

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN MEETING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

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

I respectfully request that the following testimonials be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ON BEHALF OF STEPHANIE HORVATH, KATIE BLANCHARD, CADY MERRILL, AND JESSE BUTLER REGARDING ABORTION

STEPHANIE HORVATH. We are doing our presentation on abortion.

Abortion is never an easy decision to make, but women have been making these choices for thousands of years, for many different reasons. Whenever society has sought to outlaw abortion, it has driven women to back alleys, where this procedure becomes dangerous and illegal.

Each year 50,000 to 100,000 women die after receiving an abortion in unsafe and unsanitary conditions, and an estimated 20 million unsafe abortions take place each year.

KATIE BLANCHARD. Regardless of what people around you think about a decision such as abortion, it is the ultimate choice of the woman, their doctor, and their god. Parental involvement for minors should be necessary due to the conditions performed in this surgical procedure.

Every woman should have a supportive mentor to turn to in case of an emergency following an abortion. A parent could be there to care for, protect and comfort child in such a situation. Most women experience such complications as loss of appetite, lack of sleep, persistent crying, isolation from friends, excessive anger and thoughts of suicide.

CADY MERRILL. Although a parent's reaction could be unexpected, it is normal for them to have some emotional feelings about their daughter's pregnancy. It is normal to feel frightened, sad, angry, betrayed and disappointed. Regardless, most parents are and should be beside their child through hard times, and would only help their daughter through an abortion if that was her choice.

JESSE BUTLER. Abortion is a highly sensitive topic. I'm not here to debate whether it is right or wrong. I am here, however, to state that I think, when an abortion is being considered by a minor, at least one parent or the legal guardian of the minor should be required to be involved. The state has already established that minors are not allowed to make many decisions or perform many actions without their parent's or guardian's consent. Abortion should not be any different.

Many questions have to be considered when thinking of having an abortion. Some of those questions included whether or not

the abortion or pregnancy or baby can be supported. Another question includes whether or not a minor can deal with the physical and psychological consequences of whichever decision is made. All of those questions are serious questions a minor may not have enough life experience to be able to make good judgments on. 5 percent of the time, abortion should involve a doctor's opinion. Adults will also be more inclined to recognize and respect a doctor's opinion. Young women may be afraid to tell their parents that they are pregnant. Requiring parents to be involved in the abortion decision will encourage parents to pay attention to any clues that their child may be pregnant. Overall, I think if an adult is involved in a decision, it is more likely that the best judgment will be made.

ON BEHALF OF ELIZABETH ECHEVERRIA AND DAMON ROONEY REGARDING LABOR EXPLOITATION

DAMON ROONEY. First of all, I would like to thank you, Congressman Sanders, for letting us come here. And I also thank Lamaille; we really appreciate you switching your timeframe with us.

ELIZABETH ECHEVERRIA. We are dealing with labor exploitation, and this touches on a couple of the topics that were already talked about. It ties in with child labor, and it ties in with free trade, and things like that.

Do you wear brand-name clothes? Do you drink coffee? Have you ever wondered where these things came from? The answer may surprise you. Because many of these things are made or picked by malnourished, oppressed and exploited men, woman and children.

DAMON ROONEY. I would like to read a passage written by the National Labor Committee: We went there by chance on an early Friday afternoon, the Muslim holiday, when the garment workers were supposed to have their weekly day off. We met an 18-year-old girl who, minutes before, had just returned from having been forced to work three 20-hour shifts in a row. She had worked 64 hours in the last three days, 120 hours in the last week. She was working seven days a week. Her eyes were more bloodshot than I'd ever seen anyone's before. The entire eyeball was pale, glassy red. She could barely speak. She was not just exhausted, but she had nearly lost her voice, and all that was left was a painful, low harsh rasp. This woman earned 14 cents an hour, \$6.83 a week, sewing clothing for U.S. companies.

ELIZABETH ECHEVERRIA. That is just one example of the conditions that our American companies are fostering. People all over the world, in factories like the one this woman works in, are kept in abject misery and poverty. These factories are poorly ventilated, poorly lighted, and, basically, miserable places to be.

In an article from the New York Times, Adelia Pinvata, who investigated conditions in the San Marcos Free Trade Zone in San Salvador, said, and I quote: The wages are not enough to cover the basic food basket. It is a scandal. There are workers who faint because of the heat inside the factories, and because they are badly nourished. Various workers fainted when we were there.

An example is one of these types of factories, the Active Sporting Limited factory

in Bangladesh, who makes hats for Rebok, Falcon Headware, Georgetown University, University of Connecticut, and various other U.S. companies and universities.

I came across some disturbing facts. Many workers must put in up to 60 to 70 hours of mandatory overtime a month, "mandatory overtime" being illegal in Bangladesh. They have no regular scheduled holidays. They have a maximum of two days off per month. They don't even get weekends off. Their wages are below the legal minimum. A maternity leave isn't paid. Workers may not talk during their shifts. They must ask permission to use the bathroom. Their bathroom visits are timed, and the water is unsafe to drink. There are no sick days allowed. And they are reportedly slapped and beaten with sticks for misbehavior.

No one could last more than 10 to 15 years. In the end, they are sick, exhausted, and penniless. And it is not an isolated occurrence, it is typical. For example, according to an article from the October 9, 1995, edition of the New York Times, in Central America free-trade zones, many factories are surrounded by 15-foot cinder-block walls, barbed wire, and armed guards.

Yet these workers cannot break out of poverty and degradation, because in most places, anyone who attempts to form a union is methodically fired and blacklisted.

DAMON ROONEY. Labor exploitation is a difficult problem, but we can find solutions. The biggest problem is that wages are too low to even buy adequate food. One obvious solution to this problem is to pass legislation that forces U.S. companies and their contractors to pay higher wages.

But this is tricky, because we don't want to put them out of business. We also should think twice about boycotting for this reason. Because any poor laborer would agree that it is better to be exploited than to have no job at all. But getting them to raise their prices a little won't break them. The U.S. must force them to pay subsistence wages—in other words, earn enough for food, clothing, and adequate shelter. And this is not that big of a demand, considering that the estimated subsistence wage for Bangladesh, for example, is only 34 cents an hour, or day.

ELIZABETH ECHEVERRIA. An hour. And that is a high-end estimate, by the way.

Another approach would be to force the companies to pay the workers a higher percentage of the retail value of the product that they are producing. This would help level out the distribution of wealth. Because, for example, according to Forbes Magazine, Donald Fisher, CEO of GAP and Banana Republic, is worth \$1.5 billion, while hat makers in Dacca, Bangladesh, receive an average of 1.6 cents for every \$17.43 University hat they make. That means the workers are only receiving .01 percent of the hat's retail price. Double their wages, and the hat cost less than two cents more for us to buy. Where do you think all the money is going?

DAMON ROONEY. Another problem is lack of inspectors to enforce labor laws. Because there are numerous labor laws and U.S. national company protocols in places that are not being followed, there are only eleven for the whole Dacca export zone, which has over one million clothing workers. We must get more inspectors in there, and also raise the penalties. We could have U.S. inspectors inspect the factories that export to the United

• 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.

States, and if the conditions are not satisfactory, then the products cannot be sent to the U.S. That way, factories don't get paid if they don't follow the rules.

ELIZABETH ECHEVERRIA. Before any of these solutions can be put into motion, we must heighten awareness of these injustices. American people have a strong voice. Because only when these companies realize that their profit will go down will they listen.

We are the consumers and we have the power. So the most important thing that all of you in the audience can do is write letters to the CEOs of these places—the GAP, Liz Clayburn, Reebok, et cetera—and let them know that the public is concerned.

DAMON ROONEY. Labor exploitation is a problem that affects us all. We are the ones wearing the clothes and drinking the coffee picked by exploited hands. It is up to us to change these injustices.

Thank you, Mr. Sanders, for your time.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CROWLEY COUNTY HERITAGE SOCIETY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the vital efforts of an organization that has dedicated its mission to preserving our nation's and Colorado's western values and heritage. This year the Crowley County Heritage Society will celebrate an important accomplishment to settling the West, the emergence of irrigated farming. As the society celebrates this vital piece of Western culture, I would like to commend the society's efforts toward preserving the early Colorado achievements and accomplishments.

This May, the society has chosen to recognize the thoughtfulness and forbearance of our early Colorado settlers. As this country was expanding, the need to create abundant and rich soil became a backbone to ensuring our settlement of Western lands. Using an available water source, the Arkansas River, our forefathers built several reservoirs and canals to gather and transfer large amounts of water that would be used to irrigate otherwise fruitless soil. Through a long duct known as the Colorado Canal, water began to be diverted to Crowley County allowing aspiring farmers to reap the benefits of an otherwise desolate landscape. Years later, more reservoirs would be created, several under the Twin Lakes and Colorado Canal company, who would further construct reservoirs and canals to bring the precious resource of water to several counties throughout Colorado. This was a remarkable accomplishment for those early times in our history and I am thankful organizations such as Crowley County Heritage Society have chosen to honor our early pioneers.

Mr. Speaker, as this country continues to change and forge our future, we will rely upon these heritage societies to remind us of our difficult and humble beginnings. Today many of us in the West take for granted the ability to raise and reap agricultural products from the land and it is imperative that we remember the trials and tribulations of those early days that ensured a future for us all. I would like to extend my thanks to Crowley County Heritage Society and commend them for their fine ef-

forts over the years to preserve our past. I wish you all the best with your celebration and good luck in your future endeavors.

CHF INTERNATIONAL: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF BUILDING A BETTER WORLD

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, in these times of world gloom and heightened concerns for global safety and security, peace and prosperity in the aftermath of the tragedy of September 11, we have come to better understand the stark reality that people and communities who feel powerless and who live in poverty-stricken conditions with little hope for a different future often become frustrated and angry with their lives. These conditions often breed contempt for society in some and eventually can contribute to the corrosion of world stability.

But we also know that human misery, powerlessness and other forms of deprecation can be addressed and are being successfully addressed by organizations such as CHF International which is celebrating its 50th Anniversary during this year of 2002.

Begun in 1952 as a housing cooperative building affordable housing in rural America and in low-income neighborhoods of older cities, CHF has grown into a world renown catalyst for sustainable positive change in low and moderate income communities around the world. CHF International works in communities from Africa to Asia to meet the challenges posed by global poverty, complex emergencies and humanitarian crises, social and economic disparities caused by conflict or political transition, and environmental degradation.

Led by the energetic and unselfishly committed team of Chairman Gordon Cavanaugh, President and CEO, Michael Doyle and Vice President Judith Hermanson and hundreds of dedicated staff worldwide, CHF International is clearly making a difference in the lives of ordinary people in over 100 countries.

CHF's formula for success, as recognized by the United Nations on its "Scroll of Honour", has always been a strong belief in the goodness and power of the human spirit, fortified by openness and transparency, fiscal responsibility, continuing education, democratic governance and greater community participation.

Supported in large part by the United States Agency for International Development and other international and domestic benefactors, CHF International, over the past ten years, has been able to leverage over \$165 million to provide more than \$60 million in microenterprise loans, to create over 500,000 jobs, to train over 103,000 people for community operations, to build or improve close to 100,000 homes, improve the economic standing of over 2 million impoverished women and help form or strengthen some 8,000 local co-ops.

Mr. Speaker, as the former Chairman of the Western Hemisphere Subcommittee and current Chairman of the Europe Subcommittee, I have been aware of CHF's programs in places stretching from El Salvador and Guatemala to

Serbia, Kosovo and Azerbaijan. The work of CHF International and its worldwide staff has been impressive and should be recognized, applauded and supported for its extraordinary contribution to humanity.

Once again, congratulations to CHF International for fifty years of working to build a better world.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH SELDON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to and congratulating Kenneth Seldon of Hampshire County, West Virginia. For over 50 years, Mr. Seldon's hard work and dedication to his community have been truly inspiring.

With a work ethic deeply rooted in the American Dream, Kenneth Seldon has faithfully operated Riverside Service and General Store in Yellow Spring, West Virginia since May 22, 1952. In addition to operating the business, Kenneth also served as Yellow Spring Postmaster from 1957 to 1982. Mr. Seldon is also a charter member of the Capon Valley Ruritan and an active member of the Timber Ridge Christian Church.

In honor of Kenneth Seldon's 50 years of hard work, dedication, and commitment to his family and community, I ask my friends in Hampshire County and my colleagues here in the nation's capital to join me in recognizing May 19, 2002 as a day of celebration and recognition for Kenneth Seldon.

BILL TO INCREASE LIKELIHOOD OF COMPLETING CLEANUP AND CLOSURE OF ROCKY FLATS SITE BY 2006

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am today introducing a bill dealing with the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats, a Department of Energy (DOE) site just 15 miles from downtown Denver, Colorado.

Rocky Flats once produced vital components of nuclear weapons. But now production there has ended, and the site is being cleaned up and readied for closure—after which, under legislation enacted last year, it will become a National Wildlife Refuge.

Cleanup at Rocky Flats is proceeding under a plan agreed to by DOE, EPA, and the State of Colorado. DOE's goal is to complete cleanup and close the site on or before December 15, 2006.

Closure of Rocky Flats will mean increased greater safety for Coloradans. But it will also mean reduced demands for funds for security and maintenance of the site as well as for cleanup work. And that can make additional funds available to meet the needs of other nuclear-weapons sites, including sites in Washington, Texas, Ohio, Tennessee, South Carolina, Idaho, New Mexico, and other States.

As a crucial part of the cleanup, DOE intends to relocate several tons of plutonium

and other radioactive materials from Rocky Flats. The previous Administration planned to ship the plutonium to the Savannah River site, in South Carolina. There, some of it was to be used to create mixed-oxide (MOX) fuel for commercial nuclear reactors and some was to be immobilized for disposal elsewhere.

This plan was developed to implement an international agreement under which both the United States and Russia agreed to reduce stockpiles of weapons-grade plutonium. This is an important part of our efforts to prevent proliferation of nuclear weapons, which of course is so vital an aspect of our foreign and defense policies. It is also important to our national security to consolidate this surplus plutonium in one location so that it can be effectively guarded and efficiently managed—and since Rocky Flats is slated for closure, it does not make sense to keep the plutonium there.

However, the Bush Administration now has adopted a new plutonium-disposition strategy that does not include immobilization. In turn, that has prompted the Governor of South Carolina to raise objections to having plutonium shipped to that State. The Governor has gone into federal court to prevent that from happening—and as a result, shipments of plutonium from Rocky Flats have been delayed.

Other legislation has been introduced that addresses issues raised in that lawsuit, and the bill I am introducing today does not focus on them—it focuses only on the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats.

That is because while Coloradans may differ about some things, we all agree that a prompt and effective cleanup and closure of the Rocky Flats site is a matter of highest priority for our state—and we are all concerned that the shipments of plutonium, originally scheduled to begin last fall, are not yet underway. We are worried that unless those shipments begin soon the DOE will be unable to achieve its goal of completing the cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats by 2006.

That is why I was disappointed last week when the House's Republican leadership refused to even allow consideration of including in the defense authorization bill a simple statement of the importance of a timely cleanup. That is why I think it is now essential to act to protect Colorado's interests in case DOE does not soon overcome obstacles to removal of the Rocky Flats plutonium. And that is the purpose of the bill I am introducing today.

The bill is intended to make it more likely that DOE will have the ability and the incentive to meet the 2006 cleanup goal. It provides that if shipments of the Rocky Flats plutonium under the current disposition plan have not begun by July 1 of this year, DOE will be required to examine alternative plans and to report on those alternatives within 6 months. And if shipments have not been completed by November 1 of next year, as called for in current cleanup plans, DOE would be required to compensate Colorado at the rate of \$1 million per day—up to \$100 million per year—until all the Rocky Flats plutonium has been removed.

These deadlines were not selected arbitrarily. It is essential that the plutonium now stored at Rocky Flats be removed by the fall of next year so DOE can accomplish other essential cleanup work that must be done in order to achieve a 2006 closure. If the plutonium stays at Rocky Flats too long, DOE runs the risk of missing other cleanup and closure milestones and of failing to live up to its com-

mitments to Colorado. That is also why there is an immediate need to explore other alternative locations to which the plutonium can be sent. DOE did look at other alternatives before selecting the South Carolina site, so I think a new examination of alternatives would not take very long, but it must be done soon for DOE to stay on schedule at Rocky Flats.

Admittedly, this is strong medicine. But I think strong medicine is required in this case, because this is a matter of such great importance to the country and particularly to Colorado.

In drafting this bill, I cannot claim great originality. The requirement for a consideration of alternatives is based on legislation that Senator WAYNE ALLARD, Colorado's junior Senator has proposed, and the idea of a \$1 million-per-day incentive is based on legislation introduced by our colleague, Representative LINDSEY GRAHAM to protect the interests of South Carolina. My purpose in shaping this proposal was not to be innovative, but to develop legislation that would protect Colorado's interests and advance the national interest in reducing our stockpile of weapons-grade plutonium.

Mr. Speaker, I have supported DOE's efforts to achieve an effective cleanup of Rocky Flats, closure of the site, and its transformation into a National Wildlife Refuge before the end of 2006. I have done so because I have considered that to be in the national interest as well as the interests of all Coloradans—and of that I am still convinced. The bill I am introducing today reflects my continuing determination to do all I can to see that DOE will continue to press forward to achieve those goals.

SEMINOLE HIGH SCHOOL
RECOGNIZED FOR EXCELLENCE

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Seminole High School in Gaines County, Texas for winning the 2002 University Interscholastic League Class AAA State Academic Championship. Students from Seminole High School proved themselves superior to students from throughout the state of Texas at the UIL one-act play and academic meet competition earlier this month. Seminole High School earned 119½ points, which was 10½ points higher than its closest competitor.

Seminole High School has performed well during the state UIL competitions in past. The school won first place in the state competition in 1993 and 1994. Students of Seminole High School won runner-up honors in 1995 and 2001. The UIL competition requires students to prove their skills and knowledge in a wide range of studies, including mathematics, science, writing, reading and interpretation. Students also must perform a one-act play.

Students at Seminole High School have accomplished a commendable achievement. The students' success in statewide competition reflects highly on their dedication to academic excellence, and it reflects highly on their teachers and administrators to whom their education has been entrusted. It is with great pride that I recognize the Seminole High School students competing in the 2002 UIL

competition in Class AAA for their tremendous accomplishment.

Children's academic successes are crucial to our nation's continued growth and prosperity, and students at Seminole High School seem poised to serve this country well. I am proud to represent such a high achieving academic institution as Seminole High School.

HONORING HEBRON BAPTIST
CHURCH "HIS KIDS 'N' COM-
PANY" DACULA, GEORGIA

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, there are a select group of people who reach out to make the world a better place, and truly make an impact on our lives. These folks keep us aware of what it means to be an American, what our values are and should remain; and keep us ever mindful of the many sacrifices made by courageous Americans to insure future generations enjoy our many freedoms.

Hebron Baptist Church in Dacula, Georgia, not only spreads the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, they are ever mindful of teaching patriotism and the importance of our nation's freedom to openly express the words, "In God We Trust."

I was privileged recently to witness a musical play entitled, "In God We Trust," starring the children of Hebron Baptist Church, "His Kids 'N' Company." It was an excellent portrayal of how important it is to us as a nation to protect ourselves from those who would prefer to abolish from all public view, the words "In God We Trust." The play portrayed the development of our nation, from the ships leaving Europe filled with pilgrims searching for religious freedom, to the many sacrifices made by generations of our citizens in order to maintain such freedom; as well as the attacks being made today to abolish open expression of belief in God.

It was an outstanding musical play with a very serious message, and the "kids" were successful in their effort, not only to get the message across of what being an American patriot is all about, but they truly touched the hearts of everyone in attendance. I believe there is no place more fitting to recognize and honor this most patriotic musical play and its participants, than in the House of Representatives—the very seat of our nation's government.

I wish each of you could have the opportunity to witness this outstanding production, which was created by Jeff Brockelman; with music by Chris and Diane Machen; and script by Jeff Brockelman and Sharon Thorne.

I ask my fellow members to join in congratulating Larry Wynn, Senior Pastor of Hebron Baptist Church; John Williams, Music Ministry Assistant; Billy Britt, Pastor of Church Growth and Institute Training; Pam Turner, Director of the Children's Choir; and Jackie McFarland, Music Ministry Assistant. A special congratulations is in order to all those who were directly involved with the musical play, along with "His Kids 'N' Company" who performed superbly.

REMEMBRANCE OF FALLEN
TULARE COUNTY PEACE OFFICERS

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to join the people of Tulare County and the United States of America as they give thanks to those peace officers who have made the supreme sacrifice while working to enforce our laws, protect our homes, and guard our lives. Events of the past year have served as a poignant reminder of the selfless dedication to duty that peace officers demonstrate every day, and those of us who served in the 105th Congress were the direct beneficiaries of this devotion, when two Capitol Hill Police Officers fell in the line of duty.

The Tulare County Sheriff's Department's Peace Officer Memorial Service and dedication of the Peace Officer Memorial will be held today, May 15, 2002, in Visalia, California. This monument pays tribute to the nineteen Tulare County peace officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty. To honor their noble sacrifices, the people of Tulare County have come together to donate the funds needed to make this lasting tribute to these brave individuals a reality.

This monument honors eight members of the Tulare County Sheriff's Department, three members of the California Highway Patrol, and eight members of various other law enforcement agencies located in Tulare County, including one federal officer from the National Parks Service. The Tulare County peace officers who have been killed in the line of duty are: Deputy John N. Wren, Deputy Oscar A. Beaver, Constable Robert A. Carter, Officer George Owen Barlow, Officer Norman A. Kessler, Officer Richard L. Simpson, Sergeant Charles Garrison, Officer Richard W. Smith, Deputy Ross C. Cochran, Officer John R. Ellis, Deputy Vernon L. Cox, Deputy Carlos Magana, Officer Thomas J. Schroth, Detective Monty L. Conley, Detective Joe R. Landin, Deputy Michael R. Egan, Reserve Officer Ronald Hills, Ranger James Randall Morgenson, and Officer James J. Rapozo.

In closing, I thank these and every other law enforcement officer for their sacrifices made to protect and serve their fellow citizens.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BUREAU OF
RECLAMATION

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Bureau of Reclamation and congratulate all of its employees and supporters on reaching an extraordinary milestone. As the bureau celebrates its 100th anniversary, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate each and every employee on many years of excellence in serving the Western United States and, indeed, the entire nation. The efforts put forth by this organization are truly appreciated by everyone who lives in the seventeen Western states that it serves, and I am honored to stand before you

today and bring its many accomplishments to the attention of this body of Congress. For 100 years, this agency has worked diligently to make the Western United States livable, and I, along with the many residents that have benefited from their efforts, am proud and thankful for what you have accomplished.

Started in 1902 by President Theodore Roosevelt in order to permit "homemaking" in the Western states, the Bureau and its employees have long been a vital part of Western life. Colorado could not be the vibrant and majestic state it is today without the hard work and dedication of each and every employee in the hundred year history of the Bureau. From the early beginnings, the employees have been the heart of the agency, involved in numerous projects not only in the administration of the program but assisted in the construction of the dams and canals as well. Today, the Bureau has twenty-two offices that oversee 180 projects and the employees still remain the core of the operation. In addition to the commitment of the supporters and employees of the Bureau of Reclamation, this vision and foresight of the agency have been vital to Colorado and the West.

This agency has long recognized the thoughtfulness and forbearance of our early Colorado settlers. As this country was expanding, the need to create abundant and rich soil became a backbone to ensuring the settlement of Western lands. The Bureau of Reclamation has helped our forefathers build several reservoirs and canals to gather and transfer water that would be used to irrigate otherwise fruitless soil. As a result, the efforts of the Bureau have helped aspiring farmers to reap the benefits of an otherwise desolate landscape. This was a remarkable accomplishment for those early times in our history and I am thankful for the role that the Bureau of Reclamation played in assistance to our early pioneers.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to be able to congratulate each and every employee and supporter of the Bureau of Reclamation on this historic occasion, and wish each of them all the best in the next one hundred years. I commend each of you for your work in ensuring that the water needs of all of the residents of the Western States, from the early homesteaders to today's modern users, are addressed. I also would like to recognize the successful vision of the agency and I know that the Bureau will continue to provide that vision to take us into the twenty-first century. I am delighted to bring the efforts of such an extraordinary agency to the attention of this body of Congress. Keep up the great work; I look forward to the years to come!

BOB STUMP NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FIS-
CAL YEAR 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4546) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense,

and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise to oppose the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2003. This bill provides appropriations for an increase in pay for our armed services personnel, which I believe is very important for the security of our great nation. The authorization provides an across-the-board 4.1 percent pay increase for military personnel. The across-the-board and targeted raises would be the equivalent of a 4.7 percent across-the-board raise and will reduce the pay gap between the military and private sector from 7.5 percent to 6.4 percent. Our service men and women work very hard to protect this country and its way of life. Therefore, I believe that by raising their pay and giving more than a billion dollars more than the President requested, this will increase morale, which is very important.

On the other hand, this Authorization provides funds for flawed defense items. First, the Air Force's controversial F-22 Raptor Fighter, the next-generation premier fighter, which is intended to replace the F-15 and F-16. It is designed to have both air-to-air and air-to-ground fighter capabilities. This aircraft is plagued by cost overruns, technical problems and questions over whether the Air Force should direct its resources to expensive manned aircraft when newer technologies and strategies are more effective and less costly. The bill authorizes \$1 billion for unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) procurement and research and development. UAV's have the ability to provide first-hand reconnaissance of opposition forces without placing lives at risk. Moreover, UAV's have proven particularly valuable in Afghanistan by identifying and tracking enemy targets, and conducting missions too dangerous for manned aircraft. By canceling the F-22, the Air Force can free up substantial funding that can be used to more aggressively pursue programs such as long range bombers. Yet, we fund this flawed and expensive jet fighter.

Another flawed item is the controversial Crusader artillery system. Defense Secretary Rumsfeld signaled his intent to cancel the Crusader program, and to divert the \$475 million in research and development funds earmarked for the program to another system. In addition, the President asked this Congress not to revive the \$11 billion program, because he fully supported Secretary Rumsfeld's decision to scrap the artillery system and seek alternatives more in keeping with the current threat facing the United States. The Congress ignores the President's request and still proposes funds for this flawed and unwanted item.

Along with these flawed programs, this Authorization will also relax environmental laws. Although, the bill authorizes the President's request for the Energy Department's environmental restoration and cleanup programs. The Defense Department environmental programs, relaxes some current requirements under our environmental laws which protects wildlife habitats on military installations. Here again, the Administration is trying to disrupt our delicate wildlife habitats to benefit its friends.

However, the most problematic item within the authorization is the \$7.8 billion ballistic missile defense. The reality with a ballistic missile defense system is that if a country is

capable of building a long-range missile, and has the motivation to launch a missile against the United States, it has the capability and motivation to build effective countermeasures to any anti-ballistic missile defense system.

Furthermore, the difficulty in developing a feasible ballistic missile defense system is not getting complex hardware to work as intended. It is that the defense system has to work against an enemy who is trying to thwart the system. Moreover, the attacking country can do so with technology much simpler than the technology needed for the defense system. This means that the attacker has the advantage, despite our technological edge.

A year long study was conducted, that examined, in detail, what countermeasures an emerging missile state could take to defeat the missile defense system the United States is planning. The study showed that effective countermeasures required technology much less sophisticated than is needed to build a long-range ballistic missile. In addition, a high-level commission convened by Congress to assess the ballistic missile threat to the United States, noted that potential attackers could build such bomblets.

I ask "how is it possible that this problem is being ignored?" The Pentagon is balking on how to proceed. It has divided the missile defense problem into two parts: (1) getting the system to work against missiles without realistic countermeasures and (2) getting the defense to work against countermeasures. Few doubt the first step could eventually be done.

The Defense Department has tested and retested this ballistic missile defense system, and each time results have not achieved their desired intentions. But yet, the President wants to continue funding this flawed policy. In almost every case, post-test doubts have been raised. Critics have charged that test results over the past two decades have been exaggerated by false claims of success and promises of performance that later proved false. Many tests were proven to have had their targets significantly enhanced to ensure the likelihood of success. Furthermore, kinetic kill as a concept for destroying long-range ballistic missiles is even more problematic at this stage.

There is no empirical evidence to support the contention that kinetic kill for ICBM defense will work. Despite the prowess of American technology, there are no quick, cheap or easy solutions in missile defense. Therefore, we should allocate funds for more pressing defense needs and spend our funds on systems that work and will enhance real security for all Americans. To assume otherwise is to base defense planning on wishful thinking. An effective defense is based on preparing for credible threats with workable systems. Not funding systems that have failed in tests as the Republicans have done in this bill.

THE TANF REAUTHORIZATION

HON. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. ACEVEDO-VILÁ. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the children and families of Puerto Rican and Hispanic families, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Democratic proposal.

The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has successfully implemented TANF. We have met all of the requirements of the Act. We have been successful in reducing our welfare rolls from 55,000 to 21,000.

Puerto Rico has accomplished these goals in an environment of high unemployment. Our unemployment is double that of the mainland. Yet, we still met all of the requirements of TANF.

The Democratic substitute continues to require Puerto Rico to meet all of the same mandates as the states. However, it authorizes Puerto Rico to have access to the same tools as the states. These programs include mandatory daycare funding, supplemental grants, and the contingency funds.

If the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is expected to succeed in meeting the requirements of TANF, we need access to the same programs that states are provided. We are dedicated to moving families from welfare to work; we are dedicated to reducing our welfare rolls. In order to do so, we need the tools to implement these programs.

Anything short of the Democratic substitute creates additional barriers limiting the ability of Puerto Rican and Hispanic families to make a successful transition from welfare to work.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to enter into the record a letter from the Chair of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda endorsing the principles I have just outlined.

Additionally, the National Conference of State Legislators, a Non-partisan organization, recently acknowledged that the circumstances in Puerto Rico and the territories are unique and need to be addressed. Voting in favor of the Democratic substitute is a step in the right direction.

Again, I urge my colleagues to vote for the Democratic substitute to insure that no families or children living under our flag are left without the necessary tools to end the cycle of poverty.

NATIONAL HISPANIC LEADERSHIP

AGENDA,

Washington, DC, May 6, 2002.

HON. TOMMY G. THOMPSON,

Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY THOMPSON: On behalf of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda (NHLA), a coalition of national Hispanic civil rights and public policy organizations, I would like to thank you for meeting with us today and for your expressed interest in addressing funding disparities for federal programs in Puerto Rico. Your support and leadership would significantly assist us in our efforts to ensure the needy families and children residing in Puerto Rico have equal access to essential federal programs that are currently underfunded.

All U.S. citizens should have equal access to the tools necessary to exit poverty as they move from welfare to work. Child care, health care, and employment assistance are critical supports that do not only ensure a successful transition to self sufficiency, but also guarantee the continued health and well-being of vulnerable families. Regrettably, needy U.S. citizens residing in Puerto Rico do not share in these benefits equitably.

Welfare spending on the Island stands at \$34.78 per poor person compared to the national average of \$533.97. With funding limitations on federal child care programs, health insurance programs such as Medicaid, SCHIP and Medicare, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) the obstacles to self-sufficiency are considerable in an

economy that already suffers from an unemployment rate that is twice the national average and where the poverty rate is nearly 60 percent.

Given these realities, NHLA believes that the following changes are required to address funding disparities for Puerto Rico:

Removing barriers that exclude Puerto Rico from the TANF Supplementary Grant program and once barriers are removed exclude Supplementary Grants from the current TANF cap;

Removing IV-E Foster Care from the TANF cap;

Removing barriers that exclude Puerto Rico from the Child Care and Development Fund—Mandatory Grant (93.596(a)) and exclude from the cap the Child Care and Development Fund—Matching Grant (93.596(b));

Reimbursing Puerto Rico for providing Transitional Medical Assistance to TANF leavers outside the Medicaid cap imposed on the Island.

We urge you to support legislative proposals that will address the current disparities in poverty assistance programs, and ensure that critical health care and self-sufficiency programs are made available to the U.S. citizens in Puerto Rico.

Low-income families deserve to have the full commitment and assistance of our federal government, if they are to succeed in becoming self-sufficient—regardless of where they may reside in America.

Sincerely,

MANUEL MIRABAL,
Chair.

HONORING RAYMOND BRAUER,
M.D.

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. Raymond Brauer, who will be honored by The Houston Society of Plastic Surgeons as its first recipient of the "Distinguished Plastic Surgeon Award" 2002. His colleagues, friends and family will honor him at the Society's meeting being held on May 16, 2002, in Houston Texas.

The Houston Society of Plastic Surgeons was established to promote high ideals of plastic surgery and to improve scientific knowledge in the field of plastic surgery. This organization is composed of practicing plastic surgeons of high moral standing, who exhibit a certain level of professionalism and are actively engaged in the Greater Houston Metropolitan Area for at least two years.

Born on March 3, 1916 in Fresno, California, Dr. Brauer has dedicated his life to the advancement of plastic surgical medicine. He graduated from Pacific Union College in 1941 and obtained his medical degree in 1943 from the College of Medical Evangelists in Los Angeles. Dr. Brauer interned at Santa Clara County Hospital in 1942 and soon after fulfilled his residency training at the St. Francis Hospital in 1944. Being a man of great conviction and devotion to his country, Dr. Brauer joined the Army in 1944, to fight in what has been described as the greatest and most destructive war in history, World War II. More than 17 million members of the armed forces of the various countries perished during the conflict. Upon completion of duty in 1948, Dr. Brauer, relocated to Houston to begin a private practice with a fellow plastic surgeon.

In addition to all that he has done, Dr. Brauer has received several appointments with Baylor College of Medicine and the University of Texas. Throughout his long and distinguished career he has served on several committees and boards, published many articles, and won numerous honors and awards.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Dr. Brauer on his tireless efforts toward improving the plastic surgery profession, his many achievements and service to our country. Dr. Brauer is an integral part of the Houston community and has made many strides in the field of medicine. This honor reflects the widespread recognition within the plastic surgery community of Dr. Brauer's important and diverse contributions to the profession. His voice has been a powerful one for those seeking self-enhancement, as well as the professionals strive to improve their patient's quality of life.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CARLOS
ELIAS AND ANDREA ARESE-ELIAS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to be able to recognize an amazing couple that resides in my district in Colorado. Carlos Elias and Andrea Arese-Elias of Grand Junction are amazing musicians who have taken their passion to the highest level. Through their hard work and dedication to perfection, they have achieved true excellence in their fields—Carlos on the violin and Andrea on the piano. In recognition of their talent and commitment, the couple has recently had the privilege of performing at Carnegie Hall.

Carlos and Andrea began their career in their respective countries of El Salvador and Argentina. Carlos studied the violin at the National Center of the Arts in San Salvador, and at the age of 16, became the youngest violinist to enter the El Salvador Symphony Orchestra. In addition, in 1986 Carlos had the honor of representing El Salvador in the World Philharmonic Orchestra in Brazil. Carlos also holds many degrees in violin performance and artistry including a Master's Degree from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. Andrea began studying the piano at the Musical Conservatory in Argentina. She has been performing since the age of eleven and has her Masters and PhD from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music.

After performing all over the world, the couple has settled down to raise their family in Grand Junction, Colorado. Carlos and Andrea are valued members of Mesa State College where Carlos is on the faculty of the Music Department. Carlos is the Director of Strings and the College Orchestra as well as Concertmaster of the Grand Junction Symphony Orchestra, providing his expertise and experience to the members of the orchestra. The couple also plays another important and vital role; they are the loving parents of two children, Briana who is five, and Melissa who is one and a half years old.

Mr. Speaker, I imagine the chance to play Carnegie Hall is the dream of every musician and I am proud that Carlos Elias and Andrea Arese-Elias's have had the opportunity to bask

in this honor. They truly deserve this great opportunity and it is their hard work and dedication to achieving the highest level of excellence that I wish to bring to the attention of this body of Congress, and nation. Congratulations Andrea and Elias, and good luck in your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MASTER SERGEANT
RICHARD W. PETRONE

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Master Sergeant Richard W. Petrone, who retired from the New York Army National Guard on September 30, 2001, with more than thirty-one years of exemplary service to our nation. It is my pleasure to honor him here today.

Mr. Petrone has enjoyed a long career in public service. He worked with New York Police Department for 23 years, and served in the U.S. Army Reserve for more than two years.

Among several positions at the National Guard, Mr. Petrone served as Chief Training Instructor at the 106th Regiment Headquarters Regional Training Institute. There, he was instrumental in organizing and supervising several outstanding programs, which garnered the Institute several certificates of accreditation. As Battalion Communications Chief with the 206 Corps Support Battalion, Master Sergeant Petrone enacted programs to make the unit act in a more coordinated and efficient fashion. This contributed to a more effective communications program throughout the command.

For his service, Mr. Petrone has received several awards, including the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the New York State Military Commendation Medal, and the New York State Medal for Humane Service.

For his commitment to his community, his State, and his Country, it is my privilege to congratulate Master Sergeant Richard W. Petrone on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO NICOLE LOVE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a distinguished young lady for attaining the Girl Scout Gold Award. Nicole Love, the daughter of Diane Love, is a member of Senior Girl Scout Troop #349 located in Griffith, Indiana. She will receive this honor at a Girl Scout Gold Award Ceremony on May 16, 2002 at The Center on the campus of Purdue University Calumet, in Hammond, Indiana. This is the highest award in Girl Scouting and it is earned when the girls are committed to working towards the goals they set for themselves. I am honored to have the opportunity to congratulate Nicole for her success, for I know that she has grown during this pursuit.

Additionally, Nicole attained the Gold Award in conjunction with her academic achievement at Griffith High School. She will graduate this June and plans to attend college.

Troop #349 is part of the Girl Scouts of the Calumet Council, which serves girls in Whiting, East Chicago, Hammond, Highland, Munster, Griffith, Schererville, St. John, and Dyer in the State of Indiana and Lansing, Lynwood, Calumet City, and Burnham in the State of Illinois. The Council was chartered in 1954 and operates two program centers that serve over 5,700 adults and girls.

A special significance is attached to the title of Girl Scout Gold Award, a significance that accompanies a young woman throughout her life. As she pursues endeavors in higher education, business, industry and community service, she carries with her the lofty goal of success through leadership. To qualify for the Gold Award, each Girl Scout has had to fulfill rigorous requirements in the areas of leadership, career interest and service. Upon completing the above requirements, a prospective Gold Award candidate must find and complete a project that fulfills a need in the community. Nicole's Gold Award Project involved coordinating a sports weekend for Junior Girl Scouts called "Sports n' More" in October 2001. Over 3,500 Senior Girl Scouts design, implement, and complete Gold Award projects each year. Nicole can be very proud of the success that she has achieved through hard work and dedication to serving her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Nicole Love for her commendable achievement. Her mother can be proud of her daughter because it takes a great deal of tenacity and devotion to achieve such an illustrious award. This young lady has a promising future ahead of her, which will undoubtedly include improving the quality of life in Indiana's First Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my district on May 14, 2002. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted:

Yea on Rollcall # 161
Yea on Rollcall # 160
Yea on Rollcall # 159

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAKE
SATTEWHITE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I take this opportunity to honor the life and memory of Jake Satterwhite of Craig, Colorado. Jake was tragically taken from us at the age of thirteen in a car accident in August of 2001. Although he was very young when he passed away, he touched many lives in the Craig community during his

years, including those of his baseball team and his classmates. To honor his memory, the City of Craig has recently dedicated a baseball field in remembrance of Jake.

Jake was known for giving 110 percent to everything that he did and held an optimistic spirit and enthusiasm for life. Jake touched everyone he encountered. The witnesses at the dedication ceremony were moved by their memories of the boy who never gave up in the face of insurmountable odds or defeat. On his baseball team, Jake was a key member on and off the field. He was the spirit of the team and was a constant cheering force for his teammates. He is fondly remembered by the Craig community and is deeply missed by his loving parents, family, and friends.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Craig will remember Jake as a boy whose short life was filled with joy and inspiration every time a team takes his field. This dedication will keep Jake's enthusiasm for life alive in the hearts of those he touched, and I am honored to be able to bring the enthusiasm and optimism of Jake Satterwhite to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation. While his family and friends continue to mourn his loss, I am confident his memory will live on through this wonderful baseball field.

MINNESOTA REP. DARLENE
LUTHER'S LASTING LEGACY

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, we have all learned in the last eight months how fragile life can be, and how nobility and grace can rise from tragedy and sadness.

We have all mourned recently with our colleague Bill Luther the loss of his beloved wife, Darlene, who was a distinguished member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, as well as a loving wife and mother of Alex and Alicia Luther.

Mr. Speaker, I was profoundly moved by a recent story from the Fergus Falls Journal which reflects the great love Darlene and Bill shared for each other, as well as others.

The story, by Mary Mahoney, also speaks volumes about the enduring power of human kindness.

Because I would like to share this beautiful story of love, sacrifice and the enduring bond of friendship, I respectfully submit for the record the enclosed article from the Fergus Falls Journal of February 7, 2002, entitled "Family's gift of life leaves enduring bond," by Mary Mahoney.

More than 25 years before his unexpected death, Gary Bradow told his wife Norma that he wanted his organs donated.

"I told him that if he went first, I didn't know if I could do it," Norma said from her Fergus Falls home. "Gary told me I could, that I would just know it was right."

But nothing could have prepared Norma for the awful day that Gary died. A malformed artery in his brain caused a fatal stroke in March 1998 at the age of 57. Norma was faced with the one decision she didn't want to make.

"People think of 'harvesting' organs as an awful thing," she said. "But I realized we were farmers; harvesting is a wonderful thing for

farmers. And in the case of donating Gary's organs, 'harvesting' was wonderful too."

A man in Wisconsin received a kidney. A 63-year-old widow got another kidney. Two others received his eyes.

And State Rep. Darlene Luther was the recipient of Gary's liver, literally occurring hours before she would have died.

A simple thank-you letter written to Norma six months after the transplant established a bond that couldn't be broken—even after Darlene's death on Jan. 30.

"I don't think of myself as one but as two persons," she wrote, signing only her first name.

With those words, Norma knew she had to connect with this woman who had reached out to her.

"Her letter touched my heart in a way I just can't describe and I immediately called LifeSource and said I had to meet her," Norma said. "It took awhile, but two weeks before Christmas 1998, both of them (Darlene and her husband U.S. Representative Bill Luther) were here."

In the four years since Darlene's transplant, the Bradow family became dear and special friends with the Luthers, visiting often and corresponding frequently. Darlene even flew out to Seattle one day to have lunch with Norma and her daughter Pam, who lives in Seattle, and flew back the same afternoon.

"The bond we had was completely beyond words," Norma said. "She was such a kind and generous lady."

Another twist of fate connected the families as well. Bill, who grew up on a dairy farm near Fergus Falls and has relatives in the area, had briefly known Gary before his death.

"I knew of them and had spoken with Gary before all of this happened," Bill said. "And the odds that my wife would receive a liver transplant from a man from my hometown—it's just amazing the way life can bond people together."

To Darlene, it was a sign that more needed to be done to increase awareness of organ donation. She felt she was the perfect person to educate people about the benefits of organ donation as a state representative, and helped enact legislation providing funding for a mobile education unit for LifeSource, the organ donation procurement organization that helped secure her liver.

"She (Darlene) did such a great amount of work, getting families to talk about organ donation," said LifeSource Public Relations manager Susan Mau Larson. "She was a living statement of the wondrous good provided by organ donation."

The mobile unit is similar to a bookmobile, with displays and kiosks about organ donation. In late December, LifeSource presented a plaque that will hang in the mobile unit, thanking Darlene for all the work she's done for organ procurement.

Last week, a bill passed through the House of Representatives—named in honor of Darlene—making a person's organ donation wishes a binding contract, meaning a family member cannot override the decision. The Senate will begin its process on the bill today, Mau Larson said.

But despite the positive work Darlene provided, tragedy struck the Luthers—and the Bradows—once again.

"Darlene called me in late October to let me know she had stomach cancer," Norma said.

"The anti-rejection drugs masked the cancer and by the time they found out, it was inoperable."

It was then that the friendship shifted and Norma began helping Darlene the way she had been helped after her husband's death.

"I wrote her weekly notes, little inspirational things to encourage her," she said. "Her inner peace was phenomenal; she was such an inspiration to me—and I was trying to help her."

When Bill called Norma the morning after Darlene died, she said the news was heart-wrenching enough. But what came next practically took her breath away.

"Darlene had requested she be buried in Fergus Falls, where she could be near us," Norma said. "I burst into tears when Bill said that."

For Bill and his children Alex and Alicia, it was a natural decision.

"We were so appreciative of those four years Darlene received because of the transplant," Bill said. "The Bradows are part of our family."

He insisted that Norma ride in the lead car during the burial procession and that Gary's family, including his mother, Emma and daughters Tara and Debra, take part in the service held Wednesday afternoon at Oak Grove Cemetery.

"That's what they mean to us," Bill said. "And it's what Darlene would have wanted."

TRIBUTE TO MR. IRA JUNIOR
ANDERSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the courage and dedication of Mr. Ira Junior Anderson.

Mr. Anderson is a Korean war veteran who was recently recognized for his service and issued the Bronze Star Medal. Mr. Anderson will be honored on May 19, 2002 at Hardin-Central High School where he will also be receiving his honorary high school diploma. I feel honored to have Mr. Anderson living in the Sixth Congressional District of Missouri.

Mr. Anderson's family members and friends should take pride in what he has done for this country to keep it free and strong.

I commend Mr. Anderson for his courage and dedication and for allowing so many people to celebrate with him during this time. Mr. Anderson and other veterans like him have endured hardships and pain that most of us will never know. I again thank Mr. Anderson for his service and dedication to this great country. He makes the sixth district and all Americans very proud.

HONORING MS. JANET C. WOLF ON
THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT FROM THE NATIONAL
PARK SERVICE

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense pride and accolade that I rise today to

honor Janet Wolf, upon her retirement from the National Park Service. Ms. Wolf has distinguished herself with great determination and creativity during her 34 years of service.

Thirty-four years ago, Ms. Wolf began her career as an urban intake employee in Washington, D.C. She has served at numerous sites across the country including: the Catoctin Mountain Park, the Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Headquarters, the Fort McHenry National Monument and as Superintendent of the Fort Frederica National Monument and the Morristown National Historical Park. In addition, after spearheading the planning and implementation efforts to establish the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, Ms. Wolf had the distinction of serving as its first Superintendent.

For the past fourteen years she has prevailed with expertise as Project Director for the National Park Service's New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail. It is in this capacity that I came to know Ms. Wolf. I can attest to the fact that she has labored tirelessly to shepherd this project from concept to reality.

Established in 1988, the Trail has highlighted the natural beauty of over eight counties and six Congressional districts in New Jersey. Since its inception, the Trail has blossomed to its current size boasting over seventy destinations, welcome centers, and local information centers. All sites manifest a theme: Maritime History, Coastal Habitats, Wildlife Migration, Historic Settlements, and Relaxation and Inspiration. The Trail has prospered in part from numerous local partners including: the New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry, New Jersey Office of Travel and Tourism, and the Pinelands Commission. These partnerships have been successful due to Ms. Wolf's perseverance, experience, and creativity. As a testament to her outstanding work, Ms. Wolf has received countless recognitions, including a Citation for Meritorious Service from the Secretary of Interior.

Ms. Wolf's contributions also extend well beyond her role as Program Manager for the Trail. She has been an active participant in the local community, serving on numerous boards, committees and local foundations.

Mr. Speaker, Janet Wolf's contributions to the National Park Service are indeed numerous and noteworthy. By preserving our nation's environmental heritage, she has left a legacy with benefits too countless to number. Her indefatigable work on the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail is portrayed in the eyes of a child upon seeing the ocean for the first time, or in the serenity brought in the solitude and wonder of New Jersey's forests, diverse wildlife, and coastal habitats.

For her many years of dedication and diligent efforts on behalf of our nation's parks, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing her good health and a very joyous retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO PAUL ECKE, JR.

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and accomplishments of my friend, Paul Ecke Jr. who passed away on Monday morning after a long illness. Paul was a devoted husband and father, a

leader in the San Diego Community, and a force in the poinsettia industry. While his leadership in the poinsettia business made him an international figure; it was his warm heart and caring personality that made him a community leader, and a friend.

Since I came to Congress, Paul and I have worked together on issues important to our community of San Diego, and to the flower industry worldwide. Paul's boundless leadership and generosity was evident in his support of local charities like the Magdalena Ecke YMCA, the San Diego Museum of Natural History, California State University San Marcos, and the Del Mar Fair Grounds. In addition, Paul's industry has given America and the world the poinsettia for holidays. Nearly 80% of the world's poinsettias are licensed to the Ecke Ranch, and the popularity of this wonderful plant can be traced to Paul's hard work and efforts to grow the poinsettia as an indoor potted plant, and to make the plant suitable for mass production.

I will never forget the first time that I met Paul. He came to meet me in my home when I was a candidate for the U.S. Congress. He walked into my living room, picked up a basket of silk flowers from the coffee table, and immediately threw it into the garbage. He told me that he would replace it with "something better" and later that day sent me an arrangement of fresh flowers. Paul was a man who noticed every detail, never hesitated to tell you what he was thinking, and who always followed through with his promises.

Paul's life exemplified commitment and service to his community, and he leaves behind a legacy for his family, friends, and fellow Americans. Earlier this week, Paul's family released a statement that read, "In tribute to Paul's legendary support of the floral industry, we suggest that you send flowers today to someone you love." I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Paul's legacy by sending flowers to their loved ones.

I have attached an editorial from our local paper paying tribute to Paul and his works. I could share countless stories, but words are insufficient to convey the extent of his kind heart, ambition, and lifetime of effort to improve our community.

PAUL ECKE JR. SUCCEMBS TO CANCER

(By Adam Kaye)

ENCINITAS.—Paul Ecke Jr., who expanded both his family's worldwide leadership in the poinsettia growing business and its emphasis on local philanthropy, died Monday at 76 from cancer.

Ecke Jr., who was president of Paul Ecke Ranch from 1963 until turning it over to his son in 1991, assembled the scientists and salesmen that perfected the mass production of poinsettias first developed by his father. Today, an estimated 80 percent of the poinsettias sold each year worldwide got their start, in some form, from the Paul Ecke Ranch.

Together with poinsettias, Ecke Jr. leaves a legacy of philanthropy.

His generosity extended to the Magdalena Ecke Family YMCA, named after Ecke Jr.'s mother, to the Del Mar Fairgrounds, local schools, Planned Parenthood and the Republican Party. Ecke Jr. also was instrumental in saving the landmark Carlsbad Flower Fields from being wiped out in the early 1990s.

"Paul Ecke Jr. was a model of what it means not only to be successful in business but also a good citizen who was almost

unique in how much he gave back to the community and in particular the community's youth," said Assemblyman Mark Wyland, who serves on the Ecke Family YMCA board of directors. "San Diego County owes Paul Ecke a great debt of gratitude, and he will be sorely missed."

Ecke Jr. inherited the family poinsettia business his father, Paul Ecke Sr., started in Encinitas in 1923. The business launched Encinitas as a flower-growing hub and made the family a lowkey royalty.

Ecke Sr., who died in 1991, developed the first poinsettia cultivar from a wildflower native to Mexico, so that it could be successfully grown as an indoor potted plant. Over the years, the family marketed the plant so it became synonymous with the Christmas holidays. In 1963, when Ecke Jr. became president of the family company, production shifted to small cuttings in greenhouses. The company now employs 300 people in Encinitas and 1,000 in Mexico and also has an office in Denmark to handle European distribution.

LOCAL WORKS

Ecke Jr. left his mark in North County in numerous ways, friends and colleagues said Monday. Just down the street from the Ecke Ranch on Saxony Road is Magdalena Ecke Family YMCA, which began as a 5-acre gift from the Ecke family in 1968. Twelve years later, the Ecke family added 15 acres more.

Today it is one of North County's premier recreation centers, with the region's largest skateboard park, only public BMX course, gymnasiums, ballfields and pools for competitive swimming and diving. Much of the facility's growth is due to Ecke Jr.'s prodigious fund-raising efforts, said executive director Susan Hight.

A member of the YMCA's board of directors for many years, Ecke Jr.'s signature fund-raiser was the holiday Poinsettia Ball. The annual benefit would raise about \$75,000 a year for scholarships for children from low-income families to use the YMCA, Hight said.

His "attention to detail" at the facility would prompt Ecke to visit regularly, to check on the landscaping, pick up trash, and eat a sack lunch while watching the children play, she said. "He truly treasured the Y," Hight said. "And he will be sorely missed. We came to love him, respect him and treasure him."

From 1992 to 2000, Ecke Jr. was a member of the Del Mar fair board. During his tenure, the fair's flower show expanded to a nationally recognized event.

"Paul's expectations were always a little higher," said Chana Mammen, the fairgrounds' exhibit manager. "He didn't stand for anything that wasn't great."

Ecke Jr. brought to the fairgrounds a penchant for cleanliness and fresh paint. He ordered colorful landscaping for the grounds. And even when he was in his 70s, he rode the scariest rides at the fair. One of his favorites was the heart-stopping 120-foot tall bungee jump.

"He decided he'd go on it every night of the fair," said Andy Mauro, a former fairgrounds administrator. "And true to form, he took great delight in involving us all. At some point during that fair we each had to swallow our fears and brave that bungee jump with Paul. None of us would have done it without him, but we all remember our accomplishment with great pride. Paul inspired those around him to reach a little further."

LEGACY OF INTEGRITY

Ecke Jr.'s son, Paul Ecke III, runs the family business today.

The motto in the Ecke house was, "We never give up," Ecke III said.

That and an ironclad sense of integrity created a system that secured many business deals with a handshake.

"He showed us by example that you don't lie, cheat or steal," Ecke III said.

Ecke III and his father both attended the little elementary school that was once known as Union School on Union Street. The school had two name changes. It became Central School; then, in 1985, became Paul Ecke-Central School, named after Paul Ecke Sr.

Over the years, the family has supported the school's sixth-grade camp and literacy programs, Principal Gregg Sonken said.

This year, Ecke Jr. sponsored a field trip so each of the school's students could visit San Diego Natural History Museum.

"He would frequently call and ask if he could come by the school," Sonken said. "He was just a great benefactor of our school. He really took an interest in our students."

Ecke Jr. himself was a student at San Dieguito High School, where he graduated in 1942.

He soon joined the Navy and served in the Pacific aboard the USS Knapp. He was called back to duty in 1951 to serve as an ensign aboard the USS Perkins in the China Sea during the Korean War. Even then, his green thumb was irrepensible. After a day of heavy shelling, sailors had disposed of dirt that shook loose from planter boxes in the officers' mess hall. "He convinced the captain to send a patrol to (the North Korean) shore to get more soil," Ecke III said.

FLOWER POWER

During the years between his military deployments, Ecke Jr. earned a degree in horticulture from Ohio State University in 1949. From there, Ecke Jr. pioneered the use of greenhouses to grow poinsettias, because the controlled environment produced faster-growing plants that were less susceptible to disease.

His company would become the innovator that set competitive standards in the industry, said Chuck Gainan, president of the Society of American Florists. "People would aspire to do it as well as they do," Gainan said. Gainan and other agriculture experts say Ecke Jr. has given the flower industry political muscle and other support.

Bob Echter is a member of the San Diego County Farm Bureau's board of directors who grows flowers on property he rents from the Eckes. "He has always been very fair with his desire to help farmers grow and compete," he said.

Ecke Jr. was responsible for the construction of the Floral Trade Center in Carlsbad, a trucking and distribution hub for a number of North County flower growers. Beyond North County, he lobbied Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Randy "Duke" Cunningham to include language protecting flower growers' intellectual property in federal legislation that would become the North American Free Trade Act, said Bob Vice, a former colleague of Ecke Jr.'s on the fair board.

Locally, Ecke Jr. chose not to oppose Encinitas' incorporation in 1986 as long as the family's acreage was not included as part of the city. That decision came at a time when many flower growers were against incorporation, anticipating their property taxes would rise. "He didn't want to get involved in a controversial situation," said former councilman Rick Shea. "In essence we created a city shaped like a doughnut. The Eckes were the hole in the middle." As the city's general plan took shape, the Eckes were open and receptive, Shea said, and eventually annexed their property into the city.

Lola Larson, a longtime neighbor who attended elementary school with Ecke Jr., said

he was "very likeable and always on his best behavior." Except on certain days when he walked to school with boys who threw stones at a glass greenhouse. "They eventually broke every pane," she said. "Finally the owner got incensed and came to the school. He said 'Who did this?' Paul jumped right up and said he did it."

THAYNE ROBSON

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, the State of Utah has lost one of its favorite sons with the sudden, untimely passing of Thayne Robson.

In a career spanning more than four decades, Thayne Robson counseled governors and local government leaders, dispensing an incomparable blend of wit and wisdom about Utah's economic fortunes. His stature as the dean of an elite cadre of Utah economists is fixed in the state's history. He helped craft the fiscal policies of Governors Cal Rampton, Scott Matheson, Norman Bangerter and Mike Leavitt. Always a gentleman but frequently contrarian, Thayne was known to temper his colleagues' rosy forecasts with a word of caution and to see clear skies where others foresaw storm clouds. His track record was exceptional; his influence immeasurable.

Thayne's word was golden—good enough, in fact, to take to the bank. And that's exactly what Utah officials did. His expert forecasts of Utah's Economic climate contributed to the sterling credit ratings bestowed on the State of Utah by New York rating agencies.

Not only was Thayne a trusted economic forecaster and policy advisor, he was the impetus to restructuring the state's economic development efforts. He forecasted the decline of Utah's mining and agricultural sectors and encouraged government officials to diversify the state's economy through travel, tourism and technology. He spearheaded a move to strategically focus state and local economic development efforts within a single organization, known today as the Economic Development Corporation of Utah.

Thayne's professional credentials include teacher, researcher, respected business economist. But he was also a great civic leader. Not one to live quietly in academia's cloistered halls, Thayne was active in local organizations and community affairs, lending his support and expertise to a host of favorite causes. He demonstrated extraordinary commitment to the betterment of the community and the state he loved so much.

Thayne was a gifted communicator. He had a rare ability to translate complex concepts into language people could understand. Thayne's plainspoken interpretation of economic news was a regular feature in the media's broadcasts and news columns.

Thayne was fond of saying, "If you laid all the economists in the country end to end, they still couldn't reach a conclusion." In at least one instance, he was wrong. I am certain his colleagues join countless other Utahns and me in affirming that Thayne Robson was a man of great intellect, uncommon wisdom and good humor. His passing is a great loss. We will treasure his memory and give thanks for his incalculable contributions to the state of Utah.

IN TRIBUTE TO RUDY FAVILA

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great friend of the Inland Empire, Rudy Favila. Rudy will be awarded the Franklin & Eleanor Roosevelt Democrat of the Year Award for 2002 this Sunday, May 19th at the California ScienCenter in Los Angeles. This honor is being given to Rudy for his dedicated leadership in supporting the Ontario community and the Democratic Party.

Rudy is a California native, born in Sacramento, California, where he got his degree from Sacramento State University in Criminal Justice. Rudy and his wife of 33 years, Claudia, moved to Ontario in 1978. They have two children, Colleen and Cristel, who grew up in Ontario, and now have two young grandchildren.

Rudy has served as a dedicated community servant for the past 25 years. He held positions as both Health and Safety Officer and Treatment Team Supervisor of the California Youth Authority. In these positions he worked to safeguard the health of our youth in correctional facilities and to shape their daily experiences. Through this work he was able to provide these youth with opportunities for a positive future. Rudy made a mark on Ontario by serving as a Council Member of the City of Ontario. He worked hard on efforts to create the Ontario Teen Center, to build the Ontario Convention Center, the Mills Mall and to expand the Ontario Airport Terminal. He was also instrumental in implementing Neighborhood Watch Programs, Community Policing, and programs to recycle and conserve water resources.

Although Rudy recently retired, he has continued to work to improve and support the Inland Empire by promoting outreach, health and wellness. The American Red Cross recognized Rudy's work coordinating resources and funds to rebuild the Red Cross facility in the wake of September 11th by awarding him their Dedication and Leadership Award. Rudy has also been active in the Ontario Democrats, Kiwanis International, the National Association of Latino Elected Officials, and as a member of the Special Education Community Advisory Board.

I extend my heartiest congratulations to Rudy. I thank him for being a model of community service and for contributing so much to improve the quality of life for all the residents of the Inland Empire.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 14, 2002, I was unavoidably absent for rollcall votes 159 through 161 due to an academic awards ceremony involving my son. Had I been present I would have voted 'yea' on rollcall vote 159, 'yea' on rollcall vote 160, and 'yea' rollcall vote 161.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF BARBARA WILLIAMS-SKINNER

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge, with praise and admiration, Dr. Barbara Williams-Skinner, president of the Skinner Leadership Institute (SLI). Dr. Williams-Skinner has just earned her Doctor of Divinity degree at Howard University while continuing to make generous contributions to the residents of the District of Columbia and to our country. Dr. Skinner was a very effective former executive director of the Congressional Black Caucus, and continues to play an important role in coordinating the Caucus Foundation's Prayer Breakfast, which annually brings together more than 3000 African American leaders in government, business, and entertainment from across the country.

Most recently, under Barbara Skinner's leadership, SLI has helped to prepare hundreds of District youth to become leaders by emphasizing to teenagers the importance of equipping themselves with tools necessary to make important contributions in a new global community. She chairs the Community Equity Empowerment Partnership and Urban Leadership Academy, a program designed to mobilize young citizens to rebuild urban communities through a comprehensive educational-based leadership development initiative. This training program assists youngsters in maximizing their career potential by offering them long-term employment and economic opportunities. Since Fall 2000, the Urban Leadership Academy has trained approximately 500 youth from grades 9 through 12 at Ballou and Anacostia High Schools in the District of Columbia. SLI has also provided financial and technical support to four learning centers throughout the District, serving over 250 students.

Barbara Williams-Skinner's service to the youth of the District of Columbia builds upon the vision she shared with her late husband, Tom Skinner, a renowned evangelist and champion in the struggle against racism, who dedicated his life to promoting morality and understanding among young people. Just as Tom Skinner attempted to bridge the gap between black and white faith communities, Barbara Williams-Skinner continues their joint legacy, finding new and innovative ways to minister to a diverse array of cultures.

Most notable among Dr. Skinner's other significant contributions to the District is her service to Howard University. Dr. Skinner has been intimately involved with the campus ministry at Howard, helping students organize prayer groups and community service activities. She continues to encourage Howard University students to volunteer as mentors to young people in the city's poorest wards. After years of such efforts at Howard, it is most appropriate that she has recently received her Doctorate of Ministry degree from its School of Divinity last Sunday.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in honoring Dr. Barbara Williams-Skinner, whose dedication and energy continue to make a significant impact on the youth of the District of Columbia and on our Nation.

TEACHERS OF SELMA OLINDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HONORED FOR THEIR DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVING ACADEMIC SUCCESS FOR ALL

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise during National Teacher Appreciation Week to honor the teachers at Selma Olinder Elementary School for their outstanding and tireless efforts to raise academic achievement levels for all students at the school.

Selma Olinder Elementary School is a K-5, inner-city school in downtown San Jose, California with 67% of its student population being English-language learners, meaning that their primary language at home is something other than English. Also, 77% of the student population is identified statistically as "disadvantaged" and qualifies for the federal free lunch program.

From 1999 through 2001, as a result of the diligence of the teachers and their commitment to the "Success For All" reading program, the number of students reading at or above grade level increased by over 14% and within this same period, the Academic Performance Index was raised by more than 25%.

I am proud and grateful to the teachers for their enthusiasm, and for reminding us all that one person can truly make a difference in the lives of many.

I would especially like to recognize Laurel Browning, who has shown admirable dedication to her students at Selma Olinder Elementary School.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
FERNBANK ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL CHESS TEAM: 2002 NATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONS

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exceptional performance of the Fernbank Elementary School Chess Team, who on Sunday, April 28, won the U.S. Chess Federation's National Championship for grades kindergarten through fifth in Portland, Oregon.

The Fernbank Chess Team captured the title after successfully defending their state title and then defeating nearly 100 teams from 37 states during national competition.

I offer special congratulations to Coach Lew Martin and team members Jackson Miller, Aluda Saliashvili, Pikria Saliashvili, Quinn Shallenberger, Cal Shallenberger, Justin Warren and Brennan Zito.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the tenacity and excellence displayed by this team as well as the success of this alternative after-school program in stimulating intellectual curiosity and inciting a wave of community pride.

PASTOR H.J. COOK

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I come to the floor today to look back upon the life of Pastor H.J. Cook of Waukegan, IL. For 42 years, Pastor Cook served the Gideon Missionary Baptist Church in Waukegan. He was a remarkably committed spiritual leader. In our lives, we rarely meet men so totally devoted to their community, so keenly in touch with their congregations and so passionately inspired in the service of their faith. Pastor Cook was such a man. On Wednesday, May 8, 2002, Pastor Cook died at the age of 75.

H. Judea Cook was born in Varner, Arkansas, on November 5, 1926 to General and Gerilla Cook. He met and married Osa Lee Jones on March 7, 1948. In 1949, Reverend Cook accepted his call to the ministry-serving the Morning View Baptist Church in McCrory, Arkansas for 10 years.

Pastor Cook attended Arkansas Baptist College in Little Rock, the Jackson Theological Seminary in Orlando, FL, and the Mariet Business College in Oakland, CA. During the course of his study, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Theology, a Master's of Theology, and is an Honorary Doctor of Divinity and an Honorary Doctor of Letters.

On October 9, 1959, Reverend Cook came to Waukegan as the Pastor for Gideon Missionary Baptist Church. Through four decades of service, he has steadily increased the membership of his congregation and demonstrated outstanding financial leadership. In 1961, Reverend Cook was pastor to little more than 90 people who worshiped in a small concrete building in Indiana. Today, the Gideon parsonage is home to a \$1 Million renovation project. The church has moved to Ridgeland Avenue and has added a Christian Education extension, a new library, offices, and sanctuary.

Since 1988, the church has established the Christian Education School for leadership training, and the Baptist for Nurture program. Gideon is home to a departmental church school, a mission ministry, a bus and tape ministry, and an evangelistic program. Still, in spite of all the changes to the physical foundation at Gideon, Pastor Cook has remained faithful to the spiritual mission of the church and is remembered as a centerpiece of Waukegan's own community fabric.

Pastor Cook will be laid to rest this afternoon in North Chicago. He is survived by his devoted wife of 52 years, Sister Osa Cook, by his five daughters and by one son. He is grandfather to thirty-seven children and great-grandfather to twenty-two more. Pastor Cook leaves behind an entire community of friends and family and untold numbers who were touched by his smile, his warmth, and his generosity.

It has been my privilege to serve Pastor Cook and to see his faith and love in action. He will be missed.

HONORING XI GAMMA OMEGA
CHAPTER OF ALPHA KAPPA
ALPHA SORORITY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Xi Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. as it celebrates its 20th Anniversary of community service in the greater Oakland/East Bay Area.

Xi Gamma Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. was chartered on May 1, 1982, by a group of 28 dynamic women who recognized a need for greater community service. The 28 original members of Xi Gamma Omega pledged themselves to community development, sisterhood, and the ideals which are embodied in Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

The members of Xi Gamma Omega saw a need for increased participation on the part of community groups in the development of the city of Oakland. They wanted to ensure that Oakland had support services available to the city's African American community, particularly its youth.

For 20 years, Xi Gamma Omega Chapter has carried out the mission and goals set down by its charter members. It has accomplished these goals through a host of services including tutoring and mentoring programs for elementary and secondary school students, visiting the elderly, adopting families in need, providing financial scholarships to deserving college-bound high school seniors, and making contributions to charitable organizations, such as the United Negro College Fund.

In its early years, Xi Gamma Omega held a Healthy Summer program, based at recreation centers, schools, and the Boys and Girls Club, that provided medical and dental screenings to uninsured young people. Doctors, podiatrists, optometrists, and dentists donated their services to this worthy project. In addition, the chapter members taught poison prevention measures to families in their homes.

During the early 1990's, Xi Gamma Omega Chapter proudly participated in many of the Sorority's International program targets. One of the major targets was Partners In Math and Science (PIMS). Xi Gamma Omega held workshops, titled "Turning African American Students on to Mathematics and Science." These workshops focused on alerting students to the need for math and science skills in all professions, as well as everyday life.

In its own right, Xi Gamma Omega has developed an extraordinary reputation in the Far Western Region as a chapter that exemplifies visionary leadership and premier service programs. Over the years this recognition of Xi Gamma Omega's leadership and community service activities has resulted in the receipt of numerous awards at a number of Alpha Kappa Alpha Regional Conferences.

Today, Xi Gamma Omega Chapter continues its rich tradition of community service through ON TRACK, a student nurturing and mentoring program at Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School, providing scholarships to talented middle school students to attend summer art camps, participating in and raising funds for the AIDS Walk-A-Thon, as well as the UNCF Walk and Tele-A-Thons; collecting

and shipping educational items for young children to countries in Africa; providing food and personal hygiene items to the residents of the Beth Eden Senior Center; as well as continuing its financial scholarships to college-bound high school seniors.

It is with great distinction that Xi Gamma Omega Chapter has proudly continued the 94 year-old tradition of Alpha Kappa Alpha, the first sorority founded by and for African American college women at Howard University in 1908. This legacy of Service to All Mankind has established Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., as a premier service organization both in the United States and abroad in West and South Africa, Europe, and the Caribbean.

I would like to commend the commitment and diligence of my former Senior Staff Assistant and friend Julie Hadnot, who is the President of the Xi Gamma Omega chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority. Julie is a strong advocate and leader in Oakland as well as throughout the East Bay.

In the next 20 years and beyond, Xi Gamma Omega has pledged to remain committed to this high standard of service. Xi Gamma Omega Chapter will continue to blaze new trails and provide visionary leadership in the area of community service and programming throughout the city of Oakland and its environs.

BOB STUMP NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL
YEAR 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 9, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 4546) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense, and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2003, and for other purposes:

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Chairman, while I support the highest standards of equipment and pay for our troops, and acknowledge that the most important function of our national government is to ensure the safety of our citizens, I could not support H.R. 4546, the FY 2003 Defense Authorization Act. The measure over militarizes American goals and policies at our economic and political expense.

Our nation is great. There is no other that can compete with it—particularly on the battlefield. This is true today, it was true yesterday and I will work to ensure that it is true tomorrow and into the future. Yet, the \$383.3 billion that we authorized for Defense (which I might add, does not include the \$10 billion authorization the President has requested for a terrorism contingency fund) is more than the combined defense budgets of the next closest 25 nations. Surely, we can afford other national priorities.

The bill includes \$7.8 billion for a National Missile Defense System that may or may not materialize. After spending more than \$100 billion since its inception during the Reagan Administration, National Missile Defense tests have had little success and system require-

ments continue to be downgraded. Even if successful, a National Missile Defense System would have done nothing to prevent the events of 9-11. Furthermore, the Bush Administration's insistence on this system continues our move away from strategic international laws that have helped maintain nuclear stability since the Second World War.

The \$7.8 billion spent on a National Missile Defense System, alone, would shore up our homeland security and provide 21st century classrooms to our nation's children. For these reasons,

Mr. Speaker, I opposed this measure and voted against it on final passage.

MS. LILLIAN SILBERSTEIN HONORED FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Lillian Silberstein, the Executive Director of the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) Silicon Valley Region. I would like to recognize Ms. Silberstein's extraordinary and tireless service to the people of Santa Clara County and thank her for her 30 years as the NCCJ's Executive Director. She will be honored with the Community Service for Exemplary Leadership Award on Friday, May 17, 2002.

NCCJ was known as the National Conference of Christians and Jews when Lil first started in a small office at a tiny desk by herself. The growth of the NCCJ Silicon Valley as one of the largest and most innovative chapters in the nation has been due to her tireless efforts and passionate dedication.

"Lil", as she is affectionately known to all, has succeeded in her mission: to break down barriers, ending the silence of intolerance, and building common understanding between diverse groups of people in the community. She has successfully organized programs across Silicon Valley to open communications concerning the most difficult issues of race, religion, gender, socio-economic issues, ability and disability with the goal of building bridges between people.

She has eased communications between prisoners and their jailers, given at-risk teens a safe place to express their painful struggles and confront their own barriers, and organized countless efforts, large and small, to help people get along more successfully together.

In Silicon Valley, where diversity is the norm, Lillian Silberstein's work has been critical.

As a result of her hard work and unwavering dedication to tolerance and justice, Lillian Silberstein has compiled an impressive record of community achievements, which have earned her the deep respect and admiration from all corners of this complex community. Her vision of justice has been a guiding force throughout the Silicon Valley and an example to many other growing and diverse communities around the country.

Somewhere in the annals of the United States of America we must find a way to register the deeds of those humble architects of our communities whom fame does not reach, because they reach into our hearts and our futures in the most important ways. Lillian Silberstein is among that special group of citizens. We thank her for making a better tomorrow for us all.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
POLICE WEEK

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today in recognition of National Police Week to thank those men and women serving our country as police officers. These dedicated Americans, our "First Responders," risk their lives every day to keep the streets and neighborhoods in our nation safe.

Preliminary data shows that during 2001, 233 policemen and women died in the line of duty in the United States. That makes last year the most deadly year for law enforcement in over 25 years. This year, three Utahans' names will be added to the over 16,000 men and women memorialized for being slain while on duty: Roosevelt Police Chief Cecil Gurr, Lehi Officer Joseph Dan Adams, and Salt Lake City Police Department Sergeant James E. Faraone. Both Chief Gurr and Officer Adams were shot and killed, while Sergeant Faraone was assisting victims of a traffic accident when a car hit him from behind. These men served their communities, and lost their lives while performing that service.

While officers from throughout the United States descended upon Washington, DC this week, I think of the great sacrifice of the 71 men and women in New York City who died while trying to help those in need on September 11, 2001. The events of that day, both in New York and Washington, have forever sealed our resolve to fight against terrorism around the world and on the home front. That is why we sent troops to Afghanistan, but it is also why Americans must depend upon their local law enforcement and support police officers now more than ever.

The efforts of police departments throughout the State of Utah were especially seen during the 2002 Salt Lake Winter Games. Utah officers worked 16-hour shifts, six days a week without complaint, knowing that their jobs were more important than ever. I commend the efforts of each and every one of the policemen and women who helped keep the greatest Olympic Games safe from terrorism.

Mr. Speaker, though there were few incidents at the Olympics, since 1853, 106 Utah officers have been slain in the line of duty. As a tribute to all those officers from Utah that have lost their lives serving the public, a memorial has been placed in the rotunda of Utah's State Capitol. I would ask permission to name each of them at this time, to honor them and salute the sacrifice that they and their families made for their fellow citizens.

Salt Lake City PD Sgt. James E. Faraone—September 18, 2001, Lehi Officer Joseph Dan Adams—August 4, 2001, Roosevelt PD Chief

Cecil Gurr—July 6, 2001, Salt Lake City Officer Michael Dunman—July 17, 2000, UHP Lt. Thomas S. Rettberg—Feb 11, 2000, Nephi PD Officer Tracy Davidson—July 25, 1998, Navajo Div. of Public Safety Officer Esther Todecheene—June 8, 1998, Spanish Fork PD Officer Larry Penrod—Feb 5, 1997, Provo PD Detective Norman Ken Nisson—Jan 11, 1995.

UHP Trooper Randy K. Ingram—Oct 5, 1994, UHP Sgt. Doyle R. Thorne—July 30, 1994, UHP Trooper Charles D. "Chuck" Warren—May 16, 1994, Salt Lake CO SO Deputy Michael S. Welcker—Feb 24, 1994, UHP Trooper Dennis L. "Dee" Lund—June 16, 1993, UHP Trooper Joseph S. "Joey" Brumett III—Dec 11, 1992, Wasatch CO SO Deputy Blake V. Wright—Sept 26, 1990, Utah Dept of Corrections Lt Fred F. House—Jan 28, 1988, Navajo Div. of Public Safety Officer Andy Begay—December 5, 1987, and Navajo Div. of Public Safety Officer Roy Lee Stanley—December 5, 1987.

Murray PD Officer Jackson D. Elmer—Nov 14, 1987, Emery CO SO Deputy Wade A. Hansen—Sept 24, 1987, Duchesne CO SO Deputy Gerry Ivie—July 2, 1987, West Jordan PD Officer Thomas M. Rees—Feb 23, 1986, Park City PD Officer Rodney W. Schreurs—July 4, 1984, Cache CO SO Deputy Charles R. Dickey, Jr.—March 18, 1984, UHP Trooper Daniel W. Harris—Aug 28, 1982, Salt Lake PD Officer Ronald L. Heaps—Jan 13, 1982, Beaver CO SO Sheriff Dale E. Nelson—Sept 8, 1980, and Salt Lake PD Officer David W. Olson—March 22, 1980.

UHP Trooper Ray Lynn Pierson—Nov 7, 1978, Utah DPS Officer Robert B Hutchings—July 20, 1976, Tooele CO SO Sgt. Lauren E. Dow—Aug 26, 1975, UHP Trooper William J. Antoniewicz—Dec 8, 1974, Cache CO SO Lt. James R. Merrill—Jan 5, 1974, Salt Lake CO SO Deputy Melvin C. Colebrook—March 10, 1973, Salt Lake PD Officer Percy Lindsay Clark—Jan 11, 1973, UHP Trooper John R. Winn—Sept 22, 1971, Davis CO SO Deputy Donald Perry Jensen—May 14, 1971, and Utah Dept of Corrections Officer Donald Wagstaff—Dec 12, 1970.

Utah DWR Officer Charles Gilbert "Gil" Porter—May 2, 1970, Ute Tribal PD Officer Adolph F. Bush—Aug 19, 1967, Ogden PD Officer Marshall "Doc" N. White—Oct 13, 1963, Moab PD Officer Lloyd Larsen—Jan 5, 1961, San Juan CO SO Deputy Seth F. Wright—Oct 14, 1960, UHP Trooper George D. Rees—July 2, 1960, UHP Trooper Armond A. "Monty" Luke—Dec 3, 1959, Cache CO SO Deputy Alma P. Sorenson—Aug 27, 1959, Logan PD Officer Edwin L. "Ted" Edwards—Aug 27, 1959, Salt Lake CO SO Deputy MacKay C. Jewkes—June 28, 1959, Utah Dept of Corrections Officer Edwin Fisher—June 1, 1955, Salt Lake PD Officer Harold A. Peterson, Jr.—Oct 27, 1954, Salt Lake PD Officer Owen T. Farley—May 23, 1951, Salt Lake PD Sgt. Thomas W. Stroud—Jan 5, 1951, Mt Pleasant PD Officer Alonzo "Lon" T. Larsen—Oct 15, 1949, Ogden PD Officer Clarence M Bean—May 1, 1945, Carbon CO SO Sheriff S. Marion Bliss—April 23, 1945, Ogden PD Officer Hoyt L. Gates—Feb 11, 1941, Emery CO SO Deputy William Levi Black—Aug 22, 1936, and Salt Lake PD Officer Blaine L. Baxter—Sept 4, 1935.

Ogden PD Officer Joseph H. Quigley—July 12, 1935, UHP Trooper George "Ed" Vanwagenen—May 1, 1931, Grand Co SO Deputy Richard D. Westwood—Sept 5, 1929,

Logan PD Officer Willard R. Dahle—May 4, 1929, Salt Lake PD Officer Carl J. Carlson—March 9, 1929, Salt Lake CO SO Deputy Oscar Fuller—Aug 26, 1928, Castle Gate PD Marshal J. Milton Burns—June 15, 1935, Salt Lake PD Officer Gustave J. "Gus" Lund—Aug 25, 1924, Salt Lake PD Officer Brigham H. Honey—Feb 16, 1924, and Salt Lake PD Officer Nolan W. Huntsman—Feb 15, 1924.

Salt Lake PD Officer David H. Crowther—Oct 12, 1923, Salt Lake PD Officer Nephi P. Pierce—March 26, 1923, Salt Lake CO SO Deputy Gordon Stuart—April 15, 1922, Ogden PD Officer Charles Manzel—May 9, 1921, Salt Lake PD Officer Green B. Hamby—Feb 8, 1921, Ogden PD Officer Albert G. Smalley—April 7, 1920, Nat'l Forest Service Officer Rudolph E. Mellenthin—Aug 23, 1918, Eureka PD Officer Alex J. Robertson—Dec 5, 1915, Salt Lake CO SO Deputy Thomas Manderich—Nov 29, 1913, and Salt Lake CO SO Deputy J. Douglas Hulsey—Nov 29, 1913.

Salt Lake CO SO Deputy Otto Witbeck—Nov 21, 1913, Salt Lake CO SO Deputy Nephi S. Jensen—Nov 21, 1913, Bingham PD Officer J. W. Grant—Nov 21, 1913, Salt Lake PD Officer Thomas F. Griffiths—June 25, 1913, Midvale PD Officer Frank Colclough—Aug 7, 1912, Salt Lake PD Officer John H. Johnston—July 15, 1911, Salt Lake PD Officer Charles C. Riley—Oct 5, 1909, Weber CO SO Deputy Seymour Clark—Nov 27, 1908, Park City Officer Albert Holindrake—Jan 12, 1908, and Salt Lake PD Officer Charles S. Ford—Dec 14, 1907.

Provo PD Officer Frank Tucker—June 16, 1900, Grand CO SO Deputy Jesse Tyler—May 26, 1900, Grand CO SO Deputy Samuel Jenkins—May 26, 1900, Provo PD Officer William Strong—June 27, 1899, Ogden PD Officer William A. Brown—April 30, 1899, Springville City Marshal Silas E. Clark—Nov 18, 1897, Uinta CO SO (WY) Deputy Edward N. Dawes—July 30, 1895, Echo PD Officer Thomas A. Stagg—July 30, 1895, Bingham PD Officer L. C. Morrissey—July 6, 1895, and Spring PD Officer James C. Burns—Sept 26, 1894.

Salt Lake PD Sgt. Alonzo Mispah Wilson—April 12, 1894, Salt Lake PD Officer Andrew H. Burt—Aug 25, 1883, Utah State Prison Warden M.D. Burgher—March 16, 1875, Provo PD Officer Albert H. Bowen—Oct 16, 1873, Deputy U.S. Marshal William R. Storey—May 2, 1870, Salt Lake PD Officer William Cooke—Oct 18, 1858, and Salt Lake CO SO Deputy Rodney Badger—April 29, 1853.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in thanking these men and women from Utah, and all those from around the country, that have made the ultimate sacrifice and given their lives as police officers.

TRIBUTE TO RUTH NAGLER

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ruth Nagler for her public service on the occasion of her 80th birthday on May 21, 2002. In addition to being a mother and grandmother, Mrs. Nagler has devoted much of her long and full life in service to her community.

Mrs. Nagler was born in Brooklyn, New York, and received her undergraduate degree from the College of the City of New York (now the City University of New York) in 1943, and then a Master of Arts in education from New York University in 1945.

Continuing her inclination towards education, Mrs. Nagler was elected to the San Mateo City Elementary School District Board of Trustees in 1963. She served in that body until 1973, and served as Chairman of the Board from 1965–1967. She was also appointed by the San Mateo City Council to sit on the San Mateo City Library Board of Trustees from 1963 to 1970. She also served as the Director of Community Education for Canada College in Redwood City from June 1968, when the campus originally opened, to June 1980. She then worked as the Director of Community Education for San Mateo County Community College from July 1980 to January 1988.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the success and vitality of a community is dependent on the actions and involvement of its citizens. I can think of no better example of a concerned and dynamic participant than Ruth Nagler. Ruth has shown a commitment to public service well beyond her enormous contribution in the field of education. She served on the Mills Peninsula Hospitals Board of Trustees from 1975 to the present, and is currently the Chair of the Joint Conference Committee. She is also the chair of the Friends of the Advisory Committee on Women, a position to which she was appointed in November 1986 by the Advisory Council on Women of San Mateo County. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Women's Center of San Mateo County and is the chair of the San Mateo Performing Arts Center Board of Directors (SAMPAC).

Mrs. Nagler's history of community service is indeed long and distinguished. From 1976 to 1986 she was a member of the Executive Board of the Human Investment Project (HIP) of San Mateo County, and served as the chair of that organization from 1984 to 1985. She was also on the Executive Board of the San Mateo County Women's Recovery Association from 1973 to 1984. Mrs. Nagler was a member of the Communications Committee of the San Mateo County American Cancer Society, aided the San Mateo City Citizens Task Force to Study Needs of Seniors, and participated in the United Crusade Sponsored Citizens Task Force to Study Educational Needs in South San Mateo County. She was also a key member of the Executive Board and Planning Committee for the San Mateo County American Revolution Bicentennial Committee from 1974–1976.

In addition to her elected and appointed leadership in these many community service organizations, Mrs. Nagler has been a member of the League of Women Voters since 1951 and served as president of the San Mateo League from 1959 to 1961. She has also been a member of the San Mateo branch of the American Association of University Women since 1965, and was a member of the San Carlos Branch from 1976 to 1979. Other memberships include Women's Resource Center in Palo Alto (since 1973), the Redwood City Soroptimists Club (1976–1977), the Program Committee of the San Mateo County Planned Parenthood Association (1970–1971), the United Nations Association of San Mateo County, and the San Mateo Parents Coopera-

tive Nursery School (1952–1956). The Naglers also served in 1965 as a host family for the Experiment in International Living.

Mr. Speaker, those who know Ruth Nagler well admire her for her dedication and service. Her years of commitment to community have not gone unnoticed by those with whom she has worked. She has received numerous awards and recognitions, of which I will mention just a few. Mrs. Nagler was admitted to the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame in 1988. She received a bicentennial award in 1976 from the Trinity Baptist Church of San Mateo in "recognition of extraordinary accomplishment and outstanding contribution to community education and cultural advancement and strengthening of home and family life." In 1976 she was honored by the Japanese-American Citizens League of San Mateo County with the Community Services Award "for appreciation and recognition for outstanding leadership to the community." She has also received the San Mateo Elementary Teachers Association Community Services Award (1973), the Girls Club of the Mid-Peninsula Community Services Award "for outstanding leadership and contributions to the community" (1973), and the Civil de Hidalgo Certificate of Appreciation for work related to the human rights and education of Hispanic adults and children (1972). She was also given the Special Services Award by minority parents and students of the San Mateo City School District for "long and devoted services to the youth of San Mateo and dedicated service to the integrated learning process" in recognition of her work from 1961 to 1973.

The Park, Foster City and Audubon schools of the San Mateo City Elementary District, the Canada College Patrons Association, and the San Mateo County Community College District have granted Mrs. Nagler honorary life membership in the PTA. Mrs. Nagler's perpetual devotion to education was also duly recognized by friends and supporters who established the Ruth K. Nagler Scholarship Fund at the conclusion of her service on the San Mateo Elementary School Board of Trustees.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Ruth K. Nagler's enormous service to our community are worthy of our praise and commendation. As a Member of Congress, I am proud to pay tribute to Ruth K. Nagler, who has taken such a firm and intense interest in those around her in our area. I join her many friends and admirers in the Bay Area in honoring her on her 80th birthday, and wish her many happy, healthy, and successful years to come.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL E. DEMICHIEI ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize my constituent, Michael E. DeMichiei of Napoleon, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Michael will soon graduate from Napoleon High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a high grade point average, and is a member of the National Honor Soci-

ety. He is an accomplished athlete, earning varsity letters in soccer and track. And, he has clearly demonstrated his leadership ability, serving as a delegate to Buckeye Boys State and as captain of the soccer team.

Michael DeMichiei can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Michael is accepting a unique challenge.

The Academy is the pinnacle of leadership development for the United States Army. As a member of the U.S. Corps of Cadets, he will face a most demanding academic curriculum and physical regimen. He will live, study and prepare in an environment where strong leadership thrives, individual achievement is expected, and personal integrity is demanded.

Mr. Speaker, General John W. Vessey, Jr. once wrote, "The Nation's ability to remain free and at peace depends in no small measure on whether we will continue to inspire our youth to serve."

I am confident that Michael DeMichiei has the character and ability to excel at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his very important service to our Nation.

CHANGE IN THE MIDDLE EAST IS POSSIBLE

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply disappointed to learn that the Central Committee of the Likud party in Israel recently voted in favor of a resolution never to allow the creation of a Palestinian state. This decision is so troubling because it refuses to address the paradox that all Israelis have wrestled with since the end of the six-day war in 1967. I like to call this the paradox of the occupation. The paradox of the occupation is that the modern state of Israel, post 1967, has not been able to achieve the Zionist dream of a Jewish, democratic state. There are over 3 million men and women who live in land that was occupied by the Israeli Defense Forces in 1967, who are not allowed to take advantage of Israel's nationality law. They are required to carry a special identification card that greatly restricts their freedom of movement throughout the country. They are at the mercy of the Israeli judiciary if they want to become naturalized citizens, regardless of where they were born. They are denied these basic rights of nationality because of their ethnicity. These are Palestinian Muslims and Christians, and they are not citizens in the Jewish state of Israel because they do not have the right ethnic ancestors or religious affiliation. Mr. Speaker, doesn't the current state of affairs in the occupied territories stretch beyond recognition our definition of "democracy?" Isn't the President making the right decision to call for an end to the occupation and the creation of a Palestinian state? According to a public opinion poll taken by the Dahaf Institute in Israel, 67% of all Israelis agree with the President, believing that Israel should withdraw from the occupied territories.

To say, as the Likud party said Sunday night, that there will never be a Palestinian

state is to say that Israel will exist either as a Jewish state or a democratic state, but not both. Or it could be implicitly saying that the Palestinian people will somehow cease to exist. This is troubling, particularly in light of the fact that so many in the Israeli government have openly discussed the prospect of driving Palestinians out of their homes as a means to solving this conflict. Mr. Speaker, we should state openly as President Bush has stated, that the United States will never tolerate the forceful removal of Palestinian people. Driving the Palestinian people out of the occupied territories is not an option.

Mr. Speaker, there is a solution to the paradox of the occupation. This solution would allow Israel to be both fully Jewish and fully democratic. It would dispel forever the notion that Israel has no right to exist, and it would take away the fear of so many Palestinians that they will one day be driven out of their homes. This solution is, as the President has articulated so many times, to have "two states living side by side" in a climate of peace and security. For the first time in the history of this conflict, this vision has become possible. Based on the formula of land for peace, Saudi Arabia has led the Arab states in an unequivocal call for peace with Israel in exchange for an end to the occupation of pre-1967 Arab lands. Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, how different this troubling region could be if all states were to live together in peace and security? The Middle East would change beyond our imagination.

This change is possible, but only if both sides are given a fair shake in working out a lasting agreement. We need to make the right decisions now, without the taint of political agendas, to create a lasting peace for the future children of Israel and Palestine.

HONORING REVEREND JOHN G. SIMMONS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend John G. Simmons. For over 60 years now, Reverend Simmons has dedicated himself to the causes of peace and justice throughout his community and in honor of his achievements, the Reverend John G. Simmons Opportunity House will be dedicated on May 16, 2002. The Opportunity House will serve as a treatment facility for the Mentally Ill Offenders Program.

Born in Mountain Grove, Missouri, Reverend Simmons is a graduate of Drake University, Ruther Seminary, University of Chicago and the University of Southern California. A devoted family man, he is married to Bethend Simmons and together they have three children—Johnny, Ginger and James. Rev. Simmons is also the proud stepfather to four children—Linda, Tylon, Paul and Karen. His eight grandchildren are his great pride.

Reverend Simmons has been an outspoken advocate and proponent for individuals and families in need of affordable housing and health care, specialized health needs and reasoned, caring healthcare practitioners. He has served on the Board of Directors of the Pacoima Memorial Lutheran Hospital, the

Sunair Children's Foundation and is the Founder of the Golden State Community Mental Health Center and the Los Angeles Family Housing-Valley Shelter.

Along with his dedication to healthcare and housing, Rev. Simmons has also pledged his support to education. As a founder of Casa Loma College, an institution dedicated to licensing vocational nurses, certified nurses and home health aides, he has ensured that qualified and experienced nurses are available to meet the health needs of at-risk individuals. He is also the founder of California Lutheran University, which is dedicated to the educational needs of students throughout the world.

As a strong advocate of social justice, civil liberties and civil rights, Reverend Simmons has been active in the ACLU, NAACP, Amnesty International, the Lutheran Peace Fellowship, L.A. County Commission on Human Relations and the Medical Committee for Civil Rights.

It is with great honor that I ask all Members to join with me in congratulating the Reverend John G. Simmons for his life's dedication to the social welfare of his community and on the dedication of the Rev. John G. Simmons Opportunity House.

IN RECOGNITION OF "A CHILD IS MISSING"

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I have recently come into contact with "A Child Is Missing," a public/private partnership founded by Sherry Friedlander and sponsored by several prestigious organizations such as the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Florida Police Chiefs Association, among others. I am proud of the people of Florida and their support for this organization, and its service to the general public and the law enforcement community of my home state.

A Child Is Missing is an organization currently working in the state of Florida, whose purpose is to aid the law enforcement authorities to locate missing children, elderly, and people with disabilities. Their mode of work: once a report has been filed of a missing child, elderly, or person with disabilities, the law enforcement agency may call "A Child Is Missing" and give the specifics of the case. Within the hour, "A Child Is Missing" calls and relays an automatic phone message to phone numbers located within the area where the person was last seen. The phone message gives a description of the person, informs of their disappearance, and provides the phone number of the closest law enforcement agency in the area.

"A Child Is Missing's" technology is state of the art, their mode of operation simple and impressively fast. Their degree of effectiveness is so high that in a five-year period their radius of action has increased from a local to a state level, and they are currently trying to make their systems operate nationwide.

It is therefore no surprise to me that police Chief Edward Morley has said, speaking of the case of a missing boy, "The role of 'A Child Is Missing' was instrumental in reuniting him quickly with his family."

I applaud the founders, sponsors and workers of "A Child Is Missing." They have given us an opportunity to help the community, and this is why I am a supporter of this initiative. I look forward to seeing this Florida initiative expanded nationwide.

RECOGNIZING KYLE J. FRIES ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE U.S. MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize my constituent, Kyle J. Fries of Bellevue, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, New York.

Kyle will soon graduate from Bellevue High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a high grade point average, and currently is attending Firelands Branch of Bowling Green State University under the Post Secondary Education Option. And, he has clearly demonstrated his leadership ability, earning the rank of Eagle Scout and serving as a delegate to Buckeye Boys State.

Kyle Fries can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Kyle is accepting a unique challenge.

The Academy is the pinnacle of leadership development for the United States Maritime Service. As a USMMA midshipman, he will face a most demanding academic curriculum and physical regimen. He will live, study and prepare in an environment where strong leadership thrives, individual achievement is expected, and personal integrity is demanded.

Mr. Speaker, General John W. Vessey, Jr. once wrote, "The Nation's ability to remain free and at peace depends in no small measure on whether we will continue to inspire our youth to serve."

I am confident that Kyle Fries has the character and ability to excel at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his very important service to our nation at Kings Point.

TRIBUTE TO RURAL/METRO MEDICAL SERVICES OF ROCHESTER ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH YEAR IN BUSINESS

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Rural/Metro Medical Services of Rochester as it celebrates its 50th year of service to our community.

Rural/Metro Medical Services is a Rochester success story that deserves to be shared. Originally founded as National Ambulance of Rochester by George S. Heisel, Jr. in 1952, Rural/Metro has grown into a model of excellence for the delivery of emergency medical services. For half a century, thousands of

Rochesterians in need of emergency medical services have experienced firsthand the level of service and care that Rural/Metro exemplifies. Rural/Metro's 400 employees not only serve in Rochester but also provide back-up and mutual aid to Monroe and Livingston Counties' volunteer emergency services agencies. The official 911 ambulance service provider for the City of Rochester, Rural/Metro has garnered a reputation of excellence among our local hospitals, nursing homes and other health care providers. In fact, Rural/Metro holds the distinction of being the only ambulance service in our region to be nationally accredited.

In addition to fulfilling its core mission, Rural/Metro has also endeavored to innovate the field of emergency medical services by developing creative new approaches for the delivery of such service. The Bike Medic program, which enables paramedics and other health care providers to respond rapidly to emergencies at public events, and the Emergency Support Unit, which brings about enhanced coordination during fires and other large-scale emergencies, are true innovations that have made the difference in the lives of countless Rochesterians and serve as a model for other regions.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I am pleased to congratulate Rural/Metro Medical

Services on reaching this important milestone. I would like to express my great hope that these past fifty years are merely the beginning of Rural/Metro Medical Service's tenure as the standard-bearer for emergency medical services in the Rochester area.

HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA TROOP 301, TEMECULA, CALIFORNIA

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Boy Scouts of America, Troop 301, of Temecula, California, for 25 years of service and commitment to their community.

On February 8, 2002, Troop 301 celebrated their 25th anniversary as a member of the California Inland Empire Council. This troop, established in 1977, has shown a strong commitment to training the leaders of tomorrow by teaching service and developing character, today.

Every year, Troop 301 organizes programs to provide food, aid and comfort for those in

need: the troop adopts families who are in financial need, decorates senior-citizen homes, and participates in community clean-up events including Temecula's "Make a Difference Days." In addition to teaching community service, Troop 301 emphasizes service to the country. Following the devastating terrorist attacks on the United States of America on September 11, 2001, Troop 301 raised over \$1,500 for the Red Cross disaster relief fund.

This troop provides a valuable service to the city of Temecula by providing color guard presentation of the American flag at community events and celebrations such as Memorial Day, Veteran's Day, the Temecula Mayor's Prayer Breakfast and Temecula City Council meetings. Troop 301 is dedicated to supporting the scouting tradition and has helped 39 young men achieve the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mr. Speaker, I too was a Boy Scout for much of my early life. I can say that I am very proud to have achieved the rank of Life Scout before entering the Army. Today, my contributions to scouting are at a different level.

I am very proud of what Troop 301 has done for the citizens of Temecula and I would like to extend my congratulations to the troop for a wonderful first 25 years. They should be very proud of what they have accomplished.