

much worrying by his parents, he later returned safe and sound—and enlisted in the U.S. Army's delayed entry program. At age 18, Mr. Wurtz was assigned in Hawaii. He quickly moved up the ranks and moved to the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum in upstate New York. Then came September 11, 2001.

After watching the horror of the terrorist attacks unfold on his television from Fort Drum, he had no idea that a short time later, he would be fighting terrorists in Afghanistan to protect his hometown and all of America from future terrorist attacks.

Between late September and March 1st, Sgt. Wurtz found himself in various staging and combat situations, leading up to his involvement in Operation Anaconda. The 10th Mountain Division was positioned on a mountain in Afghanistan in the morning hours of March 2nd and immediately became engaged in a 16-hour fire fight with enemy forces.

Shortly into the battle, Sgt. Wurtz was struck by a mortar shell, injuring his right foot. Minutes after the initial hit, the wounded Wurtz was hurt again, a mortar shell hitting his right kneecap. As he was being carried off the battlefield by medics, a photographer took his picture—a photo that appeared on front page of the March 8th New York Daily News. While he received medical attention in the field, because of the fierce fighting, Sgt. Wurtz and about 40 other injured soldiers were forced to endure the danger of intense fighting and freezing temperatures, because helicopters were unable to airlift them until nightfall.

After a series of operations and hospital stays overseas, Sgt. Wurtz arrived at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington, DC on March 9th to very grateful family members: his parents Clem and Joan, brothers Chris and Daniel, aunt and uncle Judy and Lenny Crawford, cousins Peggy Crawford and Brienne Pawson, and sister-in-law Danielle Auletta. While in Washington, he was presented with the Purple Heart and visits from U.S. Generals and visits from Members of Congress.

On March 18th, Sgt. Wurtz returned to New York City and his College Point neighborhood where he has been greeted and thanked by many appreciative friends, neighbors and local leaders. Despite his injuries, he is eager to report back to Fort Drum and is willing to return to Afghanistan if he is so ordered.

Although Sgt. Wurtz would disagree with the label, Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring him as the hero he is. Sgt. David Wurtz's courageous service on behalf of this country is the reason our Armed Forces ensure that we remain the land of the free and the home of the brave.

A TRIBUTE TO KVPT VALLEY PUBLIC TELEVISION ON ITS SILVER ANNIVERSARY

HON. CALVIN M. DOOLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. DOOLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of KVPT Valley Public Television, which has made a significant contribution to the educational advancement of many people in my district. KVPT provides the Central San Joaquin Valley with quality PBS programs includ-

ing Antiques Roadshow, Masterpiece Theater, and Sesame Street. Beyond that, Valley Public Television produces local programming such as Valley Press and Jobs, which broadcasts valuable local news and information about agriculture, employment, cultural events, and politics.

Throughout the past 25 years, community support has been an integral part of Valley Public Television. Through financial support, volunteering, and technical advice, Central Valley residents have maintained the station's quality alternative programming. Without the assistance and generosity of local residents, KVPT could not have sustained the inspirational and educational programming that has contributed so much to the people of my district.

Valley Public Television plays an important role in expanding educational opportunities for the Valley. It offers GED courses and has formed partnerships with local community colleges. These partnerships have resulted in the formation of on-air college courses that viewers can take for credit. KVPT also offers "Ready to Learn" workshops, which teaches parents, caregivers and teachers in a seven county region how to utilize KVPT's children's programming as an educational tool to help children get ready to learn before they enter the school system.

Under the leadership of its General Manager, Colin Dougherty, Valley Public Television has been a leader in Central Valley broadcasting for a quarter of a century. Mr. Dougherty has been with KVPT since its inception in 1977. His work has been an important part of Valley Public Television's success. I commend Mr. Dougherty on his work over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Valley Public Television on their twenty-five years serving the residents of the Central Valley.

CONGRATULATIONS TO REVEREND CRAIG D. MCDANIEL

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in offering our warmest congratulations to an outstanding community leader, Reverend Craig D. McDaniel, who is being honored for his faithfulness and dedication to the Smith Memorial Church of God in Christ as well as to the 10th District of New Jersey. On Friday May 10, 2002, there will be "A Night of Celebration" in Newark mark his achievements.

Craig Douglass McDaniel was born on February 25, 1960 to the Reverend Melvin McDaniel and the late Sallie Prather McDaniel in Newark, NJ. He is the eldest of five siblings born to this union. Craig was reared in Newark, NJ and attended the Newark Public Schools, graduating from Weequahic High School in 1979. He furthered his education at William Paterson College in Paterson, NJ.

Craig attended church with his family until he joined Holy Temple (Smith Memorial) Church of God in Christ in 1984 under the leadership of the late Bishop Howard Smith. In

1986, Craig was ordained a minister under the current Pastor, Dr. C.H. Evans and a few years later was ordained an Elder in the Church of God in Christ. In the early 90's, Elder McDaniel became assistant Pastor. He has traveled throughout the United States in revivals as an avid supporter of the Church of God in Christ.

One of Reverend McDaniel's greatest joys in life is serving people. In church, he is the Youth President and the Advisor of the Youth Department, Committee member for the Pastor's Anniversary Committee, former Vice President of the Young Adult Choir and many other auxiliaries. Reverend McDaniel serves in our jurisdiction as Vice President of the Youth Department and is also a National Adjutant in the Church of God in Christ.

In the community, he has participated on the advisory board for AIDS Benefits, Outreach Street Ministry, Essex County Prison Ministry, Annual Youth Retreats and Summits and the Beth Israel Medical Center Cultural Awareness Board. Reverend McDaniel was on the committee that enabled the Smith Memorial Church street to be renamed, from Stratford Place to Bishop Howard Smith Plaza (named after our founder, the late Bishop Howard Smith). In addition, Reverend McDaniel continues to better himself by continuing his education at Kean University in Union, NJ where he is currently majoring in Education.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in wishing Reverend McDaniel all the best as he continues his outstanding service to his church and the 10th District of New Jersey.

HONORING NORTHSIDE HOSPITAL-CANTON

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on July 6, 1962, Northside Hospital-Canton opened its doors to the surrounding community. From the very beginning, the hospital has strived to be an institution dedicated to the health and wellness of those that it serves. The hospital opened with only 250 beds, a 24-hour emergency department, and 80 physicians. As Cherokee County began to flourish and grow, the hospital did as well. Now, with more than 1,470 physicians serving over 300,000 patients annually, the hospital has proven itself to be a top quality facility that is clearly able to cope with the demands of a vibrant and growing part of one of the major metropolitan areas in the Southeastern United States. As the hospital reaches a milestone of 40 years of service, it is easy to see the vital role it plays in the community.

Much of the hospital's success can be attributed to its outstanding staff and its top-notch doctors; and employees stay with the hospital for a long time. One nurse, Ginnie Poor, has worked at the hospital for over 37 years. She is an example of the dedication and commitment the workers have made in order to guarantee health care of the highest quality.

Currently the hospital is expanding its emergency, radiology, and women's services, as well as offering more specialized services.

Under the leadership of CEO Doug Parker, the hospital expects to continue to grow with the increasing demands of the county. As the hospital continues its innovative and compassionate approach to the care of the patients, it dedicates itself to maintaining a leadership position in the health industry; not only in the quality provided, but also in the manner in which it educates, informs, and contributes to the community.

FAMILY FARM AND RANCH
INNOVATION ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to help ensure our nation's family farms and ranches continue to produce the agricultural products that have made us the breadbasket for the world.

Small family farms and ranches helped build the foundation of America. Thomas Jefferson once wrote in a letter to George Washington, "Agriculture is our wisest pursuit, because it will in the end contribute most to real wealth, good morals, and happiness." Today many small farms and ranches have disappeared. This is in part because the smaller farms and ranches have not been able to change to more profitable means of production. To continue as a viable business in agriculture farmers and ranchers need to be able to use modern techniques that increase profitability, and do it in a manner that is environmentally sound.

As a friend of mine, W.R. Stealey, reminded me when I was first elected to the Colorado Legislature, "If you eat, you are in agriculture."

The Family Farm and Ranch Innovation Act (FFRIA) would provide necessary tools for small agriculture businesses to modernize and become more competitive in today's market, access to credit and a plan to turn the credit into increased revenue.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Commission on Small Farms report titled "A Time to Act" found, "The underlying trend toward small farm decline reflects fundamental technological and market changes. Simply put, conventional agriculture adds less and less value to food and fiber on the farm and more and more in the input and post-harvest sectors. We spend more on capital and inputs to enable fewer people to produce the Nation's food and look primarily to off-farm processing to produce higher value products. Sustainable agriculture strives to change this trend by developing knowledge and strategies by which farmers can capture a large share of the agricultural dollar by using management skills to cut input costs—so a large share of the prices they receive for their products remain in their own pockets—and by producing products of higher value right from the farm." (In context of the report farms include ranches.)

The innovation plans in FFRIA, to be developed with the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service, would provide the blueprints to increase the value of farm and ranch Outputs.

The report also found, "Agricultural operations require high levels of committed capital

to achieve success. The capital-intensive nature of agricultural production makes access to financial capital, usually, in the form of credit, a critical requirement. Small farms are no different from larger farms in this regard, but testimony and USDA reports received by this Commission indicate a general under-capitalization of small farms, and increased difficulty in accessing sources of credit." If small farms and ranches are going use improved technologies laid out in innovation plans they will need capital. The Small Business Administration's 7(a) loan program has a long history of helping small businesses and would be a great tool for small farmers and ranchers to implement their plans.

America's small farms and ranches need a hand up to remain viable in our rapidly changing marketplace. Often today's small agriculture businesses are family owned and have only a very small profit margin. The combination of low market prices for raw agricultural commodities and the rising cost of land means that many of these businesses cannot afford to carry on. And that causes more urbanization of valuable farm and ranch land.

This legislation recognizing the importance of our small farming and ranching businesses. They provide diversity in the market place, local production of food, less pollution, and jobs, all of which strengthen our economy. And, farms and ranches that are part of our community remind us that food and other agricultural products don't just come from stores, and remind us of our connection to the land.

Mr. Speaker, small farms and ranches have provided the livelihood for many families since the beginning of our country. This bill will help ensure small farms and ranches do not become a thing of the past by providing the technical expertise and capital to allow them to meet the challenges of the 21st Century.

JOBLESS RATE IS AT 18-YEAR
HIGH IN DISTRICT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am concerned. I am concerned that my district lost 12,400 jobs in the past year including 300 from Global Crossing. I am concerned that this jobless rate is an 18-year high. I am concerned that in the last decade, 41 percent of Rochester, New York citizens between the ages of 20 to 34 have left town.

While my area has survived the wave after wave of layoffs over the last 20 years by the giant employers such as Kodak, the bankruptcy filing of Global Crossing in January was a shock. Global Crossing was seen as the wave of the future. Two outstanding labor leaders in the Rochester community summarized the thoughts of many workers in an essay which appeared in the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle on March 19, 2002. I have attached for the record a copy of this guest essay for my colleagues' consideration.

HOLD ALL CORPORATIONS ACCOUNTABLE, OR
OUR ECONOMY WILL NOT IMPROVE

(By James Bertolone and Gary Bonadonna—
Guest Essayists)

Recently, it's been reported that Monroe County has experienced a loss of 12,400 jobs

during the last year. Unemployment also has risen to a 10-year high of 6.4 percent (story, March 6). We have also learned that over the last decade, 30,000 young people have left this area looking for better opportunities.

These statistics may come as a surprise to people in Monroe County, especially those who have been following the predictions of a hopeful economic future from the Chamber of Commerce, the Industrial Management Council and the Center for Governmental Research the past few years.

In a trend that started in the 1980s, Monroe County has endured an astonishing deindustrialization of its work force. Due to one-sided free trade deals, the rate of this deindustrialization has accelerated rapidly. Eastman Kodak Co., Bausch & Lomb Inc., Xerox Corp., Valeo Electric Systems Inc. and others have announced wave after wave of layoffs. Small manufacturing concerns, many of which sprung up to fill the gap as large corporations shed workers, are suffering also.

The job loss at large manufacturing companies was, despite our instincts to the contrary, supposed to be good news. We were told by pro-corporate cheerleaders of the new economy that despite these layoffs, our local economy would still continue to grow jobs. We were merely an economy in transition, and the wonder of free trade and the dawning of a new Internet-based economy were supposed to lead these workers to a more modern workplace.

So what exactly has this new economy brought us?

Based on statistics, apparently a whole lot less than we bargained for. In this new world, we are supposed to get rich through investment in an ever-expanding stock market, not by punching a time clock. The old economy wouldn't be missed, although it served our community and generations before us so well. But the truth is unmistakable—12,400 jobs lost; 30,000 of our best and brightest seeking greener pastures elsewhere and the so-called experts at a loss to explain how this happened.

Working people can no longer stand idle while the corporate elite strip away our future and while regulations that had been designed to protect us from corporate greed are being dismantled by highly paid, pro-corporate lobbyists. According to that wild-eyed radical Alan Greenspan, two-thirds of economic activity in the United States is based on consumer spending. If workers don't have decent paying jobs, they don't have money, and there goes two-thirds of the economy.

It's time to recognize that our economy cannot improve without corporate accountability. Big business must be held accountable to their workers, to communities in which they operate and their investors.

We must regulate and protect the right of workers to organize and bargain collectively because, like it or not, organized labor is the only protection we have against the unfettered power of corporate management.

Organized labor's struggle to change labor standards, health and safety regulations and general social policy has become the greatest anti-poverty program in the history of the industrialized world.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL DAY IN
AFGHANISTAN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I applaud the children, families, and teachers of Afghanistan for celebrating their first back-to-school