

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF FORMER MEMBER
GEORGE E. BROWN, JR. AND THE
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FOUNDING OF THE MONTEREY
PARK DEMOCRATIC CLUB

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today in great honor to ask the House of Representatives to pause to remember a former Member of Congress, George E. Brown, Jr. and to pay tribute to him and to the Monterey Park Democratic Club, which he helped found 50 years ago.

As a new Representative to Congress, I know that I stand on the shoulders of many giants who have come before me, including the longest serving Member of Congress in the history of my state—George Brown.

Fifty years ago, in his early thirties, George Brown had settled in the Los Angeles suburb of Monterey Park. With several other civicly active residents, he helped found the Democratic Club of that community. George was its first President. Today, the Club is headed by President Irving Willner, a Club member for 48 years and its longest serving President at “only” 18 years of service.

From being Club President, George ran for public office. Like many here in this body, he lost his first race. But he had persistence and conviction, ran again, and was elected to the Monterey Park City Council, became Mayor, then was elected to the California State Assembly in 1958. He ran and was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1962. In 1970, he left his House seat to run for the U.S. Senate. He lost in a close Democratic primary. He then ran again for the House in 1972, and won. And he continued to win. Even though he had some of the most consistently close races in the nation, George won 14 more times, winning his last race in 1998, before passing away in 1999. A tremendous electoral record.

George Brown had an impressive public policy record. He was known in Congress for his support for anti-poverty programs, for peace, for space and scientific advancement, and for civil rights and tolerance of diversity—a cause that he shared deeply with the Monterey Park Democratic Club.

George remains deeply remembered and appreciated in Monterey Park and by the past and current members of the Monterey Park Democratic Club. As social commentators have long noted about America, it is our freedom to form voluntary clubs and associations that keeps America vibrant and gives Americans a good part of our ability to exercise our political rights and participate in our political system. Through their 50 years of organizational life, the Monterey Park Democratic Club and its members have helped the people of Monterey Park become civicly active in the cause of a continually better city, a better nation, and a better world.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives join me today in honoring the 50th anniversary of the Monterey Park Democratic Club and in paying tribute to their first president, the honorable George E. Brown, Jr., and all the members of the Club.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN C. KARHOFF
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, Brian C. Karhoff of Pandora, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Brian will soon graduate from Pandora-Gilboa High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a 4.0 grade point average, and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is an accomplished athlete, earning a varsity letter in football. And, he has clearly demonstrated his leadership ability, earning the rank of Eagle Scout, class treasurer and treasurer of the National Honor Society.

Brian Karhoff can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Brian 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 Brian Karhoff 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, on May 15, 2002, I was absent for personal reasons and missed roll call votes numbered 165 and 166. For the record, had I been present I would have voted no on both of these votes.

THE MANY VALUES OF MUSIC EDUCATION

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House, and as Chairwoman of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I constantly work to support and expand the enjoyment of artistic and musical expression for all Americans. I especially recognize the positive educational and economic aspects of the arts and, because of these benefits, have worked on a bipartisan basis to secure additional funding for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

It is because of my interest in the arts that I was pleased to read Tim Wendel’s article “Healing Harmonies” (USA Weekend 10/28/01). It now appears that the arts—and music specifically—offer additional benefits that are closely related to my professional training as a microbiologist. While microbiology strives to benefit public health both through research and treatment, Wendel now shows that music similarly benefits public health. In his article, Wendel shows that top neuroscientists have found music aids in pain relief, in battling cancer, and by accelerating the healing process for stroke victims and victims of Parkinson’s disease. Music has even been tied to the retrieval of lost memory for Alzheimer’s patients, and to improved concentration in children with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

One may conclude from Wendel’s “Healing Harmonies” that the benefits of music are indeed extraordinary. I would like to note, however, that it is in great part because of the talent and dedication of music educators that we are able to reap the diverse rewards of music. Not only do these educators bring to us an aesthetic appreciation of music, they also create, through music, benefits that spill over to other educational disciplines as well.

MENC—The National Association for Music Education provides data illustrating some of these advantages. In its official publications, MENC reports that students involved in music earn better grades than their peers and score higher on their SATs. Music study also correlates directly with a proficiency in language acquisition and mathematical reasoning.

The Congress has recognized the powerful impact of music education. In the recently passed “No Child Left Behind Act,” music educators such as the members of MENC are entrusted not only with the important role of nurturing music and the arts in our schools, but have also been given by Congress a statutory voice in the educational policy process. Working with school administrators, music educators will help ensure that our students receive the many positive benefits of music, which eventually benefit us all.

I invite my colleagues to take this opportunity to review selected excerpts from both Wendel’s article and the Music In Our Schools

• 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.

Month (MIOSM) Advocacy Update, and I ask that these selections be inserted at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From Music In Our Schools Month (MIOSM) Advocacy Update, Issue 1, 2002]

MAKING DECISIONS ON MUSIC EDUCATION
RESEARCH SHOWS POSITIVE IMPACT OF MUSIC
EDUCATION

As a major distributor of educational research, MENC has published a peer-reviewed music education publication, the *Journal of Research in Music Education*, for 50 years. In 1998, NAMM-International Music Product Association founded the International Foundation for Music Research, which actively supports research work that explores music's role in various stages of life. This research identifies how music contributes to children's cognitive development and learning.

It is important to call on government to seriously seek out the information that can shape the curriculum in American schools to the benefit of American children. More than ever before, there is an urgent need for research to underpin the inherent value and importance of music in education. Studies have shown music education is correlated with success in other areas of school. Students involved in music are less likely to be involved in disciplinary infractions than their peers and they are more likely than non-music students to get good grades, as shown by SAT scores. Research has also indicated that music study correlates with spatio-temporal intelligence, which is important in proportional mathematical reasoning, and new research suggests that music study and language acquisition, including reading readiness and early literacy skills, seem to go together.

[From USA Today, Oct. 28, 2001]

HEALING POWERS

RESEARCHING THE LINKS BETWEEN MELODY AND
THE MIND

(By Tim Wendel)

New studies indicate that listening to and playing music actually can alter how our brains, and thus our bodies, function. Scientists use the sound of music to do everything from battling cancer and mining the memories of Alzheimer's patients to relieving severe pain and boosting kid's test scores. Doctors believe music therapy in hospitals and nursing homes not only makes people feel better, but also makes them heal faster . . . Across the nation, a growing number of nursing homes has hired music therapists to help geriatric patients maintain motor coordination and socialization skills. Among the beneficiaries: Some stroke and Parkinson's patients have recovered more rapidly with musical accompaniment during physical therapy.

"We're only beginning to understand the value of music," says Deforia Lane, a music therapist at Cleveland's University Hospital. "We are tapping into the fundamental ways our brain interprets [it] and drinks it in . . ."

MUSIC THERAPY HELPS MEDICAL PATIENTS,
BRAIN TRAUMA, ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Doctors are just starting to apply the new revelations about music's impact on the brain to treating patients. [Michael] Thaut composes and plays original compositions with a specific beat to help victims of stroke, cerebral palsy and Parkinson's disease recover body functions. He and his colleagues observe patients in physical therapy, then compose music tailored to their movements. Speed, symmetry and music activity improve faster than when the sounds are synchronized to individuals' gait patterns. In a recent study, Thaut's team detailed how

patients who worked to music took bigger, more balanced strides than those whose therapy had no accompaniment.

Other researchers have found the sound of drums may influence how bodies work . . . Suzanne Hasner, chairwoman of the music therapy department at Berklee College of Music in Boston, says even those with dementia or head injuries retain musical ability. "Deep in our long-term memory is this rehearsed music," Hasner says. "It is processed in the emotional part of the brain, the amygdala. Here's where you remember the music played at your wedding, the music of your first love, that first dance. Such things can still be remembered even in people with progressive diseases. It can be a window, a way to reach them . . ."

Earlier this year, researchers from the Mind-Body Wellness Center in Meadville, Pa., reported the results of an experiment in which 111 cancer patients played drums for 30 minutes a day. They found strengthened immune systems and increased levels of cancer-fighting cells in many of the patients . . .

And just this month, the American Academy of Pediatrics published a study showing music may help children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Kids tried to match various musical tones by tapping their hands and feet. The exercises improved their concentration and control of aggression . . .

It seems now more than ever the healing power of music, over body and spirit, is being put to the test . . . Science is just now beginning to understand how.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
POLICE WEEK

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Police Week. This year, we honor our law enforcement officers during the week of May 13th. Police officers from all over the nation have assembled in Washington to honor their fallen brethren with this year's National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

This year, Mr. Speaker, National Police Week comes with a greater sense of pride and reflection. Following the tragic events on September 11th, our nation's law enforcement officers were thrust onto the front lines as America quickly focused on our national security. Our nation was quickly reminded of these dedicated men and women committed to preserving and protecting public safety during those perilous times.

It is also a privilege to recognize a group of police officers from my hometown of Fort Lauderdale. I'm delighted to welcome the Fraternal Order of Police, Fort Lauderdale Lodge #31 to Washington. Led by Detective Tom Mangifesta, these first-class men and women serve the residents of Fort Lauderdale and Broward County with diligence and honor.

May we never take for granted the responsibility local law enforcement has accepted, guarding our safety and security as we go about our daily lives.

REFORM OF THE MINING LAW OF
1872

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, Today I am introducing legislation which I have sponsored in one form or another since 1991 to reform the Mining Law of 1872.

Last Friday was the 130th anniversary of the May 10, 1872, date President Grant signed into law the legislation that became known as the Mining Law of 1872. I first introduced reform legislation in 1991, during the 102nd Congress. And today, along with our colleagues Chris Shays, George Miller, Ed Markey, Ron Kind, Jay Inslee, Tom Udall, Mark Udall, Frank Pallone and Eni Faleomavaega, will reintroduce a comprehensive reform measure once again.

Having been at it for over a decade, without gaining enactment of a bill, a logical reaction would be a sense of frustration. However, I do take heart in the fact that the effort to reform the Mining Law of 1872 started just seven years after its enactment, in an 1879 recommendation of the first major Public Land Commission established by the Congress. In relative terms, I have been at it a short period of time.

Certainly, the mining law has withstood countless reform efforts over its 130-year history. Its privileges—and it is a privilege to be deemed the highest and best use of public domain lands—have been protected by some powerful forces. These are the folks who benefit from the production of valuable hardrock minerals such as gold, silver and copper from federal public domain lands without paying a royalty to the American public. They are those who benefit from the hodgepodge of State regulation governing the reclamation of these federal lands and the lack of suitable environmental safeguards to protect the American public and the lands which we all own.

Yet there are others, others who will view the introduction of our reform legislation as a ray of hope. They are those who are concerned that in the dawn of the 21st Century the United States still actually allows multinational conglomerates to mine valuable minerals from our federal lands for free. They are those, countless citizens, who live in the vicinity of these operations who must contend with a legacy of maimed landscapes and polluted streams.

The bill we are introducing today is similar to the measure which passed the House of Representatives by a three-to-one margin during the 103rd Congress.

Unfortunately, a House-Senate Conference Committee in 1994 failed to arrive at a final product before adjournment.

Today, even under a Republican majority I remain convinced that if allowed to proceed to the House floor, this bill or something similar to it would pass the full House of Representatives.

In fact, reform proponents have prevailed on every single occasion that an amendment dealing with the Mining Law of 1872 has been offered on the House Floor in recent years, usually within the context of the annual Interior Appropriations measure. For instance, the House has approved amendments to limit the

issuance of patents, to limit the number of acreage available for waste disposal under millsite claims, as well as to uphold Clinton-era environmental requirements referred to as the '3809 regulations.'

Indeed, perhaps the times are changing. Interior Secretary Norton, while rescinding most of the reforms contained in those '3809 regulations' has endorsed certain reform principles such as the concept of a production royalty and revisions to the patent system. And even the youthful president of the National Mining Association, Jack Gerard, has been discussing reform options as well.

The fact of the matter is that the issue of insuring a fair return to the public in exchange for the disposition of public resources, and the issue of properly managing our public domain lands, is neither Republican or Democrat. It is simply one that makes sense if we are to be good stewards of the public domain and meet our responsibilities to the American people.

This means that the Mining Law of 1872 must be reformed.

MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2002

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

MAINTAINS existing claim location system. GIVES holders of hardrock mining claims exclusive right of possession and use of the claimed land for mineral activities if claim held in compliance with the Act.

MAKES PERMANENT the \$25.00 location and \$100 annual claim maintenance fees with an inflation adjuster. All monies received from such fees would be dedicated to clean up of old, abandoned hardrock mines in the West.

PROHIBITS the issuance of patents for mining and mill site mining claims except for those with grandfather rights.

Reserves an 8 percent of the net smelter return royalty on the production of hardrock minerals from any mining claim under this Act; all moneys dedicated to the clean-up of abandoned hardrock mines in the West.

Requires mineral activities on Federal lands to be conducted in a manner that minimizes adverse impacts to the environment.

Prescribes surface management guidelines for the granting of permits. Requires applications for such permits to contain both an operations plan and a reclamation plan, and evidence of financial assurances.

Mandates reclamation of lands subject to mineral activities to a condition capable of supporting their prior uses, or to other beneficial uses.

Establishes national reclamation standards for hardrock mining.

Allows State standards for reclamation, bonding, inspection, and water or air quality which either meet or exceed Federal standards to be used in place of national standards.

Allows cooperative agreements for surface management responsibilities between the States and the Interior Department but prohibits outright delegation.

Requires land use plans to identify areas unsuitable for hardrock mining.

Authorizes government to deny or condition permit approvals as needed to protect special resources.

Requires withdrawal of areas unsuitable for hardrock mining from future mineral exploration and development.

Declares persons in violation of the Act ineligible for future permits.

Establishes the Abandoned Locatable Minerals Mine Reclamation Fund to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior for the reclamation and restoration of land and water resources adversely affected by past hardrock mineral activities on public lands.

Authorizes user fees to reimburse the United States for expenses incurred in administering this Act.

Prescribes procedural guidelines for public participation requirements.

Sets forth Inspection and Enforcement requirements.

Authorizes citizen suits to enforce compliance.

GABRIEL EREM'S "LETTER FROM THE BALCONY" ON THE CRISIS FACING JEWS IN EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I recently received an insightful essay entitled "Letter From the Balcony" from my dear friend Gabriel Erem, the editor and publisher of *Lifestyles* magazine and a prominent journalist. In this document, Mr. Erem discusses the current situation facing Jews in Israel and in Europe and their treatment by their Arab neighbors in the Middle East and their treatment by their fellow citizens in western Europe.

The American people have watched in horror and dismay as the people of Israel have suffered terrorist attack after terrorist attack. We have voiced our outrage at the increasing number and violence of the racist atrocities that have been perpetrated against Jews by our allies in western Europe. As Americans, we have a responsibility to support those who uphold the institutions and the principles of democracy—and, as we have repeatedly emphasized, Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East. There is a commonality of values that binds us inextricably with the people of Israel. As Americans, we have a firm commitment to tolerance and understanding, and for us the brutal intolerance we have seen from our European allies toward their own citizens is truly sickening.

Mr. Speaker, the tone of Mr. Erem's essay is sorrow, not anger. He brings to this discussion a personal feeling that I understand at the most fundamental level. Gabriel Erem lost 186 relatives in the notorious Nazi extermination camp at Auschwitz. He has suffered first-hand the horrendous consequences of intolerance and hate.

Sadly, our world has not seen the end of such intolerance and violence. As we continue the struggle against the forces of chaos, prejudice and terrorism thrust upon us by the tragic events of September 11th, we have seen the blind and vicious hatred against Israel increase. We have seen anti-Semitism in Europe erupt. We have watched in amazement as the governments of our European allies have supported the perpetrators, not the victims, as blood and horror are unleashed against our democratic ally, Israel. We have watched as these same European governments have stood silent while their own Jewish citizens have been targeted and abused and as Jewish institutions and businesses are attacked by mobs.

Mr. Speaker, Gabriel Erem's essay, "Letter From the Balcony" is of great significance, and I would like to share it with my colleagues in the House. I ask that it be placed in THE RECORD. I urge all of my colleagues in the

House to read and carefully consider his valuable words.>

"LETTER FROM THE BALCONY"

by Gabriel Erem

I can't sleep tonight. It is a rainy, gloomy night in Basel, Switzerland. I have just seen heart-breaking news photos of the funeral of the 18-year-old niece of Israel's soft-spoken United Nations Ambassador Yehuda Lancry, victim of the recent suicide bombing in Haifa. She was a pretty girl. She was in the wrong place at the wrong time. Now she is one of 466 victims of Arab terror murdered in cold blood since former Prime Minister Barak offered Arafat a deal for a Palestinian State. The response from Arafat and his ilk has also been 3,827 innocent Israelis maimed for life while they were in cafes, supermarkets, pizzerias and buses.

I step out to take a deep breath. I am standing on the balcony of the 976-year old Drei Konige Hotel, on the exact same spot where Theodor Herzl once stood back in 1896. At the time, as a journalist, he was covering the infamous Dreyfus trial and was so revolted by the rabid anti-Semitism of 19th century Europe that he wrote *Der Judenstaat* (The Jewish State), the book that became the blueprint for the creation of the modern State of Israel. Who would have thought that in 2002 Jews living in the former Soviet Union and Poland and Germany are safer than those living in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv and Haifa?

I am looking at the murky waters of the Rhine, thinking of how little the world has changed. Behind me in my hotel room a strange Arabic language music video is blaring on my TV set. I return to the room to watch how Egypt's Nile TV (one of at least eight Arabic language channels offered via satellite in Switzerland) is repeatedly running a strange video clip backed by a hundred-piece orchestra, with a singer in a wailing voice extolling the struggle of Palestinian "freedom fighters." In a masterfully edited video montage, Israeli soldiers are firing at innocent Palestinian children as if they were target practicing. A Palestinian child is hit by a hail of bullets and in grainy, documentary-like slow motion falls to the ground to the wailing sounds of the orchestra in the background.

The lead singer weeps and a new "martyr" is born.

I flip the channel. There is an Arabic language documentary, showing a Palestinian suicide-kindergarten, where the curriculum focuses mainly on marching to patriotic war songs and preparing children for "martyrdom operations" against the Jewish enemy. The classroom walls are wallpapered with posters of young Palestinian youngsters who blew themselves up as human bombs. In one shot there is a placard next to the blackboard, depicting a swastika and the Star of David dripping in blood side by side.

On the next channel, the master media manipulator Saeb Erakat is shouting at the camera, with a wall-size poster of Jerusalem behind him, declaring Yasser Arafat the "democratically elected leader of his people." And the world believes him!

The kaffiyeh-clad commentator on the Kuwaiti channel is shedding crocodile tears for their suffering Palestinian brothers, conveniently forgetting the fact that his country promptly cleansed itself of nearly all of its Palestinians in the wake of the Gulf War in which Yasser Arafat characteristically took the side of Saddam Hussein.

The next news item is more cheerful however; it speaks of the upcoming opening of Villa Moda, a super-luxury shopping mall, one of the most opulent in the Middle East, owned by the Majed al Sabah, the nephew of

the Emir of Kuwait, where those believers—who no longer want to mingle with the riff-raff and travel to increasingly dangerous places like London, Paris and New York—can spend their American petro dollars to buy the latest Chanel bags.

Then there is a commentary on why the Kuwaitis and their Saudi brothers should not allow the American “infidels” to use Arab soil to attack their Iraqi brethren. It would upset the peace of their own fiefdoms. CNN’s commentator laments Iraqi children dying of hunger due to food shortages. On the next Arabic channel Saddam Hussein’s recently increased premium payments to suicide bombers’ families and his announcement to give \$25,000 to each homeless Palestinian are praised with admiration.

I can’t fall asleep, so I keep changing the channels. The European television stations are showing news footage of French synagogues being burned at the hands of unseen perpetrators and the unbelievable news that the French convict Jean Marie Le Pen, who called the gas chambers of Auschwitz a “detail of history,” came in second in the first round of the French presidential election. “Austrians remember the times when the mass media of Paris fell all over themselves calling Austria a hopeless Nazi-land,” remarks the Austrian journalist Ernst Trost in a rapid-fire commentary aimed at the French.

There is an item on German TV about a young Hasidic man beaten savagely by “persons unknown.” British commentators on the BBC are giving lessons in morality to Israeli Jews who “militarily conquered other peoples’ land.” I wonder, “What a blatant double standard! What was Great Britain doing two decades ago sending its fleet half a world away to fight a war in defense of its claims of conquest on the Falklands?”

I turn off the TV set and try to make sense of it all. How little has changed in more than a century, since the days of Herzl and Dreyfus. Firebombs hurled at Jewish schools and synagogues in France. A school bus carrying Jewish students in Paris bombed with stones. Protestors at a Rome demonstration dressed as suicide bombers. Orthodox Jews assaulted on the streets of north London. In France police reported nearly 360 crimes against Jews and Jewish institutions in the first two weeks of April alone. A kosher butcher’s shop was shot at. Teenagers on an amateur Jewish soccer team were assaulted with sticks and metal bars. Attackers broke into the Finsbury Park District Synagogue in north London, smashing windows, painting a swastika on a lectern and throwing holy books, skullcaps and prayer shawls on the floor. A British flag was left on the altar, prompting speculation that right-wing nationalists were responsible.

German Jews appeal to authorities to stop a spiral of violence against Jewish targets. An assailant threw a Molotov cocktail at a synagogue, a homemade bomb exploded at a Jewish cemetery and two Jewish women were assaulted at a Berlin subway station. A Berlin police official suggests that Jews should stop wearing religious symbols to avoid attacks.

Vandals throw red paint at a Holocaust memorial in the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki, in the second attack on Jewish monuments in Greece. In Canada, the land of tolerance, synagogues are burning, Jews are being beaten. The German and British governments are imposing a quiet boycott of Israel. The Swiss are talking of putting punitive tariffs on Israeli goods in public. Arafat and Kofi Annan are speaking of moral equivalency. And while 21 Arab states sit on their hands and their petrol billions instead of trying to better the conditions of their Palestinian brethren, the newly freed Yasser

Arafat is screaming hateful insults, calling Jews “Nazis”.

President Bush called for an all-out war on terrorism. Yet due to great pressures from America’s un-democratic but oil-rich allies in the Middle East, his Secretary of State pays a visit to the arch-terrorist Yasser Arafat in Ramallah. Along with many, Arafat regards Zionism as a way of making Palestinians pay for the Holocaust. Just a decade after he established al Fatah, the predecessor of the PLO, the “leader of the Palestinian people” consistently stated the purpose of his life: “The end of Israel is the goal of our struggle, and it allows for neither compromise nor mediation.” As he explained to Italian journalist Oriana Fallaci in 1972: “We don’t want peace. We want war, victory. Peace for us means the destruction of Israel and nothing else.”

It is dawn in Basel. A young couple are walking their dog by the Rhine. The pretty blond lady holding the leash is in about her eighth month of pregnancy. I look at her from my hotel window and suddenly I am filled with envy. That child who is about to be born into the world of this tiny nation will never see war. After all, there has been no war in this part of the world for centuries. There is no September 11th lurking in the future and their baby carriage will not likely be blown up by anyone.

I think of the hundreds of Jews who were murdered and the thousands maimed by Arab terror since the peace deal that they demanded was offered to them. I think of the Six Million who died in the Holocaust. The world never learns.

RECOGNIZING CLAYTON M.
MEALER 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, Clayton M. Mealer of Defiance, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Clayton will soon graduate from Defiance Senior High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a high grade point average, and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is an accomplished athlete, earning a varsity letter in football. And, he has clearly demonstrated his civic awareness, generously volunteering his time as a tutor, and in support of Habitat for Humanity and Clean the City Parks.

Clayton Mealer can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Clayton 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 Clayton Mealer 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.

COMMENDING THE PUERTO RICAN
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF
SOUTH FLORIDA

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of South Florida, which celebrates its 10th Anniversary on June 8, 2002 with a salute to Federal Service Employees of Puerto Rican heritage at a Gala Dinner Dance in Miami, Florida.

The keynote speaker for the event is highly decorated naval aviator, Vice-Admiral Diego E. Hernandez, (Retired) U. S. Navy.

An Honor Roll listing will recognize the highest-ranking Puerto Ricans in each of the Federal agencies in South Florida, and additionally will pay tribute to the four Puerto Rican Medal of Honor recipients.

Three valuable and distinguished South Florida U.S. Government officials, Gilbert Colon, Deputy Director, SBA, Federico Costales, District Director, Florida, EEOC and Hector M. Pesquera, Special Agent in Charge, FBI, will serve as Honorary Co-chairs of the event.

Event Sponsor Vista Magazine and other corporations sponsor this Celebration, including: American Airlines and Unibank among others, the net proceeds of the event will benefit the Raul Julia Scholarship Fund for exemplary Puerto Rican Youth in need of financial assistance to realize their dreams of a college education.

The Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of South Florida has been an important factor in the development of Puerto Rican entrepreneurs in South Florida as well as a catalyst for increased trade between Florida and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The Chamber has a partnership agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for the dissemination of valuable business information to new and existing businesses, including education on how to access capital markets for small business loans guaranteed by the SBA programs.

Concurrently, the Chamber has achieved working relations with the Miami-Dade County departments of Procurement, Economic and Business Development, and is a promoter of Mayor Alex Pinelas’s “Business Express Action Team.” By their deeds, the Puerto Rican Chamber of South Florida has demonstrated their commitment to deliver outstanding services in developing minority businesses in cooperation with corporate America and the units of government dedicated to improving and facilitating business prosperity.

The Founding Board of Directors under the leadership and vision of Melvin “Skip” Chaves, the First Chairman, and all subsequent Board members, along with their first and current President Luis De Rosa, are to be commended for their dedication to make this

Chamber responsive to the needs of their members and community.

I urge all our colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce of South Florida and its leadership.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, on May 14, 2002, I was absent for personal reasons and missed rollcall votes numbered 159, 160 and 161. For the record, had I been present I would have voted aye on all three of these votes.

TRIBUTE TO CARLOS NAVA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding educator, Carlos Nava. On Friday, May 17, 2002, Los Angeles Mission College will honor Carlos for his 33 years of service with the Los Angeles Community College District; 27 of those with Los Angeles Mission College in Sylmar, California.

Carlos was one of the founding administrators who helped open Los Angeles Mission College in storefronts in the City of San Fernando in 1975. He has been with the college ever since. Initially, Carlos held the position of Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. He was later appointed as the Acting Chief Instructional Officer in 1985. He then gained a quick promotion a year and a half later and became the Chief Student Services Officer—a position which he still holds today. As a member of the senior staff, Carlos is responsible for all student support programs including those of Admissions and Records, Financial Aid, EOP&S, the Child Development Center and Student Government. Carlos is also in charge of recruitment and marketing, an area where he has proven very effective as enrollment has grown steadily over the last five years.

A charismatic leader, Carlos has successfully organized and implemented many projects, always working inclusively with faculty, students, community, and various organizations to achieve success. He pioneered curriculum for Chicano Studies and has implemented several community service programs. His familiarity with the diverse populations that the college serves has been extremely valuable to its growth and success.

Carlos's integrity, enthusiasm and strong consensus building abilities have made him a role model to many and an inspiration to many more. Over the years I have attended and enjoyed many programs at Mission College and have witnessed firsthand Carlos's genuine concern for students, the campus and the surrounding community. He has earned the respect of his students, his colleagues, and the community and its leaders.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Carlos Nava for his extraordinary service with the Los Angeles Community College District.

RECOGNIZING CORY J. MCCOLLOM ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD 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, Cory J. McCollow of Venedocia, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut.

Cory will soon graduate from Spencerville High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a high grade point average, and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is an accomplished athlete, earning varsity letters in football, basketball and track. And, he has clearly demonstrated his leadership ability, serving as captain of the basketball team.

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

The Academy is the pinnacle of leadership development for the United States Coast Guard. As a USCG Academy Cadet, 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 Cory McCollow has the character and ability to excel at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him well as he begins his very important service to our nation.

HONORING FREDDYE DAVIS ON HER APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRPERSON OF RACIAL/HATE INJUSTICE DISCRIMINATION FOR THE CALIFORNIA NAACP

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Freddye Davis on her appointment as chairperson of the racial/hate injustice discrimination division of the California chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Freddye Davis also serves as president of the Hayward chapter of the NAACP. She counts the creation of a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Street in Hayward as one of her greatest accomplishments in this position. Her reputation as a tenacious leader, and her sensitivity in responding to police brutality and hate crimes in Hayward make her the ideal person for her new position.

As chairperson, Freddye Davis will handle complaints of racial discrimination from all over California. One of her primary goals is to

train NAACP members to identify and respond to racism. She plans to revitalize the NAACP state conference, to return it to the large, vibrant annual gathering it once was, and to hold forums for law enforcement officials and young African-Americans. Also, she will address the racially biased downsizing that some companies have engaged in by firing people of color and then offering their jobs to non-colored employees.

Freddye Davis's devotion to fighting for equal rights started when she was a young girl in Birmingham, Alabama. She took part in civil rights marches led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., gaining experience in organizing non-violent demonstrations that has proven valuable during her career. Several years ago, when the Ku Klux Klan was planning to meet at the Hayward Main Library, Freddye helped stop the meeting, and she dispersed an angry group of African Americans preparing to protest.

I join the colleagues of Freddye Davis in congratulating her on her new position. Her persistence and determination have enabled countless Hayward residents to enjoy a better quality of life. Now, the entire state of California will benefit from Freddye Davis's dedication to fighting for civil rights.

IN SUPPORT OF CHET "THE JET" WALKER'S NOMINATION TO THE NBA HALL OF FAME

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to lend my voice to the many who are supporting Chet Walker's nomination to the National Basketball Association (NBA) Hall of Fame.

Chet "The Jet" Walker is from Benton Harbor, Michigan. Now for those of you who don't know about Chet Walker, you need to know a little bit about Benton Harbor first. It is one of the untapped gems of our state, resting along the shores of Lake Michigan. It is a community filled with spirit, grit and determination and that's exactly how Chet Walker played the game.

Chet Walker left Bradley University as the school's all-time leading scorer and rebounder. He led Bradley to the NIT title in 1960. After his college days were done, he began a 13-year professional career with the Syracuse Nationals, Philadelphia 76ers and Chicago Bulls. During his NBA career, Walker averaged 18.2 points per game and 7.1 rebounds per game. He was a member of the NBA's All-Rookie team in 1963 and was a seven-time NBA All-Star. He was a key member of the 1967 Philadelphia 76ers who only lost 13 games—considered by many to be the greatest NBA team ever.

When he retired in 1975, Chet Walker was only the eighth player in NBA history to play in more than 1,000 games. One of the most remarkable highlights of his career was that he only missed 21 games in 13 NBA seasons. He was there, night after night, for his teammates, his coaches and the fans. I think many of us who have competed in athletics, politics or in business, understand that having someone you can count on day after day as part of your team is one of the most valuable contributions a person can make to a group effort.

Chet Walker is that kind of person. He is a contributor, a leader and a team-player.

Chet Walker is also a man of character and integrity. In his current career as an independent film producer, he is working on a documentary for Katherine Drexel. She was a nun who taught freed slaves as they worked toward independence. He won an Emmy for a movie he produced about Isiah Thomas' mother called "A Mother's Courage." These are films that capture real world feelings about challenging issues. They are, indeed, films that make you think. It wouldn't surprise me if one day "Hall of Famer" Chet Walker wins an Oscar. He has set that as his next personal goal, and knowing the way he takes on a challenge, I believe he will meet that goal.

But we should never forget just how skilled Chet Walker was at the game he loved. He was a great basketball player. On one hand, he could lead a team, like Bradley, to a title. On the other hand, he could play a key role in scoring nearly 15 points a game on a team, the Philadelphia 76ers, with Wilt Chamberlain, Hal Greer, Lucious Jackson and Billy Cunningham which not only won the title, but was one of the best NBA teams of all time. Chet Walker could rise to the occasion when he had to, but he always knew that to be a winner the team had to come first. A lesson for all of us to remember.

For his skills and for his character, Chet Walker has earned his place in the NBA Hall of Fame, and I sincerely hope the Honors Committee selects him as part of the 2002 Hall of Fame class.

TRIBUTE TO ELSBETH WILLIAMS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Miss Elsbeth Williams of Fort Collins, Colorado. Elsbeth has been selected to be a member of the prestigious performance organization, The Sound of America Honor Band and Chorus. For this, Mr. Speaker, the United States Congress commends Elsbeth and wishes her the best of luck.

Throughout Elsbeth's high school career she has been a member of the wind ensemble, symphony orchestra, marching band, and choir programs. In addition, Elsbeth is also a member of the Colorado State Honor Band, Larimer County Youth Festival Orchestra, and the Colorado All-State Band. Elsbeth has demonstrated a commitment to musical achievement, leadership and service to her school. As a result of her hard work and dedication, Elsbeth was chosen to become part of The Sound of America Honor Band and Chorus.

This summer, Elsbeth will join the esteemed performance organization for its 2002 European Concert Tour of six European Countries.

As a citizen of Colorado's Fourth Congressional District, Elsbeth Williams is truly a positive role model for the youth of America. She not only makes her community proud, but also her state and country. I ask the House to join me in extending our warmest congratulations to Miss Elsbeth Williams.

RECOGNIZING DEAN J. ROSIAR, II
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, Dean J. Rosiar, II of Marblehead, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Dean will soon graduate from Danbury High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a high grade point average, and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is an accomplished athlete, earning varsity letters in football, basketball, and track and field. And, he has clearly demonstrated his leadership ability, serving as Sophomore Class President, delegate to Buckeye Boys State and as a captain of the football team.

Dean Rosiar can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Dean 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 Dean Rosiar 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.

MICHAEL SINCO HONORED

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the lifetime of community service provided by my good friend and neighbor, Michael E. Sinco Sr. of Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. This Tuesday, I will cast my vote in the Pennsylvania primary at the Pope John Paul II Elementary School gymnasium in Nanticoke, and I know I will see Mr. Sinco steadfastly performing his duty at the poll, as he has for so many years. At the age of 90, Mr. Sinco continues to be one of the most active members of the community in Nanticoke, and I know I can always count on him for unvarnished and insightful information about the community.

Last fall at its annual recognition dinner, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council of the Boy Scouts of America presented Mr. Sinco with a certificate of appreciation for his lengthy service to Scouting.

Mr. Sinco joined the Scouts in 1931. Today he is registered with Troop 418, which meets at the American Legion in Nanticoke.

In 1932, he organized and supervised Boy Scouts in Nanticoke for the Russian relief drive and participated as a member of the steering committee in the development of an athletic meet for Nanticoke Boy Scouts, which was held at Kirby Park that May. He has also supervised athletic meets at the park.

He organized and participated in rescue activities carried out by Boy Scouts in floods that took place in the Nanticoke and West Nanticoke areas, taught Red Cross first aid classes to Scouts in his area and supervised an ecological project in the Nanticoke, Glen Lyon and Sheatown areas in which trees were planted in high runoff areas.

In addition, he initiated a program of after-school activities for Boy Scouts, implemented the first marble tournament for Scouts in the Nanticoke area and organized a drum and bugle corps which was instructed in drill and formations at Falcon's Hall, Nanticoke. He organized a Boy Scouting program for newspaper scribes in 1936 and organized three troops in the council in 1976.

Mr. Sinco also served as chairman of a Scouting effort to provide gifts to children who were in hospitals on Christmas Day and took the gifts to the children. He also worked with the local American Legion on a program of placing flags on servicemen's graves and also organized the placing of flags on the graves of Scouts.

Last but certainly not least, he has worked with his son, Michael E. Sinco Jr., a psychologist, to develop a Scouting program for children with mental retardation or physical disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see, Michael E. Sinco Sr. is a tremendous example of how one person truly can make a difference in the lives of numerous other people. I congratulate him on receiving this well-deserved honor from the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and I send him and his family my best wishes.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND HOMER DEWITT WILLIAMS

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Reverend Homer D. Williams, on the occasion of his retirement from his pastoral duties at Blueridge United Methodist Church located in Houston, Texas. In recognition of his hard work and dedication to Blueridge United Methodist Church, the congregation is hosting a Roast n' Toast at the Jesse H. Jones Conference Center on May 24, 2002.

A native Houstonian, Reverend Williams graduated from Jack Yates Senior High School before receiving his B.A. in Sociology from Texas Southern University, where he graduated Cum-Laude. While attending Texas Southern University, Reverend Williams received several accolades and honors including, Who's Who of American Colleges and Universities and remained a permanent fixture on the Dean's List. Reverend Williams also received a Masters of Divinity degree from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist

University, an advanced five-year Conference Course of Study. He served the nation for four years of in the United States Navy and was honorably discharged in 1963.

Reverend Williams has established a legacy by designing and implementing programs to enhance the education and spiritual needs of the youth in the Houston community. He believes that simple instruction and guidance from the church can make a huge difference in the lives of young people, leading him to serve on the Board of Directors of One Church-One Child; Advisory Committee of Sunnyside Multi-Purpose Center and Health Center; and the Prison Ministry-Innnerchange Freedom Initiative program, Jester II Unit, Sugarland Texas. Additionally, he has served on numerous boards and conferences, including the Board of Directors of the Wesley Foundation of Texas Southern University and the University of Houston; Conference Board of Stewardship; and the Finance Committee of Black Methodist for Church Renewal.

In all that he has done, Reverend Williams has remained very active in the United Methodist Church (UMC) at the state level, having served in State Conferences for the past 27 years under six appointments. His prior appointments include, Adkins Memorial UMC; East Hempstead Circuit, Harper UMC; St. Thomas UMC; Shaw Tabernacle; St. Andrews UMC; and Blueridge UMC where he has served 12 years. In honor of his dedication to successfully cultivating and building spiritual foundations throughout the State of Texas, Reverend Williams was ordained Deacon in 1989 at the UMC Annual Conference and then Elder in 1997.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Williams has been a leader in our community and I congratulate him on providing 28 years of service within the United Methodist Church and for his successful spiritual guidance to many.

COMMENDING MR. CAMILO
DUARTE

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and commend a constituent of mine, Mr. Camilo Duarte, for the work he is doing to help Colombian Americans and Colombian immigrants in the United States. Mr. Duarte is in Washington, DC this week, meeting with Members and congressional staff, to discuss the worsening crisis in Colombia, and specifically, activities by the FARC terrorist group in Colombia.

Mr. Speaker, my community perhaps more than any other in the United States, is witness to the crisis in Colombia. There is a growing Colombian immigrant community in the United States, numbering more than 280,000 in just Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties of South Florida. Many of them have already become U.S. citizens. They are mothers and fathers, children, students, businessmen, middle class professionals, and workers all seeking a better life. They are hard-working immigrants which I welcome to my community just as I have welcomed others fleeing communist insurgencies in Latin America, or coming to America seeking a better life for their children.

These immigrants are fleeing the violence in Colombia in ever-increasing numbers and the migration will not stop until the terrorists are defeated in Colombia. These immigrants are firsthand witnesses to terrorism, narcotrafficking, kidnapping and random violence by the Colombian terrorists, which seek to overthrow, with assistance from the Cuban dictatorship, the elected government of Colombia.

Mr. Speaker, we should listen to what the Colombian American community, and their leaders, can tell us. I welcome Mr. Duarte to Washington, DC and look forward to working with him on issues of mutual concern.

TRIBUTE TO MIRIAM (PAT)
ESTELLE LAPPLE

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Miriam (Pat) Estelle Lapple, a dear friend, constituent, community leader and public servant who will be celebrating her 70th birthday on June 9.

Pat was born in St. Bernard, Ohio on June 9, 1932. She grew up during the Great Depression in the town of Woodlawn, attended Woodlawn Elementary, and then went on to Reading High School. Without a doubt, Pat has lived an active and full life over the past 70 years.

Following high school, Pat married and started a family. She stayed home with her children for 12 years before going back to work for the next 40 plus years.

Pat has always been very dedicated to our community. Among her work and activities, Pat was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star for over 30 years, serving as Worthy Matron (President) in 1970 and again in 1972. Pat also wrote the Reading Social News, a column which appeared in the Valley Courier for 19 years. For the past 9 years, she has served as Clerk of Council for the Reading City Council.

Pat also has been a member of the Reading Republican Club since 1989. She was President of the Club in 1992. In 1995, she was the Reading Republican of the Year.

Other activities include her past volunteer work at Hilltop School, where she taught disadvantaged kindergarteners in the Early I.D. program, and her service as a liturgist at St. John United Church of Christ.

Pat has a great sense of humor, and 5 children, 11 grandchildren, 2 great grandchildren and, in her words, "two really spoiled dogs." She is a wonderful person, and her beloved Reading, Ohio is fortunate to have her. All of us in the Cincinnati area recognize Pat's outstanding service and contributions to our community.

AIR TRAFFIC RETIREMENT
REFORM ACT OF 2002

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Air Traffic Retirement Reform

Act of 2002. This legislation will grant air traffic controllers, and more specifically air traffic controller supervisors, the same treatment that federal firefighters and law enforcement officers (LEOs) receive under the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employment Retirement System (FERS).

Both the CSRS and the FERS provide early retirement benefits and require mandatory separation for safety-related occupations, including federal firefighters, LEOs and air traffic controllers. Under both CSRS and FERS, firefighters/LEOs and controllers are eligible for retirement after 25 years of service or after becoming 50 years old and completing 20 years of service. Additionally, the annuities for firefighters, LEOs and controllers are higher than ordinary federal employees under CSRS and FERS.

However, the current definition of an air traffic controller in both CSRS and FERS is limited to people who are actively engaged in directing air traffic or their immediate supervisors. As a result, air traffic controllers who are promoted to staff specialists or second level managers before they are eligible to retire lose all benefits currently guaranteed controllers under CSRS and FERS. Yet, firefighters and LEOs that are promoted to management positions do not need to make a similar sacrifice.

The Air Traffic Retirement Reform Act of 2002 amends the CSRS and FERS to provide a more expansive two-tier definition of air traffic controllers. The new definition will include both employees covered under the current definition of air traffic controllers and second level supervisors. Second level supervisors would be eligible for the same retirement benefits available to line-controllers.

The Air Traffic Retirement Reform Act of 2002 provides fairness and parity, between air traffic controllers and other federal safety professionals.

THE FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
PAY EQUITY AND REFORM
ACT OF 2002

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, during National Law Enforcement Memorial Week, to introduce the Federal Law Enforcement Pay Equity and Reform Act of 2002.

Mr. Speaker, this week in our nation's capital and around America, a variety of events are being held to honor law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty and those who continue to serve. The very real dangers faced by the dedicated men and women who protect us every day was brought home as never before last September 11.

While we cannot turn back the clock and undo what was done, we can and must do everything within our power to ensure that it never happens again. And it is our law enforcement officers, and, in particular, our federal law enforcement agencies, that are charged with that paramount mission. The bill I am introducing today will help accomplish this goal by enhancing and modernizing the compensation system for our nation's federal law enforcement officers.

The bill will do three things, each of which is absolutely necessary to continue to attract and retain the very best and brightest to our federal law enforcement agencies. First, the bill will eliminate certain existing limits on the amount of overtime pay federal law enforcement agents can receive. Second, the bill will bring up-to-date outmoded increases in the pay received by agents who work in certain high-cost metropolitan areas. Third, the bill directs the Office of Personnel Management, which oversees pay and benefit issues for federal employees, to study and, if warranted, implement a separate pay structure for federal law enforcement officers who are now evaluated, promoted, and paid under the same system as all other federal employees.

The first two provisions are essentially technical adjustments aimed at fairly compensating federal agents for the overtime they put in (and they have put in A LOT of it since 9/11) as well as the higher cost of living in the nation's larger metropolitan areas, like New York, San Francisco, and here in Washington, D.C. where the price of real estate has risen so sharply in recent years that many federal agents cannot afford to purchase even a modest home.

The third provision will address the longstanding need for an examination and ultimate implementation of a separate pay and promotion system for federal law enforcement. The individuals who devote their lives to front-line enforcement of the laws of the United States and the protection of our national security should be functioning under a personnel system tailored to the demands of their work, which is fundamentally different than that done by civil servants in other agencies.

Mr. Speaker, now is the right time for Congress to take action in this area. Just last week, OPM Director Kay Coles James outlined the Bush Administration's initiatives for improving the antiquated system of pay and promotion for all federal employees. OPM reported that the antiquated General Schedule ("GS") that sets forth pay and promotion levels does not adequately compete with pay levels in the private sector, nor does it encourage individual accomplishment and innovation or grant individual agencies with the flexibility they need to address their particular human capital needs. I support this effort to reform and modernize our federal civil service pay system for all federal employees, in whatever agency they serve.

However, nowhere are these criticisms of the GS system more pronounced than among our federal law enforcement agencies. As Congress continues to hold hearings and review a wide array of reforms to the GS system, I believe we should take the interim steps called for in the Federal Law Enforcement Pay Equity and Reform Act to ensure that we do not lose an unacceptable number of quality law enforcement officers.

A law enforcement pay system is not a new idea. The last three administrations have supported the concept. In fact, in 1993, the OPM released a study and report to Congress which found that the GS system created largely for white collar civil servants simply does not fit the role, mission, or demands of modern federal law enforcement agencies. It found that the GS system does not adequately allow for promotion and advancement based on the individual training, scope of work, danger level, or personal ambition and innovation of federal agents.

Nor does it adequately compensate mid-and upper-level management within the agencies. The so-called "pay compression" at these agencies, the report found, sees many agents hit a pay ceiling mid-way through their careers. Thus, just at the time when these agents become the most experienced, seasoned, and valuable to the U.S., they are left with very little financial incentive to continue advancing in their careers.

Mr. Speaker, in no way am I suggesting that these agents do what they do solely, or even largely, for the money. If money were all that motivated them, they would have chosen a different career from the outset. Far from it, most of the federal agents I know do what they do and put their lives on the line because they have a burning desire to serve their country and to protect Americans from crime. But they must also make ends meet and provide for their families, and for many agents, that is becoming harder and harder to do.

Mr. Speaker, at no time before have these inadequacies of the GS system for law enforcement officers been more pronounced than today. We are facing a "perfect storm" of personnel demands at these agencies: as the demands on these agents skyrocket, the private sector is aggressively seeking to recruit those agents.

Mr. Speaker, since 9/11, agents are working tremendous amounts of overtime. I have met and spoken with many federal law enforcement agents and agencies, and in particular with the FBI and its members' association, the FBI Agents Association. They have told me that it is not uncommon for an average FBI agent, for example, to today be working 60 to 80-hour work weeks, or even more. Now long hours at the FBI is nothing new. As a former FBI agent myself, I can tell you that marathon sessions of investigation, surveillance, research, and apprehension go with the territory. Agents know this, and they accept it. More importantly, their spouses and children must accept it as part of the job.

But today, a significant number of the nation's FBI agents have been assigned to anti-terrorism-related jobs. Not only are these agents working day and night to identify and apprehend terrorists, but the other agents at the FBI are pulling double-duty as they maintain crime-fighting efforts in the many other jurisdictional areas. At the same time, private sector companies are aggressively recruiting security experts as they, too, seek to address terrorist and other threats. Corporations across America are offering big salaries and big signing bonuses to anyone who has demonstrable experience in terrorism and security. Invariably, they recruit from the ranks of our national law enforcement agents to fill that need.

If America is to win, and I mean WIN the war against terrorism and crime, then we simply must be able to recruit and retain intelligent, talented, and highly motivated men and women. The FBI or any other agency you look at is no better and no worse than the people who work there. I believe that we have the very best people and the very best national law enforcement agencies to be found anywhere in the world. But if we want to maintain that exceptional level of quality in the face of new threats and new challenges to our national security, we must pay these people what they're worth and we must provide the flexibility to promote them on criteria more than simply how long they have worked in

their particular job. This legislation goes a long way toward accomplishing these goals, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

IN CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF TAIWANESE AMERICANS DURING TAIWANESE AMERICAN HERITAGE WEEK

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the achievements of Taiwanese Americans during Taiwanese American Heritage Week, which will be held from May 11th to May 18th of this year. This Heritage Week serves as a vehicle to promote the image and welfare of Taiwanese Americans to society, as well as to enhance a mutual understanding and consolidation among different generations of Taiwanese Americans. During this special week, we are able to embrace America's diversity and celebrate the spirit of community that binds us together as one nation.

Two weekends ago, I had the pleasure of attending a Taiwanese American Heritage day at the St. Louis Zoo. During this event, I teamed more about the outstanding contributions that Taiwanese Americans have made to our nation and to the world. I was truly impressed to meet so many Taiwanese Americans that were passionate about preserving the value of democracy, freedom, and the rule of law for their mother country while building stronger ties with their new homeland.

With all that Taiwanese Americans have accomplished, there can be no complete satisfaction until Taiwan's status and global contributions are respected and appreciated by the international community. I hope that the various Heritage Week celebrations around the nation will help further the positive contributions of Taiwanese Americans as they continue to make great strides in bringing together the best of the East and West. Mr. Speaker, together we can make the Taiwanese American Heritage Week a valuable and enduring means for celebration.

RECOGNIZING STEPHEN T. FERGUSON 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, Stephen T. Ferguson of Elyria, Ohio, who recently accepted his appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Steve will soon graduate from Keystone High School. During his high school career, he has maintained a high grade point average, and is a member of the National Honor Society. He is an accomplished athlete, earning a varsity letter in football. And, he has clearly demonstrated his leadership ability, serving as class president and vice president, as president of the National Honor Society and as captain of the football team.

Steve Ferguson can be very proud of his many accomplishments. He is a credit to his family, his school, and his community. By accepting his appointment, Steve 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 Steve Ferguson 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.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS REGULATIONS

HON. STEVE C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I was glad to see that a subcommittee of the House Financial Services Committee marked up legislation this week to help ease regulatory burdens placed on our nation's financial institutions—including credit unions. As a member of the Financial Services Committee and one of the authors of the Credit Union Membership Access Act, which was signed into law on August 7, 1998, I would like to bring an article recently published in the American Banker to the attention of my colleagues and submit it for the record.

It is important to remember that credit unions were created to exist solely for the purpose of offering financial services to folks within their defined field of membership. Unlike other financial institutions that can provide services to the general public, credit unions cannot. Also, as nonprofit entities that are member-owned, credit unions have consistently delivered to their members quality personal services at the lowest possible cost.

On April 25, 2002, the Financial Services Committee Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Credit held its second hearing on regulatory relief. At that time I heard testimony from witnesses representing the credit union community and the issues they face, such as the trend of credit union conversions from federal to state charters. Just as the Credit Union Membership Access Act was much needed at the time of its enactment, I believe that true regulatory relief for insured depository institutions and for our nation's credit unions is now both necessary and appropriate.

With that in mind, Mr. Speaker I would like to submit for the record the text of an article from the American Banker website which comes from an interview with Fred Becker, President of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions.

D.C. SPEAKS: TO CREDIT UNION ADVOCATE,
SERVICE RECORD SAYS IT ALL

(By Nicole Duran)

WASHINGTON.—Credit unions do a better job of serving their communities than other types of financial institutions and could do even more if they were not hamstrung by regulatory impediments, said Fred Becker, the president and chief executive officer of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions.

"Credit Unions are better at serving everyone than banks," Mr. Becker said, referring to an American Banker survey last July that revealed credit unions are on a 10-year run for drawing the loudest applause from customers.

Critics accused credit unions and their regulator, the National Credit Union Administration, of not caring enough about low- and moderate-income people when the agency—with support from Mr. Becker's organization and others—pulled the plug on a community reinvestment rule in December before it took effect.

The rule, known as the Community Action Plan, would have required credit unions with community charters, to file plans on how they intended to serve all segments of their membership.

Mr. Becker said that the statistics show that credit unions already reach out to minorities and underserved individuals.

Credit unions approved mortgages for 84% of applicants with household incomes of \$40,000 or less, while banks approved 62% and thrifts 72%, said Mr. Becker, citing 2000 Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data. Also, credit unions lent to 70% of the minorities in that income bracket who applied for mortgages, while banks granted 56% of similar applications and thrifts 63%, he said.

There is a fundamental misunderstanding among critics—namely the National Community Reinvestment Coalition and the Woodstock Institute, Mr. Becker said.

"Credit unions don't serve the general public," he said. "You can't just walk in and join a credit union. Only recently have they been able to expand their membership fields."

The critics "may want to take a different approach in dealing with us and work with us," he said. "Anyone can always do better."

The sole purpose of the tax-exempt, nonprofit institutions is to serve members, and most offer higher-quality loans at a lower cost than consumers can get at any other type of institution, he said.

But Mr. Becker said he envisions credit unions doing even more to reach those who are not well served by mainstream and fringe financial institutions, if Congress will allow it. For example, credit unions could aid small-business owners who find it difficult to have their lending needs met, he said.

Credit unions' business-loan portfolios cannot exceed roughly 13% of an institution's total assets. If that limit were raised or lifted, credit unions could fill the void in small-business lending, he said.

Mr. Becker also wants lawmakers to allow more credit union participation in the Small Business Administration's 7(a) loan program. Right now only community-chartered credit unions may participate, and each must get individual permission. Credit unions, as an entire class, should be allowed to make SBA-backed loans, he says.

Rep. Stephanie Tubbs-Jones, D-Ohio, has written a proposal to broaden SBA participation for credit unions, but her attempts to attach it as an amendment to other legislation have so far failed.

Credit unions are in a Catch-22, Mr. Becker said—they cannot participate in the program because they do not serve the general

public, but they are barred from serving the general public by law. That logic is "ludicrous," he said.

Mr. Becker also called for the removal of other restrictions, such as the rule that credit unions cannot cash checks for nonmembers. If that rule were changed, consumers without checking accounts could have a cheaper alternative check-cashing outlets, he said.

A House Financial Services subcommittee is scheduled to vote Wednesday on a regulatory relief bill that would eliminate the prohibition and grant other items on Mr. Becker's wish list.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 14, 2002, I missed the rollcall vote No. 159. If I had been present I would have voted "yea."

IN APPRECIATION OF MARTY RUSSO'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COUNTRY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, earlier this spring, the newspaper "Roll Call" ran a story on our former colleague Marty Russo. Marty was our colleague for 18 years. During that time, he was an outstanding Member of Congress, with his service on the Commerce and the Ways & Means Committees. He played a crucial role for the Democrats in Congress as a Deputy Whip where he was our most effective vote counter. Marty was a complete Member of Congress in meeting his responsibilities to his constituents, to his fellow members of the House and to his party. The House of Representatives is richer for his service to our country.

The newspaper "Roll Call" also makes it clear that the personal and professional skills that Marty demonstrated as a Member of the House are serving him well in the private sector as he helps lead Cassidy & Associates in a top position among governmental representation firms in Washington, DC. The article also makes it clear that Marty is finding the time out of Congress to enjoy his beautiful family.

Mr. Speaker, I want to share the "Roll Call" article with our colleagues and express my appreciation for my former colleague's important contributions to our country.

SECOND-GREATEST JOB IN THE WORLD

(By Courtney Thompson)

Upon entering former Illinois Rep. Marty Russo's (D) D.C. office, one immediately notices the myriad of photos covering the walls.

There are shots of Russo in a golf foursome with former Presidents Bill Clinton, George Bush and Gerald Ford; Russo smiling with Michael Jordan; Russo with his arm around Speaker Tip O'Neill; Russo and Arnold Palmer posing on the golf course; Russo stealing home plate at the Congressional baseball

game; and Russo giving the elder George Bush putting tips on Air Force 2.

And one of Russo's newborn granddaughter.

No, Marty Russo doesn't take his famous friends or his family for granted.

"When I sit back and think about where I grew up, the neighborhood I came from and what a tough struggle my parents had, I am overwhelmed," the 58-year-old said. "I am a first-generation Italian American, and for me to have friends like the president of the United States is a pretty big deal."

Russo was elected to Congress in 1974 as part of the post-Watergate, reform-oriented class. In a win that Russo himself describes as "extremely lucky," the 6-foot-3 native of Chicago's Little Italy section embarked on what would become an 18-year stint in the House.

But what Russo deemed the "best years of my life" came to a bitter end in the 1992 Illinois primary. Redistricting forced him to run against fellow Democratic incumbent and commuting friend Rep. William Lipinski. After losing the tightest race of his career, Russo finished out his term while contemplating the inevitable: What next?

Following in the path paved by many before him, Russo entered the realm of lobbying by accepting a position with Cassidy & Associates, a government relations lobbying firm based in Washington.

"Two wonderful things happened to me in my life," Russo said recently. "One was winning an election, one was losing an election. I had the greatest job in the world when I was a Member in Congress, and now I have the second-greatest job in the world."

Prohibited by law from lobbying Members for a year, Russo advised clients on political strategy, while learning the ins and outs of business development and lobbying White House officials.

About making the transition to lobbying, Russo said, "The one thing you have to get good at is learning how to ask."

Although Cassidy boasts clients such as VoiceStream Wireless, Ocean Spray Cranberries Inc. and the Taiwan Studies Institute, it is the Chicago hospital where he was treated as a boy that he holds closest to his heart.

Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center, located on Chicago's West Side, has been the beneficiary of many government dollars thanks to Russo's dedicated lobbying efforts. In a joint effort with Cook County Health Services of Chicago, the two hospitals created the Core Center, a four-story facility that provides outpatient care to individuals and families with HIV/AIDS. The center features a screening clinic, pharmacy, counseling services and children's playroom.

"I've seen [Cassidy & Associates] do a lot of good for a lot of people," Russo said. "And it's been great working with Jerry Cassidy, he's like the Tip O'Neill of the lobbying business."

In 2000, Russo was promoted to vice chairman, president and chief operating officer at Cassidy. The key to Russo's success? Drawing from the many lessons he learned during his days in the House.

"One of the critical things you learn when in Congress is that your word is very important," Russo said. "It's all you have around here. So when I talk to Members I tell them the truth, because if you don't, the next time you come back, they aren't going to listen to you."

Russo advocates bipartisanship, saying a Congressman's sole purpose is to make the government function better.

"One of the key things was that I had was friends on both sides of the aisle. We could argue and battle on the floor as much as we wanted, but then we got together after-

wards—went to dinner, played gold, baseball, basketball. Because we were all personal friends, we were able to get a lot more accomplished."

Stretching the idea of fraternizing with one's colleagues to the limits, Russo and three other Democrats lived together five days a week for 10 years. He was the first to move into his friend Rep. George Miller's (D-Calif.) two-bedroom house at 127 D St. S.E. in 1982, claiming the last bedroom. Shortly after, then Rep. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) abandoned his basement quarters to inhabit Miller's living room. Believing that three Congressmen in one house just wasn't enough, Miller moved his piano out of the bay window to make room for then Rep. Leon Panetta (D-Calif.).

"It was the best 10 years ever spent; it was like a little fraternity house with the four of us. Now Chuck is a Senator, George is still in the House, and Leon became Clinton's chief of staff. So I guess the house did all right."

Russo and his wife, Karen, moved to McLean, Va., in September 1997, capping off 24 years of weekly commutes.

Russo never believed that he would permanently make the move from his beloved hometown of Chicago. When his eldest son, Tony, moved to Washington to begin working with Sen. Joseph Biden (D-Del.) and his youngest son, Danny, was attending Georgetown University, both Russo and his wife realized it was an easy decision to make.

Now, less than a month after the birth of his first grandchild, the former lawmaker happily lives just six minutes from his son's family. An adoring grandfather, Russo finds himself stopping by every night on his way home from work.

"I am really enjoying my granddaughter," Russo said. "I saw this bumper sticker a couple of years ago that said, 'If I'd known grandkids would be this great, I would have had them first!' And now I feel the same way!"

FIVE QUESTIONS

What are you most proud of from your tenure in Congress?

One of my proudest moments was when I introduced the national health care bill in 1991, which then became a major issue in the 1992 presidential election.

I think it . . . helped Democrats take back the White House.

What do you miss the most?

I miss the friendship on the Hill. Whether you were a Democrat or a Republican, we really got a lot of stuff done, and we did it together. And I miss doing the policy. It's an enormous responsibility, but what a deal.

What do you miss the least?

I don't miss the travel, being away from home.

Was there a particular Member whom you admired the most?

The Member I admired most in the House was [then] Speaker Tip O'Neill [D-Mass.]. And a close second was Rep. Danny Rostenkowski [D-Ill.]

Do you have any advice for current Members?

The best advice I can give is to understand that compromise is very important. As Danny Rostenkowski always said, "You don't have to throw a touchdown pass every time you move legislation. You've just got to move it down the field and eventually get it in the end zone."

GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER JOSCHKA FISCHER'S REMARKABLE DISCUSSION OF ANTI-SEMITISM AND GERMANY'S UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues a particularly insightful article by Joschka Fischer, Federal Foreign Minister of Germany. He discusses the unique relationship between the Federal Republic of Germany and the State of Israel. The article was published on May 13 of this week in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, one of Germany's most distinguished newspapers.

The Federal Republic of Germany is not the Nazi Germany that perpetrated the Holocaust, and the democratic and pluralistic government that has emerged in Germany since 1945 is rightfully one of our closest and most important allies and friends. Nevertheless, because of Germany's history, the German government has a special responsibility and a special relationship with the state of Israel. It also has a special responsibility to fight against intolerance and racism.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to read Foreign Minister Fischer's perceptive comments thoughtfully and carefully. His sensitivity to the relationship between Germany and Israel and his criticism of the atmosphere of anti-Semitism welling up in western Europe reflects the finest of German culture and tradition. I commend Foreign Minister Fischer for his courageous and outspoken article. I wish with all my heart that there were other such prominent individuals who would be as bold and outspoken and honest as Joschka Fischer. I wish there were others who would speak out with such clarity and force against the anti-Israel hysteria that is fast becoming anti-Semitic frenzy in France and elsewhere in western Europe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Foreign Minister Fischer's article be placed in the RECORD, and again I urge my colleagues to read it thoughtfully.

The Question Facing Germany: Can We Criticize Israel?

(By German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer)

BERLIN.—Germany remained silent, conspicuously silent considering the unspeakable statements made recently by Jurgen Mollemann, the chairman of Free Democrats in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia and the head of the German-Arab Society, and those of like mind.

In his statements, Mr. Mollemann showed that he was a verbal resistance fighter against corporation and bravely announced that he, of course, would also attack the aggressor in his own country. The heroic talk was directed at Israel, and Mr. Mollemann was referring to the Palestinian struggle against the occupation. We, therefore, can safely assume that he was not calling on Hamas to distribute leaflets to Israel, but justifying their terrorist bomb attacks. There was no national outcry, no resignation, nothing of the kind. Instead, Mr. Westerwelle said it should be possible to criticize Israel without being accused of anti-Semitism.

Something seems to have changed in Germany, and nobody notices this with greater

authority and distress than German Jews. They feel alone, again, and that ought not be so. Not in Germany.

"Given anti-Semitism in Germany and Europe that is becoming more manifest in the context of the Middle East conflict, the old Damocles sword question once again hangs over the heads of Jews living in Germany: Was it right to stay in Germany?" When this kind of warning comes from the pen of such an attentive and sensitive observer of German-Jewish relations as Solomon Korn (Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung on May 6), it raises a question for each and every one of us and, indeed, the question of whether German democracy is credible.

Mr. Korn, the leader of the Jewish community in Frankfurt, notes that many German Jews have felt abandoned in recent months. He describes how it feels to be viewed as "collectively liable" for any action taken by Israel against the Palestinians. And he also refers to the very understandable "old traumas" and "barely healed emotional wounds" that German criticism of Israel never ceases to evoke there. "Were the same criticisms of Israel expressed by Americans, for instance, it would hurt far less than when expressed by the Germans . . ." Why do such obvious things need to be explicitly stated again today?

Strictly speaking, what is at issue is the conflict between Israel and its Arab neighbors. But on a different level, whenever Israel is discussed in Germany, the fundamental debate about German identity is never far behind. "Can we criticize Israel?" The mere question raises suspicion because, of course, we can and indeed sometimes must criticize the politics of the Israeli government. Nowhere is this done more forcefully than in Israel itself. Every democratically elected government makes mistakes and is, by definition, subject to criticism.

In the Middle East, a tragic conflict is escalating. Two peoples are fighting for the same land, and only a historical compromise based on the formula "two states, one peace", will be able to solve this conflict. The current situation inspires little hope. Israel feels threatened by continuing Palestinian terror. At Camp David in the summer of 2000, so the Israeli view, Israel offered the Palestinians a state of their own and was given the second Intifada in return. Since then, Israel has been fighting for its survival once again, for a life in safety and in recognized borders. The Palestinians finally want an end to the Israeli occupation, to the continued building of Israeli settlements and to the loss of territory. They are fighting for their own state, for a life in dignity. However, after the Camp David talks broke down, the agonizing question in Israel remains whether the Palestinian leadership in the end does not want more and indeed something entirely different.

The right of pre-1967 refugees to return to Israel, the terror deployed to force Israel to accept false compromises, the demographic factor that works against Israel, the fear for the Jewish character of Israel and the fear of a bi-national Palestine and the dissolution of Israel as a Jewish state as the long term goal of Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organization—these are Israeli fears right across the political spectrum.

The Palestinians fear that Israel wants to force them to make further territorial concessions, though in their view, by accepting the borders of June 4, 1967, they are contenting themselves with 22 percent of the land. Land for peace is the only possible compromise formula. Radical Israelis want peace and land, while radical Palestinians want land without peace. Neither will work.

This tragic and extremely dangerous situation is not really appropriate for a German

identity debate, but for coordinated action by the international community, led by the United States and supported by Europe, to break the spiral of violence and lead the parties of the conflict back to the negotiating table step by step.

So why is there such fierce criticism of Israel here in Germany and in Europe? Why is there such widespread bias? This is exactly what Mr. Korn's warning addresses, and quite rightly. Given Germany's history, criticism of Israel always also reflects the mental state of our country.

Fifty years ago, West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer and Israel's first prime minister, David Ben Gurion, laid the foundations for relations between Israel and a democratic Germany that still apply today. Since then, German democracy has—occasionally in the face of some resistance—accepted Germany's continuing historical responsibility for the genocide of German and European Jewry, and this responsibility is the firm and central founding stone of German democracy after 1945.

This was the only way for trust to grow between the former perpetrators and victims. Only on this basis could a chance for new co-existence emerge from what historian Dan Diner called the "negative symbiosis." No line can be drawn under Germany's historical and moral responsibility for the destruction of European Jewry. It forms the basis of Germany's social obligation to uphold the right of existence and security for Israel and its citizens. This responsibility is not a matter of current political constellations, but a permanent principle of German policy.

Israel can rely on democratic Germany as a partner and friend, now and in the future. Our obligations, our ties and the fact the ice remains thin even after 50 years must be respected by all criticism in Germany that does not aim to destroy what has been built since Konrad Adenauer and David Ben Gurion began.

Otherwise, criticism not only would cause harm, but also increasingly compromise Germany's capacity to help the search for a just peace in the Middle East. Or, to put it differently: Criticism is possibly only on the firm foundation of indelible solidarity—and there have been things in recent months that do compel Israel's friends to express criticism in the interest of Israel itself.

But there is a second issue that weighs just as heavily as Germany's special relationship with Israel. It concerns ourselves, Germany and us Germans. Do we actually comprehend what Nazi barbarism and its genocidal anti-Semitism did to us, to Germany, its people and its culture? What Hitler and the Nazis did to Germany's Jews they did first and foremost to Germans, to Germans of the Jewish faith! Albert Einstein was as much a German as was Max Planck. The Nazis excluded an entire group of our own people, deprived them of their rights, dispossessed them, humiliated and then finally expelled or murdered them.

This is why the question whether German Jews feel secure in our democracy and, though even today this can only be a hope, might one day be able to feel "at home" in it again, is not a minor one, but a question par excellence about the credibility of German democracy.

When Germany sent its Jewish citizens to Auschwitz and other extermination camps from platform 17 of the Berlin-Grunewald station and countless other ramps and enriched itself with their worldly good, it robbed itself, its culture and society. Germany has been unable to close this wound inflicted by the Nazis to the present day. The Holocaust monument will be a symbol of this loss that Germany inflicted on itself through its barbarity to its own citizens, the effects of which are still being felt today.

Jewish communities in Germany have grown perceptibly since German unification in 1990, largely as a result of immigration from the former Soviet Union. New Jewish schools are being built, German-speaking rabbis are once more being trained at the Jewish University in Heidelberg and the Abraham-Geiger College in Potsdam. And still Mr. Korn calls the Jews in Germany a "source of continuing unease that is hard to define." An unease, that some possibly try to overcome by unconsciously—on the issue of the Middle East crisis—turning the descendants of the victims into perpetrators, believing this could salve one's conscience. But this is a dangerous misconception, that, under the slogan of presumed "normalization," can end only in the abyss of anti-Semitism.

The unconscious mechanism of transferring guilt to Israel's policy in the Middle East will not release Germany from responsibility for its history. One should not even attempt that, for it will end in disaster. The only response to our history must be a positive one: a growing Jewish community in Germany with Jewish people who can live here in freedom and safety as citizens—and not as "fellow citizens!"—of our republic. The extent to which we succeed in supporting and promoting the life and well-being of Jewish communities in Germany is also a yardstick of our ability to create an open and tolerant society. For that reason, each and every instance of anti-Semitism is not only a threat to Jews in Germany, but also to our society and our democracy as a whole. "Is it right to stay in Germany?" The ease or difficulty with which our Jewish compatriots are able to answer yes to this question depends crucially on whether they can live perfectly "normally" as Jews in Germany and as Germans.

Nevertheless, the German-Jewish relationship will always remain a very special thing. This is why there is a need for sensitivity and unrelenting self-scrutiny. Only once there is natural togetherness can there be criticism that does not attack the precarious German-Jewish relationship at its roots. And hence, silence about current events in the Middle East, Germany and Europe, which rightly distresses many Jews in Germany, is impossible.

Are the Jews in our own country strangers to us? Even today? What can we do against this mixture of unsparing frankness and speechlessness that Mr. Korn complains of between Jews and non-Jews in Germany? This challenge cannot be turned into a historical issue; it will not fade with time. On the contrary, criticism of Israel that is founded on the obligation imposed on us by our history, on trust and friendship is not anti-Semitism—and it does not force German Jews to unconditionally support everything that is democratically decided in Israel.

Under no circumstances can we permit the tragic conflict in the Middle East that pits the legitimate aspirations and rights of two peoples apparently irreconcilably against each other to be used as an instrument for domestic political ends. Those who practice such methods to capture a mood and votes, those who wish to dispose of German history, as it were, by a detour to the Middle East, and those who hit the wrong note by misconceived reaction must be opposed by all those who perceive German unity as freedom to accept responsibility and not act as an escape into a supposedly harmless "normality."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHRIS
NICHOLS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the contributions a man has made to his community, his state, and his nation. Chris Nichols, a resident of Craig, Colorado, has selflessly donated his time, establishment, and energy to educating Craig, Colorado's youth on the terrible effects of drug abuse. For his efforts, the Substance Abuse Prevention Program, an organization dedicated to promote anti-drug messages throughout the community, recently honored him. As he accepts his award, I would like to commend his efforts to improving the community before this body of Congress, and this nation.

In an effort to ensure our nation's children are educated on the dangers of drug abuse, Chris has provided consistent support to SAPP. As the owner of a local McDonald's restaurant, he has hosted the organization's annual pancake breakfast that provides SAPP with its financial means and funding. He began this effort after the local police chief began advertising his concern over the effects that drugs play in our schools and children. Answering the call to service, Chris began volunteering his establishment as a place to hold the fundraisers to create the financial support for the program.

Mr. Speaker, our nation's communities and schools are fighting a long and difficult battle to rid their populations of drugs and the terrible impacts drugs have on people's lives. To combat this epidemic, we will rely upon men and women such as Chris Nichols to answer the call to community service, take initiative, and help win this war on drugs. Chris serves as a model citizen in this fight and I am honored to bring his efforts before this body of Congress, and this nation. Congratulations Chris, keep up the good work, and good luck in your future endeavors.

HONORING ALICE GREENFIELD
MCGRATH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Alice Greenfield McGrath, an extraordinary woman who has continuously fought for social justice, on this very special occasion, her 85th birthday.

Ms. McGrath holds a special place in the hearts of countless individuals and her actions as a social justice activist and advocate will not be forgotten. She has dedicated a tremendous amount of her time to both the struggles for economic and legal rights for poor people and against the prejudices and discriminations suffered by people of color.

Since her first semester at Los Angeles Community College, Ms. McGrath has immersed herself in social activism. In 1942, she became involved in the Sleepy Lagoon Case, the event that soon after triggered the "Zoot

Suit Riot". The riot is a significant event in Los Angeles history, as it represents the first time the political involvement of the Mexican American community made a difference, as it brought the mistreatment of Chicanos by police officers, sailors and other servicemen to light. And of course, Alice McGrath was right there with the community, fighting for the justice that all Mexican Americans deserve.

Ms. McGrath's activism continued to expand over the years. In 1986 she developed a pro bono program for the Ventura County Bar Association, and currently she is active with the Mexican American Bar Association and the Black Attorneys Association. She additionally serves on a California Judicial Council subcommittee for Access and Fairness in the Courts. She has been honored by El Concilio del Condado de Ventura, the Mexican American Bar Association of Los Angeles, and is a recipient of the Joyce Yoshioka award, which is presented by the Ventura County Criminal Defense Bar.

It is only fitting that we pay tribute to Alice Greenfield McGrath today. She has contributed so much to so many people over the years and is such an inspiration to us all. Our community is blessed to have a woman as wonderful as Ms. McGrath in its midst. I urge you to join me in wishing Ms. McGrath a wonderful birthday.

HONORING CHEROKEE COUNTY
EMS

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Most of us rarely give a thought to who would provide us with medical assistance in an emergency situation. Those of us in northwest Georgia, are proud to know one such emergency care organization is the Cherokee County Emergency Medical Services. This group of individuals was recently awarded the Service of the Year award by the Region I Emergency Medical Services Council. This prestigious award is based on many characteristics, such as community service programs, training opportunities, and commendations from patients. The Cherokee County EMS shines in each of these categories, which accounts for their being recognized and honored for their work.

The Cherokee County EMS was formed in 1995, and has since been the sole provider of 9-1-1 Emergency Medical Services in the county. During its first year of operation, the division received the Director of the Year award from not only the state of Georgia, but also the Region EMS. It was also recognized for the best Safe Kids Campaign, and received the Service of the Year award in 1996. This is the third time this outstanding EMS provider has been recognized as Service of the Year, allowing it to permanently keep the trophy.

The group not only provides a transportation service to those with medical needs, but also spends numerous hours volunteering within the community. These activities include fundraisers for the March of Dimes, interaction with the Boy and Girl Scouts, and taking blood pressure at senior centers. This group of individuals deserve recognition for not only the

exemplary services they provide, but also for their dedication to the community.

TANF REAUTHORIZATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, We began the preamble to our constitution by stating, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal," and then proceeded unnecessarily to leave out women, and they still have not reached parity.

We declared the right to vote as almost being sacred, and then placed restrictions that left out non-landholders, women, Black Slaves and other categories of human beings.

We started counting people, but reduced Black Slaves to being counted as only 3/5 of a person.

Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that with this program, we are following the same philosophy and same trends.

We have a program, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families. It does say temporary assistance to needy families and then we move promptly, piously and insensitively to give states the option to cut out or deny participation to individuals who are sick and have been convicted of felonious drug possessions.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about hundreds, thousands and perhaps even millions of people who are in great need, have limited education, no marketable skill, an arrest record and cannot find a job; Who will hire them?

And quite frankly many of them will return to the penitentiary, destitute, hopeless and sentenced to a lifetime of poverty, broken promises, unfulfilled dreams and a cost item or liability to the rest of society.

I could cite any number of other concerns that I have about this legislation such as not enough opportunity for real training such as degree granting college programs, not enough emphasis on childcare and not enough emphasis on transportation so that people in inner city and rural communities can get to and from where the bulk of new jobs are, suburbia America.

And so . . .

Mr. Speaker, I hope that when the dust settles and we have a new TANF bill, I hope that ex-offenders, including those who have been convicted of drug offenses and otherwise qualify, I would hope that they too will be eligible to participate.

I hope that we would allow for programs to help people clear their records so that their chances of finding a job will be increased.

When we do this, we are indeed providing assistance to needy people and at the same time we will be helping the rest of society just as much.

H.R. 4652, THE CONSUMER PROTECTION FOR ON-LINE GAMES ACT

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, on May 2nd, I introduced H.R. 4652, the Consumer

Protection for On-line Games Act. I am one who has never been an advocate of the gaming industry. The City of Detroit has legalized gaming, and now it is a fixture in our economy.

The gaming industry has broadened its exposure over on-line and wireless communications networks. People do not have to go to casinos in Las Vegas, Reno, Detroit, Atlantic City or other gaming sites to gamble. They can play games of chance over the Internet from the privacy of their own homes.

According to one financial analysis, Internet gambling is a \$1 billion industry and is forecasted to grow to \$5 billion by 2005. There are nearly 1 million paying users of the largest network games and free sweepstakes sites which are among the most popular Internet destinations.

Many of the network gaming sites originate from offshore websites, and are beyond the reach of States and local authorities, even those authorities that prohibit Internet gaming in their jurisdictions. Local and state governments devote few resources to regulate or enforce laws, against network gaming. No protections exist to ensure the integrity of the game, protection from minors seeking to patronize games, or protection from excessive financial loss. Therefore, network gaming continues with very little regulation and with very few guarantees that the games of chance or sweepstakes one finds on internet sites are above board.

My bill will allow U.S. consumers to know if the games they are playing are fraudulent. It will permit U.S. consumers to participate in on-line games with the security of knowing they are playing from a straight deck of cards. Specifically, H.R. 4652 proposes the following:

1. Establishes the Federal Trade Commission as the agency responsible for monitoring games of chances offered on the Internet or wireless network.

2. Prohibits network game operators subject to U.S. law from making false or misleading claims regarding the fairness of such games.

3. Requires self-regulatory organizations to comply with specific minimum requirements.

4. Specifies that States must notify the FTC when it brings action against a network game provider and allows the FTC to intervene in any action brought on by the state and file petitions for appeal.

I know feelings run strong on both sides of the gaming question. It is a policy area with which I have some issues. The fact exists, however, that gaming websites are available for everyone's entertainment. It is my hope that this legislation will prevent present and future abuses and reduce the incidence of fraud. America has a chance to become a leader in this emerging global industry, but we presently lag behind other countries which are dealing honestly and openly with the issue of online gaming.

This bill is not perfect, but it offers a proposal for a regulatory structure that does not impose its will over the States, especially those States who want to effectively regulate network gaming operations within their borders. I hope that Congress will seriously study this proposal and raise the level of debate on this issue. I look forward to working with my colleagues to improve this measure as it travels through the legislative process.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DOUGLAS
CRAIG FRAZIER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and memory of Douglas Craig Frazier who recently passed away in Cortez, Colorado on March 27, 2002. Douglas, known to most as Doug, will always be remembered as a true inspiration and contributor to his community. For some time, Doug battled a long and difficult disease that threatened to tax his body to the limit, but never was allowed to affect his spirit. After a long and demanding struggle, he eventually succumbed to the effects of bone cancer. His passing is a great loss for a town that relied on Doug for his kind heart, strong spirit, and unwavering friendship.

Mr. Speaker, not long ago I stood before this body of Congress to honor the Montezuma-Cortez Boys Basketball team and their well-deserved state championship. Today, I pay tribute to a source of inspiration for that title, a source of motivation to a young man, and a source of pride to a school's hometown community. As the Panthers moved forward in their quest for a state title, Doug Frazier was present every step of the way by providing support to the young players and of course, his son Layne. As the Panthers progressed through the season, Doug tried to attend every game, despite his pain, to see the team capture its ultimate prize. The young men succeeded in their goal and brought home the first state title for the school in nearly forty years, and Doug Frazier, confined to a wheelchair and medication as a result of the pain, was present with his support until the end. He passed away soon thereafter, but he achieved one of his final goals, to see his son and teammates claim the championship.

Mr. Speaker, Doug will be missed by the many lives he touched in the Cortez community. It has always been known that his greatest passion was his love and dedication to his family. He is survived by wife Paula, daughter Amanda, son Layne, and a grateful community. It is with a solemn heart that we say goodbye and pay our respects to an inspiration of a Colorado community. Doug Craig Frazier dedicated the final days of his life to his family and the Cortez community, and his spirit continues to provide inspiration to those he affected with his drive and determination. Doug was a kind and generous soul, and he will be greatly missed.

HONORING SHIRLEY WRIGHT

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to pay special tribute to a woman who has been an inspiration to so many schoolchildren throughout the last 40 years. Today, on her retirement from the Santa Barbara School District, I would like to honor Mrs. Shirley Wright.

Mrs. Wright began her career in 1958, at Lincoln School, when she was the first African

American teacher to be hired in the district. Since then, she has taught at two other local schools, Franklin School, where she was in the classroom for 25 years, and Washington School, where she teaches today. Throughout her career, countless students and faculty alike have benefited from Mrs. Wright's exemplary teaching styles.

A native of Santa Barbara, it was Shirley Wright's dream to teach in the Santa Barbara schools. Yet in the 1950s, it was difficult for African Americans to get hired in many occupations. The Santa Barbara Police Department did not have any black officers and the school district did not have any black teachers. However, Mrs. Wright's determination broke down the barrier, as, after interviewing with three principals, she was offered a position at the Lincoln School.

Today, over 40 years later, Mrs. Wright has often found herself teaching the children of her former students. Parents who have either experienced Mrs. Wright's compassionate yet challenging teaching styles themselves, or have heard about her from friends or neighbors, often line up in the principal's office months in advance as they attempt to secure a spot for their child in Mrs. Wright's first grade class.

We are blessed to have such a wonderful educator in our midst, and I am certain that she will be sorely missed upon her retirement. Yet the legacy of Shirley Wright will continue on, as she will be fondly remembered by the thousands of children who have passed through her classrooms. I urge you to join me today in thanking Mrs. Wright for her invaluable contributions to the Santa Barbara School District, and wishing her the best in all of her future endeavors.

SALUTING LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, in commemoration of National Law Enforcement Week, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize our nation's law enforcement personnel.

In the course of our lives, certain events serve as reminders of the daily comforts we grow accustomed to and will mark for all time a change in our daily attitudes towards those comforts we enjoy as Americans. For Georgians—as for all Americans—September 11 changed us. We became more aware of our neighbors both down the street and around the globe. The world stopped briefly and we all stopped with it to look at each other and grieve with each other, then finally to help each other. Leading the charge to help were America's police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel.

We are all reminded of the sacrifice and devotion of our law enforcement. Each day, they leave their families and put their very lives in danger to make our neighborhoods, our schools and our communities a safer place for our children. Each day, they risk potential harm in order to protect and preserve the institutions and freedoms we all enjoy.

Whether it is a city policeman, sheriff's deputy, or state patrolman, law enforcement officers are owed a tremendous debt of gratitude by our nation.

We in Congress must continue to make sure that law enforcement personnel have the training and equipment they need to ensure their safety but we must also make sure that they have the tools necessary to be effective in fighting and preventing crime. To do this I have introduced legislation that will improve information sharing between local, state and federal officials—this will ensure that they will have the facts they need to fulfill the duty they have selflessly accepted.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in honoring these brave men and women.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing National Police Week.

On September 11th, and the days that followed, the images of our police officers and firefighters rushing towards the toppling World Trade Center towers, as others fled for their lives, remained a constant image on our television screens. As hundreds of these valiant men and women perished on that terrible day, I was reminded of the thousands of police officers in Mississippi and across our nation, who each day put their lives in danger in the interest of our nation's welfare.

It is important that we take opportunities to commend our officers and their equally brave families for their commitment to public safety. I was proud that President Bush visited the United States Capitol yesterday to attend the 21st annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service to honor and remember the 230 law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty last year.

This week I have thought a lot about Officer Ron Jones, of the Prentiss Police Department in Jeff Davis County, which is also my home county. Officer Jones lost his life the day after Christmas last year, while participating in a drug raid to halt the flow of narcotics into a city of only 1500 people. Ron Jones was a four year veteran K-9 officer who loved his job. He had a great role model. His father is the Police Chief of the same Police Department. And this family, who has devoted their life to fighting crime, and improving the very community they've grown up in, has now lost one of their own. This is a tragedy in itself. But the heartbreaking truth is that this happens in communities across our great nation every week of the year.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the legions of heroes—our police officers—who serve our country with faith, diligence and honor. We should mourn the thousands of lives unjustly lost, and honor those officers who continue to serve.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY REIMANN

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, Jerry Reimann is retiring after 36 years of service to the Berrien

County Intermediate School District in Southwest Michigan. His commitment to kids and their education will not be forgotten. Jerry has been an invaluable colleague in helping craft education policy and ensuring that our kids receive a quality education.

Jerry began his career in 1966 as a school psychologist for the Berrien County Intermediate School District. Dedicated, principled, and hard-working, Jerry's love for education led him to embrace a career within Michigan's public school system. Jerry has held a number of posts within the Berrien County ISD, including Director of Special Education and his current position as Superintendent. Under his administration, students of Berrien County have thrived. We owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude.

I would like to personally extend my regards to Jerry for his counsel on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act as well as his commitment to special education funding for Michigan's children. Jerry was able to bring to the table a local perspective during this debate over federal education initiatives. I will truly miss working with this great individual.

Good luck and God Bless.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RICHARD "DICK" W. DILLON OF HUTCHINSON, KANSAS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who affected the lives of many people in Kansas and across the country. This month we honor the life of Mr. Richard "Dick" Dillon of Hutchinson, Kansas. Dick fulfilled many important roles in his life—each of them with integrity, passion and enthusiasm.

Dick proudly served his country in the United States Air Force for two stints, culminating in active duty service during the Korean War.

Dick's dedication to his hometown was unsurpassed. Throughout his life, he took a lead role in making certain his community of Hutchinson was progressive in pursuits of education, culture and other quality of life issues. His leadership and service on the board of directors for the community foundation, school district, hospital and church were always marked with trademark humor and a keen emphasis on questioning and listening.

Dick was, by every account, a successful businessman. Along with his brother, Ray "Ace" Dillon, Jr., and his cousin, Paul, Dick worked to develop Dillons Stores—his father's grocery business—into a nationwide retailer. It later became part of the Kroger Company family. Those whom he interacted with for over 40 years wholeheartedly agree on the impact of his vision and dedication to the business. His colleagues summed up their goodbye this way: "Dick was short on ceremony and long on giving credit to others. He helped us all walk a little taller." I can think of no finer compliment.

Most important to Dick was his family. Over the course of 50 years, he and his wife, Carolyn, raised three sons, Brad, Reed and Steve,

and devoted endless love and attention to their six grandchildren.

Dick fulfilled many important roles in his life, and in each of those roles made his community, state and nation a better place. I join his many friends and admirers in extending my deepest sympathies to Carolyn and her family during their time of loss.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM T. WARD, III

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor I take this opportunity to recognize William T. Ward, III as an exceptional individual whose contributions to the University of Southern Colorado have helped shape a positive future for the University and its students. On June 28th, William, known as Bill, will retire, leaving behind a legacy of accomplishments. It is with great pleasure that I applaud an individual who has selflessly committed his time and energy to the betterment of his community.

Bill and his family have lived in Pueblo since 1946 and their hard work helped build and uphold the principles and values of the Pueblo community. Because of Bill's devotion and dedication, it is fitting that he was elected as the President of the CSU Alumni in 1973. In 1986 he pursued a real estate career, and he ends his duties with dignity and integrity by retiring from his current position as the Director of Development and Alumni Relations at the University of Southern Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor an individual who closes a chapter on a very fruitful and successful career. I commend the hard work and dedication Bill has provided to the association, and I am confident his experience and wisdom will benefit all of his future endeavors. Bill has been a model community member, and that is why I bring forth his accomplishments before this body of Congress and the nation. Bill's hard work is greatly appreciated and we salute his diligence to his community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY MEN'S GOLF TEAM

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the St. John's University men's golf team. As I speak, they are competing in the NCAA Division Three National Championship for the 3rd consecutive year.

As a St. John's alum, I take special pride in paying tribute to Coach Bob Alpers and the players on this year's team: Sammy Schmitz, Farmington; Nathan Proshok, New Prague; Paul Ponath, St. Cloud; Josh Sherlin, Glenwood; Ben Goodman, Stillwater.

This year's team is currently ranked 13th nationally and won their third-consecutive MIAC title.

The best part about the team is that none of the guys are seniors and will, I hope be back again next year.

Again, my congratulations to the Johnnies' mens' golf team. May their drives be long and straight and their putts roll true.

STUDENT CONGRESSIONAL TOWN
MEETING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, 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.

REGARDING SCHOOL CHOICE

(By Kristy Lamb, Peter Hicks, Halie Paradee, and Nick Smith)

Kristy Lamb: School choice is an issue that our Vermont legislature is currently voting on. What we are here to discuss is how choice within school is as important as choice between schools, and its importance on all levels.

A school is made up of both faculty and students. As a part of that school, students should be allowed to help in the process of making decisions that affect us. Choices are made every day about scheduling, open campus, and many other things, but hardly ever are the students asked what they want and how they feel. It seems as if no one thinks our opinions are valid. But it is our education, it is our learning environment, so we should have a choice.

Peter Hicks: With this, we would like to have the statewide student body count as one vote in Vermont in the House of Representative.

Halie Paradee: And we would also like the student body to count as one vote in the local decision-making. And students should receive credits for hours on incentives for any involvement in the specific process, like being here today, we should be recognized for it by our school.

Nick Smith: I'm discussing another section of education reform. High school students across the state and nation have a serious lack of interest in interest and stamina in high school that has encouraged a serious look at education reform.

The average day of a high school student about is about seven hours long. This can be broken down into three parts: Six hours and 45 minutes of sitting, sometimes sleeping; 13 minutes of moving; and 2 minutes of actual decision-making. We are all familiar with the reading of boring books, reading the seemingly useless notes, hand cramps, headaches, and overall lack of stamina contribute to the long school day.

No matter how many hours of sleep the night before, a day like this is still tiring. What is the use of education if the student is not awake? One may go to school with a determined attitude to learn, but soon the constant work causes them to give in and see school as a tedious chore.

Opponents to the idea of recess will argue that free time will encourage tardiness, illegal behaviors, or longer days. But this isn't necessarily so. The proposed recess would consist of a small break, maybe 15 minutes in length, in which students could be somewhat free and active for one time in their day. This activity would result in the re-

talization of energy, creating a higher interest in the boring books and a higher stamina to take the seemingly useless notes. These measures will reduce the headaches and increase the effectiveness of education.

Students are often told the high school is preparing us for today's society. The President of UVM informed us this morning that choices are an important part of today's society. But how with can he prepare for reality if we're not given the chance to make choices for ourselves. How can the leaders of the group define themselves? How can we solve the rising problem of lower test scores and higher dropout rates? We can do it with a small reform reaping large benefits. We can do it with a 15-minute recess.

REGARDING GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOODS

(By Travis Buck)

TRAVIS BUCK: I am going to talk about genetically modified foods, and also their organisms.

Let's start out with a definition of what genetically modified organisms are, to make sure everyone knows what I'm talking about. They're plants that have been modified by inserting genes of another organism that's been engineered to change that original plant in some way.

GMOs are quite dangerous to the environment and peoples' health, and also to the rural economy of Vermont and other states. GMO studies have shown that they damage good insects that help plants grow, and create produce, and they also pollute the ground and transport genetic pollution to other plants around the area. And they create superweeds, and superweeds can't be killed by conventional chemicals, so you have this breed of plants that are taking over the crops.

And in human health, there are many risks, such as allergic reactions that are increased, and resistance to antibiotics. And antibiotics are—it's been a lot of genetically engineered plants and chemicals used in antibiotics, and people aren't as resistant to them. And there has also been some studies that proved that growth and internal organs of humans have been damaged due to the intake of genetically engineered products.

With GMO seeds, which are the main concern, it increases the cost of farming the seeds will be more expensive. And the seeds are going to make more food, but in the end, that will decrease the price of the produce, so the farmer can't make as much money, putting him or her in a hardship.

Other countries, many other countries, like Europe and Asia, look to the United States for the effects of genetically modified foods, and we have been sort of an experimental subject, without our consent, which is illegal and hasn't really been looked at an issue.

Many markets for the U.S. farmers have decreased significantly from the use of GMO products. The markets in Europe and Asia reject these products, seeing what has happened in the United States, and from their studies, they found they have harmful effects.

And another issue is, many people have said, or many companies say we need to, or the GMOs will help stop world hunger all over, and that is actually incorrect. Right at this point, we are producing more food per person than ever before, and all we need to do is make the food more accessible to the people that need the food, rather than trying to create more food, and wrongly use—create more food with genetically engineered products. It is not going to help anyone; it is just going to hurt the environment.

And a metaphor similar to this is that the Pandora's box has been opened, and now all these genetically engineered products and

foods and organisms have leaped out, and out there to do bad, in most cases. And it is very hard to put it back into the box. And if we would have waited many years and done studies to learn more about what the effects could be, it would be better, and we could bring the genetically modified foods out into the community with more knowledge, and it would help the community more than bringing them out so early, at this point.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE ANDROS
UAW REGION 1-D

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who has dedicated over 32 years to the United Automobile Workers, George Andros. As the director of UAW Region 1-D, his dedication and leadership have brought many families and communities together in an effort to educate and promote political action and community service. As members of UAW Region 1-D gathered together on May 18, 2002, they honored and shared memories of their friend and leader, George Andros.

George received one of the highest honors on June 14, 1995 when his peers elected him as the director of UAW Region 1-D at the Union's 31st Constitutional Convention. This was truly a sign of respect, as his friends acknowledged his hard work on behalf of the labor movement in the past and chose him to lead them in change in the future. He has served as director of UAW Region 1-D for over six years, and for that, he has my personal thanks and that of friends of labor throughout our state.

Back in 1969, George Andros began his life of dedication to bettering labor practices when he joined Local UAW 467 at the Delphi Chassis System as a journeyman toolmaker. His appointment as an International Representative in 1986 was a testament to the many hours he had put in as the chair of the shop committee, as the local's representative for master mechanic skilled trades and as the vice-chair of the Region 1-D Saginaw Area Skilled Trades Council. During this time he also served as a committee member for the Zone Committee, the Fair Employment Practices Committee and the Region 1-D Resolutions Committee.

George's leadership did not stop with the UAW. He has sat on the Board of Directors of U.S. Graphite Corp and the Board of Directors of Michigan United Way, and is currently a member of the Board of Directors of Blue Care Network of Michigan. He has been a role model for his community, and will continue to be one after his retirement, as a lifetime member of the NAACP, the Democratic party, and The National Council of Senior Citizens. George's achievements in political activism and community service will be remembered by the citizens of Michigan for years to come.

I applaud George Andros for his leadership and commitment, and thank him for dedicating his life to serving UAW Local 467 and UAW Region 1-D. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of service.

YEAR 2002 TAIWANESE-AMERICAN
HERITAGE WEEK

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity during Taiwanese-American Heritage Week to congratulate the Taiwanese American community in Connecticut. Taiwanese Americans have made enormous contributions to the diversity and prosperity of American society. They have succeeded in American society because they are instilled with the values that make this country great. Both here and in Taiwan they have demonstrated a commitment to democracy. They also realize the rewards of education, with more than 40 percent of Taiwanese Americans attaining college degrees. They work to develop communities, with home ownership amongst Taiwanese Americans above 70 percent. Their personal achievements are another expression of the secure and fruitful friendship between the United States and Taiwan.

THE NATIONAL DROUGHT
PREPAREDNESS ACT OF 2002

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Drought Preparedness Act of 2002. I am fortunate to have the support of the many bipartisan original cosponsors. In addition, this bill is the companion bill to the Domenici-Baucus bill also being introduced in the Senate today. I do hope that both bodies will work together and pass this bill immediately.

I became interested in drought relief last summer when Florida found itself in the most prolonged drought it had seen in nearly 20 years. The water level in Lake Okeehobee, our country's 2nd largest fresh water lake and located in my District, had decreased by nearly 25 percent.

Not only did the water shortage in the lake cause problems for agriculture and water management, but it also destroyed the economic well being of small businesses around the Lake who depend on it for income. Realize this too, the clear majority of these businesses are owned by minorities or families who struggle to get by every day.

As I began to try and help the towns and businesses surrounding the Lake in locating temporary assistance, even if it was only low interest loans, I found that unless you were involved in agriculture, assistance is virtually impossible. When it is possible, the loops folks need to jump through just to get it are so discouraging that they don't even try.

Realize, drought is not just an agriculture issue, nor is it only a water management issue. When droughts occur, forest fires erupt, small businesses close, and in many instances, people die.

Congress and FEMA define drought as a natural disaster, and it's about time that we start treating them as such.

Yesterday, while I was attending the Florida Congressional Delegation meeting, the entire meeting focused on hurricanes and the plans that are currently in place in Florida, which are the framework of how we respond to hurricanes. The bill we are introducing today provides a new focus on an otherwise often ignored natural disaster.

The creation of a coordinated and comprehensive National Drought Council will provide efficient and time sensitive coordination between federal agencies in preparing for and responding to droughts, as well as assisting Congress in identifying our immediate and long term needs in providing drought relief.

Mr. Speaker, we must move the country away from the costly, ad-hoc, response-oriented approach to drought, and toward a proactive, preparedness approach. Coordination between federal, state, and local governments is the only way we will accomplish this difficult task.

I am looking forward to working with my colleagues and moving this bill forward. Americans are hurting throughout this country today because of water shortages and prolonged droughts. Congress must act immediately, time is of the essence.

350TH ANNIVERSARY OF
LANCASTER, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to recognize the town of Lancaster, Massachusetts on its upcoming 350th anniversary. Lancaster was incorporated in 1653, and is the oldest town in Worcester County. Lancaster is the town from which the surrounding towns of Harvard, Bolton, Leominster, Sterling, Berlin, and Clinton were formed. Lancaster was the home to Mary Rowlandson, whose 1682 narrative of her captivity during King Philip's War was one of the most popular books of the 17th century.

Mr. Speaker, the fifth meetinghouse of the First Church of Christ in Lancaster was designed by Boston architect Charles Bullfinch and is a nationally recognized gem of American architecture. The well-known publishing firm of Carter and Andrews issued illustrated children's books and textbooks in Lancaster between 1828 and 1834. Lancaster was the birthplace in 1849 of horticulturist Luther Burbank, the progressive Industrial School for Girls, the first reform school set up on the cottage system, was established in Lancaster in 1854. The South Lancaster Village Church of the Seventh-Day Adventists was dedicated in 1878 and the South Lancaster Academy (predecessor of Atlantic Union College) was opened in 1882. Henry Stedman Nourse, noted historian and public servant at the state and local levels, spent the greater part of his life in Lancaster. The Rev. Edmund Hamilton Sears, who wrote the Christmas hymn "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear," was the seventh minister of Lancaster's First Church of Christ. The Lancaster Town Library, established in 1862, offers a rich and unusual collection of valuable research materials, including a copy of the Nuremberg Chronicle of 1493 and a folio edition of Audubon's The

Birds of America. Citizens of Lancaster have served America honorably in all wars and conflicts since the 17th century.

Mr. Speaker, these are just a few of the many great things about the Town of Lancaster, which I am honored to represent in Congress. I ask that the whole House join me in congratulating the people of Lancaster as they celebrate the town's 350th anniversary. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ALL PARTIES MUST ACT NOW TO
STOP ESCALATING VIOLENCE IN
MIDDLE EAST

HON. LUCILE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for the State of Israel and for the security of both the Israeli and Palestinian people and condemn the violence suffered by both communities.

If there is to be a safe and stable environment in the Middle East, the rights and safety of all people in the region must be protected.

Continued military attacks and terrorist activities will only lead to escalating violence and potential destabilization of the Middle East and neighboring regions. For that reason, I believe the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1397 calling for the immediate cessation of all acts of violence between Israel and the Palestinians must be honored.

The United States must do its part and work vigorously and fairly with the Israeli government and the Palestinian Authority to help establish a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, as outlined in House Resolution 394, sponsored by my colleague PETER DEFAZIO.

All parties must act now to put a stop to the escalating violence because all people in the region deserve to live in lasting peace.

MINNESOTA REP. DARLENE
LUTHER'S LASTING LEGACY

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 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.

[From Fergus Falls Journal Feb. 7, 2002]
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 in 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 book-mobile, 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."

FINDING A CURE FOR FRIEDREICH'S ATAXIA

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to make my colleagues aware of Friedreich's Ataxia Awareness Day, which is recognized each year on the third Saturday in May.

Friedreich's ataxia is a life-shortening neurological disorder that is usually diagnosed in childhood. It causes muscle weakness and loss of coordination in the arms and legs; impairment of vision, hearing and speech; scoliosis, diabetes; and a life-threatening heart condition. Most patients need a wheelchair full-time by their twenties. Life expectancy is reduced to early adulthood. There is currently no effective treatment or cure for Friedreich's ataxia.

Although there is no treatment or cure available, Friedreich's ataxia patients and families have more and more reason for real hope. An extraordinary explosion of research findings has followed the identification of the Friedreich's ataxia gene in 1996. Since that discovery, research scientists have learned a

great deal about the disorder. We now know what defects in the gene cause the disease, what protein the gene is supposed to produce, what that protein is supposed to accomplish, and why a shortage of the protein results in the cell death that leads to the disease symptoms. Investigators are increasingly optimistic that they are drawing closer to understanding more fully the causes of Friedreich's ataxia and to developing effective treatments.

At the National Institutes of Health and around the world, clinical trials for Friedreich's ataxia are being conducted on drugs that hold real promise. Intensifying cooperation among organizations supporting the research and the multidisciplinary efforts of thousands of scientists and health care professionals provide powerful evidence of the growing hope and determination to conquer Friedreich's ataxia. There is a growing conviction that treatments can and will be developed for this disease and that the resulting insights will be broadly applicable across a wide range of neurological disorders.

On the third Saturday of May, events will be held across our country to increase public awareness of Friedreich's ataxia and to raise funds to support the research that promises treatments for this disease. I applaud the Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance for its contributions to these efforts and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing May 18, 2002, as Friedreich's Ataxia Awareness Day to show our concern for all those families affected by this disorder and to express our support and encouragement for their efforts to achieve treatments and a cure.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH COVERAGE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2002

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the plight of low-income uninsured children with the introduction of the Children's Health Coverage, Improvement Act of 2002.

Throughout the United States there are over 11 million uninsured children under the age of nineteen. Over two-thirds of these children live in families with household incomes below 200% of poverty. In my home state of Illinois alone 435,000 children have no insurance, ranking Illinois 24th in the nation in the percentage of uninsured. Over 102,000 of these uninsured children reside in Cook County.

In hope of enrolling those low-income children who are eligible for SCHIP, I am introducing the Children's Health Coverage Improvement Act of 2002 which: Provides \$100 million in grants annually from unspent SCHIP allocations to community-based public or non-profit organizations for the purposes of conducting innovative outreach and enrollment efforts; and It is my hope that through this legislation we can ensure that every low-income child has the health insurance they qualify for and deserve.

RETIREMENT OF GUY SIMS
MUSCOGEE COUNTY SCHOOLS

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize and commend Guy Sims of Muscogee County.

Mr. Sims has spent the last 36 years working to strengthen and build the minds of young people in the Greater Columbus, Georgia region.

In 1966, Mr. Sims began a teaching career at Wood Elementary School. In the twenty years between 1971 and 1991, he served as principal of Rose Hill, Fox, and Carver Elementary schools. For the past five years he has served with distinction as Superintendent of the Muscogee County School District.

During his time working with young people, he has demonstrated his dedication to education by serving as President of the Georgia Association of Elementary School Principals, served on the Georgia Department of Education committees for State Standards Evaluation, Performance Based Education, Personnel Development, and Teacher of the Year Selection.

In his spare time, Mr. Sims has been a faithful community servant working with the Muscogee Educational Excellence Foundation, the Leadership Morality Institute, the United Way, Columbus Communities in Schools, the Columbus Literate Community, the Georgia Early Learning Initiative, the Rotary Club, Advisory Partnership Groups, and the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Sims has been instrumental in establishing the Reading Recovery Program, a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax, construction of new libraries, Georgia's Choice, raising teacher salaries, magnet and alternative schools, and an improved District Technology Plan.

Mr. Sims has exemplified the behavior of a dedicated teacher and administrator during a time when not enough recognition is given to those who educate children. He has stayed the course when so many are leaving our schools for better paying jobs in the private sector.

So, on the occasion of his retirement, I would like to thank Mr. Sims for his service to countless young people. In fact, if you were to gather together all of the young people whose lives have been touched by this man, you could not fit them all in the Capitol.

Mr. Sims, I wish you a happy retirement and thank you for your service to your nation and to the children and community of Muscogee County.

HONORING MR. PAUL ECKE

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Paul Ecke, a friend whom I have known for many years. Mr. Ecke, who passed away on May 13th, led a truly remarkable life.

Although he was only 16 years of age when America entered World War II in 1941, Paul Ecke served courageously aboard a Navy Destroyer in the Pacific theater. Following the war's conclusion in 1945, Mr. Ecke attended the Ohio State University where he graduated with a degree in horticulture. After graduation, when America found itself embroiled in a war against communist aggression in Korea, Mr. Ecke again answered America's call by serving as a damage control officer in the China Sea for the Navy's 7th Fleet.

Despite his heroic service in the Navy, Paul Ecke did not choose to pursue a career in the military. There is, perhaps, a slight taste of irony that this military hero pioneered and championed a symbol, the poinsettia, which is synonymous with Christmas and the Holiday season; a time when people of many faiths pray for peace among nations and good will towards men.

Mr. Ecke found new techniques of cultivating, genetically engineering, and marketing poinsettias. Today, thanks to Mr. Ecke's legacy, approximately 60 percent of the world poinsettia market consists of licensed varieties developed at the Ecke Ranch. This figure includes over 65 million poinsettias sold nationwide last year.

Mr. Ecke shared the success of his business with many charitable causes. His philanthropy in the San Diego area was particularly generous: he shared his wealth with local schools and universities, deeded land to the state of California for preservation, and took the North Coast Family YMCA, which was later renamed after his mother Magdalena, under his wing.

Mr. Speaker, Paul Ecke was my friend. Although I am grieved by his passing, I, along with the many other lives he touched, take solace in knowing that Mr. Ecke's legacy lives on: in the County of San Diego and in every home that takes in a poinsettia for the Holiday season.

HONORING NATIONAL POLICE
WEEK

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor National Police Week. Police officers provide for the public safety, and their contributions to our communities truly epitomize public service. This week we are proud to recognize those who put themselves in danger day in and day out for our protection.

The terrorist attacks of September 11th highlighted the importance of law enforcement officers in every day life. These tragic events demonstrated how vulnerable we are and how indispensable police are in maintaining order in emergency situations. The law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty that day impress us with their sense of duty and dedication to public safety.

As we honor fallen officers, we need to remember that all law enforcement officials put their lives on the line everyday. Too often we take for granted our community police and the sacrifices they make for our safety. This week we should show our appreciation to these officers and their families and especially to the

families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

As we observe National Police Week, we pledge that we will never forget the selfless dedication of these men and women on behalf of our communities. Their bravery, dedication and commitment to public service are qualities of which every American can be proud. Today, I join the residents of the 7th District of Virginia in honoring and remembering these brave men and women and say thank you to America's police officers.

I am proud to stand today to honor these real American heroes.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize May 12-18, 2002 as National Hospital Week. This year's theme, "Where Miracles Happen Every Day" is a fitting tribute to our nation's hospitals and their dedicated staffs of health care professionals. This week, we should all recognize the service of these health care workers, volunteers and other professionals who are committed to providing quality care to communities throughout the country.

National Hospital Week was first celebrated eighty years ago in an effort to encourage more Americans to rely on the care provided at health care facilities. It has now become a powerful way to honor a remarkable industry. This year, we celebrate the impact of quality health care on our nation's families.

Hospitals are at the cutting edge of our health care system. From supporting groundbreaking research in new therapies to advancing new technologies in patient care, hospitals are at the forefront of diagnosing, understanding, treating, curing and preventing disease. These continuing improvements in medical care have helped patients recover faster from injuries and sickness while allowing many people to live happier and healthier lives.

I believe that it is important to recognize our health care system and the instrumental role it plays in ensuring quality, comprehensive care in all of our communities. From life saving surgeries to routine physicals, hospitals continuously provide quality health care to patients and their families.

The people of my Congressional District are fortunate to have some of the best research, teaching and community hospitals right in their backyard. Patients from New England, across the nation, and throughout the world come to these care centers seeking hope for better lives. Those of us from the Boston region must never take these hospitals and their staffs for granted. National Hospital Week is the perfect opportunity to recognizing the miracles that are performed in these hospitals each day.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me as we celebrate National Hospital Week and recognize the success and dedication of our nation's hospitals.

HONORING KATHERINE CLOSE, REGIONAL SPELLING BEE CHAMPION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional young woman from my district that has distinguished herself by winning the March Spelldown 2002, allowing her to advance to the 75th Annual Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee.

Katherine "Kerry" Close, a fourth grader from Spring Lake, New Jersey, beat 100 other students in Monmouth, Middlesex and Ocean Counties to make it to the final round of the regional spelling bee held in Asbury Park, New Jersey. Winning the bee qualified her and a guardian for a paid trip here to Washington to compete with 249 other nationwide winners who will compete in the four-day national bee beginning May 26.

Her study strategies include listening to a couple hundred words each day, then having her parents quiz her on those words. In reality, the possible words she may face can be any word in the English language, a daunting task for a nine-year old. Kerry will also be one of the few contestants her age, but insists that she is not nervous about the event.

I and all the residents of the Sixth Congressional District of New Jersey would like to once again congratulate Kerry on her achievement. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the best of luck to Kerry and all her fellow spelling bee champions from around the nation as they compete at the national spelling bee championships.

HIGHWAY FUNDING RESTORATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3694 a bill to restore critically needed federal highway funds. I am a cosponsor of this important piece of legislation.

As you know, the President's budget includes a cut of nearly 27 percent or \$8.5 billion to the Federal highway program in Fiscal Year 2003. The impact of such a cut would be devastating to state and local transportation programs and to the economy in general. Every \$1 billion invested in the Federal highway program supports an estimated 42,000 jobs. A cut of the magnitude in the President's budget would result in the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs at a time when the economy is slowly pulling out of a recession.

The Highway Funding Restoration Act increases funding for roads bridges and safety programs by \$4.5 billions in Fiscal Year 2003, the level authorized by the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). Since the enactment of TEA-21, the nation's transportation infrastructure has benefitted immensely. To halt this progress by cutting funding by 27 percent would hurt communities and

the men and women whose livelihood depends on transportation-related projects.

Mr. Speaker, without the passage of this important legislation, my state of Texas will lose \$297 million dollars in Federal transportation funds. Texas simply cannot afford cuts of this magnitude. H.R. 3694 is a good piece of legislation and is supported by 317 cosponsors. I urge the adoption of this important bill and ask my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTEREY PARK DEMOCRATIC CLUB

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Monterey Park Democratic Club. Founded on May 19, 1952, the Monterey Park Democratic Club has made many achievements over the years.

One of their most important efforts has been to increase voter turn out. This has given a voice to numerous residents of Monterey Park who otherwise would not have had one. Since the 1950s, the Monterey Park Democratic Club has also sponsored and promoted several important community events, including roundtable discussions on local issues. Club members are not afraid to tackle sensitive issues like the Nuclear Freeze campaign of the 1980s, lobbying to close the nearby landfill or opposing billboard signs and gambling. Their passion and leadership is commendable. I applaud President Irv Wilner and other club leaders for their leadership.

It is clear that the Monterey Park Democratic Club has done much to enhance people's confidence in government and faith in democracy. I ask you to join me in honoring their celebration.

REMEMBRANCE OF FALLEN TULARE COUNTY PEACE OFFICERS

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. THOMAS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to join the people of Tulare County and the United States of America in thanking 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 was held yesterday, 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 need-

ed 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.

RECOGNITION OF AARON SIMMONS

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Aaron Simmons, founder and president of TreePots, Incorporated, in the Second Congressional District of West Virginia. Mr. Simmons has achieved the title of Young Entrepreneur of the Year. The West Virginia Division of the United States Small Business Administration, a leader in the promotion and growth of our state, gives this award annually.

Mr. Simmons began TreePots, Incorporated, with the idea of creating a planter to place around trees. Mr. Simmons' enterprising concept has provided a three-year corporate success for him. Mr. Simmons truly embodies the values that created the American success story: self-reliance, hard work, perseverance and optimism. I commend him for his contributions to the West Virginia economy.

Successful small businesses not only serve as the backbone of the economy, they anchor communities and promote civic pride. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mr. Simmons' tremendous achievement as the West Virginia Small Business Administration's Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. CALVIN W. BURNETT

HON. ROBERT L. EHRlich, JR.

OF MARYLAND

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. EHRlich. Mr. Speaker, we rise today to pay special tribute to Dr. Calvin W. Burnett, President of Coppin State College in Baltimore, Maryland. On May 17th, we will join many of Dr. Burnett's admirers in a tribute to

his 32 years of outstanding leadership at Coppin.

Dr. Burnett earned his bachelor's degree and Ph.D. from St. Louis University. He was a faculty member and administrator at the Catholic University of America and Southern Illinois University prior to his tenure at Coppin.

Since becoming Coppin's president in 1970, Dr. Burnett has guided the college from a teacher education institution to a comprehensive college in a challenging urban setting. The school places an emphasis on the problems, needs, and aspirations of Baltimore City and offers instructional programs for its students to meet these needs.

Dr. Burnett is also active in many charitable and civic organizations and through his work has become a respected leader in Baltimore and the entire state of Maryland. A few of the organizations he has been associated with include the Black/Jewish Forum for Maryland; the Baltimore Area Council—Boy Scouts of America; the Metropolitan YMCA; the Walters Art Gallery; the State NAACP Jubilee Day Committee; and the State of Maryland Civil Rights Commission.

Last year, Coppin State held its first public hearing on a comprehensive strategic revitalization plan. We were encouraged when we first heard that the State of Maryland had entered into a partnership agreement with the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights. This particular partnership was formed to ensure equal access to higher education for all citizens. The partnership agreement, in part, calls for Coppin to implement a vision for its future that reflects an enhanced mission, campus expansion, teacher recruitment and student retention.

We are pleased that Coppin's comprehensive strategic revitalizing plan was started when Dr. Burnett was at the helm.

Mr. Speaker, we wish Dr. Burnett very best wishes as he retires from Coppin State College. His achievements will be longstanding; his career has touched the lives of thousands of students who have benefitted from his leadership.

Retirement will mean spending more time with his wife, Dr. Gretta L. Burnett, and his children and grandchildren. We are confident, however, that his commitment to Coppin and to the City of Baltimore will keep him active in many civic and educational activities. Today, we celebrate Dr. Burnett's contributions, and thank him for a job well done.

THANKS AND FAREWELL TO DR. CHRISTINE EHRENBERG, DIRECTOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHILD CARE CENTER

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her departure at the end of this month for a teaching position in the Empire State, we rise to thank Dr. Christine Greer Ehrenberg for her exemplary service to this House.

For the past four and one-half years, Dr. Ehrenberg has served as the Director of the

House of Representatives Child Care Center. Since 1985, the Center has provided outstanding preschool and educationally enriching care for children of Members and staff of the House, enabling parents to work free of worry about their children's welfare. We are grateful to Dr. Ehrenberg, and her dedicated staff, for making this possible, and for the many improvements which she has initiated and implemented for the Center during her tenure.

Christine is only the second director of HRCCC. When she arrived in 1997, she brought a wealth of experience in the educational field. Her direction of the Center, and her guidance to those who oversee it, have been invaluable. But we are supremely confident that the greatest beneficiaries of Christine's talents and efforts, by far, have been the children enrolled in the Center. Christine's has not always been an easy job—the events of the dreadful morning of September 11 come immediately to mind, together with the logistics of relocating the Center, once permanently to its current location, and once temporarily. But despite difficult circumstances, Christine always kept the Center on an even keel and moving in the right direction.

Through her work here, Christine has earned the respect and gratitude of dozens of House families whose children started their educational careers at the Center. We join them in thanking Christine for her tireless efforts in their behalf. We wish Christine and her husband Dale all the best as they set out for New York State. May they always look back fondly upon their days with the House, as we surely will.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION
WEEK

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, as you may be aware, this week May 12–18, we celebrate National Transportation Week. The 2002 theme is "Transportation . . . It Keeps America Moving." National Transportation Week is an opportunity to celebrate the successes of our transportation system and to promote transportation-related careers.

As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus Transportation Braintrust, I would like to share with you the concerns I have about our dwindling transportation workforce. I would like to point out the opportunities we have to increase the transportation workforce through initiatives underway by local universities and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

When we discuss transportation, we focus on the more tangible aspects of the system that we see everyday, like the physical road, railroad tracks, and transit systems. We often overlook the very people who make the system work—the professionals and laymen who have established the U.S. transportation system as one of the safest and most efficient in the world. Transportation and traffic engineers, transportation planners, construction and work zone crews, intelligent transportation systems specialists, and transit operators to name just

a few of the positions in a fast-paced, dynamic environment. These jobs require personnel with the skills and talent to build, operate, and maintain a vast network of systems. Guaranteeing an efficient and smoothly operating transportation system requires the best and brightest in our workforce.

Despite a recent US. News and World Report cover story that highlighted transportation engineering as one of the eight most secure jobs and the immersion of new technologies that are expanding career opportunities in the transportation industry, much of the seasoned transportation workforce is slowly disappearing. According to the Federal Highway Administration, 40 percent of the State and local transportation workforce is between the ages of 45–64. In the next 5 to 15 years, 40 to 50 percent of all transportation workers will begin to retire. An article in the July/August 2001 issue of Public Roads, entitled, Help Wanted: Meeting the Need for Tomorrow's Transportation Workforce, by Clark Martin, amply illustrates these concerns. I would like to submit the article for the record.

These statistics, compounded by an increased demand on our transportation system, amplify the need for the development of a skilled transportation workforce to manage and operate the system. We must look at increased funding for programs that ensure an expanded pool of transportation personnel as well as gender and ethnic diversity within the current and future transportation workforce.

Some programs that promote transportation jobs include: Dwight David Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program; Technology Transfer Centers; National Summer Transportation Institute for Secondary School Students; Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program; Summer Transportation Internship Program for Diverse Groups; and The University Transportation Centers Program.

In my district of Baltimore, Maryland, the Morgan State University Transportation Center (UTC) is making strides to meet society's needs for transportation professionals. The theme of Morgan's UTC is "Transportation: A Key to Human and Economic Development." The Center promotes transportation-related careers, and provides training and research opportunities to equip future transportation professionals with the knowledge and skills required to plan, develop and manage transportation systems. These skills include, but are not limited to, designing and implementing intermodal transportation facilities, advanced highway construction, magnetic levitation technology and smart growth community planning.

The Department of Transportation is taking a strong stand on this issue. Just this week, the DOT Modal Administrators and influential leaders in the transportation professional community attended the inaugural National Transportation Workforce Summit in Washington, D.C. The attendees participated in workshops focusing on the Workforce Pipeline, Training and Development, and Institutionalizing Workforce Development. The signing of "A Partnership for Educating, Training and Developing the Nation's Transportation Workforce" by Summit participants on May 13, 2002, was an important outcome of the meeting. The signers of the document agreed to work in partnership to:

1. Provide, within their own agencies and organizations, a focus on implementing programs and policies that will assure the development, support and management of an efficient and effective workforce;

2. Support partnership efforts in the transportation and education communities that will help build young people's interest in transportation careers, and will support continuing education, training and professional development opportunities for today's and tomorrow's workers; and

3. Promote a greater understanding that an efficient, well-trained workforce is critical to developing, operating, and managing the Nation's transportation system, and it is vital to National security, U.S. economic growth, and the quality of life for all Americans.

As we continue to review issues related to TEA-21 and prepare for its reauthorization, I hope that we will begin to look at how we can assist the Department of Transportation and the transportation professional community in

meeting these goals to address the transportation development needs of our nation.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOANNE
KLEPINGER DITMER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to pay tribute to Joanne Klepinger Ditmer. Joanne has been an advocate for preservation for over 40 years. She has been instrumental in preserving not only the building and landmarks that make my state of Colorado so great but also the spirit of the Western frontier.

In 1962, Joanne began her column "Raising the Roof" in the Denver Post. Not only was the column the longest running column in the history of the paper, only ending this year, but it also it was enormously effective in pro-

moting action on land use issues and historical preservation. Clearly, Joanne knows the value of preserving our traditions and heritage—a past—from which future generations can learn. Joanne's approach to the subjects for which she is so passionate has inspired the everyday man, the civil servant, and the environmental advocate alike. Due to this, and the respect that she has gained from her colleagues, Joanne is being recognized for her efforts by Colorado Preservation, Inc. with the Dana Crawford Award for Excellence in Preservation.

I am proud of the history of my state and I know the value of the work that Joanne does to preserve that history. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the hard work and dedication of Joanne Klepinger Ditmer to the attention of this body of Congress and of this nation. On behalf of the people of Colorado and indeed this nation, thank you Joanne for all that you have done and will continue to do in the future.