

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING LINDA AND JOHNNY MILLER AND HANDS ACROSS THE VALLEY

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two exceptional residents of my congressional district. Thanks to the humanitarian efforts of Linda and Johnny Miller, hundreds of children, parents and seniors in our Napa Valley will not go to bed hungry tonight.

On Saturday, September 23rd, Linda and Johnny Miller will once again host the 7th Annual Hands Across the Valley benefit to raise funds for local food programs. The Millers have made countless contributions to our community. Most recently, they helped raise funds for the care of a little boy who was critically injured in our recent earthquake. But perhaps their greatest contribution that has touched the most lives in our Napa Valley is their tireless efforts regarding this monumental Hands Across the Valley event.

Linda and Johnny Miller have been a driving force behind the success of this benefit since its earliest days. As event pioneers, they joined Eleanor and Francis Ford Coppola as well as 49er Legend Steve Young to celebrate the first Hands Across the Valley event in 1994 at a wonderful restaurant in my district called Bistro Don Giovanni. Five hundred guests participated in that inaugural event to reduce hunger in our county.

Thanks to the Millers, this event has grown every year. Because of their leadership and their many friends, Hands Across the Valley has donated more than \$600,000 to feed Napa's hungry families. This year's event will be bigger and more successful than ever, with nearly 2,000 guests and volunteers working together to ensure none of our neighbors are without food.

Mr. Speaker, the Millers have put their heart and soul into this worthwhile cause because they understand its importance. Despite the media perception of Napa as a community for the wealthy, more than 7% of the county's population is below the poverty level and more than 21% are near the poverty level. A recent survey by the University of California and the Redwood Empire Food Bank found that 43% of individuals seeking food assistance each month at Napa food pantries and soup kitchens are children. The average household seeking assistance has four people. More than 30% do not have a stove or oven and 28% do not have a refrigerator.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and appropriate to honor the service these two extraordinary individuals have given to our community. I commend all of those involved in this annual benefit and wish them great success on Saturday. We are all better off because of their efforts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GOYA FOODS' DONATION TO THE SMITHSONIAN

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Goya Foods, Inc., and its CEO Joseph A. Unanue, for contributing the company's historical archive to the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. The Goya Collection will further the public's education in important and unique ways, illustrating not only Goya's history, but also representing the histories of the thousands of enterprises started by new immigrants and their contributions to America.

The Goya Collection tells the story of how this company, which was founded in 1936 by Spanish immigrants Prudencio Unanue and his wife, Carolina Casal de Unanue, has come to occupy its present position as the largest Hispanic-owned food company in the U.S.

The Goya Collection, including scores of photographs, calendars, sales promotional materials, cookbooks, recipes, product labels, scrapbooks and news clippings, is now housed at the National Museum of American History's Archives Center and its Division of Cultural History.

This collection, the first from a Hispanic-owned business, is a significant addition to the Smithsonian Institution's holdings. It affords researchers and the public the opportunity to learn not only about the growth of a Latino enterprise, but to see how Latino culture has enriched American history. The Goya Collection tells more than the story of one company—it also chronicles an important Chapter in the living history of the Hispanic community in the United States.

Today, I ask that my colleagues join me in acknowledging Goya Foods' wonderful donation to the Smithsonian.

HONORING JUDGE CLAYTON E. PREISEL

### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime community leader, Judge Clayton E. Preisel. On November 30, community leaders will join family and friends to celebrate the career of Judge Preisel as he marks his retirement after more than 30 years of service in the field of law, and to the citizens of Michigan.

After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in 1951, Clayton Preisel began an 18-year career as a teacher and school administrator. During this time, he also received a Master's Degree. In 1964, he entered Detroit College of

Law. After being awarded a Juris Doctorate in 1968, he began practicing law in 1969. Clayton established himself as a highly successful and competent attorney, and he continued to practice law privately for 23 years. His tenure as a private attorney ended in 1982, when he was appointed to serve as Probate Court Judge for Lapeer County.

In addition to his work in the Probate Court, Judge Preisel has been an influential member of the community. From 1969 to 1982, he served on the Imlay City School Board, and has been a member in good standing of the Lapeer County Bar Association. He has also been involved with groups such as 4-H, United Way, Lions Club, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Community Foundation, and many other groups dedicated to improving the quality of life for children and families.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Preisel has always tried to treat every person who appeared before him with the utmost dignity and respect. Because of the sometimes sensitive nature of his caseload, he was also dedicated to handling each issue gently and with compassion. I believe what always made Clayton such a special judge and person was the time he spent in the community, meeting with people of all economic, ethnic, and racial backgrounds. I number Judge Preisel among my cherished personal friends, and I am a better person for having known him. Furthermore, he is responsible for making our community a much better place. For these reasons I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating Judge Preisel on his retirement.

ONE YEAR AFTER TAIWAN'S DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1999

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, just one year ago today—early on the morning of September 21, 1999—a powerful earthquake rocked Taiwan, leaving over 2,453 people dead, 701 seriously injured, and 52 missing. Immediately after the quake, the government of the Republic of China on Taiwan quickly mobilized and organized relief and rescue efforts. Assistance and donations poured in from across Taiwan and from around the world. Some 21 countries sent more than 700 experts and specialists from many fields to assist in the effort. This was an important show of support and solidarity by the international community for Taiwan.

Now, a year after the tragic quake, it is possible to assess the massive assistance which the Taiwan government has taken to help those affected by the disaster. It has provided \$87 million to assist families with members who died in the quake or are still missing. Monetary compensation for families with total or partially destroyed homes has amounted to

• 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.

\$520 million. Through private sector funding, the government has established shelters for over 5,200 families. Some \$430 million has been allocated for quake victims for rent subsidies, and an additional \$3.3 billion has been provided for rebuilding loans for quake victims and their families. In quake-affected areas, the government has made major efforts to repair damaged roads and bridges.

Mr. Speaker, realizing that reconstruction is a long term project, Taiwan's new President, Chen Shui-bian, established a cabinet-level special commission on June 1 of this year to oversee reconstruction efforts in home design, engineering, infrastructure, and sanitation. The commission will also oversee public welfare and counseling of survivors. Members of this commission will be drawn from different government agencies and ministries. The goal of the commission is to coordinate all relief operations and to form a comprehensive plan to enable quake victims and their families to rebuild their lives.

Mr. Speaker, as we mark this anniversary, I urge my colleagues to join me in extending condolences to the victims of this horrible tragedy. I also invite my colleagues to join me in commending the government of the Republic of China in Taiwan and its leaders for their extensive efforts in providing immediate and long-term assistance to the victims affected by last year's tragic earthquake in Taiwan.

#### TRIBUTE TO GILBERT DE LA O

### HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the work of an outstanding citizen of Minnesota's Fourth District, Gilbert de la O. Mr. de la O is being honored on September 22 for his contributions to our community, as the recipient of the first National Alumnus of the Year Award from the United Neighborhood Center of America (UNCA).

UNCA is a voluntary, nonprofit, national organization with neighborhood-based member agencies throughout the United States. The program works in partnership with neighborhood centers to find solutions to social problems that prevent productive community life.

Mr. de la O, once considered a juvenile delinquent, credits his turn-around in part to the caring workers at the West Side Neighborhood House community center. For the past 30 years he has remained involved with this organization by working in the child care center and taking part in activities geared toward young people in the community—young people Mr. de la O can relate to, having once walked in their shoes.

Beyond his work at the center, Mr. de la O is active in many other capacities in our community. Whether it's teaching diversity training to the Saint Paul Police Department, serving on the Saint Paul School Board, or working with groups such as the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts or the Saint Paul Public Library, he always seems to have the best interest of the community at heart.

Gilbert de la O is truly an example of what can be accomplished when we look beyond ourselves and strive to benefit others. So many in Saint Paul have been touched by his

work and I am pleased that he is being recognized with such a prestigious national honor. I thank him for his dedication and wish him the very best of luck in his future endeavors.

#### ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AND RICHVILLE, MICHIGAN

### HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Richville, Michigan and St. Michael's Lutheran Church in that community.

In the beginning, the town and the church grew from the same source, springing forth as a haven for poor young men and women denied the chance to marry in their native Germany because they lacked property.

This sad situation in Germany in 1850 prompted Pastor Wilhelm Loehe to propose a fourth colony in mid-Michigan to be called Frankenhill, which later became Richville, to allow Lutheran men to acquire land and money to marry, raise families and practice their faith. Richville was the last of four Michigan Franconian colonies established by Loehe. Postal authorities later renamed the town to avoid confusion with Frankentrost, Frankenlust and Frankenmuth.

Unfortunately, many of the first German Lutheran settlers who made that pilgrimage of faith to Richville left shortly after arriving. However, two families persevered and in the fall of 1851 three more families joined them, along with Pastor John Diendorfer. On the second Sunday of Advent, December 7, 1851, Pastor Diendorfer preached to the first congregation gathered at St. Michael's.

In time, the colony and the church welcomed more members. By 1875, the congregation built a second church to seat up to 500 members and later they also opened a school. Other structures followed. Since its founding, the congregation has outgrown the community, with 1,600 baptized members and 300 residents. The school now has 11 full-time teachers and 200 students.

Mr. Speaker, this clearly is a church with its foundation firmly embedded in the rock of Christian love. The guiding principles of Christianity have provided past and present members of this congregation with a spiritual sense of community that will serve future generations well, taking those who practice it a step closer to God.

#### HONORING ELEANOR AND FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA AND HANDS ACROSS THE VALLEY

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize two extraordinary residents of my congressional district whose tireless humanitarian efforts will ensure that hundreds of individuals and families in our Napa Valley will not go to bed hungry tonight.

On Saturday, September 23rd, Eleanor and Francis Ford Coppola will once again host the 7th Annual Hands Across the Valley benefit to raise funds for local food programs. The Coppolas have made countless contributions toward improving our community but none are as significant and far-reaching as their efforts regarding this monumental event.

The Coppolas' hospitality in opening up their beautiful Niebum-Coppola Estate Winery is the driving force that has made this event the success that it is. In 1995, Eleanor and Francis hosted the event at their home in Rutherford. Joined by 650 guests, the benefit gained statewide and national acclaim. Due to the event's tremendous popularity, the Coppolas agreed to host the benefit in 1996 at their then newly-acquired Niebaum-Coppola Estate Winery where 1,000 guests enjoyed Napa Valley's finest wines and foods.

Thanks in large part to the Coppolas' incredible hospitality, this year's event is expecting nearly 2,000 guests. Mr. Speaker, it is little wonder why Hands Across the Valley has now become a tradition of our Northern California community.

And, Mr. Speaker, it is no surprise that the Coppolas have put their heart and soul into this worthwhile cause. Despite the media perception of Napa as a community for the wealthy, more than 7% of the county's population is below the poverty level and more than 21% is near the poverty level. A recent survey by University of California and the Redwood Empire Food Bank found that 43% of individuals seeking food assistance each month at Napa food pantries and soup kitchens are children. The average household seeking assistance has four people. More than 30% do not have a stove or oven and 28% do not have a refrigerator.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and appropriate to honor the service these two distinguished individuals have given to our community. Thanks to the Coppolas and many of their friends, Hands Across the Valley has raised over \$600,000 to feed Napa's hungry families. I commend all of those involved in this annual benefit and wish them great success on Saturday. We are all better off because of their efforts.

#### TRIBUTE TO MARY GRIFFIN ON HER RETIREMENT AS SAN MATEO COUNTY SUPERVISOR

### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues in the House to the remarkable public career of my dear friend Mary Griffin, who will shortly retire as a county supervisor of San Mateo County, California. I have known Mary for over twenty years, and during that time I have seen how her contributions have enriched our community and helped many individuals on a very personal level.

Mr. Speaker, Mary began her career as a teacher—in the Santa Rosa Public elementary schools (1954–1957), as an instructor in education at San Francisco State University (1957–1959), and as a teacher in the South San Francisco Unified School District (1973–

1987). She began her public service in 1976 when she was elected to the Millbrae City Council. She served on the City Council for 13 years, and was twice elected as mayor (1980, 1984).

In March of 1987, Mary Griffin was elected to the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County. She was re-elected to a full term in 1988, and then was reelected for two additional terms in 1992 and 1996. Mary served as President of the Board of Supervisors in 1989, 1993, and 1999. She served as President of the Association of Bay Area Governments (1991–1992) and as Vice Chair of the Bay Area Economic Forum (1995).

Mr. Speaker, during nearly thirteen years of leadership on the Board of Supervisors, Mary has demonstrated her outstanding leadership and commitment to dealing with issues of critical importance in maintaining the quality of life on the Peninsula. She has worked to deal with serious transportation problems in our area. She served on the Transportation Authority Board and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (1989–1998), where she made important contributions to improving Peninsula transportation in a period of intense economic growth in our area. Reflecting her concern with issues involving the San Francisco International Airport, which is a critical transportation hub contributing to the economic vitality of our entire region, she made important contributions as a member of the Airport Land Use Committee, the Regional Airport Planning Committee, and the Airport Community Roundtable.

Mary has been in the forefront in protecting our fragile environment. In her first year as County Supervisor, Mary took the lead in county recycling efforts as the first and only chair of the County Recycling Task Force. She served on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, as a member of the Congestion Management and Air Quality Committee, and Joint Air Quality Policy Committee.

The needs of children are at the top of Mary Griffin's agenda, and she has frequently emphasized that how we care for our children's needs today will determine our nation's tomorrow. As a child of a widow who worked for the minimum wage, Mary still remembers those hard times, and she has focused on helping families and children make a better future. She has established or taken a leading role in a number of programs to help children—the "Share-a-Bear Program" for abused and neglected children in San Mateo County, the Children's Dental Program to assure that impoverished children with severe dental needs are cared for, and the Children's Executive Council to improve communication and cooperation among children's programs throughout the county.

Mr. Speaker, Mary Griffin has received numerous awards recognizing her commitment and contribution to our community—a PTA Honorary Life Service Award, Woman of the Year of the California Federation of Women's Clubs, Woman of Distinction of the Soroptimist International of Millbrae-San Bruno, Directors Award of the State Department of Social Services, and many, many others.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in extending our warmest congratulations to Mary Griffin on the occasion of her retirement as a member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. Her commitment to public service is an inspiration and an example to

all of us. We wish her well now that she will have more time to spend with her family: her husband, Walter Ramseur, her three children—John, Mary and Zachary—and her five grandchildren.

IN HONOR OF JERRY HAYES FOR  
HIS REMARKABLE RECORD OF  
PUBLIC SERVICE AND COURAGEOUS  
ADVOCACY FOR PEOPLE  
WITH DISABILITIES

**HON. JIM RAMSTAD**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise sadly to salute a courageous public servant from my district who passed away recently, a man who changed my life as well as the lives of numerous people with disabilities.

Thomas G. (Jerry) Hayes of Excelsior, Minnesota, was confined to a wheelchair since 1976 because of a mysterious virus which left him paralyzed from the waist down.

But when it came to issues of importance to people with disabilities, Jerry's mobility and spirit knew no bounds. He was a powerful, articulate and highly effective advocate for people with disabilities right up to his death earlier this month. His son, Tom, called Jerry a "professional volunteer."

Jerry was a highly successful business leader as head of Jersey Ice Cream and a food sales company. He viewed his disability not with regret or bitterness, but as an opportunity, an opportunity to help other people with disabilities and the poor.

I was a young State Senator when I first met Jerry Hayes, who quickly became one of my role models and a key member of my Disabilities Advisory Committee. Issues important to people with disabilities have been among my highest priorities since entering public service, and Jerry is one of the principal reasons why.

Jerry was well liked by everyone he met and his well-researched, heartfelt positions moved many lawmakers to change their thinking when it came to critical issues affecting people with disabilities.

Jerry used the very same assets that made him so successful in business—his dynamic personality, boundless energy and tremendous leadership skills—to increase public awareness of the daunting obstacles faced by people with disabilities as they tried to lead more independent lifestyles.

Jerry Hayes changed minds, softened hearts and, literally, moved buildings.

His relentless hard work led to buildings becoming more accessible for people with disabilities, just one of his many accomplishments. He was particularly interested in making churches more accessible.

When then President Bush signed the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act, Jerry Hayes received a personal invitation from the President to attend the event.

His life's work and volunteerism on behalf of people with disabilities read like a "Who's Who" of Twin Cities organizations which are there to help. Touched by his vision, energy and work ethic were the world famous Courage Center, where he was a member of the board, United Handicapped Federation, Qual-

ity Transit Coalition, Regional Transit Board, Catholic Charities, where he was also a board member, Special Olympics, Minnesota Board on Aging, Minnesota Governor's Planning Council on Physical Disabilities and others.

Jerry Hayes was also a veteran of the Army. A grateful nation owes him a tremendous debt of gratitude for his dedication to freedom for the people of the world and all Americans with disabilities.

I will always be grateful to Jerry Hayes for his exceptional leadership, visionary guidance and treasured friendship through the years. My thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful family: Mary, his wife of 46 years; son Joe and daughters Jean, Molly and Abbie; his eight grandchildren; his sister Mary and brother John.

A TRIBUTE TO THE SEVENTH  
ANNUAL KIDS DAY AMERICA

**HON. JAY INSLEE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the seventh annual Kids Day America. This weekend youngsters will gather in Silverdale, Washington to commemorate this day by learning about health, safety and environmental issues. Local law enforcement officers, doctors, dentists, lawyers, and community leaders will volunteer their time to help children develop healthy habits and an awareness of their environment.

I am heartened by this special event for several reasons. Kids Day America pools the collective resources of many talented adults for the common cause of passing knowledge to our children. Through this exercise we strengthen the bonds of our community—and it is this more than anything that will guide our children toward healthy and full lives. As we in Congress work to make our communities safe and beautiful with clean air and clear water, it is inspiring to know that children across the country are learning to protect these natural assets. Furthermore, as we struggle with health care costs for our elderly, it is vital that the habits of a healthy lifestyle are taught to our children.

Mr. Speaker, I commend all who have helped organize this important day. Their dedication and leadership truly distinguishes my Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO THE HUNGER  
PROJECT

**HON. KAREN MCCARTHY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of an outstanding group called the Hunger Project. The Hunger Project is a strategic organization and worldwide endeavor focused on ending hunger throughout the world. The Hunger Project strives for a more permanent, wide reaching solution to assure that all of us, including the citizens of underdeveloped societies in Africa, Asia and Latin America will one day know a world without hunger.

Each region, country, city and village that suffers from hunger is unique. It is this simple truth that guides the work of the Hunger Project. Instead of relying upon solutions that have been successful in other places, each situation is approached as a new initiative and a plan is designed specifically with the particular area in mind. Through the mobilization of both the grassroots and the local leadership, effective, specialized plans are devised and implemented. The Hunger Project stresses self-reliance and enablement; when people are given the right tools, they can create societal structures that will not only end their hunger, but also prevent it from ever happening again.

The key component of the Hunger Project's strategy is the empowerment of women. The unique position of women in society allow them to be the most effective agents of change in the battle against hunger. The responsibilities of nutrition, family planning, education and others typically fall to women, yet women are traditionally shut out of their society's development and decision making process in developing nations. The Hunger Project mobilizes women to fight for the ability to take control over their own lives and the future of their families.

This Saturday, the twenty-third of September, the Hunger Project is launching a new crusade against hunger targeted at South Asia. According to the Hunger Project's President, Joan Holmes, studies show South Asia suffers from the highest levels of childhood malnutrition in the world as a direct result of the oppression of women in this area. However, new laws in both Bangladesh and India allow women to serve in their local governments. The Hunger Project is utilizing this new opportunity to help women in those nations organize, mobilize and exercise these new rights to make hunger in their communities a memory.

Mr. Speaker, the mission and work of the Hunger Project are both admirable and vital. The dedication and commitment of individuals such as Karen Herman and other supporters of the Hunger Project are making the end of global hunger a goal within our reach. I salute their noble undertaking and look forward to working in partnership to assure that one day their vision of a world without hunger is realized.

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GOVERNORS ISLAND  
PRESERVATION ACT

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce H.R. 5242, the Governors Island Preservation Act. This legislation is a historic opportunity to preserve and protect the third and final jewel of New York Harbor, Governors Island.

Governors Island was owned and operated as a military facility by the British and American armed forces for more than 200 years. This national treasure has played an important role in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the American Civil War, World Wars I

and II, as well as hosting the site of the 1988 Reagan-Gorbachev Summit, during the cold war.

In 1800, in order to provide for the national defense, the people of the State of New York ceded control of Governors Island to the Federal Government, then, in 1958, transferred the island outright for only \$1.

The U.S. Coast Guard has now vacated Governors Island because of the high costs involved in maintaining its base there. The now unused island is being maintained by General Services Administration with an annual appropriation and, by law, must be disposed of by 2002.

New York State and New York City need our help to preserve and protect one of our Nation's most important and beautiful landmarks, and turn Governors Island into a destination with significant open and educational spaces for public use.

The State and the city of New York have worked out a detailed plan that will protect the historic nature of the island while transforming the southern tip into a 50-acre public park, complete with recreation facilities and stunning views of the Statue of Liberty and the harbor. New interactive educational facilities, including an aquarium and a historical village, are planned, as is moderately-priced family lodging and a health center. The awe-inspiring opportunity we have to establish this new public space to complement both liberty and Ellis Island is unprecedented and mandates decisive action.

Accordingly, the Governors Island Preservation Act will open the doors to this opportunity by transferring the island back to the citizens of New York for the same nominal price the Federal Government paid.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to call upon all my colleagues in asking their support for the Governors Island Preservation Act. Governor Pataki, Senators MOYNIHAN and SCHUMER, Mayor Giuliani, Speaker Silver, Representatives, NADLER, FOSSELLA, MALONEY, and myself, have all worked extremely hard to address every concern and develop bipartisan legislation which will open Governors Island up not only to the people of New York, but to our entire Nation.

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HONORING GEORGE ALTAMURA  
AND HANDS ACROSS THE VALLEY

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an extraordinary humanitarian from my congressional district whose tireless efforts will ensure that hundreds of individuals and families in our Napa Valley will not go to bed hungry tonight.

On Saturday, September 23rd, George Altamura will chair the 7th Annual Hands Across the Valley benefit to raise funds for local food programs. Mr. Altamura has made countless contributions toward improving our community including his work with Catholic Charities providing services to at-risk youths, victims of Alzheimer's and the homeless.

None, however, are as significant and far-reaching as his efforts regarding this monumental event.

As a founding father and pioneer, George Altamura has been a driving force behind this community benefit's success. He joined Eleanor and Francis Ford Coppola as well as Linda and Johnny Miller in opening up his wonderful restaurant Bistro Don Giovanni to host the first Hands Across the Valley event in 1994. Five hundred guests participated in that inaugural evening to reduce hunger in our county.

Thanks in large part to George's leadership and determination, this event has grown every year. Because of him and his many friends, Hands Across the Valley has donated over \$600,000 to feed Napa's hungry families. This year's event is expected to be bigger and more successful than ever, with nearly 2,000 guests and volunteers working together to ensure none of our neighbors are without food.

Mr. Speaker, George Altamura has put his heart and soul into this event because he understands its importance. He knows that not everyone has shared in our nation's recent prosperity. He also understands that despite the media perception of Napa as a community for the wealthy, more than 7 percent of the county's population is below the poverty level and more than 21 percent are near the poverty level. A recent survey by the University of California and the Redwood Empire Food Bank found that 43 percent of individuals seeking food assistance each month at Napa food pantries and soup kitchens are children. The average household seeking assistance has four people. More than 30 percent do not have a stove or oven and 28 percent do not have a refrigerator.

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is fitting and appropriate to honor the service George Altamura has given to our community for so many years. I commend all of those involved in this annual benefit and wish them great success on Saturday. We are all better off because of their efforts.

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RECOGNIZING DANIEL CREWS OF  
WINSTON, GEORGIA

**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize USA Shooting team member, Daniel Crews of Winston, Georgia. Daniel is the only member of the USA Shooting team who hails from Georgia, and we are honored he is from our Seventh District.

Daniel recently won his fourth national title in precision air rifle shooting at the national competition in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and placed 14th overall. When not shooting as a member of the USA Shooting team, Daniel shoots for the Douglas County Hawkeyes.

Daniel's dedication to excellence and perseverance makes him a role model for his peers, and I am pleased to honor his impressive accomplishments as a world-class air rifle competitor.

THE LEON S. BENSON HOLOCAUST STUDIES COLLECTION AT THE SAN MATEO PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HON. TOM LANTOS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Leon S. Benson family and others who have made the contributions to the Leon S. Benson Holocaust Studies Collection of the San Mateo Public Library. The official dedication ceremony for this excellent collection will take place this Sunday, September 24, 2000, and I wanted to take a moment to share with my colleagues some information about this wonderful educational endeavor.

Leon S. Benson, like myself, was a survivor of the Holocaust. After he passed away in January of last year, his family embarked on a fund-raising drive to create a permanent Holocaust studies collection at the San Mateo Public Library that would honor his legacy. I am delighted that our library will have this collection of books and multimedia reference materials.

Mr. Speaker, it is extremely important to have this type of research facility at the San Mateo Public Library. First and most importantly, it provides a resource for students of San Mateo and neighboring communities. As many of you are aware, California public schools require High School students to study the Holocaust, as well as the policies of Nazi Germany that led up to it. The Benson collection provides an excellent local resource which our students will put to good use when they do research for their assignments.

Second, the collection will be a valuable asset to all who visit the San Mateo Public Library. I would hope that the Leon S. Benson Holocaust collection is utilized, not just by students, but by others who need to know of this dark period in the history of mankind. Only through education and awareness can we confront anti-Semitism, racism, xenophobia and bigotry and work to eradicate them.

One of the major problems facing Holocaust historians in this country, as well as the rest of the world, is the fact that people who lived through the atrocities, people like Mr. Benson, are passing on, and their first-hand knowledge of the Shoah passes with them. Preserving the history of that dark era of humanity is a critical necessity. Mr. Speaker, I can think of no better way to honor the legacy of a survivor of the Holocaust than in the manner which Leon Benson's family have chosen to honor him.

CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, because September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month this is an excellent time to reflect on the problems faced by working parents struggling to meet the needs of a child stricken with cancer. I am sure that all would agree that there are few Americans more in need of tax relief than

families forced to devote every available resource to caring for a child with a terminal illness such as cancer. This is why I have introduced the Family Health Tax Cut Act (H.R. 4799). This legislation provides a \$3,000 tax credit to parents caring for a child with cancer, another terminal disease, or any other serious health condition requiring long-term care. H.R. 4799 also helps all working parents provide routine health care for their children by providing them with a \$500 per child tax credit.

The bill will be particularly helpful to those parents whose employers cannot afford to provide their employees' health insurance. Oftentimes those employees work in low-income jobs and thus must struggle to provide adequate health care for their children. This burden is magnified when the child needs special care to cope with cancer or a physical disability. Yet, thanks to Congress' refusal to grant individuals the same tax breaks for health-care expenses it grants businesses, these hard-working parents receive little or no tax relief to help them cope with the tremendous expenses of caring for a child requiring for a child requiring long-term or specialized care.

According to research on the effects of this bill done by my staff and legislative counsel, the benefit of these tax credits would begin to be felt by joint filers with incomes slightly above 18,000 dollars a year or single income filers with incomes slightly above 15,000 dollars per year. Clearly this bill will be of the most benefit to working families balancing the demands of taxation with the needs of their children.

Under the Family Health Tax Cut Act, a struggling single mother with an asthmatic child would at last be able to provide for her child's needs; while a working-class family will have less worry about how they will pay the bills if one of their children requires lengthy hospitalization or some other form of specialized care.

Mr. Speaker, it is tough enough for working families to cope with a child with a serious illness without having to sacrifice resources that should be used for the care of that child to the federal government. It is hard to think of a more compassionate action this Congress can take than to reduce taxes on America's parents in order to allow them to help provide quality health care to their children. I therefore call on my colleagues to join me in helping working parents provide health care to their children by cosponsoring H.R. 4799, the Family Health Tax Cut Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 2000, I was detained with business in my District, and therefore unable to cast my votes on rollcall numbers 472 through 476. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye"; on rollcall vote 475, and "no" on rollcall votes 472, 473, 474 and 476.

Mr. Speaker, I am unable to support the Conference Report for H.R. 4516, the Legislative Branch Appropriations for F.Y. 2001, because it bypassed the normal appropriations

process. Moreover, this legislation raises Members' salaries while falling half a million dollars short of the Administration's budget to fund more important priorities of the American people. However, there are several provisions in the report which I strongly support. I applaud the conferees for fully funding the Administration's law enforcement initiatives, including a proposal to add 600 AFT agents to more fully enforce existing gun laws. In addition, I strongly support the provision which would repeal the 3 percent telephone excise tax that was levied as a luxury tax over 100 years ago to fund the Spanish American War. Finally, the \$258 million for the U.S. Customs Department's automation program in the legislation is critical, and I am pleased the conferees recognized its importance. I look forward to enacting these measures in a bill that better funds other needed priorities, which is arrived at through a more thorough discussion between Members of Congress.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HEREDITARY DISORDERS NEWBORN SCREENING ACT OF 2000

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, there is no uniform federal standard for screening newborn infants for hereditary disorders. Currently, states decide for themselves on an individual basis the types of disorders for which newborns are screened. As a result of this piecemeal approach, a haphazard system prevails under which detectable disorders—disorders that can profoundly affect the health of an infant for life—may or may not be found early enough to make a difference depending on the state in which a newborn lives. If a newborn lives in a state that happens not to screen for a particular disorder, the failure to screen could result in a tragic outcome that might have been different had the infant simply lived in another state. This system essentially subjects newborns with detectable disorders to a game of "Russian Roulette".

Last month, the Newborn Screening Task Force, which was convened by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) at the request of the Health Resources and Services Administration, published a report on newborn screening in the AAP journal Pediatrics. Among the report's recommendations is a call to "adhere to nationally recognized recommendations and standards for the validity of tests." "State newborn screening systems" the Task Force observed "have a responsibility to review the appropriateness of existing tests [and] tests for additional conditions." In other words, the Task Force is calling on the states to eliminate the disparities that exist in newborn screening by expanding their programs to test for a common set of core disorders.

Achieving this goal is no small task for the states. The technology for screening, which continues to advance at a rapid pace, is extremely expensive, and there needs to be a more coordinated system for developing and implementing an expanded newborn screening program. The federal government can and should assist in creating this system.

Today I am introducing legislation that will work towards eliminating the disparities that

exist between states and improving the newborn screening system. The Hereditary Disorders Newborn Screening Act of 2000 will establish a grant program for the states to be administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration to achieve this and other important related goals in an effort to strengthen our nation's newborn screening system.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in eliminating these testing disparities and the preventable tragedies they produce by cosponsoring the Hereditary Disorders Newborn Screening Act of 2000.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE YOUNGER AMERICANS ACT

### HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce, along with my colleagues Mrs. ROUKEMA, Mr. FROST, and Mr. GILMAN, the Younger Americans Act. This is landmark legislation that will dramatically increase after-school opportunities for young children and teenagers by providing them with adult mentors, education, sports, and volunteer activities.

As any parent or teacher knows, the best way to keep kids out of trouble and help them learn and grow is to keep them busy and give them opportunity. Today's bill is an historic opportunity to dramatically expand safe and exciting programs for children and youth after school, a time when too many kids suffer from a lack of activity and adult supervision. A recent Urban institute study found that one in five young people age 6–12 are left without adult supervision after school and before their parents come home from work, a critical period during the day to keep youth both positively engaged and out of trouble.

Thirty-five years ago, Congress made a decision to help seniors and passed the Older Americans Act. In doing so, Congress launched a series of highly effective local efforts that have improved and enriched the lives of our nation's elderly. It helped pay for senior centers, Meals on Wheels, and community service programs like Green Thumb.

For too long, however, Congress has ignored the needs of our nation's young people. It has failed to make the issues of young people a priority and has failed to make an adequate investment in their development and well-being.

Our new bill attempts to correct that oversight. Today, we seek to repeat the success of the Older Americans Act by funding a national network of high-quality programs tailored to the particular challenges faced by youth today.

Too often, we find that public programs for young people focus on the problems of youth and promote piecemeal policies that seek to redress negative behaviors like juvenile delinquency or teen pregnancy.

But the evidence shows that the most promising approaches are those that foster positive youth development, build social and emotional competence, and link young people with adult mentors. This is the future of youth social programs in the 21st century and it is an approach we seek to advance through this legislation.

The Younger Americans Act will help coordinate and fund youth-mentoring, community service through volunteerism, structured academic and recreational opportunities, and other activities aimed at fostering the positive educational and social development of teens and pre-teens.

Under the bill, the federal government would distribute funds by formula to community boards that would oversee the planning, operation, and evaluation of local programs. Funding for local programs in the initial year would be \$500 million, and would rise to \$2 billion in 2005, in addition to matching funds provided by local and state governments and the private sector.

To qualify, each local program would be required to adopt a comprehensive and coordinated system of youth programs with the following five general components: ongoing relationships with caring adults; safe places with structured activities; access to services that promote healthy lifestyles, including those designed to improve physical and mental health; opportunities to acquire marketable skills and competencies; and, opportunities for community service and civic participation.

Thirty percent of funds would be targeted to youth programs that address specific, urgent areas of need such as youth in correctional facilities and situations where youth are at high risk due to neglect or abuse.

The bill has a vast national coalition of supporters including former Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Colin Powell, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the National Urban League, America's Promise, the Child Welfare Leagues of America, United Way, the National Mental Health Association, and others.

I want to thank all of members of the coalition behind this bill for bringing us together. I applaud their work on this legislation and the work that they do every day in each of our local communities.

I want to express special appreciation to all of the young people from these associations, who have rightly played such a key role in drafting and advocating for this legislation.

Congress has enacted many worthwhile programs to help young people. But the bill we are introducing today has a different message. Our bill responds to the tremendous desire of young people to have the greatest opportunity possible to be active, creative, and productive citizens in our society, rather than receiving society's help only after they are in trouble. Kids are asking to be given a chance to make a difference in their own lives. We are saying today that that is exactly what Congress can and should do.

I am confident we can make that happen. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation.

#### HONORING THE 352ND FIGHTER GROUP, THE BLUE NOSED BASTARDS OF BOSNEY

### HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize a special group of World War II veterans.

The 352nd fighter group, known as the Blue Nosed Bastards of Bosney, was named for the

farm land where they were based and the bright blue paint on the cowling of each of their P–51 Mustangs. The primary purpose of the fighter group was to escort bombers across the English Channel to France and Germany (and eventually Berlin) where they bombed the Germans relentlessly. Once the bombers had completed their missions and returned to base, the 352nd would attack various military targets before returning home. The fighter group also participated in D–Day by neutralizing the German Air Force before the invasion and then providing cover for the Allies during the invasion.

Since the end of World War II, the brave men of the 352nd fighter group have reunited every year somewhere in the United States. This year will be their 50th reunion which is being held in Richmond, Virginia. It will also be their last reunion. This historic reunion was brought to my attention by Howard Polin, a corporal in the Army Aircorp, who served on the ground crew with the 352nd fighter group in England from December 7, 1942 until February 4, 1946.

I want to take this opportunity to salute the men of the 352nd fighter group. They, along with the millions of young men and women who served our country in uniform during World War II, served side by side to restore the peace and the freedom to those overwhelmed by tyranny.

Americans of all religions, of all races, and of diverse political philosophies, came together on the battlefield and on the homefront, helping to extinguish the flames of oppression and the evil that infected mankind throughout the world. America provided a beacon of hope in a dark sea of despair.

We must never forget those brave men and women who served in the war that changed our future. Since they have returned home, they have faithfully served this country with dignity and with strengthened character. They have all helped to create the single greatest country on the face of the earth and have altered, for the better, the future of mankind, both at home and abroad.

America can never fully repay her veterans. However, we can honor these courageous individuals by treasuring the freedom they preserved.

Mr. Speaker, the men of the 352nd fighter group all answered the call to duty when their country needed them. They are true American heroes.

#### CONGRATULATING PORTER-STARKE SERVICES

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Porter-Stärke Services, located in Porter County, Indiana, as it celebrates its 25th anniversary this Friday, September 22, 2000. Porter-Stärke Services will commemorate its 25 years of dedicated service to the community of Northwest Indiana in a gala celebration entitled "A Silver Lining," to be held at the Porter County Expo Center in Valparaiso, Indiana. The celebration will serve as an opportunity for Porter-Stärke to reaffirm its commitment to excellence in mental health services for individuals in

Valparaiso, Portage, and the surrounding communities.

Porter-Starke Services grew from a grass-roots effort initiated by citizens located within ten miles of a large state mental hospital. Concerned with the quality of care provided by the state hospital, the volunteers sought to provide improved care alternatives for those whose lives are affected by mental illness. To that end, Porter-Starke Services was incorporated in 1967 as LaPorte-Porter-Starke Services, and those volunteers served as its first board of directors. The name of the center reflected the three counties involved in the original effort. By 1968, LaPorte County had withdrawn from the group to form its own center, the Swanson Center for Mental Health. Thus, in 1968, the charter was altered, and Porter-Starke Services was born.

From 1967 through 1973, Porter-Starke Services' volunteer board of directors worked tirelessly to raise the capital to build an adequate facility, find a location suitable for the main center, and organize a comprehensive and effective program. Ultimately, land was donated by the Urschel family, and state and local funding was secured for financing construction of a facility in Valparaiso, Indiana. During the past two decades, Porter-Starke has continued to grow and change, reflecting the needs of the communities while remaining committed to the highest caliber of mental health care.

Over its 25 years of development, Porter-Starke has been fortunate enough to receive support and assistance from numerous community leaders and good Samaritans in Northwest Indiana. This year, Porter-Starke Services and the Mental Health Association of Porter County are recognizing several of these individuals for their dedication and commitment to the mental health field at a special dinner, prior to the gala celebration at the Expo Center. Larry Sheets and Lee E. Grogg will receive the Aled P. Davies Award for Public Policy on Health, the Gale C. Corley President's Award will be presented to Charles Walker, and the Patient Care and Advocacy Award will be given to John Wilhelm. Marilyn Lindner will receive the Porter-Starke Award for Community Mental Health, while Karen Conover will receive the Robert Anderson Community Education and Service Award. The Mental Health Association of Porter County will present Randy Zromkoski the Distinguished Service Award, Julane Corneil the United Way Agency Volunteer of the Year Award, and the Cooks Corners Elementary School, Kenya Jenkins, and Velma Strawhun will all receive the Friends of the Mental Health Association Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the administrators, health care professionals, and countless individuals who, over the years, have contributed to Porter-Starke's success in achieving its standard of excellence. Their hard work has improved the quality of life for everyone in Indiana's First Congressional District.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON  
BUDGET CONCEPTS ACT

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I introduced the National Commission on Budget Concepts Act.

Over three decades ago, President Lyndon Johnson established his Commission on Budget Concepts. The Commission's task—to make the Federal budget a more useful document for public policy making—was no easy assignment. Nonetheless, the Commission put forth many sound suggestions that policy makers and the public embraced. That was thirty-three years ago.

Times have changed. Before Republicans balanced the budget, we had deficits as far as the eye could see. Now we are forecasting surpluses in the trillions of dollars. Suddenly everybody agrees that the Social Security surplus should not be touched. We are taking trust funds offbudget. We are paying off principle on the debt.

Mr. Speaker, we are treading on unfamiliar ground. We should establish a new commission that will review the federal budget in today's terms, and figure out how it can best be presented in today's climate.

GAIL M. EDWARDS: A TRUE  
AMERICAN

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gail M. Edwards on the occasion of his retirement, after nearly thirty-five years as a pilot with Trans World Airlines (TWA).

Gail is an ideal American and a man whose life and career have made us proud. He was born on July 16, 1935 and grew up in Indiana with his mother, Dorris Wannetta Edwards, his father, Harold Perry Edwards, and his brother, Victor Royce Edwards. He was the first of his family to graduate from college, and he received his degree from Indiana University in 1957.

He joined the United States Air Force immediately after college, fulfilling his lifelong goal of flying. As a child, he had spent many hours building model airplanes and hanging them around his room. He volunteered to fly volunteer airlift missions to Vietnam during the Vietnam War and then served in the Air National Guard for many years after the war, retiring as a Full Bird Colonel, Vice Wing Commander, Tactical Airlift Wing. He received two Air Force Commendation Medals.

Years later, when the nation was in the Gulf War conflict, he volunteered again. He ran into the Commanding General of the California Air National Guard and said, "Call me if you need a grizzly, gray-haired old man to fly a 130." They both smiled and Gail knew he wasn't going to get a call, but they also both knew if he did get a call, he would say, "You bet!"

Gail loved the Air Force for opening up vast vistas for him. He believed the Air Force was a "God-send." He loved every minute of it.

While on duty in England and Japan, Gail met and married Kathleen Riley, an English/Speech/Drama teacher on American Airforce bases, in 1962.

Leaving the Air Force in January, 1966, he went to work for TWA and has been a pilot for TWA for nearly thirty-five years. He has said that after the Air Force taught him to fly and allowed him to experience the world, TWA gave him the opportunity to share it with his family and all the other passengers.

Gail lives with his wife of 38 years in Redondo Beach, California. His children are Kimberly Ellen Edwards (32) of San Diego and Jonathan Kyle Edwards (28) of Scottsdale.

He enjoyed working for TWA, and even more, he loved serving his country. He is extremely patriotic, just the kind of citizen we all want to be. He has volunteered with the United Methodist church, Little League, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Indian Guides, and Indian Maidens. He built play houses for his children and helped them with their homework. But first and foremost, Gail is an American and a pilot. He loves his family, he loves his job, and he loves his country.

I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Gail Edwards and to thank him for his service to TWA and to his nation.

IN HONOR OF MATHEW LOBAS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mathew Lobas, of Parma, Ohio, who was recently elected National Commander of the Polish Legion of American Veterans, U.S.A. (PLAV). He took the Oath of Office on August 22, 2000 at the National Convention in Tunica County, Mississippi.

Mathew Lobas demonstrated his dedication to his country more than 50 years ago when he served in the United States Naval Construction Battalion in Southeast Asia during World War II. He joined the Polish Legion of American Veterans (PLAV) following his honorable discharge from the Navy in August 1946. Throughout his 54 years of membership within the PLAV, Lobas has held a number of important positions, ranging from Post Commander to State Commander to National First Vice Commander. He has continuously advanced PLAV's issues at the local, state and national levels. In 1994, he was awarded a Certificate of Recognition for his outstanding service in helping to start new posts in Florida and Nevada.

In addition to his noteworthy work on behalf of PLAV, Lobas is remarkably active in numerous other organizations in the Cleveland area, such as the American Legion, the VFW, the Joint Veterans Commission of Cuyahoga County, and the Memorial Day Association of Greater Cleveland, where he is responsible for the placement of American flags at the grave sites of deceased veterans. He also dedicates many hours to the Holy Trinity Orthodox Church in Parma, Ohio, where he served as President of the Parish for over six years.

Mathew Lobas currently resides in Parma, Ohio with his lovely wife of 50 years, Olga; they have two children and four grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in

congratulating Mathew Lobas on his election as National Commander of the Polish Legion of American Veterans, U.S.A. I thank him on behalf of the Cleveland community for his lifetime of commitment to service and volunteerism.

A TRIBUTE TO THE GREATER  
PHILADELPHIA HEALTH ACTION,  
INC.

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Greater Philadelphia Health Action as it celebrates three decades of providing dedicated health and human services to economically disadvantaged and medically underserved Philadelphians.

Founded in 1970, GPHA has grown to offer a full spectrum of accessible and affordable medical and behavioral health care services.

In 1990, GPHA opened the Woodland Academy Child Development Center. Today it offers quality comprehensive day care for more than 100 infants and pre-school and school-age children. It also offers low income and child development programs for teen parents, working families and those enrolled in vocational training programs.

Currently GPHA has five full service medical centers, an expanded behavioral health care program, and a day care and child development center. It serves over 28,000 patients as it continues to expand. That expansion includes plans to launch a new youth program that would provide music, arts and computer instruction and life skills instruction.

As it celebrates 30 years of service, GPHA remains committed to continue its tradition of providing outstanding service to the Philadelphia community.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
POLLUTION PREVENTION WEEK

**HON. ROB PORTMAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of National Pollution Prevention Week, which is being observed this week, September 18–24, by many in the Second District of Ohio and across the nation.

Originating in California in 1992, Pollution Prevention Week gained widespread popularity in states like Ohio before becoming a national effort in 1995. This week it continues its valuable role in raising awareness about pollution prevention.

Stopping pollution before it starts is one of the most cost-effective ways to conserve resources and keep our environment clean. Often, these goals are best achieved locally, and, for a number of years, the Greater Cincinnati Earth Coalition has recognized the environmental and economic benefits of preventing pollution at its source. The Coalition strives to protect our environment with cooperative action between businesses, individuals, environmental and community groups and

government agencies. This past year, the Coalition successfully worked with a number of groups through the City of Cincinnati Office of Environmental Management to increase the use of recyclable material at public events.

Mr. Speaker, Pollution Prevention Week reminds us that the best way to conserve our resources and have a clean environment is to keep problems from developing in the first place. It encourages us to work for a cleaner environment while maintaining a competitive, prosperous business climate. These are goals we can all support. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Pollution Prevention Week.

HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES  
AND UNIVERSITIES WEEK

SPEECH OF

**HON. BOB CLEMENT**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 19, 2000*

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join with my colleagues in honoring this country's Historically Black Colleges and Universities, three of which are located in my district, the 5th district of Tennessee. These schools are: Fisk University, Meharry Medical College and Tennessee State University. For well over a century, HBCUs have made their mark as vital institutions of higher learning. After the Emancipation Proclamation, the continuing legacy of racism in the 19th century barred African Americans from most higher education opportunities. As a result, colleges and universities devoted to educating African Americans were established, mostly in the South, where the majority of freed slaves remained after the Civil War.

Generations of African American educators, physicians, lawyers, scientists and other professionals found at HBCUs the knowledge, experience and encouragement they needed to reach their full potential. Over the years, HBCUs have compiled an enviable record of achievement, educating almost forty percent of our Nation's black college graduates. They have educated millions of young people and have prepared African-Americans students for the challenges and opportunities of this new century.

The faculty and staff of HBCUs have created a nurturing environment for their students, set high academic standards and expectations and served as inspiring role models for the young people around them. HBCUs have accomplished this in the face of daunting challenges including limited financial resources.

HBCUs' limited pool of private financial contributors have denied many of the institutions the opportunity to meet their capital needs. That is why I was pleased to join with Congressman JAMES CLYBURN in 1996 to secure the authorization of \$29 million for HBCU historic preservation.

Historic structures that attest to the contributions HBCUs have made in education our students are at risk of being lost forever. At the close of the 104th Congress, the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act was signed into law. This legislation earmarked twelve schools to receive desperately needed funds to preserve their campus' historic struc-

tures. These funds have been used to repair numerous buildings on Fisk University's campus in Nashville and return the campus to its former beauty. This is the last year of that authorization and I am hopeful that we will be successful in securing the remaining \$7.2 million in appropriation funding in this year's Interior appropriations bill.

I am extremely proud of the success Nashville's HBCU's have had in educating African-Americans from across the country. Fisk University, Meharry Medical College and Tennessee State University have all made deep marks on the Nashville community and have enriched all of our lives.

In addition to educating many of our Nation's most distinguished African American professionals, HBCUs reach out to improve the quality of life in surrounding communities. Fisk's world-famous Jubilee Singers originated as a group of traveling students in 1871. The singers struggled at first, but before long, their performances so electrified audiences that they traveled throughout the United States and Europe. The Jubilee Singers introduced much of the world to spirituals and, in the process, raised funds that preserved their University and permitted construction of Jubilee Hall, the South's first permanent structure built for the education of black students.

From its earliest days, Fisk has played a leadership role in the education of African-Americans. Fisk faculty and alumni have been among America's intellectual, artistic and civic leaders in every generation since the University's beginnings. Among currently practicing black physicians, lawyers and dentists, one in six is a Fisk graduate.

Today, Meharry Medical College is the largest private, historically black institution exclusively dedicated to educating health care professionals and biomedical scientists in the United States. Meharry has graduated nearly 15 percent of all African American physicians and dentists practicing in the United States. Since 1970, Meharry has awarded more than 10 percent of the Ph.D.'s in biomedical sciences received by African Americans. Today, the majority of Meharry's graduates practice in medically underserved rural and inner city areas. As Meharry takes its place among the leading institutions preparing health professionals to meet the challenges of the 21st century, the College remains true to its heritage of serving the underserved of all origins, while maintaining an uncompromising standard of excellence.

Tennessee State University, which is also located in Nashville, continues the tradition of educating African-Americans and preparing future leaders of our communities and country. Oprah Winfrey and the late Olympic track star Wilma Rudolph are among its long list of distinguished graduates. TSU has recently been acknowledged as one of the 100 "most wired" universities, ranking 55th this year. I applaud TSU's achievement in bringing 21st century technology to all of its students and classrooms. This is quite an accomplishment and one of which the entire TSU community should be proud. TSU is doing its part in closing the digital divide by ensuring that all of our students, regardless of socio-economic class, have access to computers and the Internet. This training is vitally important to ensuring their academic success in the future. TSU continues to meet the challenges and demands of a 21st century education.

As TSU, Fisk and Meharry demonstrate, HBCU play an array of roles in educating our African-American students. They, along with the many other HBCU's across our country are to be commended for their dedication to academic excellence and commitment to educational opportunity for all. I look forward to working with my colleagues in supporting HBCU's and ensuring that they receive the resources and support necessary to continue their mission.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE STUDENT  
CONGRESSIONAL TOWN MEETING

**HON. BERNARD SANDERS**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2000

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this summer. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see the government do regarding these concerns.

I submit the following statements into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as I believe that the views of these young persons will benefit my colleagues.

BRIAN LINDSTAM REGARDING HOMELESS TEENS

Brian Lindstam: My subject is on homeless teens. Over 500 Vermont teens become homeless every year in Vermont. That is about two teens a day, and 300 of those teens of that 500 are from Burlington. Why do teens become homeless? Here are several reasons: Abuse, negligence, and one-parent households where the teen is not getting the support because the parent is consumed in his or her own life. Sex abuse and drug and alcohol addiction can be a problem.

Spectrum is a teen shelter in Burlington where troubled teens can get support, counseling and get back into some kind of schooling. Burlington Youth Build is a nine-month program where they get paid \$250 every two weeks and got their GED at the end of program. They run this program as if it was a job. If you miss a day, you get no pay. If you have a drug or alcohol addiction there is a program, it is a three-month program at a rehabilitation clinic called Mountain View in Huntington. This is where Spectrum sends you if you have an addiction or if you need help.

I have an idea for—I have an idea that if you get a job at a food facility, it is a two-day orientation to get you ready for your job. If you have a job at IBM, it is an eight-day orientation to get ready for your job. So I said to myself, two to eight days can get you ready for a job; then why cannot three months of schooling get a student ready for his or her job? Nine months of schooling or four years of schooling will burn out a frustrated mind, so if you have a teen pick one class to excel in for three months and get a \$300 to \$500 bonus at graduation, fee or bonus to help pay for utensils or a wardrobe to get them going in their job. I feel that this problem will help teens that do not like school and it will open new doors to them for a better life.

MATT KOZLOWSKI REGARDING AUTO  
INSURANCE FOR TEENS

Matt Kozlowski: Congressman Sanders, I have reached the point in my life where I am

a young adult and I have many obstacles to overcome, one of them being car insurance. I will be turning 17 in a month and I am going to get my license. Recently I moved from Toronto, Ontario, Canada where I had gotten around the whole city with buses, subway, streetcars and trains to get to mandatory destinations like school and work.

Now that I am living in Vermont, all my destinations are far apart and cannot be reached by buses, subways, et cetera. Therefore, I need to make a new investment, that being a car.

Purchasing a car is not a problem for working teens. You can save up a couple thousand dollars to purchase it, but what is very expensive and hard to do is maintaining it on the road by paying extremely high car insurance rates. A single male age 16 to 18 pays on average \$2,567.97 annually for car insurance, compared to a single 23- or 24-year-old male who only pays \$994.63 annually.

Just because we fall under the dangerous young drivers category of the insurance companies, I do not feel that we all belong there. I am aware that these insurance rates are based on statistics, but not all young drivers should have to pay high rates due to others' mistakes. The younger we are, the more time we want for sports, school and our social life. We do not want to have to work the majority of each week having to pay a monthly insurance bill of over \$200 to get from one destination to another.

One of the solutions that I would like to propose is giving young drivers a regular 23- to 24-year-old single male insurance rate of approximately \$1,000 annually. If one were to get a speeding ticket, have an accident or be cited for violation or along those lines, then they should fall into the dangerous young driver category. I feel that we all deserve at least one chance before we fall into such a category because we all are not dangerous drivers.

I think that my proposal would be successful in making teens have more time for sports in school as well as resulting in insurance companies having to pay fewer claims. If I knew that I had one chance before my insurance rate went up from \$1000 to \$2500, I would definitely be a very much more cautious driver. I also think that car insurance companies make enough money as it is and shouldn't be taking great amounts of money from minors, most of whom just make enough to keep their cars on the road.

Thank you much for your time and consideration.

MATT CYR REGARDING EMANCIPATED MINORS

Matt Cyr: Sir, I am here to tell you about the lack of knowledge people have on emancipation, and if you all do not know what emancipation is, it is when a minor under the age of 18 is able to move out of the house with your parents consent legally and you get a legal document that says you are on your own, you can sign your own, so they consider you 18 so you can live on your own and manage your own stuff.

And just a little while my dad thought I would be better off at the age of 17, and I thought I would too, but it is kind of hard even though I am fighting through it, but that is not what I am here to tell you about is my money problems. It is about the lack of knowledge people have on this topic, because when I am trying to get my phone, electricity and cable hooked up to my place, they said I needed my parent to do it.

How can I do things on my own when and if they do not let me be on my own? They need to give me a chance for me to do it on my own. The law says I can sign on my own and do all the things that an 18-year-old could do, but the public does not know about

this law and if they did they would be able to say yes to the things that I need to do on a common basis.

There are some people that do know about the law and they are not sure as to what the rights I would get or you would get. The only thing I ask is for you to show people about this law and not just this one but other laws as well as what they also mean. There are many places you can do this, like on TV commercials or visits in the schools and tell them about the laws. I do not see things that you guys—I do not see things that people do to inform about the laws because I never heard about it and I never knew about it. Why I think you need to inform a lot more people about the law and others is because I have hardly ever heard of this law or anything about it until it happened. Thanks.

ELIZABETH BOMBARD REGARDING SCHOOL  
SAFETY

Elizabeth Bombard: My topic is safety in schools. Safety in schools has become a hot topic these days after all that has happened in school in the past few years. Many schools around the nation have heightened security to try to prevent any more tragic events from occurring. The bottom line, the shooting at Columbine really changed how safe students feel at their school.

Colchester High School had to take safety measures last year when repeatedly we got bomb threats. For about a week we had to enter the school from the front doors and go through metal detectors. That goes to show even small schools in small towns are affected by this. Schools throughout the country have started programs to try to prevent things like Columbine from happening.

A school in Ashtabula, Ohio put together a group called the Positive Education Program which helps develop social skills and trust activities. This is a program that school officials think could help include more students and prevent violence from entering their school. Many people think they have more opportunities for children to get involved to help lift the students that do not feel included and may be the violent ones.

Many other schools have also started programs including a school in Tampa, Florida which awarded "Stop and Think" stickers at their own elementary school to children who show exceptional good behavior. Many think this is more effective than metal detectors and security guards. Even though nothing extreme has happened close to Vermont, I do not think it is too early to take safety measures to make sure our schools stay safe for learning.

CHS has done a little to help open more doors to students or things to do, some of which are CHS Cares and Through Helpers. CHS Cares is a group of students who raise money and goods to make baskets for people in our town that need help around the holidays. This year we supplied turkey dinners to many families in the community for Thanksgiving. Through Helpers are sophomores, juniors and seniors who offer to help under classmen with problems they have in school or socially.

I do agree with the many people who think more involvement may help kind students. I also think that many problems with children start right at their own home, but there are little we can do about that. I think the schools around here do need to make more programs and activities open for children to do so they do not have so much free time. It should also include transportation home afterwards for the students who do want to do the programs but do not have parents home until late to pick them up. Often the children who are causing trouble are also the ones who do not have parents home until

late in the evening. Having more opportunities can try to help prevent the problem of violence in our school before it starts.

What I would like to see happen from doing this speech is more funding in schools to try to have more clubs and groups for students which includes transportation.

## INTRODUCTION OF ROCKY FLATS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ACT

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 21, 2000*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a bill to designate Rocky Flats as a National Wildlife Refuge once that former nuclear-weapons site in Colorado is cleaned up and closed.

This bill, the "Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2000," was developed through a process of collaboration with Senator ALLARD, who is today introducing corresponding legislation in the Senate, and is cosponsored by Representatives DEGETTE, TANCREDO, SCHAFFER, HEFLEY, and MCINNIS.

In shaping this legislation, Senator ALLARD and I consulted closely with local communities, State and Federal agencies, and interested members of the public. We received a great deal of very helpful input, including many detailed reactions to and comments on related legislation that I introduced last year and discussion drafts that Senator ALLARD and I circulated earlier this year.

Both Senator ALLARD and I recognize that introduction of legislation is only the beginning of the formal legislative process. We welcome and will consider any further comments that anyone may have regarding the bills we are introducing today. However, we believe that these bills address the points raised by the many parties in Colorado who are interested in this important matter.

Here is a brief outline of the main provisions of the bills Senator ALLARD and I are introducing today: The bill—Provides that the Federally-owned lands at Rocky Flats site will remain in federal ownership; that the Lindsay Ranch homestead facilities will be preserved; that no part of Rocky Flats can be annexed by a local government; that no through roads can be built through the site; and that some portion of the site can be used for transportation improvements along Indiana Street along the eastern boundary.

Requires DOE and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding within 18 months after enactment to address administrative issues and make preparations regarding the future transfer of the site to the Fish and Wildlife Service and to divide responsibilities between the agencies until the transfer occurs; provides that the cleanup funds shall not be used for these activities.

Specifies when the transfer from DOE to the Fish and Wildlife Service will occur—namely when the cleanup is completed and the site is closed as a DOE facility.

Describes the land and facilities that will be transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Service (most of the site) and the facilities that will be excluded from transfer (any cleanup facilities or structures that the DOE must maintain and remain liable for); directs that the transfer will

not result in any costs to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Directs that the DOE will continue to be required to clean up the site and that in the event of any conflicts, cleanup shall take priority; maintains DOE's continuing liability for cleanup.

Requires the DOE to continue to clean up and close the site under all existing laws, regulations and agreements.

Requires that establishment of the site as a National Wildlife Refuge shall not affect the level of cleanup required.

Requires the DOE to clean up the site to levels that are established in the Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement as the agreement is revised based on input from the public, the regulators and the Rocky Flats Soil Action Level Oversight Panel.

Requires DOE to remain liable for any long-term cleanup obligations and requires DOE to pay for this long-term care.

Establishes the Rocky Flats site as a National Wildlife Refuge 30 days after transfer of the site to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Provides that the refuge is to be managed in accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act.

Provides that the refuge's purposes are to be consistent with the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, with specific reference to preserving wildlife, enhancing wildlife habitat, conserving threatened and endangered species, providing opportunities for education, scientific research and recreation.

Directs the Fish and Wildlife Service to convene a public process to develop management plans for the refuge; requires the Fish and Wildlife Service to consult with the local communities in the creation of this public process.

Provides that the public involvement process shall make recommendations to the Fish and Wildlife Service on management issues—specifically issues related to the operation of the refuge, any transportation improvements, leasing land to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, any perimeter fences, development of a Rocky Flats museum and visitors center; requires that a report is to be submitted to Congress outlining the recommendations resulting from the public involvement process.

Recognizes the existence of other property rights on the Rocky Flats site, such as mineral rights, water rights and utility rights-of-way; preserves these rights and allows the rights holders access to their rights.

Allows the DOE and the Fish and Wildlife Service to impose reasonable conditions on the access to private property rights for cleanup and refuge management purposes.

Requires the federal government to seek to acquire the underlying mineral rights through agreement with the private owners.

Allows the Public Service Company of Colorado to provide an extension from their high-tension line on the site to serve the area around Rocky Flats.

Authorizes the establishment of a Rocky Flats museum to commemorate the history of the site, its operations and cleanup.

Requires the DOE and the Fish and Wildlife Service to inform Congress on the costs associated with implementing this Act.

Let me take a moment to address a few of the more important issues that were raised by the local communities and how they are addressed in this bill.

First, transportation issues. Rocky Flats is located in the midst of a growing area of the Denver metropolitan region. As this area continues to grow, pressure is being put on the existing transportation facilities just outside the borders of the site. In addition, the Denver-metropolitan region has been constructing a beltway around the city. The last segment of this beltway yet to be completed or approved for construction is to be in the northwest section of Denver, the same general areas where Rocky Flats is located. The communities that surround the site have been considering transportation improvements in this area for a number of years—including the potential completion of the beltway.

So, one of the questions on which Senator ALLARD and I sought comments was whether our bills should allow some use of Rocky Flats land to assist in addressing the transportation needs and future demands. We asked for and received the views of the public and the local communities. That input, along with the recent decision by the local communities to forego for now the construction of the beltway in the northwest region of Denver, overwhelmingly indicated that the bill should allow for possible availability of some land along Indiana Street along the eastern boundary of Rocky Flats for this purpose, but that the bills should not specifically provide for a more far-reaching availability of Rocky Flats land for a beltway. So the bills we are introducing reflects that position.

Second, the Rocky Flats Cold War Museum. This section of the bill authorizes the establishment of a museum to commemorate the Cold-War history of the work done at Rocky Flats. Rocky Flats has been a major facility of interest to the Denver area and the communities that surround it. Even though this facility will be cleaned up and closed down, we should not forget the hard work done here, what role it played in our national security and the mixed record of its economic, environmental and social impacts. The city of Arvada has been particularly interested in this idea, and took the lead in proposing inclusion of such a provision in the bill. However, a number of other communities have expressed interest in also being considered as a possible site for the museum. Accordingly, the bills being introduced today provide that Arvada will be the location for the museum unless the Secretary of Energy, after consultation with relevant communities, decides to select a different location after consideration of all appropriate factors such as cost, potential visitorship, and proximity to the Rocky Flats site.

Third, private property rights. Most of the land at Rocky Flats is owned by the federal government, but within its boundaries there are a number of pre-existing private property rights, including mineral rights, water rights, and utility rights-of-way. In response to comments from many of their owners, the bills acknowledge the existence of these rights, preserve the rights of their owners, including rights of access, and allow the Secretaries of Energy and Interior to address access issues to continue necessary activities related to cleanup and closure of the site and proper management of its resources.

With regard to water rights, the bills protect existing easements and allow water rights holders access to perfect and maintain their rights. With regard to mineral rights, the bills

urge the Secretaries of Energy and Interior to acquire these rights from existing owners—but ensure that no funds from cleanup and closure can be used to accomplish this goal. Finally, with regard to power lines and the proposal to extend a line from a high-tension line that currently crosses the site, the bills preserve the existing rights-of-way for these lines and allows the construction of one power line from an existing line to serve the growing region northeast of Rocky Flats.

Fourth, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's (NREL) National Wind Technology Center. This research facility, which is located northwest of the site, has been conducting important research on wind energy technology. As many in the region know, this area of the Front Range is subjected to strong winds that spill out over the mountains and onto the plains. This creates ideal wind conditions to test new wind power turbines. I support this research and believe that the work done at this facility can help us be more energy secure as we find ways to make wind power more productive and economical. The bills we are introducing today preserve this facility. It is outside the boundaries of the new

wildlife refuge that the bill would create and thus would be allowed to continue at its present location. In addition, NREL has been considering expanding this facility onto the open lands of Rocky Flats. The bill allows NREL to pursue this proposal through the public involvement process.

Finally, cleanup levels. Over the last year, some concerns were expressed that the establishment of Rocky Flats as a wildlife refuge could result in a less extensive or thorough cleanup of contamination that has resulted from its prior mission. Of course, that was not the intention of the bill I introduced last year and it is definitely not the intention of the bills being introduced today. The language in these bills has been drafted to ensure that the cleanup is based on sound science, compliance with federal and state environmental laws and regulations, and public acceptability. The bills now tie the cleanup levels to the levels that will be established in the Rocky Flats Cleanup Agreement (RFCA) for soil, water and other media following a public process to review and reconsider the cleanup levels in the RFCA. In this way, the public will be involved in establishing cleanup levels and the Secretary of Energy will be required to conduct a thorough

cleanup based on that input. In addition, the bills require that the establishment of the site as a wildlife refuge cannot be used to affect the cleanup levels—removing any possibility of arriving at a lesser cleanup due to this ultimate land use.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my thanks to Senator ALLARD for his outstanding cooperation in drafting this important legislation. I am very appreciative of his contributions and look forward to continuing to work closely with him and the other members of Colorado delegation in both the House and Senate to achieve enactment of this legislation.

In the past, Rocky Flats has been off-limits to development because it was a weapons plant. That era is over—and its legacy at Rocky Flats has been very mixed, to say the least. But it has left us with the opportunity to protect and maintain the outstanding natural, cultural, and open-space resources and value of this key part of Colorado's Front Range area. This bill would accomplish that end, would provide for appropriate future management of the lands, and would benefit not just the immediate area but all of Colorado and the nation as well.