

In 1907, the Elks held the first Flag Day observance. This tradition, started by the Elks, was later declared a national holiday by President Harry S. Truman. During World War I, the Elks funded and equipped field hospitals in France. Their loans to 40,000 returning veterans for college, rehabilitation and education were the precursor to the original GI bill. The Elks were also used during WW II to recruit construction workers for the military and they also contributed books to the Merchant Marines. During the Korean War, the Elks gave more than a half million pints of blood to help the wounded and in Vietnam, the Elks provided funds for the recreational needs of the military. When Desert Storm took place, the Elks undertook letter-writing campaigns to help keep up soldiers' morale.

Today, there are more than 1.3 million members of the Elks in 2200 local lodges found in all 50 states. Many members of Congress have been Elks. Former Speakers of the House Tom Foley, Tip O'Neill, Carl Albert, John McCormack and Sam Rayburn all belonged to the Elks. Hale Boggs of Louisiana was also an Elk. Presidents Harding, FDR, Truman, Kennedy and Ford were all Elks lodge members. I, too, am an Elks member from Lodge 481 in Belleville.

Local Elks lodges provide recreational and support facilities for the entire family and are the focal point for many community service projects. Lodge 664 members in Fairview Heights log in thousands of hours annually in volunteer service to charitable, educational and patriotic causes in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 100 years of service of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks Lodge 664 and salute the members of the lodge both past and present.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MEYERS,
ED.D., LAKEVIEW PUBLIC
SCHOOLS SUPERINTENDENT

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, after thirty remarkable years in education, Dr. David Meyers, Superintendent of Lakeview Public Schools, will retire on June 30, 2001. As students, parents, and staff of Lakeview Public Schools bid farewell to a longtime friend and advocate of public education, they gathered to honor his retirement with a celebration of memories, laughter, and fun.

Demonstrating outstanding dedication and commitment to his students, his colleagues, and his community, Dr. Meyers has always been an active and enthusiastic supporter of education and advancement. Beginning his teaching career in 1971 at South Lake Schools teaching special education, a short ten years later he became Assistant Principal at South Lake High School in 1981 and named Principal of Avalon Elementary in 1986. Joining Lakeview Public Schools as Assistant Superintendent in 1991, he served in Curriculum and Labor Relations until 1993, when he was named interim superintendent and finally Superintendent of Schools in July 1994.

The hard work and innovative ideas of Dr. Meyers led Lakeview Public Schools in a new

direction, including the first district strategic plan and a comprehensive staff development plan integrating the Lakeview Excellence in Academic Program (LEAP). His substantial contributions also included development of a K-12 curriculum initiative resulting in the first district-wide written curriculum based on standards and benchmarks as well as a change from a high school six-hour schedule to a modified block schedule. Developing the first county middle school alternative education program, implementing the Reading Recovery program at the elementary level, and creating a vocational/business partnership marine service class, the first of its kind offered to high school students in the nation, Dr. Meyers' crusade to raise the standards of public education is one that will be long remembered by students and educators for years to come.

I applaud Dr. Meyers for his leadership, commitment, and service, and thank him for dedicating thirty outstanding years to public education. I know he is honored by this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years in academia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to inform you that my absence from voting in the House on Friday was due to my attendance at an annual briefing for senior citizens in my district. I notified my leadership on Friday that I had to leave for this event. My Chief of Staff informed me of the possibility of votes late Friday and into Saturday morning. I was preparing to leave for the vote late Friday evening when due to inclement weather I was unable to fly back from California on time. I ask that I be excused from my legislative duties on Friday and Saturday due to these unforeseen circumstances.

REQUIRE A REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE STATE JUSTICE INSTITUTE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation that will require the Attorney General to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary regarding the effectiveness of the State Justice Institute (SJI or "the Institute"). The report would be due by October 1, 2002.

Congress established SJI as a private nonprofit corporation in 1984. Its stated purpose is to further the development and adoption of improved judicial administration in state courts. SJI is to accomplish this goal by providing funds to state courts and other national organizations or nonprofits which support state courts. SJI also fosters coordination and cooperation with the federal judiciary in areas of mutual concern. The Institute may not duplicate the work or functions of existing nonprofit

organizations. Since becoming operational in 1987, the Institute has awarded more than \$125 million in grants to support over 1,000 projects. Another \$40 million in matching requirements has been generated from other public and private funding sources.

Section 213 of the original authorizing legislation, now codified at 42 U.S.C. § 10712, required the Attorney General to submit a report governing the effectiveness of SJI operations by October 1, 1987, to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary. Since SJI did not become operational until fiscal year 1987, however, the report submitted by former Attorney General Meese is of limited value in assessing the operations of the Institute.

Still, the report praised SJI start-up activities in the following summation: "Although the Institute has only recently begun implementation of its program, much has been accomplished since it began operation. The Institute has made diligent efforts to develop and implement effective policies, procedures, and guidelines. . . ." With regard to oversight, the report also noted that the Institute had established ". . . an effective system of internal control by developing procedures and guidelines for its staff and grantees that ensure its resources are protected against fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement." The report concluded by noting that a full assessment of SJI activities could not be made until grants had been awarded and other program activities implemented.

As noted, the purpose of the bill I am introducing is to authorize the Attorney General, in consultation with the Institute, to submit a report to the House and Senate Committees on the Judiciary regarding the effectiveness of SJI in fulfilling its missions. The report would be done in consultation with SJI, and would be due not later than October 1, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, this is a noncontroversial bill that promotes good government. While I am impressed with SJI operations to date, all federal entities should be accountable to the taxpayers. I therefore urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

CHILE'S COMPLIANCE WITH ITS OWN LAWS PROTECTING LIFE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to commend Chile for its legal protection of unborn children. Chile has a wonderfully coherent constitution and system of laws relative to the protection of human life. The consistency of Chile's laws protecting human life is something that I look at very favorably when I consider the United States' relations with Chile.

That is why, as the Vice-Chairman of the House International Relations Committee as well as a Member of Congress with over 20 years of service, I am concerned about recent reports that the Chilean government has taken actions inconsistent with Chile's own legal protection of life.

I am specifically concerned about reports that the government has authorized and is promoting the "morning after pill." Although the international abortion industry has

misleadingly labeled this pill an "emergency contraceptive," it operates not as a true contraceptive but as an abortifacient. That is, it does not prevent conception, but instead ensures the expulsion of the unborn child from the womb, causing its death.

As Congress reviews the free trade negotiations currently underway between the United States and Chile, the Chilean government's apparent failure to comply with its own benign laws regarding protection of human life from the moment of conception has become a factor in my consideration. For pro-life Members of Congress, admiration for Chile's continuing commitment to unborn children is an important reason to want to have a close and positive relationship with Chile. We believe Chile and other countries that still protect their unborn children should be commended and rewarded for setting an example to other nations, including the United States, whose courts or legislatures have imposed a legal regime that treats unborn children not as human beings to be nurtured and protected, but as disposable objects. I am sure that other Members of Congress who admire Chile's legal protection of unborn children will share my concern about reports that the government has taken actions in violation of that legal protection.

As the United States moves forward in our relations with Chile, I hope the Chilean government will consistently follow its own enlightened pro-life laws. I commend Chile for these laws, which reflect a consistent ethic of life over death.

**BAXTER HEALTHCARE
CORPORATION**

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to rise and recognize an important international company whose headquarters are located in my congressional district, Baxter Healthcare Corporation. Baxter is a global medical products and services company with a mission of delivering critical therapies for people with life-threatening conditions. Their products and services are used to treat patients with many conditions including cancer, trauma, hemophilia, immune deficiencies, infectious diseases, kidney disease and other disorders.

Baxter was named one of the 100 Best Corporate Citizens by "Business Ethics" magazine and just a few weeks ago received the Business Ethics Award from DePaul University for its special dedication and innovative approaches to integrating ethics into everyday business practices. Baxter has also received more than 250 awards from the government or outside organizations for its environmental, health and safety initiatives in the last ten years.

I stand here today welcoming Baxter employees from my district and others who are arriving in Washington, DC today to share their experiences and personal stories. They will be meeting with me and other Members to inform and discuss with us the important work they are doing to assist individuals with life-threatening conditions. I look forward to their presence on Capitol Hill and I send out my sincere welcome.

HONORING KATHLEEN MASTBETH

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has dedicated her life to the pursuit of learning and sharing the gift of knowledge with her students. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Kathleen Mastbeth, an educator in East Rutherford, New Jersey, who was recently honored by that town for her service. In fact, June, 2001 has been declared "Kathleen Mastbeth Month" by the East Rutherford Education Community.

For 33 years, Kathleen Mastbeth has brought her creativity and imagination to the profession of teaching. She was well loved by both her colleagues as well as the many students whose lives she touched. There is no doubt that her work will be greatly missed by the students of East Rutherford.

However, her efforts will always be felt. I am reminded of Henry Adams' saying that, "A teacher affects eternity; they can never tell where their influence stops."

People who give so much of themselves, as Kathleen Mastbeth, do not do so for the recognition. However, she certainly deserves to receive it.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Kathleen Mastbeth as well as her family on the occasion of this well deserved tribute from the town of East Rutherford, New Jersey, and wish them health and happiness in the years to come.

**TRIBUTE TO KIM KIMBERLY
McDANIEL**

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mrs. WILSON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention the good work of Kim Kimberly McDaniel. Ms. McDaniel passed away on March 28, 2001. I was contacted by several constituents in my home town of Albuquerque, New Mexico wishing to honor her life and work. She is missed by friends, family and those she served through her street ministry.

Kim was a life-long resident of Albuquerque, well known in the community for the past 25 years for ministering to the homeless. She gained pleasure and contentment by serving and giving to others. No job was too big or too small for her to take on—collecting clothing, driving people to doctor appointments, assisting in job searches, distributing food—all with a focus on getting people back into society through kind and compassionate treatment.

Through her work Kim Kimberly McDaniel made a difference in the lives of many, one person at a time. Please join me in honoring her life and her memory.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT JAMES CHURCH IN MILLSTADT, ILLINOIS

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 150th Anniversary of Saint James Church in Millstadt, Illinois.

This event is truly a milestone in the history of the St. James Parish. The parish was founded in 1851 in Millstadt. In 1863, a brick structure was completed to house the church. In 1881, a fire consumed the church leaving only the bell tower intact. Soon after that, the present church was constructed around what remained after the fire.

The parish serves over 600 families representing 1300 parishioners. St. James is also active in the community, sponsoring a Parish Festival in August and a Dinner Auction in November. St. James also boasts an active quilting group, an Over 50 Club and sponsors numerous blood drives. The school has over 150 students enrolled and last September, the parish opened an early childhood center.

Churches are the backbone of every community. With each church spire that dots our area, each one represents a community of people. St. James has served the community of Millstadt for the past 150 years and will serve the community far into the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Saint James Church on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary and to recognize their service to the community.

**TRIBUTE TO MELVYN J. KATES,
SPECIAL AMBASSADOR OF GOOD-
WILL**

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 5, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to present the unique culture of Metro Detroit to distinguished visitors from around the world through its social, economic, and educational diversity. This year, as the International Visitors Council held its Gala Celebration on May 18, 2001, they honored Melvyn J. Kates as Special Ambassador of Goodwill, for his outstanding dedication and support of the IVC mission.

Longtime IVC advocate and distinguished lawyer, Melvyn Kates has demonstrated remarkable commitment and support throughout the years to both the American and International communities. With an interest in social and civic activism, Kates has served his community well through positions as a Precinct Delegate of the 13th Democratic District, an Alternate State Central Committee Member, and with professional affiliation with the American Bar Association, the Michigan Bar Association, the Wolverine Bar Association and the Polish Bar Association. His hard work and leadership efforts have earned him several awards, among them the Office of Wayne