

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM ACT

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to better coordinate the Federal Government's response to terrorism. Each year, hundreds of thousands of U.S. citizens work and travel overseas, including a growing number of U.S. employees who work on behalf of the energy industry. Regrettably, as we have seen in recent years, U.S. citizens are increasingly at risk by terrorist organizations who hope to exact revenge for U.S. policies, or in the name of greed. Because of a confusing maze of differing of diplomatic and law enforcement concerns, the U.S. victims of such acts are often unable to attain justice, even when the whereabouts of the perpetrators are known by federal authorities.

While the Department of State and the Justice Department can work effectively with nations sharing an extradition treaty with the U.S., too often the lack of such treaties or diplomatic barriers have allowed terrorists to hide from justice behind layers of bureaucracy. Worse still, there is little effective coordination between State and Justice to provide updated information to victims and their families, and neither agency compiles a complete report accounting the federal government's efforts to bring terrorists to justice.

Under this legislation, the Secretary of State would be required to designate an existing Assistant Secretary of State to monitor efforts to bring justice to U.S. victims of terrorism abroad. I believe this provision provides the Department of State with the necessary flexibility to designate the tasks required under this bill without dictating the creation of a new post, or elevating the Office of Counterterrorism with duties most appropriately performed at the level of the Assistant Secretary.

Under this bill, the Assistant Secretary would be required to work directly with the Justice Department and other applicable Federal agencies to identify and track terrorists living abroad who have killed Americans, or engaged in acts of terrorism that have directly affected American citizens. In addition, the Assistant Secretary would provide an annual report to Congress on the number of Americans kidnapped, killed or otherwise directly affected by the actions of international terrorists. Also included in the Annual Report to Congress would be a thorough detailing of what actions State and Justice are undertaking to obtain justice for U.S. victims of international terrorism, and a current list of terrorists living abroad.

One of the most important components of this legislation is the direct assistance of State and Justice in defining outdated or ineffective laws that prevent the aggressive pursuit of international terrorist by the Federal Government. To that end, as part of the Annual Re-

port, the Assistant Secretary would work with the Justice Department to make specific recommendations to Congress on legal remedies needed to bring individual terrorists to justice in the U.S. Should enforcement problems exist, the Assistant Secretary would provide Congress with proposed changes to U.S. law that would allow Justice and State to bring terrorists to justice in the U.S. Further, the Annual Report would work with State to detail known international terrorists, and make recommendations to Congress on best methods of pressuring host governments—such as cutting off of aid, or imposing sanctions. To maintain adequate safeguards, the President would be provided with a national security interest waiver, which must be accompanied with an explanation to Congress when executed.

As Members of Congress, we have a profound duty to provide an effective response when our constituents have been the victims of international terrorists while traveling or working abroad. Through passage of this legislation, we can take important steps in coordinating the Federal Government's response, and ensuring that we have the information necessary to address our laws or diplomatic policies to provide for the aggressive pursuit of terrorists. We can not stand back while our citizens are victimized, or let the lack of coordination between agencies dictate a denial of justice.

I urge my colleagues to better safeguard our citizens by supporting this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN TRESKY TOERGE

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the American Mothers, Inc., 2001 Maryland Mother of the Year, Susan Tresky Toerge. A resident of Potomac, MD, Mrs. Toerge is an example of a truly altruistic individual as shown through her efforts to her family and to her students.

As an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher, Mrs. Toerge has impacted the lives of many children across the country educating them on the ways of our country during a point in time when many of these children are most likely frightened and uncertain of their new surroundings. Through her comforting and valuable life lessons, Mrs. Toerge helps these children overcome the challenges faced with being in a new country. In her work and home life, Mrs. Toerge demonstrates that it is possible for women to balance the role of a devoted parent with a full time job and still participate actively in her community. She is truly a role model for women everywhere.

The Maryland Mother of The Year program is sponsored by American Mothers, Inc. (AMI) which was founded on the objective to "develop and strengthen the moral and spiritual

foundation of the home, the community, the nation and the world." AMI is also the official sponsor of Mother's Day and has developed outreach programs that include parenting workshops, tutoring and literacy programs.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting Susan Tresky Toerge, whose contributions to her family, state and community have made her truly deserving of the title of Maryland Mother of the Year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOKUM CHAPEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to congratulate the Yokum Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, of Malta Bend, Missouri, which will be celebrating its 120th anniversary on May 20, 2001.

Yokum Chapel Church may not have the largest membership but it has continued to serve the people of Malta Bend for the last twelve decades. Malta Bend is a small town with an African-American population of less than five percent. This church and its dedicated congregation have become an integral part of the community that it calls home.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my congratulations to the congregation of Yokum Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church for their outstanding accomplishment. It is with great pride that I honor their achievement on their one hundred and twentieth anniversary.

CAPITAL GAINS TAX RATE REDUCTION ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Capital Gains Tax Rate Reduction Act. If enacted, this legislation will reduce the top capital gains tax rate from 20% to 10%. Additionally, the lower rate of 10% would be reduced to 5%. The measure would also repeal the 5-year holding rule.

This legislation is needed to spur today's ailing economy. From past rate reductions, we know that the economy responds to the lowering of rates. The impact of reducing the tax burden on investments is to increase activity in the markets. When the tax is reduced, individuals have an incentive to sell assets. These sales spur economic growth, as well as generate revenue for the federal coffers.

Please join me in cosponsoring this important tax rate reduction bill.

• 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.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE NORMAN SISISKY, MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

SPEECH OF

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, the death last week of our friend and colleague NORM SISISKY claimed one of our great leaders, and took away one of my respected and personal friends in Congress.

NORM symbolized the very best there is in public service. A good family man, NORM was widely respected for his honesty and integrity. He was also one of the most wonderful, witty and funny people I have known.

On the Intelligence Committee, where I had the privilege to serve with NORM, you could always count on him to give everyone a hard time. Whether he was grilling the director of the FBI, or just kidding around with staff, NORM was relentless when it came to dispensing good humor and well-intentioned grief. But he always did so in the most embracing and engaging way. With a sparkle in his eye, NORM always had the unique ability to say the right thing to break the tension and put a human face on our work.

But there was so much more to NORM SISISKY than just his great sense of humor. When it comes to military and national defense matters, there was no one more knowledgeable or more committed than NORM. His expertise in military affairs enabled him to serve both his district and our nation well.

As a member of the Armed Services Committee and the Intelligence Committee, NORM led the fight to improve our nation's military readiness, enhance our national security, and ensure America's leadership in the world. We owe a great debt of gratitude to NORM for his persistent and visionary leadership on defense matters. Clearly, our military and intelligence communities have lost a great friend.

NORM came to Congress after a long and successful career in the private sector. He put his business skills and knowledge to work in many productive ways, especially helping lead the fight for a balanced budget and smaller government. NORM epitomized the kind of public servant our founding fathers had in mind when they wrote the Constitution: a skilled and successful businessman giving back to his community, and leading Congress with his thoughtful and pragmatic advice.

We will miss NORM's knowledge, his leadership and his wonderful sense of humor. Our friend from Virginia made a huge impact in Congress, both as a leader and as a friend. My sympathies go out to NORM's wife Rhoda, their four sons Richard, Mark, Stuart and Terry, and their entire extended family.

COMMENDING THE 3M FOUNDATION FOR ITS PRESERVATION EFFORTS

HON. BILL LUTHER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. LUTHER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to mention a recent action by a corporation based in my home State of Minnesota that will go a long way toward improving the quality of life of our residents.

On March 20, 2001, the 3M Foundation gave the Nature Conservancy of Minnesota a gift of \$3.2 million to preserve and restore two areas of grassland in the State. Appropriately, it was also the first day of spring. This is the largest gift ever given to the state chapter. The gift will be used to purchase prairie and forest land and to promote community-based conservation efforts. This effort will have a significant and long-lasting impact on Minnesota's wildlife and vegetation. 3M's gift is one that will truly keep giving, offering current and future generations access to some of Minnesota's finest natural treasures.

I commend 3M for its commitment to preserving Minnesota and it is my hope that the good work 3M does will serve as a national example to increase corporate giving and involvement in communities across the country.

THE 15TH NATIONAL DISABLED VETERANS WINTER SPORTS CLINIC

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I recently had the privilege to participate in an extraordinary event, the 15th National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. This year it was held at Snowmass Village at Aspen, CO. Sponsored by the Disabled American Veterans, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and others, this event provides disabled veterans the chance to engage in various outdoor and indoor sports activities.

More than 300 severely disabled veterans took to the ski slopes, tackled rock climbing, went scuba diving, or played sledge hockey. This wonderful program is much more than a source of fun and athletic challenges; it is designed to assist in the rehabilitation of veterans with severe disabilities. Physical activities are essential to improving physical fitness, refining motor skills, and building self-confidence.

Many of these men and women at one time thought that their disability ended hopes for an active, vibrant life. Instead of viewing their physical condition as a barrier to recreation, these individuals saw the opportunity to overcome the obstacle posed by their disability.

The men and women at the clinic did not dwell on adversity; rather they eagerly engaged in the physical trial of sports. This event demonstrated the courage and abilities of these veterans. It also serves as an inspiration to others to be bold in redefining what the disabled can do.

I had the privilege of being Chairman of the Veterans' Health Subcommittee and I now

serve as its Vice Chairman. I worked with the VA, the DAV, and other wonderful groups in strengthening the services provided to veterans and I look forward to continuing this cooperation. The Veterans are the only group of Americans that have earned their benefits, they didn't just happen to be here, they earned it on the battlefield, they earned it in service to America.

Serving America's veterans mean exploring new options for enhancing their quality of life. The Winter Sports Clinic exemplifies an innovative approach to honoring the men and women who served in uniform.

CONGRATULATIONS STANLEY GWIAZDOWSKI—2001 PAL JOEY AWARD WINNER

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to fellow Milwaukeean Stanley Gwiazdowski, the St. Joseph Foundation, Inc. 2001 Pal Joey Award winner. Stan will be honored April 23rd at the annual Pal Joey dinner.

Stan is a worthy recipient of the prestigious Pal Joey Award as he has served his country, church, community and family faithfully for many years. He graduated from St. Hyacinth School and South Division High School. Drafted into the Army in 1941, Stan was chosen to attend infantry officers school at Fort Benning, Georgia. Sent overseas for the first time, Stan joined the 34th Infantry Division in Africa. His later Army assignments led him to units in Italy, North Africa and France. Stan received numerous military honors, including the Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters. Upon his return to the United States, Stan transferred to the Army Reserves. He retired from the Reserves in 1980, after nearly 35 years of military service to his country.

In 1946, Stan was sworn in as a City of Milwaukee police officer. He proudly served in all of the southside Milwaukee districts and was promoted to patrol sergeant and desk sergeant positions. He retired in May of 1980.

Throughout the years, Stan also found time to serve his community. He is the current secretary of the South Side Business Club, a member of the Milwaukee Society, the St. Josephat Foundation, the secret International Mushroom Pickers Society (IMPS), the Reserve Officers Association and Retired Officers Association.

Stan married Rose Kalinowski in 1946. The couple has been blessed with seven children and 12 grandchildren. An avid sheephead player, Stan is quick with a joke and to volunteer whenever and wherever he may be needed.

It is my distinct pleasure to join Stan's many friends and family members to saluting his many years of service to the Milwaukee community and especially the St. Joseph Foundation, Inc. May God continue to bless you and your family, Stan. Sto lat!

KENT A. "BO" COTTRELL

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, today I want to tell you about a great American who resides in Colorado's 6th Congressional District. Mr. Kent A. "Bo" Cottrell has one of the most diverse and unique histories of any individual that I can think of. He has been, and still is, a fine musician, he has been a police officer, a fund raiser for charities, he has run for elected office and has been elected for multiple terms as the chairman of the Arapahoe County Grand Old Party. Bo has worked for the governor of our great State in a wide variety of positions and ultimately came to rest as part of a unique business venture.

He attended Indiana State University and was promptly drafted to serve his country in 1963 where he served in Europe with the Military Police for two years. Bo went on to serve in the Jefferson County sheriffs office as an investigator in the late 1960s and worked in law enforcement for six years. During that time, he formed and wrote for a musical group known then and now as "The Lawmen," made up of law officers. They toured and even has a hit single called "Darn Good Country" in the DC area which was so popular that the group went to the White House for a visit with President Nixon.

In 1970, a leading local paper in Jefferson County named Bo Cottrell as their pick for the "Man of the Year." His connections in the entertainment industry were leveraged to help Easter Seals in their battle to raise funding and awareness of childrens' health issues and eventually vaulted him to the Board of Directors for the Make A Wish Foundation where he served as its special events director. He worked together with prominent members of the business and entertainment community to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for charity. He formed Kops and Kids, the Easter Seals Golf Tournament, the Make A Wish Golf Tournament and always strives to better the communities around him.

Due to all of his charitable efforts, in 1990, Bo was presented the "Point of Light" Award by President Bush, Sr., in a White House presentation. In 1996 he was a candidate to the Colorado State House in Arapahoe County and, although he did not prevail, he was soon elected to the position of Chairman to the Arapahoe County Grand Old Party from 1997 until 2001.

Another one of my constituents, Colorado Governor Bill Owens, selected Bo to become a representative on the Parole Board where he presided as Chairman. Bo was soon asked to work with the Colorado Office of Economic Development. In a true expression of his belief in the free-market, Bo gathered his experience dealing with people, both parolees and members of the business community, and began a new and unique business venture. He is now the marketing director of Pure Colorado, a company that bottles our wonderful, and very clean, Rocky Mountain Spring water, and packages it in a unique and innovative way for distribution nationwide.

Bo Cottrell's travels from Military Police officer, to musician, to Marketing Director are diverse and amazing examples in pursuit of the

American Dream. He was a compassionate conservative before anyone had even heard of such a thing, he is a great individual and I consider him a good friend.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to join the Arapahoe County GOP in extending my appreciation to the kindness and good deeds of Mr. Bo Cottrell.

**FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF
TUNISIAN INDEPENDENCE**
HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the anniversary of the 45th year of independence for the Republic of Tunisia. It was 45 years ago that the Republic of Tunisia was formally established as an independent country. Over the years, Tunisia has forged a strong and solid relationship with the United States that spans beyond bilateral ties to cover issues related to world peace and economic partnership.

The U.S. relationship with Tunisia has survived civil, regional and global conflict. During World War II, Tunisia supported the United States and allied forces as they landed in Northern Africa. During the cold war years, Tunisia established itself as a steadfast ally in the strategically important Mediterranean Sea. As we moved into the post-cold-war years, the Republic of Tunisia has remained a friend and ally of the U.S. and taken steps to develop closer military and economic ties with European allies and NATO.

Today, the Republic of Tunisia continues to make important progress toward democracy by broadening political debate, advancing social programs, developing economic programs encouraging privatization of the banking and financial sectors, and improving the quality of life for its people. Tunisian citizens enjoy universal suffrage, and the nation is considered to be a leader among Muslim nations in safeguarding the rights of women and children. Further, Tunisia has acted as leader and catalyst for peacekeeping missions in suffering countries, contributing military contingents to operations in Cambodia, Somalia, the Western Sahara and Rwanda. Tunisia has also been a voice of moderation in the Arab-Israeli peace process and has called for greater international efforts to fight terrorism.

Tunisia has been a model for developing countries. It has sustained remarkable economic growth, and undertaken reforms toward political pluralism. It has been a steadfast ally of the United States and has consistently fought for democratic goals and ideals.

In commemoration of 45 years of independence for Tunisia, I urge my colleagues to reflect on our strong commitment to Tunisian people, our friends and partners in North Africa.

HONORING ROBERT F. DOLAN, JR.
HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Robert F. Dolan, a life-

long resident of Montgomery County, Maryland and the Head Golf Professional at Columbia Country Club in Chevy Chase, Maryland. On November 10, 2000, he was named the 2000 PGA of American Junior Golf Leader, one of the organization's highest service awards.

Mr. Dolan is a longtime advocate of junior golf and a co-founder of several inner-city youth golf programs. He has always viewed golf as a vehicle for teaching young people the values of discipline, determination, honesty, patience, and good sportsmanship.

The award was given for Mr. Dolan's ongoing work with our nation's youth. Through this dedication, he provides opportunities and experiences for children of all ages and abilities to learn, to play, and to enjoy the game of golf. Mr. Dolan is distinguished by his strength of character, his devotion to service, and his outstanding leadership in junior golf.

Bob's devotion to junior golf programs is reflected in his long history of service. He has worked for many years with the Paul Berry Neediest Kids Get Hooked on Golf Program as an advisory board member, organizer, promoter, and instructor. Since 1996, Bob has been involved as a "Coach the Coaches" instructor, a program he created to work with Washington, D.C. public school coaches on the proper techniques for teaching golf. He has been the Kemper Open Junior Golf Clinic lead instructor since 1991. Bob is also co-founder and instructor for the "Summer in the City" inner-city youth golf program, a four-week instructional program for the youth of Washington, D.C. Bob also serves on the advisory board of the Washington, D.C. First Tee program.

Perhaps his most rewarding contribution, however, is his role as lead instructor at the Special Love/Camp Fantastic Junior Golf Clinic. This is a one-day clinic for children who suffer from cancer, with the golf clinic being the highlight of their retreat weekend.

I congratulate Mr. Robert F. Dolan on this award and his ongoing contributions to junior golf in Montgomery County and the nation. He is a wonderful role model for junior golfers and a true ambassador for the game of golf.

**TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL
JAMES CUTLER DAWSON, JR.**
HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to congratulate and pay tribute to Rear Admiral James Cutler Dawson, Jr., who performed in an outstanding manner as Chief of Legislative Affairs from October 1999 to March 2001.

Rear Admiral Dawson did a fine job during his time in Legislative Affairs. Under his leadership, numerous events and actions surrounding the Navy were expertly managed including ship commissioning, christening, and naming ceremonies; Congressional travel; and official receptions on Capitol Hill. During his tenure, Rear Admiral Dawson also played a key role in working with the Secretary of the Navy and the Chief of Naval Operations to positively affect the future size, readiness, and capabilities of the Navy.

Rear Admiral Dawson worked well with Congressional offices and created widespread opportunities to promote the Navy's message. He executed an outreach plan allowing senior Naval leaders to visit over sixty percent of the Members of Congress. He effectively managed a workshop, allowing district staff members to more efficiently perform casework, and he also managed difficult public relations issues and provided advice and counsel during more than 50 Congressional hearings.

Recently it was announced that Rear Admiral Dawson has been nominated and will be appointed to vice admiral. He will be assigned as commander, United States Naval Forces, Central Command and command the Fifth Fleet in Bahrain.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to expand my congratulations to Rear Admiral James Cutler Dawson, Jr., for achieving such success during his time as Chief of Legislative Affairs. I wish him continued success with his new assignment as Commander of the Fifth Fleet. I know that my colleagues in the House will join me in saluting this fine sailor.

TIMBER TAX SIMPLIFICATION ACT

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation which corrects an inequity in the Internal Revenue Code which affects the sale of certain assets.

Under current law, landowners who are occasional sellers of timber are often classified by the Internal Revenue Service as "dealers." As a result, the seller is forced to choose between a "lump sum" payment method or a pay-as-cut contract which often results in an under-realization of the fair value of the contract. While electing the pay-as-cut contract option provides access to capital gains treatment, the seller must comply with special rules in Section 631(b) of the Internal Revenue code. The provisions of Sec. 631 (b) require these sellers to "retain an economic interest" in their timber until it is harvested. Under the retained economic interest requirement, the seller bears all the risk and is only paid for timber that is harvested, regardless of whether the terms of the contract are violated. Additionally, since the *buyer* pays for only the timber that is removed or "scaled" there is an incentive to waste poor quality timber, to under scale the timber, or to remove the timber without scaling.

The legislation I am introducing will provide greater consistency by removing the exclusive "retained economic interest" requirement in IRC Section 631(b). This change has been supported or suggested by a number of groups for tax simplification purposes, including the Internal Revenue Service. I urge my colleagues to join in this tax simplification effort and strongly urge its passage.

LAVELLE RETIRING AFTER 23 YEARS AS JUDGE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John P. Lavelle, who is retiring after 23 years as a judge of Carbon County, Pennsylvania, including 15 years when he served as the county's only judge.

Judge Lavelle, the son of Irish immigrants, was born in 1931, grew up in Philadelphia and earned his bachelor of arts degree from Niagara University in 1953. He went on to get his law degree from Villanova University in 1958, holding the distinction of being a member of the first class held at the Villanova School of Law in 1953. He interrupted his law studies for two years to serve his country in the Army in Italy and Austria. The same year he graduated from law school, he married Marianne Shutack of Nesquehoning, who can claim a "first" in her own right as the first woman admitted to the Carbon County bar.

He began his career in the Philadelphia law offices of renowned criminal lawyer Morton Witkin and also worked briefly for the firm of Bennett & Bricklin. He also indulged his love of classical language by teaching Latin as a part-time professor at Villanova.

In 1959, he moved to Carbon County and began an active general law practice with his wife and his father-in-law, George Shutack. His roots and upbringing gave him a natural empathy for the underdog, and many of his legal battles were fought for average people overwhelmed by big business or big government. Inspired by President John F. Kennedy, whom he deeply admired, he was active in Democratic politics throughout the 1960s and 1970s.

In 1965, he and his wife built a home in Lehighton, where they have lived ever since. He has often assumed a leadership role in improving his adopted community. For example, he helped to obtain the funding for the Carbon County Airport and spearheaded that project in 1961. He was also the first solicitor for the county airport authority and served in that role for 10 years. In 1966, he organized and obtained the charter for the First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Carbon County, helping to bring the county its first federally insured savings and loan association. He also arranged for the financing and construction of the first professional building in Lehighton, as well as Park View House, the first modern commercial apartment building in the town.

The future judge served as county solicitor from 1971 to 1978. He was elected judge in the shortest election campaign in Pennsylvania history, when the state Supreme Court ruled just weeks before the November 1977 election that the governor could not fill the vacant judgeship by appointment because the state election board should have known the judge who was retiring was approaching the mandatory retirement age.

Judge Lavelle assumed his duties with his typical energy and enthusiasm. After a year of study and evaluation, he began to bring the court system into the computer age, automating the antiquated manual record-keeping system, streamlining office procedures and writing new rules of court and manuals to train court personnel in the new system.

In 1979, he initiated a one-day, one-trial system and developed and produced a unique audiovisual orientation program for jurors that is still used today. He also reorganized and restructured all court offices and appointed women to key positions in the court system. In 1980, he worked to obtain federal funding to cover half the cost of converting the old arbitration room on the courthouse's third floor into a modern wood-paneled courtroom.

His courtroom was the focal point for several highly publicized cases during his first term. In November 1979, he made the unprecedented decision to call off and nullify the general election in Carbon County because the voting machines used throughout the county would not permit cross-voting. He also presided at the 1982 murder trial of Robert "Mudman" Simon, a motorcycle gang member who was convicted of killing an 18-year-old girl whose body was not found until seven years after her death. He also presided over a 1985 murder trial, which was the first time the battered-wife syndrome defense was used, resulting in an acquittal by the jury.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court recognized his abilities by appointing him to preside over the two long and complex 1991 civil libel trials of a state Supreme Court justice against the Philadelphia Inquirer. He did not hesitate to file suit against the county commissioners in 1989 when they had refused raises for court employees and removed funds from the court budget. He successfully lobbied the state Legislature the following year to add a second judgeship for the county to handle the court system's heavy workload.

In 1991, he completely revised and adopted new rules of civil procedure, and in 1992 and 1993, he launched new case management systems to expedite the handling of both civil and criminal cases.

On occasion, Judge Lavelle has issued unusual and creative orders to see that justice is done, including sentencing a woman with a long record of calling in false fire alarms to the Lehighton Fire Company to clean the fire trucks for six months. In 1984, he became one of the first trial judges in the state to order a school board and striking teachers to negotiate daily to end a contract impasse.

Judge Lavelle and his wife have four children, who have every reason to be proud of their father's distinguished career.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives the long history of Judge John Lavelle's service to the people of Carbon County and all of Pennsylvania, and I wish him all the best in retirement.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTIAN JOS. BECKER, LIFETIME VOLUNTEER FIREMAN

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize one of my constituents, Mr. Christian Jos. Becker, for his lifetime of dedicated service to the Westchester County Volunteer Firemen's Association. Mr. Becker began his volunteer work at the age of 42, when he moved from the city of Yonkers to the village of Ardsley.

Over his 33 years of service, Chris has achieved numerous accomplishments, all of which have greatly improved the Westchester area. In 1971, Mr. Becker received the Ardsley Fire Department Fire Fighter of the Year Award for his unwavering dedication in responding to nearly every alarm within his village. Also, he served as the Department's first Secretary for five years.

Though Mr. Becker's firefighting days were caused to come to a close in 1975 due to an illness, his volunteer activities continued on. As Ardsley Fire Department's Delegate to the Firemen's Association in the State of New York and the Westchester County Volunteer Firemen's Association, Chris's services persevered. One of his greatest accomplishments occurred in 1970 when he founded "The Westchester Volunteer," a bimonthly newsletter which supplies relevant news to firefighters throughout the county.

Mr. Becker also sits on both the Public Relations Committee and the Legislative Committee for the Firemen's Association in the state of New York, where he championed notable legislation such as the Cigarette Fire Safety Act and the Requiring of Adoption of the Fire and Building Codes. For all of the good he has brought to their community, the people of Westchester County will forever be indebted to this selfless volunteer.

I am certain that all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives will join me in extending a sincere offer of congratulations, as well as gratitude, to Mr. Christian Jos. Becker. It is a pleasure to recognize such a dedicated man who has used his life to benefit those around him.

BACK COUNTRY LANDING STRIP ACCESS ACT

HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the "Back Country Landing Strip Access Act." This bill, which was introduced in the last Congress by Chairman Hansen of the Resources Committee, will prohibit the federal government from closing airstrips on public lands without the consent of the state aviation authority. I am grateful to Chairman Hansen for letting me re-introduce this bill this year, and would like to thank him and the 23 other original co-sponsors of this bi-partisan bill. I would also like to thank my fellow Idahoan, Senator CRAPO, for introducing this legislation in the other body.

Last year, Idaho and the other western states were threatened by some of the largest firestorms in the history of this country, in which more than 7 million acres of forest lands burned. People around the nation watched transfixed as brave firefighters battled on the ground and in the sky to protect lives and property. Most of those watching may not have been aware that the firefighters on the ground in these wilderness areas were supplied from airstrips on public land. Or that the aerial firefighting efforts depended on back country airstrips as safe havens in the case of emergency. Had back country landing strips not existed, firefighting efforts would have been crippled.

Incredibly, for eight years before the fires the federal government had sought to remove these airstrips. Amazingly, the Departments of Agriculture and Interior had removed numerous airstrips on public lands without even consulting with pilots, land users or state aviation authorities. This heavy handed land management by unelected federal bureaucrats has placed innumerable lives in danger. Imagine if you were a pilot and attempted a dead-stick landing onto an airstrip on your chart, only to find a grove of trees planted in your path. Or, if you evacuated a camper with a medical emergency, and the runway you need had been destroyed by government inaction, the results would be devastating. The Back Country Landing Strip Access Act is a common sense measure that will prevent the closure of landing strips, and will require public notice and state approval for any such proposal.

When this bill was introduced in the last Congress, many federal officials complained that it would place an unreasonable burden upon land management agencies. But how is it unreasonable for the federal government to seek the permission of a state before closing a field that a local community depends upon? Why is it unreasonable for rural communities to fly in the supplies and equipment they need to survive in winter?

Mr. Speaker, I know this bill will work if enacted because we in Idaho have been working with this system for years. When Congress established the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Area in 1980, a provision was added that prohibited the federal government from closing any airstrip in the wilderness without the express written concurrence of the State of Idaho. This provision has not ruined the wilderness area. To the contrary, it has allowed the elderly, the handicapped and children to enjoy wilderness areas they would otherwise be unable to reach. It has preserved the ability of outfitters to bring sportsmen to the heart of the wilderness with a minimum of disruption. In short, it is a model for what we seek to accomplish in this bill.

This bill is a common sense measure to restore cooperation between federal and state governments. It does not force the reopening of closed airfields. It does not require the federal government to spend extra money to maintain back country strips. In fact, this bill authorizes the Departments of Agriculture and Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with local groups to maintain back country strips.

America's public lands should not be allowed to become "no-fly zones." I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this vital legislation, and I am pleased to introduce it today.

HONORING CARLY FITZSIMONS BAKER

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, recently I published a speech in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD celebrating the centennial of California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. Today I rise to recognize an extraordinary leader of the Cal Poly community, Carly Fitzsimons Baker.

A graduate of St. Mary's College, Notre Dame, Indiana in 1961 and Cal Poly in 1985, Carly Baker has made countless contributions to the university and to the community of San Luis Obispo County for the past 22 years. While raising 4 children, Mrs. Baker has served as an unsung, yet remarkable partner to her husband, Warren, President of Cal Poly since 1979.

During the past decades of exceptional growth and achievement of the university, Carly Baker has played a central role in the university's efforts to strengthen external relations. Carly's grace, good humor and attention to detail have been evident in every event for visiting dignitaries, university board members, community leaders, donors and the President's Cabinet. The welcoming environment she has created has nourished an expanding circle of university friendships, critical to Cal Poly's future.

Carly Baker has made an enormous difference in our community's quality of life. She has distinguished herself with her contributions to the League of Women's Voters, the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission, the Women's Shelter, Children's Protective Services, the Children's Center Task Force, the Atascadero State Hospital Advisory Board, the Organization of State Hospital Advisory Boards, and the Performing Arts Center.

Mr. Speaker, Carly Baker has admirers more numerous than she could ever imagine. Today, I speak for all of them to proudly recognize someone whose accomplishments and charm has affected so many in such a positive way. Cal Poly's centennial slogan is "A Century of Achievement, A Tradition for the Future." Let the record show that Carly has played such a significant role in Cal Poly's remarkable achievements and will remain as one of the university's crown jewels well into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Carly Baker on more than two decades of notable achievements.

TRIBUTE TO PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS SCOTT CHISM & SEAMAN CHRIS FERREBY

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I am very saddened to rise today in memory of Petty Officer 2nd Class Scott Chism and Seaman Chris Ferreby.

As seamen assigned to the Coast Guard Station of Niagara, these two young men tragically lost their lives serving their community and their nation. This tragedy happened on a routine patrol voyage in which Scott Chism and Chris Ferreby, along with fellow crewmembers Michael Moss and William Simpson, were tossed into the frigid waters of Lake Ontario when their boat was overturned by a large wave.

Scott Chism had served three years and seven months in the Coast Guard. With the upcoming completion of his enlistment, he and his wife had planned to return to California. He leaves behind his wife, Lissa, a daughter, Kelsey, and a son, Caleb.

Chris Ferreby was raised outside of Rochester, in Fairport. He is survived by a wife, Amy and a newborn child, Tyler. Amy recalls her husband as being able to "always make you laugh" and willing to "do anything for his friends."

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of these two men. Their heroism, bravery and selfless dedication to our country will not be forgotten.

COMMENDING THE ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENTS
FROM WILLISTON NORTH-
AMPTON SCHOOL IN
EASTHAMPTON, MA

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the students of Williston Northampton School in Easthampton, MA for their excellence in academic competition. Under the tutelage of Mr. Peter Gun, these young people have shown an acute knowledge of the Constitution and its Amendments, in particular the Bill of Rights.

On April 21–23, 2001 more than 1200 students from across the country will be in Washington, DC to demonstrate their expertise in American government and represent their home states as part of the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program, sponsored in part by the U.S. Department of Education. I am pleased to announce the class from Williston Northampton School will participate on behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Mr. Gun's students have taken a strong interest in the principles that govern our nation. Through their studies, they have become aware of the founders' efforts to fashion an enduring republic. Through their accomplishments, they have shown a keen understanding of the political process, its participants and the laws that will ensure America's continued vitality.

It is an honor to recognize such a meritorious group.

SHED LIGHT ON HIDDEN FEES

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, on March 29 I introduced the "Wire Transfer Fairness and Disclosure Act of 2001," a bill to require additional disclosures relating to exchange rates in transfers involving international transactions. Sixty-two representatives currently support this important legislation.

Immigrants throughout the United States work hard, save money and send billions of dollars to relatives living in foreign countries. The money sent home helps finance basic needs ranging from food and medicine to education to new homes. Unfortunately, customers wiring money to Mexico are often losing millions of dollars to undisclosed "currency conversion fees" charged by giant firms such as Western Union and MoneyGram.

Wire Transfer companies aggressively target audiences in immigrant communities with ads promising low rates for international transfers. However, such promises are grossly misleading particularly for those with ties to Mexico or other Latin American countries, since companies do not always clearly disclose extra fees charged for converting dollars into Mexican pesos. While large wire service companies typically obtain pesos at bulk bargain rates, they charge a significant currency conversion fee to their U.S. customers. The exchange rate charged to customers sending U.S. dollars to Mexico routinely varies from the benchmark rates by as much as 15 percent. The profits from these hidden currency conversion fees are staggering, allowing companies to reap millions of dollars more than they make from service fees.

To address these problems, this Act requires full disclosure of all fees involved in all money-wiring transactions. More specifically, the bill requires that any financial institution or money transmitting business which initiates an international money transfer on behalf of a consumer (whether or not the consumer maintains an account at such institution or business) shall provide the following disclosures:

The exchange rate used by the financial institution or money transmitting business in connection with such transaction.

The exchange rate prevailing at a major financial center of the foreign country whose currency is involved in the transaction, as of the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the date of the transaction (or the official exchange rate, if any, of the government or central bank of such foreign country).

All commissions and fees charged by the financial institution or money transmitting business in connection with such transaction.

The exact amount of foreign currency to be received by the recipient in the foreign country, which shall be disclosed to the consumer before the transaction is consummated and printed on the receipt given to the consumer.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the full text of this pro-consumer legislation for the record and I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

H.R. 1306

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Wire Transfer Fairness and Disclosure Act of 2001".

SEC. 2. DISCLOSURE OF EXCHANGE RATES IN CONNECTION WITH INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Electronic Fund Transfer Act (15 U.S.C. 1693 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by redesignating sections 918, 919, 920, and 921 as sections 919, 920, 921, and 922, respectively; and

(2) by inserting after section 917 the following new section:

"SEC. 918. DISCLOSURE OF EXCHANGE RATES IN CONNECTION WITH INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFERS.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—

"(1) INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFER.—The term 'international money transfer' means any money transmitting service involving an international transaction which is provided by a financial institution or a money transmitting business.

"(2) MONEY TRANSMITTING SERVICE.—The term 'money transmitting service' has the

meaning given to such term in section 5330(d)(2) of title 31, United States Code.

"(3) MONEY TRANSMITTING BUSINESS.—The term 'money transmitting business' means any business which—

(A) provides check cashing, currency exchange, or money transmitting or remittance services, or issues or redeems money orders, travelers' checks, and other similar instruments; and

(B) is not a depository institution (as defined in section 5313(g) of title 31, United States Code).

"(b) EXCHANGE RATE AND FEES DISCLOSURES REQUIRED.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Any financial institution or money transmitting business which initiates an international money transfer on behalf of a consumer (whether or not the consumer maintains an account at such institution or business) shall; provide the following disclosures in the manner required under this section:

"(A) The exchange rate used by the financial institution or money transmitting business in connection with such transaction.

"(B) The exchange rate prevailing at a major financial center of the foreign country whose currency is involved in the transaction, as of the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the date of the transaction (or the official exchange rate, if any, of the government or central bank of such foreign country).

"(C) All commissions and fees charged by the financial institution or money transmitting business in connection with such transaction.

"(D) The exact amount of foreign currency to be received by the recipient in the foreign country, which shall be disclosed to the consumer before the transaction is consummated and printed on the receipt referred to in paragraph (3).

"(2) PROMINENT DISCLOSURE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE PLACE OF BUSINESS WHERE AN INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFER IS INITIATED.—The information required to be disclosed under subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C) of paragraph (1) shall be prominently displayed on the premises of the financial institution or money transmitting business both at the interior location to which the public is admitted for purposes of initiating an international money transfer and on the exterior of any such premises.

"(3) PROMINENT DISCLOSURE IN ALL RECEIPTS AND FORMS USED IN THE PLACE OF BUSINESS WHERE AN INTERNATIONAL MONEY TRANSFER IS INITIATED.—The information required to be disclosed under paragraph (1) shall be prominently displayed on all forms and receipts used by the financial institution or money transmitting business when initiating an international money transfer in such premises.

"(c) ADVERTISEMENTS IN PRINT, BROADCAST, AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND OUTDOOR ADVERTISING.—The information required to be disclosed under subparagraphs (A) and (C) of subsection (b)(1) shall be included—

"(1) in any advertisement, announcements, or solicitation which is mailed by the financial institution or money transmitting business and pertains to international money transfer; or

"(2) in any print, broadcast, or electronic medium or outdoor advertising display not on the premises of the financial institution or money transmitting business and pertaining to international money transfer.

"(d) DISCLOSURES IN LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH.—The disclosures required under this section shall be in English and in the same language as that principally used by the financial institution or money transmitting business, or any of its agents, to advertise, solicit, or negotiate, either orally or

in writing, at that office if other than English.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect at the end of the 3-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

TRIBUTE TO SAINT PATRICK'S
PARISH IN SAN FRANCISCO, CA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join today to pay tribute to a Saint Patrick's Parish in San Francisco, California, which is celebrating its 150th Anniversary. From its humble beginnings the Parish has blossomed into a San Francisco institution that has weathered wars, troubled times, and the occasional earthquake. Despite those hardships, for the last 150 years Saint Patrick's Parish has remained a structure of faith for its parishioners.

Shortly after Fr. John Maginnis celebrated the first mass in a rented hall on June 9, 1851, a temporary Church was constructed, and Saint Patrick's had established a foothold in San Francisco. During this time, California was experiencing the Gold Rush, which brought the proliferation of industry and commerce to the area, and resulted in the population of San Francisco growing rapidly. The Parish responded to this expansion by purchasing a lot on Mission Street, between Third and Fourth Streets and started construction of a magnificent new Church. After two years, construction was completed, and the new Church was dedicated on March 17, 1872 at which time the Catholic population of the parish was estimated at 30,000 parishioners.

Having overseen the construction of the Church, Fr. Maginnis now set his sights on new projects, and soon founded both the St. Vincent School for Girls and the St. Patrick's School for Boys. Both schools were taught by the Daughters of Charity from Emmitsburg, Maryland, and served the Parish until 1964. After the schools closed, the site was later transformed into the Alexis Apartments for the elderly.

Mr. Speaker, for the first fifty-four years after its founding, Saint Patrick's Parish knew only one pastor, Father John Maginnis. Fr. Maginnis was succeeded by the Reverend Monsignor John Rogers in 1905. Shortly thereafter, the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906 struck, and the Church was reduced to rubble. This catastrophe of biblical proportions was met head on by Msgr. Rogers and the parishioners of St. Patrick's. After establishing a men's shelter named Tir-na-Nog, which is Gaelic for Land of Youth, Msgr. Rogers began the reconstruction of the Church. The reconstruction was completed and the Church was rededicated in 1914. An impressive brick structure, Saint Patrick's Church still stands majestic as a living memorial to the undaunted faith and endurance of people who gave of themselves in times of personal hardship to build this institution.

Mr. Speaker, for the last century and a half years Saint Patrick's Parish has provided for

the spiritual needs of the community, as well as run programs to aid the elderly, youth, and the marginalized. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Saint Patrick's Parish in marking their sesquicentennial.

TRIBUTE TO DAVE MCELHATTON

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to a most beloved and enduring San Francisco Bay Area icon—Dave McElhatton of KPIX Channel 5 television and KCBS radio. His distinguished 50-year career in broadcast journalism is being celebrated at an extraordinary tribute dinner at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco on April 21, 2001, for the benefit of his alma mater, San Francisco State University.

David McElhatton, who was born and raised in Oakland, California, enrolled at San Francisco on the G.I. bill in 1948, following service in the U.S. Army. Only two weeks after graduating with a degree in Broadcast & Electronic Communication Arts, Dave was employed at KCBS radio. He quickly became a prominent radio personality in the Bay Area. His first introduction to Bay Area radio listeners was as the host of KCBS's "Music 'Til Dawn" and "Masters of Melody"—the last live network music program to originate from San Francisco. He hosted the Bay Area's first call-in talk show, "Viewpoint" and the last local audience-participation radio program, "McElhatton in the Morning." As KCBS' morning anchor for a quarter century, Dave became one of the Bay Area's best known and best regarded radio personalities, and he was instrumental in developing the KCBS News/Radio format.

For the second quarter century of his career in broadcast journalism, Dave McElhatton was at the helm of Channel 5 Eyewitness News, where his credibility and affability made it easy for him to move seamlessly from radio to television. His superior journalistic skills and his excellent delivery led to a distinguished television news career marked by a multitude of journalistic awards and a multitude of faithful viewers.

Dave McElhatton is the recipient of the rarely-bestowed "Governor's Award" from the Board of Governors of the Northern California Emmy Awards, which is given in recognition of truly outstanding and unique individual achievements of long duration. He has also received numerous awards from the Associated Press, United Press International, the Press Club of San Francisco, the Peninsula Press Club, the Northern California Television and Radio News Directors Association, the 19th Annual Radio Fellow Award of the University of San Francisco, the James J. Strebing Memorial Award, a Special Award for Excellence from the American Society of Anesthesiologists, and the highest honor of the Aviation Writers' Association. In 1997, Dave McElhatton was inducted into the San Francisco State University Hall of Fame. For many years, Dave taught broadcasting at his alma mater, San Francisco State University, where I was a professor of economics for three decades.

Since retiring from broadcasting, Mr. McElhatton continues to contribute to our community by serving as master of ceremonies and keynote speaker at fund-raising events for Bay Area non-profit and charitable organizations. He also can be seen in California's skies, where he enjoys piloting his own plane.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Dave McElhatton for a distinguished 50-year career in journalism. We wish Dave and his wife, Karen, a retirement replete with richly deserved good health and happiness.

HONORING KELVIN TORBERT

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and acknowledge the accomplishments of Kelvin Torbert, a senior at Flint Northwestern High School. Kelvin was chosen out of more than 542,000 high school boys basketball players to be named the 2001 Gatorade National High School Boys Basketball Player of the Year. This is one of the highest awards conferred upon a high school student athlete. In addition to both academic and athletic excellence, recipients must also maintain high moral character. Kelvin is an outstanding young man who personifies the criteria, and I am proud to be honoring him here today.

Kelvin has a strong sense of teamwork and can play any position on the court. His remarkable athletic skills have made him the highest scorer in Northwestern's history, with a record 1,978 points. As a four year starter on the varsity team, he has been the recipient of numerous honors and awards including McDonalds All-American, Parade Magazine All-American, three time 1st team All-State player, and most recently, the Mr. Basketball award, given to the state's best player by the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan.

Not only is Kelvin an exceptional athlete, but he has also maintained 3.1 GPA. He is an active member of student government, demonstrating positive leadership qualities in his school extending well into the Flint community. Successfully balancing academics with athletics, he will be an asset to the student body at Michigan State University next fall. He is an outstanding example of the teamwork and high moral character stressed in Flint public schools.

Constantly maintaining high standards for himself, Kelvin has become a role model for younger students, working with young people at the local Boys and Girls Club and at summer basketball camp. He teaches them the importance of teamwork and dedication on the court and its implications throughout life.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy to honor an exemplary individual like Kelvin Torbert, and the contributions he has made to his team. He is an example of what can be accomplished by encouragement and reinforcement of a student's talents, and belief in his or her ability to excel.

THE HERO OF CHESTNUT HILL

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, on April 17, one of the leading educational institutions in America, Boston College, will honor Dr. Francis B. Campanella as he prepares to retire this year from his job as Executive Vice President. Dr. Campanella has been an extraordinary asset not just to Boston College, but to the Greater Boston community, and to higher education in America through his extraordinarily creative and diligent work at Boston College. Last September, David Warsh appropriately described Dr. Campanella's work in an excellent article in the Boston Globe. I am delighted to have this chance to join in honoring this very distinguished educational leader on the occasion of his well earned second retirement, and I ask that Mr. Warsh's column about him be printed here as an example of what commitment at its best means to our broader community.

[From the Boston Globe, Sept. 12, 2000]

THE HERO OF CHESTNUT HILL

(By David Warsh)

Anyone strolling across the densely built and sparkling campus of Boston College would find it hard to believe that there was a time when the school was nearly bankrupt.

Yet in the early 1970s, Boston College came very close to failing. The school had run major deficits for five years in a row. Its net worth was negative. Its endowment was a paltry \$5 million.

BC had a sympathetic banker in Waltham, Giles Mosher. But only by temporarily dipping into the pension fund for Jesuit professors was the administration able to keep doors open from year to year. In a memorable report, economist Edward Kane warned the faculty that BC soon might find that its (then) spacious campus had become the University of Massachusetts at Chestnut Hill.

It was about that time that the trustees hired Donald Monan, S.J. Within a year Monan persuaded professor Frank B. Campanella to leave the faculty where he had been teaching finance and take over the school's internal management instead. The rest is history.

Boston College took off like a rocket and the University of Massachusetts built its new campus at Columbia Point.

Last week Campanella, 64, said he would return to teaching at the end of the current academic year. That \$5 million endowment has grown to \$1.1 billion, the 35th largest in the country. (In contrast, Boston University says the market value of its endowment currently is about \$980 million.)

Faculty salaries, which in 1973 had been at the 50th percentile of category I institutions, are in the 90th percentile. Undergraduate applications, which had totaled 8,400, last year were 21,000 for 2,100 places—making BC the fifth most heavily applied-to university in the country.

And on the 1991 list of BC's top 12 application overlaps—meaning those schools to which a prospective BC student also had applied—the names of Fairfield University, Providence University, and UMass had been elbowed off by 1997 by Harvard, Penn, and Brown.

Campanella was a logical, if not an obvious choice for executive vice president. He had been raised in Jamaica Plain, then graduated from Boston College High School in 1954. After earning an engineering degree at

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and serving three years as a Marine Corps lieutenant he worked for five years in the construction industry.

Low margins and chronic uncertainty led him to retool as a finance professor, beginning as a night school MBA at Babson College, then as a doctor of business administration at Harvard Business School. (He tested Harry Markowitz's portfolio theory for his dissertation; Rober Glauber was his supervisor). He had been teaching for three years when Monan took him by the arm in 1973. He had the confidence of the faculty.

Campanella's strategy from the first was to run a surplus. He established a depreciation account—a standard business practice but among the first in the nation at a university—which freed up cash for investment. Then he set out to build the college's balance sheet.

He borrowed as much money as possible, taking advantage of the bargain rates available to tax-exempt institutions. He used it for bricks and mortar, budgeting debt service as an expense. With the physical plant growing, he lobbied the faculty to increase enrollment, and plowed the growing surpluses into endowment. He invested aggressively as well.

Then came "enrollment management," a set of yield management practices more or less invented in education at BC. The offices of admissions and financial aid were combined, making it possible to purposefully compete with other institutions on price. BC's applications pool broadened to include Texas, California, the Midwest. Retention became part of the picture as well.

Campanella gradually attracted national attention.

Campanella retired for the first time in 1991. It didn't take. In 1994, the trustees asked him to come back. He stayed long enough to get new BC president William Leahy, S.J. settled in his job. "He's a man who understood the world of higher education, the world of business too," Leahy said. "He'll be a very difficult man to replace."

A TRIBUTE TO CARMELA C. RODRIGUEZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Carmela C. Rodriguez of Brooklyn, New York. Ms. Rodriguez is a deeply religious person who has dedicated herself to serving her church, her community and her native culture.

Ms. Rodriguez was born and raised in Panama City, Panama. She migrated to the United States in 1963. Nevertheless, she remains proud of her Panamanian roots. She has expressed this pride through service. She is the President of the Day of Independence Committee of Panamanians in New York and she organized the first Panamanian Independence Day Parade.

Ms. Rodriguez is also committed to her religion and her community. She is a Eucharistic Minister of Service at Our Lady of Charity Church; she is the First African American woman to be inducted as a Franciscan Friar in the Immaculate Conception Province, and she is the Grand Lady of the Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary. In addition, she serves her community by conducting AIDS education workshops and donating food as well as clothing for needy children.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Carmela C. Rodriguez is a woman of deep conviction whose religious and community involvement illustrate that she does not believe it is enough simply to live in a community, but rather one must serve that community as well. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

MAKE SUBPART F LAW PERMANENT

HON. JIM MCCRERY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. MCCRERY. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce a bill on behalf of myself, Mr. Neal of Massachusetts, and 24 of our colleagues from the Ways and Means Committee. Current law contains a temporary active financial services provision in Subpart F. This provision makes sure that active business income of a U.S. financial services company operating overseas is not subjected to U.S. tax until that income is distributed to the U.S. parent. If this temporary provision were allowed to expire at the end of 2001, American financial services companies would be placed on an unequal footing with their foreign competitors.

Our legislation would make the active financial services provision permanent, securing international parity for our financial services industry and providing it with treatment comparable to that afforded other segments of the U.S. economy.

This legislation is important not only to U.S. financial services companies but also to the U.S. businesses that they service internationally. As just one example, U.S. banks and finance companies support the international sales growth of U.S. manufacturers and distributors. Additionally, Mr. Speaker, because U.S. employees provide support services for the overseas operations of our financial services companies, this legislation will also enhance the creation and preservation of U.S. jobs that depend on these international operations.

The growth of American finance and credit companies, banks, securities firms, and insurance companies is impaired by the uncertainty of an "on-again, off-again" practice of annual extensions of the active financial services provision. Making this provision a permanent part of the law will allow our financial services companies to make long-term plans for their continued international growth. Without this legislation, American financial services companies will be deprived of the certainty that their foreign-based competitors enjoy when operating outside of their home countries.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation will ensure U.S. tax policy does not hamper the ability of our financial services companies to compete in the international marketplace. The permanent extension of the active financial services provision is particularly important today, if the U.S. financial services industry is to continue as a global leader in international markets. The highly competitive and global nature of many of the businesses that will benefit from this legislation highlights the need to ensure greater parity between U.S. tax laws and those of

most other industrialized nations. Any disparity enhances the ability of foreign competitors to engage in a wider range of financial activities than U.S. companies.

In closing, making this provision a permanent part of the law would provide for an equitable and stable international tax regime for the U.S. financial services industry. We hope that this legislation will receive every possible consideration.

MAKE SUBPART F LAW
PERMANENT

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to join Representative JIM MCCRERY and a majority of the Ways and Means Committee in introducing legislation to make permanent the exclusion from Subpart F of the Internal Revenue Code for active financial services income of U.S. businesses operating in foreign markets. This provision permits American financial services firms doing business abroad to pay U.S. tax on their foreign earnings only when those earnings are returned to the U.S. parent. The provision expires at the end of this year.

This rule for active financial services is the same rule that applies to most other types of U.S. companies, and is the general rule in most of the industrialized world. Most competitors of U.S. financial institutions operate under tax regimes that generally do not tax currently active financial income earned outside their home countries. Making the Subpart F rule for active financial services permanent means that U.S. financial services companies will be on a level playing field throughout the life of the contract for which they are competing when they seek to compete in overseas markets with foreign-based financial services companies. While taxes are clearly not the only factor in determining the competitiveness of U.S. financial companies abroad, they do make a difference. In an increasingly global world with increasingly sophisticated competition, we cannot afford to put our financial services companies at such a disadvantage any longer.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I believe it is vital to make the active financing provisions of current law permanent, to provide stability to our American service industries and all who work for them.

A TRIBUTE TO SHERYL BOYCE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sheryl Boyce of Canarsie, for her many years of leadership in the civic and religious communities.

Ms. Boyce believes that to live in the community it is important to serve your community as well. For this reason she has spent nearly two decades as an active community resident. She has been an active member of the Bay

View Tenants Association, serving as the financial secretary, recording secretary, and editor of the Association Newsletter. In addition, she organized the Association's first clean up day. Ms. Boyce has taken a particular interest as a mentor, serving as a Girl and Boy Scout Leader and a chaperon on numerous youth outings.

Sheryl is also an active member of St. Albans' Episcopal Church. She is on the Altar Guild and serves as a treasurer of the Episcopal Church Women. She has been elected to the Vestry for the third time and serves as a mentor to the altar girls and boys.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Sheryl Boyce is a woman of deep religious conviction who has served her community and her church with the same level of dedication. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA IN
RUSSIA

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I participated recently in a Congressional delegation to Russia, led by my friend CURT WELDON, where we met with government officials and others to assess the economic and political situation in that country and the state of U.S.-Russian relations. As Co-Chairman of the Duma-Congress Study Group on which I serve with Mr. WELDON, and as former Chairman and Ranking Member of the Helsinki Commission, I have traveled to Russia and the former Soviet Union frequently since the early 1980s.

We are encouraged by Russia's continued progress, however tentative it may appear at times, towards becoming a democratic state that guarantees the inalienable rights, including religious freedom and respect for human rights and the rule of law, of all its citizens. That is why it is disturbing to see an important tenet of democracy—freedom of the media—being threatened by federal government actions and by local officials as well.

The seriousness of this problem has been addressed by both the Clinton and Bush Administrations and has received widespread attention in the Western press, including recent editorials in *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Washington Post*. In Moscow, we were briefed by Ambassador Jim Collins, who told us about the threats to the media, particularly NTV and its holding company, Media Most, and we also met with Evgeny Kiselev, head of NTV—the only independently operated television station in Russia—who described incidents of harassment and intimidation directed against himself and other NTV personnel.

Moreover, as we have seen in the past, journalists in Russia are under threat of physical attacks, even murder, at the hands of unknown assailants if they offend the wrong people with their reporting.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the State Department's Country Report on Human Rights Practices-2000, just sent to the Congress by the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, as required by law. It is a valuable doc-

ument that assesses human rights conditions, country by country, around the world and has proven a reliable source of information for Members to better understand how individual governments treat their own citizens.

The section on Russia, which covers 45 pages, states that the government "generally respected the human rights of its citizens in many areas," but that "serious problems remain, including independence and freedom of the media. . . ." The report goes on to state "Federal, regional, and local governments continued to exert pressure on journalists by: initiating investigations by the federal tax police, FSB, and MVD of media companies such as independent Media-Most. . . ."

The report also provides an account of the government harassment of and threats to Mr. Vladimir Goussinsky, founder and chairman of Media-Most, which owns NTV, and his arrest and detention in a Moscow prison. Today, Mr. Goussinsky is confined in Spain, awaiting the disposition of a Russian prosecutor's request for extradition, as Kremlin authorities have been engaged in a series of actions to shut down the country's only privately owned television station, or have it taken over by a government-controlled company.

Sadly, Mr. Speaker, these efforts have come to fruition today. Press reports indicate that, in an apparent boardroom coup, the current NTV board, including Mr. Goussinsky, was ousted by the Russian gas firm Gazprom, which says it owns a controlling stake of the station. Mr. Kiselev has been replaced by an associate of the Gazprom directors. Russia's only two other nationwide television stations, ORT and RTR, are already controlled by the government.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the government of the Russian Federation to strengthen democratic institutions and the rule of law by guaranteeing and supporting media pluralism and independence in Russia. Clearly, the foundation of a free and democratic society is a well informed citizenry. That foundation crumbles when freedom of speech and freedom of the media are suppressed. I also urge my colleagues to review the State Department's report on human rights conditions, particularly the section on Russia.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DEPOSIT
INSURANCE FUNDS MERGER ACT
OF 2001

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation that merges the FDIC's Bank Insurance Fund (BIF) and the Savings Association Insurance Fund (SAIF) on January 1, 2002. I am joined by Representative MAXINE WATERS as an original cosponsor. A merger of the BIF and SAIF would clearly benefit the deposit insurance system by creating a single, more diversified fund that is less vulnerable to regional economic problems.

In addition, a merger of the funds would more accurately reflect the reality of today's financial services industry, in which over 40 percent of the SAIF deposits are held by commercial banks and FDIC-regulated state savings banks. In fact, the funds have lost their

independent identities, and we should rationally structure their structure.

Today, BIF members and SAIF members pay deposit insurance premiums at the same rate. However, until the SAIF was recapitalized in 1996, the FDIC was required to charge different premiums to BIF and SAIF members for what is essentially the same product. A difference in premiums could emerge once again, if the reserves of one fund drop below the statutory reserve ratio of 1.25% (that is, a fund's reserves must have at least \$1.25 for every \$100 of deposits insured by the fund), and the reserves of the other fund do not. A merger would prevent the re-emergence of a rate disparity between BIF members and SAIF members and the market inefficiencies the disparity creates as institutions waste time and money in order to purchase deposit insurance at the lowest price possible.

This is an optimal time for merging the two funds. The ratio of the SAIF fund balance to insured deposits is at a healthy 1.44%. The BIF also remains strong at a healthy 1.35% ratio of reserves to insured deposits. A combined fund would have a reserve ratio of 1.37%. Under these conditions, industry concerns over competitive disadvantages caused by a merger should be minimal. Both the banking and thrift industries should support the change as bringing needed rationality and stability to the deposit insurance funds.

Other deposit insurance reform proposals have been introduced that address other issues, such as the proper level of deposit insurance coverage and automatic industrywide assessments, when either the BIF or SAIF falls below the 1.25% reserve ratio. While these other proposals merit serious consideration, Congress may not yet be prepared to resolve the issues they address. However, the case for legislation merging the BIF and SAIF is clear and should not get bogged down in the more general debate on deposit insurance reform. Mr. Speaker, the merger of the BIF and SAIF is a matter of substantial public policy importance that should be addressed on its independent merits, and without delay.

A TRIBUTE TO NIKKI ANTOINETTE
BETHEL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nikki Antoinette Bethel of Brooklyn, New York. Ms. Bethel has been a leader throughout her young life both in her academic as well as her professional careers.

Ms. Bethel is a product of the New York City Public School System, having attended St. Mark's Day School, PS 383—Philippa Schuyler Middle School and Edward R. Murrow High School. While in high school, Nikki was elected into Who's Who in American High Schools for three consecutive years, she represented New York as a Congressional scholar and she received the "Progress through Justice" Award from the District Attorney of Kings County. After high school Nikki went to college at the University of Maryland where she again exhibited her leadership abilities: serving as a resident assistant for each of her four years, the Vice-President of the Black

Women's Student Council, a teaching assistant, a section leader of the Honors 100 Colloquium, a delegate of the Black Student Union, and a member of the University's honor program. After graduating with honors, Nikki went on to receive her Master of Education at Harvard University.

Once her education was complete, Nikki brought her leadership skills and penchant for achievement to Merrill Lynch's Human Resources Management Training Program. After becoming an Assistant Vice-President, Nikki went in search of new challenges as an MBA Recruiter for Investment Banking Sales and Trading at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter.

Mr. Speaker, Nikki Antoinette Bethel is a dedicated young woman of tremendous achievement. As such she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1332: THE
BUSINESS METHOD PATENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001, H. R. 1333: THE PATENT IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001, AND H. RES. 110: THE PTO FUNDING RESOLUTION

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss three pieces of legislation I have introduced today.

Last fall, Representative RICK BOUCHER and I introduced H.R. 5364, the Business Method Patent Improvement Act of 2000. Upon introduction of that bill, I made it clear that my primary motivation was protection of intellectual property. I believe the protection of intellectual property is critical both to innovation and to the economy, and will be advanced by assuring the highest level of quality for U.S. patents.

With these same goals in mind, today Representative BOUCHER and I introduce three new bills. The Business Method Patent Improvement Act of 2001 is very similar to last year's version, but includes several significant changes in response to legitimate criticisms of last year's bill. The Patent Improvement Act of 2001 responds to suggestions by many parties that certain provisions in last year's bill should apply broadly to all patentable inventions. Finally, the PTO funding Resolution ensures that all PTO fees will be used to fund the PTO and the vital services it provides.

These bills represent a starting point, not an end point, for discussion of legislative solutions to patent quality concerns. The multitude of comments received on last year's bill demonstrate that these problems are difficult and, as yet, present no clear-cut answers. Indeed, reactions to last year's bill exhibited few consistent patterns, with members of the same industries often expressing diametrically opposed viewpoints. What was clear, however, was that introduction of specific legislation proved helpful at focusing the discussion. Thus, we introduce these bills to initiate that discussion anew in the 107th Congress.

The Business Method Patent Improvement Act of 2001 requires the PTO to publish all business method patent applications after 18

months. In conjunction with the publication provision, it creates opportunities for the public to present prior art or public use information before a business method patent issues. It establishes an administrative "Opposition" process where parties can challenge a granted business method patent in an expeditious, less costly alternative to litigation. The bill lowers the burden of proof for challenging business method patents, requires an applicant to disclose its prior art search, and finally, creates a rebuttable presumption that a business method invention constituting a non-novel computer implementation of a pre-existing invention is obvious, and thus, not patentable.

The Patent Improvement Act of 2001 would establish an administrative "Opposition" process where parties can challenge any granted patent in an expeditious, less costly alternative to litigation. The bill creates a rebuttable presumption that any invention constituting a non-novel computer implementation of an existing invention is obvious, and thus, not patentable. Finally, the bill requires an applicant to disclose its prior art search.

The PTO funding Resolution creates a point of order regarding any legislation that does not allow the PTO to spend all fees collected in the year in which they are collected.

Some may consider the coordinated introduction of these three bills an unusual approach. Indeed, it will be noted that the first two bills overlap—that is, they contain many of the same provisions applied to different, but overlapping types of patents. We have chosen this approach because we consider all the bills to be improvements over current law, but are not sure which bills will generate sufficient support to be enacted this Congress. Further, we consider the PTO funding Resolution to be a necessary element of any plan to improve patent quality, but recognize that such legislation will generate its own debate.

I have decided to forge ahead through these thorny issues because my concerns about the quality and effects of business method patents have not dissipated or diminished during the past year. The pace of business method patenting has picked up dramatically. While in FY 1999, the PTO received approximately 2650 business method patent applications, in FY 2000 it received 7800 such applications. The PTO reports that the first quarter of FY 2001 has seen business method applications running 18–20% higher than in Q1 of FY 2000. I commend the PTO for reducing the proportion of business method patents granted through its Business Method patent Initiative, but there is some concern that this Initiative will extend patent pendencies further.

We will not know what business methods are claimed in these applications for at least eighteen months after filing, and in all probability for at least twenty-six months. Some consider this a problem in itself, as technology businesses attempting to move at Internet speed may invest enormous sums of ever-dwindling venture capital only to find important elements of their business plan covered by a patent. This is an unfortunate by-product of the patent system, but I do not believe we should address it by prohibiting patents on business methods or requiring publication upon filing.

Of greater concern to me is assuring the highest quality of business method patents being issued. Unfortunately, those business methods patents of which we are aware do

not give us much confidence about the quality of those yet to be published. Last year, I cited as examples of concern a patent granted for a method of allowing automobile purchasers to select options for cars ordered over the Internet, and a patent that purportedly covered the selling of music and movies in electronic form over the internet. This year I add to that list a patent for a method of operating a fantasy football league over the Internet, a patent covering incentive programs using the Internet, a patent covering the use of targeted banner advertising over the internet, and a patent covering a system for previewing music samples over the internet.

I do not pretend to know whether any of these patents are valid or invalid. However, many respectable parties, including patent lawyers, patent-holding technology companies, and academics, have expressed serious concerns about the quality of such patents.

I would like to see a patent system that subjects these patents to more rigorous review, and thus provide greater assurance that they are valid when issued. If there may be ways to improve the prior art available to patent examiners before they issue a patent, we should explore them. If there are ways to decrease the costs of challenging bad patents, we should enact them into law. And if retention of fees will result in better trained, more experienced examiners with access to better resources, we should let the PTO keep the fees.

As I said last Congress: "The bottom line in this: there should be no question that the U.S. patent system produces high quality patents. Since questions have been raised about whether this is the case, the responsibility of Congress is to take a close look at the functioning of the patent system in this very new, and rapidly growing area of patenting."

A TRIBUTE TO DIANA B. WOOTEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring special recognition to one of Brooklyn's shining stars, Diana B. Wooten.

Diana is the daughter of Joseph and Councilwoman Priscilla Wooten and a life long resident of the East New York community of Brooklyn. She is a prominent part of the Wooten extended family that consists of herself, her brother Donald, sister Deborah and three nephews. Her nephews are also her "godsons" and she takes this responsibility seriously. Diana is committed to being totally involved in guiding their development.

After obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology/Sociology from the State University of New York at Albany, she returned to her roots better known as Brooklyn, New York and began an outstanding career in the health service community. On the record and off the record, Diana is always involved in assisting others. She currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Bright Light Home Care Services in East New York. She has worked for the Health Science Center of New York, LaGuardia Hospital and Cumberland Diagnostic and Treatment Center.

Diana is well known but is still a very private person. She does so many good deeds anon-

ymously to better the lives of others. One among the many is currently serving as President of Single Working Parents, a group that gives respite care to single working parents of children from ages 5 to 13. She is a life-long member of the Grace Baptist Church where the current pastor is the Rev. Jacob N. Underwood. She is an active member of Grace Baptist where she also sings in the choir.

Because of her contributions to Brooklyn, Diana is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

IN HONOR OF MS. FRANCIS D.
ALLEMAN-LUCE (1924-2001)

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Francis D. Alleman-Luce, a civil rights advocate and life-long community leader. Ms. Alleman-Luce, who suddenly passed away last week, was a civil rights organizer, an educator, and a member of numerous community and philanthropic groups. Her son, Mr. Jim Tendean Luce, has arranged the service to be held at the Madison Avenue Baptist Church in my district, where he serves as the moderator.

Ms. Alleman-Luce was an extraordinary woman far ahead of her time. Born in 1924 in Hingham, Massachusetts, Ms. Alleman-Luce graduated from Hingham High School and Wheelock College. During World War II, she worked as an entertainer for troops on leave. After the War, she married Stanford Luce and the family moved to New Haven, Connecticut until 1952, when they again moved to Oxford, Ohio. In 1964, the family moved to Paris, returning to Ohio the next year.

Ms. Alleman-Luce played an active role in the American Civil Rights Movement during the 1960s, training Freedom Riders as they gathered in Oxford, Ohio before driving to Mississippi. In 1969, Ms. Alleman-Luce completed her masters' degree in Educational Psychology at Miami University in Oxford. In 1972, following her divorce, Ms. Alleman-Luce moved to Marietta, Ohio with her then 12-year-old son Jim to begin a career as a school psychologist.

Following her retirement, Ms. Alleman-Luce moved back to her college town of Brookline, Massachusetts, where she became involved with the P.E.O. Sisterhood, an organization for women that stresses the value of educational achievement and philanthropic community service.

Ms. Alleman-Luce was an exceptional individual and a caring mother. She is survived by her brother Dudley Alleman, Jr., her sister Irene Alleman Beale, and her four children, Stan, Molly, Rick, and Jim.

Ms. Alleman-Luce's life was one of adventure, ambition, and a willingness to strive for a better world. A proud lifelong Democrat, a friend of the disenfranchised, and a caring educator, Ms. Alleman-Luce will be sorely missed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK WILDERNESS ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am again introducing a bill to designate as wilderness most of the lands within the Rocky Mountain National Park, in Colorado. This legislation will provide important protection and management direction for some truly remarkable country, adding nearly 250,000 acres in the park to the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The bill is essentially identical to one previously introduced by my predecessor, Representative DAVID SKAGGS, and one I introduced in the 106th Congress. Those bills in turn were based on similar measures proposed, including some by former Senator Bill Armstrong and others.

Over a number of years my predecessor and I have worked with the National Park Service and others to refine the boundaries of the areas proposed for wilderness designation and consulted closely with many interested parties in Colorado, including local officials and both the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and the St. Vrain & Left Hand Ditch Water Conservancy District. These consultations provided the basis for many of the provisions of the bill I am introducing today, particularly regarding the status of existing water facilities.

Covering some 94 percent of the park, the new wilderness will include Longs Peaks and other major mountains along the Great Continental Divide, glacial cirques and snow fields, broad expanses of alpine tundra and wet meadows, old-growth forests, and hundreds of lakes and streams, all untrammelled by human structures or passage. Indeed, examples of all the natural ecosystems that make up the splendor of Rocky Mountain National Park are included in the wilderness that would be designated by this bill.

The features of these lands and waters that make Rocky Mountain National Park a true gem in our national parks system also make it an outstanding wilderness candidate. The wilderness boundaries are carefully located to assure continued access for use of existing roadways, buildings and developed areas, privately owned land, and areas where additional facilities and roadwork will improve park management and visitor services. In addition, specific provisions are included to assure that there will be no adverse effects on continued use of existing water facilities.

This bill is based on National Park Service recommendations, prepared more than 25 years ago and presented to Congress by President Richard Nixon. It seems to me that, in that time, there has been sufficient study, consideration, and refinement of those recommendations so that Congress can proceed with this legislation. I believe that this bill constitutes a fair and complete proposal, sufficiently providing for the legitimate needs of the public at large and all interested groups, and deserves to be enacted in this form.

It took more than a decade before the Colorado delegation and the Congress were finally able, in 1993, to pass a statewide national forest wilderness bill. Since then, action has

been completed on bills designating wilderness in the Spanish Peaks area of the San Isabel National Forest as well as in the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park, the Gunnison Gorge, and the Black Ridge portion of the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area. We now need to continue making progress regarding wilderness designations for deserving lands, including other public lands in our state that are managed by the Bureau of Land Management. And the time is ripe for finally resolving the status of the lands within Rocky Mountain National Park that are dealt with in the bill I am introducing today.

All Coloradans know that the question of possible impacts on water rights can be a primary point of contention in Congressional debates over designating wilderness areas. So, it's very important to understand that the question of water rights for Rocky Mountain National Park wilderness is entirely different from many considered before, and is far simpler. To begin with, it has long been recognized under the laws of the United States and Colorado, including a decision of the Colorado Supreme Court, that Rocky Mountain National Park already has extensive federal reserved water rights arising from the creation of the national park itself.

Division One of the Colorado Water Court, which has jurisdiction over the portion of the park that is east of the continental divide, has already decided how extensive the water rights are in its portion of the park. In December, 1993, the court ruled that the park has reserved rights to all water within the park that was unappropriated at the time the park was created. As a result of this decision, in the eastern half of the park there literally is no more water for either the park or anybody else to claim. This is not, so far as I have been able to find out, a controversial decision, because there is a widespread consensus that there should be no new water projects developed within Rocky Mountain National Park. And, since the park sits astride the continental divide, there's no higher land around from which streams flow into the park, so there is no possibility of any upstream diversions.

As for the western side of the park, the water court has not yet ruled on the extent of the park's existing water rights there, although it has affirmed that the park does have such rights. With all other rights to water arising in the park and flowing west already claimed, as a practical matter under Colorado water law, this wilderness designation will not restrict any new water claims. And it's important to emphasize that any wilderness water rights amount only to guarantees that water will continue to flow through and out of the park as it always has. This preserves the natural environment of the park, but it doesn't affect downstream water use. Once water leaves the park, it will continue to be available for diversion and use under Colorado law regardless of whether or not lands within the park are designated as wilderness.

These legal and practical realities are reflected in my bill—as in my predecessor's—by inclusion of a finding that because the park already has these extensive reserved rights to water, there is no need for any additional reservation of such right, and an explicit disclaimer that the bill effects any such reservation. Some may ask, why should we designate wilderness in a national park? Isn't park protection the same as wilderness, or at least as

good? The answer is that the wilderness designation will give an important additional level of protection to most of the park.

Our national park system was created, in part, to recognize and preserve prime examples of outstanding landscape. At Rocky Mountain National Park in particular, good Park Service management over the past 83 years has kept most of the park in a natural condition. And all the lands that are covered by this bill are currently being managed, in essence, to protect their wilderness character. Formal wilderness designation will no longer leave this question to the discretion of the Park Service, but will make it clear that within the designated areas there will never be roads, visitor facilities, or other manmade features that interfere with the spectacular natural beauty and wildness of the mountains.

This kind of protection is especially important for a park like Rocky Mountain, which is relatively small by western standards. As near-by land development and alteration has accelerated in recent years, the pristine nature of the park's backcountry becomes an increasingly rare feature of Colorado's landscape. Further, Rocky Mountain National Park's popularity demands definitive and permanent protection for wild areas against possible pressures for development within the park. While only about one tenth the size of Yellowstone National Park, Rocky Mountain sees nearly the same number of visitors each year as does our first national park. At the same time, designating these carefully selected portions of Rocky Mountain as wilderness will make other areas, now restricted under interim wilderness protection management, available for overdue improvements to park roads and visitor facilities.

So, Mr. Speaker, this bill will protect some of our nation's finest wild lands. It will protect existing rights. It will not limit any existing opportunity for new water development. And it will affirm our commitment in Colorado to preserving the very features that make our State such a remarkable place to live. So, I think the bill deserves prompt enactment.

I am attaching a fact sheet that outlines the main provisions of this bill:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
WILDERNESS ACT APRIL, 2001

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK

Rocky Mountain National Park, one of the nation's most visited parks, possesses some of the most pristine and striking alpine ecosystems and natural landscapes in the continental United States. This park straddles the Continental Divide along Colorado's northern Front Range. It contains high altitude lakes, herds of bighorn sheep and elk, glacial cirques and snow fields, broad expanses of alpine tundra, old-growth forests and thundering rivers. It also contains Longs Peak, one of Colorado's 54 fourteen thousand-foot peaks.

THE BILL

The bill is based on one introduced by Rep. Udall in the 106th Congress and similar legislation proposed by former Congressman David Skaggs and others in previous years. It would:

designate about 249, 562 acres within Rocky Mountain National Park, or about 94 percent of the Park, as wilderness, including Longs Peak—the areas included is based on the recommendations prepared over 25 years ago by President Nixon with some revisions in boundaries to reflect acquisitions and other changes since that recommendation was submitted

designate about 1,000-acres as potential wilderness until non-conforming structures are removed

provide that if non-federal inholdings within the wilderness boundaries are acquired by the United States, they will become part of the wilderness and managed accordingly

The bill would NOT:

create a new federal reserve water right; instead, it includes a finding that the Park's existing federal reserved water rights, as decided by the Colorado courts, are sufficient

include certain lands in the Park as wilderness, including Trail Ridge and other roads used for motorized travel, water storage and conveyance structures, buildings, developed areas of the Park, some private inholdings

EXISTING WATER FACILITIES

Boundaries for the wilderness are drawn to exclude existing storage and conveyance structures assuring continued use of the Grand River Ditch and its right-of-way, the east and west portals of the Adams Tunnel and gauging stations of the Colorado-Big Thompson Project, Long Draw Reservoir, and lands owned by the St. Vrain & Left Hand Water Conservancy District—including Copeland Reservoir.

The bill includes provisions to make clear that its enactment will not impose new restrictions on already allowed activities for the operation, maintenance, repair, or reconstruction of the Adams Tunnel, which diverts water under Rocky Mountain National Park (including lands that would be designated by the bill) or other Colorado-Big Thompson Project facilities, and that additional activities for these purposes will be allowed should they be necessary to respond to emergencies and subject to reasonable restrictions.

IN MEMORY OF CHIEF RONALD
"REDBONE" VAN DUNK

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to memorialize Chief Ronald "Redbone" Van Dunk, grand chief of the Ramapough Mountain Tribe, from Hillburn, New York, in my congressional district.

In his role as the grand chief of the 3,000 member Ramapough Mountain Tribe, Chief Redbone served his people with distinction and dignity, and honorably led his tribe in their long sought campaign for Federal recognition.

Although the Ramapough Tribe has been recognized by both the states of New York and New Jersey, the Federal government, to date, has denied their request for recognition of their heritage.

Chief Redbone was a dedicated champion of the tribe's efforts to acquire such native tribal recognition.

Chief Redbone organized his tribal members to incorporate themselves, and in 1979, after he was elected chief, the Ramapough Tribe filed their petition for federal recognition, which is now pending before the U.S. Appellate Court.

Chief Redbone wanted the best for his people, especially for their children, believing that recognition of their native American heritage would offer the tribe's children the opportunity to have an identity, a history, and a true pride in themselves as a people.

Moreover, the service of Chief Redbone was not limited to his people. He was a veteran, having served the United States in Germany from 1953 to 1955.

Grand Chief Ronald "Redbone" Van Dunk was a hero, a gentleman, a soldier, a distinguished leader, and a friend. His passing is not only a loss to his family, but to his tribe and to our Hudson Valley region. His legacy is his hope and dedication for the pride of a people, known as the Ramapoughs.

Our prayers and condolences go out to his family and friends, during their time of mourning.

IN TRIBUTE TO YOSHI HONKAWA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an extraordinary individual, Yoshi Honkawa, who will be honored on April 17th as the recipient of the Allen and Weta Mathies Award for Vision and Excellence in HealthCare Leadership. This prestigious award is presented by the Partner in Care Foundation, an organization dedicated to creating new methods of dealing with long term health care needs.

This innovative foundation could never have found a more perfect individual to honor for leadership in health care policy. Yoshi's career in this extremely important field—as an advocate, administrator, and mentor—spans decades and has been recognized by most of the leading health care organizations in California and in the nation.

In 1964, Yoshi joined the staff of the Los Angeles County/University of Southern California Medical Center. Many years later, he and his wife, May, endowed a fellowship fund in health policy and management at the University of Southern California. This act is typical of Yoshi's generosity with all of his resources, including his precious time, with young people entering the health care field. As mentor and teacher, there is no greater friend of graduate medical education than Yoshi Honkawa.

He took special note of the need to increase diversity in health care professionals, serving as a founding member of the Board of the Institute for Diversity in Health Care Management. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, and works with that organization to preserve and promote an appreciation for Japanese and Japanese-American heritage and cultural arts.

Yoshi's expertise in health care policy led to his appointment as a Commissioner on California's Health Policy and Data Advisory Commission. From this post, where he served from 1987 to 1997, he helped shape California's health policy.

It was while he served at Cedars-Sinai that I really came to know Yoshi well and to appreciate his integrity, his knowledge, his ability and his humanity. As the vice-president for government and industry relations, and then as consultant for health care advocacy, I was privileged to visit with Yoshi both in Los Angeles and during his trips to Washington, where he was a tireless advocate for this prestigious medical center.

Yoshi is, to put it simply, a wonderful person and I am honored to express the gratitude of the community for his tireless service and to congratulate him on this recognition of his outstanding leadership.

RECOGNIZING EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, while I am not proud about the gender disparity of wages in the United States, I am proud today to join with my colleagues as a co-sponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

It is unbelievable that women still earn only a percentage of what men earn for comparable work. In the 21st century, women earn 72 cents for every dollar a man earns. In communities of color, the gap is wider: black women earn 64 cents for each dollar and Latinas earn only 55 cents for each dollar a man earns.

According to these numbers, the average woman must work an additional 12 weeks a year to make up the disparity in income. The pay gap has a significant impact on entire families; it is estimated that American families lose \$200 billion each year. Both the AFL-CIO and the Institute for Women's Policy Research report that, if women were paid the same as comparable men, their family incomes would rise by nearly 6 percent. Poverty rates would drop by more than 50 percent.

Unequal pay is unjustified for equal work. It hurts individuals, families, and communities. We must do better to support hard working women and their families. We must pass the Paycheck Fairness Act; it is the only right and fair thing to do.

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FOR A COOPERATIVE LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION PROGRAM

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to authorize a program to help states, local governments, and private groups protect open space while enabling ranchers and other private landowners to continue to use their lands for agriculture and other traditional uses.

The bill, entitled the "Cooperative Landscape Conservation Act," is based on provisions that were passed by the House last year as part of the Conservation and Reinvestment Act ("CARA") but on which the Senate did not complete action.

I think the program that this bill would establish would be good for the entire country—and it would be particularly important for Colorado.

In Colorado, as in some other states, we are experiencing rapid population growth. That brings with it rising land values and property taxes. This combination is putting ranchers and other landowners under increasing pressure to sell lands for development. By selling conservation easements instead, they can

lessen that pressure, capture much of the increased value of the land, and allow the land to continue to be used for traditional purposes.

That's why conservation easements are so important for our state. It's why the state and many local governments are interested in acquiring conservation easements on undeveloped lands. It is also why non-profit organizations like the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust and the Nature Conservancy—to name just two of many—work to help ranchers and other property owners to make these arrangements and so avoid the need to sell agricultural lands to developers.

I strongly support this approach. Of course, by itself it is not enough—it is still important for government at all levels to acquire full ownership of land in appropriate cases. But in many other instances acquiring a conservation easement is more appropriate for conservation and other public purposes, more cost-effective for the taxpayers, and better for ranchers and other landowners who want to keep their lands in private ownership.

But while it is usually less costly to acquire a conservation easement than to acquire full ownership, it is often not cheap—and in some critical cases can be more than a community or a nonprofit group can raise without some help. That is where my bill would come in.

Under the bill, the Secretary of the Interior would be authorized to provide funds, on a 50 percent match basis, to supplement local resources available for acquiring a conservation easement. For that purpose, the bill would authorize appropriation of \$100 million per year for each of the next 6 fiscal years—similar to the amount that would have been authorized by the CARA legislation that the House passed last year.

The bill provides that the Secretary would give priority to helping acquire easements in areas—such as Colorado—that are experiencing rapid population growth and where increasing land values are creating development pressures that threaten the traditional uses of private lands and the ability to maintain open space. Within those high-growth areas, priority would go to acquiring easements that would provide the greatest conservation benefits while maintaining the traditional uses—whether agricultural or some other uses—of the lands involved.

The bill would not involve any federal land acquisitions, and it would not involve any federal regulation of land uses—conservation easements acquired using these funds would be governed solely under state law.

Mr. Speaker, the national government has primary responsibility for protecting the special parts of the federal lands and for managing those lands in ways that will maintain their resources and values—including their undeveloped character—as a legacy for future generations. Regarding other lands, the challenge of responding to growth and sprawl is primarily the responsibility of the states and tribes, the local governments, and private organizations and groups—but the federal government can help.

This bill would provide help, in a practical and cost-effective way. For the information of our colleagues, I am attaching a summary of its main provisions.

I also am attaching a recent article from the DENVER POST about how the Larimer Land Trust has helped ranchers near Buckeye, Colorado to assure that their lands, with their resources of habitat for a wide variety of wildlife

and many geographic and cultural treasures, will remain undeveloped and will continue to be used for grazing and other agricultural uses. I think this article shows the importance of the program that would be established by the bill.

DIGEST OF "COOPERATIVE LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION ACT"

The bill is based on provision included in the House-passed Conservation and Reinvestment Act (CARA) legislation of the 106th Congress. It would provide federal financial assistance to states, local government, Indian tribes, and private groups working to preserve open space by acquiring conservation easements.

BACKGROUND: In Colorado and other rapidly-growing states, rising land values and property taxes are putting farmers and ranchers (and other landowners) under increasing pressure to sell their lands for development. By selling conservation easements instead, they can lessen that pressure, capture much of the increased value of the land, and allow the land to continue to be used for traditional purposes. The party acquiring the conservation easement would have an enforceable property right to prevent development.

WHAT THE BILL WOULD DO:

Program—The bill would establish the "Cooperative Landscape Conservation Program," to be administered by the Department of the Interior. The program would provide grants to assist qualified recipients to acquire conservation easements.

Funding—Bill would authorize appropriations of \$100 million/year for fiscal years 2002 through 2007. Funds would be used for grants, would be on a 50 percent-50 percent matching basis, for purchase of conservation easements on private lands in order to provide wildlife, fisheries, open space, recreation, or other public benefits consistent with the continuation of traditional uses by the private landowners. Up to 10 percent of annual funds could be used by Interior Department to provide technical assistance.

Priority—(1) Priority for grants would be to help acquire easements in areas where rapid population growth and increasing land values are creating development pressures that threaten traditional uses of land and the ability to maintain open space; (2) within those areas, priority would go for acquiring easements that would provide the greatest conservation benefits while maintaining traditional uses of lands.

Eligibility Recipients—would be agencies of state or local government, tribes, and tax-exempt organizations operated principally for conservation.

Enforcement—Only an entity eligible for a grant could hold and enforce an easement acquired with program funds; at time of application, state Attorney General would have to certify that an easement would meet the requirements of state law.

WHAT THE BILL WOULD NOT DO—

Bill would NOT involve any federal land acquisition.

Bill would NOT involve any federal regulation of land use.

[From the Denver Post, April 2, 2001]

RANCHER'S LEGACY TO STAY WIDE OPEN

(By Coleman Cornelius)

April 1, 2001—BUCKEY—Chuck Miller gazed at his ranch from under the brim of a battered felt cowboy hat. His cows and their

new calves lolled nearby, soaking in the sun. A spring breeze swept over a rocky ridgeline, open grazing land, an irrigated alfalfa field, a glittering lake.

"I never knew a day when I didn't want to ranch on my own," Miller said as he recently surveyed his land in the Buckeye community, 20 miles north of Fort Collins. "I don't ever remember when that wasn't my goal in life."

Miller, whose Sunnybrook Cattle Co., includes about 450 acres and about 100 Angus and Longhorn cattle, soon will mark his 80th birthday. So he has pondered the future of his land and has wondered whether his ranching lifestyle will continue in fast-growing Larimer County, where the population swelled by 35 percent in the past decade.

Miller's gaze switched east. He nodded to a cluster of big, new houses topping a distant hillside—a sign of development bearing down on this ranchland that once seemed remote.

"If growth continues as it is now, this whole country will be houses," he said.

Earlier this year, the specter of development persuaded Miller and the owners of two neighboring ranches to preserve some of their ranchland in northern Larimer County. Working with the Larimer Land Trust, the Buckeye ranchers have protected 500 acres through conservation easements, meaning the land can never be developed.

It's not a lot of land in this rugged and breathtaking territory, which is home to the county's largest cattle ranches. In several cases, ranches in the area encompass more than 10,000 acres, according to county records.

Yet the newly protected acreage is significant, conservationists said.

That's in part because it represents a growing alliance between ranchers and conservationists. These camps, often at odds in the past, want to save open land and a way of life that has waned as encroaching development has spawned tensions and has ratcheted up land prices.

"It's really clear that if you want to protect Colorado's open space, you've got to help ranchers and farmers stay on the ground," said Alisa Wade, executive director of Larimer Land Trust. "If we don't start working together now it's going to be too late."

The Buckeye ranchland is in the foothills of the Laramie Mountains and is part of an ecological hinge between the mountains and plains.

It hosts a rich variety of plants and wildlife, including deer, elk, pronghorns, bears, mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, raptors and rattlesnakes. The land also holds geographic and cultural treasures, including fossilized dinosaur tracks and American Indian artifacts. Some of the West's first white settlers came through the area on the Cherokee and Overland trails; Miller once found an oxen shoe dropped by an animal pulling a pioneer's wagon.

The conservation project is significant, too, because it is a first step in what could become a vast stretch of protected ranchland.

"The Buckeye is one of the last remaining regions of large, contiguous ranchlands in Larimer County, so it's an important piece of long-term ranching viability in the county," Wade said.

The Nature Conservancy of Colorado, which owns a 2,000-acre preserve in the foothills of the Laramie Mountains, has identified northern Larimer County as a priority area for land conservation and contributed most of the money for the Buckeye project. The organization's leaders hope other ranchers will decide to preserve their land.

"We'd love to see some of those big ranches up there in some kind of conservation pro-

gram," said John Stokes, the Nature Conservancy's northeast Colorado program manager.

Conservation easements increasingly are used to preserve valuable open lands, and the provisions vary from deal to deal. But most of these legal agreements have one thing in common: Acreage in a conservation easement has been stripped of development rights and must remain open space forever.

As part of the Buckeye project, the Larimer Land Trust paid participating ranchers for the development rights on their property. But because the ranchers believe in land conservation, they accepted about 30 percent of the value of those development rights and donated the remaining value, Wade said.

"The value of their donation is about \$400,000. It's a significant donation," she said.

The Larimer Land Trust, which negotiated the easements, spent \$234,000 on the Buckeye project, Wade said.

The ranchers still own their property, and its agricultural use—primarily for cattle grazing—will not change.

Like other private landowners, the participating ranchers may sell or bequeath their property. But the conservation easements remain even when the land changes hands; new owners cannot develop the protected property.

That means the land's eventual sale price would be reduced. And it assures the protected acreage, if used at all, would be used for farming and ranching, Wade said.

While the value of protected land drops, the ranchers have pocketed some cash and will reap tax benefits from the conservation easements. That's a satisfying financial trade-off, they said.

But more satisfying for these ranchers is knowing their land will remain undeveloped for the enjoyment of heirs or other future owners, they said.

"I'm sure we could make much more money if we sold the land for development, but we didn't want to do that," said Kathy DeSmith, 60, who raises hay and cattle. She and her ranching partner put 179 acres in an easement as part of the conservation project.

Miller, who protected 105 acres, said it pleases him to watch his 8-year-old granddaughter ride horses, climb apple trees, fish and wade in the creek on his ranch. He hopes others will someday find the same carefree joys on his land.

The rancher said he's been offered more than \$1 million for his property. But the money did not entice him or his three children, especially because they knew development would almost certainly follow, Miller said.

"What would I do with a big pile of money, living in town with nothing to do? That doesn't suit me at all," he said. "I don't make a great deal of money—cash—but look at what I've got."

Eddie Yates, 53, who with her husband owns the 530-acre Park Creek Ranch, agreed that she has found many rewards living on land that has been unchanged over time. The Yateses put 215 acres in an easement.

The couple knew they could profit from their land, but they "couldn't swallow the idea of houses built all over it," Yates said. "Your conscience falls in somewhere."

As she led a tour of her ranch, Yates stood on a ridgeline and gazed at the striking landscape of canyons, meadows and towering rock formations.

"To me, to stand out here right now, it's good for your soul," she said.

EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Equal Pay Day. A woman would have to work until today, April 3, 2001 in order to earn the same salary of her male counterparts through December 31, 2000. Regrettably, the gap is even wider for Black and Hispanic women.

Perhaps even more troubling than the actual disparities are the poor explanations used to justify the situation.

Some blame pay inequity on women because they enter less lucrative professions. This assertion ignores the fact that traditionally female professions are purposely very underpaid. Professions such as teaching and nursing are undervalued and low-paying because they are traditionally female. Furthermore, the inequity exists within traditionally female fields. For example, female elementary school teachers still make 70 dollars a week less than men in the same position. Clearly, this reason is not a sound one.

Another popular justification assumes that equal pay for women translates into financial disaster and instability for the American family. This persistent myth states that equality will rob men of their jobs, lure women from their children, and is unnecessary for married women who benefit from their husband's salary.

Despite the calamity theories, equal pay is essential for working families. When we end pay discrimination against women, family incomes will rise. Working parents will have more to spend on household needs and more to save for their children's education and their own retirement security. Working parents may be able to spend less time at work and more time with their families, a very positive change for parents and children.

Many excuses and theories abound, but the truth overpowers every last excuse. There is no justification for pay discrimination against women. Let's rectify pay inequity this year, and render Equal Pay Day 2002 obsolete.

REINTRODUCTION OF HATE
CRIMES BILL**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2001, along with Representatives GEPHARDT, SKELTON, FRANK, BALDWIN, MORELLA, KOLBE, FOLEY, SHAYS and KELLY. As of today there are 180 original cosponsors.

In the year 2001, there are still too many messages to African-Americans and other minorities that we are not full participants in American democracy. Decrepit voting machinery in African-American communities disenfranchises our voters. Racial profiling continues unabated. Discrimination continues.

There have been over 50,000 hate crimes reported in the last five years, and nearly

8,000 reported last year alone. The gruesome, hateful murders of James Byrd and Matthew Shepard stand as symbols of the incidence of hate violence that has worsened since their deaths. Hate crimes don't only visit unspeakable violence on the immediate victims, but also send a message of a desired apartheid that its sponsors want to violently enforce. Today, organized hate and supremacist groups operate with greater sophistication, and across state lines.

While many of these crimes do and should get prosecuted at the state and local levels, many do not. Some local governments lack the resources to track interstate hate groups that perpetrate them. In other places, there may even be a lack of will. Ten states, for example, have no hate crime laws on the books, and another 21 have anemic hate crime laws.

If enacted, this legislation would give the federal government the jurisdictional tools necessary to assist local law enforcement in fighting the scourge of hate violence.

In instances where state and local governments do not have the capacity to prosecute such crimes, the legislation creates a federal backstop—the ability for the local U.S. attorney to ensure that justice will be done, deterring hate violence regardless of whether the victim happens to be engaged in a “federally protected” activity. And even in those cases, federal prosecution can only proceed if approved by the Attorney General.

Our primary desire is to see these crimes prosecuted by state and local governments more effectively. That's why the bill authorizes funds to support state investigative and prosecutorial efforts.

The bill is not and should not be partisan. There should be unanimous agreement that there will be “zero-tolerance” for the hate. This bill takes the first step in that direction.

HONORING RICO GIRON

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents who has demonstrated great heroism. This extraordinary individual is Mr. Rico Giron, of San Miguel County, who risked his own life to save the lives of two young drowning children. Upon hearing the cries of the drowning children at a lake, Mr. Giron raced his boat toward the younger brother and sister and dived into the water after them. After pulling the girl ashore, Mr. Giron plunged back into the water to rescue the other boy. Using every last ounce of strength and energy, Mr. Giron was able to pull the boy ashore before collapsing from exhaustion. Mr. Giron's valiant efforts saved the lives of these two young children. For this exceptional bravery, the Andrew Carnegie Hero Fund Foundation has awarded Mr. Giron the prestigious Carnegie Medal which recognizes those individuals who risks his or her own life to save or attempt to save the life of another person. Very few individuals are awarded the Carnegie Medal, hence this is a grand achievement and Mr. Giron deserves a hero's welcome. The quotation that adorns the Carnegie Medal truly describes Mr. Giron's act of bravery: Greater love hath no man than that

a man lay down his life for his friends. Please join me in recognizing the generous actions of Mr. Giron.

BUY AMERICA LEGISLATION

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation drafted to help preserve the U.S. textile industry. This legislation would seek to clarify the existing “Buy-America” provision for the Department of Defense, commonly known as the Berry Amendment.

The Berry Amendment currently requires the Department to purchase clothing, specialty steel, textiles, and food that is produced in the United States by U.S. companies. The intent behind the legislation is to guarantee the U.S. military a ready mobilization base of U.S. apparel manufacturers—a critical component for rapid military mobilizations. The language has been a feature of defense procurement for over 50 years.

However, as my colleagues may know, the Berry Amendment has recently resurfaced in the media following the decision by the Department of the Army to make the black beret a standard issue item for all Army personnel. The decision was controversial and short-sighted in its own right, but became further troubling when the Defense Logistics Agency decided to waive the Berry Amendment and allow the procurement of the berets from foreign sources—including a substantial number made in Communist China.

The decision was not made because of a lack of existing U.S. suppliers to provide the berets. Nor was it made because of a lack of other textile manufacturers who might be willing to tool up to meet the demand. Instead, it was made because the Army wanted all of its personnel to have the berets by its next birthday. A date important to the Army and the Nation as it relates to the founding of that branch of service, but otherwise arbitrary as it relates to the purchase of berets.

That decision was not just a slap in the face to the men and women who will be wearing the berets made by a potential enemy, but also to the U.S. textile industry who have long supported our men and women in uniform.

This controversial waiver highlighted the need to review the current law and look for ways to improve its effectiveness. The legislation I am introducing today seeks to do just that. Specifically, the bill would add a requirement that for any waiver of the Buy American provision, the Secretary of Defense must notify the House and Senate committees on Appropriations, Armed Services, and Small Business. The legislation also requires that after Congress is notified, 30 days must pass before the contract can be let. Finally, the legislation clarifies and recodifies the Berry Amendment under the permanent section of U.S. code relating to defense procurement.

Although the legislation does not eliminate the possibility of procuring this category of items overseas, it will improve congressional oversight of any Berry Amendment waivers. By raising the visibility of these waiver decisions, it is my hope that the Department of

Defense will increase their level of scrutiny and prevent them from making such poor decisions in the future.

GOVERNORS ISLAND
PRESERVATION ACT, H.R. 1334

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce H.R. 1334, 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 \$1.00.

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

At the end of last year, the first important step to preserving this national treasure was taken when Castle William and Fort Jay were designated national monuments.

Now, both 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 to be able to 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 which 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 New York Harbor. New interactive educational facilities, including an aquarium and a historical village, are being 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 Islands is unprecedented and mandates decisive action.

Accordingly, this Governors Island Preservation Act will open the doors to this opportunity by transferring the island back from the Federal Government 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 the House of Representatives, in asking their support for the Governors Island Preservation Act, H.R. 1334. Governor Pataki, our Senators, and Representatives NADLER, MALONEY, and myself, have all worked diligently to address every concern and to develop bipartisan legis-

lation which will open Governors Island up not only to the people of New York, but to our entire Nation.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SOUTH SHORE ASSOCIATION FOR
RETARDED CITIZENS

HON. WILLIAM D. DELAHUNT

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. DELAHUNT. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to join today with people throughout Southeastern Massachusetts in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the South Shore Association for Retarded Citizens.

What began in 1950 with a small group of parents in Weymouth seeking options for their children, has since grown into a distinguished and highly successful effort to provide services to more than one thousand people with special needs on the South Shore each year. From summer day camps to transitional employment programs; from early intervention services to residential and workshop facilities; from individual to family support programs—South Shore ARC has given all of us opportunities to realize and meet our full potential.

Throughout its history, South Shore ARC has been a leader in the community, utilizing public and private partnerships in its twofold mission of advocacy and the delivery of quality services. The organization has fought tirelessly for the rights of individuals with disabilities, and has been instrumental in the passage of legislation improving and expanding special needs education.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and our colleagues to join with me in congratulating the South Shore Association for Retarded Citizens for fifty years of service to the people of Massachusetts. This organization has fostered positive working relationships with our community, and has improved the lives of thousands of adults and children with special needs. I commend them for their decades of hard work, and wish them many more years of success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RESPON-
SIBLE OFF-ROAD VEHICLE EN-
FORCEMENT AND RESPONSE
(“ROVER”) ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a bill to improve the ability of the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service to respond to a serious problem affecting federal lands in Colorado and other states.

Throughout the west, and especially in Colorado, increased growth and development has resulted in an increase in recreational use of our public lands. These recreational uses have, in some cases, stressed the capacity of the public land agencies to adequately control and manage such use. As a result, areas of our public lands are being damaged.

One of the uses that cause the greatest impacts are recreational off-road vehicles. The

results can include: damage to wildlife habitat; increased run-off and sediment pollution in rivers and streams; damage to sensitive high-altitude tundra, desert soils, and wetlands; creation of ruts and other visual impacts on the landscape; loss of quiet and secluded areas of the public lands; and adverse effects on wildlife.

Recreational off-road vehicle use on our public lands should be allowed to continue, but it must be managed to minimize or avoid these problems, by appropriate restrictions and putting some sensitive areas off-limits to vehicle use.

Most vehicle users are responsible—they stay on designated roads and trails, they are respectful of the landscape and they endeavor to tread lightly. However, there are a number of such users who do not obey the rules. Given the nature of this use (large, powerful motorized vehicles that are able to penetrate deeper and deeper into previously secluded areas), even a relatively few who violate management requirements can create serious damage to public land resources.

Yet, in some cases, recreational off-road vehicle users ignore these closures and management requirements. Often times, when these activities occur, the federal public land agencies do not have the authority to charge fines commensurate with the damage that results. For example, under BLM's basic law, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, fines for violations of regulations—including regulations governing ORV uses—are limited to \$1,000. That figure has remained unchanged for a quarter of a century, and does not reflect the fact that in many cases the damage from violations will cost thousands more to repair.

The bill I am introducing today would provide for increased fines for such violations—to \$10,000 or the costs of restoring damaged lands, whichever would be greater.

The need for this legislation is well shown by a recent article in the Denver Post by Penelope Purdy that outlines problems in New Mexico, Utah, and Idaho as well as some recent events in Colorado. As she reports, last August, two recreational off-road vehicle users ignored closure signs while four-wheel driving on Bureau of Land Management land high above Silverton, Colorado. As a result, they got stuck for five days on a 70 percent slope at 12,500 feet along the flanks of Houghton Mountain.

At first, they abandoned their vehicles. Then, they returned with other vehicles to pull their vehicles out of the mud and off the mountain. The result was significant damage to the high alpine tundra, a delicate ecosystem that may take thousands of years to recover. As noted in a Denver Post story about this incident, “Alpine plant life has evolved to withstand freezing temperatures, nearly year-round frost, drought, high winds and intense solar radiation, but it's helpless against big tires.”

Despite the extent of the damage, the violators were only fined \$600 apiece—hardly adequate to restore the area, or to deter others.

Another example was an event that occurred last year above Boulder, Colorado, that has become popularly known as the “mudfest.”

Two Denver radio personalities announced that they were going to take their off-road four-wheel-drive vehicles for a weekend's outing on

an area of private property along an existing access road used by recreational off-road-vehicle users. Their on-air announcement resulted in hundreds of people showing up and driving their vehicles in a sensitive wetland area, an area that is prime habitat of the endangered boreal toad. As a result, seven acres of wetland were destroyed and another 18 acres were seriously damaged. Estimates of the costs to repair the damage ranged from \$66,000 to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Most of the "mudfest" damage occurred on private property. However, to get to those lands the off-road vehicle users had to cross a portion of the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest—but the Forest Service only assessed a \$50 fine to the two radio disc jockeys for not securing a special use permit to cross the lands.

Again, this fine is not commensurate to the seriousness of the violation or the damage that ensued, or stands as much of a deterrent for future similar behavior.

These are but two examples. Regrettably, there are many more such examples not only in Colorado but also throughout the west. These examples underscore the nature of the problem that this bill would address. If we are to deter such activity and recover the damaged lands, we need to increase the authorities of the federal public land agencies.

My bill would do just that. Specifically, my bill would amend the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act and relevant laws governing the Forest Service to authorize these agencies to assess greater fines on recreational off-road vehicles for violations of management, use and protection requirements. The bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to assess up to \$10,000 in fines, or 12 months in jail, or both, for violations of road and trail closures and other management regulations by recreational off-road vehicles. The bill also would authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, in lieu of a specific dollar fine, to assess fines equal to the costs required to rehabilitate federal public lands from damage caused by recreational off-road vehicle violations.

In addition, the bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to apply any funds acquired from recreational off-road vehicle violations to the area that was damaged or affected by such violations, and to increase public awareness of the need for proper use of vehicles on federal lands.

This would give these agencies additional resources to recover damaged lands and areas that may be exposed to repeated violations.

The bill does not put any lands "off limits" to recreational off-road vehicle use. It does not affect any specific lands in any way. The bill also does not provide for increased fines for other activities that can damage federal lands. There may or may not be a need for legislation along those lines, but in the meantime I am seeking only to address this one problem.

Mr. Speaker, I fear that that improper use of recreational vehicles is a problem of growing seriousness throughout the west. My intention with this bill is to help address this problem so that all recreational users of our public lands can have a rewarding, safe and enjoyable experience. Everyone's experience is diminished when a few bad actors spoil the resources

and the beauty of our lands. I think this bill can help provide the BLM and the Forest Service with better tools to respond tools to response by allowing appropriate recreational use of our public lands while also protecting the resources and values of these lands that belong to all the American people.

For the information of our colleagues, I am attaching a fact sheet about the bill as well as an editorial and other material from the Denver Post:

RESPONSIBLE OFF-ROAD VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT AND RESPONSE ("ROVER") ACT

Background: In Colorado and throughout the west increased population growth has brought increased recreational use of federal lands. This has made it harder for land-managing agencies to adequately control and manage such use.

Recreational and other use of off-road vehicles (ORVs) can present serious problems. This use should be allowed to continue, but must be managed and controlled to minimize or avoid adverse effects. That involves closing-off some sensitive areas and other regulations.

Improper use of vehicles can result in serious damage to the national forests and the public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This can involve damage to wildlife habitat; increased run-off and sediment pollution in rivers and streams; damage to sensitive high-altitude tundra, desert soils, and wetlands; creation of ruts and other visual impacts to the landscape; loss of quiet areas due to the deeper penetration of off-road vehicles into previously secluded areas of the public lands; and impacts to wildlife from noise and effects on migration corridors.

Currently, the Forest Service and BLM do not always have clear authority to assess fines commensurate with the costs of enforcement and the damage that often results. For example, under the law governing BLM lands, federal officials can only impose up to \$1,000 in fines while the damage that results could cost thousands more to address. The Forest Service's authority also needs clarifying and strengthening.

The bill would provide new authority, in order to increase public awareness, deter violations, and help cover the costs of enforcement and damages to affected lands.

WHAT THE BILL WOULD DO

Allow Increased Fines: The bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to assess fines of up to \$10,000 or the costs of restoration, whichever is greater, for violation of ORV regulations. The current provisions for imprisonment of 12 months in jail is retained.

Apply Fines to Enforcement and the Area Damaged: The bill would authorize the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to apply any funds acquired from recreational off-road vehicle violations to the costs of enforcing off-road violations, increasing public awareness of the problem, and to repair damages to lands affected by such violations.

WHAT THE BILL WOULD NOT DO

Increase Closures of Public Lands: The bill would not require that any particular lands be "off limits" to recreational off-road vehicle use. Decisions about which roads or trails will remain open to such use would continue to be made by the land-management agency.

Apply to Other Uses: The bill would not impose increased fines for violation of any regulations other than those applicable to use of vehicles.

Eliminate Fines for Other Violations: The bill would not affect the current ability of

the federal public land agencies from assessing existing fines and penalties for other activities that violate management, use and protection requirements. Such fines would continue to apply to violations of other regulations.

[From the Denver Post, Feb. 11, 2001]

CURBING THE TRAFFIC

It's obscene that motorized vehicles can legally drive wherever they please on so much public land, disrupting wildlife habitat and scarring fragile terrain. Some U.S. Bureau of Land Management districts and national forests require all motor vehicles to stay on marked roads or four-wheel-drive tracks—but many do not. The federal government must start requiring off-road vehicles to stay on roads and four-wheel-drive trails in all BLM and U.S. Forest Service holdings.

Most people who drive on BLM land and national forests already stay on designated routes. So the extensive, increasing damage to taxpayer property is being inflicted by a small percentage of off-road drivers. But because the raw numbers of ORVs has soared, the ecological damage also has increased.

Paradoxically, the government requires extensive environmental studies before it lets oil drillers, timber companies or ski areas build roads on public lands. Yet it continues to let ORVs carve unofficial trails with no environmental assessment at all.

When the agencies do crack down on the worst abuses, some off-road drivers complain that the rules close citizens off the public lands. Unfortunately, Congress gives too much credence to this vocal minority and remains ill-informed about the real damage happening on the ground.

It's thus commendable that the Colorado BLM office is considering an interim order making all motor vehicles stay on existing roads and trails. But the bureau also must make good on its promise to get public input.

Meantime, the Forest Service has worked with local citizens' groups to draft plans regulating ORV use in several national forests in Colorado.

Nationwide, other steps are needed:

The BLM and Forest Service must better map and sign which routes they want ORVs to use. The agencies should work with recreation groups and wildlife experts to plan what routes should stay open or be closed. This effort must be conducted at the grass-roots level.

Congress must properly fund BLM and the Forest Service to do this work. And lawmakers should increase penalties for serious ORV violations.

Woody Guthrie once sang that "this land is your land." But that doesn't give anyone the right to rip it up.

[From the Denver Post, Oct. 3, 2000]

MUDFEST UNPUNISHED

(By Penelope Purdy)

Official reaction has been appallingly weak to the off-road-vehicle "mudfest." Federal and state agencies mostly point fingers at each other and claim the law doesn't let them do diddly squat in the matter. To quote Charles Dickens: "If that's the law, sir, then the law is an ass."

In late September, disc jockeys for Denver radio station KBPI talked on the air about going four-wheeling and named the day and place. Several hundred people showed up in their SUVs, monster trucks and off-road vehicles. They crossed federal land to get to the site, Caribou Flats. The property's owner, Tom Hendricks—a good guy, known for environmentally proper gold mining—

asked the drivers to leave. They ignored both his pleas and orders from law enforcement officers. And they left one heck of a mess in the high-altitude wetland. The area is a potential habitat for the almost extinct boreal toad, and is home to more than a dozen species of migratory birds. In other case of wetland and habitat destruction, the feds reacted harshly.

For example, when the Vail ski area accidentally built part of a temporary road through a seasonal wetland, not only did the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency insist that Vail fix the damage, but it's also contemplating a substantial fine against the resort. The Vail wetland involved only a fraction of one acre. Yet faced with a case involving 25 acres near Boulder, the EPA says federal law doesn't protect wetlands on private property from this vehicle-caused damage.

When building its new airport, Denver delayed construction of one runway because a pair of burrowing owls had nested in its path. Interfering with a migratory bird is a federal offense. But confronting the destruction of habitat for 13 migratory bird species at Caribou Flats, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service says its hands are tied.

Many of the mudfest yahoos later excused their juvenile behavior by claiming they "didn't know" they were on private property. But that statement indicates they thought that if they were on public land, it'd be OK to spin their big wheels in the mud. It's not OK.

The Arapahoe-Roosevelt National Forest is implementing a policy, already posted in many places, that drivers must stay on designated routes. Yet the U.S. Forest Service, across whose land the scofflaws at Caribou Flats had to travel to reach the scene, only imposed a minimum \$50 fine on the disc jockeys for holding a large gathering without a permit. Even the Colorado Division of Wildlife says it likely can do nothing in the matter.

A criminal inquiry is under way by the Boulder sheriff, with help from the Colorado attorney general. But they're mostly looking at non-environmental questions such as trespass.

Sadly, despite claims by four-wheel-drive clubs that they teach members to drive responsibly, what happened at Caribou Flats isn't an isolated incident:

During the Buffalo Peaks Hill Climb near Buena Vista, someone illegally bulldozed a half mile of road in part of the Pike-San Isabel National Forest.

Last summer, local dirt bikers unlawfully built a racetrack across two miles of the White River National Forest.

The White River forest wants all drivers to stay on designated roads and four-wheel-drive tracks, not run across public land. But Colorado politicians, including U.S. Sen. Ben Campbell, oppose the plan.

Near Boulder, off-roaders reopened a private road that the landowners had closed to prevent environmental harm.

The problem is getting worse, because some SUV and ORV drivers cling to an archaic, arrogant mentality that they have a God-given right to drive anywhere, anytime, regardless of whose land they're on or what destruction they cause. This faction howls whenever the Forest Service or other land management agency even suggests restricting vehicle travel to designated roads and tracks.

Now, the meek official reaction to the Caribou Flats mudfest effectively has told these irresponsible jerks: Go ahead and turn every precious alpine wetland in Colorado into a mud flat, because we're not going to do a darn thing to punish you.

PAYCHECK EQUITY EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. MIKE HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, today is a significant day for American families. On one hand, it represents injustice, marking the amount of time required for a women to earn the same pay as a man: an additional three months into the next year. On the other hand, this day marks the continuation of an ongoing struggle, the battle for an American ideal: Equality.

Today, I stand in support of working women and the American family. Today, I stand in support of equal pay for equal work.

On Equal Pay Day, we are reminded of the facts in the contemporary American workplace:

The average working woman working full time earns about 76 cents for each dollar earned by the average man;

The median wages of female college graduates fall behind those of male college graduates by \$14,665;

This pay disparity applies for all age groups. For example, women ages 35–44 earned about 72 cents per dollar and women ages 45–54 earned about 70 cents per dollar, compared to men.

The inequality in pay is not just morally wrong; it renders real harm on American families and our national economy. This gender wage gap means \$4,000 less per American family and over \$200 billion less in the American economy.

We need to act now, and that is why I support H.R. 781, "The Paycheck Fairness Act," authored by my distinguished colleague, the distinguished gentle lady from Connecticut, ROSA DELAURO. This bill creates stronger enforcement, greater measurement, and better incentives against discrimination in wages based on gender.

These are the facts, and they challenge our national integrity. They challenge our commitment to equal rights and equal treatment. They challenge us to action. The majority of Americans support equal pay for equal work. It is time for Congress and the President to finally hold our nation accountable to the promise and ideals embedded in our Constitution.

EQUAL PAY PROTECTION

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, when President John F. Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act into law on June 10, 1963, women on average earned 61 cents for each dollar earned by a man.

Today, working women only earn 73 cents for every dollar earned by men, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

President Kennedy told his fellow citizens that he was taking the first step in addressing 'the unconscionable practice of paying female employees less wages than male employees for the same job.'

While progress has been made, still more needs to be done and, if Congress acts this year, more can be achieved.

In my state of California, families lose a staggering 21 billion dollars of income annually to the wage gap.

If women in California received equal pay, poverty in single mom households would go from 19.2 percent to 9.2 percent.

Women in the Inland empire for example loss on average 4 thousand dollars every year because of unequal pay.

This is money that can't buy groceries, housing, child care, clothing for their families.

I ask my colleagues to support H.R. 781, The Paycheck Fairness Act and the Fair Pay Act, legislation currently pending in Congress that is designed to help eliminate the wage gap that still exists between men and women.

Many working women lack the basic benefits they need in order to care for their families.

They are our grandmothers, mothers, wives, sisters, daughters, and colleagues.

They are our doctors, lawyers, teachers, caregivers, and leaders.

Women lawyers earn \$300 less than male attorneys.

Female doctors make \$500 less than their male colleagues.

Wages for female nurses, where 95 percent are women, are \$30 less each week than male nurses who only make up 5 percent.

Waitresses weekly earnings are \$50 less than waiters' earnings.

The situation is even worse for women of color. African American women earn only 67 cents and Latinas 58 cents for every dollar that men earn.

They wage gap impacts women's retirement also. Women have less to save for their futures and will earn smaller pensions than men.

We need to recognize working women and we need to pay them equally.

On the job, working women are looking for higher pay, better benefits and, most of all, the three "Rs": Respect, Recognition and Reward for a job well done.

Half of all older women receive a private pension in 1998 got less than \$3,486 per year, compared with \$7,020 per year for older men.

Before the end of this year, let's pass this legislation to finally make the work of America's women valued, fair, equitable and just.

Let's work to bring equal pay to every woman in America.

They deserve it and their families deserve it. Let's get the job done.

TRIBUTE TO JASON WILLIAMS

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Plainfield, New Jersey's own star, Jason Williams. Jason, who is an All-American basketball player for Duke University, lead his team in their 82–72 NCAA National Championship victory over Arizona on Monday night, April 2, 2001.

All of Plainfield and New Jersey are proud of our hometown hero, Jason Williams. As a student athlete, he has shown tremendous leadership and dedication while playing at an incredible level—all while under the pressure of the national spotlight.

The top-ranked Duke Blue Devils won the national title Monday night under the leadership of Jason Williams. The 6'2" point guard

has been one of the Duke's biggest offensive weapons all season. After scoring 16 points in the win over the University of Arizona Wildcats, the All-American guard has scored 154 points in six tournament games (ninth of all-time). A pass from Williams enabled Shane Battier to score a slam-dunk, making the score 77-72 with 2:31 left on the clock. Then Williams clinched the Blue Devils' victory with a 3 point shot with 1:45 left, giving the Blue Devils an eight-point lead.

Williams has been a leader all season long in the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), registering 21 points and 6.3 assists a game and earning the All-ACC First Team nod as well as the East Regional's Most Outstanding Player. Williams spent this past summer helping to train the U.S. Olympic basketball team as a member of the U.S. Select Team that scrimmaged against the Dream Team.

As a graduate of St. Joseph's High School in Metuchen, New Jersey, Williams lettered in basketball all four years. Among the awards he won: the Morgan Wooten Award given annually to the nation's top prep school player, first team All-America selection as a high school senior by USA Today, Street & Smith, and Hoop Scoop, two-time all-state selection, first team all-county, all-area, and all-Parochial accolades during his career. As a two-time team captain, he set school records for most points scored in one game with 43 and the most total points with 1,993 high school career points, averaging 24.0 points, 8.0 assists, 4.0 rebounds, and 3.0 steals.

I commend Jason Williams for his leadership and congratulate the Blue Devils on their victory.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF CESAR CHAVEZ

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the great American heroes of our time, Cesar E. Chavez. Throughout his life, Cesar embraced nonviolent tactics to lift up the lives and spirits of millions of people and to advance the cause of equality and social change, particularly for migrant farm workers.

At an early age, young Cesar and his family were forced from their ranch because of an unscrupulous land deal. They went to work in the fields. Cesar traveled throughout California and followed the seasonal work and attended 37 schools before dropping out after the Eighth grade in a great sacrifice to his father, who was injured in an accident, and his mother, whom he didn't want to work in the fields. He joined the U.S. Navy at Seventeen and returned to the San Joaquin Valley in California and became involved in community action programs.

Even though his own formal education was limited, later in life education became his passion. He was inspired by the teachings of a Catholic priest and by the writings of St. Francis, Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and once said that, "The end of all education should surely be service to others." Cesar put that belief into practice and formed

the National Farm Workers of America, which later became the United Farm Workers, and began a great social movement to fight for safe and fair working conditions, reasonable wages, decent housing and outlawing child labor.

Chavez used fasting, marching rallying picketing and boycotting to call attention to the plight of the farm workers who endured great pain and exploitation to put food on tables of millions of American families.

In 1965, he led the Delano grape strike and a 340-mile march across California, which gained national attention and ended in an agreement to improve wages for farm workers. Chavez's work did not end there. He led another boycott to protest the use of dangerous pesticides in the fields, and in 1973, he led another strike against lettuce growers for higher wages.

"La Causa" had broad-based support not only from farm workers and Latinos, but from labor unions, religious groups, minorities and students. The UFW became a symbol of empowerment and pride for many workers throughout the nation for over three decades. Throughout the movement, Cesar Chavez never lost his direction or his soul. Although he had won national and international fame, he continued to live a simple life based on sharing and frugality. Chavez even engaged in life threatening fasts to keep the movement alive and rededicate it to the principles of non-violence.

Cesar Chavez died in his sleep on April 23, 1993. He died while he was defending the UFW against a lawsuit brought by a California lettuce and vegetable producer, which demanded that the farm workers pay millions of dollars in damages resulting from a UFW boycott of its lettuce during the 1980's.

Cesar Chavez received many honors for his commitment to social change. They included an honorary degree from Arizona State University West in 1992, induction into the LIFE Hall of Heroes in 1997, and the Medal of Freedom, the United States' highest civilian honor, bestowed upon him posthumously by President Clinton in 1995.

In addition, several states honor him and his work with a state holiday—and, just last week, our own State of Colorado joined that number when the legislature passed a law creating a state holiday to commemorate the birthday of Cesar Chavez.

The successful effort to pass this legislation was led by my friends, Colorado State Senator Rob Hernandez and Colorado State Representative Frana Mace. I think all Coloradans owe them a debt of gratitude—and I especially want to thank them for raising my own consciousness and inspiring me to support federal legislation that would create a national Cesar Chavez holiday.

So, Mr. Speaker, it's with great pride and humility that I stand here today on the floor of the House of Representatives and pay tribute to Cesar E. Chavez, a national hero and one of the giants of the civil rights movement in America.

I honor him for his leadership, his vision, his bravery, and his unselfish commitment to the principles of social justice and respect for human dignity. He is an inspiration to those of use who seek to create a better world, and his legacy is one which serves to remind us that "Together all things are possible." ¡Si se puede!

TRIBUTE TO THE ARMADA FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize an institution whose outstanding dedication and commitment to the service of its community has led to a great accomplishment. On Sunday, April 1, 2001, the Armada Free Public Library will celebrate its Centennial Anniversary, commemorating 100 years of civic excellence.

Located in Armada, Michigan, the Armada Free Public Library has always been a flourishing center of education and resources for families and friends of the community. With a great emphasis on community service, the Armada Library has opened its doors throughout the years to welcome patrons to civic gatherings, conferences, club meetings, and children's hours.

Literature and books will always serve as the cornerstone of the Armada Library. But the library is expanding, by bringing in new levels of technology and resources. The community of Armada has dedicated its time and talents to bring the public library into the 21st Century with online databases, World Wide Web access, and an automated card catalog system. Because of this community's unwavering support, the Armada Free Public Library has become a center that will continue to cultivate its historic roots as well as reach out to younger generations.

The Armada Free Public Library is a true testament to the hard work and dedication of community members and their families. I applaud the Armada Free Public Library for its leadership, commitment, service, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this landmark occasion.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER MICHIGAN STATE REPRESENTATIVE MIKE PRUSI

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Mike Prusi, a former representative to the Michigan House of Representatives from the 109th Representative District, which is made up of two counties, Marquette and Alger, in my congressional district.

Mike was first elected to the House in a special election in May 1995, following the death of one of Michigan's great legislators and great spokesman for northern Michigan, Dominic J. Jacobetti. Mike has just concluded his service in the Michigan House because of the Michigan term limits law. This law was enacted at the will of the voters of Michigan, but I have to confess that in this case I believe the law has turned an excellent public servant out of office.

Mr. Speaker, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, where Mike and I are from, is an area rich in natural wealth and scenic beauty. It is also an area that, because of its sheer size, offers a wealth of diverse social and political

issues. Because its population is sparse, however, its representation in Lansing is meager in numbers.

Spokesmen for this region must stand taller and speak more eloquently than their downstate counterparts. Mike served on the important Appropriations Committee in the Michigan House and, like Dominic J. Jacobetti before him, was an outstanding spokesman for the region.

Mike brought a profound understanding of the region with him when he went to Lansing. He was born in his district, was schooled there, and became an iron mine worker, eventually becoming president of a Steelworkers local. Like the red dust that coats the clothing of miners, Mike carried the innate strength, pride and independence of Upper Michigan residents to his job as a state representative.

There have been many important issues affording us an opportunity to work together. The round of military base closures under the BRAC Commission in the early 1990s affected a base in the Upper Peninsula, in the heart of what would become Mike's district. Fighting to revive this economic heart of the Upper Peninsula has been one of our major efforts and concerns.

Today, we face the problem of illegal imports of steel—raw materials and finished projects—which have jeopardized the health of the U.S. steel industry. These illegally dumped products affect the entire industry, beginning with the very mines where Mike has worked. We are again joined in an important economic battle, this time to protect jobs and our vital national steel industry, from mining to final rolling of finished steel.

I wish Mike and his wife Sandra the best in his post-legislative career. He has my deep respect and friendship. The people of Michigan were well-served by Mike Prusi. They will miss him. I will miss him.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. THOMAS E. STARZL IN THE FIELD OF ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary career of Dr. Thomas E. Starzl, the pioneer in the field of organ transplantation, who turned seventy-five years old on March 11, 2001.

This year marks the 20th Anniversary of Dr. Starzl's first liver transplant in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Thirty transplants were performed in that year in 1981, which provided for the foundation for a liver transplant program at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Health System (UPMC) that would become the largest in the world.

Dr. Starzl earned his bachelor's degree in biology at Westminster College in Missouri and his medical degree at Northwestern University. Following postgraduate work at Johns Hopkins University, surgical fellowships, and residencies, Dr. Starzl served on the faculty at Northwestern University for four years before transferring to the University of Colorado School of Medicine. It was there that Dr. Starzl

made history by performing the world's first human liver transplant in 1963 and the first successful liver transplant in 1967.

While continuing to perform kidney and liver transplants, Dr. Starzl focused his work to develop ways to suppress the body's immune system to prevent organ rejection. In 1981, Dr. Starzl joined the University of Pittsburgh's School of Medicine as a professor of surgery. It was there that he utilized his new anti-rejection drug cyclosporine, which propelled transplantation from an experimental procedure to an accepted form of treatment.

Under Dr. Starzl's unmatched leadership, the transplant program at the University of Pittsburgh grew into the largest and most active program in the world. To date, more than 11,300 total transplants have been performed through this program with approximately 6,000 of those being liver transplants.

Dr. Starzl retired from clinical and surgical service in 1991 but continues to make important strides in the field of transplantation and transplant immunology. In addition, Dr. Starzl continues to share his knowledge of expertise in this field by remaining active as a professor.

Dr. Starzl has had a tremendous impact and influence in the field of transplantation. He has received 21 honorary doctorates and more than 175 awards and honors, including most recently the 2001 King Faisal International Prize for Medicine.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Dr. Thomas E. Starzl, the Father of Transplantation. Through his commitment to furthering the capabilities of modern medical science, Dr. Starzl has not only saved countless lives, but he has helped establish the world-class reputations that western Pennsylvania, the University of Pittsburgh, and the UPMC Health System all share in the field of medicine.

INTRODUCING THE CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Child Protection Services Improvement Act.

This bill provides education loan forgiveness for child welfare workers who have been with an agency for at least 2 years. In addition, the bill provides States with \$500 million in matching grants over 5 years to improve the quality of their child welfare workers. States can use these matching grants: to improve child welfare workers' wages, increase the number of child welfare workers, reduce the turnover and vacancy rate of child welfare agencies, increase education and training of child welfare workers, attract and retain qualified candidates and coordinate services with other agencies. These dollars can also go to private welfare agencies at the States' discretion.

The timing of this bill could not be better for 568,000 children in our foster care system, who have suffered from abuse and neglect. A recent joint survey by the Child Welfare League of America, the American Public Human Services Association and the Alliance for Children and Families reported that Child

Welfare agencies are facing a workforce crisis. The study reported that: The average staff turnover for child welfare caseworkers in public agencies is 19.9 percent and 40 percent for private child welfare agencies in a year. The average percentage of vacant positions in public agencies is 7.4 percent and 27 percent for private agencies in a year. 46.2 percent of State child welfare workers left their job because of low salaries and 82.1 percent reported that they left their job because the workload was too high or demanding. 47.9 percent of private child welfare workers left their job because salaries were too low and 38.6 percent that they left their job because the workload was too high or demanding. Almost half of these agencies, both public and private, report difficulty in finding and retaining qualified candidates.

These problems can have horrific consequences for the children who are the most vulnerable in our society. Going beyond the numbers, I am sure that many of my fellow members have looked in their local newspapers and heard of a case where a child was killed because of abuse and neglect. After suffering from abuse and neglect, Child Protection Services in States is the last line of defense in protecting these children. If these agencies falter, many of these children pay the price and sometimes that price is their life.

The Child Welfare League of America, Alliance for children and Families, the National Association of Social Workers and the Catholic Charities of America have endorsed this bill.

Please join with us in supporting the Child Protection Services Improvement Act and provide much needed financial resources to our child welfare workforce to protect the most vulnerable children in our society.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE GIBBS

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Steve Gibbs, a dear friend and community leader who will be recognized on April 21, 2001 by the FreeStore/FoodBank for 26 years of service with the organization.

The FreeStore/FoodBank was founded in Cincinnati in 1971. Steve has been a vital part of the organization as President and CEO nearly since its inception 30 years ago. Thanks to his dedication and hard work, the FreeStore/FoodBank has blossomed from a small, one-man operation into a thriving enterprise that literally has helped millions of people throughout Cincinnati, northern Kentucky and southeastern Indiana.

The mission of the FreeStore/FoodBank is "to provide food, products and services for those in need, and to further their self-reliance." As one of the largest foodbanks in Ohio, it helps to feed nearly 300,000 people in our area each year. It also provides clothes and housing and employment assistance to the needy, and fills the pantry shelves of over 550 agencies, soup kitchens and shelters with donated food. Last year, it distributed close to 9 million pounds of donated and salvaged food, valued at more than \$22 million.

Also serving as President of the Ohio Association of Second Harvest Foodbanks, Steve's

vision and ability to link sometimes unlikely partners also has helped to launch a number of innovative programs that continue to serve the needs of our community. One such partnership includes a joint venture between the FreeStore/FoodBank and the University of Cincinnati's Health Resource Center to provide medical care to those who cannot afford it. Among other initiatives, he also established a relationship with Goodwill Industries to help increase donations.

Thanks to Steve's efforts, the FreeStore/FoodBank is often recognized as one of Cincinnati's most outstanding charitable organizations. All of us in the Cincinnati area thank Steve for his dedication to improving the lives of others.

TRIBUTE TO MILLERSBURG,
MICHIGAN ON THE OCCASION OF
ITS COMMUNITY CENTENNIAL

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Millersburg, a small community in my congressional district, the 1st District of Michigan. On Labor Day this year the people of Millersburg will celebrate the centennial of their village. The history of their community is rich and complex, a story of growth and decline and several major changes in the core industry of the community. Like other centennials, however, this date marks more than a chronology of events. It is a history of family unity and old-fashioned values, and the centennial is a wish and prayer for the future of this small village, a hope that it will endure another 100 years.

Village president Bruce Doran and his wife Jo are assembling a book on the community as a reference for this historic event. Their account of the community's beginning tells how on the morning of September 23, 1897, a party of land owners and railway men assembled near the spot where a primitive highway crossed the Ocqueoc River in Presque Isle County, Michigan, for the purpose of laying out a new town. Except for the openings along the river and along the highway, the unbroken forest extended for miles on every side. The line of the D&M Railroad was blazed on the trees, and in a few days the noise of railway trains would be heard for the first time in this primeval forest.

Many towns have been laid out like this in Michigan, Mr. Speaker, but, according to the Dorans' research, Millersburg was probably one of the last Michigan communities deliberately planned in the forest. By noon the actual site was selected, and a gang of 35 choppers went to work. Axes flashed, and the mighty hemlocks, the giant elms, the majestic maples and the lofty basswoods were laid low, giving birth to the town of Millersburg.

The community took its name from Mr. Charles R. Miller of Adrian, Michigan, president of the commercial Savings Bank there. Mr. Miller had traveled through the area on business and had become interested in this area of the state through business contacts. He watched the progress of the D&M Railroad with keen interest and decided to purchase a tract of land. With several logging branches

planned, it was expected that the town of Millersburg would be the hub of activity.

In 1901 Millersburg became incorporated as a village. It grew and developed, with a variety of important local businesses, including four sawmills, one stave mill, five general stores and a newspaper.

But a town built in the forest and dependent on the forest can also be threatened by the forest. The decline of Millersburg as a lumbering town began with fires that swept the greater part of Presque Isle County in October 1908, inflicting a tremendous amount of damage. One fire threatened the village at the sawmills, and every available man fought to keep it from entering the town. Their efforts were rewarded, and the town was saved. But thousands of acres of timber were lost.

By 1911 the population had dwindled to 850 from a high of more than 1,000, and in July a fire burned the community's business section, the schoolhouse, the post office and numerous homes. Two sawmills and 26 boxcars were destroyed. The business section was never rebuilt and many of the merchants and dealers, realizing that the era of large-scale lumbering was over, chose to leave to try their fortunes elsewhere. By 1916 the town's population leveled off at 300, a figure which has remained relatively unchanged to this day. Agriculture became the chief industry in the township until the 1950s, when many of the farmers were forced out of business due to rising prices.

Today tourism is becoming the mainstay of the community, marking the community's willingness to adapt to new economic opportunities. Many people have come to the area to enjoy its lakes, streams and snowmobile trails.

One can look back over the community's history, Mr. Speaker, and acknowledge that, yes, the town once had more local industry and a greater population. But one can also say that Millersburg, strengthened by its trails by fire, is as vigorous and forward-looking a community today as it once was, ready to utilize its local assets for the advancement of its citizens.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the people of Millersburg and wishing them great joy in their celebration of 100 years as a community.

TRIBUTE TO THE ROMEO LODGE
#41 FREE AND ACCEPTED MA-
SONS OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize an organization whose outstanding dedication and commitment to the bond of brotherhood and community has led to a great accomplishment. On Saturday, March 31, 2001, the Romeo Lodge #41 Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Michigan will celebrate their 150th anniversary, a milestone occasion that heralds the lifelong Masonic creed of Love of God, Love of Country, and Love of Freedom.

Since the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons recognized the start of the Romeo charter on January 9, 1851, the Romeo Lodge

#41 has been a thriving center of social, religious, and political life to its members. Dedicated to education, morality, brotherly love, and non-sectarianism in religion and politics, the Romeo Masons have worked tirelessly to improve the community through their contributions in medical research, charity, and scholarship.

As the organization began to grow and expand, its ideas and vision for the future began to grow with it. Dedicating their time and talents to new construction efforts and remodeling, the Romeo Masons have worked hard to ensure their organization will continue to cultivate its roots as well as reach out to its younger generations. Preserving their tenets of Masonry, Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth, this organization will assuredly succeed in their crusade to improve the lives of people through faith, morality and God.

The Romeo Lodge #41 is a true testament to the hard work and dedication of its members and its community. I applaud the Romeo Free Masons for their leadership, fraternity, and commitment, and I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating them on this landmark occasion.

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S BASKET-
BALL TEAM

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday night, April 1, 2001, the University of Notre Dame Women's Basketball Team won the national championship. As a proud alumnus, I stand before you today to offer my congratulations and to highlight this incredible accomplishment.

It was a storybook ending to a storybook season. In order to defeat a tough Purdue team and win their first national championship, the Notre Dame team rallied and overcame a double-digit deficit. Only four games have been decided by two points or less since the inception of the women's national championship tournament in 1982.

I wish to congratulate the entire team for all their hard-work, dedication, and perseverance. This season truly was a team effort, beginning with this year's coach of the year, Notre Dame's coach Muffett McGraw.

I also wish to congratulate Notre Dame center, Ruth Riley, who was so reliable in the clutch at the end of the championship game and all season long. Accordingly, she has been honored as both the consensus National Player of the Year and the tournament's most outstanding player.

From the gritty play of guard Niele Ivey to the long range sharp-shooting of Alicia Ratay, this year Notre Dame had what it took to be the best. The other team members, including Amanda Barksdale, Imani Dunbar, Ericka Haney, Monique Hernandez, Jeneka Joyce, Meaghan Leahy, LeTania Severe, Kelley Siemon and Karen Swanson, made this the most well-rounded team in the nation. Our hats are off to them as the 2001 National Champions.

TRIBUTE TO GINA THOMPSON

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an amazing girl, my friend and neighbor Gina Thompson, who has overcome obstacles to become a starting point guard for the Hale School basketball team.

What makes Gina's accomplishment so momentous is that she is the only girl in a league of boys. Hale School doesn't have a girl's basketball team, but Gina, who just turned 14, is just too good a player to let that stand in the way. While other girls tried out this year, Gina was the only one to make the cut. As a starting point guard, she averages six points a game and has had no problem gaining her teammates' respect.

Most importantly, Gina has accomplished all this despite being diagnosed with juvenile diabetes at age nine. Just as she never let her gender become an obstacle in playing the game she loves, neither has Gina allowed diabetes to get in the way. She does have to give herself three insulin shots a day and continuously monitor herself to see that her sugar count remains normal, but Gina claims it is no big deal.

Gina has even extended her basketball activities beyond Hale School. She plays for the girls' team at St. Symphorsa (where she attends CCD) and the eighth-grade Windy City AAU club basketball team. After graduation, she plans on taking her game to Maria High School.

Gina is an incredible girl who has faced her challenges head-on to become a success at the game she loves. I whole-heartedly congratulate Gina and wish her all the best in the future.

DORENE LOWERY—TENNESSEE
TEACHER OF THE YEAR**HON. ZACH WAMP**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, Dorene Lowery has been an employee of the Bradley County Schools for 17 years. During her tenure she has taught grades four, five and six at McDonald School, Prospect School and Black Fox School. She is currently serving as principal at Michigan Avenue Elementary School.

Ms. Lowery has been recognized as a Black Fox Elementary Teacher of the Year 2000, Bradley County Teacher of the Year 2000, District Teacher of the Year 2001 and most recently Tennessee Teacher of the Year 2001.

She indicates there are many reasons she decided to become a teacher—primarily heritage. Her parents were major influences in her life. Her mother, Mary Harris, instilled in her a love for books. Her father, Ron Harris, who has been a professor at Lee University for 35 years is responsible for instilling in her a love for teaching. He tells Dorene her favorite phrases were always, "Why?", "How does it work?", and "Show me." Another reason she became a teacher was her love of school. She would love to come home from kindergarten

and teach her younger brother the things she had learned that day.

"For me, there was never a career choice to make. I always knew I was a teacher. I have found through the years that the quest to be the agent of academic growth in students and to witness their successes has not diminished. To help a child step out into the uncharted frontiers of their mind and experiences spurs me on and provides me with boundless joy. I affect eternity. No one can tell where my influence will stop. For this reason, I TEACH." Her husband is Steve Lowery. They have no children.

HONORING TOM STRICKLAND

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and commend the work of Tom Strickland, who has served the federal government and Colorado with distinction as United States Attorney.

Tom Strickland was nominated by President Clinton and confirmed by the United States Senate to serve as U.S. Attorney for Colorado a little over two years ago. Before that time he was a successful attorney with the law firm of Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber & Strickland, and prior to that was a senior advisor to Colorado Governor Dick Lamm.

Tom and his wife, Beth, have been good friends to my father and me. I have enjoyed his association and believe that his service as U.S. Attorney will be remembered for a high degree of professionalism and a commitment to the welfare of Colorado and the nation.

I believe Tom's service as U.S. Attorney ought to be recognized in this House and I submit for the RECORD the following words from the March 28, 2001 addition of the Denver Post, which say better than I can how his service will be remembered.

GOOD WORK, TOM STRICKLAND

We'd like to tip our hats to U.S. Attorney Tom Strickland, who will be leaving office Saturday, for a job well done during the nearly two years he's been in office.

Strickland was sworn in April 21, 1999—the day after the Columbine massacre—but in a relatively short period of time acquired a reputation as a tough, effective law-and-order prosecutor.

Strickland took the initiative in establishing Colorado's version of Project Exile, a Virginia program aimed at keeping guns out of the hands of felons. Federal, state and local law enforcement agencies cooperated in prosecuting the often-overlooked federal violation when felons busted for other crimes were found to possess firearms.

Colorado Project Exile enforces existing gun laws, prosecuting criminals in the jurisdiction with the toughest penalties. During Strickland's tenure, the number of federal firearms prosecutions tripled from 54 defendants in 1999 to 147 in 2000. The successful program is a rare bit of common ground where such diverse factions as the National Rifle Association, Handgun Control Inc. and SAFE Colorado can agree.

But Strickland also targeted other criminal groups, from the Sons of Silence outlaw motorcycle gang to big-time drug traffickers, and even a group of federal prison guards who were brutalizing inmates.

The University of Texas Law School graduate was an effective administrator and well-respected by veteran lawyers in his office.

Strickland is a Democrat who was asked for his resignation by President Bush, a Republican. John Suthers, former El Paso County district attorney, is considered the front-runner for Strickland's post.

One of the unfortunate aspects of the spoils system is that positions such as U.S. Attorney are presidential appointments, and whenever the party in power in the White House changes, many able public servants are asked to leave. Strickland is a recent example; an earlier one is Richard Stacy, who as U.S. Attorney for Wyoming, had to resign when the Clinton administration took office, despite being an aggressive, effective prosecutor.

It's a shame that well-qualified public servants like Strickland and Stacy are asked to resign instead of being given a second look, party affiliation notwithstanding.

THE INCREASE THE PEACE
RESOLUTION**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce an important resolution which urges the House of Representatives to support "Increase the Peace Day" events throughout the country.

On April 20, 2000, on the one-year anniversary of the tragedy at Columbine High School, students, teachers, parents, and community leaders from Challenger Middle School in Lake Los Angeles, California hosted an "Increase the Peace Day".

The program featured the formation of a human peace sign and a presentation by a former skinhead who turned his life around and now works with the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Museum of Tolerance.

The highlight of the day was when the 650 students of Challenger signed an "Increase the Peace Pledge" in order to avoid any similar acts of school violence. Among the promises in the Pledge were to find a peaceful solution to conflicts, to not hit another person, to not threaten another person, to report all rumors of violence to an adult, to celebrate diversity, and to seek help when feeling lonely or confused.

I was proud to join the other supporters of "Increase the Peace Day" and be a part of this incredible event.

In fact, the event was so successful Challenger is having their "Second Annual Increase the Peace Day" on April 20, 2001. They are expecting over 2,000 participants this year. Additionally, they are sponsoring an essay-writing contest in which the winner will be flown to Washington, D.C. to share their ideas on ensuring school safety with national leaders.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the outstanding efforts of teacher Bruce Galler, who came up with the original idea for "Increase the Peace Day" because he believes that something can be done. Through his efforts, Challenger Middle School students have promoted the ideals of peace in their school and throughout the community.

As such, I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution and to encourage their local communities to institute a similar program.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR PAY ACT OF 2001

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today Senator TOM HARKIN and I are introducing the Fair Pay Act of 2001, a bill that would require employers to pay equal wages to women and men performing equivalent work but not the same work in an effort to remedy the pay inequities that women continue to endure. We introduce this bill simultaneously in both Houses as an indication of the preeminent importance many American families attach to equal pay today.

A recent Labor Department study, requested by Senator HARKIN and voted by Congress last term bolsters the goals of the Fair Pay Act (FPA). The Labor Department studied wage trends among federal contractors. Its conclusions are far more important than the perhaps predictable finding that the gender gap for federal contractors is about the same as it is for U.S. employers as a whole. The most important Labor Department finding is that the major cause of the pay gap is the segregation of women into female-gender occupations. The Department makes the startling finding that, "Since 1979, the contribution of occupational segregation to the pay gap has jumped from explaining 18 to 46 percent of the gap." This finding virtually demonstrates our Fair Pay Act claim that the only way to combat pay discrimination today is to attack directly the practice of paying women less because they are doing "women's work." We cannot come to grips with the pay problems of the average American family without confronting the reality that the average woman works in an occupation that is 70 percent female, while the average man works in an occupation that is 29 percent female. Pay tracks gender.

Today, many more women have equivalent pay problems than traditional equal pay problems, thanks to the 1963 Equal Pay Act. Important as it is to update the EPA, it has been clear, at least since I chaired the EEOC in the Carter Administration, that the EPA needs major revision to cope with the stubborn pay problems that trap most women and their families. The Fair Pay Act accomplishes the necessary revision without tampering with the market system. A woman would file a discrimination claim but, as in all discrimination cases, she would have to prove that the reason for the gap between herself and a male co-worker doing equivalent work in the same workplace is discrimination and not other reasons, such as legitimate market factors. Gender, of course, is not a legitimate market factor.

The good news from the Labor Department study is that gender segregation has fallen since 1970 because women with greater opportunities have moved into traditionally male occupations. The bad news is that there is a limit to how much we want to encourage teachers, nurses, factory workers, librarians, and other indispensable workers to abandon these vital occupations in order to be paid a decent wage. The frightening flight of women from vital work and occupations has left children without teachers, hospitals without nurses, and communities and employers without other vital workers.

The Fair Pay Act recognizes that if men and women are doing comparable work, they

should be paid a comparable wage. If a woman is an emergency services operator, a female-dominated profession, she should be paid no less than a fire dispatcher, a male-dominated profession, simply because each of these jobs has been dominated by one sex. If a woman is a social worker, a traditionally female occupation, she should not earn less than a probation officer, a traditionally male job, simply because of the gender associated with each of these jobs.

The FPA, like the Equal Pay Act (EPA), will not tamper with the market system. As with the EPA, the burden will be on the plaintiff to prove discrimination. She must show that the reason for the disparity is sex or race discrimination, not legitimate market factors.

As women's employment has become an increasingly significant factor in the real dollar income of American families, fair pay between the sexes has escalated in importance. There are remaining Equal Pay Act problems in our society, but the greatest barrier to pay fairness for women and their families today is a line drawn in the workplace between men and women doing work of comparable value. I ask for your support of the Fair Pay Act to pay women what they are worth so that their families may get what they need and deserve.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COLORADO NORTHERN FRONT RANGE MOUNTAIN BACKDROP PROTECTION STUDY ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 3, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Colorado Northern Front Range Mountain Backdrop Protection Study Act.

The bill intended to help local communities identify ways to protect the Front Range Mountain Backdrop in the northern sections of the Denver-metro area, especially the region just west of the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology site. The Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest includes much of the land in this backdrop area, but there are other lands involved as well.

Rising dramatically from the Great Plains, the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains provides a scenic mountain backdrop to many communities in the Denver metropolitan area and elsewhere in Colorado. The portion of the range within and adjacent to the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest also includes a diverse array of wildlife habitats and provides many opportunities for outdoor recreation.

The open-space character of this mountain backdrop is an important esthetic and economic asset for adjoining communities, making them attractive locations for homes and businesses. But rapid population growth in the northern Front Range area of Colorado is increasing recreational use of the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest and is also placing increased pressure for development of other lands within and adjacent to that national forest.

We can see this throughout Colorado and especially along the Front Range. Homes and shopping centers are sprawling up valleys and along highways that feed into the Front

Range. This development then spreads out along the ridges and mountain tops that make up the backdrop. We are in danger of losing to development many of the qualities that have helped attract new residents. So, it is important to better understand what steps might be taken to avoid or lessen that risk—and this bill is designed to help us do just that.

Already, local governments and other entities have provided important protection for portions of this mountain backdrop, especially in the northern Denver-metro area. However, some portions of the backdrop in this part of Colorado remain unprotected and are at risk of losing their open-space qualities. This bill acknowledges the good work of the local communities to preserve open spaces along the backdrop and aims to assist further efforts along the same lines.

The bill does not interfere with the authority of local authorities regarding land use planning. It also does not infringe on private property rights. Instead, it will bring the land protection experience of the Forest Service to the table to assist local efforts to protect areas that comprise the backdrop. The bill envisions that to the extent the Forest Service be involved with federal lands, it will work in collaboration with local communities, the state and private parties.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly believe it is in the national interest for the federal government to assist local communities to identify ways to protect the mountain backdrop in this part of Colorado. The backdrop beckoned settlers westward and presented an imposing impediment to their forward progress that suggested similar challenges ahead. This first exposure to the harshness and humbling majesty of the Rocky Mountain West helped define a region. The pioneers' independent spirit and respect for nature still lives with us to this day. We need to work to preserve it by protecting the mountain backdrop as a cultural and natural heritage for ourselves and generations to come. God may forgive us for our failure to do so, but our children won't.

For the information of our colleagues, I am attaching a fact sheet about this bill.

COLORADO NORTHERN FRONT RANGE MOUNTAIN BACKDROP PROTECTION STUDY ACT

Generally: The bill would help local communities preserve the Front Range Mountain Backdrop in the northern sections of the Denver-metro area in a region generally west of the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology site.

Front Range Mountain Backdrop: The backdrop consists of the mountainous foothills, the Continental Divide and the peaks in between that create the striking visual backdrop of the Denver-metro area and throughout Colorado. Development in the Denver-metro area is encroaching in the Front Range backdrop area, and thus adversely affecting the esthetic, wildlife, open space and recreational qualities of this geographic feature. Now is the time to shape the future of this part of the Front Range. There is a real but fleeting opportunity to protect both Rocky Flats—a "crown jewel" of open space and wildlife habitat—and to assist local communities to protect the scenic, wildlife, and other values of the mountain backdrop.

WHAT THE BILL DOES

Study and Report: The bill requires the Forest Service to study the ownership patterns of the lands comprising the Front Range Mountain Backdrop in a region generally

west of Rocky Flats, identify areas that are open and may be at risk of development, and recommend to Congress how these lands might be protected and how the federal government could help local communities and residents to achieve that goal.

Lands Covered: The bill identifies the lands in southern Boulder, northern Jefferson and eastern Gilpin Counties in the Second Congressional District, specifically, an

area west of Rocky Flats and west of Highway 93, south of Boulder Canyon, east of the Peak-to-Peak Highway, and north of the Golden Gate Canyon State Park road.

WHAT THE BILL WOULD NOT DO

Affect Local Planning: The bill is designed to complement existing local efforts to preserve open lands in this region west of Rocky Flats. It will not take the place of—nor disrupt—these existing local efforts.

Affect Private Property Rights: The bill merely authorizes a study. It will not affect any existing private property rights.

Affect the Cleanup of Rocky Flats: The bill would not affect the ongoing cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats nor detract from funding for that effort, and will not affect existing efforts to preserve the options for wildlife and open space protection of Rocky Flats itself.