

the National Institutes of Health. Following the hearing, I wrote to NIH Director Harold Varmus to urge increased attention to prostate cancer and breast cancer research.

In July, my Subcommittee held a hearing to shed light on the many recent developments in cancer-related research. This forum provided an opportunity to gain knowledge from the experiences of a distinguished group of cancer researchers, all of whom are recognized as leading experts in their field of practice.

Earlier this month, I was proud to secure approval by the House of Representatives of H.R. 4382, legislation to reauthorize the Mammography Quality Standards Act. This important law was enacted in 1992 to improve the quality of breast cancer screening exams by establishing national standards for mammography facilities. Without question, it has been an overwhelming success.

Screening mammography is currently the most effective technique for early detection of breast cancer. This procedure can identify small tumors and breast abnormalities up to two years before they can be detected by touch. More than 90 percent of these early stage cancers can be cured, according to the Food and Drug Administration.

The use of screening mammography provides a ray of hope in the fight against breast cancer. Early detection of breast cancer through accurate and reliable mammograms can spare women from undergoing radical surgery—and often save their lives. Enactment of H.R. 4382 will help reduce the threat of breast cancer by providing women the tools they need to detect this terrible disease in its early stages.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to commend all of the volunteers who have worked as tireless advocates of cancer research. Events like The March remind us all of the terrible toll cancer extracts each year in our nation. For the hundreds of thousands of patients, families, caregivers and friends whose lives have been touched by cancer, we should renew and strengthen our commitment to ending this terrible disease.

SHARON DARLING IS AWARDED THIS YEAR'S ALBERT SCHWEITZER PRIZE FOR HUMANITARIANISM

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Louisville-resident who is dedicated to breaking the cycle of illiteracy.

Sharon Darling is being awarded this year's Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism, joining the ranks of former President Jimmy Carter, former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund. This award, administered by John Hopkins University, recognizes "exemplary contributions to humanity and the environment."

Truly, the work of Sharon Darling has been felt not only by the Louisville community, but

throughout our nation. As the founder of the National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL), Sharon has pioneered a program that combines early childhood education, adult literacy education, parent support and structured interaction between parents and their children.

Sharon is a perfect recipient for this year's award because of her dedication to breaking the grasp of poverty by teaching families the skills so necessary to succeed in our society. Without the ability to read, individuals are restricted in their ability to get ahead in our world. Illiteracy is a cycle because parents' inability to read is reflected in the ability of their children to succeed in the classroom.

The fact is a child's success in school is linked to the education of the parents and the ability of the parents to earn a living. What the National Center of Family Literacy has learned is that to approach literacy through the family is the surest way to increase education levels of adults and children because this approach expands the skills of both and draws on the power of the family to affect its own future.

In an era where individuals are moving from welfare rolls into the workforce, Sharon Darling and the NCFL have worked in Louisville and throughout the country to free families from the trap of poverty and ignorance.

I am thrilled Sharon Darling is being awarded the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism and am honored to recognize her today for her commitment to a truly noble goal. Literacy is a key to success, and Sharon is using that key to give families nationwide the chance for a brighter future.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE
MAXINE DARST

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a great American and long time constituent—Judge Evelyn Maxine Valentine Darst. Presiding as the Kaufman County Judge for her fourth consecutive term, Judge Darst continues her life long service to the preservation of our great legal system.

Born in Edgewood, Texas, Judge Darst moved to Terrell at an early age, where she has remained all her life. Intrigued by the law and dedicated to helping others, Judge Darst entered law school and received her B.S. from East Texas State University. She was admitted to practice law in Texas in 1976 and practiced in Terrell with her husband until 1983. Judge Darst became an attorney in Kaufman County and was also the first female to practice law in Kaufman. In 1983, Maxine achieved another first—when she became the first female Kaufman County Judge.

As Kaufman County Judge, Maxine has led the county to many improvements, including—a new Kaufman County Law Enforcement Center, a Kaufman County Emergency Children's Shelter, a Kaufman County Library, the hiring of a chief juvenile probation officer and a newly formed Public Works Department. Not only has Judge Darst greatly influenced Coun-

ty government, but she also has devoted her time and talents to such civic activities as the Kaufman County Child Welfare Board, Kaufman County Historical Commission Board, the Terrell Social Science Club, the Girl Scout Little House Board, the Terrell March of Dimes and the KauCedar Charities.

Ever dedicated to her professional career and civic duties, Maxine also managed to remain a devoted wife and mother. Maxine Darst's life and achievements stand as an example for us all. Through hard work, dedication and desire Judge Evelyn Maxine Valentine Darst has shown us all that we can accomplish whatever goals we want to achieve.

Mr. Speaker, this January, 1999, Judge Darst will retire from her seat as Kaufman County Judge. As we adjourn today, let us do so in honor of and respect for this great American—Judge Evelyn Maxine Valentine Darst.

A TRIBUTE TO FOODLINK FOR
TULARE COUNTY, INC

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 24, 1998

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Foodlink for Tulare County which is proudly celebrating its 20th anniversary on September 24, 1998.

Foodlink, which was originally called Food Resources, was founded in the mid-1970's by a dedicated group of individuals who were very concerned about the growing hunger problem in the Tulare County, and equally concerned about food going to waste in this rich agricultural area. At the time, hunger in Tulare County was worse than the national average. Food Resources (Foodlink) worked with area farmers who were more than willing to donate agricultural surplus, culled vegetables, day-old bread, unlabeled canned goods, and other usable items to Foodlink to be distributed among the different foodbanks in Tulare County.

After 20 years of growth, Foodlink is currently providing 5 million pounds of food to 82,000 hungry people through a network of nonprofit emergency pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, and youth programs.

Foodlink would not exist without the many volunteers and donors who have dedicated their time and resources. On September 24, 1998 in Visalia, California Foodlink, will present awards to Kraft Foods as outstanding Food Donor and St. Vincent de Paul in Porterville as outstanding Food Agency. With such partners as these, Foodlink has been able to provide much needed assistance to many families in Tulare County.

Unfortunately, the problem of hunger still exists in Tulare County. But, with contained support of the local community food donations from the USDA and others, Foodlink will continue their mission of ending hunger. I believe our community is lucky to have an organization like Foodlink to help those in need.

Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, please join me in wishing Foodlink a Happy Anniversary and a special thank you for all their hard work to end hunger in Tulare County.