

and Staff was subsequently selected for the U.S. Atlantic Fleet's Navigation award for 1992. Transferring in March 1993, he reported to the Chief of Naval Operations for Air Warfare as Head, Aviation Manpower, Undergraduate Flight Training and Trainer Aircraft sections. In September 1994, Captain Snodgrass reported as Commander, Fighter Wing, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Under his command, TOMCAT precision strike and single citing of the entire community as NAS Oceana became a reality. His tour as Commodore ended with a Change of Command in January 1997. In February 1997, Captain Snodgrass relocated to Washington, DC, as Director, Navy Liaison, U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, Dale Snodgrass has made many sacrifices during his 26 year naval career. Dale has spent a significant amount of time away from his family to support the vital role our naval forces play in ensuring the security of our great Nation. Captain Snodgrass, a great credit to the U.S. Navy and the country he so proudly served, will retire on 23 March 1999 and move to St. Augustine, Florida. As he now prepares to depart the Navy for new challenges ahead, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him every success, as well as fair winds and following seas, always.

TRIBUTE TO CAROL FOREST

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carol Forest, an extraordinary citizen of San Mateo County, California, who will be inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame of Friday, March 26, 1999.

Carol Forest has spent more than thirty years in education and has dedicated herself to alternative education. She was instrumental in the establishment of the Jefferson Union High School District's GED Center in 1986, and under her leadership, this program has grown from graduating fifty students per year to more than two hundred per year. Carol has focused on getting at-risk youth back on track. She's done this through providing counseling, intervention and prevention programs, vocational training and employment services.

In 1990 she helped to form the Daly City Youth Health Center. This facility has secured over \$2 million in grant funding and has provided critical services to over seven thousand teens. Since its inception the staff has grown from five to thirty one and includes three paid teen health advocates.

Carol Forest did not stop there. She also established the Tools for Survival Program which gives added support to high school dropouts who are seeking their Graduate Equivalent Degree. Carol has been instrumental in establishing the San Francisco Buddhist Center, where she mentors other women in their search for spiritual development.

Mr. Speaker, Carol Forest is an outstanding woman and I salute her for her compassion, for her vision and for her commitment to making sure every child has a chance. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

CONGRATULATING STUDENTS OF
BYRD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
FOR THEIR ANTI-SMOKING PRO-
GRAM

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 1999

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the students of Byrd Elementary School in Glen Rock, New Jersey, on their efforts to spread the word about the dangers of smoking. The students, assisted by representatives of the New Jersey Breathes program, are conducting a week-long tobacco awareness program, including a school-wide assembly, demonstrations, a poster contest and a composition contest. In addition, the school nurse, Ms. Judy Mullane, has visited each class to discuss smoking and health. The initiatives taken by these students, their teachers and the school district should be commended and mirrored in schools across our nation. As a former teacher myself, I know how extremely important it is to teach children to say no to tobacco. This is a problem that adds thousands of children to the tobacco addiction rolls every day. One of the most effective ways to stop it is through educational initiatives similar to the one we are seeing at Byrd Elementary School.

As a Member of Congress, I have long supported legislation that would limit the spread of tobacco addiction to young people. It is essential that we stand up for the health of our children and help keep them from becoming addicted to the most widespread drug threatening our society—tobacco. The average smoker takes his or her first puff of a cigarette at age 11. If adults choose to smoke, that's a poor decision but one they are allowed to make for themselves. But if children are lured into smoking, that is a moral crime and should be a statutory crime.

Last year, I was a co-sponsor of the NOT for Kids Act, which would raise the price of a pack of cigarettes by \$1.50 over 3 years. Raising the price of cigarettes has a direct and measurable impact on reducing smoking among children. From 1982 to 1992, the price of cigarettes went up 50 percent and the percentage of teen-agers who smoke steadily dropped. Cigarette prices leveled off in 1992 and we've seen an increase since.

I have also supported the national settlement of tobacco lawsuits. First, we must be certain that none of the settlement money is diverted by the federal government. To ensure that, I have co-sponsored H.R. 351. At least part of the money from these settlements should be used for public education programs about the dangers of smoking to young people. These programs should be directed at our young people through their schools so that we can reach them before it is too late. It is far more effective to prevent tobacco addiction that to stop it once it has begun.

It is important to note that the anti-smoking effort in Glen Rock goes beyond the school system. Matthew Kopacki, owner of Rock Ridge Pharmacy, has stopped selling cigarettes in his pharmacy after the death of one of his employees from lung cancer. Mayor Jacquelyn Kort is among those speaking at Byrd Elementary School. And the New Jersey Breathes program is being supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

I would like to ask all my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in thanking Principal Hal Knapp, Mayor Kort, Nurse Mullane, Mr. Kopacki, New Jersey Breathes Director Dr. Larry Downs and all the teachers and other staff involved in this important project. But beyond this group, I want to make a special appeal to the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, big sisters and brothers and all other adults who play an influential role in the lives of the students of Byrd Elementary School. We all know that children imitate the behavior of adults. Please set a good example for these and all children by not smoking.

A FREE PRESS IS ESSENTIAL FOR
THE FUTURE FREEDOM IN RUS-
SIA—HOUSE CONCURRENT RESO-
LUTION 67

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing House Concurrent Resolution 67, which expresses the sense of the Congress that freedom of the news media and freedom of expression are vital to the development and consolidation of democracy in Russia and that the United States should actively support such freedoms. Joining me in introducing this legislation are the gentleman from New York, Mr. GILMAN, the chairman of the Committee on International Relations; the gentleman from Connecticut, Mr. GEJENSON, the ranking Democratic member of the Committee on International Relations; and the gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. BEREUTER, who is a senior member of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker, we are introducing this legislation today because this afternoon the Prime Minister of Russia, Yevgeny Primakov, arrives in the United States for meetings with Vice President GORE. I doubt, Mr. Speaker, that media freedom in Russia is a leading topic on the agenda for the meetings that are scheduled to take place over the next few days during Prime Minister Primakov's visit to our country. It is an issue, however, that ought to be very high on that agenda.

This resolution expresses our unequivocal belief in the necessity of a free and vibrant news media in Russia. No other institution is as essential to the growth of a democratic society than a press unhindered by pressure from governmental authorities, one with the unquestioned ability to shed light upon the deeds and intentions of those with power and influence. Russia—a nation which has been fighting for the last decade to replace communist oppression with strongly-rooted institutions that respect individual freedoms—must ensure the independence of its media in order to maintain and continue the progress of the last ten years.

The enormity of the Russian reform process is breathtaking, and few can doubt the success of governmental initiatives in drastically improving the human rights situation across this immense nation. I vividly recall my service in this House during the 1980's, when many of us, Republicans and Democrats alike, worked doggedly to oppose the repressive policies and practices of the Soviet regime. We focused attention of the persecution of Nobel