is to raise taxes or to implement a national sales tax. The added income from the tax increase or sales tax would greatly aid in the eradication of this debt.

We will also face the problem of fossil fuel shortages. As we consume more and more of these non renewable resources, we will find it necessary to convert to alternate energy sources. We can utilize the energy from the sun to generate electricity. The most efficient way to accomplish this is to place satellites fitted with solar panels in orbit and then to have the energy beamed back to collecting stations on the earth. This would give us an unlimited supply of cheap electricity thus allowing us to gradually phase out fossil fuels.

There will be many threats to national security in the next century. These threats will be both physical and mental, domestic and international. The mental threat to our society is the public distrust of the government. The members of our government must act to change this image so that people will once again realize that the government is there to make their lives better, not to destroy them. This could be accomplished through a series of speeches or an advertising campaign in which the representatives for a certain district or a state would answer questions from the people about the state of a government.

Another threat to our society is that of terrorism. As the countries of the world grow more peaceful, violent people will have to shift to terrorism in order to get their goals accomplished. In order to combat this threat, we must devise better security measures to scan people entering the country. We can also work with the nations of the world to track down terrorist organizations before they can cause any real damage.

To combat terrorism originating in our country, we must pass strong anti-terrorist laws that call for strict punishment of terrorists. By taking a strong stand on this issue, we can convince potential terrorists that if they want to reform the system, it needs to be done from within with the consent of the majority of the people.

With the invention of the airplane, it became possible to travel long distances in short periods of time. This brought the world together and caused the formation of the global community. As this community expands, alliances will be formed. We are already seeing examples of this with the formation of the European Union and the United Nations. As the world continues to evolve, the people will eventually realize that it will be beneficial to form a world government. This government would be an expansion of the United Nations that would operate under a constitution based on that of the United States. This constitution would guarantee that all people will have the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The creation of this government would all but abolish war. The armies of the world would be combined to form a large world army with each country keeping a smaller force to act as our National Guard does today. This would ensure that the rights of each independent country would not be abused and that, if necessary, the country would be able to defend itself.

The world government would also eliminate the need for atomic weapons. This would allow us to destroy the weapons and to shift our scientific resources to things more beneficial than the creation of weapons.

The world government would allow us to achieve peace on earth and it would ensure the rights of every man, woman and child on the planet.

Mr. LAFARGE. This government would be formed by an expansion of the power of the United Nations. It would be the job of this government to carry out the solutions to the problems listed above.

First, all countries would need to form into a council modeled after the United States Senate with each country having two members. This council would need to choose a chief executive. The Executive Branch would be headed by the chief executive with a cabinet of seven officials. The seven departments would be Justice, Defense, Treasury, Space Exploration, Interior, World Health and International Transportation. The Judicial branch would be headed by an international Supreme Court. There would be a branch of the international court in every country. Then, once established, the government would gradually need to form a world currency. This would ease transaction and aid in the forming of a world stock market. This would also allow businesses around the world to merge and further unify the world.

With the constant advances in technology, this government would need to play an active role in the development of these technologies. Space exploration and medicine are the most prominent areas of study. There could be whole space stations dedicated to one field or disease. Dangerous biohazards could be contained and controlled. The unique properties of a low G environment would enable us to do things that we cannot do on earth. Scientists could create more resilient strains of plants and then clone these to solve world food problems. Scientists could use accelerated cellular reproduction to grow food faster and allow for faster distribution.

Through the implementation of these programs, we can bring humanity into a golden age where all men live under a fair, just government based upon principles in the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. CAMPBELL. I haven't seen much progress with just what I've witnessed from Congress. There have been attempts to balance the budget, and that's a good start; but even with a balanced budget, we won't generate enough capital to quickly pay off this debt before it can really start to affect our economy. I believe that eventually we're going to be forced to increase taxes in order to pay for this.

There was the suggestion of cutting different programs, but the way that I see it is that we're already cutting so many programs as it is that if we end up cutting more programs, some of them are going to eventually have to be dropped and it may be unfortunate, but I believe that if we drop any programs, it will end up being stuff like education or entitlement programs and that would greatly harm a lot of people. We could cut back on defense a bit. I think we're spending a little too much on that. Other than that, I don't really see any that we can really make huge cuts in.

A lot of people might fear that with the formation of a world government we could end up having a dictatorship or an oligarchy where only a few people would really have power. We would have to ensure that this would not happen through different actions before it was even implemented. The people of the world would have to evolve to such a point where they can actually deal with this and where we would be prepared to set this government up without having these dangers. We have to combat that now. If we can get people to trust the government of the United States if we decide to form a world government, we could encourage that—we could show people that the government would be there to benefit them and to help them, not to take over just for the sake of power.

Mr. LAFARGE. People might fear about the formation of a world government is the loss of culture and the individualism of everyone and that people like Africans maybe might start to lose their history or people just might feel that by moving in this step that they will become kind of like everybody else, and that's sort of a fear.