Gene produced and starred in The Gene Autry Show and produced other popular television series as well.

In addition to his success in the entertainment industry, Gene was successful pursuing another passion—a love of baseball. In 1961 he purchased the American League's California Angels (now the Anaheim Angels) and held the title of Vice President of the American League until his death in 1998.

Gene Autry was always proud of his hometown, Tioga, and he would have been honored by this Festival and by the efforts of local citizens in memory of him. Proceeds from activities associated with the Gene Autry Day Festival will be used to build a Tioga Heritage Museum, featuring Gene Autry, and to benefit Boys & Girls Clubs through United Way of Grayson County. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend the citizens of Tioga for planning this tribute to their hometown hero and to a legendary American whose contributions to our culture will long be remembered and appreciated—the late, great Gene Autry.

CHILLING INDICATORS OF THE TERRORIST ATTACK

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, in the events that have followed the tragic attack on our Nation, we have seen a flurry of activity in both responding to the attack, and attempting to uncover the network, financing, and planning behind the attack. Though I believe our law enforcement and intelligence agencies understand and are closing the apparent gaps that may have aided the terrorist's ability to launch the attack on September 11, there is a recent piece in the September 21 edition of Washington Times that gave me pause.

The Inside the Beltway column titled ''Signs in Cyberspace'' alleged that indications of the impending attack might have existed in certain registered domain names, recently expired, on the Internet. Some of the domain names quoted in the article were:

worldtradetowerattack.com;
nycterroristrike.com;
pearlharborinmanhattan.com; and
terroristattack2001.

It is indeed chilling that no one appears to have taken notice until it was too late. Mr. Speaker, I am hopeful that our federal agencies, along with Congress, continue to take a hard look at where our intelligence system failed and make the difficult and necessary decisions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, on September 24, 2001, 1 missed rollcall vote No. 349 and rollcall vote No. 350 due to a delay in my flight. Had I been present, I would have voted ''yes'' on H.R. 717 and ''yes'' on H.J. Res. 65.

IN RECOGNITION OF SISTER JOAN MCKEE FOR HER 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE SISTERS OF CHARITY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sister Joan McKee, who, on Sunday, September 30, 2001, will be honored at a special ceremony for her 50 years of service to the Sisters of Charity organization. The Sisters of Charity organization assists in ensuring adequate access to quality social services and educational opportunities for the poor and disadvantaged. The ceremony honoring Sister McKee will take place at Saint Joseph's Church in Jersey City, New Jersey.

A native of Jersey City, New Jersey, Sister McKee is a graduate of St. Mary's Elementary School and St. Dominic's Academy.

Throughout her career, she has demonstrated a remarkable ability to assist those in need. As a schoolteacher and school administrator for 50 years, she has instructed and counseled thousands of poor and underprivileged students in the Jersey City school system. Countless school children throughout Jersey City have prospered and excelled academically under Sister McKee's guidance and supervision.

Later this year, Sister McKee will officially retire as Principal of Saint Joseph's Elementary School in Jersey City. During her years as Principal of Saint Joseph's, she has implemented and coordinated several education initiatives that have fostered and enhanced the intellectual and learning capabilities of Jersey City students. Sister McKee's 22 years as Principal of Saint Joseph's ranks as one of the longest tenures for a school administrator in Hudson County history.

Outside of her teaching and administration obligations, Sister McKee has served as an essential contributor to the viability and successes of the Jersey City community. She has actively, participated in programs dedicated to assisting disadvantaged women get back on their feet. In addition, she has donated her time to projects dedicated to providing quality social services to the needy.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sister Joan McKee for her tireless work on behalf of the community of Jersey City, New Jersey.

VERMONT HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN MEETING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the outstanding work done by participants in my Student Congressional Town Meeting held this summer. These participants were part of a group of high school students from around Vermont who testified about the concerns they have as teenagers, and about what they would like to see government do regarding these concerns.

I am asking that these statements be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as I believe that the views of these young persons will benefit my colleagues.

REGARDING NAPSTER

(By Hydie Buchanan)

I am here today to talk about whether it is right to shut down Napster over the record companies' feeling it infringes on the copyrights of artists.

This case first started in April 1999 when the recording industry brought a lawsuit against Napster, saying that Napster violated copyrighted material. Since then, just recently, district courts ruled that Napster has to put blocks on copyrighted material, which Napster has complied with.

However, although it is against Napster's file-sharing rules to change file names to get around the copyrighted blocks, people change a song, they add letters or numbers to the file name, and therefore it can pass the block. And although Napster says that they will warn people and then kick them off the Napster community, there is over 500,000 users, so it is kind of hard to keep track of them all.

It's not that many artists are intimated by Napster. Many artists actually support Napster. It is the recording industry that thinks they are losing profits, when, in all reality, profits were up in 1999 because of Napster.

I have a few quotes to share about artists who support Napster. Dave Matthews Band, in July 2000, said: ''There are a lot of bigger problems in the world than whether Napster succeeds or fails. I don't think there is a malice coming out of Napster. We allowed people to tape our concerts from the beginning, and the record company questioned us about allowing that.

My thinking was that it only makes people want to buy more, and increases the devotion of people who are really going to listen to us.'' Which, in this case, shows that he supports Napster because it promotes the music, not takes away profits, but actually increases them.

Another quote: ''We're not afraid of the Internet. We think it is a very cool way to reach our fans. If a band sells 12 million albums, what are we supposed to say? 'Oh, maybe we could have sold 13 million if we had just been Internet Nazis.'

At a certain point you have to say, Let the people have the music.''

Dexter Holland, from Offspring: ''Many of the bands that support Napster are maybe not the manufactured bands created as boy bands, the popular music of today.'' A lot of people think that Napster doesn't infringe on copyrights. And it really doesn't. Napster does not copy the MP3s. The people that are on Napster, they're the ones that create the MP3s, either from the program that they downloaded off the Internet or burning the—ripping the CD onto their hard drive. So, really, it's not Napster. They just created a community where people can swap everything, and that is not necessarily so wrong.

A lot of people that use Napster use it as a way to find out more about an artist. Like, say they hear one song on the radio and they want to hear more about the band before they go out and buy the CD. So that's actually helping the profits, So, really, the recording industry, they shouldn't stop people from doing that, because it is promoting the music.

Also, Napster is not the only company of its sort. There are many other file-sharing companies out there, such as Scour or Livewire, that also have the same sort of system with filesharing. It is also the same thing as, say, burning a CD for your friend, or recording a tape of songs off the radio. It is all the same thing. And, sure, they said

that recording CDs and tapes is illegal, but never really did anything about it.

In order to shut Napster down, I think you would have to stop selling the recordable CDs and recordable tapes, because it is all the same thing. And you would also have to go out onto the Internet and search for every site like Napster in order to shut them all down, because shutting one down out of thousands isn't really fair.

REGARDING ABENAKI AND NATIVE AMERICAN ISSUES

(By Fellicia Gagne)

I am here today to talk about the lack of academic success among minorities, specifically Abenakis. Basically what I'm going to be talking about is from last year's Vermont Framework of Standards, which all schools are supposed to take, show that 19 percent of tenth grade Native Americans met the reading and knowledge interpretation. This means that 81 percent can't read a one- to two-paragraph passage and understand and interpret what they have read.

In mathematical skills, the test shows that American Indians fall 52 percent below standards. Only 14 percent meet the standards, which is really low. The difficulty is with fractions, multiplying, et cetera. What that means is they have difficulty with basics, rather than what normal students would be able to do.

Continuing, I would like to talk about why this is happening. Abenakis are a majority of my school, and like over 50 percent fall below standards. And I don't see why that should be happening. If Abenakis aren't meeting standards now, then how do they expect to go to college, get a degree, and have a good life? That means that my people, Abenakis, would be lower in poverty, wouldn't be able to support their families, and it is just going to keep happening over and over and over again.

This has been happening for years and years, and I feel that it should have been changed long ago. What are the reasons that this is happening? Racism, maybe. It has been in society and schools for years, and probably never will leave. Also, Eugenic Survey. This could also prove what had happened during the 1920s through the '40s.

A professor at UVM thought that he would improve Vermont. He thought that he could cleanse or change genetically inferior people. Because we were different, we had to go through a phase where you had to feel uncomfortable, you couldn't be proud of who you are or what you have been as an individual, and you lost a lot of your dignity, your pride.

And, in 1931, Vermont had a sterilization law, and it remained until 1973. The effects of the survey were loss of pride, dignity, and loss of heritage. Many students today that are Abenaki either don't know it or they don't know about their heritage, because it has been lost, because of the Eugenics Survey. If someone can't be proud of who they are or who they come from, then how do they expect to show proudness in everything that they do?

Another reason why Abenakis lack the academics is because of courses in teaching at my school, students feel separated and intimidated at school. People are put in certain classes and special groups where they feel that they're not intermingled enough. They don't have the right people to be around them, where they will feel that they fit in with all these topics.

I would like to talk about how we can make things better. There will be core-plus classes next year, which means that our school is trying core-plus classes. Whether you are an honor student or an applied student, you are going to be in the same class. That could start issues with honor students being bored or people being rushed into things.

Mr. Barnett, a teacher at my school, he tries to teach reading and writing in all of his classes. He tries to help students improving the skills that they need in everyday life. And he is one of the many at my school that are trying to change. But I think you need the whole school to help make a difference, or it's not going to—it's not going to have an effect.

Another way that you could make things better is through volunteer work. My family and I help out at a learning center. It is the Abenaki Learning Center in Swanton. Four days a week, we help kids with homework, and we try and help them understand the basics of what they need for when they get into high school. We open kids to Native American arts and crafts, and we do cooking with them.

And I feel that, if you are Abenaki or if you are not, you should know a little about the background of the Abenakis, and try and pass it on to more people. Because, as the years go by, more and more people are forgetting, and they're losing everything.

I feel that these things will help the Abenakis, and even other races of our school. Like I said, you need everybody to work together, not just a few here and there.

I want to thank you for inviting me here to speak on a topic that concerns me greatly. And I think that one day the Abenakis will earn their pride back.

HONORING RON BORSKI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the efforts made by Mr. Ron Borski on behalf of all war veterans of the great State of Colorado. Mr. Borski single-handedly started a campaign to create a veterans memorial in Carbondale, Colorado. After fourteen months of maneuvering his way through the state legislature, he has succeeded in his mission.

A resolution was adopted by the state legislature on April 17, 2001 to rename the Highway 133 Bridge in Carbondale. On Memorial Day, it has become tradition that veterans throw a wreath from the bridge in remembrance of soldiers whose lives were lost in battle. This "Veterans Memorial Bridge," seems an appropriate tribute. Due to Mr. Borski's noble efforts there will be a formal dedication ceremony for the renaming of the bridge on November 11, 2001. A monument will also be dedicated at the Scenic Overlook off of Highway 82, which looks out to the bridge.

Mr. Speaker, this project was the vision of one man who worked tirelessly in the name of all veterans. He undertook this mission on his own and saw it through to the end. I would like to recognize Ron Borski for his commitment to such a worthwhile cause. The State of Colorado and veterans across the country appreciate Ron's contribution.

CHILDREN'S VISION AWARENESS DAY

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Children's Vision Awareness Day. Vision Services Plan, which is headquartered in Sacramento, California, has joined forces with several non-profit organizations to develop the Sight for Students program. This charitable program is designed specifically to help children in need of vital eyecare services. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of Vision Services Plan and their tireless work and determination to bring proper vision care to our nation's underprivileged children.

Whereas, our children represent the future of this great nation and deserve every opportunity to succeed in the classroom, at play and life in general;

Whereas according to the United States Center for Health Statistics, only 14 percent of children in the United States under the age of 6 receive an eye exam;

Whereas vision problems affect one in four school-age children, according to Prevent Blindness America;

Whereas untreated eye problems can affect learning ability, adjustment in school, athletic ability and self-esteem;

Whereas Vision Services Plan which has their headquarters in Sacramento, California has a Sight for Student's Program to help low-income, uninsured children obtain the proper vision care that they so greatly need;

Whereas the Sight for Students program covers the cost of an eye examination and glasses or medically necessary contact lenses as well as vision therapy and treatment.

Whereas numerous community agencies, such as America's Promise, Prevent Blindness America, Head Start, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and Communities in School, have joined forces with Vision Services Plan to address this issue;

Whereas these many partners have come together to hold vision awareness events across the country on September 26, 2001, National Children's Vision Awareness Day.

Since 1997 Vision Services Plan and the Sight for Students program have provided free eye exams and eyewear to nearly 90,000 children across the nation who would not otherwise have access to these services. I applaud their efforts and I am proud to lend my support to this program.

BILL BRACE HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the long and dedicated record of public service of Bill Brace, who is retiring after 31 years of working for the people of Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. He has served as city clerk for 29 years and for five of those years, he has also served as city administrator. He will be honored with a retirement dinner on Sept. 28.