

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF MARY A. PTASZEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mary Ptaszek, a woman who committed her life to serving her community and improving the lives of those who lived in it.

A dedicated servant to her community Mrs. Ptaszek served as precinct committeewoman for three different wards, and on the Democratic Executive Committee. A native of Cleveland, Mrs. Ptaszek committed her life to helping others. A devoted wife and sibling, Mrs. Ptaszek was a lifelong member of St. Barbara Catholic Church where she sang in the choir. When her mother passed away Mrs. Ptaszek became her family's matriarch, hosting large family gatherings at her home. Mrs. Ptaszek's caring touch was extended not only to her family but to the greater community as well. Her devotion to her community was evident as, even her final years, she would drive fellow seniors to their medical appointments or to the shopping centers.

Through politics Mrs. Ptaszek looked to better the lives of those around her. A kind-hearted, community minded woman Mrs. Ptaszek sought to use politics as a tool of good to create better communities.

Mrs. Ptaszek was a kind, dedicated, passionate woman who selflessly gave of herself to help others. Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and tremendous accomplishments of this truly remarkable woman who worked tirelessly on behalf of others.

IN HONOR OF EII, INC., AT THE INFENIUM LINDEN BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER, FOR RECEIVING APPROVAL FROM OSHA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STAR VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS (VPP)

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor EII, Inc., at the Linden Business and Technology Center, located in Linden, New Jersey, for its exceptional employee safety and health programs.

EII, Inc.'s recent approval for participation in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) is a testament to a company that puts the well-being of its employees above the careless and irresponsible desire to increase profits at all costs—rare behavior at a time when profits often seem more important than people.

EII, Inc. is an electrical contractor providing maintenance and process support at the

Infenium Linden Business and Technology Center. EII, Inc.'s employees, all represented by their respective trade unions, include electricians, pipefitters, millwrights, and carpenters. Each employee has been incremental in OSHA's evaluation and approval of EII, Inc.

OSHA's recognition of EII, Inc. is the result of a special relationship that has developed between management and employees, a relationship established by the management's commitment to the safety and health of the hard working men and women at EII, Inc.

In addition, EII, Inc. is the only electrical contractor to receive VPP approval, with less than 20 construction companies participating nation-wide—only two of which are in New Jersey.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me as I honor EII, Inc., a company that truly understands the safety needs of its employees, and a company that puts people before profits.

IN MEMORY OF GINETTA SAGIN—
PIONEER HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call the attention of my colleagues in the House to the passing of a dear, dear personal friend and a true giant in the struggle for human rights. Just a few days ago, on Friday, August 25, Ginetta Sagan died of cancer at the age of 75.

I know that all of my colleagues who had the good fortune to know and work with her, and I know there are many here today who share my tremendous feeling of loss for not only a stalwart defender for human rights and humanity around the world, but also a true and wonderful personal friend and outstanding human being.

Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States appropriately honored the lifetime achievements of this remarkable woman when he awarded her the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1994, the highest civilian honor our nation can bestow. Throughout her life, she has brought healing, justice, and mercy to the oppressed and has helped to change the thinking of those who are in positions of power and authority.

Born in Milan, Italy, to a Jewish mother and Catholic father, Ginetta Sagan first worked against the fascists at the early age of 17, bringing clothes and food coupons to Jews in hiding. Her mother and father were arrested by Mussolini's Black Brigade in 1943 and did not survive the war. In 1943, Ginetta—and she almost always went only by her first name—worked as a courier for the Italian resistance, using her nickname Topolino, or "Little Mouse." Ginetta was only 5 feet tall, but she had the energy and the power of a giant. She helped to transport more than 300 fugitives and thousands of pamphlets through the

Italian Alps, before she was betrayed and arrested in early 1945.

Mr. Speaker, for over a month and a half, she was beaten, burned, electrically shocked and raped. On April 23, 1945—the very day scheduled for her execution—she managed to escape with the help of the Italian Resistance and two friendly German officers. In the deep dungeons of her Fascist torturers, where all hope is lost and only pain and fear live, Ginetta Sagan found her deep and unshakable commitment to human rights. It was there that she found her incredible strength to work tirelessly on behalf of the downtrodden. When a guard tossed her a loaf of bread, she found a matchbox with a slip of paper hidden inside. Inscribed on this piece of paper was only one word, which epitomizes her whole life: the Italian word Coraggio—Courage. Ginetta later named the first newsletter for Amnesty International Matchbox, reflecting this very moving experience.

After the war, Mr. Speaker, Ginetta attended the prestigious Sorbonne University in Paris. She continued her study of child development in 1951 at the University of Chicago, where she met and married Leonard Sagan, a medical student who later became a public health physician. After living in Washington, DC., Boston and Japan, the Sagens moved to my home state of California in 1968. Leonard Sagan died in 1977.

While living in Washington, DC., Ginetta began her lifelong work with Amnesty International, the London-based human rights organization. Ginetta helped found the United States chapter of this world-wide organization and, as its honorary chairwoman, worked tirelessly for its goals.

Mr. Speaker, Amnesty International annually awards a prize named in Ginetta's honor in recognition of her outstanding service and leadership on behalf of women and children's rights. Not surprisingly, as soon as she reached the Bay Area in California, she gathered like-minded activists and founded Amnesty International's Western Regional Office. In addition, Ginetta created the Aurora Foundation in order to investigate and campaign actively against torture in postwar Vietnam. The Foundation continues to play a crucial role in supporting human rights activists around the world.

Ginetta also actively campaigned against human rights abuses in Chile, Greece, Algeria, Poland, the Philippines and South Africa. In 1971, Ginetta organized a concert in Berkeley to raise funds for political prisoners in Greece. The concert, which featured her friend, folk singer Joan Baez, and Greek entertainer Melina Mercouri, drew some 10,000 people.

Mr. Speaker, the San Francisco Chronicle, in its obituary of her published on August 29, quotes Julianne Cartwright Taylor, chair of Amnesty International USA Board of Directors: "Her [Ginetta's] legacy is a constant reminder that our role is vital, and that without the work of human rights defenders, thousands upon thousands of individuals would be affected for the worst."

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

In addition to her outstanding human rights work, this energetic woman found time to become an accomplished cook and cookbook author. She taught cooking classes for congressional spouses and was also an outstanding gardener. A species of orchids is named in her honor.

Mr. Speaker, Ginetta Sagan is survived by three sons—Loring, Duncan and Pico—as well as six grandchildren.

IN MEMORY OF KENNETH BLAND

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Kenneth Bland, who passed away on August 27, 2000. Kenneth was born on June 11, 1933 in Cadiz, Ohio to George and Bernice Bland.

Kenneth was a retired coal miner with Y&O Coal Company Nelms No. 2 mine near Cadiz. He served his country in the Army during the Korean war. Kenneth was the father and stepfather of six wonderful children; James, John, Jana, Jennifer, Robert and Lesley. Kenneth's family also included four grandchildren and two stepgrandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to pay my last respects to a man who gave so much of himself to his community, his area and his family. Kenneth will be missed by all whose lives he touched. I am honored to have represented him and proud to call him a constituent and a friend.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH TAKACS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember Joseph Takacs, a man who devoted his life to the betterment of mankind, and the struggles of those who needed help the most.

Mr. Takacs led the autoworkers at General Motor's Fisher Body plant in Cleveland for more than 10 nonconsecutive years in the 1960's and 1970's. A courageous fighter for the working man, Mr. Takacs was one of 250 workers who staged a sit-in at General Motor's Cleveland plant that lasted from December 1936 into February 1937. Through the dedication and determination of Mr. Takacs and his striking colleagues a nationwide strike began. The strike forced the company to recognize the union as a bargaining agent for its hourly employees, even today, considered one of the greatest union victories.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Takacs was a dedicated man who committed his life to union reform, helping the poor, and fighting for the working men and women of this nation. Mr. Takacs was an inspirational leader and a mentor for generations to come. A champion of the causes of working people Mr. Takacs never turned his back on anyone. A leader dedicated to his fellow colleagues, during strikes, Mr. Takacs would beg for food to make sure that there was always food at the union hall.

Mr. Takacs, a past president of United Auto Workers Local 45, has served on the front lines of the battle for working families since the 1930's. I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of this truly remarkable man, who has dedicated his life to serving others.

SAINT THOMAS EPISCOPAL
PARISH GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate the members of St. Thomas Episcopal Parish on their 50 years in the South Florida community. St. Thomas Episcopal Parish will celebrate its 50th anniversary on Sunday, October 1st, with commemorative worship service and festivities.

I commend Rev. Roger M. Tobin for his selfless work and service to parishioners. He and the members of the parish should be proud to know that they have long served their community with selfless devotion and will continue to do so for the next 50 years.

It is an honor for me to represent St. Thomas Episcopal Parish in the United States Congress. The parish and the members stand as an example of unity and strength in our community and I am proud to offer my felicitations today.

I also want to recognize the parish's 50th Anniversary Committee for their hard work and dedication to making the 50th anniversary celebration a success. These special individuals include: Committee Chair, Virginia Wheeler; and Committee members Virginia Elias, Blossom Hibbe, Jim Karousatos, Bob McCammon, Betty Melfa, Pam Normandia, Sam Normandia, Holly Ostlund, Polly Patterson, Diana Propeck, Mary Lou Shad, Roxanne Singler, Frank Stuart, Susie Westbrook; and Honorary member, the Rt. Rev. Calvin O. Schofield, Jr.

I ask my congressional colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Thomas Episcopal Parish on its golden anniversary and in wishing the parishioners much continued success and longevity.

THE APPOINTMENT OF BILL LANN
LEE AS ASSISTANT ATTORNEY
GENERAL FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud to the recess appointment of Bill Lann Lee as assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. Bill Lann Lee is a true civil rights crusader, and his appointment reflects the Clinton-Gore administration's unflinching commitment to protecting the civil rights of all Americans by rigorously enforcing our nation's civil rights legislation.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Lee's personal experiences with discrimination as an Asian-American have driven him to fight passionately for

the last quarter century to secure the civil rights of all Americans. Bill Lann Lee's deep and personal commitment to civil rights and his outstanding record of service make him an exemplary choice for this critical position. In Bill Lann Lee all Americans can rest assured that they have a true civil rights crusader looking out for their civil rights, forcefully advocating fair affirmative action policies for all those discriminated against. The appointment of Bill Lann Lee as Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights brings to this critical position a proven civil rights leader with a deep and personal commitment to protecting the rights of all Americans.

Bill Lann Lee's personal drive in civil rights advocacy was fueled by the experiences of his father, a proud but poor Chinese immigrant. Bill Lann Lee grew up knowing his father fought for freedom abroad in World War II even though he was denied dignity and freedom here at home because of his ethnicity. Inspired by that kind of unshakeable patriotism, Bill Lann Lee set out to establish a legal career in which he could fight to protect all Americans from the kind of discrimination his father experienced. Today he says, "Whenever I work on cases for women, for minorities, for individuals who need help, I sincerely feel that they are people like my father." Bill Lann Lee's desire to protect everyone from discrimination is a personal one, and it is this kind of commitment that makes him an outstanding choice for Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Lann Lee brings a strong work ethic and record of service to his new position. He who grew up near Harlem's 125th street, and spent hours sorting piles of dirty clothes in his family laundry. He experienced racism because of his Asian-American background, but he had the courage and determination to work beyond that bias and excel in the classroom. Because of his hard work, he had the opportunity to take advantage of a scholarship for minorities and attended Yale University, graduating Phi Beta Kappa.

He went on to Columbia Law School, where he studied with Jack Greenberg, a veteran civil rights lawyer who succeeded Thurgood Marshall as director-counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Because of Bill Lann Lee's hard work, he received an excellent education and laid the foundation for an outstanding legal career at the forefront of Civil Rights advocacy. It is from this position that he has spent the last 25 years continuing to work hard to protect the civil rights of all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, for the past 25 years of his distinguished legal career, Bill Lann Lee has been an advocate for civil rights enforcement, leading the fight for health care accessibility, public transportation equity, fair employment and housing rights and school desegregation. He worked for the NAACP since 1974 and the Center for Law in the Public Interests since 1983 where he served for five years as supervising attorney for Civil Rights Litigation. Among his most noteworthy victories are a 1985 case that provided housing for Los Angeles area residents displaced by the Century Freeway; a 1987 case that broke down barriers to the hiring and promotion of women and minorities at Lucky Stores, a retail chain in California; and a 1991 case that led to the expansion of California's efforts to screen underprivileged children for lead poisoning.

On December 15, 1997, Bill Lann Lee was appointed Acting Attorney General for Civil Rights at the Department of Justice. In this position, he has worked to strengthen our nation's hate crime laws, make society accessible to Americans with disabilities, fight housing discrimination, and protect reproductive health care providers and combat modern day slavery. His accomplishments as Acting Assistant Attorney General have been remarkable, and that taken together with his previous accomplishments in the NAACP and the Center for Law in the Public Interests make him an excellent choice for Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Lann Lee has established a remarkable record of service as Acting Assistant Attorney General, and it is most fitting that President Clinton made the recess appointment of Mr. Lee as Assistant Attorney General because of his deep commitment to protecting the civil rights of all Americans. Bill Lann Lee deserves to serve in this position, but more importantly, our country needs to have Bill Lann Lee in this post.

Mr. Speaker, I commend President Clinton for appointing Bill Lann Lee to the post of Assistant Attorney General, and I applaud the appointment of the first Asian-American to America's top civil rights post.

HONORING MACLOVIO MARTINEZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to recognize the outstanding service of the Honorable Maclovio Martinez, of Costilla County, Colorado. Mr. Martinez is retiring after two decades of service as Costilla County Assessor. Before serving the great state of Colorado, Maclovio began his public service with the State Department in the Foreign Service, where he served for eight years in Paraguay.

Mr. Martinez's achievements as a public servant are many in number. As Assessor, he helped to form the Costilla County Conservancy District, serving as its president. He also served as a member of the then Colorado Gov. Roy Romer's Cost Containment Committee, as well as Chairman of the San Luis Valley Health Care Foundation and president of the San Luis Museum.

Maclovio has served his community admirably and has ensured that Costilla County and its surrounding communities are a better place to live. His outstanding commitment to public service will be missed and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

On behalf of the citizens of Costilla County and the United States Congress, Maclovio I thank you for your contributions.

IN HONOR OF ROSE MARIE LOVANO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember Rose Marie Lovano, a woman who

dedicated her life to improving her community and the lives of those who lived in it.

While Rose was active in her community it was through politics that she felt that she could best help those around her. Rose believed in politics as a tool to help improve people's lives. Rose's long and distinguished career in public service started in 1960, as precinct committeewoman. Rose went on to serve as president of the Garfield Heights Democratic Club and has been a ward leader since 1981. Rose has also been awarded the distinct honor of representing her community at every Democratic National Convention since 1980.

Born in Cleveland, Rose, before her career in politics, served as a dedicated union member throughout her working life. She joined Bakery Workers Local 19, during her six years working for J. Spang Baking Co., then joined the Upholsterers Union during her seven years working for Krohler Furniture. Rose went on to work for Greyhound Bus Lines, and was a steward in Local 1517 of the Amalgamated Transit Union, serving also as president of the Greyhound credit union.

Politics was Rose's true passion. Rose is a true example of how politics can serve the needs of the people, and benefit people's lives. Rose never turned her back on any of her constituents. Residents would constantly call her at the home she shared with her family, and Rose would never turn her back on them. If she couldn't help she would find others who could. Rose's life serves as model, to all, of how politics can be used as a tool of good, to help the people who often need it the most.

Mr. Speaker, on a personal note, I knew Rose, and the dedication, passion, and persistence that she brought to politics, and her life long commitment to helping others has had a profound effect on my life. It is for this reason, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of this truly remarkable human being who dedicated her life to helping others.

IN HONOR OF EII, INC., AT THE INFENIUM BAYWAY CHEMICAL PLANT, FOR RECEIVING APPROVAL FROM OSHA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE STAR VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS (VPP)

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor EII, Inc., at the Bayway Infenium Chemical Plant, located in Linden, New Jersey, for its exceptional employee safety and health programs.

EII, Inc.'s recent approval for participation in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) is a testament to a company that puts the well-being of its employees above the careless and irresponsible desire to increase profits at all costs—rare behavior at a time when profits often seem more important than people.

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Infenium Chemical Plant, a VPP Star for five years running. EII, Inc.'s employees, all represented by their respective trade unions, include electricians, pipefitters, millwrights, and carpenters. Each employee has been incremental in OSHA's evaluation and approval of EII, Inc.

OSHA's recognition of EII, Inc. is the result of a special relationship that has developed between management and employees, a relationship established by the management's commitment has to the safety and health of the hard working men and women at EII, Inc. In addition, EII, Inc. is the only electrical contractor to receive VPP approval, with less than 20 construction companies participating nation-wide—only two of which are in New Jersey.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me as I honor EII, Inc., a company that truly understands the safety needs of its employees, and a company that puts people before profits.

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL "MITCH" BOICH, FOUNDER OF THE BOICH COMPANIES

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Mitch Boich who passed away on August 25, 2000. Mitch was the founder of the Boich Companies and a man of tremendous vision who never lost his sense of tradition.

Mitch was a native of Steubenville, Ohio who served in the Army after graduating from Wintersville High School in 1944. After the war, he attended the Ohio State University.

Since the late 1940's, Mitch founded several successful businesses in construction, coal mining and related industries. He and his wife of nearly 50 years, Doris Jean, have three wonderful children; Michael, Cynthia and Betsy and three grandchildren.

Mitch spent his life serving his community and was well loved and respected by all who knew him. He was a man known for his pizzazz and his strength.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege for me to pay my last respects to a man who gave so much of himself to his community and his family. Mitch will be missed by all whose lives he touched. I am honored to have known him and to have been able to call him a friend.

HONORING ROY MARTINEZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to extend my gratitude to the Honorable Roy Martinez. Mr. Martinez's commitment to improving his community through public service has made San Luis, Colorado a better place for everyone who lives there. After donating 26 years to his community, Mr. Martinez is stepping down from public office.

For over a quarter of a century, Mr. Martinez has generously given of his time and personal resources to the citizens of Costilla

County. During the past four years he has served honorably as County Commissioner, where his diligent work helped to bring the county into this technological age. Before becoming Commissioner, he served as Clerk and Recorder for over two decades, again, with great distinction.

Mr. Martinez has served his community admirably and his dedication and drive to succeed will be missed.

Roy, you have made your community, state and nation proud. I commend you on your service to the citizens of Costilla County and I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

RELIGIOUS WORKER VISAS

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my support of H.R. 1871, the Mother Teresa Religious Worker Act of 1999, by adding my name as a cosponsor. H.R. 1871 is an important bill that permanently extends the religious worker visa program, which is set to expire at the end of this month. Under the current program, 5,000 religious workers enter the United States each year to participate in spiritual and charitable work in communities throughout our country, including many communities in my native California.

The visa program allows religious organizations to sponsor non-minister religious workers from foreign countries. These volunteers often work with our most needy individuals through church programs to ensure they have shelter and food. Aside from assisting with the bare necessities, they minister to the sick, work with adolescents at risk, and assist refugees and immigrants when they first arrive in the United States.

This program is due to expire on September 30 of this year. I call upon my colleagues to extend this religious worker visa program before this date to avoid any disruption for those seeking to enter our country.

At the same time, both the Department of State and the Immigration and Naturalization Service have expressed concerns that the religious worker visa program is vulnerable to fraud. I share many of these concerns. Therefore, as this legislation moves through Congress, we must address the issues raised by the State Department and INS and ensure that only those persons who perform religious work enter on these visas.

I urge the permanent extension of the religious worker visa program at the earliest possible date.

IN HONOR OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SOUTHLAND YWCA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the fortieth anniversary of the Southland YWCA. This non-profit organization has been serving women and their families in the Southwest area of Cleveland since 1919, and it deserve our recognition and congratulations.

The Southland YWCA in Middleburg Heights, Ohio is commemorating its 40th Anniversary on September 8 and 9, 2000. These two days of celebration should prove to be embraced throughout the community, as women and their families show their appreciation for an organization that has continually served the people of its area with a large variety of beneficial programs.

In 1960, the Southland YWCA moved to its current location in Middleburg Heights, Ohio, and it has continued to serve families in the area ever since. The Southland YWCA serves the Southwest area of Cleveland in the areas of fitness, child care, and diversity programming, among many others. It has implemented many programs and activities for the community, including swimming lessons, summer day camp for children, exercise classes, karate lessons, homemaking lessons, craft classes, divorce support programs, help for battered women, and even an investment club. Through these many services, the YWCA has encouraged women to become activists in their own communities.

I take their opportunity to applaud the fine service the Southland YWCA has provided to Cleveland for forty years because I believe that organizations such as this one are essential to the development of our communities throughout the country. I would like to wish the YWCA the best of luck in the future, and hope to see the organization commended again forty years from now.

REVEREND MONSIGNOR GERARD T. LA CERRA DISTINGUISHED AND BELOVED CHANCELLOR AND FRIEND

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I note the passing of Reverend Monsignor Gerard T. La Cerra, one of South Florida's most beloved and distinguished residents.

With selfless devotion and love, Monsignor La Cerra served the Archdiocese of Miami not only as its Chancellor from 1978 to 1993, but also as a source of strength and inspiration to all who knew him. Although we will all remember his important position in the Church for he was designated as Prelate with Honor with the title of Reverend Monsignor by His Holiness Pope John Paul II and was appointed Founding Supervising Principal of the new Catholic High School in South Dade, Archbishop Coleman F. Carroll High, we will remember most his extraordinary acts of kindness to the people of South Florida.

We were fortunate to have Monsignor La Cerra and the love and kindness that he expressed to our community and our church will forever be remembered and cherished. My office and the rest of the South Florida Congressional delegation had the opportunity to get to know Monsignor La Cerra more closely and to retribute some of the work he did for his parish by organizing an effort to increase public awareness on the need for organ transplant and donations. He underwent a successful heart transplant surgery and was able to continue his work in the Archdiocese of Miami.

I ask my Congressional colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this devoted spiritual leader and to express our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends, may they find peace and comfort in the knowledge that he made significant differences in the many lives he touched. He will forever be remembered.

HONORING PAT LATRONICA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a very distinguished woman, Pat LaTronica of Pueblo, Colorado. Mrs. LaTronica passed away July 3, 2000 at the age of 62. She was best known for her work at a local restaurant as well as her charity work. With her warm heart and great eye for classy fashion, she brought a smile to patrons of her restaurant, no matter their age or background.

In addition to her work at the restaurant, Mrs. LaTronica was also an enthusiastic volunteer in her community. If it wasn't helping serve holiday dinners to those less fortunate, it was working hard on the board of directors of the Salvation Army. No matter the time of year, this wonderful woman could be found bringing smiles to the faces of citizens through her considerable volunteer efforts.

Mrs. LaTronica brought a spirit of joy to all of those around her no matter where or what she was doing. It is this sense of joy and happiness that will be missed, but not soon forgotten.

Ms. LaTronica was a great citizen and an even better person. She will be greatly missed by friends, family and the citizens of Pueblo.

IN HONOR OF THE UNION CITY HOUSING AUTHORITY, CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Housing Authority of Union City, New Jersey, celebrating a half-century of providing affordable housing to area families.

The 50th anniversary of the Union City Housing Authority is a wonderful cause for celebration. However, the real celebration lies in the extraordinary success the Authority has achieved in community building, which has led to its recognition as one of the top performing housing authorities in the nation.

This success has been accomplished through a clear understanding that building houses alone will not build communities. Compassion, hard work, dedication, and solid planning are the heart and mind of the Union City Housing Authority, and it is this heart and mind that builds prosperous communities.

When people envision public housing, they do not envision communities that provide for the spiritual and social needs of residents. Most picture dismal, neglected houses, empty streets, and residents disconnected from the mainstream.

Public housing has changed because we have changed. For many years now, the Union City Housing Authority has had a different vision of public housing; and today, that vision has touched countless lives, satisfying for many the age-old need for a real home—not just a shelter from the harsh elements.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me as I honor the Union City Housing Authority for its extraordinary success at providing affordable housing, establishing communities, and changing lives.

TRIBUTE TO MS. KATHRINE SMITH
OF MADISON COUNTY, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a wonderful woman in my district, Ms. Kathrine "Kate" Smith. Today Ms. Smith celebrates her 94th birthday. For almost a century, she has graced North Alabama with her dignified presence and has shared her talents and gifts with her community.

Ms. Smith's community service accomplishments would fill many a page, so it will suffice to say that she gives back to her community tenfold. Ms. Smith has been recognized for her service with many awards, plaques and certificates and thus it is fitting that the United States Congress join the many others in honoring her for her full and selfless life.

In addition to her outstanding community service, she is also a member of First Missionary Baptist Church, she sings in the church choir and is a member of the Missionary Society, OES (Eastern Star) and The Good Neighbor's Club.

I join Ms. Smith's friends and family who love her dearly in wishing her a happy and healthy 94th year. I thank her for her extraordinary contributions to our community and wish her a well-deserved happy birthday.

TRIBUTE TO CASTRO VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT AND ST. MARY'S COLLEGE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding public-private partnership in my district and all the participants who share a deep commitment for the education of our children. Castro Valley Unified School District and St. Mary's College of California have developed and implemented a partnership that has led to a comprehensive literacy development program at kindergarten through post-graduate collegiate levels.

I commend St. Mary's College of California for forming a public-private partnership with the Castro Valley Unified School District. This commitment to the betterment of children and education by extending professional learning experiences and teaching strategies has greatly increased the school district's ability to deliver a comprehensive literacy program. Be-

cause of their efforts, almost all Castro Valley Unified School District students completing third grade are at or above reading level, student achievement is up, literacy attainment is heightened, and teaching strategies are being redefined and better directed.

I take great pride in honoring the dedication and professional leadership that St. Mary's College has taken in establishing this partnership. The partnership has helped expand the role of the public school teacher to a researcher, writer, and facilitator and created a model for successful literacy teacher-training programs. I believe that this public-private partnership should serve as a model to school districts and colleges across the country in order to create higher standards of literacy and literacy education at kindergarten through post-graduate collegiate levels.

HONORING PATTY ARAGON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to celebrate the wonderful life of Patricia Aragon. Mrs. Aragon recently passed on after a courageous battle with cancer.

Patty was a beloved citizen of Pagosa Springs where she and her husband, Ross, raised their six children. And with Patty, it was always children—hers and others in her community—that came first. She served on the local school board for over a decade where she was proud to pass out diplomas at commencement ceremonies. Everyone who came in contact with Patty was instantly overtaken with her loving spirit. When she wasn't helping the school system, she could be found serving patron's of her restaurant. She and her husband owned Al's and Al's West restaurants where Patty was famous for her chilburgers and homemade tortillas.

Patty Aragon was an incredibly spirited person who loved to see others smile. Through her business and public service, she touched the lives of hundreds children and adults alike.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to this remarkable woman and great Coloradoan. She will be greatly missed, but not soon forgotten.

LEBARON TAYLOR—A MAN FOR
ALL SEASONS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, next week the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation will host its 30th Annual Legislative Weekend. For the first time in the history of this event, we will be without our beloved friend, and former CBC Foundation Chairman and board member, H. LeBaron Taylor. LeBaron died from cardiac arrest on July 19th.

LeBaron was both Senior Vice President for Corporate Affairs at Sony Music Entertainment and Vice President for Corporate Affairs at Sony Software Corporation. His responsibil-

ities ranged from government and public affairs issues to corporate responsibilities including equal opportunity employment and minority development and corporate philanthropy. LeBaron's impact on the entertainment industry, however, far exceed his formal titles or positions within the Sony corporate structure.

From his entry in the music industry as a broadcast engineer as well as an on-air personality and program director at WCHB in Detroit to a stint as station manager at WDAS in Philadelphia to his move into the record business with the creation of Revilot Records in 1967, LeBaron was a pioneer in the promotion of Black music. He would later move to Atlantic Records in New York City before joining CBS Records in 1974. Black Enterprise magazine noted that LeBaron "defined black music in the '70's."

LeBaron's unique relationships with artists led to his position with CBS Records as the head of their marketing department for Black music. Under his leadership, CBS Records' Black music Marketing department became the model for the entire industry. Three years later, he became the company's first vice president of Black Music Marketing, with the added responsibility of Jazz/Progressive Music Marketing. LeBaron was recognized by Ebony magazine as one of the "Top 50 Black American Executives in Corporate America" and, most recently, as one of the top Blacks in the entertainment industry.

Throughout his career, he received numerous awards for his public service activities and his pioneering efforts in Black music marketing. A two-time recipient of the Congressional Black Caucus Chair Award, LeBaron also received the Chairman's Humanitarian Award from TransAfrica Forum; the NAACP Corporate Image Award; and awards from the National Urban League; the National Association of Black Owned Broadcasters; The Black Entertainment and Sports Lawyers Hall of Fame, the White House Conference on Small Business and The Business Policy Review Council among many others that are too numerous to mention. His civic activities included board membership with organizations such as the CBC Foundation, the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies Board of Governors and the Rhythm & Blues Foundation.

Characteristically, the accomplishment of which LeBaron was most proud was his recognition by the Black Employees Organization of CBS Inc. for mentoring and fostering the growth and development of minorities within the company.

A native of Detroit, LeBaron graduated from Wayne State University and recently was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Law degree from Miles College in Fairfield, Alabama. He was also a board member of the Grand Boule Foundation of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and chaired its Social Action Committee. He is survived by his wife, Kay Lovelace Taylor, Ed.D. and four children: Eric and Tiffani from his first marriage and his stepchildren, Laura and Jason, from his second marriage. His first wife, Yvonne passed away in January of 1997.

The CBC Foundation's Annual Legislative Weekend will be forever changed by the absence of LeBaron Taylor not only because of his dedication to our Weekend's activities, but also because of his lasting contributions to the public service work of the Foundation, his friendship and support for CBC Members and his contributions to the Black music industry.

IN HONOR OF ELLI
STASSINOPOULOS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the extraordinary life of Elli Stassinopoulos, mother and grandmother, whose singular, unselfish devotion to her family and friends places her in that pantheon which awaits all those who have made the every need of their loved ones a higher cause than themselves. "Angles fly because they take themselves lightly," she would tell her children. Elli's voyage through life was that of a lighted persona which the darkness of history could not comprehend, nor could personal tragedy embitter.

Elli Stassinopoulos knew peril and hardship early in life. Her family fled Russia during the 1917 Revolution. She was captured by the Germans when she joined the anti-Nazi Greek resistance. She surmounted a disappointing marriage. Despite her early travails, she lived each day in simplicity and humility, triumphant, with a grateful heart and a sense of wonder. She slipped past the would-be conquerors of spirit to establish her domain in the sanctity of the home. In it she created magic with food and philosophy. Her household sustained and uplifted body, mind and spirit for her beloved daughters, Arianna, and Agapi and granddaughters Christina and Isabella.

"From the heirloom carpet spirited out of the Caucasus to her last pair of gold earrings, she sold everything along the way to pay for our schooling, sending me to Cambridge, and my sister Agapi to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts. But far beyond an education, she gave us what I know is the greatest gift a mother can give her child: her attention, her energy, her unconditional loving," wrote Arianna in a recent Mother's Day tribute to "Yaya" (Greek for grandmother).

Yaya's knowledge of the Greek classics, her stunning eloquence and her joy of living defined enchantment for all visitors to her home. Her life was an unceasing hymn of praise to her loved ones. And long after her beautiful voice has become a blessed memory, the music of that praise will be felt in the hearts of those who loved her so much, and all echo in the voices of her daughters and granddaughters through the years. Great love reverberates greatly.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members of the House of Representatives to join with me in recognizing the life of Elli Stassinopoulos, a woman who exemplified the kind of caring and devoted love of a mother and grandmother which is cherished and which makes each home a holy place.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR CLYDE
FOSTER OF TRIANA, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Clyde Foster, a resident of my district and the former Mayor of Triana,

Alabama. The City of Triana has designated today as "Clyde Foster Day" and I want to join the City in recognizing their unsung hero.

Mr. Foster has dedicated many years of outstanding public service to his community and to the entire state of Alabama. He has accumulated over fifty years of community service including the twenty he spent as Mayor of the lovely city of Triana. In the position of Mayor, Mr. Foster held the city together improving the lives of its citizens and making Triana a better place to work and raise a family.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Foster for his exemplary role as a leader in our community. I join the Governor of Alabama and the State Senate in commending Mr. Foster for his selfless lifetime commitment to improving his city. As his friends, neighbors and family join today to honor him, I share their pride in and gratitude for the life and accomplishments of their beloved Mr. Foster. On behalf of the United States Congress, I thank him for a job well done.

A TRUE COLORADO HERO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize an extraordinary young man, Travis Stout. Travis, a young Cub Scout, just recently received the Boy Scouts of America Medal of Merit. It was on November 24, 1999 that Travis' quick actions and knowledge of emergency actions allowed him to save his father from danger. This lifesaving award is being presented to a young man that not only saved his father, but also exemplified the characteristics of what it takes to be a true hero.

Travis, his younger brother Allen, and father Wayne were checking oil field generators as they often do on weekends. When methanol was blown back out of the line, Wayne was hit in the eyes and mouth. Travis, realizing the danger of the event, quickly flushed out his father's eyes with water and dialed help. With help unable to reach the area in time, Travis operated his father's truck and drove to the Utah-Colorado border to meet help.

Travis, a ten-year-old, took it upon himself to help his father and in doing so became a hero of a size much greater than his own. I think we all owe this young gentleman our congratulations and commendations on this incredible feat of heroism. Travis is a true hero and an outstanding citizen of our great nation, as well as an example for all to follow.

IN TRIBUTE TO JIM AND MARIE
MCCOY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to Jim and Marie McCoy, who recently celebrated 40 years as owners and operators of McCoy's Automotive & Towing in Santa Paula, California, a city in my district known for its world-renowned citrus and hardworking citizens.

McCoy's Automotive offers foreign and domestic car service to its customers. Jim and Marie McCoy offer dedication and devotion to their community.

While building a thriving business, Jim McCoy also found time to be president of the Chamber of Commerce, a City Councilman and Santa Paula's mayor. Marie McCoy has been active with the Brownies, the PTA and several other community organizations. Together, they took on many of the community's fund-raising needs, most recently the Jim Knight Annual Golf Tournament, which benefits Santa Paula Memorial Hospital.

They built a family as they built a family business. The McCoy's started with a two-bay garage in 1960 and expanded to a three-bay garage, with expanded services, three years later. By 1975, the McCoy's had built such a loyal following that they had to move to their present location—an eight-bay garage—where they continue to grow.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that on the day we return from our districts, having just celebrated Labor Day, that we honor Jim and Marie McCoy. They epitomize the small businessperson—people who strive to build America's economy while raising strong families with strong ideals. They epitomize the entrepreneur, who takes time from his hectic schedule to serve as an elected official and community leader, and who takes time from her hectic schedule to raise funds for nonprofit organizations and serve in our schools.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Jim and Marie McCoy for 40 years of successful ownership of McCoy Automotive & Towing, and thank them for a lifetime of devotion to their community.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT J. FISHER,
SUPERINTENDENT, CASTRO
VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very special leader in my district. Dr. Robert Fisher has been involved in education for 36 years as a teacher and administrator. As Superintendent, Dr. Fisher has successfully worked for the betterment of the entire school community.

Dr. Bob Fisher emphasized increased student achievement marked by 95 percent of all third graders reading at grade level by the end of third grade, distinguished performance by schools on the statewide assessments, and four schools receiving recognition as State Distinguished Schools. Dr. Fisher established a partnership with St. Mary's College, the Annenberg Foundation, and the Hewlett Foundation. These public-private partnerships have helped Dr. Fisher to better serve the school community and increase literacy rates among students.

I take great pride in honoring Dr. Bob Fisher's dedication and leadership. His hard work has created high standards, rigorous curricula and excellent teachers throughout the District. Under his direction, Castro Valley Unified School District has served as a model for schools in Alameda County and throughout

the State of California. I believe that school districts across the country should follow Dr. Fisher's example and take the opportunity to learn from his successful and innovative ways.

PRESIDENT MUST PRESS
VAJPAYEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS
AND SELF-DETERMINATION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, next week Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee is coming to visit the United States. He will meet with several American leaders, including President Clinton and perhaps both major-party Presidential candidates. When he meets with these leaders, they must bring up the issue of human rights and self-determination.

India claims to be a democracy, but in truth there is no democracy in India. It is a militant Hindu fundamentalist state. Christians, Sikhs, Muslims, Dalits, and other minorities suffer severe oppression and atrocities at the hands of Hindu fundamentalists.

Just last month, a priest in Gujarat was kidnapped, tortured, and paraded through town naked by militant Hindu nationalists. The Indian government has refused to register a complaint against the kidnappers. This is the latest act in a campaign of terror against Christians that has been going on since Christmas 1998. This campaign has seen the murders of priests, rape of nuns, Hindu militants burning a missionary and his two sons to death in their van, the destruction of schools and prayer halls, and other anti-Christian atrocities. Most of these activities have been carried out by allies of the government or people affiliated with organizations under the umbrella of the RSS, the parent organization of the ruling BJP, which was founded in support of Fascism.

Recently, Bal Thackeray, the leader of Shiv Sena, a coalition partner of the ruling BJP, threatened to engulf the country in violence if he is held responsible for his part in hundreds of murders in 1992. In India, democracy apparently requires making coalitions with killers.

The Christians are not the only minority that is being oppressed. When President Clinton visited India in March, 35 Sikhs were massacred in the village of Chithi Singhpora in Kashmir. The Indian government killed five Muslims, claiming that they were the individuals responsible for the killings. Later they were forced to admit that these Muslims were innocent. Now the Indian government has arrested two more people on the claim that they are responsible for the massacre. Yet two independent investigations have clearly established that the Indian government itself was responsible for the massacre. How can a democratic nation justify these actions?

The Sikhs have declared their independence from India, forming the new country of Khalistan in 1987. The people of Kashmir were promised a plebiscite on their future in 1948, and India promised the United Nations that this referendum would be held as well. The people of predominantly Christian Nagalim seek their independence. There are several other freedom movements within India's borders. It seems to this Member that the

best, fairest, and most democratic way to settle these issues is to conduct a free and fair plebiscite on the question of independence in these minority nations.

In addition to our legitimate nuclear-proliferation concerns, it is important that as the world's only superpower, our leaders press the government of India to live up to the democratic standards they proclaim by allowing all people within their borders to enjoy basic human rights and self-determination. If they do not do so, we should cut off U.S. aid to India and put this Congress on record with a resolution in support of human rights, self-determination, and nuclear nonproliferation for all the people of South Asia.

HONORING CINDY K. BOWEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor the service of the Honorable Cindy K. Bowen, of Montrose County, Colorado. Ms. Bowen is retiring after over a decade of service as County Commissioner. Before serving as Commissioner, Ms. Bowen was a Senior Auditor for Dalby, Wendland and Company, CPA's, where she served as Montrose County's Auditor from 1978-1987.

For years, Cindy has done great service to western Colorado as a Commissioner and, because of her distinguished tenure, has received a number of awards. Among them are CCI Outstanding Freshman Commissioner of the year in 1989, and CCI Outstanding Commissioner of the year in 1994. Ms. Bowen's service to Montrose County has helped to make it a better place for all its citizens. Her outstanding commitment to public service is greatly appreciated and will be missed.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I congratulate Cindy on her upstanding service as a County Commissioner and wish her all the best in all her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. HELEN ELLIS
JOHNSTON OF HUNTSVILLE, AL

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to a resident of my district and a dear friend, Mrs. Helen Ellis Johnston. Mrs. Johnston's accomplishments and service to her community would fill many a page. She is greatly loved and respected throughout the community and will be honored by the local chapter of the Arthritis Foundation with their annual Humanitarian award.

A native Kentuckian, Mrs. Johnston is married to Mr. William Hooper Johnston. She has three daughters: Mrs. Patricia Vidler, Ms. Christy Catts, and Mrs. Cathy Nickelson. Mrs. Johnston moved to Alabama in 1952. Shortly thereafter she began the years of nonprofit and volunteer service that have been the lifeblood of so many organizations.

After arriving in Huntsville, Mrs. Johnston soon found her niche in working to improve this community's public health safety. She served for 12 years as Executive Director for the North District of the Alabama Lung Association of Alabama. In this position, she took a proactive approach to public health awareness helping to write and implement the first Alabama Health Curriculum Guide for schools across the State. Receiving a grant from the EPA, she conducted the first workshop in North Alabama to create citizen awareness on the need for adoption of the Clean Air Amendment and later served on Alabama's Environmental Quality Control Board.

Among her numerous community service ventures, she shared her talents and gifts with the Symphony Guild originating and chairing both the first Symphony Ball in 1964 and the first Silver Tea in 1967 for the Youth Symphony. Mrs. Johnston inaugurated several of our community's premier charity social functions including the Von Braun Center's Beaux Arts Ball, the Library's "Vive Le Livre" and Huntsville Hospital Foundation's Celebrity Golf Classic.

I believe this is a fitting tribute for one who has dedicated many years to serving the nation and the citizens of North Alabama. I send my congratulations to Mrs. Johnston and her family as she accepts the well-deserved Humanitarian Award from the Arthritis Foundation of North Alabama. On behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I join them in celebrating the extraordinary accomplishments of a wonderful lady, Mrs. Helen Ellis Johnston.

IN HONOR OF ST. AUGUSTINE
ACADEMY'S SEVENTY-FIFTH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of St. Augustine Academy, an institute devoted to excellence in education. The Academy is a private, non-profit all-girls high school that presents its students with a challenging array of options. The students of St. Augustine are on a business, college preparatory or general academic track. Throughout the past seventy-five years, this curriculum, by educating thousands of young women, has provided an educational program that is personal, academically stimulating and responsible to society's needs.

The school was founded in 1925 by the Sisters of Charity of Saint Augustine. While the Academy is a Christ-centered and family oriented community that reflects a Catholic tradition, students of all races and creeds are accepted and welcomed by the Academy. In this atmosphere, a strong emphasis is placed on responsibility, expectations, and initiative. St. Augustine has stressed the importance of individual attention in education, for the personal concern shown these young ladies is exceptional. The advanced faculty fosters graduating classes of "lifelong learners" who will be fully prepared for their next path in life.

In addition to St. Augustine's reputation for academics, the institution is also known for its

service. Educating women in an atmosphere of "In Omnibus Caritas" (In All Things Charity) each student is challenged to grow both mentally and spiritually through the virtue of service. Students of all faiths are encouraged to find their unique gifts and use them to help the community they live in. In doing so, St. Augustine's has been aiding the communities of Greater Cleveland for seventy-five years, and the students, staff, and administrators deserve to be thanked.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in thanking the Saint Augustine Academy. The school has produced girls who are ready to fulfill their responsibilities to their family, community, and the global society. Celebrate with me these contributions the Academy has been providing as the Academy itself celebrates its seventy-fifth anniversary.

EGYPT'S EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF
THE CAMP DAVID MIDDLE EAST
NEGOTIATIONS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I submit into the RECORD a letter from His Excellency Nabil Fahmy, Ambassador to the United States, representing the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Mr. Speaker, when the Camp David Summit ended without an agreement between the leaders of Israel and Palestine, a vigorous campaign was activated to paint an arbitrary picture of what supposedly went wrong—to the effect that Mr. Arafat was intransigent, had rejected all proposals put before him, and was supported in this intransigence by Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

I firmly believe that Egypt's response to those arbitrary and much publicized charges will go far to put a better light upon what, in truth, occurred. I submit for the RECORD the August 17, 2000 letter I have received from Ambassador Nabil Fahmy on this subject, and commend it to my colleagues for their close consideration.

EMBASSY OF THE
ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT,
Washington, DC, August 17, 2000.

Hon. NICK RAHALL,
*Rayburn House Office Building,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN RAHALL: To follow upon the latest summit negotiations at Camp David, I would like to share with you some of my thoughts.

As soon as the Camp David summit ended without an agreement, a vigorous campaign painted a subjective picture of what went wrong in the 14 days of closed negotiations. In short, the story was that Arafat had been intransigent, had rejected all proposals, and was encouraged by Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

These accounts overlook how far the Palestinian position had moved over the last few years. By accepting the 1967 borders, Palestinians had already compromised on about 80% of what many in the region believe to be the land of historic Palestine. Also, at Camp David it was reported that they further agreed to an exchange of land leaving some settlements under Israeli sovereignty. They have accepted intrusive security measures to satisfy Israeli concerns. No one underscored that Arafat compromised on many issues. While many issues remain outstanding,

progress has been witnessed in numerous areas. The issue of sovereignty of East Jerusalem, particularly El Aqsa Mosque, was among the outstanding issues. It is especially sensitive to Palestinians. We have to recognize that the Palestinians were flexible, however, they also have legitimate concerns that are dear to them.

The issue of Jerusalem remains outstanding, not only for the Palestinians. To this day, the international community has not recognized the Israeli occupation of Jerusalem. Numerous United Nations Security Council resolutions considered that all legislative and administrative measures taken by Israel, to change the legal status of Jerusalem, are invalid and cannot change Jerusalem's status. They urgently called upon Israel to rescind all such measures, and to desist from further actions changing the status of Jerusalem. Almost every country in the world, including the United States, respected those resolutions and have not established diplomatic Missions to Israel in the Holy City.

On the eve of the Madrid Peace Conference (1991), the basis of the current negotiations, the United States reassured the Palestinians that "The U.S. is opposed to Israeli annexation of East Jerusalem and extension of Israeli law on it and the extension of Jerusalem's municipal boundaries." This remains the pronounced U.S. official position today.

We must not forget that the negotiations at the Egyptian-Israeli Camp David summit were also about to collapse on how to deal with the issue of Jerusalem. Each side stated its position in a letter to President Carter who would provide, for the record, an affirmation of the United States stance on Jerusalem. In his letter, dated September 22, 1978, President Carter asserted: "The position of the United States on Jerusalem remains as stated by Ambassador Goldberg in the United Nations General Assembly on July 14, 1967, and subsequently by Ambassador Yost in the United Nations Security Council on July 1, 1969." The two statements unequivocally declared that:

"The United States considers that the part of Jerusalem that came under the control of Israel in the June (1967) War, like other areas occupied by Israel, is occupied territory . . .

The actions of Israel in the occupied portion of Jerusalem . . . give rise to understandable concerns that the eventual disposition of East Jerusalem may be prejudiced and the rights and activities of the population are already being affected and altered. (The United States) government regrets and deplores this pattern of activity, and it has so informed the government of Israel on numerous occasions since June 1967.

(The United States) has consistently refused to recognize these measures as having anything but a provisional character and do not accept them as affecting the ultimate status of Jerusalem."

Forcing a compromise on the Palestinians would ultimately mean the postponement of the end of the conflict and would plant the seeds for a bloodier confrontation between future generations. We have learned, the hard way, that military superiority and "qualitative edges" have never prevented wars nor provided security, and will never do. We have no alternative but to reach a comprehensive Palestinian-Israeli peace accord, including Jerusalem, and to reach it now, to bring to a final close the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

In a NY Times Op-Ed article on August 6, 2000, President Carter wrote: "Accolades for one side and condemnation of the other is always a political temptation after an unsuccessful effort, but this makes it very difficult to orchestrate future negotiation sessions where mutual confidence in the medi-

ator is required. Such statements made since Camp David discussions have aroused concern in the Arab community, and the possible movement of the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem would create an even greater impediment to further progress."

Let us look for solutions rather than waste our time and energy trying to find excuses.

As for Egypt's role, when asked on Israeli television about this issue, President Clinton answered "I think that the truth is that because this had never been discussed before between the two parties—and because when we went into the negotiations, they were usually secret or sacrosanct—that I'm not sure, number one, that they thought they knew enough to know what to ask for".

President Clinton also spoke about Egypt's role in the peace process in an interview with Al-Hayat Newspaper published Friday the 11th of August. He said: "The fact is that all that has happened since the original Camp David in September '78, including Madrid and Oslo, is an indication of the courageous and visionary policy of Egypt. Egypt was a pioneer for peace and continues to be a key partner for the United States. We agree on the fundamentals of the peace process and we will not be able to reach an Israeli-Palestinian agreement on these core issues without close consultations with Egypt. We are engaged in such a process today."

What more can be said to dispel rumors that Egypt and other Arab countries were not helpful to the negotiations in Camp David. Egypt has been a key player in brokering almost all Palestinian-Israeli agreements, and has taken an active role in the pursuit of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement. When faced with a crisis or a stalemate in any Arab-Israeli negotiations, the parties and the United States always turn to Egypt for fair and objective advice. One recent example was the Sharm el Sheikh Summit in September 1999.

It is noteworthy that Prime Minister Barak sent an envoy to Cairo even before leaving the U.S. and then proceeded himself to Cairo to meet President Mubarak after his return to the region, as did President Arafat. In the meantime, contacts between Egyptian and American officials continued in search of ways to overcome this impasse; Ambassador Walker, the Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs went to Cairo where he met with President Mubarak and conferred with Foreign Minister Moussa to coordinate both countries' efforts. President Clinton has recently corresponded with President Mubarak and Secretary Albright has since then called Foreign Minister Moussa. As always, we are now examining avenues of working with Palestinians and Israelis to give a creative boost to the negotiating process.

It is a difficult task before us, let us focus our efforts on finding a truly historic compromise to finally bring peace between Palestinians and Israelis. I look forward to working with you toward this objective.

Sincerely,

NABIL FAHMY,
Ambassador.

HONORING DONNIE SPARKS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Donnie Sparks, of Canon City,

Colorado, for his outstanding career in the Bureau of Land Management. Mr. Sparks served diligently as field office manager for nearly two decades. His efforts have been instrumental in designing State and Federal partnerships that have become eminently successful within the Bureau.

Before his distinguished career with the BLM in Colorado, Donnie worked as assistant manager for the Bureau in Alaska where he helped to manage the entire northwest corner of the state. After moving to Colorado, Donnie's hard work paid off in contributions that will live on in Colorado for many decades to come. Along with the Colorado Department of Corrections, Mr. Sparks helped to develop the very successful wild horse program that has been in place for nearly 15 years. Donnie also worked to form yet another State and Federal partnership with the Colorado Department of Parks and Outdoor Recreation creating the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area, which has become the most rafted river in the country.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say thank you to Donnie for his hard work and service over the years. Donnie's distinguished career has been quite remarkable and has had a positive impact on Colorado that will not soon be forgotten. He has worked hard to improve our great state and for that I thank him.

I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LARRY WYMAN
MCCOY OF THE SHOALS, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an intellectual treasure of my district, Dr. Larry McCoy of Northwest-Shoals Community College. Dr. McCoy has excelled in all facets of academia. As a student, he cultivated a love of learning through his time at the University of Alabama, Athens College and Nova University. His almost 40 year career in education includes positions all across the state of Alabama as a teacher, coach, athletic director, Dean of Admissions and President of a college. He served as Dean of Admissions before becoming Dean of Student Development at Athens State from 1983 to 1987. Dr. McCoy began his time in the Shoals at Muscle Shoals Technical College but under his leadership and with his keen vision and by adding programs and consolidating campuses, the Technical College grew to become today's thriving Northwest-Shoals Community College with campuses in Muscle Shoals and Phil Campbell.

His distinguished reputation as an academian is supported by the numerous presentations he has made to groups such as the National Managers Association and the National Conference on Teaching Excellence and his position as co-editor of the Alabama College System Professional Development News.

Dr. McCoy has served as a role model for his students for nearly forty years. He has always upheld the position of the scholar athlete coaching 9 All-American and 17 All-State football players. He has been named Alabama

AAA State Coach of the Year and was inducted into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame in 1999.

In addition to his exceptional professional contributions to our area, Dr. McCoy has given of himself and his talents serving as President of the Rotary Club of Sheffield and President of the Chamber of Commerce of the Shoals. He has also served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Medical Center Shoals and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Shoals Economic Development Authority among many others.

Throughout his life, Dr. McCoy has set a great example of how one person can make a huge difference in his community. I want to congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement. I understand his family and friends are gathering tonight to celebrate his service to the school at a dinner in his honor and I join them in wishing him the best. On behalf of the people of Alabama's 5th Congressional District, I commend him for his tireless efforts for the students of Northwest Alabama.

IN HONOR OF PUERTO RICO ON
ITS CONSTITUTION DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the citizens of Puerto Rico on Constitution Day, July 25, 1999. The people of Puerto Rico established Constitution of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for the very same reasons our forefathers wrote the Constitution of the United States of America, to establish themselves as a democracy.

The Puerto Rican Constitution ensures basic welfare and human rights for the people, enconces the idea of a government which reflects the will of the people, and pays tribute and loyalty to the Constitution of the United States of America.

The Puerto Rican culture is a distinctly unique culture. By pledging allegiance to the Constitution of the United States of America, the people of Puerto Rico celebrate shared beliefs and the coexistence of both cultures. By ratifying their own Constitution, the people of Puerto Rico retain and honor their original heritage while expressing the desire to pursue democracy and happiness for themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the following individuals for their contributions to the Greater Cleveland: Rev. Tomas Acevedo, Dr. Barbara Bird-Bennet, Lcdo. Jose Feliciano, Ray Galindo, Barbara Gill, Magda Gomez, Chris Hernandez, Vivian Riccio, Aurea Rivera, Diana Del Rosario, Ramon Torres. I hope that my fellow colleagues will join me in honoring these individuals and praising the Puerto Rican people as they celebrate Constitution Day.

TRIBUTE TO LOUISE STEFANELLI
SIMMONS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Louise Stefanelli Simmons who retired from

the Corps of Engineers in Huntington, West Virginia on August 1, 2000 after dedicating 39 years, 11 months and four days to the Corps.

I salute Louise Stefanelli Simmons for her lifelong dedication to her husband and son Alan, as well as her devotion to duty throughout her service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Her professionalism as well as her commitment to family and community are an outstanding example of family values and good citizenship.

Louise was born in Newark, New Jersey of Italian immigrant parents, one of four children. After graduating from Newark Prep with an associate degree in business, Louise worked as a civilian for the U.S. Army Corps in Newark during World War II, where she met her future husband Howard "Red" Simmons. Upon her marriage, she left family and friends in New Jersey to marry "Simmy" as she called him, moving with him to Huntington, West Virginia. Louise remembers the "culture shock" when she first visited downtown Huntington—the girl from the "big city"—there was no comparison.

Early on in her marriage to "Simmy", she helped him run their restaurant, the Corral Drive-Inn near Marshall University, then got her real estate license so she could help him in his real estate development business.

In addition to helping out with the restaurant business and her husband's real estate interests, Louise worked several years for an insurance company before coming to the Corps of Engineers in 1963, Beginning in the typing pool before becoming secretary to the Chief of Engineering, she later became the secretary to the Colonel in charge of the Huntington Corps, where she remained for nearly four decades.

Louise will spend much of her retirement time as a long-time booster of Marshall University's sports activities, especially the football team, and attending the sporting events involving her two grandchildren, Mark 14 and Elizabeth 12.

Louise loves to travel, back to New Jersey with family and friends. Early this summer she took a 2-week vacation to Italy, to revisit the history of her parentage, and to steep herself in the culture and traditions of her parents' homeland.

Other retirement activities will include her dedication to walking (twice around Ritter Park at least 5 days a week), watching old movies, and perfecting her Italian cooking. Louise is an active member of Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church, the Women's Club of Huntington, and participates in the Professional Secretaries Association.

I wish all the best for Louise, her husband, son Alan and her grandchildren as she embarks upon her Golden Years giving all her uninterrupted energy and love to her family, to her church, and to the community to which she has already contributed so abundantly throughout her remarkable life in her adopted State of West Virginia.

HONORING BASIL T. KNIGHT

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I now honor an extraordinary

human being and great American, Basil T. Knight. Mr. Knight was an educator that changed the lives of literally thousands of young men and women over his more than seven decades as an educator in western Colorado. As family, friends, former students and colleagues mourn this profound loss, I would like to honor this truly great American.

Mr. Knight was an individual that reached out to help every human being that he came in contact with. As an educator, countless students in District 51 have been affected by this remarkable man and each are better off because of his service. Basil began his legendary educational career as a substitute teacher at Mount Lincoln School near Palisade, Colorado, in 1923. He went on to become Principal only a year later. In 1925, Basil became a math teacher at Grand Junction High School where he remained for over three decades. As remarkable as his teaching career was, his immense impact upon the community continued long after he left the classroom.

Mr. Knight was elected County Supervisor of Schools in 1965, which placed him in charge of over 40 schools within the county. As supervisor, he continued to work to ensure that the children in his community would receive the best education possible. His commitment to education earned him not only the Educator of the Year award in 1974 from the Colorado Education Association, but also the District 51 staff development center now bears his name. Employees and visitors alike are reminded of his unmatched commitment to education every time they set foot in the Basil T. Knight Center.

Mr. Knight's passion for serving children extended well into his golden years. In fact, he played an instrumental role in the passage of a recent school bond initiative that helped improve a number of existing schools in the Grand Junction area and build two new ones. The passing of this bond was the answer to a wish he made on his 100th birthday. Beyond his brick and mortar contributions to School District 51, Mr. Knight's legacy will also endure in his five A's philosophy (attendance, attitude, attention, achievement and ABC's), a philosophy still used by the district today.

Former State Senator Tilman Bishop, in a recent article in the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, helps to sum up the impact Basil had on his community: "Many generations have and will benefit from Basil T. Knight, to say he was a unique person is an understatement. Thank you Basil for all you stood for and believed in."

Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, as you can see, this extraordinary human being truly deserves our gratitude and our thanks. It is individuals like Basil who are committed to bettering the lives of America's youth through both education and public service that make our great country what it is today. Basil T. Knight may be gone, but his proud and distinguished legacy will long endure.

America is most assuredly a better place for having known Basil T. Knight.

PROPOSED TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL DOUGLAS E. WADE, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Douglas E. Wade as he prepares to culminate his active duty career in the United States Air Force. Doug is the epitome of an outstanding officer and leader.

Lieutenant Colonel Wade began his career more than 20 years ago as an enlisted soldier in the Army. He then received his direct commission as a second lieutenant in the Air Force. A law graduate of Ohio State University, as well as the Air Command and Staff College, Doug Wade has met the many challenges of military service as an Air Force Officer, and has faithfully served his country in a variety of command and staff assignments.

Doug concludes his career as the Director for House Affairs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs; he was instrumental in advising the Defense Department leadership on a broad range of national security issues of immediate interest to Congress. Doug's personal rapport with the House leadership and Members of Congress was vital in ensuring Department of Defense programs were clearly presented and soundly defended on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Speaker, service and dedication to duty have been the hallmarks of Lieutenant Colonel Wade's career. He has served our nation and the Air Force well during his years of service, and we are indebted for his many contributions and sacrifices in the defense of the United States. I am sure that everyone who has worked with Doug joins me in wishing him and his family health, happiness, and success in the years to come.

HONORING DONELDA WARHURST AND LIZ STUMPF OF YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I honor Donelda Warhurst and Liz Stumpf, teachers at Bryant Ranch School, in Yorba Linda, California. Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf are more than just educators; they are passionate, inspiring leaders who encourage their students to reach beyond the walls of the classroom in their pursuit of knowledge.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf spearheaded the award-winning "Once Upon a River" curriculum. "Once Upon a River" is an integrated, cross curriculum approach that allows students to learn more about the Santa Ana River while simultaneously mastering grade-level skills in language arts, math, science, social studies, and the arts.

In addition to studying the chemistry and biology of the water, the historical importance of

the Santa Ana River, and data collection skills, the students also have a public property access permit to carry-out mitigation of Arundo Donax, Castor Bean, and Tamarisk. Students have applied their knowledge to effectively clear the area of Arundo Donax, an introduced species of bamboo that was threatening native plants, build and install bluebird boxes, and educate others about the Santa Ana River.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf have showcased and furthered the work of their students through various community partnerships. The Orange County Park Service and the Orange County Flood Control District have served as advisors. Students have also worked with officials at the City of Yorba Linda and a local bat biologist.

"Once Upon a River" has been a success. After five years and 10,080 volunteer hours provided by 280 students, an acre of the highly invasive "Arundo Donax" has been completely removed along the Santa Ana River.

Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf have been recognized by the Orange County Board of Supervisors, the Placentia Yorba Linda Unified School Board, and the Points of Light Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this House please join me in recognizing, honoring and commending Ms. Warhurst and Mrs. Stumpf for their creativity, leadership, and commitment to their students.

A TRIBUTE TO NICK ROMANO

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to my good friend and a life-long supporter of working men and women, Nick Romano, who retired July 1, 2000 after 42 years of dedicated service to and membership in the United Auto Workers (UAW).

Nicholas Romano was hired in 1958 at the Milwaukee manufacturing plant of American Motors. Throughout his years at the American Motors Body Plant, Chrysler and the UAW, Nick has been a progressive advocate for his union brothers and sisters, his neighbors and community. A selfless leader, Nick seized every opportunity available to express the opinions of organized labor to his elected officials locally, on the state level and nationally. Nick organized and participated in many grass-roots lobbying efforts to bring labor-related issues and concerns into the limelight.

The union membership granted Nick many official duties, including group steward, head steward, benefits representative, chair of the bargaining committee, member of the Local 75 Executive Board (culminating in the last 15 years as Local President), member of the national UAW negotiating team for the DaimlerChrysler national contract negotiations and a seat on the Wisconsin State UAW CAP Executive Board until his retirement last month.

It will be literally impossible to replace Nick Romano and forget all that he has done and meant to the UAW in southeastern Wisconsin, the Midwest and our nation. But let each and every one of us learn from Nick's four decades' worth of leadership to step up and do the best we can to live by his example. May God bless you Nick, Judy and your family.

Nick will be honored by UAW International Representatives, Region 4 and Local Representatives, his family and many friends at a retirement dinner Saturday, September 9 in Milwaukee. I personally extend my thanks and well wishes to Nick for all that he's done.

HONORING ROBERT STANTON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I wish to take this moment to recognize the remarkable life and achievements of one of Colorado's leading public servants, Robert Stanton, who recently passed away. As family, friends, and neighbors mourn his passing, I would like to honor this great Coloradan.

For the better half of a decade, Mr. Stanton served faithfully as the president of the Bonfils-Stanton foundation. This foundation was established in 1962 by Charles Edwin Stanton following the death of his wife, Mary Madeline Bonfils, and is devoted to the advancement of philanthropic causes. Robert has made numerous contributions to many organizations, including the University of Colorado Health and Sciences Center and the University of Denver Biological Sciences Department where he created an endowment. In honor of Ira E. Cutler.

Robert had an extremely distinguished professional career working for the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, the Board of Examiners for Engineers and Land Surveyors, the National Society of Professional Surveyors Inc., the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, as well as supervising fieldwork for oil companies in Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas. Mr. Stanton's life was one of distinction both professionally and in the realm of public service.

In addition to his distinguished professional career, Mr. Stanton still found time to serve his community and state and that is why his memory will live on in the minds of many. I am confident, Mr. Speaker, that in the face of this loss, family and friends can take comfort in the knowledge that each is a better person for having known him.

He will be greatly missed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "WORK MADE FOR HIRE AND COPYRIGHT CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2000"

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with subcommittee ranking Member HOWARD BERMAN and subcommittee chairman HOWARD COBLE to introduce the "Work Made for Hire and Copyright Corrections Act of 2000," which strikes "sound recordings" from the definition of "work made for hire" in section 101 of the Copyright Act.

This bill undoes an amendment to the Copyright Act made last November, an amendment

that changed the Act to treat "sound recordings" as "works made for hire." Without the benefit of Committee hearings or other debate, that change effectively terminated any future interest that artists might have in their sound recordings and turned them over permanently to the record companies.

Fortunately, all of the interested parties—the Members, the recording artists, and the recording industry—after hearing testimony at a Subcommittee hearing now agree that the provision must be struck, that we must return the law to where it was on November 28, 1999, the day before the amendment passed into law, so that artists' authorship rights are preserved.

I am pleased that the recording industry has worked diligently with the recording artists to reach agreement on how to do just that. Arrived at after several months of negotiations, this bill ensures that we return to status quo ante on "sound recordings" with respect to whether and under what circumstances they are considered "works made for hire." The bill is retroactive to the date section 1011(d) was enacted. As such, this bill will function as if section 1011(d) never existed; the artists and industry have the same rights now that they did on November 28, 1999.

I ask my colleagues to support this compromise legislation. Vote "Yes" when it comes before the full House.

A TRIBUTE TO KIRKLAND TEEN CENTER

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, we hear so much these days about the problems plaguing today's young people that sometimes the positives are drowned out. Therefore, I rise today to publicly recognize the Kirkland Teen Center. I will be attending the center's groundbreaking ceremony this Saturday, and I want to take a moment to make my colleagues aware of this extraordinary center, created by our youth for our youth.

The center's operating partner, Friends of Youth, is a local non-profit agency with nineteen locations throughout King and Snohomish Counties. The Friends of Youth's mission is to: develop, provide and advocate services for children, youth, their families and communities that encourage individual growth and promote constructive relationships.

Mr. Speaker, that mission will be the guiding force behind this drug-free and alcohol-free youth center. The center will include a coffee shop with a teen manager, provide poetry classes, as well as provide a state of the art recording studio, a modern photography lab, and a graphic art/animation technology station. Moreover, the center is being built from the ground up and will connect with the Kirkland Senior Center, allowing for intergenerational programs and events. The center allows teens to develop positive relationships with peers and adults, and parents to have the security in knowing their child is spending time at a safe place.

I hosted three informative town meetings in my district last year about the need for after-school programs. I strongly believe that after-

school programs are an excellent, well-proven way to keep teens from engaging in criminal activities. The time between school bells and dinner bells presents the most risk to our young people, and in an age when most parents are unable to stay home with their children, we must provide safe and productive activities for our youth. The Kirkland Teen Center is a perfect example of a safe, after-school center, and I believe Congress would do well to promote more centers like this one around the country.

All of the youth that volunteered their time to plan, or serve on this center's Board of Directors and Advisory Board, deserve our praise for their hard work and selfless dedication to their community as a whole. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating everyone involved in the Kirkland Teen Center for a job well done.

IN HONOR OF JIMMY SIMS, ROBERTSON COUNTY, KY FIRE-FIGHTER

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Jimmy Sims, who recently retired as Fire Chief of the Robertson County, KY Fire Department.

Mr. Sims' retirement wraps up nearly a half-century of dedicated service to his community. He is the only surviving founding member of the volunteer department, which was started in 1951. Mr. Sims served as chief from 1975–1999. Another example of his extraordinary level of dedication—his home served as the county fire dispatch center for 24 years. From 1969–1993, he took emergency calls and dispatched crews from his home.

Mr. Sims helped his neighbors countless times over the years, responding to round-the-clock calls for help, saving lives and protecting property.

I rise today to commend Chief Sims for his commitment to helping his neighbors in Robertson County. I ask all my fellow Members of Congress to join me in commending this fine public servant, and wishing him well in his retirement.

HONORING JOHNNETTE PHILLIPS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 06, 2000

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to honor the distinguished service of the Honorable Johnette Phillips of Eagle County, Colorado. Johnette is retiring as Eagle County Commissioner after serving admirably for nearly a decade. Her outstanding commitment is unparalleled and her contributions immeasurable.

For Johnette, serving her community comes naturally. Before serving as commissioner, she used her natural leadership ability as Eagle County Clerk and Recorder, serving for nearly 15 years. Beyond her efforts as Clerk and Recorder and Commissioner, Johnette has helped advance the cause of a

number of worthy organizations, serving as President and Second Vice President of Colorado Counties, Inc., Northwest Colorado Council of Governments Executive Board and President of both the American Legion Auxiliary and the Colorado State Association of County Clerks and Records.

Johnnette's drive and determination has not only improved her local community, but also earned her national recognition. Ms. Phillips received the well-deserved honor of being named among Who's Who in U.S. Executives in 1995 and Who's Who in Women Executives in 1996. What more, her service has won her the admiration of an entire community.

On behalf of the State of Colorado and the United States Congress, Johnnette, I thank you for your service and wish you the very best in your future endeavors. Your immense contributions to Eagle County will not be soon forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT ANGUIANO

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Robert Anguiano of Corpus Christi's Tuloso-Midway High School, for winning the Hispanic Heritage Awards Foundation National Youth Award for Sports. This young man has an enormous amount of discipline and endurance.

Robert has accomplished a great deal in the field of sports and academics, and I am proud that he was chosen for this honor. Robert is in the top 20% of his class, an athlete-scholar with a litany of associations including honors clubs, leadership awards and community service. He is precisely the sort of young person that the Hispanic Heritage Awards Foundation seeks to reward.

Robert has an unusual determination. This became particularly evident when he badly hurt his knee while playing tennis. He went through two and one half months on crutches and hours of physical therapy. His doctors told him he could play tennis again, but would not be competitive due to the seriousness of the injury. He did not let their admonitions deter him from his game.

Robert won this award, not because he had a particularly good year, but because he has been a steady, reliable athlete and has always been in it for the long haul. His coach credits him with holding his tennis team together during a transition and leading them to the regional level.

This young man is more than an athlete; he is a scholar, a young leader in his school and community, and he volunteers his time to teach tennis to younger people in the community. He is a National Honor Society member, captain of his tennis team, and has a grade point average of 3.74.

The Hispanic Heritage Awards celebrates the achievements of outstanding Hispanic Americans in the arts, literature, leadership, education and sports. The awards program provides an important service to the community and youth by profiling Hispanic American role models. The awards, which are endorsed by 34 national Hispanic organizations who serve as the nominating committee, is the only

program co-hosted by all of these organizations.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Robert Anguiano for his accomplishments and his quiet leadership in the classroom and on the tennis court, and in commending the Hispanic Heritage Awards for their efforts in rewarding the excellence among our young people.

A TRIBUTE TO A VETERAN, HERB KING

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Herb King who is being honored on September 8th at the California Gay Veterans Memorial Dinner as the winner of the Sheila Kuehl Leadership Award.

Herb is a long-time friend. He was born in September, 1918 and graduated from the Boston Latin School, the oldest public school in the United States. He attended the University of Massachusetts in Amherst and graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in June, 1940 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology and Public Health.

He went on active duty as a reserve Army Second Lieutenant in October of 1940. When Pearl Harbor was attacked the following December, he volunteered for field duty, served in the North African and Italian campaigns, and reached the rank of Major and a Battalion Commander.

At the Quartermaster Subsistence Research Laboratory in Chicago, Herb developed the formula for a concentrated ration that was designated as the "K" Ration, based on his last name. After World War II, he became an industrial engineer in the food industry, designing food processing plants. He retired over 20 years ago.

Herb has been on the executive board of the California Democratic Party, twice a delegate to the Democratic National Convention, a member of the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America since it was founded in 1990, and a founding member and participant of the Federation of Gay Games. He was one of four gay and lesbian veterans who participated in a nation-wide bus tour in 1993, promoting equal rights for gays and lesbians in military service. Herb currently writes a regular column for the San Diego Gay and Lesbian Times and is a member of the San Diego Gay and Lesbian Band.

The Sheila Kuehl Leadership Award that Herb is receiving is named for California State Assemblymember Sheila Kuehl. The proceeds from this Memorial Dinner will be dedicated to building California's first Lesbian Gay and Bisexual Veterans Memorial in Palm Springs.

As a Member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am pleased to recognize Herb King for his military service to our nation and for his friendship and support.

THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF SAGINAW

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise and give thanks to the First Congregational Church of Saginaw for the devotion its members have shown to the community, serving as a beacon of hope to those mistakenly sounding the death knell for a vibrant city on the cusp of a renaissance.

The church's story is one of survival and perseverance through many struggles, toils and tears. Members first gathered together in 1857, constructing the present church building in Romanesque Revival style in 1868 with plans by Detroit architect Gordon W. Lloyd. A fellowship hall, school wing, the Bethlehem Chapel and the former Mary E. Dow House designed by Alden B. Dow were added later.

Visitors to First Congregational cannot help but cast an awestruck eye on its elegant beauty and the inspiration its sanctuary gives to all who stand in it. The original sanctuary windows were replaced with magnificent stained glass, adding a special touch to the stately 1913 Louis Comfort Tiffany window in the north transept. The church, a bulwark ever-changing, did more building and restoration in 1973 following a fire that destroyed the sanctuary roof.

Churches, however, are more than bricks and mortar. First Congregational members have included names familiar to Saginaw's history, such as Morley, Wickes and Frank Andersen. Today's members continue to take a lead-by-example approach by participating in PRIDE, the East Side Soup Kitchen, Hidden Harvest, Habitat for Humanity, the Saginaw Community Foundation, the Saginaw Choral Society and many other groups. With an annual Musical Arts Concert, they also offer an ear-pleasing addition to the city's cultural bounty.

Recently, the church agreed to provide college scholarships to all incoming Central Intermediate School sixth-grade students who graduate from high school and go on to college.

Mr. Speaker, this clearly is a church that has taken its Christian mission to heart by not abandoning Saginaw, but instead acting as a good neighbor in finding ways to improve the lives of its residents.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JACKSON COUNTY LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 75th anniversary of the Jackson County League of Women Voters.

The League of Women Voters of the United States was formed in 1920 by suffragettes who wanted to ensure that the newly enfranchised women would be informed about the voting process and about how to vote. Five

years later, a group of women in Jackson County began a league locally.

For 75 years the Jackson County League of Women Voters has helped all voters, men and women, to prepare for elections. The League has held demonstrations on how to vote, sponsored forums for candidates to explain their views and published election guides. For several decades, League members have served in Jackson County as deputy registrars, registering voters at local events and stores.

The League believes in open and accountable government. Locally, it promoted the City Manager form of government for the City of Carbondale and has studied the professionalization of and the various forms of both city and county government. For many years before the advent of the Open Meetings Act which requires that public bodies post agendas and hold open meetings, the League sent observers to many public meetings as a reminder to public officials about the citizens whom they serve.

The Jackson County League of Women Voters has also helped to desegregate the schools, integrate the neighborhoods, develop recycling and other environmental programs, create standards for large scale livestock farms and ensure the safety of the drinking water. The League has also published a guide to mental health services in the County and a booklet about county offices. Nationally, the League has studied issues as wide-ranging as national security, urban transportation and health care.

Currently, the League of Jackson County is working to break the cycle of violence in children by ending aggressive behavior in schools, a project through the local health department. It is examining the forms of election of Illinois State legislators and promoting campaign finance reform. The League sponsors a series of talks by local county officials on local issues. It is studying the need for a new County Courthouse and other facilities. The League is also encouraging voters to take a friend to vote, as a means to encourage citizens to vote. The League of Women Voters adheres to the belief that democracy is not a spectator sport.

The League of Women Voters is open to men and women, at least 18 years of age. The League is non-partisan, but involved in many efforts in our communities. Always, the focus of the League is encouraging active citizen involvement and participation in the community and in the government.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the men and women of Jackson County on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Jackson County League of Women Voters.

IN SUPPORT OF VAWA
REAUTHORIZATION

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge the leadership of the House of Representatives to schedule floor action on the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), which expires this year.

The Violence Against Women Act, H.R. 1248, was reported out of the House Judiciary Committee on June 27, 2000. With 216 co-sponsors, H.R. 1248 enjoys strong bipartisan support. It reauthorizes current VAWA grant programs for 5 years, makes targeted improvements, and adds important new programs.

The passage of the Violence Against Women Act in 1994 was one of the greatest accomplishments of the 103rd Congress and the Clinton Administration. Since 1995, VAWA grants have provided a major source of funding for national and local programs to reduce rape, stalking, and domestic violence. The 1994 Act bolstered the prosecution of child abuse, sexual assault, and domestic violence cases; provided services for victims by funding shelters and sexual assault crisis centers; increased resources for law enforcement and prosecutors; and created a National Domestic Violence Hotline.

VAWA has made a difference in the lives of millions of women, but we need to do more. We must ensure that we adequately address the needs of all victims of domestic violence and sexual assault including immigrant women, older women, women with disabilities, and women of color. We must help women who are trying to escape domestic violence by providing transitional housing and legal assistance services.

H.R. 1248 vastly improves VAWA by strengthening the existing provisions and by adding new provisions to address dating violence, reach underserved populations, facilitate enforcement of state and tribal protective orders nationwide, provide transitional housing, create programs for supervised visitation and exchange for children, develop training programs on elder abuse for law enforcement personnel and prosecutors, provide civil legal assistance funds, strengthen the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, and more.

Passage of the Violence Against Women Act has been identified as the top priority of the Congressional Women's Caucus. It is certainly one of my top priorities.

I urge the leadership to schedule a vote on this vital legislation within the next ten days. The Senate is ready to vote on its VAWA bill. We must be ready to go to conference and to send this bill to the president before the 106th Congress adjourns.

We cannot in good conscience go home to our districts without acting on this critical legislation, which so strongly impacts the safety and well being of women and children throughout our nation.

TRIBUTE TO ST. ANDREW'S AFRICAN
METHODIST EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to St. Andrew's African Methodist Episcopal Church of Sacramento. On October 1, 2000, St. Andrew's will be celebrating its 150th anniversary. It is the oldest church of its kind on the Pacific Coast. As the Congregation members gather to celebrate, I ask all of my col-

leagues to join with me in saluting this monumental achievement.

St. Andrew's was founded in 1850, three months before California was admitted as the 31st state to the Union. It is the first African Methodist Episcopal Church and the first African-American religious congregation established on the Pacific Coast of the United States.

In the beginning, a small group of worshippers gathered in Sacramento at the home of Daniel Blue. Under the leadership of Barney Fletcher, this group would form the church that would later be known as St. Andrew's A.M.E. Church. In the fall of 1850, Reverend Isaac Owen, pastor of the Seventh Street Methodist Episcopal Church, participated in the formal organizing of the church.

The first trustees, James R. Brown, John Barton, George Fletcher, John L. Wilson, and Chesterfield Jackson purchased part of the lot in the square between G and H Streets. At this site, the first church was erected and named the Methodist Church of Colored People of Sacramento. In 1851, the members of the church petitioned the Indiana Conference for admission to the African Methodist Episcopal Church and officially became the Bethel African Methodist Church. Later in the 19th century, the church acquired its current name, St. Andrew's African Methodist Episcopal Church.

St. Andrew's has been a pioneer in organizing an educational and religious haven for people of color. In 1854, the first A.M.E. Sunday School in the far west was organized. This also became the site of the first public school organized for children of African, Asian, and Native American descent. In 1855, the church was the site of the first statewide convention of the colored citizens of California. This was the first organized political activity by people of African descent in California aimed at securing citizenship rights.

During the following years of westward expansion in the United States, St. Andrew's became a pivotal point in the far west for African Methodism, and it hosted numerous political, secular, educational, and cultural activities for African Americans. The church helped to develop educated and trained leaders of the African American community, even before the end of slavery.

Today, St. Andrew's continues to shine as a pillar for the community. In 1995, the church was recognized as a California Registered Landmark for being the oldest African-American Church on the Pacific Coast. For 150 years, the church has admirably served the ethnically diverse Sacramento community.

Mr. Speaker, as the exceptional people of St. Andrew's African Methodist Episcopal Church gather to celebrate their 150th anniversary, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most outstanding institutions. Throughout their proud history, the people of St. Andrew's have maintained an impressive tradition of service to the African-American community and other minority communities in greater Sacramento. I ask all my colleagues to join with me in wishing the people of St. Andrew's continued success in all their future endeavors.

SALUTE TO BEVERLY ANN KING
2000 MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT REGIONAL MINORITY ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

HON. JULIAN C. DIXON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. DIXON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to salute my constituent and my friend, Beverly Ann King, who is being singled out for her enormous contributions to minority entrepreneurs with the National Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week Award, which will be presented to her in Washington, DC, on Wednesday, September 27, 2000. Each year, the President of the United States designates one week as Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week to honor outstanding members of the business sector. I am proud to note that in addition to being a recipient of the national Award, Beverly also received the Region IX MEDWeek Award at a luncheon in her honor on Thursday, August 31, 2000, and on Wednesday, October 18, 2000, will be honored with the local Los Angeles MED Week Award, at a luncheon in her honor at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

President and Chief Executive Officer of BAK Management, Beverly King is recognized nationally for her expertise in the conceptualization and implementation of programs benefitting minority, women, and disadvantaged business (MBE/WBE/DBE) owners. She has been a much sought after advocate for minority entrepreneurs for nearly two decades, as she has worked to ensure participation and parity for MBE/WBE/DBE enterprises in government and business contracting opportunities. As an expert in the field of MBE/WBE/DBE programs, she is a frequent lecturer and conducts seminars and training programs into the concepts and skills necessary for a successful minority business program.

Ms. King founded Beverly A. King (BAK) Management Consulting in July 1986. Her numerous clients have included the City of Los Angeles, Bunker Hill Tower, the Southern California Gas Company (now SEMPRA Energy), and Turner Construction. She continues to represent Turner Construction, serving as the company's Community Affairs Director and MBE/WBE/EEO Administrator.

Prior to establishing BAK Management Consulting, Beverly served six years as Equal Opportunity Manager for the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) in Los Angeles. Her duties included overseeing all civil rights/EEO activities associated with the construction of Los Angeles' Century Freeway project, and serving as the FHA's representative on the Century Freeway Affirmative Action Committee.

During the early years of her career, Beverly worked in our nation's capital for Senator Ralph Yarborough of Texas and Congresswoman Yvonne Brathwaite Burke of Los Angeles. She attended Prairie View A&M College in Texas, Howard University in Washington, DC, and earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles.

The recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the President's Award presented by the Black Business Association of Los Angeles, in August 1992 she was named by

Speaker Thomas Foley to a four year term as a member of the United States Glass Ceiling Commission.

She is on the Corporate Advisory Board and a member of the Black Business Association; the Asian Business Association; the National Association of Minority Contractors of Southern California; and Women Construction Executives of Los Angeles. In addition, she has served on the Advisory Board of the UCLA Graduate School of Business. Furthermore, she is chair of the Legislative Task Force of Black Women's Forum and serves on the Board of Black Women of Achievement.

Mr. Speaker, Beverly A. King is indeed a woman of achievement. The fruits of her labors bear witness through the growth of the many successful MBE/WBE/DBE's engaged today in businesses throughout the Los Angeles community. It is a pleasure to publicly commend her, and to extend heartfelt congratulations to her on the high honors she is so deservedly receiving at this time. On behalf of the residents of the 32nd Congressional District of Los Angeles, I thank her and wish her continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RICHARD
D. ROMERO

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with regret and deep sadness that I announce the passing of Inland Empire businessman, philanthropist, and community leader Richard Romero, at the age of 64.

Richard demonstrated vision and entrepreneurial spirit in the Inland Empire for over 30 years, opening his first dealership, Pomona Valley Datsun, in 1970. Today his business interests include 8 automobile franchises, a wholesale auto auction and a real estate company.

Throughout the years, Richard had a large presence in the Inland Empire, both as a businessman and community leader. He believed that what makes this country great is our individual commitments to philanthropies.

Richard and his wife of 38 years, Val, sponsored and supported many service organizations and programs for children including: an annual Christmas Choral Competition which awards monetary grants to 5 area high schools, a Christmas Program which provides gifts for over 300 foster children, Assistance League of Pomona Valley, Kiwanis, Ontario Chamber of Commerce and National Charity League.

Richard was born in rural Socorro, New Mexico, September 4, 1935, son of Clara and James Romero. He began working at age 9 washing cars and working in a service station. He earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, and for 6 years served our country in the Army Reserve Tank Corps. He then worked as assistant auditor for the state of New Mexico.

He moved to Los Angeles to work as an auditor for 20th Century Fox, at which time he also began his career in the retail auto business when he bought a small gas station from which he began refurbishing and selling used cars.

Richard was Chairman of the Board of Empire Nissan, Romero Motors Corporation, Jeep/Chrysler/Plymouth of Ontario, Toyota of Glendale and J. McCullough Corporation. He had served as a board member of the California Motor Car Dealers Association and the Chairman of the Board and CEO of Acquirecorp's Norwalk Auto Auction, Oremor Management & Investment Company and Oremor Development L.L.C.

Richard received several awards within the industry, including Chrysler Corporation's "Five Star Award for Excellence" and Nissan's President Inner Circle Award. In 1987, he was honored as the only Californian to receive the Import Car Dealer of Distinction Award. He was also the winner of the Time Magazine's Quality Dealer Award and named Mr. Hispanic Business Man of the Year, 1985.

In addition to being listed in "Who's Who in California", he was also named 1987 Humanitarian of the Year by the Alliance of Latino Business Association. He served with the Deukmejian administration as a California Transportation Commissioner. He also served on the Board of Governors of Opportunity Funding Corporation, a nonprofit, Washington, D.C. based organization, which helps minority members start and/or expand small businesses. Additionally, he worked closely with King Juan Carlos of Spain when he served on the Board of Governors for Expo '92 in Seville.

Richard was the founder and former chairman of the board of directors of Empire Bank and also served for over 20 years on the Board of Trustees for the University of La Verne, which chose him for their 1998 President's Award. Additionally, he served on the Board of Governors for the Rose Institute of Claremont McKenna College. The Romeros had the honor of meeting and hosting several dignitaries and celebrities in their home including Chief of Staff Howard Baker under President Ronald Reagan, Former Governor Pete Wilson, Lord Roger Keyes, Sir Julien and Lady Ridsdale, and heavy weight champion George Foreman. He had also met and conferred with Presidents Reagan, Bush, Ford and Carter.

Richard is survived by his wife Val; son R.J.; two daughters Valerie and Christina; and four grandchildren with one on the way.

Richard will be missed by family and friends alike. He touched us all with his kind deeds and leadership in our community.

U.S. SHOULD SHOW SOLIDARITY
WITH IRANIAN RESISTANCE

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, Mohammad Khatami, the president of Iran, is scheduled to speak at the United Nations' Millennium Summit in New York today. More than 10,000 Iranian-Americans protested yesterday in front of the United Nations saying that Khatami does not represent the Iranian people, and should not be speaking at this summit.

Unfortunately I was not able to join U.S. Senator ROBERT TORRICELLI, and my colleagues in the House, CAROLYN MALONEY, GARY ACKERMAN, and GREGORY MEEKS at this impressive rally. But, Mr. Speaker, I want to

voice my strong support for the 10,000 Iranian-Americans who were in front of the UN yesterday rallying for freedom and democracy in Iran. The crowd was chanting yesterday that the true representative of the Iranian people is the National Council of Resistance of Iran, and its president-elect, Maryam Rajavi. I couldn't agree more.

The United States should not be supporting Khatami. He is not the reformer the press has made him out to be. The fact is, under Khatami, Iran's human rights record has gotten worse. Under Khatami, Iran continues to be an aggressive supporter of international terrorism. The fact is, the Khatami presidency has brought more misery and despair to the Iranian people.

I would like to send this message to all the world leaders attending, the summit: support the Resistance's call for democracy in Iran and ban tyrants like Khatami from the UN.

TRIBUTE TO MARY MIYASHITA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary Miyashita, who will be recognized as the Special Honoree for Lifetime Achievement at a reception held by Asian Week on August 13, 2000. This event will honor the Asian and Pacific Islander American Delegates to the Democratic National Convention 2000.

Mary and I have been friends for 25 years and I am delighted to join her many admirers in honoring her lifetime of selfless and energetic service to the Asian-American community and to the Democratic party. I know of no one who has been more generous with her time, energy, money and even her home, than Mary has been in the pursuit of justice and equal opportunity for every individual.

Mary has served on a plethora of civic organizations. She has been a board member of the ACLU, the League of Women Voters, Women for Peace, the PTA and the Whittier Area Fair Housing Committee. She was a founding member of the Advisory Board of Meals on Wheels and of the Woman and Children's Crisis Shelter.

The Democratic Party has no more stalwart member than Mary Miyashita. Since Adlai Stevenson's 1948 gubernatorial campaign, no major election has passed without Mary's active participation. She is a true believer in representative democracy, working tirelessly on behalf of numerous local, state and federal candidates and helping tip the electoral scales on more than one occasion.

Mary has been either a delegate or an alternate to every Democratic National Convention since 1972. She served on the Los Angeles County Democratic Party's Central Committee for 20 years. Among the many awards showered upon her by grateful party organizations are Key Woman of the Democratic Woman's Forum, Democratic Woman of the Year in 1975 and "Superstar of '78." Mary is definitely a Superstar every year as far as I'm concerned.

In 1976, Mary helped found the first Asian Pacific Caucus, which has grown into a prestigious and highly effective advocacy organiza-

tion. Her service to the Asian-American community is virtually without peer. She has been my confidant and advisor on issues of importance to her for decades.

In short, Mary is one of my favorite people and I am delighted to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting her—for her outstanding achievements, for her dedicated work, and for her charm and her delightful personality. I am very proud to have Mary as my friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present to cast my votes on rollcall votes 443–450. Had I been present, I would have voted aye on rollcall No. 443, aye on rollcall No. 444, aye on rollcall No. 445, aye on rollcall No. 446, aye on rollcall No. 447, aye on rollcall No. 448, nay on rollcall No. 449, and aye on rollcall No. 450.

IN HONOR OF MARION'S CONTINENTAL RESTAURANT

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the opening of Marion's Continental Restaurant. Since 1950, Marion's has been a culinary delight for all New Yorkers. The savory continental cuisine served at Marion's is some of the city's finest. I am thrilled that Marion Nagy came to this country to live the American dream and, in doing so, has endeared Marion's to the hearts of New Yorkers. Restaurants come and go in New York City, but Marion's has endured for half a century. This is a true testament to the superb quality and hospitality available at Marion's.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Marion's Continental Restaurant and I urge my colleagues to join me today in honoring and celebrating the anniversary of their 50 years serving the people of New York City.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNY GILL

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who spent his life advocating for agriculture and farming, and for the future of many of the people in the Salinas Valley of California. Johnny Gill passed away last month at his Lockwood, California home at the age of 47. The cause of his death was amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

Mr. Gill operated the John Gill Ranch in Monterey County, California, and was a pillar of agricultural life in that area. 25 years ago he started the King City Young Farmers organiza-

tion and served actively as its first president to see its success. He was also active in many other local agricultural and community based organizations, including the 4-H, Little League, and the Sober Graduation program. Mr. Gill was also a Premier Sponsor and active member of the King City Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture. And, in a tribute befitting a figure such as Mr. Gill, last February, more than 900 people came together to honor him as King City's "Citizen of the Year" for 1999. This event, besides celebrating the accomplishments of Mr. Gill, also raised \$375,000 to fight ALS and included a speech of tribute by actor Clint Eastwood, another Monterey County resident.

John Gill was a man of much accomplishment, even tending to all of his farming duties up until the end of his life. He was a role model for so many of our nation's farmers and citizens in general, and he will be sorely missed by his wife Pam Gill; his parents Jack and Augusta Gill of Paso Robles; his sons Francis Gill of King City, Jared Gill of Hollister and Bret Davis of Salinas; and his sisters Melinda Stewart of Paso Robles and Jeannine Mansfield of Burke, Washington.

IN HONOR OF JULIAN "RICH" RICHARDSON

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage and tribute to a great community leader and mentor. Julian "Rich" Richardson, an honorable member of the Oakland/San Francisco Bay Area community, and a great distributor of knowledge to the human family, passed away Monday, August 21, 2000.

It was an honor and privilege to have known this incredible man, whom I called my friend. One of eight children, Rich put himself through school at the Tuskegee Institute, founded by Booker T. Washington, working nights and weekends at a print shop. He studied under the famous scientist George Washington Carver, and earned a degree in Lithography.

While at Tuskegee Institute he married his beautiful and brilliant wife, Raye, and they settled in San Francisco in the 1940's, a time when Black people were still denied access to many hotels, restaurants, and jobs that paid a livable wage. During the Korean conflict he served his country in the Army as a map printer, and in 1960 launched Success Printing, a printing and publishing company.

Julian Richardson then opened Success Books, later renamed Marcus Books, after Marcus Garvey, the Jamaican and Harlem-based Black Nationalist who urged Blacks to foster a connection to their African homeland and learn a history commonly ignored in American textbooks.

Marcus Books is not only one of the oldest Black-owned bookstores in the country, it is a venue for new and vintage novels, a place for the community to meet with the numerous Black intellectuals, poets, and legends who frequent the store on book tours. Rich not only sold books that bettered the lives and intellects of countless members of the community, he cultivated an audience for the books and nurtured authors, even publishing a number of them.

Rich, with his family by his side, introduced a world of literature and an appreciation of books to thousands of people who would not have had such an opportunity without his landmark bookstores. At Marcus Bookstores, I personally spent many hours among my heroes; the intellectuals, artists, musicians, poets, and authors that spoke through the enormous collection of works contained within the shelves. Many times I came across authors with whom I was unfamiliar, and this remarkable community institution allowed me to expand my intellect and world view by discovering their work.

Rich was a giant among men, a champion for Black people and a true leader in every sense of the word. His great insight and wisdom allowed him to be a mentor, educator, and even a surrogate to young men in the community who did not know their fathers and looked to him for advice, support, and criticism that was given with compassion. On a personal level, Rich always encouraged me no matter what I was doing—as a student, an aide to Congressman Ron Dellums, and throughout my career of public service—Rich uplifted my spirits and told me to carry on.

I know I speak for the thousands of individuals whose lives have been bettered in saying that Julian "Rich" Richardson will be greatly missed, and that his contribution to the Black community and the entire world is immeasurable.

SOCIAL SECURITY TAX RELIEF ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of the Social Security Tax Relief Act (H.R. 4865). By repealing the 1993 tax increase on Social Security benefits, Congress will take a good first step toward eliminating one of the most unfair taxes imposed on seniors: the tax on Social Security benefits.

Eliminating the 1993 tax on Social Security benefits has long been one of my goals in Congress. In fact, I introduced legislation to repeal this tax increase in 1997, and I am pleased to see Congress acting on this issue. I would remind my colleagues that the justification for increasing this tax in 1993 was to reduce the budget deficit. Now, President Clinton, who first proposed the tax increase, and most members of Congress say the deficit is gone. So, by the President's own reasoning, there is no need to keep this tax hike in place.

Because Social Security benefits are financed with tax dollars, taxing these benefits is yet another incidence of "double taxation." Furthermore, "taxing" benefits paid by the government is merely an accounting trick, a "shell game" which allows members of Congress to reduce benefits by subterfuge. This allows Congress to continue using the Social Security trust fund as a means of financing other government programs and mask the true size of the federal deficit.

Mr. Speaker, the Social Security Tax Relief Act, combined with our action earlier this year to repeal the earnings limitation, goes a long way toward reducing the burden imposed by the Federal Government on senior citizens.

However, I hope my colleagues will not stop at repealing the 1993 tax increase, but will work to repeal all taxes on Social Security benefits. I am cosponsoring legislation to achieve this goal, H.R. 761.

Congress should also act on my Social Security Preservation Act (H.R. 219), which ensures that all money in the Social Security Trust Fund is spent solely on Social Security. When the government takes money for the Social Security Trust Fund, it promises the American people that the money will be there for them when they retire. Congress has a moral obligation to keep that promise.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to help free senior citizens from oppressive taxation by supporting the Social Security Benefits Tax Relief Act (H.R. 4865). I also urge my colleagues to join me in working to repeal all taxes on Social Security benefits and ensuring that moneys from the Social Security trust fund are used solely for Social Security and not wasted on frivolous government programs.

CLARIFYING THE HOMEBOUND DEFINITION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, on July 27 I along with 21 bipartisan Members introduced the Homebound Clarification Act of 2000, H.R. 5067 the companion bill to the Senate bill sponsored by Senator James Jeffords (R-VT) and Senator Jack Reed (D-RI).

This bill solves a problem in the current Medicare Home Health benefit that has created serious problems for Alzheimer's patients and our most frail, elderly and vulnerable Medicare beneficiaries.

Under current law, in order for Medicare beneficiaries to receive coverage for home health services they must be "confined to home". Current policy interpretations by the Health Care Financing Administration and followed by fiscal intermediaries are causing substantial harm to Medicare beneficiaries by effectively forcing home health users to be unnecessarily restricted to their own homes.

These restrictions impose harsh and irrational restrictions on patients and their caregivers. For instance, Alzheimer's patients are denied access to adult day services, which complement home health benefits, relieve caregiver burdens and delay nursing home placement, at no cost to the Medicare program. In another instance, home health services to a quadriplegic beneficiary who is lifted into a wheelchair and uses specially adapted transportation and is therefore not considered to be homebound.

The introduction of the Homebound Clarification Act follows the introduction of similar legislation Representative Chris Smith and I introduced in March of 2000, H.R. 4028. This bill was a more narrowly crafted version of the Homebound Clarification Act bill and targets patients with Alzheimer's Disease and related dementia disorders only.

The Homebound Clarification Act is endorsed by over 40 health and advocacy groups.

This bipartisan legislation will help to improve the lives of millions of our most frail and

vulnerable Americans. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to pass this important measure.

A SALUTE TO HENRY F. MOZELL ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor today to salute Henry F. Mozell for his years of invaluable service in Oakland's fight to alleviate hunger and homelessness. His retirement marks the end of an extensive and distinguished career as a champion for the less fortunate.

Born in Dover, North Carolina, Mr. Mozell began serving the Oakland community upon the completion of his service in the U.S. Navy. His studies at the University of California in Urban Studies advanced his interests in community welfare.

Since his initial community projects, Mr. Mozell has been an active supporter of programs developed to combat hunger and homelessness in Oakland. His commitment to providing innovative programs such as the Mayor's Hunger and Relief Program has earned him national recognition.

Among the many awards Mr. Mozell has received during his career are the Mayor's World Food Day Award, the East Oakland Hope Award for the establishment of a hot meal site, and a Project Volunteer Award for bringing farm foods to Oakland. Most recently, he has been awarded with the Global Peace Award from Oaktown.

His active role in the political arena includes his service as the President of the East Oakland Democratic Club, the Vice President of the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee and his service on the State of California's Affirmative Action Committee. These positions are a testament to his continued involvement and concern for our community.

I proudly join friends, colleagues and family in honoring Henry Mozell's work, achievement and forthcoming retirement from a rewarding career.

IN HONOR OF JANE CAMPBELL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jane Campbell, a Cuyahoga County Commissioner who is being honored at the Jewish National Fund's Tree of Life Dinner of September 13, 2000.

Jane Campbell is one of three Cuyahoga County Commissioners, representing 1.5 million constituents in the Greater Cleveland area. She manages human services, economics, and infrastructure development and redevelopment for the most populous county in Ohio. Jane Campbell serves as the President of the Board of Commissioners and also chairs the Violence Against Women Act Committee and the Children Who Witness Violence Committee. She is also a Board Member of

the District One Public Works Integrating Committee.

Prior to her role as Cuyahoga County Commission, Jane Campbell served six terms in the Ohio House of Representatives. During her time there, she was elected Majority Whip and Minority Assistant Leader by her colleagues.

Jane Campbell is an outstanding leader and public servant. She has dedicated herself to serving the people of Ohio and should be commended for her exemplary record of service. Jane Campbell is truly a committed and admirable woman.

My fellow colleagues, please join with me in paying tribute to Jane Campbell as she is honored for her devotion and service by the Jewish National Fund at the 2000 Tree of Life dinner in September.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF MOTHERS
AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and express my deepest gratitude to the thousands of individuals and victims throughout our nation, who have worked diligently to build and to extend the mission of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD).

Mothers Against Drunk Driving, MADD, is a non-profit grass roots organization with more than 600 chapters nationwide and a presence around the world. Today, this worthy organization celebrates and remembers its 20th anniversary. Founded by a small group of California women in 1980 after a 13-year-old-girl was killed by a hit-and-run, repeat offender, MADD continues to work to find effective solutions to the drunk driving and underage drinking problems, while supporting those who have already experienced the pain of these senseless crimes.

Thanks to the support of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, our roads and highways are today much safer. Due to their efforts, alcohol related traffic deaths have dropped, victim assistance institutes have been created to train volunteers on how to support victims of drunk driving and how to serve as their advocates in the criminal justice system, and in advocating important legislation, such as the Omnibus Anti-Drug Abuse Act, which has been enacted.

Mr. Speaker, drunk driving is not an accident. Along with my friends in MADD, I will continue to work to pass .08 BAC legislation and to reduce the number of alcohol related deaths throughout our Nation. I thank the Mothers Against Drunk Driving. I support them, and I urge all of our colleagues to applaud their efforts over the past 20 years and in all of their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH A.
BARTOSZEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember Joseph Bartoszek, a man who

dedicated over forty years of his life serving as a mentor and inspiring youth.

Mr. Bartoszek, a native of Cleveland, was a toolmaker for Cleveland Pneumatic Tool Co. until his retirement eighteen years ago. A veteran who proudly served our nation during World War II, with a tour in France and Germany, he was an active member of Catholic War Veterans Post 1812 and VFW Post 108.

Mr. Bartoszek found his true passion when he was thirteen, when he joined the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Bartoszek spent forty years as a Scoutmaster and Explorer adviser. During his long and distinguished career with the Scouts he received many awards, including the Silver Beaver, Scouting's highest honor for volunteers. Mr. Bartoszek spent over ten summers working with youth at Tinnerman Canoe Base as a counselor of the Ad Altare Dei program, Pope Pius XII retreats, and Scout development sessions.

Mr. Bartoszek touched countless lives with his endless devotion to helping young men, and his steadfast commitment to creating a better society. Mr. Bartoszek is a friend to all, a man who tirelessly dedicated his life to the betterment of others, and a man who has served the larger community a greater deed than we will ever be able to thank him enough for.

I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in celebrating the life and tremendous accomplishments of this truly remarkable man.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
JERRY RAYMOND

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime achievements of Mr. Jerry Raymond who passed away in January 1999 and offer my sincere condolences to his family.

Jerry Raymond was a remarkable man whose many contributions to Wayne county, the labor movement and the City of Livonia will be long remembered. He was a 49 year resident of Livonia and served on the City Council from 1966 to 1980. Always cognizant of the needs of others, his favorite saying was "People come first." He advocated for housing for seniors before it was the popular thing to do. His sensitivity to others is undoubtedly why he was re-elected to office so many times.

There are many other fascinating things that are important to know about this special man. He quit high school after his mother died and his father lost his job. As he moved around the country looking for a job, he started getting involved in strikes and joined the cause of working men and women. He became a union activist and his leadership in the labor movement brought him national recognition. Despite his many achievements, Jerry felt something was missing as he watched other family members pursue a higher education. Although he did not have a high school diploma, he enrolled in law school. He graduated Cum Laude and was honored by being elected President of his class. He opened a law practice called Jerry Raymond and Associates in Livonia and practiced law until shortly before his death.

Jerry was a special friend, role-model and mentor to many including myself. He was very involved in his community and in democratic politics. He is missed by everyone whose life he touched, but his spirit lives on in our memories and in the legacy he left behind.

IN HONOR OF JOSEPH TAKACS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I remember Joseph Takacs, a man who devoted his life to the betterment of mankind, and the struggles of those who needed help the most.

Mr. Takacs led the autoworkers at General Motor's Fisher Body plant in Cleveland for more than 10 nonconsecutive years in the 1960's and 1970's. A courageous fighter for the working man, Mr. Takacs was one of 250 workers who staged a sit-in at General Motor's Cleveland plant that lasted from December 1936 into February 1937. Through the dedication and determination of Mr. Takacs and his striking colleagues a nationwide strike began. The strike forced the company to recognize the union as a bargaining agent for its hourly employees, even today, considered one of the greatest union victories.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Takacs was a dedicated man who committed his life to union reform, helping the poor, and fighting for the working men and women of this nation. Mr. Takacs was an inspirational leader and a mentor for generations to come. A champion of the causes of working people, Mr. Takacs never turned his back on anyone. A leader dedicated to his fellow colleagues, during strikes, Mr. Takacs would beg for food to make sure that there was always food at the union hall.

Mr. Takacs, a past president of United Auto Workers Local 45, has served on the front lines of the battle for working families since the 1930's. I ask my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of this truly remarkable man, who has dedicated his life to serving others.

PASSAGE OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY
BENEFITS TAX RELIEF ACT

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, because the House passed H.R. 4865, the Social Security Benefits Tax Relief Act, by a vote of 265-159, this Member encourages his colleagues to read the following editorial, from the August 5, 2000, edition of the Norfolk Daily News. This editorial highlights why the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4865. In particular, this editorial correctly states that the taxation of Social Security benefits was not within the original intent of those who created this system.

[From the Daily News, Aug. 5, 2000]

“CONTRACT” NOT NOW MENTIONED

TAX REDUCTION FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS
WOULD AID ELDERLY PAYERS

A modest tax cut proposal that would benefit some 9 million Social Security recipients is apparently going nowhere because of a threatened presidential veto.

Under the plan, which won a 265-159 vote in the House, with 52 Democrats joining the Republican majority, the amount of benefits subject to taxation could drop from 85 percent to 50 percent. That change would restore a tax level in effect until the 1993 increase urged by President Clinton and for which Vice President Gore cast the deciding vote.

Given current surplus levels, the change is easily affordable from Uncle Sam's standpoint. More than that, however, the change is in keeping with the original philosophy of the program. That is, to provide an old-age benefit to workers from earnings on which taxes had already been paid. It was much later that these benefits became an important new source of tax revenue for the U.S. Treasury.

It is of special interest that the same partisans who now protest a reduction in this tax, since it might help individual elderly people now earning as much as \$34,000 annually or married couples at a \$44,000 level, are the ones who have long berated opponents as “breaking a contract” on Social Security with any proposed alteration of benefits.

They were silent when the benefits were effectively reduced with higher taxation.

Taxing those benefits was not the original intent of those who devised the system. Whatever implied contract existed was long ago violated by the decision to lump the benefits with other income and make it subject to regular taxation.

The system long discriminated against Social Security beneficiaries who worked for income rather than acquiring their extra money from interest payments or dividends. The imposition of the greater tax load—argued as necessary in 1993 in order to overcome deficits—did nothing to restore equity.

Much can and must be done to simplify the tax system, including that applicable to the Social Security beneficiaries, but such action must not preclude a simple reduction in rates to reflect the fact that excessive federal surpluses amount to a government taking of private wealth.

HONORING ING. KAROL MITRIK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Ing. Karol Mitrik, Mayor of Spisska Nova Ves, for his outstanding leadership and dedication to his fellow countrymen.

One of six children Ing. Karol Mitrik was born in Spisska Nova Ves where he was taught an early lesson in the value of work, working sunrise to sunset on a farm. His childhood experience led him to pursue an education in the area of agriculture. He graduated in 1981 with a Master's degree in Agronomy from the Agricultural University in Nitra. In 1994 he finished studies in the City University with Certificate in Effective Management.

In 1994 Mitrik became Mayor of Spisska Nova Ves. A dynamic leader with vast knowledge of regional policies and economic development he has worked tirelessly on the behalf of the people of Spisska Nova Ves. Due to Mitrik's extraordinary leadership Spisska Nova Vas became a sister city of Youngstown. Mitrik also established the first Rotary Club in eastern Slovakia. Mitrik's expertise extends beyond local activities, he is involved in a student exchange program, is a Member of Council of the Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia, Chairman of the Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia, Vice-president of Mayor's club of Slovakia, and Chairman of Interest Association for Development of the Spis region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in rising and honoring this remarkable man and his tremendous accomplishments on behalf of the people of Spisska Nova Vas.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 7, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 12

- 9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on the Firestone tire recall. SR-253
- Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on proposed United States Department of Transportation regulations on planning and environment. SD-406
- Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on pending calendar business. SD-419
- 2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the status of the Biological Opinions of the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the operations of the Federal hydropower system of the Columbia River. SD-366

SEPTEMBER 13

- 9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine marketing violence to children issues. SR-253

Environment and Public Works
Fisheries, Wildlife, and Drinking Water Subcommittee

To hold hearings on the Draft Biological Opinions by the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System and the Federal Caucus draft Basinwide Salmon Recovery Strategy. SD-406

2 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on pending calendar business. SD-419

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on intelligence matters. SH-219

2:15 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 2873, to provide for all right, title, and interest in and to certain property in Washington County, Utah, to be vested in the United States; H.R. 3676, to establish the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument in the State of California; S. 2784, entitled "Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Act of 2000"; S. 2865, to designate certain land of the National Forest System located in the State of Virginia as wilderness; S. 2956, to establish the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area and the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness; H.R. 4275, to establish the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area and the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness; and S. 2977, to assist in the establishment of an interpretive center and museum in the vicinity of the Diamond Valley Lake in southern California to ensure the protection and interpretation of the paleontology discoveries made at the lake and to develop a trail system for the lake for use by pedestrians and nonmotorized vehicles. SD-366

SEPTEMBER 14

9 a.m.
Foreign Relations
International Operations Subcommittee
To hold hearings on exchange programs and the national interest. SD-419

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold oversight hearings on the transportation of Alaska North Slope natural gas market and to investigate the

cost, environmental aspects and energy security implications to Alaska and the rest of the nation for alternative routes and projects. SD-366

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings on air traffic control issues. SR-253

10 a.m.
Judiciary
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-226

1 p.m.
Small Business
To hold hearings to examine slotting fees, and the battle family farmers are having to stay on the farm and in the grocery store. SD-628

Environment and Public Works
Fisheries, Wildlife, and Drinking Water Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the Draft Biological Opinions by the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System and the Federal Caucus draft Basinwide Salmon Recovery Strategy. SD-406

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 2749, to establish the California Trail Interpretive Center in Elko, Nevada, to facilitate the interpretation of the history of development and use of trails in the setting of the western portion of the United States; S. 2885, to establish the Jamestown 400th Commemoration Commission; S. 2950, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Sand Creek Massacre Historic Site in the State of Colorado; S. 2959, to amend the Dayton Aviation Heritage Preservation Act of 1992; and S. 3000, to authorize the exchange of land between the Secretary of the Interior and the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency at the George Washington Memorial Parkway in McLean, Virginia. SD-366

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the American Legion. 345 Cannon Building