

TRIBUTE TO BETTY HEADTKE

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an amazing woman, my friends and neighbor Betty Headtke, who has recently been named St. Richard's Council of Catholic Women "Women Of the Year" for 2001.

Throughout her life, Betty has been very involved in the community in which she lives. She has been married to her husband Ray for the past 47 years, and they have raised five wonderful children. Betty has worked for Holy Cross Hospital in the accounting office, and then as a secretary for Neo Product; the latter company for whom she worked 25 years before retiring just a few short years ago. During this time, she found the time and energy to act as a lunch monitor and a school chaperone for seventh and eighth grade dances.

Over the past several years, Betty's community involvement has increased. Following her retirement, she has been the Vice President of the Council of Catholic Women, and the Membership Chairperson of the same organization. While she is no longer the vice president, she retains her post of the latter, as well as expanding her duties to include the Treasurer of the Golden Agers and an auxiliary minister for her church.

Her role is not merely limited to being a member of the Council of Catholic Women. She also volunteers as a carnival worker and supports many other functions that St. Richard's provides. Further, Betty plays the role of caregiver towards her immediate family, and baby-sits any number of her 11 grandchildren whenever she has the time to do so.

While a banquet is being held on her behalf, I feel a great need to honor this pillar of my community among my fellow representatives. Betty is an incredible, warm-hearted person who deserves our gratitude for the lives that she has touched over the past half-century. I whole-heartedly congratulate Betty and wish her all the best in the future.

MARLETTE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL: HOMETOWN CARING AT ITS BEST

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marlette Community Hospital upon celebration of the 50th anniversary of the opening of its doors in Marlette, Michigan. The hospital's founders, its excellent staff and leaders such as Administrator David McEwen and Board President Gordon Miller deserve high praise for the initiation and sustaining of first-rate health care to generations of friends and neighbors in the Thumb region of Michigan.

Located in a rural community with about 2,000 residents, the 91-bed facility was founded in 1951 to provide quality medical care close to home after community leaders decided it was time to build a hospital in their town. As the story goes, the need was identified after a young man with a broken leg had

to climb several stairs to a doctor's office to receive treatment. An initial downpayment of \$10,000 by the Fred Willis family served as seed money to begin construction of the new hospital, but planners ran into a snag in securing federal grant money because Marlette was considered too small to warrant such expenditures. During a trip to Washington, DC, community leaders persuaded lawmakers to adopt the so-called Marlette Amendment, which allowed the grants to go to smaller communities.

Since its inception, the hospital has consistently provided superior elective and emergency care to patients and offered a wide variety of services to residents in the three-county area. Today, the thousands of residents who live in Marlette and surrounding communities depend upon the top-noted physicians, nurses and other professionals who attend to their health needs.

In addition, a \$162,000 donation by Gerdon T. Wolfe allowed the hospital to build a 24-bed retirement complex in 1969 to serve the residential needs of seniors. In recent years, the hospital also has reached out by offering many important new services, including establishing a network of primary care offices for the convenience of residents who don't live nearby. Also a partnership with Saint Mary's Medical Center in Saginaw has allowed the hospital to build a new facility that will provide chemotherapy and radiation therapy services for cancer patients in the Thumb area.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the wonderful staff of Marlette Community Hospital the very best wishes on their 50th Anniversary and hopes for many more years of serving the health care needs of the Thumb.

H.R. 2275, VOTING TECHNOLOGY

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, today I'm introducing H.R. 2275, along with my colleague and neighbor from Michigan, Congressman BARCIA. This bill deals with a very important problem: ensuring that voting technologies are accurate, secure, reliable and easy to use.

Last November, as the world placed Florida under a microscope to scrutinize its election, we saw just how vulnerable our nation's voting systems are to error. And in the months since, we've discovered that the problems that plagued Florida are rampant among many other states, but went unnoticed because the elections in those states were not nearly as close as in Florida.

In the months since last November, we've also had the chance to explore solutions to the problem. We've discovered that we need to develop updated standards for voting systems to make sure that they perform reliably on election day. Updated standards can ensure that voting machines are accurate in tallying the ballots voter cast. And they can help reduce voter error by improving the usability of new voting technologies.

And more importantly, as our voting systems begin to rely increasingly on computers to record, count and archive ballots and to transmit elections results over computer networks, we need standards to ensure that

these systems meet the highest standards for computer security, so we can prevent hidden voter fraud by clever computer hackers.

The Ehlers-Barcia bill addresses each of these concerns. It directs the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the nation's foremost experts on technology, computer security, and technical standards, to help develop updated standards to ensure the usability, accuracy, integrity, and security of our country's voting systems.

NIST is the federal agency with the technical expertise needed to help create the technical standards necessary to improve our nation's voting systems. NIST is a tremendous technical resource that we must enlist to help solve this problem. It has a strong record of working cooperatively with diverse groups to develop standards by consensus. These groups would certainly include state and local elections officials, among others.

Mr. Speaker, this is a complex problem, with complex solutions. I am proud to introduce this bipartisan bill today with my colleagues from Michigan because I believe it is an important part of the solution. I urge my colleagues to support the Ehlers-Barcia bill and work together with us to pass this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH AND VICTORIA COTCHETT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to two distinguished Californians, Victoria and Joseph Cotchett, who are being honored as Volunteers of the Year by the Volunteer Center of San Mateo County, California.

Victoria and Joe Cotchett have provided years of extraordinary public service to our community and our country. The Cotchett's give so generously of their time, their talents and their resources and are widely known and deeply respected within our community for their extraordinary contributions to many worthy organizations and causes. They are driven by their passion for the arts, for the average person, and for justice.

Long an advocate of women and children, Victoria Cotchett is an avid supporter of the arts and a community leader in animal care issues. She has distinguished herself as a writer and has served on the boards of many organizations, including Poplar Recare and the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Joe Cotchett is a noted trial attorney with a distinguished record of campaigning for equal justice as well as his many years of professional and civic involvement. For the past ten years, Joe has been named one of the 100 most influential lawyers in the country, earning the highest esteem of colleagues and clients alike. Joe has been described by the National Law Journal as "one of the best trial lawyers; a clear champion of underdogs."

Victoria and Joe Cotchett are the proud parents of two beautiful daughters. The Cotchett's have opened their hearts to another family, a group of refugees fleeing political oppression in Eastern Europe. Joe and Victoria did everything within their power to facilitate this family's transition to the United States, providing

them with shelter, assistance, and above all, the warmth and kindness of a loving family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to two extraordinary people who I'm exceedingly proud to call my friends. We are a better community, a better country and a better people because of Victoria and Joe Cotchett.

A BILL TO PERMIT COOPERATIVES TO PAY DIVIDENDS ON PREFERRED STOCK WITHOUT REDUCING PATRONAGE DIVIDENDS

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Cooperative Dividend Equity Act. This legislation will help to end an unfair tax on cooperatives and their members.

As those of us from agricultural and rural areas can attest, cooperatives play a vital role in many Americans' lives. Whether it be farmers pooling their resources in order to survive in the global marketplace, consumers maximizing their buying power through volume purchasing, or healthcare facilities providing community-based services—cooperatives facilitate people working together for a common good.

One of the greatest challenges facing cooperatives today is access to capital. In order to raise much needed capital and avoid further debt, many cooperatives are considering issuing preferred stock. However, under the current tax laws, stock dividends paid to stockholders are taxed three times: 1) when they are earned by the cooperative; 2) when received by the stockholder; and 3) at the corporate level when earnings are distributed. Three levels of tax on the earnings of a cooperative! Here is how it works.

Members of cooperatives are taxed on income generated by the cooperative. The cooperative itself, however, is not taxed so long as any "patronage income" is distributed to its members. Cooperatives frequently earn at least some non-member, or "nonpatronage," income. Much like a corporation, a cooperative must pay taxes on such non-patronage income, just as the stockholder (whether a member or non-member) must also pay tax on that income when it is distributed as a dividend. Unlike a corporation, however, cooperatives must then pay what amounts to a third tax due to the operation of an obscure IRS rule.

The "dividend allocation rule" imposes a third level of taxation on the cooperative by reducing the amount of patronage dividends paid to cooperative members. Cooperatives, such as a typical farming cooperative, may deduct dividends paid to patrons from taxable income. IRS regulations, however, provide that net earnings eligible for the patronage dividend deduction are reduced by dividends paid on capital stock. This requirement has been interpreted to mean that even dividends paid out of nonpatronage earnings will be "allocated" to a cooperative's patronage and non-patronage earnings in proportion to the relative amount of patronage/nonpatronage business done by the cooperative. This "allocation" significantly reduces the amount of net earnings from the patronage operation that

may be claimed as a deduction, thus increasing the cooperative's level of taxation.

Put more simply, the "dividend allocation rule" allocates income already taxed against what would have otherwise been a deduction. As a result, cooperatives pay more taxes on income used to pay a dividend on stock than would a non-cooperative corporation.

It is time to end the triple taxation on cooperative income and give farmers, consumers, hospitals, and other coop members the flexibility they deserve in structuring their affairs. It is time to eliminate the dividend allocation rule and pass the Cooperative Dividend Equity Act of 2001.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MAJOR GENERAL DANIEL F. CALLAHAN

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Major General Daniel F. Callahan for his honorable and faithful service to our country.

General Callahan, who passed away June 10, 2001, was born in Zenda, Kansas, on June 8, 1910. Following his graduation from the U.S. Military Academy in 1931, he served the next thirty-two years in the U.S. Air Force. His military career was devoted to flying and working in maintenance, engineering and supply. During World War II, he was assigned to the China-Burma-India theatre, where he saw action flying the "Hump". Following the war, he attended the Air War College, served in NATO as head of the US Defense Production Staff in London, and was Chief, Military Assistance Advisory Group, United Kingdom.

In June 1957, he was assigned as Commander, Mobile Air Material Area and followed this assignment with a two-year tour at the Pentagon where he was Director of Logistics for the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The Cuban Missile Crisis highlighted this tour, where General Callahan oversaw the massive movement and positioning of personnel and equipment to deal with this crisis.

Following his retirement in 1963, General Callahan spent five years with Chrysler Corporation in their Defense-Space Group, and in 1968, he joined NASA at the Kennedy Space Center as the Director of Administration. He was there for five years, which included the Lunar landing program and man's first steps on the moon.

After retiring from NASA, Gen. Callahan devoted most of his time to the Air Force Association, serving as Chapter President in both Florida and Tennessee and state President in Florida. He was a permanent Member of the National Board of Directors and in 1979, he was elected as National Chairman of the Board. Gen. Callahan was chosen as the Air Force Association's Man of the Year in 1981.

General Callahan received a master's in Engineering from the University of Michigan and an Honorary Doctorate in Law from the University of Alabama. A Command Pilot with 10,200 hours flying time, General Callahan was awarded many military and civilian awards, including the Distinguished Service Medal and legion of merit with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters.

Mr. Speaker, General Callahan was a great success in each duty he held, and his country is the better for it. You know, there's a song that virtually every graduate of General Callahan's alma mater, West Point, knows the words to and tries to live up to. Its last verse includes the solemn words,

"And when our work is done, Our course on earth is run, May it be said 'Well Done,' Be thou at peace."

Mr. Speaker, General Callahan certainly lived up to those words. I think I speak for all of General Callahan's countrymen when I say, "Well done, sir. Be thou at peace."

CORAL REEF AND COASTAL MARINE CONSERVATION ACT OF 2001

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced bipartisan legislation, H.R. 2272 the "Coral Reef and Coastal Marine Conservation Act of 2001," to help developing countries reduce foreign debt and provide for the creation of comprehensive environmental preservation programs to protect endangered marine habitats around the world. I have been joined by thirteen of my colleagues who are committed to creatively addressing two problematic issues of foreign policy.

The burden of foreign debt falls especially hard on the smallest of nations, such as island nations in the Caribbean and Pacific. With few natural resources, these nations often resort to harvesting or otherwise exploiting coral reefs and other marine habitats to earn hard currency to service foreign debt.

The Coral Reef and Coastal Marine Conservation Act of 2001 will essentially credit qualified developing nations for each dollar spent on a comprehensive reef preservation or management program designed to protect these unique ecosystems from degradation.

This legislation will make available resources for environmental stewardship that would otherwise be of the lowest priority in a developing country. It will reduce debt by investing locally in programs that will strengthen indigenous economies by creating long-term management policies that will preserve the natural resources upon which local commerce is based.

This concept has been successfully used by the United States to encourage environmental stewardship that would otherwise prove cost-prohibitive to developing countries. Resources are reinvested in local economic growth and our planet as a whole reaps the benefit.

I urge my colleagues to join myself and my cosponsors in support of this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO ANN DAWSON TORREY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2001

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished American, and long-time constituent of California's 14th Congressional District—Ann Dawson Torrey, who passed away on May 25, 2001.