

Joseph Healthcare. In a personal account of her journey through the SW, she describes a legendary episode where she came face to face with Billy the Kid. Sister Blandina helped to treat one of his gang member who was ailing on condition that Billy the Kid promised to always protect the Sisters of Charity from harm from his gang. While in Santa Fe, Sister Blandina realized a need for a facility to treat miners and railroad workers and she assisted in soliciting money for Santa Fe's first hospital, St. Vincent Hospital. While in Albuquerque, Sister Blandina provided much needed education for children by opening Albuquerque's first public school, our Lady of the Angels. In addition, she saw a need for a hospital in the growing community of Albuquerque. She solicited the funds to build the first hospital in the city, the St. Joseph Sanatorium.

Lily Timmons—Lily's service to our community began when she was the Chair of a Mother's March of Dimes campaign in the 1950's. She served as Executive Director of the NM Multiple Sclerosis Society for 25 years and patient services were always her top priority. She served on the Governor's Committee on Concerns of the Handicapped, on Albuquerque's Sun Van Committee for transportation for the handicapped and on a citizens advisory committee to the NM Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. She worked with UNM to develop a swim program for people with MS at the therapeutic pool and started the lock and Roll Wheelchair Bowling Team.

Brenda Yager—Brenda, Manager of AAA's Government Affairs Office, has worked hard to improve traffic safety and awareness in NM. She has led coalitions that led to Changes in NM's child passenger safety laws and established NM's Graduated Driver's License law. She has kept the community informed on numerous safety and consumer issues. She has taken the initiative to improve school age children's awareness about school bus, pedestrian and bike safety.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BOB MEISNER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Bob Meisner and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to his community and to his State. As a resident of Rifle, Colorado, Bob has dedicated himself to improving the Rifle community and the State by selflessly giving his time and energy to his job, his family, and his community. His remarkable business and philanthropic accomplishments are surpassed only by the hard work and dedication that he has poured into each and everything he has done. As we celebrate his tremendous accomplishment of earning the Rifle Chamber of Commerce, John Scalzo Lifetime Achievement Award, let it be known that I, along with the people of Rifle, applaud his efforts and are eternally grateful for all that he has done for his State and his community.

At the age of 72, Bob is most deserving of this lifetime achievement award, and I am honored to be able to bring his achievements to light. He began his extraordinary career in

reality in 1955, beginning with a service station, and later a Phillips 66. After working for some time in the real estate business, he started Rifle Realty in 1973. Originally intended to capitalize on the shale boom in Rifle, the company was forced to reinvent itself as a property management company after the shale bust in 1982. Bob's ability to guide the business through both good times and bad is what truly differentiates him, and helped make him an unparalleled business leader in his community. He recently sold the business, so he could spend more time traveling with his wife, Lois.

Throughout his career, Bob has been active in the Rifle Chamber of Commerce, serving as president in 1973 and being named person of the year in 1975. He has also been active in the fire department, the hospital district board and has served on both the Rifle home rule charter committee and as a council member. His philanthropic interests have further served to set him apart in his community, and have earned him much well deserved respect throughout Rifle. Bob is truly a remarkable man, always eager to give his time and energy to the community, through both his professional and philanthropic endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Bob Meisner is a man of unparalleled dedication and commitment to his job, his community and his family. It is his unrelenting passion for each and every thing he does, as well as his spirit of honesty and selflessness with which he has always conducted himself, that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. Bob Meisner has achieved extraordinary things and enriched the lives of so many people, and it is my privilege to extend to him my sincere congratulations on earning the Rifle Chamber of Commerce, John Scalzo Lifetime Achievement Award, and wish him all the best in the future.

TANF REAUTHORIZATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2002

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I believe we all have one goal in mind when it comes to re-authorizing welfare, and that is to improve the system so that more people can make the transition from welfare to work. We all want welfare recipients to move from assistance to jobs and self-sufficiency.

But the fact is that we need to take the necessary steps to ensure that people can stay in the workforce. I am disappointed that the Ways and Means and Education and the Workforce Subcommittees have chosen to ignore the roles that poverty reduction and child care can have in helping people move from welfare to work.

In Connecticut, we have the "Jobs First" program that imposes a 21-month limit on welfare benefits, but allows recipients to retain their benefits if they find employment. It is among the most effective state programs in the country.

But a recently released study also warns strongly that the gains we have made in Connecticut are at risk unless we do more to alleviate the tremendous financial stress young mothers are burdened with when they move from welfare to work while raising young chil-

dren. It found that families were cutting back on the size of meals and had problems paying the rent.

That is why we must approach welfare as a two-generation program that makes a substantial investment in quality child-care. That is why we must also make vocational education count as credit toward work activity—not eliminate it as the Republicans have proposed so far. That is how we can help families move up the economic ladder.

Mr. Speaker, these people are trying. Let's let them succeed.

OPPOSING GOP WORKFARE IN TANF REAUTHORIZATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2002

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, Education and training which lead to good-paying jobs makes welfare to work work.

Unfortunately, or fortunately, I have personal experience with this issue. I know that real training and education is the best way to lift public assistance recipients and families out of poverty, so they can succeed at whatever career they choose—even in the United States Congress.

However, instead of helping TANF recipients have access to these vital job preparation and education programs, a minimum wage, and a guarantee of civil rights, the GOP welfare reform plan makes it significantly more difficult for families to transition off of welfare. Denying parents on welfare access to those educational and technical skills to make them self-sufficient is counterproductive.

Instead of making it easier for parents to prepare themselves for better jobs, the Republican welfare reauthorization plan eliminates the current law's ability to count up to a year of full-time education or training. This goes completely in the wrong direction.

Support real jobs, not workfare!

CORPORATE AND AUDITING ACCOUNTABILITY, RESPONSIBILITY, AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3763) to protect investors by improving the accuracy and reliability of corporate disclosures made pursuant to the securities laws, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to criticize the wholly inadequate auditing reforms passed today by the House. We in the Congress must stand up to big business and protect working Americans and their retirement savings.

HR 3763 will not make the wholesale changes necessary to restore investor confidence. This legislation will not hold corporate