

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO CHALDEAN FEDERATION OF AMERICA IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 20th Anniversary Celebration and 9th Annual Awards Banquet of the Chaldean Federation of America. This anniversary marks 20 years of the federation's distinguished commitment to the Chaldean community in Michigan and 9 years of presenting awards to exemplary citizens within the community.

The Chaldean Federation of America was established in 1980 as a nonprofit organization, as part of the nationwide group of the Association of Chaldean Americans. The federation is a beacon of support for Chaldean American citizens living in the metropolitan Detroit area, providing valuable assistance to the Chaldean American community. Today the Chaldean Federation of America represents over 120,000 Chaldean Americans living in the Detroit metropolitan area.

Community and public service are tenets of the Chaldean Federation of America. Their organization provides help for Chaldeans seeking to adjust comfortably into American society. The organization is also involved in numerous community action programs, including, but certainly not limited to, serving needy families, protecting civil and legal rights of all Chaldeans promoting volunteer opportunities, offering language enhancement classes, promoting greater understanding of cultural differences, and working with youth to ensure they have an equal opportunity. Services like these are why we must all look with great pride upon the work on behalf of the community done by the Chaldean Federation of America.

Without an organization like the Chaldean Federation of American, the large population of Chaldean Americans living in Michigan would be without one of the greatest resources within the community. Too often we tend to ignore minority groups, forcing them to live in isolation from the whole community. The Chaldean Federation of America is committed to breaking down walls that at times exist between communities, fostering great understanding of cultural differences, and providing Chaldean Americans with valuable services that benefit not only Chaldeans, but the entire community.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Chaldean Federation of America for 20 years of outstanding support in the community and I ask that all of my colleagues join me in recognition of their hard work and dedication.

RECOGNIZING RED RIBBON WEEK AND ENCOURAGING AMERICA'S YOUTH TO STAY DRUG-FREE

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, earlier this fall I was invited to share a Red-Ribbon Week Message with students in Missouri's Eighth Congressional District. Although my congressional responsibilities required me to remain in Washington, I wanted to share with our students why I believe its so important to learn from your parents, teachers, community leaders and your peers about the danger of drugs and why you should stay away from drugs—now and forever.

I know that it seems like parents, educators, and grownups have been telling you forever that drugs lead you one way—the wrong way. You might even think that you've heard it all before and that we are nagging you because we keep bringing it up. I mean you get it from everywhere right? Your parents tell you at the dinner table about the dangers of drugs. Your teachers tell you at school that drugs lead you to a life of loss and destruction. And others, like your local law enforcement officers tell you that drugs lead to death and destruction.

Well, you know that? They are all right. And believe it or not, they aren't hollering at you just because they have to, they are hollering at you because they love and care about you and they want you to have productive, happy and healthy lives.

Now, even though I think parents, teachers, and other grown ups are doing a good job of warning you about the dangers of drug use, I believe kids can help keep other kids from using drugs. In fact, I think that each of you can lead the way in the fight against drugs by teaming up and sending the rest of America a message. The message is this—not everyone is trying drugs and using drugs is not normal. And to prove that point, you aren't going to use drugs—and neither are your friends.

It works like this. Imagine that you are at a party or just hanging out with a group of kids after school. Someone, maybe even another student, starts smoking marijuana. They ask you to join in. They tell you it's great, that it won't hurt you and that you are a loser if you say no. What would you do?

You know deep down that the best thing to do is say no and walk away. But as a mom, and believe it or not, someone who was once a kid, I know that it's really tough to be the only one that says no. You feel alone and you feel like everyone else won't think you're very cool.

But you know what? If you, as friends make a pact to be a team—to say no and leave—then you have made a real statement. Not only are drugs not okay for you, but they aren't okay for your friends either. These tips and suggestions were developed by students like you. They call it, "keepin it REAL." And for them, REAL stands for:

R. Refuse—a simple "no" goes a long way—but it goes even further when you all say "no" together.

E: Explain—You can say, "I am not that kind of person, or that is not for us." And if you are forceful, your "no" will go a very long way.

A: Avoid—You know just as well as the police and others, that there are places where the likelihood that drugs are around is more prevalent in some places than others. If you know where those places are, then you'll know to avoid them. In other words, stay away.

L: Leave—Like the story I mentioned earlier, you can leave—and you should leave.

You can keep it real, and you can get some of the support you need in that effort from your parents, your teachers, your teammates and others in the community. One of the organizations in your area that is helping out is PAWSPT/Narc with a Bark. PAWSPT or Prevention Awareness With Students, Parents and Teachers is a unique program using trained canines to sniff out drugs in your school. They also come into your schools to teach you about the danger of drug use. The program is run by Rosa and Doug Wallis and is a great effort on their part to open up the lines of communications about drugs and drug use prevention. I encourage every one of you to learn more about what they've been doing to help keep drugs out of your schools.

Mr. Speaker, before I go, I want to leave the children of Missouri's Eighth District and the children of our Nation with one more thought. You students are the most valuable and important resource that we have—you are the future leaders of our country. But this year, more than 2.4 million students just like you will try drugs. But if you all team up and stand together to refuse, explain, avoid, and leave drug-related situations, then you have a REAL chance to have a wonderful life full of promise, hope and success. I believe you can do it and so do your teachers, parents, and your community leaders. We're depending on you and if you need help, then I hope you know, you can depend on us.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give recognition to Charles County public schools. The Charles County public schools received the Daisy Bates National School District Award for its minority achievement program. Under the direction of Superintendent James E. Richmond, Charles County public schools have made the success of all students a major priority, and addressing the performance of minority students is a major component of this effort. Charles County public schools has developed a 5-year plan for academic achievement, personal responsibility,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and career readiness. In this plan, everyone is responsible for successful attainment of the objectives. The superintendent, board members, instructional staff, principals, certificated and support staff, all play major roles in addressing the "success for all" approach.

Designing programs that best meet the needs of the students is a major key of their success. In order to make programs like these work, systems must first look at the needs of the students and then develop the programs. Charles County public schools sought to fit the program to the students, not the students to the program. Their programs are successful because of the dedication and commitment of their teachers. They truly believe that all children can and will learn to read if given instruction and additional time to read and write in an environment that supports and challenges them. This system provides continuous training for teachers and assistants, limits class size, and provides current, appealing, and appropriate materials for their schools.

Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, please join with me in wishing the Charles County public schools continued success and congratulations on their achievements toward the academic success of their students.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR NANCY HEIL

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tireless worker and a devoted public servant. After eighteen years of public service, Nancy Heil, who began her service on the city council in 1983 and has served as Mayor of Westminster, Colorado, for six years, is retiring.

Throughout her public career, Mayor Heil's priority has been preserving the quality of life for Westminster residents. During the forty years she has called Westminster her home, she has watched it grow from a small suburban town of 12,000 residents to a city of over 100,000. Ensuring that people are still able to enjoy the lifestyle they came to Westminster for has always been of top importance to the Mayor. She has been a constant, positive force in the community, displaying an unmatched passion for the welfare of her citizens.

Mayor Heil was a leader in focusing attention on the importance of removing the radioactive wastes from the U.S. Department of Energy's Rocky Flats Nuclear Weapons Facility—which is located just west of Westminster. She spoke out about the importance of finding secure locations to remove the dangerously contaminated material from such a well-populated urban area and thereby safeguard the millions of people in the Denver-metro area.

She was also one of the leaders and original proponents of preserving the open space resources at Rocky Flats and in calling for the site to be transformed into a National Wildlife Refuge once it is cleaned up and closed. In such a fast growing area of the Denver metropolitan region, Mayor Heil saw an opportunity to keep much of this area as a natural asset for future generations.

Through her ability to forge coalitions and collaborate with neighboring communities,

Mayor Heil was able to bring out the best in other leaders and ensure that it was always the citizens that benefited. I am proud to have had the opportunity to work with a community leader of her quality. She put the people first and I consider it an honor to represent her and her community in Congress. She is an example of what we all should look for in our leaders: commitment, selflessness, and passion. It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to recognize her and thank her for her years of dedicated service. The city of Westminster and indeed the state of Colorado have greatly benefited from her contributions and leadership. Her talents and resourcefulness will be sorely missed.

Her accomplishments and the esteem in which she is held were recently reported in the Denver Post. For the information of our colleagues, I am attaching a copy of that report.

[From the Denver Post, December 11, 2001]

HEIL LEAVES OFFICE ON HIGH NOTE

(By George Lane)

WESTMINSTER—When Nancy Heil first took her seat on the City Council in 1983, she might have been one of the most naive politicians around.

Consider that she wondered if "Dr. Cog" might be a family physician. DRCOG is the acronym for the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

Since then, Heil's growth and political maturity have resulted in her twice being named Westminster Woman of the Year and becoming the city's first elected mayor.

Now, after almost two decades of service, in the middle of the term to which she was elected in 1999, Heil is resigning from office Dec. 31. She says it's time for something new.

"These are extraordinary times, and they have caused me to re-think the importance of the office of mayor," she said during a recent interview. "I have willingly given 18 years of my life to work for the city I love. I have given it my best, and now I believe it is time for me to take a new direction."

Councilman Ed Moss, recently elected major pro tem, will complete Heil's unexpired term, as dictated by the city charter.

Government observers here say following Heil won't be easy.

"Nancy, she's a class act," said Adams County Commissioner Elaine Velente. "Her shoes are going to be tough to fill. I think she's done a tremendous job representing the city of Westminster."

Heil was a teacher in upstate New York before she met her husband, Jay, and moved to Colorado. Jay Heil is a Colorado native who went back East for dental school. The couple now have four adult children.

The mayor said that Westminster was a town of about 15,000 people when she moved here about 40 years ago, and there was almost no place to live. She now points proudly at a city of more than 100,000, the Westin Hotel that opened several years ago and Westminster Mall, where sales tax has been Westminster's major source of revenue for a number of years.

The mayor said she has resolved some health problems over the past few years. During the past year, she also has faced a sometimes-divided City Council over whether one of their own should be removed because of expense-account irregularities.

"She had a good vision for the city, wanted the city to improve its image and it did, wanted the city to be known as a good place to live and I think she achieved that," said Vi June, mayor from 1985 to 1991.

HONORING DR. HUGH C. AVALOS
OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dr. Hugh C. Avalos of Morris, Illinois as he prepares to retire at the end of this year. For more than 40 years, Dr. Avalos has served his community in a great many ways.

First and foremost, Dr. Avalos has always demonstrated the greatest concern for and commitment to his patients. A physician of great skill, Dr. Avalos received a solid education at the University of Mexico, the Little Company of Mary Hospital in Chicago and Cook County Hospital in Chicago. Dr. Avalos has displayed his professional dedication throughout his career by pursuing additional educational opportunities on four continents and winning Board certification in English, Spanish and German.

Although not a native of Morris, Illinois, Dr. Avalos has spent the past 42 years working to better his adopted community. Active membership in service organizations such as the Moose, Shriners and especially Rotary International, which he served as president of the local club, has been a large part of his volunteer efforts along with important leadership positions at the local bank and hospital.

A very special interest of Dr. Avalos, though, has been serving the youth of the City of Morris. For more than 30 years, Dr. Avalos used his considerable professional skills to protect the health and condition of the youth of Morris as the team physician for the Morris Community High School football, basketball and baseball teams.

From a personal perspective as a resident of Morris, I am proud to have been able to consider Dr. Avalos a good friend now for well over a decade. I am well aware of the great esteem in which he is held by his patients and our community as a whole. It gives me great pleasure to both congratulate Dr. Avalos on a tremendous professional career and also to wish him much happiness during his retirement years.

Mr. Speaker, using the life and career of Dr. Hugh Avalos as an example, I urge the Members of this body to identify, recognize and honor other individuals in their own districts whose actions have greatly benefitted our communities and nation.

RECOGNIZING MARY BESS, CHIEF
FINANCIAL OFFICER, ON HER
RETIREMENT FROM MADISON
MEDICAL CENTER (FREDERICK-
TOWN—MADISON COUNTY)

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, H. Jackson Brown Jr.'s book *On Success* reminds us to "remember that overnight success usually takes about fifteen years." Well, if that is the case, then Mary E. Bess is an overnight success and then some. Having served the Madison Medical Center in Fredericktown for 25

years, Mary is retiring and leaving her position as Chief Financial Officer of the Center.

As Mary retires and leaves the day to day work at the Madison Medical Center, she leaves an indelible mark on the entire Madison County region. For 25 years she has dedicated her professional life to improving health care affordability, accessibility and service. Her contributions have been a source of great pride and satisfaction for the Madison Medical Center and have resulted in such community-wide recognition as the Administrative Management Award for her hard work as a health care provider in Madison County.

There is no doubt that Mary, a graduate of Greenville High School, who has spent a great deal of time and energy helping others, will not simply rest on laurels now that she is retiring. Instead, I'm sure that she will spend time on both new activities and favorite pastimes. Specifically, I am referring to enjoying time with those people who mean the most to her—her husband Hershel and her children, David and Dennis. But most of all, I am certain that those individuals who will benefit the most from her retirement will be her four grandchildren: Mallory, Chelsea, David Scott and Dustin.

It's often been said that success is not measured by great wealth or material treasures. Instead, success is measured on the person you are, the life you live, and how your life influences the lives of others. If that is true, and I believe that it is, then we are all richer for knowing Mary Bess.

While Mary may be leaving the Madison Medical Center, her contributions to the organization are timeless and will endure. She leaves the Madison Medical Center far stronger, smarter and richer than it was when she joined it and that is a legacy for which she can be proud.

Mr. Speaker, on this very special occasion, I ask that all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Mary on this milestone and wish her every happiness for the future.

DANGER AHEAD: SOCIAL SECURITY PRIVATIZATION IS BREAKING THE PROMISE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the House is considering a resolution stating our commitment to maintain the promise of Social Security by guaranteeing lifetime, inflation-proof benefits to current and future beneficiaries.

I am not surprised that we feel the need to do so tonight in light of today's dangerous recommendations by the President's Social Security Commission, that we feel the need to reaffirm our commitment to Social Security on the same day that the Commission is suggesting that we break that promise.

We should assure Americans—current retirees, future retirees, persons on disability, survivors and dependents—that we will not abandon them, cut their benefits, raise their retirement age, change benefit formulas, reduce COLAS, or take any other step that jeopardizes their financial security.

We should assure Americans that we will reject the recommendations of the President's Social Security Commission.

We all know that this Commission was handpicked to include only those who favor privatization and individual accounts. It does not include representatives of seniors' groups, women's groups, or consumer groups. It held closed-door sessions in subcommittee meetings designed to circumvent government in the sunshine requirements. But even this Commission agrees that you cannot have privatization without cutting benefits.

Two weeks ago, I had the opportunity to meet with members of the Commission at an event sponsored by the Women's Caucus. At that meeting, we were told that the Commission's recommendations would not guarantee current benefits to all current and future retirees. We were told that only those 55 years or older would be guaranteed current benefits. For everyone else, benefit levels could be lower.

In fact, the Commission's recommendations would lower Social Security benefits for future beneficiaries by between 30 percent to 48 percent. Who would be hurt? Persons with disabilities, children, low-wage workers, persons of color and women.

As we know, Social Security is of special importance to women, who are 60% of all recipients. Without Social Security, over half of older women would live in poverty. Women understand that value of Social Security, we know that we must protect it now and in the future.

Therefore, we should listen to what women's groups have to say about the Commission's recommendations issued today.

Martha Burk, chair of the National Council of Women's Organizations, says that "The President's Social Security Commission proposes major cuts in guaranteed benefits that will not be made up by the stock market gains from individual accounts."

Heidi Hartmann, head of the Institute for Women's Policy Research, says that the recommendations "risk the future economic security of younger workers, particularly women."

They are joined in opposing these recommendations by groups like the Older Women's League, the National Organization for Women, the American Association of University Women, and Business and Professional Women, USA.

In light of the widespread public opposition to privatization, I am not surprised that the Republican leadership is bringing up a resolution that distances this body from the Commission's recommendations.

I only hope that we will do more than voice our commitment to the future of social Security. I hope that we will put privatization proposals to rest for good.

BIPARTISAN TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I commend the diligent efforts of Chairman THOMAS, my colleagues and their staff members in drafting and sponsoring H.R. 3005, the Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2001.

H.R. 3005 is being referred to as the most environmentally and labor responsive legisla-

tion regarding Trade Promotion Authority (Fast Track) to be sponsored by the U.S. Congress. However, I share the concerns raised by many of my constituents that H.R. 3005's labor and environmental standards do not go far enough to ensure a level playing field in our proposed trade agreements.

H.R. 3005 refers to environmental and labor provisions as negotiating objectives. Our trade history reveals that during the past 25 years including labor rights, and now environmental rights, as "negotiating objectives" do not guarantee that these provisions will actually be included in any proposed trade agreements. The geopolitical and trade landscape has changed, of the 142 members comprising the World Trade Organization (WTO), 100 are classified as developing nations and 30 are referred to as lesser-developed nations. Why is this important? It is important because with China's accession into the WTO, the 130 nations will become more forceful in promoting their trade agendas, and an opportunity for a more favorable trade agreement becomes apparent if a nation lowers its environmental and labor standards. Many nations' standards are sub-standard at best.

As drafted, the overall negotiating objective of H.R. 3005 is to promote respect for worker rights. My constituents report that the worker rights provisions do not guarantee that "core" labor standards are included in the corpus of prospective trade agreements. By core labor standards, I refer to the International Labor Organization's 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work: freedom of association, the right to organize and for collective bargaining, and the rights to be free from child labor, forced labor and employment discrimination, which many people throughout the world are confronted with.

My constituents are troubled that H.R. 3005 does not require a signatory to an agreement to improve or even to maintain that its domestic laws comport with the standards of the International Labor Organization, in practice an incentive is created for lowering them. Among H.R. 3005's principle objectives is a provision entitled labor and the environment, which calls for the signatories to trade agreements to enforce their own environment and labor laws. The United States, as a leader in the global trade community must set the example by raising the labor and environmental standards of its trading partners. In the end, it will be the United States who is called upon to provide the resources to clean-up environmental disasters.

Through their first-hand accounts, my constituents report that workers in many nations that we seek to enter into bi-lateral and multi-lateral trade agreements are subjected to exploitation, harassment and worse for exercising their rights to collective bargaining, and are forced to work under abusive conditions. For example, in our own hemisphere more than 33% of the complaints filed with the International Labor Organization's Committee on Free Association originate in the Andean region. I understand that new labor laws in Bolivia, Ecuador, Columbia and Peru undermine the right to collective bargaining, and there are scores of reports from NGO's regarding unconscionable violations of the most fundamental rights for workers and their union representatives. The AFL-CIO reports that since January 2001, more than 93 union members in Columbia have been murdered, while the perpetrators have gone unpunished.

How the United States engages in trade negotiations and its practices are crucial not only for our future, but for our democratic process. How our nation conducts itself is scrutinized world-wide, in essence, we must set the right example. Events at the recent World Trade Organization negotiations in Doha, Qatar have made this fact even more apparent. The WTO is seeking to adopt a worldwide "Investor-State Clause" in the next round of discussions. This clause was written into Chapter 11 of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) for the purpose of protecting businesses from expropriation by foreign governments. What it has been used for, however, is completely different from its originally stated purpose.

Cases such as *Methanex v. United States* and its progeny are dispositive of harmful effect of the unbridled power of ill thought out provisions of trade legislation. Methane, the producer of MTBE an additive used to make gasoline burn cleaner, was leaking from a storage tank and into the water supply in California. Governor Davis acted promptly, and after further testing banned MTBE. Methanex, a Canadian Corporation, brought an action against California/United States in July 1999, not in our courts, but pursuant to NAFTA's Chapter 11 foreign investor clause. According to William Greider's October 15th article in *The Nation*, "under this provision a foreign investor can sue a national government if their company's property assets, including the intangible property of expected profits, are damaged by laws or regulations of virtually any kind." Greider further reveals that Methanex, through its Washington D.C. powerhouse law firm, used tribunal established through NAFTA, where the proceeding are secret (unless the parties agree to public disclosure).

Greider goes on, "As nervous Members of Congress inquire into what they unwittingly created back in 1993, critics explain the implications: 'Multinational investors can randomly second-guess the legitimacy of environmental laws or any other public-welfare or economic regulation, including agency decisions, and even jury verdicts. . . . the open ended test is whether the regulation illegitimately injured a company's investments and can be construed as tantamount to expropriation, though no assets were physically taken.'"

This Chapter 11 case and many others like it are now pending and/or being heard before these arbitral panels. Methanex is seeking 970 million dollars. This is an outrage and an assault on our legal system. To add insult to injury, the drafter of the provision, now in private practice, readily admits that it was an intended consequence of NAFTA, rather an unintended consequence as most people believed it to be.

All cases finalized thus far have been either judged in favor of the business interest or settled out of court. The end result is a direct subversion of the right of people to protect from polluters the air they breathe, the water they drink, and the food they eat. In effect, this clause allows the democratic processes we hold so dear to be subverted.

Mr. Speaker, we must seek out ways to make trade compatible with conservation of the environment and by adhering to core labor and environmental standards that are both incorporated into the body of a trade agreement and enforceable.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. CAREY
RAMIREZ

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Carey Ramirez, one of the many true heroes who emerged from the devastation of September 11th.

Mr. Ramirez, a 25-year-old hospice nurse employed by the Hospice of New York and working out of the Margaret Tietz Center for Nursing Care Inpatient Hospice Unit, was on a bus, traveling to his NYU Nursing Education program at the time of the attack on the World Trade Center.

Seeing the smoke and flame, Mr. Ramirez urgently requested the bus driver to stop to allow him to investigate the situation. He was dressed in his nursing whites and carrying a stethoscope, and was anxious—like so many health care and rescue personnel—to help people in Lower Manhattan.

Mr. Ramirez, without hesitation or thought of his own well-being, found himself at the South Tower, identified himself to authorities and proceeded to look for individuals to assist. He was at 4 World Trade Center when the South Tower collapsed. With his own life in danger, he found and rescued two women, one of whom was blind.

Carey's heroic effort was captured by CNN and *People* magazine, and was also featured in U2's music video "Walk On". He was seen assisting both women—his arm locked with the arm of the blind woman, the other woman clinging to his backpack. All were covered with ash.

There were many such heroes on that terrible day. But what has impressed me about this young man is his continued unassuming demeanor and belief that he is not a hero—just a New Yorker who put other New Yorkers' well-being ahead of his own.

In my judgement, Carey Ramirez is a hero and I am pleased and honored to recognize him today.

TAKE THE FIELD REBUILDS HIGH
SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIELDS IN NYC

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on November 8 the House adopted the VA, HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriation Conference Report. This bill included an allocation of \$500,000 for Take the Field, a tremendously worthwhile and effective program aimed at rebuilding the outdoor athletic fields of all New York City's public high schools.

I would like to thank the distinguished Chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. YOUNG, my distinguished colleague from Wisconsin, Mr. OBEY, my distinguished colleague from New York, Mr. WALSH, the Chairman of the Veterans Affairs, HUD and Independent Agencies Subcommittee, and also the Ranking Minority Member, from West Virginia, Mr. MOLLOHAN, for their efforts in making this allocation possible.

I would also like to commend three extraordinary business and community leaders, Preston Robert Tisch, Richard Kahan and Tony Kiser, who founded this public/private partnership and have worked selflessly and relentlessly to promote its success. Thanks to their efforts, Take the Field is already off to a promising start. Seven outdoor athletic facilities—at least one in each borough—have already been rebuilt.

Take the Field is committed to rebuilding 52 of 60 outdoor facilities over a four-year period. The average cost of each field reconstruction project is \$2 million, bringing the total cost just over \$100 million. The \$500,000 allocation that this bill provides will actually provide \$2 million for Take the Field, thanks to the City of New York, which has provided this tremendous undertaking with a three to one challenge grant.

In the next few years, Take the Field can reverse more than a quarter of a century of neglect and deterioration of our public school athletic fields and provide students with access to a broad range of athletic activities that can improve their health, motivate their desire for academic excellence and keep them away from drugs and violence. The allocation contained in this bill will help accomplish this.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT DOUGLAS
BAUM

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today, as our Nation's armed forces make America proud by fighting the war on terrorism, I wanted to recognize the parents of a young man who gave his life for our country during the war in Vietnam. Clayton and Eleanor Baum live in my district, in La Mesa, California. Their son, Sergeant Douglas Baum, was killed on November 18, 1967, in the central highlands of South Vietnam, Dak To.

Sgt. Baum was 20 years old and, according to author Edward F. Murray, founder and president of the Medal of Honor Historical Society, was one of the most popular members of the Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade, Alpha Company 503. As a soldier, Sgt. Baum had earned the Army Commendation Medal, the Bronze Star, the Silver Star and the Purple Heart. Sgt. Baum was due for rotation and had begun to send his belongings to his parents when he was killed defending the lives of those in his squad.

After Sgt. Baum's death, members of the 173rd Airborne contacted Clayton and Eleanor to let them know how much Douglas meant to them, praising his bravery and leadership. People like Sgt. Darrell Cline, who has stayed in contact with the Baums and arranged for them to attend several of the national events for the 173rd, and Tom Means, a member of Sgt. Baum's squad who searched 25 years to meet Clayton and Eleanor just to tell them how much he thought of their son.

Those who attacked us on September 11th have severely underestimated the resolve of today's forces who carry on the legacy of soldiers like Sgt. Douglas Baum. America's military follows a proud tradition of service and dedication. Like those that came before them

they fight to defend our country and they sacrifice to preserve our freedom. Clayton and Eleanor, words cannot express the gratefulness we have for Douglas' sacrifice. On behalf of a grateful country and community we say thank you, his service has helped make America strong.

FROM INFAMY TO A BETTER
WORLD, REVISITING PEARL HARBOR

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in remembrance and observance of Pearl Harbor Day, a terrible day in our country's history. On this day, 60 years ago, the greatest generation was called into action. They answered this call, and changed the world forever.

On the morning of Sunday, December 7, 1941, the Japanese fleet crossed the Pacific Ocean. They attacked and crippled the US Pacific Fleet. The attackers bombed our docked ships, and a nearby military airfield. Eight American battleships and 13 other naval vessels were sunk or badly damaged, almost 200 American aircraft were destroyed and approximately 3,000 naval and military personnel were killed or wounded. The attack marked the entrance of the United States into the war.

The Axis Powers marched across Europe toward world domination. The tripartite represented one of the darkest and most evil forces the world has ever known. Nazi Germany had begun the systematic extermination of Jewish men, women and children. The Axis Powers moved to conquer, rule, and destroy to gain the world, under a flag of greed and hate.

American forces joined freedom-loving nations already fighting. Our soldiers fought valiantly from the shores of Normandy to the Battle of Midway. They fought not to show U.S. might, nor to win possessions. The American soldiers fought to preserve and protect the right of people to live freely.

In the years following the defeat of the Axis Powers, the world would change shape. Borders would open, stimulating a wave of freedom strong enough to tear down walls and break barriers. People from different corners of the earth would be connected like never before. America would build a strong relationship with Japan and its other, and unite much of the world to destroy the vice of communism.

Today, Americans look upon the events of December 7, 1941 in a new light. In retrospect, we understand the distant stare that beset our father's, mother's, grandfather's, and grandmother's eyes as they told stories of where they were, and what they were doing on that day 60 years ago. It is with new ears that we hear the trembling voices that described the terror and uncertainty that jolted the country when an enemy attacked us on our ground. It is with gratitude and the utmost respect that we remember those who fought, and those who were lost for the love of our nation.

We move forward more vigilant, more aware, and more determined. As we pay tribute to those we lost at Pearl Harbor, we stand with a new pride in America. Our hopes and

prayers go out to those who are deployed, even now, to carry the torch in the fight for freedom. At the dawning of a new day of uncertainty, we can look to the American values of freedom, justice, and equality to lead us to peace and security. We remember the bravery of our soldiers that suffered so, to make our world better.

WELCOMING OF THE CAPITOL
HOLIDAY TREE

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise this afternoon to share with my colleagues the remarkable story of the 2001 Capitol holiday tree. The holiday tree is a sixty-seven year old, 74-foot white spruce, that was cut on the Ottawa National Forest in the Western Upper Peninsula, in the great state of Michigan. Tonight at 5:00 p.m., the Speaker will throw a switch and illuminate this magnificent tree for the world to see.

It is with a great sense of pride that I inform my colleagues that this is the fifth time that the state of Michigan has provided the Capitol holiday tree. This year's tree is aptly named the "Tree of Hope," and will be displayed on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol until early January.

Before arriving in Washington, D.C., the tree traveled throughout Michigan and stopped in 10 communities, including beautiful Monroe, in my congressional District.

The tree will be decorated with 6,000 handcrafted ornaments provided by Michigan residents. And I would draw my colleagues' particular attention to the beautiful ornament provided by Monroe County Community College, a fine institution of higher learning in Michigan's 16th District. The ornament was designed by Jerry Morse, the graphic arts designer at the college, and constructed by Matt and Pam Hart of Temperance. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this fine craftsmanship.

The Tree of Hope is a beautiful symbol of Michigan's vision of peace and optimism for the new millennium. The people of Michigan have provided their unique wishes and dreams of a better tomorrow with the 6,000 handcrafted ornaments that will adorn the tree. It is a fitting message of peace for the holiday season.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Capitol holiday tree from the great state of Michigan, and the magnificent ornament from Monroe.

BIPARTISAN TRADE PROMOTION
AUTHORITY ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I believe that international trade is very important to improving our nation's economy and would gladly vote for a bill encouraging Fair Trade around the globe. I have been proud to

cast pro-trade votes in this House before; however, I cannot support the Thomas bill, and I urge my colleagues to vote no. If given the chance, I would like to have an up or down vote on the Rangel substitute, but the Majority has produced an unfair, undemocratic rule, with little meaningful debate allowed.

I support trade agreements that provide important safeguards to protect the rights of American working families as well as the rights of our trading partners' workers. I also support trade agreements that protect the global environment. I cannot, however, support this Fast Track authority because it will weaken our ability to exercise our Constitutional duty to provide oversight of the executive branch. I believe that any special authority granted to the President should be conditioned upon certain basic requirements that the United States only enter into agreements that are mindful of the need to protect the workers in all countries participating in the agreement as well as the global environment. These safeguards must be in the core text of the bill, not promised in future negotiations.

I believe, though, that our debate today is about more than H.R. 3005. The Majority Party has failed to provide for our nation's immediate needs. Our country has many pressing, economic needs that remain unmet by the Leadership of this House. We must act now to raise the living standards of workers—both here at home, and abroad. The time to act is long overdue.

The Majority Party has done nothing to address many of those needs. It has done nothing to help the thousands of unemployed Americans who have lost their jobs in the Bush recession. It has done nothing to help workers with their emergency health care needs. It has done nothing to pass an economic stimulus that really helps working families.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on the Thomas bill, and I urge the Majority to give us a fair vote on a fair trade bill—the Rangel substitute.

AMENDING INTERNAL REVENUE
CODE TO SIMPLIFY REPORTING

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 4, 2001

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, of the many Federal regulations with which colleges and universities are required to comply, one of the most onerous is that associated with the HOPE scholarship and lifetime learning tax credit. Originally enacted as part of the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, the tax credits were intended to give parents back more of their hard-earned money, up to \$1,500 for the first 2 years of college, so that they could better afford to send their children to school.

While we were successful in providing, this tax relief for students and families, we discovered an unintended consequence: an unfunded mandate burdening, colleges, trade schools, community colleges, and universities in the form of a reporting requirement administered by the IRS.

I became aware of this regulatory issue during the fall of 1997. I was discussing several

concerns with Dr. La Tourette, president of Northern Illinois University. While talking about the merits of the HOPE scholarship, he dropped the bombshell on me and informed us of the new Federal requirements forcing all 6,000 institutions of higher education in this country to collect unprecedented information on their students and disseminate that information to the IRS.

I knew compliance with the reporting requirement would be expansive and expensive and would ultimately be borne by the very families that they were trying to help with the HOPE scholarship program. Both large and small institutions have been hit hard by the reporting requirement. The cost to schools to implement and abide by these regulations will soar into the hundreds of millions of dollars. And, of course, they will be passed on to the consumers of education, which are the parents and the students.

Since my conversation with Dr. La Tourette, I have worked with members of the higher education community and with Commissioner Charles Rossotti of the IRS to simplify the reporting requirements and ease the burden of the regulations on the colleges and universities of this country. Today, I am proud to say that H.R. 3346 is the product of a partnership that evolved between the IRS, the Treasury Department, the higher education community, and myself, and this can serve as a model for how we can positively impact higher education in the future by working together.

Specifically, while H.R. 3346 maintains the reporting requirement, the bill eliminates certain elements of the law such as reporting a third party's Social Security number, and changes others, such as allowing schools to report the amount students are billed or the amount they are paid. It is my hope that the simplifications instituted as part of H.R. 3346 will make the reporting significantly easier on colleges and universities.

Early estimates from Northern Illinois University predict that as a result of the passage of this bill, this school could avoid a one-time cost of approximately \$90,000. This includes the costs of program computer systems to accommodate requirements included in the original legislation that are not included in the pending legislation, as well as what it would cost initially to implement Social Security number reporting of the taxpayer claiming the student as a dependent.

Additionally, the university would have incurred ongoing costs on an annual basis for solicitation and data entry of the student-reported information, and those costs are estimated at \$30,000 a year. The University of California's system expects to save \$1 million in the first year alone as a result of H.R. 3346. Overall, the savings the schools will attain as a result of this legislation are very significant. When we consider that most institutions of higher education would incur costs of similar proportion, the impact is particularly traumatic.

I would be remiss if I did not take a moment to heartily thank Commissioner Rossotti with whom we met on no less than three different occasions in order to fashion this legislation. I also want to thank Judy Dunn, Curt Wilson and Beverly Babers of the staff. I would like to thank Northern Illinois University, both former president Dr. La Tourette and current president Dr. John Peters and Kathe Shinham from the school for their insights and efforts as we have worked to craft this legislation. This bill

is a memorial to Dr. Ruth Mercedes-Smith, former president of Highland Community College, who was killed in a car accident several months ago. Her support for our work was invaluable. Also, Dr. Chapdelaine of Rock Valley Community College, Dr. LaVista of McHenry Community College, Jacquelyn Ito-Woo of the University of California, and Mary Bachinger and Anne Gross of the National Association of Colleges and University Business Officers. All of these groups worked tirelessly together in order to craft the legislation. It took us 4 years to do it. During that period of time, the IRS worked with us, they withheld the implementation of these regulations because they knew that the goal was worthy. Lastly, I want to thank Sarah Giddens of our staff who, for 4 years, tirelessly worked on this legislation, dogging it dot by dot, i by i, in the hundreds of meetings, literally, that she had and the hours that she poured into this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great piece of legislation. Instead of spending money on regulatory compliance, the schools can spend that money doing what they do best, and that is educating the kids.

TRIBUTE TO DANIEL HENRY
PETITHORY

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant 1st Class Daniel Henry Petithory. Sergeant Petithory was killed December 5, 2001, while serving in the Army's Fifth Special Forces Group near Kandahar, Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom. He was one of the first military casualties of the conflict in Afghanistan.

Sergeant Petithory was born and raised in Cheshire, MA, in northern Berkshire County. A graduate of Hoosac Valley High School, he enlisted in the Army upon graduating from high school in 1987.

He attended Air Assault School at Fort Rucker, AL, and later served as a military police officer stationed at Fort McClelland, AL. He was a member of the special reaction team at Fort McClelland.

Sergeant Petithory served in contingency operations in Kuwait, Haiti, Africa, and throughout southwest Asia. He became a Green Beret, and at the time of his death he was serving as a communications expert with the Fifth Special Forces Group stationed at Fort Campbell, KY.

He leaves behind his parents, Louis and Barbara Petithory of Cheshire, a brother, Michael, and a sister, Nicole.

Our Armed Forces were deployed to Afghanistan in our struggle against international terrorism, Daniel Petithory died to help bring freedom to the Afghan people, and he fought to guarantee the peace and security for all American citizens.

Daniel Petithory's death is a great loss for his hometown and his country. America owes him a tremendous debt for his work protecting our Nation and fighting terrorism. Sergeant Petithory's willingness to risk his life in service to his country demonstrates his courage and patriotism. His heroism will not be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN H. "JACK"
RUST, JR.

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John H. "Jack" Rust Jr., who for the last 4½ years has represented Virginia's 37th House District in the General Assembly with flair and acumen. While Jack's tenure in the state House comes to an end in January 2002, his contributions to his constituents will remain for decades to come.

Elected to Virginia's House of Delegates in December 1996, Jack served on both the Joint Subcommittee to Study Revising the State Tax Code and the Finance Subcommittee Studying Tax Structure. From there, he championed a restructuring of Virginia's tax system because he saw an opportunity to bring a more equitable share of state revenues back to Fairfax County by changing the way income taxes are collected and distributed.

Quickly assuming a high-visibility position within the Assembly, Jack's clout came from his intelligence and legislative expertise. Understanding that legislating is about inclusion, not exclusion, Jack was able to move beyond the usual rhetoric of the political process and work with his Democratic counterparts to negotiate compromises and build coalitions that resulted in many legislative victories for Northern Virginia. Able to quickly grasp any situation and understand all of the nuances of a particular piece of legislation, Jack earned a rock-solid reputation for taking a quiet and measured approach to the most controversial of issues.

I also want to acknowledge Jack's efforts to bring new voters into the political process. He was a leading force behind the creation of the Commonwealth's first majority Hispanic district, and held dozens of town hall meetings with Asian, Latino, and African-American leaders. He encouraged the printing of sample ballots in Spanish and Korean. And he did these things without fanfare or bravado, because that was his style. This is the rare public servant who cares more about doing good than getting credit.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to emphasize that Jack Rust, in only a few terms, has enough public accomplishments to last a lifetime. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating and thanking Jack for all he has done for the city of Fairfax, Fairfax County, and the Commonwealth of Virginia, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

SAFEGUARDING FREEDOM AND
DEMOCRACY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to honor and thank the U.S. Capitol Police for their around the clock commitment to maintaining the safety and security of the U.S. Capitol, Members of Congress and the thousands of staff and visitors who occupy the grounds daily.

On September 11, the USCP rose to the challenge. In the face of uncertainty and while our nation was under attack, the men and women of the Capitol Police remained behind as the Capitol compound was evacuated, while working to ensure our safety. On that day, every member of the House and Senate, staff, and visitors witnessed the bravery and commitment of the Capitol Police.

Today we mark three months since the terrorist attacks on the Pentagon and New York City. Since 9–11, twelve-hour days, six-day weeks, overtime and cancelled vacations are the norm, not the exception for the Capitol Police. This resolution, H. Res. 309, is a small token signifying that your dedication and personal sacrifices have not gone unnoticed. I thank you for your service to us, to our community and to our great nation and I urge all Members to vote in support of this important resolution.

GEORGE WILL ON "A PLAN FOR ARAFAT"

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last weekend was a particularly horrible chapter in the ongoing strife in the Middle East. In a wave of violence, Palestinian terrorist suicide bombers killed 25 innocent Israeli children, women, and men as they were going about their daily activities—walking in a pedestrian mall and riding a public bus. The terrorist organization, Hamas, has taken "credit" for these deplorable acts. Their targeting civilians of all ages and walks of life is part of their cowardly and vicious attempt to destroy the State of Israel. Such acts cannot be tolerated.

Mr. Speaker, George F. Will has written a particularly insightful piece in the December 4th issue of the Washington Post. He spells out the misguided and dangerous actions of Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority which have prevented peace from being attained in that very volatile region of the world, and he stresses the need for Israel aggressively to protect herself.

Where hope for a peaceful Middle East settlement once existed after the Madrid Conference in 1991 and the Oslo Agreement in 1993, we now find an environment of hate for Israel and the United States which has been fertilized and nourished by such debacles as the United Nations World Conference Against Racism, which was held in Durban, South Africa last summer.

Mr. Speaker, I was present at Durban for this conference, and I fully concur with George Will's assessment that this was truly not a conference against racism, but rather a racist conference! I have rarely seen such anti-Semitic and anti-Israel venom spewed as I did at that conference. Because of the level of hatred and the lack of fairness, the United States Government walked out of the conference. I was greatly disappointed that we had no choice but to walk out because this was an opportunity to deal meaningfully with the many problems of racism, discrimination, and xenophobia which the world faces. Instead of addressing these problems, the conference was hijacked by Arab extremists determined to sin-

gle out and politically punish Israel, our only democratic ally in the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to read George Will's excellent and thought-provoking article, and I ask that the text be placed in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 4, 2001]

A PLAN FOR ARAFAT

(By George F. Will)

Coming from the territory for which Yasser Arafat is responsible, terrorists last weekend killed 26 Israelis, a portion of Israel's population that is equal to 1,240 Americans. America is projecting power halfway around the world to collapse the Taliban regime because it harbors terrorists. It would be disgusting for America to call for Israeli "restraint" and to disapprove if Israel cleanses its back yard of Arafat's Palestinian Authority regime that welcomes terrorists except when, to distract America, it yet again promises to pass a few through the revolving doors of PA jails.

It is time for a novel approach to the war between Israel and Arafat's Palestinian Authority. The approach should begin with wisdom from a Donald Westlake crime novel mordantly titled "What's The Worst That Could Happen?" Westlake's amiable crooks want to rob a Las Vegas Casino, but don't know how. One of them says he has a lot of ideas, but Westlake writes: "A whole lot of ideas isn't a plan. . . . Ideas without a plan is usually just enough boulders to get you into the deep part of the stream, and no way to get back."

The latest U.S. idea is to send retired Marine Gen. Anthony Zinni to pick up the shards of the last idea, which was to send CIA Director George Tenet to implement former Senator George Mitchell's idea for a cease-fire followed by a cooling-off period followed by "confidence-building" measures. The idea of the Mitchell plan is that neither side is to blame—neither Israel, which wants to exist, nor the Palestinians who do not want it; neither the Palestinians who want to plant nail bombs on buses, nor Israel, which would prefer the Palestinians not do that. Rather, a mutual lack of "confidence" is to blame.

There is this much truth in that idea: the Palestinian Authority lacks confidence in Israel's willingness to commit suicide, and Israel lacks confidence that the PA will stop insisting on suicide as part of a "peace" agreement.

The idea behind dispatching Mitchell was to pick up where Dennis Ross left off. (Did you know that Donald Rumsfeld was special emissary to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in 1983–84? There were many emissaries before him, and have been many since.) Ross's task, which he undertook with the energy and wisdom of a beaver, was to oversee the Oslo "peace process," which turned on Arafat's renunciation of violence. That process has required lots of overseeing, considering that terrorists have killed more Israelis in the eight years since Oslo began in 1993 than in the 45 years of Israel's existence before that.

The idea behind Oslo was for Israel to "take a risk for peace"—as though getting on a bus, visiting a pizzeria or disco, and walking down a street are not risky enough for Israelis. Israel would take a risk by yielding something tangible, control of land, for something intangible, Arafat's promises of peace. Israel did that. The current war refutes the Oslo idea.

The idea behind Oslo was to capitalize on the "spirit of Madrid," an Israeli-Palestinian conference convened in 1991, in the aftermath of the Gulf War. The idea behind Madrid was. . . . Does anyone remember?

You must remember this. On Aug. 31, Arafat, world's senior terrorist, did a star turn—at one point strolling with America's senior friend of terrorists, Jesse Jackson—in Durban, South Africa, at a U.N. orgy of hate directed against Israel and the United States and bearing an Orwellian title: World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. It was the kind of sewer of ideas that prepares the climate for the sort of things that happened in America 11 days after the conference opened, and what happened last weekend in Israel.

Now Israel should be as bold in its self-defense as America is being in its. In 1982, Israel drove Arafat and his thugs from Lebanon to Tunisia. He and his thugocracy have earned another expulsion from the eastern end of the Mediterranean. If he cannot control his territory, it is in anarchy and Israel must subdue it. If he can control it but won't, he has earned expulsion under the principle America cites in expelling the Taliban from power.

If expulsion strikes the U.S. State Department as, well, immoderate, here is a moderate version of the idea. When next the peripatetic Arafat flies off to visit world capitals, Israel should not let him come back: He cannot land in PA territory if Israel does not let him.

That is more than an idea. It is a plan.

IN HONOR OF STEPHEN V. BARBARO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Stephen V. Barbaro in recognition of his commitment to his community.

Stephen V. Barbaro was born and raised in New York City. He went to Midwood High School. After graduation he went on to receive his bachelor's degree from St. John's University. Following college, he received his Juris Doctorate from Brooklyn Law School. He is married to Margaret L. Pecoraro. Margaret is also an attorney. They are the proud parents of three wonderful children, Stephanie, Katherine, and Stephen Joseph.

Stephen has been a practicing attorney for almost twenty years. He is a partner in Alter & Barbaro, Esq., a well-known law firm with offices in Canarsie and Brooklyn Heights. He is engaged in a general practice, which include real estate, landlord tenant law, and general litigation.

Together with his partner, Mitch Alter, Stephen has been involved in numerous community activities and programs. They have a high school internship program; a minority scholarship program; and a computer literacy program. Their voluntary activities are designed to provide young people with increased opportunities as well as a chance to learn real world skills.

Mr. Speaker, Stephen V. Barbaro has been a dedicated community businessman and active volunteer during his twenty years of practicing law. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly dedicated man.

THE HEALTH CARE SAFETY NET
IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Health Care Safety Net Improvement Act of 2001. This legislation reauthorizes the Consolidated Health Centers program, the National Health Service Corps, and several programs vital to access to care in rural America. It also provides statutory authority for and direction to the Health Resources and Services Administration's Office for the Advancement of Telehealth and provides for a study on overcoming the barriers that many migrant farm workers and their families experience in seeking health care services as they move from state to state. Taken together, these programs and activities will help to strengthen our nation's health care delivery system by improving access to care and quality of care in our rural and inner-city medically underserved communities.

Health centers are located in 3,000 rural and urban communities throughout the country and provide quality primary and preventive health services to over 10 million low-income and uninsured patients. With the number of uninsured in this nation growing by more than 100,000 per month, it is estimated that 53 million people will lack health insurance by 2007. Health centers have played and will continue to play a vital role in addressing this serious problem.

We are fortunate in my Southwest Michigan district to have two strong networks of community and migrant health centers providing care to over 40,000 people. These centers and the people they serve benefit greatly from the doctors and dentists who are participating in the National Health Service Corps Loan Repayment program.

As Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee's Telecommunications and the Internet Subcommittee and a senior member of its Health Subcommittee, I have been particularly interested in the role that rapidly emerging telehealth technologies can play in increasing access to care and quality of care in rural and inner-city America. I was pleased to work with my colleagues on the Committee to include provisions in the Health Care Safety Net Improvement Act formally authorizing the Office for the Advancement of Telehealth (OAT). The OAT is currently the focal point for the telehealth activities and programs across federal agencies. It was instrumental in the formation of the Joint Working Group on telemedicine, for which it provides both leadership and staffing.

One of the greatest barriers to recruiting physicians to our rural communities is the sense of isolation they may feel in their practices. Telehealth services can address that barrier by linking rural primary care physicians and their patients with specialists in major medical centers across the nation. Further, one of the looming threats to access to care and quality of care is the growing shortage of nurses, pharmacists, and clinical laboratory personnel. Telehealth services can address this problem by bringing education and training programs right into local communities.

I hope everyone will join me today in strongly supporting the Health Care Safety Net Im-

provement Act. This bipartisan, thoughtful and innovative legislation will improve access to care and quality of care for millions in urban and rural America.

IN HONOR OF DARREN PEARSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Darren Pearson in recognition of his community service as well as his successful real estate businesses in Brooklyn and Queens, NY.

Mr. Pearson's businesses include a full-service real estate firm, apartment building management, and construction and maintenance. Before becoming involved in real estate, Darren worked as an account executive for Amergold Corp. He also worked for Vanguard Oil as a fuel salesman in the commercial and barge departments. His duties included fuel sales to Con Edison, PSE&G, and LILCO. He was subsequently promoted to director of public relations for Vanguard and was responsible for the home oil transfer program, which provided oil to needy families at either a discount or no cost. His success in that position led to his promotion to vice president of procurement and industrial sales for Vanco Oil Co., a subsidiary of Vanguard.

Darren is active in the Brooklyn and Manhattan communities. He is the chairman of the Men's Caucus for Congressman TOWNS, a member of 100 Black Men, Inc., and New York State Senator David Patterson's Progressive Professional Network. As a young businessman, Darren hires and trains college-bound students as trainees in real estate management and office administration.

Mr. Speaker, Darren Pearson is a young entrepreneur committed to working with his community and promoting opportunities for others. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving this recognition, and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable man.

IN HONOR OF ERNEST A. SAMPSON
III

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ernest A. Sampson, III, in recognition of his dedication to his community.

Ernest A. Sampson, III, was born in New York City. He is the youngest of three children born to Fay and "the late" Ernest Sampson. He received his early education in the New York City Public School System. He graduated from Cardinal Hayes High School in the Bronx, and went on to receive his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Funeral Service Administration from St. John's University in 1986. During his junior year, he attended the American Academy McAllister Institute. During his senior year, he apprenticed at his grandfather's funeral home "The James H. Willie Funeral Home, Inc."

Ernest is a Master Mason hailing from African Lodge 459#63 in Brooklyn, NY. He re-

ceives his religious instruction from the Lord Jesus Christ through Archbishop Roy E. Brown, Pastor of Pilgrim Assemblies International.

Ernest with the support of his mentor, James H. Willies, established Sampson Funeral Service in March of 1993. Being committed to community service, he conducts numerous seminars, educating people on city burial programs and what do when the Lord calls someone home, Ernest has also spoken at several public schools to young children on their career day. In early 2001, Ernest cited by the Mayor and Councilwoman Annette Robinson as a "Man Of Courage." Ernest is the proud husband of Debbie Sampson and the proud father of Ernest IV, Sheniqua, Alyssia, Tiara and his spiritual daughter, Alexis.

Mr. Speaker, Ernest A. Sampson, III is a hard working man of God, dedicated to his family and his community. As such he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE
NURSE REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this important legislation, the Nurse Reinvestment Act, to help relieve America's nursing shortage.

Every American should be concerned about the growing shortage of nurses. Just as more Americans are reaching their golden years, fewer nurses are graduating from nursing schools to provide them the quality health care they earned and deserve.

Less well known, but of equal severity and concern, is the fact that there is a shortage of nurse anesthetists in America. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists, or CRNAs, provide 65 percent of anesthetics in the U.S., and are the sole anesthesia provider to 70 percent of U.S. rural hospitals. They are the military's predominant anesthesia provider, especially on U.S. Navy ships and at forward-deployed locations, serving our men and women in uniform as we are united in America's war on terror. They are registered nurses, who go on to complete masters-level education and certification in nurse anesthesia, and are considered a type of advanced practice nurse, licensed to practice in all 50 states. America's 28,000 CRNAs meet the most stringent continuing education and recertification requirements in anesthesia care. And with all this, the Institute of Medicine reported in its landmark survey of medical errors, *To Err Is Human*, that anesthesia care is 50 times safer than 20 years ago.

And there are not enough CRNAs today. The growth in the number of Medicare-eligible Americans compounds the growth in the number of surgical procedures requiring anesthetics. A 2001 survey of nurse anesthetist managers reported a 250 percent increase in CRNA vacancies among those managers reporting vacancies just since 1997. America's 83 accredited schools of nurse anesthesia are graduating more CRNAs, just not enough to keep up with growing demand. In real life, this

means surgeries get delayed, operating rooms lie unused, and hospitals and patients suffer, for a lack of a sufficient number of nurse anesthetists. We simply need to educate more of them.

This important legislation helps relieve the nursing shortage, and the CRNA shortage, in several important ways. It expands the authorization of the existing Nurse Loan Repayment program, so that nurses, including CRNAs, can work off their obligations in a greater range of health care sites with shortages, such as rural hospitals, Ambulatory Surgical Centers, and Critical Access Hospitals. It authorizes scholarships for nurses, including CRNAs, who agree to work in shortage areas. It provides important new incentives to educate nursing faculty, and to reach out to young people with the information they need to consider nursing as a positive, challenging, and life-changing career that is both economically secure and flexible.

This is only the beginning of our work on relieving this critical shortage. In 2002, Congress is due to consider reauthorizing of existing nurse education programs, Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act. I hope that as we reauthorize the Title VIII programs, we can look for creative ways to expand the number of nurses in America, while growing our ranks of advanced practice nurses such as nurse anesthetists.

I want to thank several Members for their excellent work on this bill; Chairman BILLY TAUZIN and Ranking Member JOHN DINGELL of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Chairman MICHAEL BILIRAKIS and Ranking Member SHERROD BROWN of the Subcommittee on Health, as well as Congresswomen KELLY and CAPPAS, original cosponsors of this legislation.

IN HONOR OF RAYMOND T.
PEEBLES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Raymond T. Peebles in recognition of his commitment to using his architectural skills to keep building his community in a positive direction.

Raymond T. Peebles is a long time resident of Brooklyn. He is also a registered architect in New York and Connecticut. He sees his profession as serving the various communities of New York City. Established in 1972, his firm, Peeble Architect PC, has worked with community groups in the design of new housing developments, churches, and the renovation and rehabilitation of brownstones. Over the years the firm has expanded its expertise to include health facilities, cabarets, and multi-use structures. To fulfill the demand for childcare centers and houses of worship, Mr. Peebles created a division of his firm exclusively for the design and construction of churches and day care centers.

Community groups that have worked successful with Mr. Peebles include the Northeast Brooklyn Housing Development, West Harlem Group Assistance, Prince Hall Mason and Miracle Makers, Inc. Raymond is active in professional organizations such as the American In-

stitute of Architects where he is a corporate member, and the Brooklyn Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He also serves on the Metrotech Advisory Board, and the Mayor's Small Business Advisory Board as well as the Association of Minority Businesses & Contractors.

Raymond is also active in his community serving on Community Board #9 and on the Board of the Magnolia Tree Earth Center. His goal is to establish an entrepreneurial environment for creative self-development with the community.

Mr. Speaker, Raymond T. Peebles is a successful businessman who has a vision for his community and he is acting on that vision. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly community oriented business leader.

IN HONOR OF VIVIAN YVETTE
BRIGHT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Vivian Yvette Bright in recognition of her tireless work and dedication on behalf of her church and her community.

Vivian Yvette Bright wears numerous hats. She is committed to the never-ending fight for her community and the development of our youth. She believes that it is important to try and do as much as you can for as many as you can for as long as you can. This is illustrated by her exhaustive list of associations. Vivian is a life member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and past President of Delta Alpha Zeta Chapter; life member of the National Council of Negro Women; Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Cypress Community Day Care Center; Trustee of Addiction Research & Treatment Center/Urban Research Institute; member, Board of Directors of the Brooklyn NAACP; Community Board #5 Vice President and Chair of the Land Use Committee; President of the Leadership Council of Open Communities of Brooklyn, Inc.; Business Manager of the Concerned Women of Brooklyn—among many other affiliations. In addition, since 1989, she has served as the Business Administrator and Director of the Community and Family Life Center of the Berean Missionary Baptist Church.

Vivian has also received countless awards for her outstanding work—some of which include: Brooklyn Navy Yard Community Leadership; the Lucille Rose Humanitarian Award—NAACP; Governor Carey International Year of the Child Award; New Horizons Village Homeowners Leadership Award; as well as a long list of awards from New York's many distinguished elected officials.

Vivian is a remarkable woman with unbelievable stamina; her many successes and honors come from hard work and a strong education. She received her Masters of Science in Human Resources Management from the New School for Social Research; she graduated in the first class of the Pratt Institutes Community Economic Development Program; and also holds a BS in accounting; Vivian is also listed in "Who's Who of American

Women". On top of her many other accomplishments, Vivian is a proud wife and mother receiving constant support from her husband of 42 years, Lonnie Bright and their children, Gary, Teresa, Marvin, Jamal, and Tiffany.

Mr. Speaker, Vivian Yvette Bright is a tireless leader in her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
HONORING THE CREW AND PAS-
SENGERS OF UNITED AIRLINES
FLIGHT 93

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 5, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be a cosponsor of this resolution memorializing the heroic crew and passengers of United Airlines Flight 93.

On September 11, as the fourth hijacked airplane, United Flight 93, flew west and then southeast, the passengers called friends and family on the ground. They learned the terrible news: hijackers had crashed three other airplanes into the World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon. They knew their plane would also be turned into a fearsome weapon.

The hijackers underestimated the indomitability of the American spirit. We may never know the whole story of the events on Flight 93 after the hijackers seized control. However, the phone calls and the cockpit voice recorder have given us the heart of it: the passengers and crew knew they had to act, and they did. They talked, and they prayed, and then they rushed the cockpit to try to stop the hijackers. A few minutes later, the plane crashed to the ground in rural Pennsylvania.

The nation salutes the crew and passengers of Flight 93 for their bravery in the face of overwhelming danger and almost certain death. If the flight had continued on its path toward the Nation's Capital, many more lives would have been lost. We might also have lost either the U.S. Capitol or the White House, the most powerful symbols of our nation, and known the world over as symbols of the world's greatest democracy.

I especially wish to acknowledge the heroism of Mark Bingham from San Francisco. Six feet five inches tall, Mark had played rugby in college. At thirty-one years old, he was CEO of his own public relations firm. On the street late one night, he had wrestled a gun from the hands of a mugger. He was a risk-taker, a man who lived life to the fullest. I had the opportunity to join his partner, Paul Holm, and his family and friends in celebrating his life at a memorial service in San Francisco. Our hearts go out to them for their loss of this brave man.

House Concurrent Resolution 232 expresses the sense of the Congress that the United States owes its deepest gratitude to the passengers and crew of Flight 93, and calls for the placement of a memorial plaque on the grounds of the U.S. Capitol. It is with both great sadness and deep appreciation that I cast my vote for this resolution.

IN HONOR OF FR. JAMES E. GOODE
OFM, PH.D.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Father James E. Goode, OFM, Ph.D. in recognition of his dedication and commitment to his community, his faith, and in his work in the battle against AIDS.

Father James E. Goode, OFM, Ph.D. is the leading Black Catholic Evangelist in the United States. He is known as the Dean of Black Catholic Evangelists having preached the first Black Catholic Revival in America (1974). The first Black Catholic Revival was held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Father Goode has preached all over the world and is one of the most sought after African American Catholic priests. Father Goode and Rev. Jesse Jackson preached at the Vatican during the Black American Voices in Rome celebration, an event that was sponsored by the Vatican and the City of Rome.

Father Goode was an elected member of the New York City Community School Board in District 16 for two terms. He was the former President of the San Francisco Housing Authority Commission. He also headed the first San Francisco Mayor's Task Force on Drug Addiction and served as a Commissioner for Children, Youth and Families. He was also a Commissioner for the San Francisco Delinquency Prevention Commission, as well as the San Francisco AIDS Council.

Father Goode is a native of Roanoke, Virginia and a proud Franciscan Friar of the Order of Friars Minor, Province of the Immaculate Conception in New York City (ordained May 13, 1974, NYC). He has earned his Doctor of Philosophy, with a major in Psychology, from Union Graduate School, his Master of Theology, from the University of the State of New York, St. Anthony Theological Seminary, his Master of Divinity, from the University of the State of New York, St. Anthony Theological Seminary, his Master of Arts in Educational Psychology: from the College of Saint Rose, Albany, New York, and his Bachelor of Arts, from the University of the State of New York, Immaculate Conception Seminary.

He was the Founding Pastor of the Faith Community of Black Catholics, Our Lady of Charity (1974) in the Diocese of Brooklyn. Under his leadership this declining parish came alive and became authentically Black and Catholic. Our Lady of Charity became a model for Black Catholic worship, education, community outreach and ecumenism. Father Goode assisted the larger Black Catholic Community of Brooklyn by serving on many boards and councils. He was the first chairman of the Office of Black Ministry in the Diocese of Brooklyn. By God's grace and mercy and through Father Jim Goode's gift of preaching and healing, thousands have come home to the Catholic faith. His motto: "Blessed Assurance Jesus is mine and no matter how hard the task or how difficult the moment I am ready to go in your name". He is a longtime activist and leader of Social Justice and Peace. His untiring efforts to combat

and correct some of society's most urgent problems have been his life's mission. This activism has led him to develop the 1st Annual AIDS Summit for Black Catholics on Saturday, December 1, 2001. The theme of the conference is: "Lift every life, help is on the way."

Mr. Speaker, Franciscan Father Jim Goode's entire priestly life has been dedicated to the spiritual and psychological growth and development of his people. He is a voice for the voiceless in their quest for human rights. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

DENNIS O'DELL; VETERANS COME FIRST!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I rise today to recognize and honor Mr. Dennis O'Dell of San Diego County who has been selected as the winner of the 2001 Maxine Waters Award for Courage, to be presented by AMVETS Post #66 on January 12, 2002 in Cathedral City, California.

Dennis O'Dell is a resident of my Congressional District. He was born in September, 1949 in Maryville, Missouri to Doris V. Shell O'Dell and Norman C. O'Dell. His father was awarded the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, and the European-African-Middle East Theater Campaign Medal, along with others honors. Dennis was raised in El Segundo, California and attended El Segundo High, El Camino College in Torrance, and Penn Valley College in West Los Angeles.

He served in the United States Marine Corps and received his honorable discharge in 1969. He began a career as a policeman in Missouri in 1979 and, after being wounded three years later, he became a business owner in Missouri.

However, his roots were calling him back to California, and he returned in 1983, working for a Security Company in Beverly Hills and for the Santa Monica Airport Police. In 1986, he went to work for the Department of Veterans Affairs as a Police Officer, was promoted to Police Detective a year later, and to Criminal Investigator in 1993. While working on criminal cases at the West LA VA Medical Center, Long Beach VA Medical Center, and the Sepulveda VA Medical Center, he had a conviction rate of 90%. He retired from the VA Police Department in 1995 after re-injuring his old wound while arresting three suspects who were attempting to sell drugs on the VA hospital grounds, and he has dedicated the past several years to veterans' causes. He is also a champion of the rights of workers, serving for several years as Union President/Business Agent of American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Local 1061, at all veterans' hospitals in Southern California. He won 90% of his labor grievances with management during his term and helped to bring the Union local out of trusteeship and return it to the members.

Dennis has been a Life Member of the California Narcotic Officers Association and of

AMVETS Post#2 in Culver City. He is a member of the VVA Chapter #53 in Redondo Beach, the American legion Post #46 in Culver City, the Marine Corps League of San Diego East County, the Hermosa Beach Veterans Memorial Commission, the AMVETS National Committee on Homeless Veterans, the Advisory Committee of the VA Greater Los Angeles Health Care System, and the Los Angeles County Veterans Advisory Committee. He has held elective office of the California Democratic Veterans Caucus.

He serves on the Board of New Directions, a long-term program for homeless veterans with drug and alcohol addiction with a spectacular success rate of 85%. He helped New Directions raise \$5 million to restore a 60,000 sq. foot, three story building with the assistance of Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS and Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN, and helped to guide the donation of a new state of the art kitchen by AMVETS Department of California Service Foundation.

Dennis is immediate Past State Commander of AMVETS, which has over 10,000 members in California. During his term, more women, people of color and gays joined AMVETS than any period in history. He also served AMVETS as Post #2 Commander, District 2 Finance Officer, Southern Area Commander, California Department Commander, and Trustee of the AMVETS Department of California Service Foundation.

Through his participation in these many organizations, his achievements for veterans are too numerous to mention. He helped to get Veterans' Memorials in Hermosa Beach and in Palm Springs, and wheel chair buses for the VA in West Los Angeles and for the State Veterans Home in Chula Vista. He has handed out over 4000 blankets to homeless veterans, he started a web site for California AMVETS, and helped in writing a Veteran Plank for the California Democratic Party Platform.

The Maxine Waters Award for Courage, which Dennis is receiving, is named for Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS, Representative of California's 35th Congressional District who has been invited to attend the award ceremony. Dennis made headlines when he gave a key to Congresswoman WATERS so she could make an unannounced inspection of a VA hospital locked-down psychiatric ward. The Congresswoman found the conditions deplorable, and sweeping reform took place. Dennis has shown other courageous action by walking with MAXINE WATERS and the Rev. Jesse Jackson, with the news media, from his union headquarters to the Director's Office of the West Los Angeles VA Medical Center to hand over thousands of pages of documents to the Director showing the alleged misappropriation of funds and misuse of VA land at this Medical Center. He undertakes these courageous actions despite the fact that he has had severe heart problems.

As a Member of the House of Representatives Veterans' Affairs Committee, I thank Dennis O'Dell for his dedication and for his achievements on behalf of our nation's veterans. I am pleased to recognize Dennis O'Dell for his service to veterans and to congratulate him as the recipient of the Maxine Waters Award for Courage.

IN HONOR OF MARCUS R. HABEEB

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Marcus R. Habeeb in recognition of his dedication and commitment to creating funding opportunities for those in need.

Marcus R. Habeeb is a proud product of New York's education system. As he tried to decide on a career path, he received a paralegal certificate from Adelphi University. Once he recognized that the law was not for him, he changed his focus and received a Finance degree from Baruch College, followed by a Master's of Business Administration from the same institution.

Over the past twenty years, Marcus has developed and broadened the scope of his expertise. Beginning in 1980, as an Accounts Receivable/Computer Operator, Marcus has steadily increased his responsibility and broadened his portfolio. He followed his first job, with a position as an Assistant Controller, where he was responsible for the financial management of a fine jewelry manufacturer. A few years later, he moved on to a position as a Chief Financial Officer, for a company in a difficult financial situation. Marcus was able to work with the bank and other creditors to recover potentially large losses. He moved from this position to Senior Vice-Presidency for a financial institution. While there he built a small Asian bank into a very important player on Wall Street. In his next position, he expanded his scope of responsibilities yet again, as the Operations Manager for Hometrust Mortgage Bank. While there, Marcus began to focus increasingly on marketing strategies, investor relations, and home mortgages. He has used this experience, most recently, in creating his own business, P & R Funding. Finally, Marcus is able to bring together all of the knowledge that he has accrued over his twenty year journey to independence to focus on developing financing and business products for those in need.

Marcus is also the proud husband, of fifteen years to Annie, and the father of two children.

Mr. Speaker, Marcus R. Habeeb has dedicated himself to business and his community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving this recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

IN HONOR OF JAMES BUTLER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of James Butler in recognition of his lifetime of outstanding service.

Jim Butler, is the President of a 10,000 member union, Local 420 Municipal Hospital Workers Union, DC 37, AFSCME, AFL-CIO. He has had a lifelong interest in the living and working conditions of the people around him. For over 40 years he has played a leadership role in the struggle to improve those conditions.

Since beginning his career at Local 420 as a union organizer in 1954, Butler has been a tireless fighter for better pay, health, education and other benefits for hospital employees. Gains for workers in these areas are the most obvious marks of his leadership. "I never felt better," said President Butler, "than when we were able to win respect for hospital workers."

Over the last several years, Jim Butler and his local have waged a battle against threats to privatize public hospitals in New York City. The Local saw their efforts pay off with a victory in stopping the privatization of Coney Island Hospital, and the recent victory in saving Brooklyn Central Laundry, and 200 member jobs with no layoffs. Jim Butler is currently engaged in a boycott at several hospitals against the contracting out of employee cafeterias to fast food operation such as McDonald's and Burger King.

No less important, however, are his contributions to the community which the hospital workers serve. Butler has been the driving force behind the union's frequent demonstrations and rallies for social justice. Under his leadership, Local 420's political action also makes itself felt in voter education and registration drives. Annually the Local registers thousands of voters and directly involves hundreds of union members in political campaigns. The Local was a key supporter in the historic campaign to elect the first African-American Mayor of the City of New York, the Honorable David N. Dinkins.

Jim Butler has long been part of the struggle for equal opportunity for minorities within the labor movement through active membership in the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, PUSH, NAACP, Urban League, and SCLC Labor Committees. He served on the executive board of CBTU's New York Chapter. He also served as a member of the New York Consumer Assembly's Board of Directors.

Butler is the recipient of numerous awards and honors from civil rights, labor and community organizations, including the Labor Committee of the NAACP, the New York and Jamaica (Queens) chapters of the NAACP, the CBTU New York Chapter, Memphis Municipal Workers Local 1733, the Coalitions of Labor Unions Women, New York State's Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, the Hispanic Labor Committee, the Harlem YMCA, Queensborough Women's Clubs, the Negro Labor Council, the Community Leadership Network, and Central Baptist Church's honoree for Outstanding Christian Leader.

Jim Butler has been the President of Local 420 for 27 years and on August 18, 1999 he was elected as a International Vice President to the "mother union", AFSCME. Jim resides in Astoria, Queens, NY with his wife, Eloise.

Mr. Speaker, because of his dedication to helping health care workers and fighting for social justice, Jim Butler is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable leader.

IN MEMORY OF BONNIE SCANLAN

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a heartfelt tribute to Bonnie Scanlan, a

dear friend and civic-minded individual who worked tirelessly for the community of Echo Park in the City of Los Angeles, California. On Sunday, October 7, 2001, we lost Bonnie after a characteristically valiant fight for life following a massive heart attack. Bonnie was laid to rest Saturday, October 13, 2001 at Rose Hills Cemetery in Whittier, California; we are comforted knowing that today she rests in peace.

Bonnie Susan Gerzofsky was born in Brooklyn, New York on January 28, 1946 to Molly and Leonard Gerzofsky, already parents to toddler Stan. When she was in the fifth grade her family moved to Alhambra, California. From All Souls Catholic School and San Gabriel Mission High School, Bonnie went on to graduate from Pasadena City College and then become a social worker for the County of Los Angeles.

She later married John Scanlan, together raising their three children Johnna, John and Stephan. Bonnie was a very hands on mom; she passed on her family's love of baseball to her boys, teaching them how to catch. She passed on the importance of community involvement to her children, as Bonnie's mother had to her, serving as Troop Leader during her daughter's days in the Brownies and the Girl Scouts. Bonnie was very proud of her family, especially her grandsons Christopher and Tommy. Perhaps the only love equal to that for her family, baseball and helping others was Bonnie's love for her ancestral homeland of Ireland.

Ownership in a Domino's Pizza brought Bonnie to the community of Echo Park in the late 1980's. Even though Bonnie remained a resident of the nearby city of San Gabriel, she felt that as a business owner in Echo Park she had a responsibility to the community and its people. Bonnie's contributions are countless: helping to organize the Echo Park Pride Day, donating a monthly "Pizza Night" to the Chris Brownlie AIDS Hospice, holding a food drive at her pizza establishment every year during the holidays, feeding hungry police and firefighters during times of tragedy and crisis, and bringing the Los Angeles Philharmonic Musicmobile to the children at Mayberry School. It seems you could always count on her to support any cause that helped young people in the neighborhood and, of course, to dole out those pizzas whenever and wherever the need arose.

In 1998 Bonnie was elected President of the Echo Park Chamber of Commerce, a position she held at the time of her death. She invigorated the Chamber: reviving the community Holiday Parade, instituting the Jackie Finer-Reed Scholarship, starting the Echo Park business district's "Face Lift" program, and organizing the yearly Echo Park Night at Dodger Stadium. And, yes, there were always pizzas at every event.

I feel deeply privileged to have known Bonnie. She was a trusted friend. She was blessed with a kind, honest heart. And, as all who knew her will attest, she spoke her mind. How I miss that . . .

On December 9, 2001, the community of Echo Park paid tribute to Bonnie Scanlan by dedicating this year's Holiday Parade in her memory. Bonnie served posthumously as Grand Marshal with her family riding the parade route in her stead. The people of Echo Park may not realize it, but Bonnie always felt that the community did more for her than she ever did for the community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride, yet profound sorrow, that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting Bonnie Scanlan, an exceptional human being. She left us too soon, with so much to do and so much to say. I will forever remember this beloved friend fondly.

IN HONOR OF AUDREY LEE
JACOBS, MBA, JD

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Audrey Lee Jacobs in recognition of her outstanding service to the community.

Audrey Lee Jacobs, MBA, JD is the President and CEO of Lyndon Baines Johnson Health Complex, Inc. In her short tenure, LBJ has made significant gains. Due in large part to Ms. Jacobs' strong business acumen, commitment and leadership, LBJ has earned an 11% increase in patient visits and produced a profit in fiscal year 2000—the first such increases in a number of years; established financial and operational, established a staff development and training program with Medgar Evers College and Wyckoff Heights Medical Center.

This child of Brooklyn's 10th Congressional District, having spent a number of years working throughout the United States for several of the world's largest corporations, is pleased to have returned to serve the community in which she was born. Ms. Jacobs attended the New York City public school system, graduating from Andrew Jackson High School as one of the top students in her class. She attended Vassar College on a full scholarship and majored in psychology.

Along the way, Ms. Jacobs developed a keen interest in business as she watched her entrepreneurial parents establish and run their own small businesses. When asked why she chose a business career, Ms. Jacobs remarked, "I have always found business to be an exciting, challenging and rewarding environment where I could use all of my talents and enjoy myself at the same time". She began her career in marketing working for several multi-national corporations, including Mobil Oil Corporation and AT&T. In 1985, with those experiences under her belt and the desire to expand her knowledge in business, Ms. Jacobs entered one of the top business schools in the country, the University of Texas at Austin. In 1988, when she was awarded the Master in Business Administration degree from the University, she decided to enter a law school instead of immediately re-entering the corporate world. In the fall of 1988, Ms. Jacobs enrolled in the law school of her choice, Columbia University School of Law.

Having studied corporate law, Ms. Jacobs "cut her teeth" at two prestigious Park Avenue law firms. Shortly after receiving the Juris Doctor Degree from Columbia in 1991, Ms. Jacobs joined the mayoral administration of David N. Dinkins. Serving as an assistant to the president of the NYC Health & Hospital Corporation. When the Dinkins administration ended, Ms. Jacobs returned to the practice of law.

Though the years, Ms. Jacobs has been active in the alumni associations of Vassar and

Columbia Law School; and she has raised funds for many community and political organizations. She has acted as a mentor to countless youth and has served as a volunteer lawyer with legal clinics representing the poor.

Mr. Speaker, Audrey Lee Jacobs is a Brooklyn success story. She has spent many years building an exemplary academic record and professional career and now she has come home to Brooklyn to share her success with her home community. As such she is more than worthy of receiving this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

IN HONOR OF JEHNEL DENISE
BANNISTER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Jehnel Denise Bannister in recognition of her religious commitment and service to her community.

Jehnel Denise Bannister was born on January 28, 1967. She was raised by her mother, Dolores Autry, and is the older of two children. She graduated from St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, North Carolina, in 1989 where she received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration. Jehnel is currently employed as a Vocational/Recreational Counselor for the Project Return Foundations Women's Day Treatment Program.

In 1991, she became a member of the New Canaan Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Richard J. Lawson. Jehnel is also very active in her community in many other ways; she is a member of the A.L.C. Coral Ensemble, the Putnam Avenue Block Association, and a supervisor of the Youth United in the Body of Christ (which is a body of young Christians trying to make a difference in her church and her community).

Jehnel enjoys working and making a difference in the lives of young people. She believes that it is important to bridge the gap between the youth and the older members of the church.

Jehnel's favorite scripture is "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me". (Philippians 4:13)

Jehnel believes that whatever God has for her is for her, so she does not worry about people and circumstances. Jehnel just continues to trust in God.

Mr. Speaker, Jehnel Denise Bannister is a young woman of faith who is committed to her church and her community. As such, I believe that she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly spiritual woman.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH R. KNOX OF
GRAND TRUCK WESTERN RAIL-
ROAD AND CANADIAN NATIONAL
RAILWAYS

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Kenneth R. Knox upon his re-

tirement from the rail industry after 36 years of service to the Grand Trunk Western Railroad and Canadian National Railways. It is truly an honor to thank Mr. Knox for 36 years of hard work and devotion to the railroad industry.

Beginning his career in the railroad industry as a Yard Helper with Grand Trunk Western Railroad in 1965, Mr. Knox immediately began rising up the ladder because of his well-founded knowledge and expertise. Ever misunderstood, the rail industry in the United States is one of the most important vehicles of U.S. commerce and is the remaining connection between our glorious industrial age past and the future of industry in America. Our railways are a symbol of American freedom and prosperity to the hard-working women and men that staff and service this important part of American society.

During his time in the railroad industry, Mr. Knox served also as Yardmaster, Assistant Trainmaster, Trainmaster, Terminal Manager, District Manager, Superintendent Agreement Administration, Manager of Labor Relations, up to his service as Manager of Operations for the Crew Management Center/Rail Traffic Control. Always dedicated to his job, Mr. Knox is well-liked and respected among all segments of the rail industry, especially by co-workers, upon his retirement he will be missed not only because his friendship with fellow workers, but also because of the knowledge and expertise he brings to work with him every day. His colleagues and I must truly respect the imprint he has left behind.

In addition to his dedication to the railroad industry, his dedication to family and friends and religion is second to none. I wish to thank Mr. Kenneth Knox for his 36 years of toil and sweat in the rail industry, and I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing Mr. Knox a happy and healthy retirement.

COMMENDING THE CONTRIBUTION
OF WESTFIELD WORKS WONDERS

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring to the attention of the House of Representatives and the American people an event that will raise money for schools, hospitals and charities in Connecticut. The Westfield Works Wonders charity event took place on November 18, 2001 with the goal of raising \$400,000.

This annual event has raised over \$1.2 million since its inception four years ago. An event of this magnitude is possible through the cooperation of the four Westfield Shoppingtowns in Enfield, Meriden, Trumbull and Milford. These malls join forces for the event by extending their hours of operation and donating their workforce.

I would like to commend the thousands of workers, volunteers and hundreds of non-profit organizations who serve their community through this event. This event embodies the spirit of community that will see our Nation through this troubling time.

On behalf of the people of Connecticut's 5th District, I congratulate and thank all of the citizens who participate in the Westfield Works Wonders event for the wonderful contributions

they have made to our community and country.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS
AFFAIRS HEALTH CARE

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3447, the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Enhancement Act of 2001. This important legislation makes changes to and additions of several important health benefits for our Nation's veterans.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, Mr. SMITH and Mr. EVANS, and the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Health Subcommittee Mr. MORAN and Mr. FILNER, and my colleagues on the Committee for their work on this bill.

Although there are several important health benefit enhancements in this bill, I would like to speak specifically about the provisions regarding VA nurse retention and recruitment, which are taken from a bill that Representatives SUE KELLY, CAROLYN MCCARTHY, MIKE DOYLE, and I introduced on October 3, 2001.

The legislation we introduced, H.R. 3017 the Department of Veterans Affairs Nurse Recruitment and Retention Enhancement Act of 2001, is companion legislation to S. 1188, which was introduced by Senator JAY ROCKEFELLER on July 17, 2001.

S. 1188, H.R. 3017, and now the provisions in H.R. 3347 seek to address the current nursing shortage in the VA health care system, and to ensure that the shortage is not exacerbated.

The provisions in H.R. 3347 modify existing scholarship and debt reduction programs for VA nurses, requires the VA to establish staffing standards at VA health care facilities, makes pay more consistent for various VA health professionals, and rectifies unequal retirement policies to improve retention of nurses in the VA health care system.

This legislation also requires the VA to report to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs regarding VA nursing issues, including the use of overtime by licensed nursing staff and nursing assistants in each facility in order to help determine what can be done to reduce the amount of mandatory overtime.

This legislation is a critical step in addressing the nursing shortage in the VA health care system. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3347 and support our VA nurses and health care system, as well as the men and women who have fought for our country and now receive care at these facilities.

TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize, and offer my con-

gratulations to, Central Elementary School, located in Paintsville, Kentucky. Earlier this year, students from Central Elementary participated in the national We the People * * * Project Citizen competition in San Antonio, Texas and were awarded honorable mention for their project, Speed Limit Signs. I was very gratified to learn of this and want to take this time to congratulate the teachers and students of Central Elementary affiliated with this program.

They are: Paula Goss, Annette Rouse, Brooke Bergeron, Katie Borders, Kalylia Brachett, Chelsea Burchett, Kelsea Castle, Shaina Kestner, Matthew Oney, Zac Sergent, Brittany Skaggs, Jasmine Watson, Chelsea Webb, and David Zitzelberger.

Project Citizen is a valuable program and I support it. Administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded through the Department of Education, Project Citizen is designed to engage public school students and their teachers and parents in important public policy issues. During competitions, students select an issue, study its affect on local communities, and share their findings. Schools invited to participate at the national conference won their state competitions.

Mr. Speaker, civic education and participation in the democratic process is vital to the stability of our Nation, and we must encourage people of all age groups, especially young students, to assume a role in local, state, and federal affairs. We the People * * * Project Citizen fosters this, and I hope the more schools will decide to participate in this program. Again, I want to congratulate the students and teachers of Central Elementary. They and all participants deserve our thanks and respect.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, last Thursday, family illness necessitated my return to Alabama. Thus, I was unable to vote during roll-call No. 482 (On Agreeing to the Conference Report for the District of Columbia Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2001, HR 2944). Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO THE MICHIGAN
CHRONICLE 65TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the *Michigan Chronicle*, which celebrated its 65th Anniversary on Friday, September 21, 2001. Truly a milestone occasion, 2001 marks 65 years of outstanding commitment to its readership and dedicated journalism.

Pioneered from the Detroit edition of the famous *Chicago Defender*, the *Michigan Chronicle* has come to signify excellence in African-American journalism in its 65 years of commitment to the African-American community in Michigan.

Printed for the first time in 1936, as part of the *Chicago Defender*, the paper gained immediate importance in the African-American community and became an institution in Detroit. Independently established from the *Chicago Defender* in 1937, the paper's first editor, Louis Martin, created the cornerstone of excellent journalism, with just under 1000 paid subscriptions that year. The paper, not seen by many as respectable journalism, was building interest in the community and became known as "the colored paper." Soon after, paid subscriptions grew to 15,000 in 1940, 25,000 in 1944, and to today's readership of 47,000. In 1984, Sam Logan was named Vice President and General Manager of the *Michigan Chronicle*. His ingenuity took the paper to new heights, moving the paper to the four color format and computer-based journalism.

Longworth Quinn became the General Manager in 1944, and eventually was promoted to publisher of the ever-growing *Michigan Chronicle*. He dedicated his life to the paper and the communities it represents and informs, training young journalists to follow in his footsteps. He served at the helm for 42 years until his passing. This year, the Longworth M. Quinn Community Service Award will be presented to an individual in the Detroit Metro area that embodies Mr. Quinn's commitment to community, diversity, and serving the public through volunteerism.

Dedicated to helping promising scholars, the *Michigan Chronicle* will also be a proud sponsor of the John H.H. Sengstacke Scholarship Award. This award will be given to an outstanding high school student in Wayne, Oakland, or Macomb County to help in the pursuit of a journalism degree.

Today the *Michigan Chronicle* is making new headway under publisher Alisa M. Giddens. I believe she has the vision to expand readership, help end racial prejudice, and provide true public service through journalism to the African-American communities in Michigan. I ask that all my colleagues join me in celebrating the *Michigan Chronicle's* 65 years of journalistic excellence.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DIANA
STOUT

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Diana Stout of Charleston, West Virginia for being elected the National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Since 1914, the Ladies Auxiliary VFW represents the families of those who have sacrificed for our country. The organization fosters our American heritage by conducting an annual patriotic ceremony and providing financial assistance for the preservation of this nation's most treasured symbol of freedom, the Statue of Liberty.

In her acceptance speech, Ms. Stout introduced her theme, Liberty and Justice for All, which is derived from her background in law and one of the Auxiliary's main objects, to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom and equal rights and justice to all men and women.

During her 2001–02 term office, Ms. Stout will be advocating the programs of the Ladies Auxiliary, including the raising of \$3 million for the Auxiliary Cancer Aid and Research program for the 14th consecutive year, assisting veterans and their families and volunteering in our communities.

As a charter Member of the Sperry-Davis Auxiliary to VFW Post 9151 of Salem, West Virginia she joined on the eligibility of her father, Thair Stout, who served in World War II. Stout was named Outstanding State President when she served in that capacity in 1986–87 and has served a total of seven terms as Auxiliary President and two terms as District President.

Stout was appointed to serve as State Secretary for three years and was elected to represent West Virginia and Virginia on the National Council of Administration. She was national chairman for the Southern Conference on the Publicity and Legislative programs and in 1988–89 she served as National Legislative Director.

After working as a secondary school mathematics teacher, she decided to attend West Virginia University College of Law and is currently employed as the General Counsel of the Treasurer's Office for the State of West Virginia. She belongs to the American Bar Association, the West Virginia Bar Association, the National Association of Bond Lawyers, and the Laudati Honor Society.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Ms. Diana Stout for her election of National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

IN HONOR OF DENISE PETERSON-
PENDARVIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Denise Peterson-Pendarvis in recognition of her long term commitment to her community.

Denise Peterson-Pendarvis attended New York City Public Schools, namely P.S. 287, P.S. 307; Junior High School 265 and Fort Hamilton High School. Later, Ms. Peterson-Pendarvis obtained a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from John Jay Col-

lege of Criminal Justice. In 1992, she received her Juris Doctor Degree from Seton Hall Law School in Newark, NJ.

Ms. Peterson-Pendarvis is currently a Government Relations Liaison at KeySpan Corporation. In this position she represents the corporation in its work with federal, state, and local governments. Prior to joining KeySpan, she worked for the New York City Board of Education as a Special Education Suspension Hearing Officer. She also worked as a Court Attorney for the late Civil Court Judge Ralph Sparks, Judge Kathym Smith and the Pro Se Attorney at Bronx County Landlord/Tenant Court. Ms. Peterson-Pendarvis also worked for many years as an assistant in my office.

In addition, to her full-time job, Ms. Peterson-Pendarvis is the President of the Board of Directors of Ryerson Towers where she has resided for the past twenty years. She is responsible for inter alia, overseeing operations and management of the \$5 million corporation. She serves as Secretary on the Board of Directors of the Marcus Garvey Nursing Home; and recently joined the Board of Directors of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Health Complex. She is also a board member of the Clinton Hill Consortium of Homeowners Inc. a newly formed organization that advances the concerns of the cooperators of the Clinton Hill/Fort Greene area.

In 1978, Ms. Peterson-Pendarvis became interested in "politics" and its relationship to the community. Since that time, she has coordinated numerous successful campaigns for all levels of elective office. Denise has proven leadership, organizational, and advocacy skills. She is constantly assisting those who may be less fortunate. She remains aware of where she came from and appreciates those who supported and guided her along the way.

Mr. Speaker, Denise Peterson-Pendarvis is a tireless worker and community leader. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTION
OF CONNECTICUT'S FIREFIGHTERS

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 12, 2001

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring to the attention of the

House of Representatives and the American people the names of a few of the many firefighters that risked their lives to rescue victims during the attacks of September 11. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the bravery of these individuals.

John P. Bolton served as a firefighter for the United States Military Academy for four years and is an eleven-year veteran of the Danbury Volunteer Fire Department, Engine 9. Firefighter Bolton spent four days doing search and rescue at the World Trade Center. He helped save two New York City firefighters who were trapped in the Towers. Firefighter Bolton suffered injuries as a result of his selfless actions.

Fritz Ludwig and Eric Masters are five-year veterans of the Southbury Volunteer Fire Department. Firefighter Ludwig and Firefighter Masters participated in search and rescue efforts in the following days after the attacks. They helped rescue two New York City firefighters that were trapped in the collapsed Towers.

The following members of the Danbury Volunteer Fire Department went beyond the call of duty during the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center the week of September 11, 2001. They all performed search and rescue in a hostile and dangerous environment: Karl Leach is a seventeen-year veteran and member of Engine 10; Doug Evanuska is a ten-year veteran and member of Engine 10; Don Fredericks is an eight-year veteran and member of Engine 10; Jodie Gomez is a three-year veteran and member of Engine 10; Rob Natale is a three-year veteran and member of Engine 10; Scott Warner is a two-year veteran and member of Engine 10; David Hull is an eleven-year veteran and member of Engine 9; Mark Mederios is a four-year veteran and member of Engine 9; Jeffrey Matson is an eleven-year veteran and member of Engine 9; Christine Colla is an eight-year veteran and member of Engine 9, and Glen Lake is a four-year veteran and member of Engine 9.

On behalf of the people of Connecticut's 5th District, I wish to express my deepest thanks to these heroic individuals. The contributions they made to our community and country at the risk of their own peril cannot be measured.