

the University of Chicago, receiving both his undergraduate degree in political science and his M.B.A. at the prestigious university. He also served his country proudly in the United States Army Reserve.

Stephen M. Meltz is currently the President of Stephen M. Meltz and Associates, a C.P.A. firm located in Lincolnwood, Illinois. It is a successful business, where his clients know that the work done by Stephen's firm is both professional and honest. For the last year his son David Meltz has joined him at the firm, which now makes it truly a family business. But for all the success Stephen has had in his professional life, I know that his family is his greatest sense of pride and accomplishment.

Stephen has always made the best interests of his family his primary concern. He has taken care of his wife, his children, his parents, his wife's parents and many members of his extended family with loving care. He saw to it that his children received the best educations available. He made sure that the final years of his and his wife's parents were lived with dignity and comfort. Like many fathers, his dedication to his family has sometimes gone unnoticed, but he does not care for his loved ones for accolades, but because he loves his family. For all these reasons, Stephen is a patriarch in the truest sense of the term. A pillar of integrity that all his family can lean on in their hour of need and celebrate with during times of joy.

Mr. Speaker, it is often said, that the road to the Underworld is paved with good intentions. Contrary to this premise, Stephen M. Meltz has always had honor and a strong core of moral beliefs and intentions, and his actions have always mirrored those values. Aristotle said, "In the arena of human life the honors and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action." Stephen's rewards are both a devout family and loyal friends who have witnessed his lifelong "good qualities in action" and will honor him over dinner on his sixtieth birthday.

Mr. Speaker, lastly, I am particularly pleased to have this opportunity to congratulate Stephen M. Meltz, on his sixtieth birthday, because his son Gary C. Meltz is a member of my staff here in Washington, DC. Gary asked me to put into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a speech to commemorate his father's birthday. I am honored to do this for Gary and his father. I urge all my colleagues to join me now in wishing Stephen M. Meltz a happy sixtieth birthday and Godspeed.

M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

### HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 17, 1999*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to the attention of my colleagues in the House of Representatives a recent article about the wonderful medical advances at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. The article tells the stories of two people, a young college student and the former Speaker of the House Jim Wright, dealing with cancer of the jaw and their experiences with this once debilitating disease. Their respective stories highlight the need to support our Nation's cancer centers and highlight how med-

ical advances can truly give Americans hope where none previously existed.

Reconstructing Lives by Mary Jane Schier— For 19-year old James Smith, the quality of survival from cancer of the jaw is paramount in order to pursue his dream of playing professional football.

Smith is a junior majoring in health and human performance at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA, where he was an outstanding defensive tackle until diagnosed with a disease uncommon among teenagers.

He and his family were stunned to learn in November 1998 that he had a tumor in his right mandible, the horseshoe-shaped bone that forms the lower jaw. The mandible, he knows, is the largest and strongest bone in the face.

Smith was forced to take an extended timeout from the football team to begin the biggest challenge of his young life. Upon coming to M.D. Anderson, he joined a new team whose members are nationally ranked for treating head and neck cancers.

The head coaches in the multidisciplinary treatment regimen that Smith received are Dr. Helmut Goepfert and Dr. Geoffrey L. Robb, who chair the Department of Head and Neck Surgery and the Department of Plastic Surgery, respectively. For the coaches and their specialty colleagues, the common goal centers on removing patients, cancers and restoring optimal form and function.

Smith's surgery 3 days before last Christmas involved cutting out his diseased jaw and reconstructing the mandible with bone and tissue taken from his left leg. Although he couldn't talk or eat his favorite pizza for a while, Smith says now, "I'm getting stronger every day . . . and I'm eager to play again."

At the other end of the age spectrum is former U.S. House Speaker Jim Wright, who at age 76 also illustrates the importance of high quality in one's life.

I've always been a talker, so I was a little concerned before the surgery that I wouldn't be able to talk well enough for people to understand me," confides Wright, a Fort Worth Democrat whose 34-year span in Congress was complete in 1989.

During more than 13 hours of surgery at M.D. Anderson last March 12, Wright's cancerous right mandible, an adjacent segment of the tongue and eight teeth were removed, then a six inch piece of bone from his left leg was used to form a new jaw. Skin from his left thigh overlying the bone was also transplanted to replace part of his inside of his mouth and tongue and the external skin of his cheek.

"Believe me, I feel truly blessed," Wright says in a strong and clear voice.

His gratitude has been enhanced by recalling how his father lost a jaw to cancer more than 30 years ago. "There was no thought then of replacing it with bone from somewhere else in the body . . . (He) spent his last days with a facial disfigurement that was the mark then of many cancer victims," Wright remembers.

This was Wright's second bout with an oral cancer. In 1991, he had surgery at M.D. followed by radiation treatments. Since his latest extensive surgery, he has resumed most of his favorite activities, including writing a regular newspaper column and, of course, "talking with anyone who'll listen."

Intensive collaboration among head and neck surgeons and plastic surgeons in recent

years has "greatly improved our ability to resect all sizes of tumors and to restore vital function and appearance as well as to extend survival," observes Dr. Goepfert, who holds the M.G. and Lillie A. Johnson Chair for Cancer Treatment and Research.

New methods developed by plastic surgeons permit reconstruction of the oral cavity safely and with increasingly good outcomes. The key to success involves transferring tissues—together with vital blood vessels and nerves—from elsewhere in a patient's body to use for rebuilding parts of the head and neck affected by cancer.

Dr. Robb explains, "The head and neck is the most difficult area to reconstruct. But through specialized Micro vascular techniques, we can move tissues, muscle, fat and bone, along with their blood supply, to use in reshaping jaws, the tongue, and parts of the nose, ears, and throat."

Age is no obstacle for performing big reconstructive procedures so long as older patients have good blood vessels to transfer with the tissues. Regardless of age, Dr. Robb says, "Our primary aim is to restore form, contour and function to the body parts affected by cancer surgery so that patients can enjoy the highest quality of life."

For Wright, being able to talk, chew, swallow and look virtually normal is a "miracle" stemming from remarkable medical progress and his religious faith. "The good news is that cancer is conquerable" and "useful life is prolongable."

Realizing the best quality of cancer survival for Smith, however, will occur when he can return to the football field. During a recent follow-up visit to M.D. Anderson, his doctors encouraged him to continue that dream.

## COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE COMPETITION AND PRIVATIZA- TION ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 10, 1999*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the distinguished Chairman of the Commerce Committee, Chairman BLILEY, and Chairman TAUZIN, who have worked diligently to bring satellite privatization legislation before the House in these last days of this Session. This bill is an important step toward legislation that will advance increased competition in the global satellite telecommunications market.

When the House passed this bill last year, it was with the firm belief that time and technology had passed by the 1962 law that created COMSAT. In spite of the overwhelming House support, the bill was stalled over concerns raised by colleagues in the other body. Since that time, Lockheed Martin has arrived on the scene to buy COMSAT and make it a normal, private company without legal immunities or exclusive access to the Intelsat system. This is exactly what the proponents of the Bliley-Tauzin bill want and is yet another example of the marketplace being ahead on Congress.

To date, Lockheed has followed regular order in its acquisition of COMSAT. It has received the approval of both the Federal Communications Commission and the Department