

IN HONOR OF CAROL VIOLA,  
UNITED WAY'S CONGRESSWOMAN  
MARY T. NORTON MEMORIAL  
AWARD WINNER

**HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carol Viola for winning the United Way's Congresswoman Mary T. Norton Memorial Award. The award, which was initiated by United Way of Hudson County in 1990, recognizes those who exhibit a deep commitment to human service as exemplified by Congresswoman Norton during her 13 terms in the House of Representatives (1925–1950). The Congresswoman was a forward-thinker who advocated for government action to help address issues we are still grappling with today, such as day care, fair employment practices, health care for veterans, and inclusion of women in high levels of government service.

Carol Viola has been the cornerstone of support in the Executive Office of the United Way of Tri-State since 1991. The Tri-State United Way conducts the single largest annual workplace campaign in the nation for the benefit of people in need. She began working at Tri-State just four years after it was formed, and she has served the organization's three most recent presidents: Calvin Green, Betty Beene (a 1990 recipient of the Mary T. Norton Award and now President of United Way of America), and Douglas Wams.

Ms. Viola has fulfilled the important responsibility of maintaining and coordinating relationships with United Way of Tri-State's key constituents and stakeholders. These individuals include CEOs and senior executives of Fortune 100 Companies, influential labor leaders and prominent community leaders who serve as Governors and volunteers of Tri-State, and 31 Chief Professional Officers of the participating local United Ways. Through her commitment to excellence and to people, Carol has provided the support that enabled many busy executives to give their time and talents to United Way and those it serves.

Ms. Viola has been happily married to Joe Crum for 13 years. She manages her mother's household and is active in her church, professional women's organizations, and neighborhood nonprofit organizations.

Carol Viola embodies the life work of Congresswoman Mary T. Norton. On behalf of my colleagues in the House of Representatives, I congratulate her for her outstanding service to the community and for carrying on the work of Congresswoman Mary T. Norton.

TRIBUTE TO MANATEE CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE, 2000 CHAMBER OF  
THE YEAR

**HON. DAN MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, this year, the Florida Chamber of Commerce Executives (FCCE) named the Manatee County Chamber of Commerce, their 2000 Chamber

of the Year. Through this and many other notable accomplishments, the strength and spirit of the Manatee Chamber embodies the foundations for economic leadership that our community relies upon. The invaluable service of its pro-Florida, pro-business membership continually enhances our lives and builds a better future for all of Manatee County.

Through its many ventures in the Manatee area, the Manatee Chamber of Commerce has displayed an innovative and effective approach to business and community relations. This approach has been validated by the Chamber's 87% membership retention record. Not only does the Chamber boast a highly successful Economic Development Council, it also touts a rapidly growing menu of business services, including seminars, workshops and roundtable discussion groups. These, along with countless other services provided by the Chamber, are the attributes that make this body the best of its kind in the state of Florida.

I have had the pleasure to work with several members of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, including the current Chairman Byron Shinn and Immediate Past Chairman Brian Murphy, and can personally testify to the quality of work put forth by the volunteers and staff of this great organization. It makes me proud to have such an outstanding group in Florida's 13th District. I commend the Manatee Chamber of Commerce for its past record and look forward to witnessing its future accomplishments.

MARRIAGE TAX RELIEF RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2000—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

**HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 13, 2000*

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of overriding the Clinton/Gore Administration's veto of the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief Reconciliation Act pending before the House today, and urge my colleagues to join me in supporting hard working American families by voting "yes" on this override today.

This is about people. It is about families. It is about hard working moms and dads who work from paycheck to paycheck to make ends meet. Why should the government increase their taxes just because they are married? It not only doesn't make sense, it just isn't right.

And this injustice is not affecting just a few American families. According to the Congressional Budget Office, more than 25 million couples pay an average of \$1,400 a year to the IRS just because they are married. This is unconscionable, and it has to stop.

Mr. Speaker, I am tired of the misleading tirade coming from those whose agenda is to keep taxpayers' money in Washington because they want to spend the federal budget surplus on more government bureaucracy. This bill is not tax relief for the rich. The fact is that marriage penalty relief is middle class tax relief because middle-income families are hit the hardest by this penalty. Most marriage penalties occur when the higher-earning

spouse makes between \$20,000 and \$75,000 per year, according to the Congressional Budget Office. If these couples had remained single and just lived together they would not be facing this increased tax penalty. And increasing a couple's taxes just because they have chosen to make a commitment to one another in marriage, and work to build a future together, is just plain wrong.

I firmly believe that the tax revenue surplus is the American people's money, not Washington's. We should start giving back some of this tax surplus to families who work hard to put food on the table, clothe their children, pay their taxes, and who are currently forced to sacrifice their family time to earn a little more money to make ends meet.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting these hardworking moms and dads and vote "yes" to override the Clinton/Gore veto of the Marriage Tax Penalty Relief bill.

CONGRATULATING GUAM'S PUBLIC TELEVISION STATION, KGTF, ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 18, 2000*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, there is at least one generation in my district who grew to adulthood with Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy, Big Bird, and the Cookie Monster. Although they have probably turned their attention to Nova, Masterpiece Theater, Mystery! and other more adult television fare, their children are now tuning into Sesame Street, Reading Rainbow, Mr. Rogers, Teletubbies, and, of course, Barney, thanks to KGTF, Channel 12, Guam's Public Television Station.

Unlike in times past, when KGTF competed for viewers with only one commercial television station, Guam now enjoys the great variety of programming—but not C-Span, I regret—provided by cable television. As the debate rages here in our nation about the increasing number of cable channels and independent networks and the declining quality of television programming, public television remains unscathed by criticism. In Guam, as here in the States, viewers can always count on high quality shows that are educational as well as entertaining, thanks to KGTF. Despite the overwhelming programming choices available, 24 hours a day, on a multitude of channels, the people of Guam have not abandoned KGTF. As viewers, they tune in time and time again, to watch their favorite shows, shows that air only on public television. As supporters of public television, they open their wallets year after year, to give what they can so that KGTF can continue to serve them.

Mr. Speaker, on October 30, KGTF will celebrate its 30th anniversary. In a place in which commercial television has been available for just over 40 years, KGTF's longevity is not so much a testament to our social addition to television in general, but to the visionary leaders of Guam who established public television in Guam and to the people of Guam who have continued to support it successfully throughout the years. KGTF signed on the air for the first time on October 30, 1970, with a grant for \$150,000 from the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare and \$50,000 from the