

who speak out about patient care issues, and H.R. 2754 the Health Worker Protection Act, which mandates the substitution of existing needlestick products with safer needle devices that would help prevent needlestick injuries. I urge all my colleagues to support these important pieces of legislation, support our nursing professionals and advance the cause of nursing nationwide.

IN HONOR OF ANTHONY AND ANNE
CELEBREZZE ON THEIR SIX-
TIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 60th wedding anniversary of Anthony and Anne Celebrezze of Cleveland, Ohio. The couple was married May 7, 1938.

Judge Celebrezze's family moved from Anzi, Italy to the United States when he was two years old. His political career began when he was elected to the Ohio State Senate in 1950. He later became the first foreign-born Mayor of Cleveland, and the only Mayor of Cleveland ever elected to five consecutive terms. He was the first nonnative to be appointed to the Cabinet of the United States, where he served as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. And Judge Celebrezze was the first emigre to be appointed Judge of the United States Court of Appeals. In 1973, Judge Celebrezze's leadership was recognized when an Act of Congress designated the Federal Building in Cleveland, the Anthony J. Celebrezze Federal Building.

Not only is Judge Celebrezze a successful, well-known politician, he is a loving husband to Anne Celebrezze. Anne taught in the Cleveland Public School System and has been active in countless community projects helping children, the elderly, and the arts. She was involved in the Cleveland Council and the National Board of the Camp Fire Girls for many years. She served on the Board of the Child Guidance Center of Cleveland where a work room is named after her for her fundraising efforts to expand the program. Anne has also been engaged in the Women's City Club of Cleveland for over thirty years. She was appointed to the National Committee for Education of the Handicapped by President Johnson where she worked to help children with learning disabilities qualify for a public school education.

Together, Anthony and Anne have three children and 10 grandchildren to whom they have passed on their values, leadership skills, involvement in community service, and love. My fellow colleagues, please join me in wishing a happy 60th anniversary to Anthony and Anne Celebrezze. May they have many more happy and healthy years together.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE HONORING
JULIA PETERS, LEGRAND SMITH
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Julia Peters, winner of the 1998 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Julia is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Julia Peters is an exceptional student at Tecumseh High School and possesses an impressive high school record. President of the National Honor Society, Julia is also the secretary for her school's S.A.D.D. program. She was student of the month 19 times throughout high school. Outside of school, Julia was involved with the Student County Congress and various other community activities.

In special tribute, Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Julia Peters for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF OF POLICE
ROY SUMISAKI FOR HIS OUT-
STANDING SERVICE TO THE CITY
OF GILROY, CA

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievement of Chief of Police Roy Sumisaki, who has served the city of Gilroy, California for more than 7 years.

Through trials and triumph Chief Sumisaki has distinguished himself as a devoted crime fighter in a career that has spanned 28 years.

Born in a Japanese-American internment camp during World War II, Chief Sumisaki graduated from Gilroy High School and joined the United States Army. His career, which included at tour of duty in Vietnam as an intelligence officer, spanned 32 years, 8 of which were on active duty. He retired from the Army a Lieutenant Colonel.

During his military service, Chief Sumisaki was awarded the Purple Heart, two Bronze Stars, and Air Medal, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, and the Vietnamese Honor Medal.

Soon after resigning from active duty military service, Chief Sumisaki pursued a career

in law enforcement. He holds a master's degree in police administration from Golden Gate University and attended the Pacifica Police Academy. He joined the Pacifica Police Department in 1974, and later transferred to the Marina Police Department, rising to the rank of Commander.

While later serving with the Chico Police Department, he rose to the rank of Captain. In 1990 he returned home to Gilroy to become the first Asian-American police chief in the continental U.S.

During his tenure Chief Sumisaki worked tirelessly to make Gilroy a safer place to live and work. A testament to his high level of professionalism, Chief Sumisaki was awarded the National Police Commendation Medal.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Chief Roy Sumisaki upon his retirement from the Gilroy Police Department.

SPEAKER GINGRICH FALSELY
CLAIMS WHITE HOUSE COORDI-
NATION BEHIND CRITICISM OF
CHAIRMAN BURTON

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, it seems obvious to me that not every criticism of the Clinton Administration is part of a "right-wing conspiracy," but it should be equally clear that not every objection to the tactics of a Clinton critic is the product of a White House conspiracy. This week, Speaker GINGRICH unfairly attacked the congressional criticisms of Chairman BURTON even though he knew those criticisms were justified.

This Tuesday, in response to widespread criticism of Chairman BURTON for releasing misleading and distorted excerpts of private conversations of Mr. Hubbell with his wife and his attorney, Speaker GINGRICH spoke out to accuse the Democrats in Congress of acting at the behest of the White House. Rather than honestly dealing with the serious violations of privacy and fairness worked by Chairman BURTON, Speaker GINGRICH changed the subject by claiming "There has been a routine process by this White House to avoid the truth * * * by attacking the person who is seeking the truth."

Remarkably, one day later, Speaker GINGRICH, during a closed Republican conference meeting, scolded Chairman BURTON for his actions, saying "I'm embarrassed for you, I'm embarrassed for myself, and I'm embarrassed for the [Republican] conference at the circus that went on at your committee."

Clearly, Speaker GINGRICH recognizes both that Chairman BURTON's actions were wrong and that congressional criticisms of him were genuine expressions of outrage and not some "spin" strategy organized by the White House.

This institution is not well-served by the cynical partisanship of the Speaker's attacks on those who were offended by Chairman BURTON's conduct. With each such outburst, it becomes increasingly unlikely that the important investigative work of Chairman BURTON's committee, or of any other committee which is called on to inquire into allegations of wrongdoing at the White House, will lead to any

findings that will be accepted as legitimate by the public.

I appeal to the higher instincts of Speaker GINGRICH and Chairman BURTON to apologize directly to the people who have been smeared by these irresponsible attacks—Mr. and Mrs. Hubbell, the President and the First Lady—for the good of the Committee and the integrity of the Congress as a whole.

REGARDING PUBLIC SERVICE
RECOGNITION WEEK

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, we are in the midst of Public Service Recognition Week, and I salute the public servants whose hard work and determination have markedly improved the way government does business.

Each May, the President's Council on Management Improvement, and the Public Employees Roundtable, launch activities in cities across our nation which highlight excellence in public service at the federal, state, and local government levels. The organization hosts agency exhibits and demonstrations that educate the public about the array of programs and services that public employees provide to the American people.

Activities in my district were kicked off last Friday by the Baltimore Federal Executive Board which held its 31st Annual Excellence in Federal Career Awards program at Martin's West in Woodlawn. Thirty-six agencies submitted a total of 199 nominations for the Board's consideration. Among the 16 first place Gold Award winners were: Lieutenant Colonel David Mansfield, a Logistics Management Officer with the Maryland Air National Guard who was recognized as an outstanding supervisor; Ann Grieb, a computer specialist at the Coast Guard Engineering Logistics Center who was recognized as an outstanding specialist; and Serafin Rivera, a machinist with the Corps of Engineers who was recognized as outstanding in trades and crafts.

Mr. Speaker, while I only have enough time to recognize a few of the winners, I believe that each award recipient and each person nominated deserve our appreciation.

This past Monday, the Public Employees Roundtable held a ceremony here on Capitol Hill and presented its "Breakfast of Champions" award to representatives of exceptional programs at each level of government. The 1998 award winner at the Federal level was New York/New Jersey Veterans Integrated Service Network Consortium on Homeless Veterans. Other programs receiving special recognition this year were the City of Richmond, Virginia Fire Department; Immigrant Visa Unit, U.S. Embassy Moscow; and the Los Angeles County, California Consolidated Criminal History Reporting System.

Beginning today, May 7th, and continuing through Sunday, May 10th, over two dozen federal agencies and employee organizations will have exhibits set up in large tents on the National Mall at 3rd and Independence Avenues. The public is invited to come out to learn more about the functions of these agencies and the services that each provide. There will also be a job fair and a science fair. Some

of our military bands and other groups will provide entertainment during this family oriented event.

Mr. Speaker, Public Service Recognition Week offers all Americans, especially young people the opportunity to learn and get excited about a career in public service. It also provides the opportunity to thank those who serve us daily for their efforts. I believe that public service should be valued and respected by all Americans, and the activities occurring this week across the nation prove why.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE HONORING MER-
EDITH PELTY, LEGRAND SMITH
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect for the outstanding record of excellence she has compiled in academics, leadership and community service, that I am proud to salute Meredith Peltz, winner of the 1998 LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This award is made to young adults who have demonstrated that they are truly committed to playing important roles in our Nation's future.

As a winner of the LeGrand Smith Scholarship, Meredith is being honored for demonstrating that same generosity of spirit, intelligence, responsible citizenship, and capacity for human service that distinguished the late LeGrand Smith of Somerset, Michigan.

Meredith is an exceptional student at Onsted High School and possesses an impressive high school record. Meredith is the Captain of the National Honor Society and was chosen by her peers this year as the Homecoming Queen. Meredith is also involved with varsity cheerleading and track. Outside of school, Meredith is a Confirmation teacher within her church and is involved with her church youth group.

In special tribute, Therefore, I am proud to join with her many admirers in extending my highest praise and congratulations to Meredith Peltz for her selection as a winner of a LeGrand Smith Scholarship. This honor is also a testament to the parents, teachers, and others whose personal interest, strong support and active participation contributed to her success. To this remarkable young woman, I extend my most heartfelt good wishes for all her future endeavors.

"OMNIBUS MERCURY EMISSIONS
REDUCTION ACT OF 1998"

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 1998

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Omnibus Mercury Emissions Reductions Act of 1998." This important legislation is aimed at protecting our children from mercury, one of the most dangerous toxins in our environment.

Mercury is a naturally occurring, highly toxic element. Its presence in our environment has built to dangerous levels due to the lack of

regulation of power plants, waste incinerators, and some types of manufacturing. Those regions downwind from the major pollution sources are most at risk because mercury can travel great distances before falling to the Earth and washing into our lakes, rivers and streams. My home State of Maine, the tailpipe for our nation's polluted air, has some of the highest mercury levels in the country. As I've often said, the wind travels west to east, always has, always will.

Our children are most at risk. Mercury poisoning can be devastating for children and pregnant women. Contamination can cause damage to the developing central nervous system. Adults can also be affected. Symptoms range from numbness in extremities to paralysis and kidney disease. The most common form of mercury poisoning occurs from eating polluted fish. Exposure can also occur through drinking water and soil contamination. Several states, including Maine, have issued health warnings due to mercury contamination that cover every single body of inland water.

Our wildlife is also in danger. Maine's loons and bald eagles, symbols of the state's beauty and natural habitat, have mercury levels high enough to interfere with reproduction. In fact Maine's bald eagle reproductive rates have remained well below the rest of the country. Studies have found significantly high levels of mercury and other toxins in eggs and eaglets.

The Clean Air Act has achieved remarkable success since its inception. Our families are breathing easier because we have reduced the emission levels of lead and other toxins. Unfortunately, mercury has fallen through the cracks. The Environmental Protection Agency recently released its "Mercury Study Report to Congress." This detailed report contains volumes of information on the dangers of mercury and how to control the levels emitted into our environment. Now that we have the long-awaited report, we must take action.

The legislation I am introducing will do just that. The "Omnibus Mercury Emissions Reduction Act of 1998" requires the EPA to set mercury emission standards for the largest sources. The bill sets an emissions reduction standard of 95 percent for coal-fired powerplants and other utilities, as well as incinerators and chlor-alkali plants. Many may argue this cannot be done, that the costs of controls will be much too high. I disagree. We know mercury can be reduced or removed from powerplants and products. Technology exists for companies to meet the standards, and this bill will allow them to choose the best approach for their facility. We have reduced or eliminated other toxins, without the catastrophic effects the utilities predicted. The time has come to do it with mercury.

When I ran for office last year, people in Maine told me the country needed to continue the environmental strides made by leaders like Senator Edmund Muskie and Senator George Mitchell. Maine is proud of its tradition of environmental activism. Maine Governor Angus King and his administration have taken steps to reduce the levels of mercury emitted by sources within Maine. That, however, will not protect our children from sources that cross our boundaries. Maine has cleaned up its act, and now we must ask for the rest of the nation to help.

Just five years ago, 27 states had issued mercury advisories covering almost 900 water bodies. Today, the number of states with