

fuller and more exact picture of the situation, and made it more productive in achieving a lasting peace in the region. In a House of 435 Members, there were only 82 who voted with me on this, and only three of those were Republicans. I wish we had more, because I think we would have ended up with a better piece of legislation.

In particular, I think the resolution would have been dramatically improved had it specifically mentioned our commitment to a Palestinian State, and the vision for the future most reasonable people share on this issue: two independent states, one Israeli and one Palestinian, living side-by-side in peace.

LAKE ALLATOONA AWARENESS  
WEEK

**HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Lake Allatoona Awareness Week as proclaimed by Governor Roy Barnes of Georgia.

Lake Allatoona is located north of Atlanta in the foothills of north Georgia, and covers parts of Cherokee, Cobb, and Bartow Counties. It provides drinking water for over 500,000 people and recreation activities for millions.

Two years ago the Lake Allatoona Preservation Authority, LAPA, was created to lead the effort to protect and preserve this vital resource. The lake provides habitat for a number of endangered species, including the Etowah Darter, Gray Bat, Southern Acornshell, and the American Bald Eagle.

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 7, LAPA and the Army Corp of Engineers signed a historic \$5 million joint study to plan for the preservation of the lake for generations to come. There is no greater way to preserve than to plan for the future, and for the citizens of North Georgia and this great natural resource the future is bright.

TRIBUTE TO PITTSBURGH  
REGIONAL ALLIANCE

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, recently a local economic development group—the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance (PRA)—was selected as one of the top groups in the Nation. Each year, the editorial staff of Site Selection selects the Top 10 Economic Development Groups for their role in bringing large-scale corporate expansion projects to their respective communities. These standards used to make their decisions included: Capital investment in the service area during 2001; new jobs created in the service area; capital investment per capita; and new jobs created per 100,000 population.

The PRA is an outstanding source of research and advocacy for regional development in western Pennsylvania, and I would like to submit to the RECORD Site Selection's explanation of why they were awarded this great honor:

Pittsburgh has been the manufacturing home of big steel, but much of that industry has closed and moved out of the country. The Three Rivers area has suffered through a downturn and repositioned itself as a city of the future. Building on the historic strengths of the area's energy traditions, the Pittsburgh Regional Alliance (PRA) helped Siemens Westinghouse Power choose a 22-acre site as the location for its \$122-million, state-of-the-art fuel cell manufacturing plant.

After the passage of Greenhouse Legislation by the state legislature, the PRA has begun to pursue an area Pittsburgh Bio/Venture Life Sciences Greenhouse approach to attract new industry. With cooperation with various academic institutions, the Bio Greenhouse hopes to position the area as a leader in biological research and development. "The Greenhouse will be the centerpiece of technology commercialization and economic development efforts," says D. Lansing Taylor, president and Chief Executive Officer of Cellomics. "It will also be the single organization to exploit synergies among university research strengths and facilities, and coordinate those efforts with economic development."

The PRA, in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Dept. of Community and Economic Development, helped bring the world's largest producer of medical devices, Lake Region Medical, to the area. The facility will manufacture guide wires used for diagnostics and machine products used in the medical field, and will create at least 140 new jobs. The facility has qualified for a state financial package, including an Opportunity Grant and Jobs Creation Tax Credits.

I congratulate the PRA on this great award, and look forward to continue working with them as we bring back new growth and opportunity to western Pennsylvania.

HONORING ELAINE MARTIN

**HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elaine Martin of Nampa, ID, on receiving the Small Business Advocate of the Year Award. Elaine was a struggling farmer in 1985 when she decided to enter the highway contracting business. With a \$25,000 loan from her widowed mother she started a highway fencing company that, within a few years, became one of the largest guardrail companies in the western United States. Elaine's company, MarCon, now grosses over \$8 million a year, and has grown from 5 employees to more than 26 full-time employees. Starting with no knowledge of highway contracting, she's had the courage to explore every aspect of the business, from working alongside her crews to fighting red tape on behalf of contractors and small businesses everywhere. Elaine Martin has been a tremendous success, and Idahoans are extremely proud of her and the well deserved recognition she's received.

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on May 1, I attended a ceremony in the White House at which the Congressional Medal of Honor was awarded posthumously to Captain Jon Swanson, who was killed during the war in Vietnam. As a result, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 120, on the Sanders of Vermont amendment to H.R. 2871, a bill to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that amendment.

Also, on Tuesday, May 7, I was in Colorado for a ceremony marking the return to the United States of the remains of Daniel Aaron Romero, a Colorado Army National Guard sergeant serving with the 19th Special Forces Group. Sergeant Romero was killed April 15 when an accidental explosion rocked a demolition range in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

As a result, I was not present for rollcall vote No. 127, on the bill designating the Federal Building located at 5100 Paint Branch Parkway in College Park, MD, as the Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

For the same reason, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 128, on the concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the national importance of Health Care Coverage Month. Had I been present for that vote, I would have voted "yea."

For the same reason, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 129, on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 414, the rule dealing with H.J. Res. 84. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that rollcall.

And, for the same reason, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 130, on H. Res. 414, the rule dealing with H.J. Res. 84. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on adoption of that resolution.

Also, for the same reason, I was absent during rollcall vote No. 131, on the motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to H.R. 3525, the Enhanced Border Security and Visa Entry Reform Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that motion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 133, I was inadvertently not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO JAMES D.  
TSSCHECHTELIN

**HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to James D. Tschechtelin,