

strengthen family life, adopt healthy lifestyles, build international understanding, make friends, go to camp, learn to swim, obtain new skills, volunteer in the community, and play basketball and other sports. Despite the ever-changing nature of the world, the need for these kinds of programs and services remains as great as it was when the YMCA was founded in 1881.

As the proud former national President of the YMCAs of the USA, I am pleased to recognize the Y for its many contributions to the quality of life in Newark and surrounding communities and urge support for the Y so that it may continue to serve us for years to come.

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF PHILIP  
CHOVAN, MARIETTA, GEORGIA

### HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, one would be hard pressed to find a better example of a life spent serving others, than that of Marietta, Georgia Deputy Fire Chief Philip Chovan. After serving in the United States Army, and following his graduation from college, Deputy Chief Chovan began a career protecting his friends and neighbors from fires and other disasters.

During that career, Deputy Chief Chovan has continued to develop as a professional; earning certification after certification, and holding teaching positions where he has passed those skills along to others. In addition to engaging in practically every facet of emergency planning in his own department, Philip Chovan has served on disaster preparedness boards, such as the Georgia Local Emergency Planning Committee, on the Atlanta FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force, and as a presidentially appointed member of the Defense Science Board.

While all of us hope we will never need the services of someone like Philip Chovan, I can say with great confidence he is the kind of person I would want protecting my home and family in an emergency. As he begins a well-earned retirement this year, I join the many individuals who Deputy Chief Chovan has protected from harm, in expressing our thanks and wishing him a safe and prosperous future as he pursues new challenges.

A TRIBUTE TO SMITH DOBSON

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a legendary jazz musician who passed away last month. Smith Dobson died April 20, 2001, in an automobile accident that took the life of a great pianist and teacher. Mr. Dobson was only 54.

Smith Dobson had a career that led him to some of the highest levels of performance. He has shared the stage with musicians such as Art Pepper, Pharoah Sanders, Freddie Hubbard, Mundell Lowe, Stan Getz, among many others, and has spent the last 13 years play-

ing with vibraphonist Bobby Hutcherson. At the beginning of his career, in fact, he was a member of the Airmen of Note, the official White House jazz band. His teaching career has been equally praised, having held positions in jazz history at the University of California, Santa Cruz, and jazz piano and harmony at San Jose State University. Mr. Dobson was also a dedicated community advocate for musical education and outreach. He sat on the boards of the San Jose Jazz Society, the Stanford Jazz Alliance and the Kuumbwa Jazz Center in Santa Cruz.

Indeed, Mr. Speaker, his death has shocked our local community as well as the jazz community at large. At his memorial service, over 1,000 people came to pay their respects, filling the chapel two hours before the service even began. His life was celebrated in word and in song, as his friends and colleagues shared tales and memories. Smith Dobson has been described as the "moral center of the community", a "world-class" player, and the "first-call guy". In fact, last year the internationally known Monterey Jazz Festival recognized his talent and dedication to his craft with a lifetime achievement award. He and his family were also the recipients of the 2001 Gail Rich Award for excellence in the arts. Mr. Dobson's loss is indeed a loss for us all.

Smith Dobson was a consummate musician and member of his community, and I am sure that his legacy will continue through the talents of his two children and wife, all of whom are accomplished musicians as well. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Gail of Santa Cruz; son, Smith Jr. of San Francisco; and daughter, Sasha, of New York; as well as thousands of musicians, friends, colleagues and fans.

SUPPORT H.R. 10

### HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 10, the Comprehensive Retirement Security and Pension Reform Act. This comprehensive legislation is an excellent first step toward rectifying the severe retirement savings shortfall in this country.

Clearly we need to do more to prepare for our futures. IRA's, 401(k)s, and other tax-favored retirement plans are one way to do so. At present, half of our nation's workforce, practically 75 million Americans, lack access to a 401(k)-type plan or any kind of pension. IRA contribution limits have been frozen at the \$2,000 limit since 1981. I applaud Congressmen PORTMAN and CARDIN for creating this package that will allow Americans to set more aside in IRA or 401(k)-type plans, modernize pension laws, and provide regulatory relief to encourage more small businesses to offer retirement plans.

By allowing individuals to increase their contribution limit for both traditional and Roth IRA's to \$5,000 over the next three years, gives them the potential for a sound economic future. This legislation would allow so many working Americans the opportunity to better themselves, their families and their future. Also by including catch-up provisions granting individuals who are over 50 to increase their

contribution for IRA's to \$5,000 next year, provides these individuals to chance for a better retirement.

In today's society, we are living longer and healthier lives. Current statistics indicate that one-fifth of today's 35-year-olds who reach retirement can expect to live into their 90's. This evidence clearly demonstrates that Americans will outlive their retirement savings. Therefore, it is crucial that Congress can provide Americans, who have worked hard to support themselves and their families, every opportunity possible to achieve a financially secure retirement.

I would urge my colleagues to support this landmark legislation that would expand access to private pensions and increase flexibility for families to save for their retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 11TH ANNUAL PANASONIC KID WITNESS NEWS PROGRAM AND THE NEW VISION AWARD WINNERS

### HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a very talented group of students at Theodore Roosevelt School in Weehawken, New Jersey. On May 15th, 11th annual Panasonic Kid Witness News program will present its New Vision Awards at the Newark Museum in Newark, New Jersey.

Theodore Roosevelt School's K-8 is this year's New Vision Award winner for producing the best "Local Hero" video. Videos in the Local Hero category profile an individual who represents accomplishments, heroism or spirit, and demands our attention and adulation. The video created by the Weehawken school KWN team used a series of on-camera narrators, interviews, still photographs, and home video footage to create a moving portrait of one of their classmates, 12-year-old Lenny Rodriguez, a cancer survivor who made the hard decision to have his leg amputated. In choosing the Theodore Roosevelt School, the judges selected "Our Little Giant Dares to Dream," an inspirational story about one person's extraordinary triumph over adversity. I commend Mr. Jon Hammer, 7th grade teacher and KWN coordinator, and 6th grade teacher Eileen Hochman for their generous time and support given to the Weehawken KWN team to produce such an outstanding and special video.

I am very familiar with Panasonic's Kid Witness News program. It is a hands-on, video education program, in more than 200 primarily inner-city schools in 120 U.S. cities. Using Panasonic-supplied equipment to create video projects, young people are encouraged to develop their creative, communication, and technical skills through video production. Annual awards are presented to student teams in various categories, including Best Video, Documentary, Local Hero, Multiculturalism, and News at a special program held in New Jersey each spring.

Theodore Roosevelt School was the very first participating school in Panasonic's KWN student news program. Mr. Anthony LaBruno, the school's principal, clearly understands the students' pride in accomplishing from these

kinds of programs. Congratulations to him, to the KWN program advisers, and to the students of Theodore Roosevelt School for work well done. And a special recognition and best wishes to Lenny Rodriguez, a very courageous young man.

For 11 years the Panasonic KWN program has been helping young people learn about issues that affect them, their classmates and their community. And in its efforts to bridge the digital divide, KWN encourages students' discovery of what technology can do to enhance their educational experience. Therefore, I commend Don Iwatani, Panasonic's Chairman and CEO of North American operations, for his leadership and support. The effort of KWN to bring information, knowledge, and understanding of current events to tomorrow's citizens will make a difference in the world we all share. Kid Witness News certainly has made a difference in the lives of children in New Jersey and throughout the United States.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the talented students and teachers who have contributed to the great success of Panasonic's Kid Witness News program.

#### TRIBUTE TO ANNE M. GLATT

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to a friend and constituent of the sixth district whose unselfish service for over 35 years has left a lasting impression in the hearts of members of both her Temple and her community.

Born in Poland and raised in a Yiddish-speaking home in Montreal, following her family's 1930 emigration to Canada, Anne M. Glatt's early education included both public school and a six-day cheder. After three years of college, Anne moved to the United States in 1950, living first in the Branch Brook Park section of Newark, NJ, then Jamestown, NY, and finally settling down in the Edison-Highland Park area in July, 1964.

When she arrived, Anne immediately began looking for a Hebrew School for her three daughters and called the Highland Park Conservative Temple and Center. Once all financial arrangements for her daughters' schooling were arranged, Anne politely suggested to Executive Director Reuben S. Silver that the Temple might be able to use a bookkeeper. Director Silver agreed and thus began an extraordinary relationship that continues to this day. Anne was kindly welcomed by all at the Temple, and found a particularly warm friend in the new young Rabbi Yakov R. Hilsenrath, with whom she often engaged in spirited conversation.

After having been single for 23 years, Anne met Moishe Glatt in 1982, and the two were married in 1986. They will soon be celebrating 15 wonderful years together.

Anne has been a loving mother, grandmother, wife, sister, and most of all, friend to everyone who has had the good fortune of meeting her. She has been the caring voice on the other end of the phone, shining smile behind the desk, and confidante in times of need. Her genuinely good nature and tireless devotion to her community have rightfully

earned her the Temple's prestigious Chaver Award for exemplary service.

It is my sincere hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Anne M. Glatt for her nearly four decades of dedication to the Highland Park Jewish community and wish her all the best in the years to come.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN OF TAIWAN

### HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, as the Republic of China on Taiwan prepares to celebrate President Chen Shui-bian's first anniversary in office, I wish to extend to President Chen and the people of Taiwan my congratulations.

Despite its diplomatic isolation, Taiwan is a proud nation that has made extraordinary progress in recent years. It has an exemplary democracy with free elections, free press and respect for human rights.

For decades, the United States and its people are united in supporting Taiwan's pursuit of freedom and democracy. We will continue to support Taiwan and its people. Peace and security in the Taiwan Strait is vital to the security interests of all nations in the area.

Congratulations, President Chen on a job well done.

#### MEMORIALIZING MARY BIANCHINI'S LIFE AND SERVICE

### HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember the life and service of my dear friend and tireless advocate, Mary Bianchini of Nyack, NY.

Throughout her life, Mary Bianchini has not only served her family and friends, but our communities with her unwavering kindness and commitment. She devoted a lifetime to service to others—as a nurse, as a media personality, and as a linchpin in numerous charitable endeavors. It is therefore appropriate that we reflect upon Mary's many significant accomplishments and as a dear friend to so many of us that we pause and express our love to her which she has showered upon us all these many years.

A cover story in the January–February 1987 issue of "Geriatric Nursing" recounted how Mary emigrated to the United States from Italy with her family at a young age. In 1929, she married the man her parents had chosen for her even before that union found a firm foundation in love. In fact, Mary remained married until her husband's untimely death in the late 1950's, nearly 30 years after their nuptials.

Mary was a devoted housewife and mother, but as happened with all too many Americans at that time, the Great Depression threw a wrench into her plans. Forced to find employment in a shoe factory, Mary had to seek new employment when that establishment burned down and upon applying to become a telephone operator at the Rockland State Hos-

pital, she was told there were no vacancies, but would be hired if she would help out in patient care. From that experience on, Mary was dedicated to helping others.

Mary demonstrated a natural skill in caring for the ill. She became a licensed practical nurse in 1938, and soon earned a reputation statewide for her compassion, skill, common sense, and her advocacy for nurses.

Mary served as an officer in the New York State Practical Nurses Association from 1948 until 1962. In those positions, her reputation as a feisty defender of the underdog was assured. In the 1960's, Mary embarked on a completely new career as host of her own radio, and cable television programs. Soon, the movers and shakers in all aspects of society were seeking to be interviewed by this remarkable woman, not quite five feet high. Her popular broadcast interviews continued until well into the 1980's.

Mary, who was often referred to as "Rockland's First Lady," received many awards and recognition, including the American Heart Association "Queen of Hearts" in 1985, being cited by Governor Mario Cuomo for her service to our State, and as a strong supporter of my Congressional Citizens Advisory Committee on Drugs.

Perhaps Mary's greatest pride was in her own family. Her son, Dr. Valentino Bianchini, is a respected member of the medical profession, who has raised his own family following Mary's lifetime goals.

The poet John Dryden (1631–1700), once said, "So softly death succeeded life in her/ She did but dream of heaven/and she was there."

Mary Bianchini will be sorely missed not only by all her family and friends, but by the countless people she has helped throughout her life. As we mark the passing of Mary 'Bee,' our good friend, this outstanding citizen, with her gentle heart, we convey our condolences and prayers to her family as we reflect upon her lifetime and service to us all.

#### TRIBUTE TO DAVE SCHLESINGER

### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 15, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of the Director of the City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Department (MWWWD), Mr. Dave Schlesinger.

Dave is retiring after more than a decade of service to the City of San Diego. During that time he was responsible for managing the planning, design and construction of facilities associated with the upgrade and expansion of the Metropolitan Sewerage System which provides wastewater treatment services to 1.9 million residents from the fifteen cities and districts in the greater San Diego area.

As director of MWWWD, Dave headed a team of more than 1,000 employees and full-time consultants, that are also responsible for wastewater collection services for the City of San Diego. The MWWWD treats the wastewater generated in a 450-mile-square-mile area stretching from Del Mar to the North, Alpine and Lakeside to the East, and South to the Mexican border. I worked with Dave on a number of projects critical to San Diego. He