

up to March 3, 1915. Referred to as "Honest Bill" by his constituents, Congressman Baltz played as the catcher for the annual House vs. Senate baseball game, I might add, without a glove. In the 1914 game, William hit a three bagger off the wall of Griffith stadium in Washington and that year the Democrats beat the Republicans. William's father, Phillip, was also an appointee of President Andrew Johnson serving as the Postmaster of Millstadt. William and a brother G.F. (Gus) married two Diesel sisters, Katherine and Otilia. Gus, also a lover of baseball, graduated from ISNU in 1900 and captained that year's baseball team as a center fielder.

William and his brothers, Richard G. and Fred L., also founded the Millstadt Milling Company in 1893. It was purchased by Golden Dipt Corporation in 1957. The brothers organized the First National Bank of Millstadt in 1903 and it's chief operating officials are still in the Baltz family.

William was unsuccessful in his re-election efforts to the Congress and soon thereafter served along with his brother Fred as the Mayors of Millstadt. William resumed his agricultural and business pursuits for the rest of his life until he passed away on August 22, 1943. He lies at Mount Evergreen Cemetery in Millstadt, Illinois.

As the century ended and the new millennium begins, the work of William N. Baltz and the entire Baltz family stands as a testament to the courage and determination of our immigrant past. Their selfless efforts at continuing to support the community both in the last century and this century reminds us of our nation's heritage and the symbol of what makes America the greatest nation on Earth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the service and memory of U.S. Congressman William N. Baltz.

HONORING JOHN MCGUINNESS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember the life of a man that meant a great deal to the State of Colorado. John McGuinness recently passed away in Broomfield, Colorado. He was 67 years old.

John was born on June 10, 1932 in Queens, New York. He received a bachelor's degree in marketing from Fordham University. He attended graduate school at Columbia University and also worked in live television in the 1950's.

John decided to move to Colorado in 1958. He worked in advertising sales for KWGN-TV, he was involved in early FM stations in Denver and did political consulting for many campaigns. He later founded McGuinness and Associates and returned to consulting for radio and cable television. In the late 1980's, he became the court assigned operator of KDEN, a Denver radio station.

John's marketing degree was helpful when he was appointed to the Colorado State Fair Commission in 1983 by former Colorado Governor Roy Romer. After the General Manager resigned, John took over as the acting director and served with great distinction in that capacity until his resignation in December of 1999.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer tribute in memory of John McGuinness. He was a great man that will be missed by all those who knew him.

RIGHT-WING EXTREMISM HAS NO PLACE IN AUSTRIA'S DEMOCRACY

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, recent elections in Austria produced the disturbing result of the far right Freedom Party receiving the second most votes among all the parties. The Freedom Party's leader, Joerg Haider, has been an advocate of anti-immigrant policies, and has voiced supportive opinions regarding certain policies of the Nazi era in Austria and Germany. Today, Austrian President Klestil is faced with a choice of accepting a governing coalition that would include Mr. Haider's party as a partner with the center right People's Party.

Such a government would call into question Austria's longstanding reputation for tolerance, and as a haven for refugees from less fortunate countries, its strong championship of human rights, and its repudiation of its own unfortunate past history. As someone who has viewed himself as a friend of Austria, I believe it is incumbent that all of us in this body who value human rights to speak up and urge President Klestil and the Austrian people not to follow the extremist path represented by Mr. Haider and the Freedom Party's followers.

We should be mindful that the Austrian Freedom Party is not a unique political phenomenon in Europe. There are other nations in which far right parties have enjoyed increasing popularity. Our position with regard to the next government in Austria will be closely watched by leaders of those other extremist parties.

Our friends in the European Union have taken a strong position, indicating that they will take all possible steps to isolate Austria within the EU if Haider is part of the Austrian government. As Portugal's Prime Minister Guterres, speaking as President of the EU, has said "There comes times when we have to be faithful to our values." Our government and the Congress should also be forthright in expressing our views on the unacceptability of views such as those expressed by Mr. Haider throughout his political career.

In doing so we must be clear that we respect the Austrian people, and believe that Austria's rightful place is among those nations that have striven for peace, justice and human rights. We urge them at this critical juncture in Austria's history not to depart from the path they have followed for more than fifty years. Whatever social or other problems they believe they face, the answer does not lie in the kinds of policies and beliefs voiced by Joerg Haider. We want to see Austria anchored firmly in those trans-Atlantic and European institutions that represent a community of shared values and political beliefs, but we will firmly defend those very values and beliefs that give our community its definition and leadership role in the world today. Right wing extremism should have no place in our community of nations.

WASHINGTON & LEE REPUBLICAN MOCK CONVENTION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend my alma mater, Washington and Lee University, on its recent 2000 Republican Mock Convention.

Every four years since 1908, the students of Washington and Lee have gathered at the Mock Convention to attempt to correctly predict the presidential nominee of the political party currently out of the White House. Over the years, W&L students have had a remarkable success rate in their predictions—in fact, since 1948, the Mock Convention has only erred once in correctly predicting the presidential nominee, when it selected Edward Kennedy over George McGovern in 1972.

Washington and Lee has received national acclaim for its Mock Convention from numerous sources over the years. The Washington Post has declared the Washington and Lee Mock Convention "one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious mock conventions," and Time Magazine has called it the "biggest and boomingest" of all amateur gatherings.

Last Saturday, Washington and Lee held its 2000 Mock Convention, which was a great success. I was privileged to join a very distinguished group of federal, state, and local leaders in addressing the Convention, and the W&L students were as engaged and energized as ever.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend Washington and Lee University on another excellent Mock Convention, and I am confident that the students of W&L have yet again correctly chosen the next Republican presidential nominee. Congratulations to W&L on a very successful 2000 Mock Convention.

HONORING DR. GERALD E. HOWE UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a true asset to the medical profession who has recently retired after three decades of change. Dr. Gerald E. Howe officially retired from active medical practice on December 31, 1999.

Born in Deadwood, South Dakota, Gerald undertook his undergraduate studies at the University of Colorado and the University of South Dakota, then medical school at Temple University in Philadelphia. Gerald and his family decided that they wanted to move from the crowded east coast and Vermont. Milder winters and nearby mountains lead them to Montelores, Colorado in 1969.

Gerald has served in many medical staff leadership positions throughout his career. He has been chief of medical staff several times and served on the hospital board. He was on the hospital board which supported the development of Montezuma County Hospital District and was instrumental in the building of the Vista Grande Nursing Home facility at its present location.

Gerald has always considered patient care to be the most important issue in the medical profession. With changes in policy and technology, Gerald still regards the patient as the "hallmark of medical care."

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer tribute in honor of Dr. Gerald Howe's retirement and thank him for his years of hard work, dedication and service.

**ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSFER
INTEROPERABILITY AND PORT-
ABILITY ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 31, 2000

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my colleagues in support of the electronic Benefit Transfer Interoperability and Portability Act of 1999. This legislation will enable food stamp shoppers to redeem their nutrition benefits electronically in authorized stores located beyond the borders of their states. The need for this legislation is significant.

According to a recent study conducted by Benton International on behalf of the National Automated ClearingHouse Association (NACHA), there were 1,685,857 interstate food stamp transactions during a six-month period. If we assume that interstate food stamp transactions existed nationwide for the entire year of 1999, the projected annual nationwide volume of food stamp interstate transaction would be 5.7 million. Although the vast majority of food stamp recipients spend their benefits at retailers close to home, the Benton study proves that a significant number of shoppers need the flexibility to shop at stores across state lines, which is a program benefit enjoyed without restrictions under the previous coupon redemption system.

When the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) replaced food stamp coupons with "Electronic Benefit Transfer" cards, program participants and retailers experienced enormous difficulty since there was lack of uniformity among state EBT equipment. Furthermore, FNS incurs additional costs to implement its regulation requiring States to equip authorized food retailers, upon request, with EBT-only terminal. For example, using a leasing fee of \$21.50 per month per terminal, the annual cost of the government for EBT-only terminal deployment nationwide may range from \$25,000 to 75,000. Even with the EBT-only terminal, the different designs and procedures in state equipment continued to prevent shopping in other states.

S. 1733 is a practical legislative solution to these problems. First it gives the Secretary of Agriculture the authority to develop a national uniform standard of interoperability based on the "QUEST" rules which were developed by retailers, State Food Stamp Program Administrators, and the Food and Nutrition Service under the guidance of the NACHA EBT Council. Although the QUEST rules are being used by a majority of the states, this legislation gives the Secretary authority to make the changes needed to fit the goal of the Food Stamp Program.

Also, S. 1733 limits the annual costs of switching and settling fees at \$500,000.00.

This is a positive change from the original draft of this legislation because the federal government should not finance new technology utilized by retailers.

From the outset, the Administration has worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the Food Stamp Program's conversion to electronic benefit delivery, and I offer my continued commitment and support in making sure that this critical nutrition assistance is provided efficiently and effectively.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on January 31, 2000, I was unavoidably detained and consequently missed two votes. Had I been here I would have voted: "Yes" on the passage of H. Con. Res. 244, rollcall vote No. 2; "Yes" on the passage of H.R. 2130, rollcall vote No. 3.

**DAVE M. DAVIS, RECIPIENT OF
THE 2000 GOVERNOR'S AWARD
FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS**

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the winner of the 2000 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts, Dave Davis.

Dave was nominated by the Grand Junction Commission of Arts and Culture for his activism as founder of Art on the Corner, a former executive director of the Art Center, a past appointee of former Colorado Governor, Roy Romer, to the Colorado Council on the Arts, and one of the leading artists in the Grand Valley since the late 1970's.

Dave was Executive Director of the Western Colorado Center for the Arts for nine years. During his tenure he created a multitude of innovative programs, quality exhibits, outreach efforts to underserved areas, and expansion of facilities, collections and classes. Dave's belief that the Grand Valley could become a renowned arts community is the foundation of everything he does.

Dave opened an exhibit, Art on the Corner, in downtown Grand Junction in 1984. This unique outdoor sculpture exhibit began as a display of 33 sculptures by Dave and other area artists along Main Street. Every year the exhibit is rotated and has grown to include over 100 works of art.

Dave is a native of Boulder, Colorado who moved with his family to Grand Junction in 1972. He attended Mesa State College. Dave's full-time pursuit of the arts began in 1977. He creates abstract and realistic sculpture. He is adamant in his desire to promote the arts both as a major economic force and as an industry. He is adamant in his desire to promote the arts both as a major economic force and as an industry.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer this tribute to Dave Davis with congratulations on being named the recipient of the 2000 Governor's Award for Excellence in the Arts.

**HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**

SPEECH OF

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2000

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions and the importance of education preparation in Catholic schools. For decades, they have enriched the lives of children past and present. I was educated at Holy Family High, a Catholic school in my hometown and I have felt the benefits throughout my life. The importance of education is one value that has remained with me through my years as a parent, an educator, and as a Congresswoman. Education is very significant in the continued success of our great nation. A Catholic institution provides a balance of strong education complimented by the support of a strong moral and spiritual environment to prepare well-balanced young persons for entering our society.

Statistics have shown that the United States has gained immense benefits from the Catholic education system, educating some 2.6 million students at a saving to our nation of more than \$17.2 billion dollars. Further, Catholic education has an impressive graduation rate of 95 percent and more than 83 percent of those graduates go on to college. Catholic schools focus not only upon intellectual encouragement and development but also on the moral and spiritual fiber of each student. These students preserve this enriched relationship with their faith, families and community.

Recognizing Catholic schools for their contributions to the community of the United States shows the respect we have for these institutions and to thank the dedicated faculties and administrators for the care they have taken of the students entrusted to their guardianship. Educating our youth is perhaps our greatest responsibility as a Nation, and I am thankful for the daily contributions made by these institutions toward that aim.

**TRIBUTE TO THE VIRCO
MANUFACTURING CO.**

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Virco Manufacturing Co., an important business within my district. Virco today celebrates its 50th year as the largest manufacturer of educational furniture in the country.

Shortly after World War II, Julian Virtue bought the Stauson Aircraft Co. on February 2, 1950, and converted the war equipment manufacturing company to a firm specializing in the production of educational furniture. It