

committee, which provides recommendations for the 20-year Regional Transportation Plan for San Diego County.

As a member of these organizations and as an individual advocate for the enhancement of the passenger rail service in southern California, Councilman Kellejian has raised millions of dollars for the funding of various rail projects. Recently, Joe and I were successful in obtaining a \$1 million appropriation for the Solana Beach Intermodal Transit Station Structure. This money is to be used to initiate a funding package for parking expansion and other improvements at the Solana Beach station, in order to help increase the use of the San Diego Coaster.

Since much of southern California and especially San Diego County are such large, sprawling areas, finding efficient public transportation methods proves to be a challenge. Thanks to the efforts of citizens like Councilman Kellejian, above-ground commuter rail service has flourished in recent years, providing, for less congested roads, cleaner air, a healthier environment and an overall better quality of life. I hope that everyone in the city of Solana Beach as well as the 51st District will join me in congratulating Joe for his achievements in improving rail service in San Diego County.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET HEARING ON ECONOMIC AND BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House Budget Committee held an informative hearing on the economic and budgetary effects of our nation's energy policy. Energy has always been a necessary ingredient—either directly or indirectly—to all our goods and services. Particularly as our economy becomes more and more dependent on technology, energy is increasingly the crucial ingredient.

As if to punctuate this point, the Energy Information Administration at the Department of Energy has concluded through its research that falling energy prices can enhance economic growth by about 0.3 percentage points over a 2-year period. Furthermore, stable energy prices that are not fluctuating widely may enhance growth by as much as 0.7 percentage points over 2 years. Only a few tenths of a percent can make a world of difference, particularly for small businesses, small investors, and working families.

The President began speaking about the need to develop a national energy policy that addresses both long-term and short-term problems and solutions long before the energy crisis in California became apparent. The plan of action that he has presented to the nation through his National Energy Policy Development Group is responsible, sound, and comprehensive. It includes suggested solutions to our lack of domestic energy supply and our dependence on foreign sources, as well as recommendations for the development of energy supplies for the 21st Century.

Furthermore, for the most part, the President has made a serious effort to take into ac-

count local concerns and interests where they intersect with the nation's interest in an energy policy that crosses geographic boundaries. I do, however, hope to have the opportunity to work with the President and his administration to find a compromise to the proposals to develop oil and gas exploration in the Eastern Gulf of Mexico that is consistent with the wishes of Floridians.

Florida is renowned for its pristine and beautiful beaches and oceans. Our economy relies upon that reputation remaining intact and vibrant. In fact, 40 million tourists traveled to Florida in 1999, spending \$46 billion in Florida's hotels, shops, restaurants, and attractions. It is because of our commitment to the environmental and economic health of our state that Floridians have consistently opposed oil and gas development less than 100 miles off the shores of Florida. This is a position that has had the support of Republicans and Democrats alike.

There is currently under consideration within the Administration proposals to explore within this safe harbor that Florida has requested. While I am pleased by the healthy and productive ongoing debate on this matter, I remain opposed to drilling within this safe harbor. I have been encouraged by the seeming willingness of the Bush Administration to work with the State of Florida to seek further moratoriums in the Straits of Florida region by the famous Florida Keys. And, I am very hopeful that the Administration will work with the State to consider restricting lease sales in the Eastern Gulf so that oil and gas exploration can be pursued for the nation while respecting the concerns of Florida.

A TRIBUTE TO JOEL BUCKWALD, NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joel Buckwald, a Senior Archivist in the New York office of the National Archives and Records Administration whose service to this country spans the past sixty years. Mr. Buckwald began working for the National Archives on June 3, 1941 after two weeks with the Public Buildings Administration. Hired under the first Archivist of the United States as a Junior Professional Assistant, he quickly rose to the rank of Junior Archivist before enlisting in the Navy at the end of 1942. During World War II, Mr. Buckwald was assigned to the United Nations Central Training Film Committee. Afterwards he studied at the City College of New York and in 1947 returned to the National Archives, where he has worked for the past fifty-four years.

In 1950 Mr. Buckwald moved back to the New York area to help establish the agency's first regional records center. Thirteen years later he was a consultant to the Organization of American States in archives and records management, spending three months advising the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Lima, Peru. In 1970 he became the first head of the archives branch for New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, a post he held for seventeen years before becoming

Senior Archivist in what is now the Northeast Region of the National Archives and Records Administration.

Today the National Archives and Records Administration will honor Mr. Buckwald's distinguished career, and tomorrow Mr. Buckwald will celebrate his 84th birthday. For his many years of exceptional leadership and dedication, I congratulate and thank Mr. Buckwald, and I wish him many happy and rewarding years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEPHEN K. WOODLAND

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the achievements of Stephen K. Woodland. Mr. Woodland is a 29 year veteran teacher, military retiree, coach, mentor, and friend to hundreds of students who have passed through his regimen of algebra, geometry, and calculus. He drives forward with an energy level undiminished by many years of hard work. For twenty one years, the math teams he has coached and/or helped prepare for state competition have finished first, second, or third. Mr. Woodland maintains the challenge is not the competition, it is the preparation. This is where teaching and learning happen.

Mr. Woodland is the first to tell students that high school math is only the beginning. He encourages students to light their torch of learning in high school and carry it on to college. Mr. Woodland refuses the spotlight but his opinion is highly respected, his integrity is beyond reproach, and his influence mighty. When he speaks, students heed his words.

Many teachers will be successful during their careers, but very few will match the level of success and expertise achieved by Mr. Woodland. He is tenacious in his pursuit of excellence. He set his goals and then drives forward. He exhibits the qualities to set himself above the crowd. Clearly, he has distinguished himself in his profession.

TRIBUTE TO MR. LARRY L. GRIMES

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Mr. Larry L. Grimes, an outstanding citizen and dedicated community leader in southwest Indiana, but most importantly, a dear friend. I join his lovely wife, Nancy, and daughter, Cassie, in expressing our gratitude for his loyal service to the State of Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, Larry Grimes left this earth in November of 2000, just hours after his overwhelming election to the Warrick Circuit Court in Warrick County, Indiana. His election was a fitting tribute to the Christian character and servant's attitude that animated his life.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce that this past Sunday, June 24, 2001, the town of

Newburgh, Indiana held a hose cutting ceremony to dedicate its new fire and EMS stations in the name of Former Fire Chief Larry Grimes.

Mr. Speaker, it is written that a good name is more precious than rubies. The good people of Newburgh have put a good name on this new facility.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this esteemed man and cherished friend who as a family man, an educator, an attorney and a fireman, made southwestern Indiana a better place for his having been there.

CALLING ON CHINA TO RELEASE
LI SHAOMIN AND ALL OTHER
AMERICAN SCHOLARS OF CHI-
NESE ANCESTRY BEING HELD IN
DETENTION

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2001

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I thank my colleague from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for his laudable work in the area of human rights and injustice worldwide.

This matter we discuss today hits particularly close to home. Li Shaomin is an American citizen that China is holding hostage.

Sal Cordo, from Bloomfield, was his supervisor when Dr. Li worked for AT&T in New Jersey. Now Sal faces the unimaginable task of leading the charge to get his friend freed from a Chinese prison, where Dr. Li faces trumped up charges.

In a recent article, China's Foreign Minister stated that, "In China, observance of human rights is now in its historically best period."

If China is at its best when it is detaining American citizens without just cause, and waiting three months to press charges, then I cannot imagine them at their worst.

We granted China permanent most favored nation (MFN) status. This trade we grant China has a price. MFN for China costs our nation both our values and our dignity.

I would think they would be walking on eggshells to not act in such an offensive manner as they are by detaining Dr. Li. The Chinese government seems as determined as ever to quash expressions of personal freedom.

In yesterday's Washington Post, there was an article entitled "China Growing Uneasy about U.S. Relations."

The Chinese government should note that the people of New Jersey are not just uneasy about their actions, they are outraged!

Those in the Chinese government should note that the U.S. Congress has not forgotten about Li Shaomin.

The Bush administration should use every avenue at their disposal to encourage the Administration to place pressure on the Chinese government in asking for the release of Dr. Li and the other U.S. hostages.

Before granting annual MFN, before we decide an official position on their Olympic bid, the Administration must convince the Chinese government that it is in their best interest to do as we ask, and they do it now.

HONORING LINDA ENGELHART
FOR HER WORK WITH THE EL-
DERLY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend Linda Engelhart for working selflessly to improve the lives of the elderly, especially the work she did at Columbine Manor in Salida, Colorado. Linda believes, as Arlene Shovald of the Mountain Mail quotes, that if everybody "would do one kind thing a day," then "it would be a better world." Linda, whose actions demonstrate her commitment to such kindness, has improved this world for many.

Linda, who has also worked for Area Agency on Aging, has acted as admissions and marketing director at Columbine Manor for three years. In order to ensure that each resident always has something to look forward to, Linda initiates many projects at the Manor. For instance, she holds a weekly meeting called "Conversations with Linda," to which she brings a tasty cuisine like lemon meringue pie or crab cakes to spice up the normal meal schedule. The meeting offers more than just a delicious treat, however. Each Tuesday, according to Linda, the residents "share beautiful stories about their past." In addition, she has involved herself with a committee that plans activities for residents and their families such as Operation Christmas Child, which creates shoeboxes full of gifts for small children. Also, she helps hold a party for every holiday, and a barbecue every month. Linda, always a good listener, makes sure that her events bring what her residents desire. For instance, she says, "Today, we're helping the residents make potato salad . . . They wanted homemade potato salad, so we let them do it."

Linda has helped transform the Columbine Manor into a rehabilitation center, sending home about 40 percent of its residents within a month or two. Perhaps the rehabilitation rate at Columbine Manor is so high because Lisa has treated her job as an opportunity to increase morale, to work alongside, and to generally get to know the residents there.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, Linda Engelhart has acted with compassion, and has served as a model for the young and old of our nation. Today, I would like to thank and honor her on behalf of Congress for all that she has done for her residents and for humanity.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE CON-
CURRENT RESOLUTION 173—THE
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS
EQUALITY RESOLUTION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today with the support of 26 of our colleagues—including both Republicans and Democrats—I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 173, the "International Human Rights Equality Resolution," a Resolution decrying human rights vio-

lations based on real or perceived sexual orientation and gender identity. We introduced this legislation Mr. Speaker, because we believe very strongly that we must send a strong message that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people must be treated with dignity and respect, not with hatred and violence.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate that we have introduced our Resolution today, which is the U.N. International Day in Support of Survivors of Torture. This Resolution, together with Amnesty International's newly released report, "Breaking the Silence," highlights the use of torture against people based on sexual orientation and condemns governments who perpetrate these outrageous human rights violations, or fail to do anything to prosecute the perpetrators. All around the world, unacceptable violations of human rights have taken place against individuals solely on the basis of their real or perceived sexual orientation. These ongoing persecutions against gay people include arbitrary arrests, rape, torture, imprisonment, extortion, and even execution.

The scope of these human rights violations is staggering, and for the victims, there are few avenues for relief. Mr. Speaker, some States create an atmosphere of impunity for rapists and murderers of gays and lesbians by failing to prosecute or investigate violence targeted at these individuals because of their sexual orientation. These abuses are not only sanctioned by some States, often, they are perpetrated by agents of the State.

Mr. Speaker, in Afghanistan, men convicted of sodomy by Taliban Shari'a courts are placed next to standing walls by Taliban officials and are subsequently executed as the walls are toppled upon them and they are buried under the rubble. In Guatemala and El Salvador, individuals are either tortured or killed by para-military groups because of their real or perceived sexual identity. In Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Kuwait, Mauritania, and Iran persons are summarily executed if they are convicted of committing homosexual acts. In Pakistan, individuals are flogged for engaging in sexual conduct with same-sex partners, and in Uganda and Singapore individuals engaging in such conduct are sentenced to life in prison. In Brazil, a lesbian couple was tortured and sexually assaulted by civil police. Despite the existence of medical reports and eye-witness testimony, the perpetrators of these heinous crimes are never prosecuted.

Mr. Speaker, around the world, individuals are targeted and their basic human rights are denied because of their sexual orientation. The number and frequency of such grievous crimes against individuals cannot be ignored. Violence against individuals for their sexual orientation violates the most basic human rights.

House Concurrent Resolution 173, puts the United States on record against such horrible human rights violations. As a civilized country, we must speak out against and condemn these crimes. Our Resolution details just a few examples of violence against gays and lesbians in countries as wide ranging as Saudi Arabia, Mexico, China, El Salvador, and other countries. By calling attention to this unprovoked and indefensible violence, the International Human Rights Equality Resolution will broaden awareness of human rights violations based on sexual orientation.