

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVED

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, every year on Memorial Day, we recognize those who fought for our nation and gave their lives in the name of democracy and freedom. It is a time for us to remember the patriotism they showed as they went into battle, the courage with which they fought, and the ultimate sacrifice they made for our country.

My home state of Michigan has lost many good men and women to war. We lost 18,906 people in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Gulf War. We lost over 2,600 men and women in Vietnam—more people per capita than any other state in the nation. We understand the honor in answering a nation's call to serve, and we know what it means to lose parents, brothers, sisters, and children to battle. As a Vietnam-era veteran, and the son of a WWII veteran, I know in my heart the value of this service.

Our lost soldiers have earned parades, memorial services, and events in their honor. But they have also earned a commitment from their nation that we will never forget their service and will treat all who fight for our country with dignity and respect. We should remember our lost soldiers not just in words, but deeds. We should honor their sacrifices by providing good health care, benefits, and compensation to our veterans who fought alongside them and the current members of our Armed Forces. We should honor them by fulfilling all the promises that we made to them and their families when they answered the call of duty.

As we observe Memorial Day, let us not be content with honoring our soldiers just this one day each year. Let us remember in our hearts the ultimate gift these men and women gave to us. And let us keep in our prayers those men and women who are serving our nation overseas today. In their courage and strength, they set an example for all of us and remind us of what it means to be an American.

VETERANS' AND SURVIVORS' BENEFITS EXPANSION ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to voice my support for H.R. 4085, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2002. Our federal policy towards veterans recognizes the importance of their service to our nation. The Department of Veterans Affairs administers, directly or in conjunction with other federal agencies, programs

that provide compensation for disabilities sustained or worsened as a result of active duty in military service. The VA also provides pensions for totally disabled, poor war veterans. Furthermore, the VA offers cash payments for certain categories of dependents and/or survivors. The VA gives free medical care for conditions sustained during military service, and medical care for other conditions, much of which is provided free to low income veterans.

In addition, the Department of Veteran Affairs supplies education, training, rehabilitation, and job placement services to assist veterans upon their return to civilian life. The VA also administers loan guarantees to help them obtain homes. Moreover, the VA provides life insurance to enhance the veteran's financial security for their dependents, and burial assistance to the families of veterans when they die. Thus, the VA does a lot to enhance the lives of our veterans.

The responsibility to care for veterans, their spouses, their survivors and their dependents can last a long time. An example of this is that the last dependent of a Revolutionary War veteran died in 1911, and the last dependent of a veteran of the War of 1812 died in 1946, and the last dependent of a veteran of the Mexican War in 1962. Subsequently, about 650 children and widows of Spanish-American War veterans still receive VA compensation or pensions.

This bill contains provisions that would affect a wide range of veterans' programs, including disability compensation, dependency and indemnity compensation, housing, insurance, and readjustment benefits. This bill also provides an annual cost-of-living increase for veterans' benefits, and expands certain benefits for veterans and their survivors.

Accordingly, this bill directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to increase the rates of veterans' disability compensation, as of December 1, 2002. This cost of living increase gives veterans a 2.6% increase. This matches the automatic increases received by most federal benefit programs. This is important, because we should not burden our veterans financially.

The bill also adds additional compensation for dependents, the clothing allowance for certain disabled adult children, and dependency and indemnity compensation for surviving spouses and children.

The CBO estimates that enacting this bill would increase direct spending by \$25 million in 2003, \$123 million over the 2003–2007 period, and \$260 million over the 2003–2012 period, but the CBO estimates that any such outlays would be insignificant because it takes the Department of Veterans Affairs several months to process most benefit claims.

Therefore, I support our veterans and strongly support this bill to increase compensation to our veterans.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ELE'S PLACE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Ele's Place in Lansing, Michigan, and the caring volunteers and community leaders who have built a remarkable non-profit program for children grieving the loss of a loved one.

Beginning in 1991 with volunteer help and a dream, Ele's Place has worked in borrowed space in a Lansing church basement to reach out to grieving children in a compassionate and caring setting. Today, Ele's Place is a haven where children can learn to heal in trying times.

Ele's Place also offers guidance to parents and adults helping children through the loss of a family member, friends, classmate or other loved one. By helping children and their significant adults deal with grief, Ele's Place has an immeasurable and extended impact on the entire community.

As Ele's Place launches the construction of its very own facility this month, this group of caring professionals and volunteers are poised to expand their enormous impact on the grieving families of the Lansing, Michigan region.

Mr. Speaker, we wish Ele's Place well and congratulate them on this major accomplishment. We are honored to support the work of the dedicated team that makes Ele's Place possible.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF TOMMY MARLIN

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding public service of a good friend of mine, Tommy Marlin. Tommy is retiring as the Sumner County executive at the end of his current term, which ends on August 31. He has served as the county's chief executive since 1994, but has served the residents of Sumner County, Tennessee, for 26 years.

Tommy began his career in public service in 1976 after being elected the county's assessor of property. He might have chosen a different career path in light of the fact his brother and nephew were wrestlers in the National Wrestling Association. But Tommy was looking for a more combative arena to showcase his talents, so he chose politics.

I'm glad Tommy entered the field of public service because he has helped me in my own career. He has been a longtime friend and advisor from my very first days in Congress.

In 1988, Tommy was named Overall Outstanding County Official of the Year by the

• 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.

state of Tennessee. As county executive, his door is always open, and his card reads, "It's a pleasure to serve you." One peek around his office and it's evident that his blood runs orange because he is an avid University of Tennessee football fan.

The people of Sumner County could not have asked for a better public servant. His leadership and work ethic will be sorely missed. I cordially congratulate Tommy on his distinguished career as a public servant and wish him and his wife, Nancy, well in their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF THE HAMTRAMCK
FIREFIGHTERS AND THE 5TH AN-
NUAL ST. FLORIAN MARCH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, as members of the Hamtramck Firefighters gathered together to celebrate the patron saint of firefighters, St. Florian, they celebrated a feast day cherished by firefighters everywhere. Honoring the patron saint of firefighters, brewers, chimney-sweeps and others, St. Florian is remembered in the Catholic tradition for many miracles, including the extinguishing of a huge fire with a pitcher of water and stopping a town from burning by throwing a single bucket of water on the blaze. Celebrating their fifth consecutive march on Saturday, May 4, 2002, the Hamtramck Firefighters continued the tradition of celebrating and honoring the miracles of St. Florian.

As the city of Hamtramck, Michigan is home to the St. Florian Catholic Church, each year the Hamtramck Firefighters celebrate this feast day by marching from the Hamtramck Firehouse to the St. Florian church for a special celebration of mass. Inviting departments from across the state of Michigan and Ontario, Canada, communities everywhere choose this day to recognize their firefighters and the countless contributions they have made to their communities.

Our great state of Michigan is home to patriotic citizens who give so much to this country everyday. This year is no exception for the Hamtramck Firefighters, who continue to stand together ready to offer relief and assistance to fellow Americans in this time of greatest need. The Hamtramck Firefighters have also chosen this day to celebrate the unity and brotherhood of firefighters, a brotherhood that reaches far beyond religious and ethnic barriers. Their actions reflect the unity and strength of Americans.

Firefighters are an integral part of every community in this nation. As the Hamtramck Firefighters and firefighters everywhere celebrate the holiday commemorating St. Florian, we join them in their tribute and honor the contributions firefighters have made to our great country.

JOBS FOR VETERANS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4015, the Jobs for Veterans Act. This bill would provide funds for a new performance incentive awards program to encourage employment, training, and placement programs for veterans. This incentive program would reward those states that excel in aiding our veterans. It would also provide awards to states that made significant progress in this area, even if they were not among the highest performers. The awards would take the form of new contracts for veterans employment programs.

Furthermore, It authorizes \$1 million for a Labor Department study of the economic benefit to the United States attributable to providing employment and training services to veterans.

Mr. Speaker, we have all seen the stories of those who have lost their lives so we can live ours. The tragic events of September 11th and the ensuing War on Terror that our brave armed forces are currently fighting should inspire this body to secure the future of our armed forces.

Job training is of paramount importance to our veterans. We ought to provide them with adequate resources so that they may succeed in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
PUBLIC SERVICE OF DOYLE
GAINES

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding public service of a good friend of mine, Doyle Gaines. Doyle is retiring as the Macon County executive at the end of his current term, which ends on August 31.

Before being elected as the county executive in 1990, he was the Macon County school superintendent for 16 years and spent more than 38 years in the education field as a teacher, coach and administrator. During his impressive career, Doyle received numerous awards and honors for his commitment and leadership.

He has always been an active member of the community, serving on various civic boards and organizations. Doyle's leadership was also instrumental in forming the Cordell Hull Economic Opportunity Corporation, a regional agency in Tennessee dedicated to fighting poverty by helping people be self-sufficient.

Always striving to be well informed and at the forefront of creative initiatives, Doyle has served his community, state and nation with distinction. The people of Macon County and the mid-state region could not have asked for a better public servant. His leadership and work ethic will be sorely missed by the Macon County government. I cordially congratulate

Doyle on his distinguished career as a public servant and wish him well in future endeavors.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AF-
FAIRS EMERGENCY PREPARED-
NESS RESEARCH, EDUCATION,
AND BIOTERRORISM PREVEN-
TION ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, the events of September 11th and the subsequent anthrax attacks have forced us as a country to reevaluate our ability to respond to chemical, biological, and radiological contingencies. As a member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee (HVAC) Subcommittee on Health, I participated in a hearing to assess the readiness of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to be a third line responder in the event of a threat of this sort. The news was not good. This is why I am an original co-sponsor of HR 3253, the Emergency Preparedness Research, Education, and Bio-Terrorism Prevention Act of 2002. Through the establishment of National Medical Emergency Preparedness Centers, we would enhance the work that the DVA is already engaged in, and strengthen our national homeland defense efforts.

In recognizing that the DVA is the nation's largest health care system and engages in some of the most promising research, and provides first-rate medical training and education should signal to us all that herein lies an opportunity. Considering all that the DVA already does successfully, I see no reason why they cannot be positioned as a first responder in the event of a biological or chemical attack. With the proper allocation of resources and support, those provided by the passage of HR 3253, many DVA medical centers will be well positioned to provide our country with the necessary support in these crisis situations.

In my district, the 28th Congressional District of Texas, the South Texas Veterans Health Care System, Audie L. Murphy Division, already engages in shared teaching and research arrangements with medical schools and has been able to attract several high-level scientists in fields relevant to bio-chemical and radiological threats. This facility is among the top ten research and development facilities within the DVA and is a tribute to the rewards of collaborative research efforts like those suggested by this legislation.

I am excited about the prospect of National Emergency Preparedness Centers, which would not only engage in research to develop methods of detection, inoculation, and treatment, but also coordinate research with universities and federal agencies in the dissemination of the latest information to healthcare workers at public and private hospitals across the country.

Through the passage and enactment of this measure the DVA will become a key partner in our nation's homeland defense efforts.

RECOGNIZING MIKE MARTEL FOR
HIS SERVICE TO NEW HAMPSHIRE
RADIO

HON. JOHN E. SUNUNU

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a familiar New Hampshire voice that will soon be absent from Northern New England's airwaves. Dover, New Hampshire's Mike Martel, a member of WOKQ's "Morning Waking Crew," will be retiring on May 31 after making his start in local, New Hampshire radio 30 years ago.

For the past 28 years, Mike has been employed at WOKQ, a 50,000 watt radio station located in Dover, New Hampshire. There, he often began his day well before most of us had even stirred from bed preparing to hit the airwaves at 5 a.m.

Whether hearing Mike from their homes or while making the drive to work, listeners in New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Canada were sure to have their day brightened with his infectious laugh and "Joke of the day."

Mike's consistent service to his profession and his community stands out as a positive contribution to the field of radio, and is one in which he and his family can certainly take pride. For the rest of us, he will be sadly missed. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Mike for his dedication and wishing him the best.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DR. ARTHUR J. POINTER, 35TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY, METROPOLITAN BAPTIST TABERNACLE

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, as the congregation of the Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle Church gathered together on Saturday, May 18, 2002, they celebrated the 35th Pastoral Anniversary of Reverend Dr. Arthur J. Pointer. A lifelong leader and devoted pastor, Dr. Pointer has truly demonstrated his commitment to advancing the mission of Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle across the state of Michigan. As the members and friends of Dr. Pointer gathered to celebrate this special anniversary, they paid tribute to his outstanding years of activism, leadership, and faith.

Dr. Pointer has been preaching the Gospel to the congregation of Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle, located in Flint, Michigan, since 1967. As his message and ministry has been received, he has shown a special dedication to making a positive difference in the lives of others. Dr. Pointer, a father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, has truly become a leader to all those who know him. "A leader who dared to dream great dreams", Dr. Pointer has truly led his family, congregation, and community to greatness.

Dr. Pointer has been an active force in his community, working with Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle in organizing several programs and ministries as well as working with many

organizations around the state of Michigan. As the former chairman of the Metropolitan Detroit Housing Development Corporation, the Michigan State O.I.C., and the Board for Urban Community Outreach Program, which was initiated at Metropolitan Baptist Tabernacle, his involvement with church and beyond has been an inspiration to all. Even today, Dr. Pointer continues to serve his community well as the President of the Wolverine State Missionary Baptist Convention and as Chairman of the Political Action Committee of Concerned Pastors and the Christian Evangelical Broadcasting Association, Inc. Dr. Pointer's distinguished service and outstanding dedication to improving the lives of people through faith will continue to serve as an example to communities across this nation.

I applaud Dr. Pointer for his leadership, commitment, and service, and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of faith and service.

IN HONOR OF MR. BERNARD C.
WATSON

CHAKA FATAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. FATAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly remarkable man, a person who genuinely exemplifies what it means to be a teacher, mentor, and scholar.

Mr. Bernard C. Watson, a longtime educational and civic leader in Philadelphia, will be this year's recipient of the Philadelphia Award for 2001. The award, which will be presented June 11, honors a resident of the Philadelphia region who does the most to "advance the best and largest interest of the community." The award is complimented with a cash prize of \$25,000. Prior recipients of this distinguished award include people such as Sister Mary Scullion, co-founder of Project H.O.M.E., former Mayor Edward Rendell, former City Council President and current mayor John Street, and Rev. Leon Sullivan, a social activist, and educator responsible for leading international efforts to promote non-violent social and economic change.

Originally from Gary, Indiana, Mr. Watson quickly rose to prominence by becoming a deputy superintendent to Philadelphia public schools in 1967. He was also president of the William Penn Foundation, vice president for academic affairs at Temple University, and vice president of the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts. Considered an expert in his field, Mr. Watson was appointed to a number of educational advisory councils by three different U.S. presidents. He also authored several books, including a memoir, "Colored, Negro, Black: Chasing the American Dream."

Chairman of the Philadelphia Award Trustees, William J. Marrazzo, indicated Mr. Watson was selected from dozens of highly qualified nominees. Chairman Marrazzo commented that Mr. Watson "has been a tireless fighter of ignorance and injustice, a determined advocate for educational excellence, and an energetic supporter of the arts. He is truly one of Philadelphia's treasures."

Mr. Speaker, I couldn't agree more with the Chairman's comments. Mr. Watson's selflessness is evidenced in his words and actions.

Educating others, Mr. Watson recently reflected, is the most rewarding aspect of his work. Mr. Watson commented, "Education is how you give people control of their lives. It is a way of giving someone the notion of what you can be as a human being."

TRIBUTE TO HALF HOLLOW HILLS
HIGH SCHOOL EAST

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the outstanding performance of Half Hollow Hills High School East from Dix Hills, New York in the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" competition.

A select group of 24 students from Half Hollow Hills High School East represented the State of New York at the national finals competition in Washington, D.C., May 4-6, 2002. These young people competed with 50 classes from across the nation and demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the ideas and values of American constitutional government.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the efforts of the student participants. They are: Beth Bernstein, Jacqueline Borgia, Sherri Cohen, Katelyn Del Priore, Lindsey Forur, Brian Ginsberg, Sarah Givner, Seth Glodowski, Jamie Golden, Emily Gustafson, Dustin Kretzberg, Megan Meagher, Michal Meiler, Jacquelyn O'Neil, Gabriella Pinto, Lindsay Posner, Sarah Rasheed, Inger Reres, Steven Savella, Dennis Schmelzer, Persis Singh, Megan Spector, Stanley Voigt, and Matthew Witko.

These young scholars are taking the Advanced Placement American Government class. Part of their learning experience includes participation in the "We the People" program. These students, through teamwork and dedication, captured the New York State championship after advancing from district and regional levels.

Mr. Speaker, I commend them for balancing this demanding extracurricular activity with the rigors of their daily course work. Furthermore, I commend them for working together as team to accomplish the goals they set forth.

Mr. Speaker, I also stand to recognize the efforts of the coaches, faculty, parents, and facilitators involved. Specifically, Scott Edwards, the group's coach and AP American Government teacher, prepared these students through intensive classroom instruction and numerous study sessions after regular school hours. James McCaffrey, the school's principal, contributed to the students' success by providing adequate resources and administrative support. Jane Weber, the district coordinator, made logistical arrangements and directed the group's fundraising efforts. Laura Parker also helped by serving as an assistant coach and chaperone.

Mr. Speaker, I commend these individuals for their unselfish commitment to these students' education.

It is with great pride, Mr. Speaker, that I recognize the efforts and achievements of these outstanding students and individuals and bring their achievements to the attention of this Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for Rollcall No. 171, H. Con. Res. 314, Recognizing the members of AMVETS for their service to the Nation and supporting the goal of AMVETS National Charter Day. Had I been present I would have voted yea.

I was also unavoidably detained for Rollcall No. 172, H. Con. Res. 165, Expressing the sense of the Congress that continual research and education into the cause and cure for fibroid cancer be addressed. Had I been present I would have voted yea.

I was also unavoidably detained for Rollcall No. 173, H. Con. Res. 309, Recognizing the importance of good cervical health and of detecting cervical cancer during its earliest stages. Had I been present I would have voted yea.

CONGRATULATING 46 HIGH SCHOOL ARTISTS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor 46 outstanding high school artists from the 11th Congressional District of New Jersey. Each of these talented students participated in the Annual Congressional Arts Competition, "An Artistic Discovery," and they were recently honored at a reception and exhibition at the Scheering Plough Corporation in Madison, New Jersey and their works are exceptional!

Mr. Speaker, I would like to list each of them, their high school, and their contest entries for the official RECORD.

We had 46 students participate. That is a tremendous response and we would very much like to build on that for next year's competition.

This year, Mr. Speaker, the winner of "An Artistic Discovery" was Victor Coghlan from Boonton High School for the work entitled "My Friend Joseph." Second place went to Audrey Kruse from West Morris Mendham High School for "Just Call Me Doty." Third place also from West Morris Mendham High School went to Kelsey Dahlin Dugan for "Three." The Viewer's Choice Award was given to Michael Mule of Boonton High School for "Doorway."

Honorable mentions were awarded to Meredith Klein of Livingston High School for "Tin Foil Study," Christina Tammera from Madison High School for "Soda Shop," Kara Kasch from Morristown High School for "Narcissus," Andres Rivera from Mount Olive High School for "Can I Change Myself If I Try?," Megan Bornstein from Randolph High School for "You Are What You Eat," and a self portrait by Dana Kalfas of Montville High School.

Excellent art work was also submitted by Boonton High School with "Ryan Bradely" by Laura Schafniet, Milissa DiSalvo with "My Sneakers," Michael Mule with "Doorway." Dover High School contributed "Nature at its Best" by Shirley Velasquez, "Ode to Monet"

by Megan Franchak, "Falling Into Being" by Leah Huss." Livingston High School submitted a self-portrait by Amy Heuer, Tiffany Wong with "Beware" and "Forbidden Passage" by Johnathan Lee. Madison High School contributed "Travel Photo #46" by James Weber, "City at Sunset" by Adrienne Heller, and "Sunflowers" by Lorriane Ewan. Montville High School submitted, "Italian Breakfast" by Kristina Pennetta, "Laura" by Laura Croce, "The Raven" by Marissa Herrmann and a self-portrait by Dana Kalfas. Morris Knolls High School entered "Appearances can be Deceiving," by Kyle Schuster, "The Devil in Me" by Benjamin Kurfverst, "The Transformation" by Daniel Murphy, and "My Wonderland" by Mercedes Irisarri. Morristown High School offered a self-portrait by Michelle Miller, "Afternoon Light" by Triana Collins, and "Dusk" by Gary Reinhard. Mount Olive High School contributed "Turning Leaves" by Andres Rivera, and untitled works by Timothy Quirino and Ariel Hahn. Randolph High School entered "Digital" by Michel Sun and "Pulsating Time" by Anthony Lee. Ridge High School submitted an untitled work by Seung Eun Lee, "Four Square" by Emily Slapin, "Reflect" by Meghan Musso, and "Genesis" by Gina Caruso. West Essex High School offered "Illuminated" by Sherry Lewkewicz, "Tropical Island" by Julian Osis and untitled works by Elyse Agnello and Francesca Barcia. West Morris Mendham High School entered "The Blue Bowl" and "The self" by Robert Douglas Fritz, III.

Each year the winner of the competition will have an opportunity to travel to our nation's capital to meet Congressional leaders and to mount his or her art work in a special corridor here at the U.S. Capitol, with winners from across the country. Members of Congress and thousands of visitors to the Capitol have a chance to view these works of art firsthand. It is a fantastic reminder that there is vast talent in our young men and women.

Indeed, all of these young artists are winners, and we should be proud of their achievements so early in life.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating these talented young people from New Jersey's 11th Congressional District.

A TRIBUTE TO MONTEREY COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD SILVER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life's work of Monterey County Superior Court Judge Richard Silver, 60, whose outstanding legal acumen has enriched society on the Central Coast for more than a quarter of a century.

A graduate of the University of California's Boalt Hall School of Law, Judge Silver began his legal career as a defense lawyer with the Francis Heisler law firm. Among the cases that fueled his rise to prominence in the late 1960s was the Soledad Brothers prison-murder trial.

At my urging, Gov. Jerry Brown appointed Judge Silver to the bench in 1977. Judge Silver became known for his expertise and efficiency in handling civil cases. He developed a

case management system that makes civil justice more swift in Monterey County than in almost any other California county.

He also built a reputation for settling tough cases before they went to trial. And he became known for tackling contentious issues ranging from land use disputes to struggles between teachers and school districts.

Among those who founded the Monterey College of Law, Judge Silver remains on its board of directors.

Although he is stepping down from the bench, Judge Silver is likely to remain highly active in the local legal community, by settling disputes out of court as a private judge and arbitrator. For this, all of us who have come to know him over the years on the Central Coast will be very grateful.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND D. CHARLES HILDRETH, 8TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY, GREATER HARVEST MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, as the congregation of Greater Harvest Missionary Baptist Church gathered together on Sunday, May 5, 2002, they celebrated the 8th Pastoral Anniversary of Reverend D. Charles Hildreth. A lifelong leader and devoted pastor, Reverend Hildreth has truly demonstrated his commitment to advancing the mission of the Greater Harvest Church across the state of Michigan. As the members and friends of Reverend Hildreth gathered to celebrate this special anniversary, they paid tribute to his outstanding years of activism, leadership, and faith.

Joining the Greater Harvest Missionary Baptist Church, located in Muskegon Heights, Michigan, Reverend Hildreth has been preaching the Gospel to its congregation since June 10, 1994. As his message and ministry has been received, he has shown a special dedication to making a positive difference in the lives of others. To those who know Reverend Hildreth best, he is "a promoter and student of the blessings that accompany the sacrifices of continuing Christian Education."

With a passion for his community, Reverend Jones has been an active force in educating his community as well as working with the Greater Harvest Church in organizing several programs and ministries. As the First Vice President of the Congress Christian Education of the General Baptist State Convention of Michigan, a member of the Board of Directors of the Urban League of Greater Muskegon, and a lifetime member of the NAACP, his involvement within the church and beyond has been an inspiration to all. Reverend Hildreth's distinguished service and outstanding dedication to improving the lives of people through faith will continue to serve as an example to communities across this nation.

I applaud Reverend Hildreth for his leadership, commitment, and service, and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of faith and service.

TESTIMONY OF LYDIA LEWIS

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I wish to insert into the RECORD the testimony of Lydia Lewis of the National Depressive and Manic-Depressive Association before the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee.

TESTIMONY OF LYDIA LEWIS, ON BEHALF OF THE NATIONAL DEPRESSIVE AND MANIC-DEPRESSIVE ASSOCIATION—MAY 9, 2002

Good morning Mr. Chairman and members of the Subcommittee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on federal funding for mental health research for the next fiscal year. My name is Lydia Lewis and I serve as Executive Director of the National Depressive and Manic-Depressive Association (National DMDA).

National DMDA is the nation's largest illness-specific, patient-directed organization. We represent the 20 million American adults living with depression and the additional 2.5 million adults living with bipolar disorder. Part of the mission of National DMDA is to educate the public concerning the nature of depression and bipolar disorder as treatable medical diseases and to advocate for research to eliminate these diseases.

Mr. Chairman, National DMDA is pleased with the Subcommittee's strong commitment to biomedical research. We are grateful for the progress toward doubling the overall NIH budget and we encourage the Subcommittee to complete the doubling plan in this fiscal year. We support the Administration's request for \$27.3 billion for the National Institutes of Health (NIH). As you know, this increase of \$3.7 billion would complete the final phase of the NIH doubling plan.

Our nation's investment in extramural biomedical research, led by the NIH, yields countless discoveries that facilitate our understanding of the biological basis of disease. This knowledge will help develop improved techniques to prevent, diagnose, treat, cure and eliminate diseases.

RESEARCH

Although bipolar disorder is a biochemical imbalance in the brain, like many mental illnesses, it cannot be identified physiologically. There is no blood test or brain scan, yet. Funding for the NIH, and funding for mental illness in particular, promises great rewards for both individuals who suffer from mental illness and for our nation as a whole.

Evidence underscores the effectiveness of treatment for mental illnesses. Treatment for bipolar disorders has a 65% success rate and major depression has an 80% success rate. Comparatively, a surgical procedure for angioplasty has a 41% success rate. As research yields greater advancements in treating mood disorders and other mental illnesses, we hope to see the treatment success rate soar.

We applaud efforts to advance research on postpartum mental illness through legislative means. The "Melanie Stokes Postpartum Depression Research and Care Act" (H.R. 2330/S. 1535) would direct funds for the specific purpose of NIH research on postpartum depression and postpartum psychosis.

It is estimated that 10 to 20 percent of new mothers experience postpartum depression (PPD). Postpartum psychosis (PPP) affects less than 1 percent of new mothers. While there may be indicators or predispositions

for these disorders, researchers do not have sufficient information about the cause and effective treatment.

Employers, employees, the mental health system and the federal government will all benefit from the long term economic savings of early detection and treatment of mental illness. Our nation's investment in increased biomedical research for mental illness will advance this cause.

CO-OCCURRING MENTAL ILLNESS AND
SUBSTANCE ABUSE

A high percentage of patients with mental illness also have alcohol and substance abuse problems. Conversely, many individuals with alcohol and substance abuse problems suffer from mental illness. The State mental health systems separate block grant funding for these treatments, one treatment for traditional mental illness and another for alcohol and substance abuse.

More than half of individuals with bipolar disorder or schizophrenia may be alcohol/substance abusers. The rate of alcohol and drug abuse in the general population is approximately 20%; it is 50-60% in people with bipolar disorder. For individuals with mood disorders, drugs of abuse interact differently, potentially causing exponential damage greater than the abusive substance alone.

Medical experts understand it is critical that new patients in treatment for mental illness address any alcohol or substance abuse issues in collaboration with their mental health needs. Integrated treatment by dually trained professionals is critical to the success of either program.

We are encouraged by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) efforts to study this issue. It is our understanding that SAMSHA will issue a report to Congress by October 17, 2002. We believe it is imperative that SAMSHA integrate treatment programs for these individuals. In addition to an improved quality of life, streamlining the system will eliminate unnecessary and redundant paperwork, saving critical funds for more successful treatment programs.

THE STIGMA OF MENTAL ILLNESS AND HEALTH
INSURANCE PARITY

We are delighted with the President's recent commitment to help end the stigma associated with mental illnesses. For far too long, individuals with mental illness have avoided seeking appropriate and critical treatment for fear of the stigmatizing label of mentally ill or have needed to make a choice between food, rent and treatment. For many individuals this is a choice between life and death.

In 1999, suicide was the 11th leading cause of death in the United States. For males, it was the eighth leading cause of death and for young people age 15 to 24, suicide was the third leading cause of death. Suicide outnumbered homicides by 5 to 3 and there were twice as many deaths due to suicide than deaths due to HIV/AIDS.

While these statistics are sobering, we are hopeful that with increased availability of treatment, those numbers can change. While we support essential research on the causes of mental illness, we also support increased access to already existing treatment by passing the "Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act" (H.R. 4066/S.543).

Individuals who suffer from mental illness should not be required to bear an additional financial burden to treat their illnesses. The discriminatory practice of setting different limits, hospital stays, and deductibles for mental illness is arbitrary, cruel and without medical basis.

We believe that providing mental health coverage is cost effective for all employers. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) esti-

mated that providing mental health parity as outlined in the Domenici-Wellstone Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act would increase health care costs by less than 1%. Increasing ease and access to treatment will yield healthier, more productive employees. Passing the Mental Health Equitable Treatment Act is a step toward ending discriminatory practices that seek to separate the body from the mind.

Thank you again Mr. Chairman for the opportunity to testify.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN M. MCGEE

HON. GENE TAYLOR

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. TAYLOR of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to remember the patriotic actions of Mr. John M. McGee, a resident of Pass Christian, Mississippi who passed away on February 23, 2002. As the Korean War unfolded, he enlisted with the U.S. Navy and served on the destroyer tender *Shenandoah* and the destroyer *Willard Keith*. He was a veteran of the decisive Inchon invasion commanded by General Douglas MacArthur. Mr. McGee earned his college degree in engineering from the Armed Forces Institute. After an honorable discharge from the U.S. Navy, he was certified as a Professional Engineer specializing in petroleum engineering. He then worked for a petroleum-engineering firm in Wyoming, ultimately becoming the petroleum engineer in charge of a five state office.

In 1966, he accepted a job with the Department of Defense, and conducted operations in Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Thailand until 1969. During his tour of duty in Vietnam, Mr. McGee, discovered and exposed extensive corruption in American military operations. His courageous exposure of a million gallons of fuel destined for U.S. Military forces that had been redirected and used by the enemy led to the saving of many American lives. A Senate Sub-Committee chaired by the Honorable Senator William Proxmire of Wisconsin ultimately investigated this conspiracy. This incident and others are memorialized as part of the U.S. CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and in the Books Report from Wasteland—America's Military Industrial Complex, by Senator William Proxmire and The Pentagonists, by A. Earnest Fitzgerald. It is for these devoted actions that we remember Mr. John M. McGee.

ROBERT J. DOLE DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, "Bob Dole personifies Kansas. He is synonymous with the values that Kansans hold in the highest regard—integrity, respect for community, public service, sacrifice, and patriotism. It is only fitting to name the Wichita VA Center after a man so closely identified with Kansas, American veterans, and the values they share. I

rise in support of H.R. 4608 and urge my colleagues to join me in voting for the "Robert J. Dole Department of Veterans Affairs Medical and Regional Office Center Designation Act."

Most Americans know Senator Dole's heroic story: He was born and raised in the Heartland of Russell, Kansas. In 1942, he faithfully responded to his country's call to war, and was critically injured in combat. It took three years and nine operations for him to rehabilitate. He strengthened his injured arm, but had to learn how to write again with his left hand, as the doctors could not rebuild the excessive damage done by the Nazi machine gun fire. After the war and while still completing his law degree at Washburn Municipal University, he began his long and distinguished career in public service. He served as a Kansas state legislator, Russell County attorney, four-time member of the US House of Representatives, a five-time US Senator, the Republican National Committee Chairman, the 1976 Vice-Presidential nominee, and culminated his career as the 1996 Republican Presidential nominee.

But Bob Dole's political achievements provide only a partial measure of the man. Twice elected Majority Leader, Senator Dole served for twelve years, the longest serving Senate leader of the Republican Party. He epitomized President Reagan's immortal words, "The title of Leader is not just a job title; it's a description of the man." Even after he ended his public service, he remains a community leader, engaged in projects such as National World War II Memorial, Co-chairing a scholarship fund to aid families of heroes and victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, and campaigns for Republican candidates across the country.

I have had the distinct honor of working with and getting to know Bob Dole. In fact, he was one of my best supporters in my first race for Congress against an 18-year incumbent. Not many people other than my family and friends thought we had a chance to win that race—but Senator Dole did. Or at least he did a good job of pretending. I wouldn't have had enough money for television ads in the crucial last week of our successful 1994 campaign were it not for then soon to be Majority leader Bob Dole. When I did get to Congress in 1995, Senator Dole was a mentor and an outstanding example of how a member of Congress should fight for his state while working in the best interests of the country.

It is due to Bob Dole's extraordinary contributions as a leader, a veteran, public servant, and staunch defender of national defense that the designation of the Wichita VA Center as the Robert J. Dole Department of Veterans Affairs Medical and Regional Center is so appropriate. Please join me in a congressional salute to this great American patriot."

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. STERLING LEE JONES 32ND PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, as the congregation of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church gathered together on Sunday, April 28,

2002, they celebrated the 32nd Pastoral Anniversary of Rev. Dr. Sterling Lee Jones. A life-long leader and devoted pastor, Rev. Jones has truly demonstrated his commitment to advancing the mission of Mount Zion across southeastern Michigan. As the members and friends of Rev. Jones gathered to celebrate this special anniversary, they paid tribute to his outstanding years of activism, leadership, and faith.

Preaching the Gospel for over 37 years, Rev. Jones has led the congregation of Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church for 32 glorious years. As his message and ministry has been received throughout the United States, he has shown a special dedication to making a positive difference in the lives of others. To those who know Rev. Jones best, "to hear Pastor Jones preach the gospel of Christ, to hear him teach the gospel of Christ and to hear him sing the gospel of Christ, is to know that he is chosen by Christ and is anointed by Him to do his will."

With a passion for learning and the firm belief in education, and as the key to advancement, Rev. Jones has been an active force in educating his community as well as providing outreach services for those in need. Working on projects like the Youth Department, and the "Artie Lee Bins-Jones Honor Roll", Rev. Jones has organized many programs for the youth and implemented a program encouraging higher education through annual tours to colleges and universities throughout the South. Building a multi-million dollar edifice and with plans to build a senior citizens complex and a gym for the youth, Rev. Jones's distinguished service and outstanding dedication to improving the lives of people through faith will continue to serve as an example to communities across this nation.

I applaud Rev. Jones for his leadership, commitment, and service, and I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting him for his exemplary years of faith and service.

GULFSTREAM GOODWILL INDUSTRIES 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special organization that helps disabled and other disadvantaged members of our community.

In 1902, a Methodist minister from Boston, Reverend Edgar J. Helms, started a movement to help people with disabilities and other barriers to employment become working members of our community.

Throughout 2002, Goodwill Industries is celebrating its 100th anniversary making amazing progress by helping those in need.

As a former board member and President of the Gulfstream Goodwill, which is celebrating its 35th anniversary, I was able to witness first hand the great work Goodwill does for our community.

Like the national organization, Gulfstream Goodwill Industries serves disabled members of our community by helping them become intricate and productive working members. Gulfstream's mission—to empower people through work—ensures those in need are of-

fered working opportunities and the possibility of self-sufficiency and independence.

Mr. Speaker, I wish Goodwill and Gulfstream Goodwill the happiest of anniversaries. May its success continue and strive for perfection like it has over the past century.

IN HONOR OF THE RECIPIENTS OF DELAWARE'S FOSTER PARENTS OF THE YEAR AWARD, LAWRENCE AND NORISA JACOBS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Delaware Foster Parents of the Year, Lawrence and Norisa Jacobs of Georgetown, Delaware. Through their commitment to caring for children, they have welcomed eleven foster children into their home since 1997. Along with their two birth children and six current foster children, their home is a welcome, and active, atmosphere for the challenges of a family of ten.

Foster parents add stability to a child's life which leads to fewer emotional, behavioral and social problems for children that may not have otherwise had the necessary family love and direction. These children deserve the best chance we can give them, and the Jacobs have proven their dedication to giving all of their children the optimal chance to develop into emotionally healthy adults.

Mr. Speaker, through the years, the Jacobs have lovingly and unselfishly contributed every day to the lives of their children. It is appropriate that we take a moment to honor them.

The contributions of Mr. and Mrs. Jacobs are undeniably worthy of recognition and cannot be commended enough. I am proud to stand here today recognizing them as not only Delaware's Foster Parents of the Year, but also as nominees for National Foster Parents of the Year.

VETERANS' MAJOR MEDICAL FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2002

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4514, the Veterans' Major Medical Facility Construction Act, H.R. 4015, the Jobs for Veterans Act, and H.R. 4085, the Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act.

Next week, millions of Americans will take off and gather together with family and friends to pay tribute to the men and women of our armed forces and their loved ones who sacrificed so much to defend our precious liberties. Well over 1 million men and women have given their lives in service to our country. These people answered their country's call to serve—in the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, the First and Second World Wars, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, Bosnia, Operation Enduring Freedom, and in many small, but important military actions around the globe. For

their sacrifice, they deserve our most profound respect and gratitude.

It is the willingness of citizens then and now taking individual responsibility in our Nation's defense that is the ultimate guarantee of our security and freedom. The terrorists who perpetrated the attacks of September 11 underestimated us. Since September 11, the Nation has not fallen apart, it has pulled together, confident in our traditions of freedom, tolerance, and democracy.

Today, our armed forces are in the field defending our liberties against the terrorist threat. We have the finest fighting force in the world, and they are doing a tremendous job. At home our first responders—firefighters, emergency medical and ambulance services, law enforcement, and National Guard—are being called upon for more homeland security. I am confident that we will prevail and become even stronger as a Nation.

This Memorial Day, as we celebrate those who gave their lives, we should also pause to consider the veterans among us who have contributed so much and who are such an important part of our communities. As one who had a brother killed in the line of duty in Asia and as a former Air Force officer myself, I understand the sacrifices that our service men and women and their families make.

The bills we are voting on today are designed to increase employment opportunities for veterans, improve VA facilities, and provide needed cost-of-living increases for disability compensation. There is more that we need to do to improve the way the VA does business. We need to ensure that veterans' disability claims are processed quickly and accurately, that health care delivery is improved by coordinating the medical care systems of VA and the Department of Defense, and that resources are focused on treating disabled and low-income veterans. Under the leadership of President Bush and VA Secretary Principi, I believe we are going to make significant improvements in the delivery of veterans benefits.

Over the years, our military veterans have kept faith with their country in times of need. With these bills, we will be helping to keep faith with them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

HONORING MR. JARRED M.
LINDLEY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication and commitment of Mr. Jarred M. Lindley.

Mr. Lindley is a recent graduate of Savannah High School in Savannah, Missouri, who had perfect attendance throughout his 13 Years of public education. Remarkably, Mr. Lindley also was not tardy from any event, even once, in those 13 years. Mr. Lindley, set this goal when he was an elementary student and would not take credit for his accomplishment until the final day of his senior year was complete. I am honored to have Mr. Lindley living in the Sixth Congressional District of Missouri.

Along with Jarred Lindley's parents, Sherry and Michael, family, and friends, I take pride in what he has accomplished.

I commend Mr. Lindley for his dedication in reaching his perfect attendance record. Additionally, he is graduating in the top five percent of his class, and is a member of the gold team, honor society, band, as well as holding down a part time job after school.

I again want to congratulate Mr. Jarred Lindley for his accomplishment. He makes the Sixth District and All Americans very proud.

TRIBUTE TO THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL VISITORS COUNCIL

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to present the unique culture of Metro Detroit to distinguished visitors from around the world through its social, economic, and educational diversity. This year, as the International Visitors Council held their annual Gala Celebration, they also celebrated their 30th Anniversary on May 17, 2002.

Since 1972, the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit has demonstrated distinguished service and leadership in establishing cross-culture relations and building solid networks of communication at the personal and professional level. As "citizen diplomats" faithfully committed to the mission of the International Visitors Council, volunteers dedicate their time and talents to hosting meetings, fundraisers and receptions for Detroit citizens and honorable guests from around the world. Opening their homes and hearts to international visitors from Europe, Asia and Africa, they take it upon themselves to ensure that visitors leave Detroit with a positive impression of the city and its citizenry.

Creating dialogue and building bridges of understanding is the only way to ensure the advancement of communities built on respect and justice. Today the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit is one of 96 councils in the nationwide network of the National Council of International Visitors, welcoming over 12,000 international visitors during the last three decades. The hard work and dedication of the International Visitors Council of Detroit to achieving its mission of building solid friendships and improving relations between the United States and other countries is truly exceptional, and encourages others to reach their level of activism and understanding.

I applaud the International Visitors Council of Metropolitan Detroit on their leadership and commitment, and I congratulate them on 30 outstanding years of dedication and service. I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting them for their exemplary years of public service.

KENT CITY QUIZ BOWL WINS
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2002 Kent City Community High

School Quiz Bowl team for winning the 2002 Michigan Class "C & D" Quiz Bowl Championship with a perfect 6-0 record during the two-day state tournament. This marks the second time in three years that the Kent City Eagles have claimed the championship.

Members of the 2002 State Championship team include: Mike Cheyne, Jerry Urban, John Hersey, A. J. DeGroot, Josh Whitehead, Joe Postema, Jared Brown, Andy Lerch, Matt Nixon, Brandon Stout, Robert Nyblad, Justin Waller, Dan Ondersma and Isaac Owens. Government teacher Sid Smith, who serves as the coach of this talented squad, should also be commended for his outstanding work in preparing the students for competition.

On the way to their second championship, the Eagles compiled a remarkable 46-7 record, often against much larger schools. To illustrate how much the Eagles dominated most of their competition throughout the year, I note that six of their seven losses were to Class "A" Quiz Bowl Champion Detroit Catholic Central, Class "B" Champion Detroit Country Day and Class "A" runner-up, Hartland.

The team will now compete on the national level as they take part in the National Academic Quiz Tournament in Austin, Texas on June 8 and 9 and the Partnership for Academic Excellence Nationals in Washington, D.C., on June 15 and 16. I have no doubt that these outstanding young men will serve as wonderful representatives for Kent City, the State of Michigan, and the Third Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these students who have put Kent City, Michigan on the Quiz Bowl map. Congratulations on an outstanding season, and I wish you continued success in the upcoming national competitions!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in New York on May 20, 2002, and missed roll call votes 171, 172, and 173. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on roll call 171, "aye" on roll call 172, and "aye" on roll call 173.

COMMENDING HON. RAFE HEATH
CLOE FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the distinguished career of the Honorable Rafe Heath Cloe, United States Administrative Law Judge for the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Social Security Administration, Birmingham, AL. Judge Cloe served for more than 15 years as a senior trial attorney for the Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D.C. He has served in the United States Air Force, active and reserve duty, retiring as Colonel with the Office of the Judge Advocate General, and also serving as an instructor at the Air Force Law School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama.

On February 22, 1982, he was appointed as the United States Administrative Law Judge for the Office of Hearings and Appeals of the Social Security Administration and has served in that capacity in Birmingham, AL since 1982.

On June 3, 2002, Judge Cloe will retire after 42 years of distinguished service to the people of the United States. His commitment to protecting the Constitutional rights of the citizens of this country is exemplary and unquestioned. He is worthy of commendation for his commitment to public service.

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE FOR THE
EFFORTS TO RESTORE THE
WOLF HOUSE IN MOUNTAIN
HOME, ARKANSAS

HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude for the efforts of all those involved in restoring the historic Wolf House in Mountain Home, Arkansas.

The newly restored Wolf House will have its grand reopening on May 18th. Built in 1829 by Jacob Wolf, the building served as the county courthouse for what was then Izard County, Arkansas and now provides a good glimpse into how life was in that era.

Nearly two years ago, architect Tommy Jameson led a team of craftsmen in the restoration of the 180 year-old structure. Working closely with Preservation Consultant Joan Gould, they strove to maintain historical accuracy of the project, restoring the oldest public building in Arkansas to its original form.

The restoration effort leaves the state with a building that purely interprets how structures might have appeared in the early 19th century Ozarks.

The Wolf House is now open for self-directed walking tours and I encourage my colleagues to visit this historic site if they are ever in Baxter County.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity to praise the hard work of everyone involved in the restoration of the Wolf House.

IN HONOR OF THE 2002 DRAGON
BOAT FESTIVAL

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to shine a spotlight on the 2002 Washington, D.C. Dragon Boat Festival, being held this upcoming Memorial Day weekend.

Beginning 2000 years ago in China, dragon boat racing continues to be popular in many parts of the world, especially in Taiwan. Dragon boat racing displays a unique aspect of Taiwanese history, culture and tradition. This colorful and exciting event showcases one aspect in the vast array of the region's cultural diversity and will attract a multitude of spectators to the Washington area.

Over forty teams will participate in the race, held on the Potomac River Saturday May 25th and Sunday May 26th, including those from

the D.C. Police Department, the Harbor Patrol Officers, and even one for Congressional Staff. Through the efforts of numerous Taiwanese organizations, eight magnificently painted 45-foot long dragon boats were donated to be used in the competition.

I send my congratulations to the distinguished members of the 2002 Washington D.C. Dragon Boat Festival Committee, especially to the three honorary chairpersons: Mayor Anthony A. Williams, Chairwoman Linda Cropp and Representative C.J. Chen of the Taipei Economic Council. Also many special thanks should be given to Mrs. Yolanda Chen and all the cosponsors under her leadership. They have spent a lot of time and effort to bring this spectacular event to the Greater Washington area.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to announce what a great source of pride this event will provide to the local Taiwanese community. They are an integral part of our society and I am pleased that the 2002 Washington, D.C. Dragon Boat Festival helps to highlight the contributions they have continuously brought to the region over the years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, on May 16, 2002, I was absent for personal reasons and missed roll call votes numbered 167, 168, 169, and 170. For the record, had I been present I would have voted yea, yea, yea, and nay, respectively.

RECOGNITION OF EILEEN
KAVANAGH

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, I hereby request that these comments be placed in the appropriate part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

This past fall, the Staten Island Advance, the Staten Island Children's Campaign and my office joined together to raise money for families of victims of the World Trade Center tragedy. We established a non-profit named The Staten Island September 11th Fund and were successful in raising more than \$1.2 million for families of victims from Staten Island.

The person who made the whole program work, the one who dealt with every family and every single application received, was Eileen Kavanagh.

Without relinquishing or compromising any of her myriad daily duties serving as executive secretary to the editor of the Staten Island Advance, she took on for six months the tremendous amount of work associated with The Staten Island September 11th Fund. That work included reviewing and processing the more than 200 applications received, handling all inquiries concerning benefits and donations and serving as the liaison between the Fund and the bank handling the account. This work

included receiving and creating computerized records of thousands of donations totaling almost \$1.3 million, sending written acknowledgments to all donors, making necessary bank deposits and, in the end, writing the almost 200 checks that the fund dispensed.

Perhaps most importantly, she showed the ability to balance both the sensitivity needed to deal with families of the September 11th attacks and the objectivity needed to reflect the strict requirements established for the administration of the Fund. From trying to explain the fund to a widow who lost her firefighter husband and who is struggling to raise their children alone and at the same time consoling and empathizing with her to explaining it to a woman who lost her father and is doing everything she can to help her mother to accepting thousands of donations from

To sum it all up, Eileen Kavanagh was able to do all of this with accuracy, understanding and compassion. She made the very difficult situation for many family members seeking financial assistance a lot easier for them because of that compassion. Sometimes, a family member of a victim just wants to hear a friendly voice on the other end—to talk—to be understood and listened to—Eileen did this gracefully. She did not do it for any monetary compensation, or for public attention, but simply to help her friends, neighbors—fellow Staten Islanders who were so devastated by the tragic events of September 11th. She provides us with an excellent example of the goodness that truly does exist in people—a goodness that we should all strive to share and attain.

Staten Island suffered a great loss on September 11th. Hundreds of men and women were lost—husbands, wives, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins, friends, neighbors and loved ones. All of our lives were forever changed—but the deeds of people like Eileen have eased the burden a bit—and have given us all a little more strength to carry on and hope for the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ATHELSTANE LODGE #839 FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call to the attention of our colleagues and the American people the achievements of the Brothers of the Athelstane Lodge #839 Free and Accepted Masons of Pearl River, New York, on their 100th anniversary of fraternity and service to their community. The Athelstane Lodge has continued the Masonic tradition of promoting "morality in which all men agree, that is, to be good men and true."

The Masons, officially titled the Free and Accepted Masons, are one of the world's oldest and largest fraternal organizations, dating back to its foundation in England in the early 1700's. Throughout history the Masons have sought to bring men together of all race, religions and political ideology under the ideas of charity, equality, morality and service to God. Today the Masons have millions of members worldwide, including more than 2.5 million in

the United States. They have earned a reputation as highly respected businessmen, ministers and politicians. Such distinguished men as American statesman Benjamin Franklin, Composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, French philosopher Voltaire and U.S. President George Washington have all been Brothers in the Masonic order.

My own association as a Brother with my fellow Masons has been a great influence on me throughout my career and in public life. Their moral values and ethical code have been an immeasurable help to guide me in making fair and just decisions in my responsibilities as a Member of this chamber.

Mr. Speaker, hopefully the Athelstane Lodge will continue its good works as a model organization and will continue to help those in need as well as continue to be an exemplary example of fraternal service to our communities for another 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN DARRYL A.
KELLY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain Darryl A. Kelly of Society Hill, South Carolina, whose dedication to his duties as a national guardsman earned him the honor of being the first African American from South Carolina to receive the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

A Society Hill native, Captain Kelly received a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Coker College and a Master's degree in Public Administration from Troy State University. He joined the National Guard in 1989, after seven years active duty in the Army, and commands Company "A", 151st Signal Battalion in Laurens, South Carolina. Captain Kelly is also a South Carolina Highway Patrol sergeant with thirteen years experience.

Captain Kelly will receive the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award on May 22, 2002, a distinction bestowed upon only seven Army National Guardsmen in the nation each year. He automatically qualified last month when he won the General James C. Dozier award, which recognizes the South Carolina National Guard's most outstanding company officer for leadership and quality of service. Captain Kelly is not only the first African American from South Carolina to receive the MacArthur Leadership award, but only the second South Carolinian to have this honor bestowed upon him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring Captain Darryl A. Kelly, a dedicated guardsman whose service and leadership should be commended. I congratulate him on his receipt of the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award and wish him good luck and Godspeed in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL
LAHEY

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize IRS Special Agent in Charge of Criminal Investigation, Michael Lahey, for his promotion to Director of the Review and Program Evaluation Section at IRS Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Lahey began his career with the Internal Revenue Service in 1982 as a Special Agent in Miami, Florida. Through his dedication and hard work, Mr. Lahey was selected as the Branch Chief in Boston in 1997. He held that position until his selection as Special Agent in Charge for the Boston Field office in 2000.

As Special Agent in Charge for New England, his team of 140 IRS employees followed the money trail through a wide range of financial investigations. His team has examined cases involving tax evasion, narcotics trafficking, money laundering, public corruption, as well as healthcare and insurance fraud. As a direct result of asset forfeitures from IRS drug trafficking and organized crime cases, the people of Massachusetts have benefited greatly from the substantial sums that have been reinvested in state and local police departments during his tenure in the Boston office.

Mr. Lahey, a resident of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, has been a strong supporter of sports programs for youngsters in his community. He has served as the Director of Minor League Baseball for the Little League and has coached for several years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Michael Lahey for his outstanding service with the Internal Revenue Service. I wish him the best of luck in his new position.

BOB STUMP NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL
YEAR 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2002

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

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to continue my remarks about H.R. 4546, the fiscal year 2003 Department of Defense authorization act. In my previous remarks, I criticized the House Rules Committee for blocking all amendments, including five I drafted, that would have allowed the House to debate the wisdom of various weapons systems. I also detailed the rationale for my amendments to eliminate the Crusader artillery system.

In my remarks today, I want to discuss another weapons system—the Army's Comanche helicopter—that is behind schedule, over

budget, and unable to meet critical performance requirements.

In at least eight reports since 1986, the GAO has raised concerns about the Army's effort to develop its next generation light helicopter, now known as the Comanche.

Further, the Army itself has recognized problems with the Comanche program, which has been restructured five times since its inception. Previous restructurings have significantly delayed the development schedule, extended the production schedule, and reduced planned quantities.

I personally have been raising red flags about the Comanche program since the late 1990s. The first GAO report I requested on the Comanche was released in August 1999. This report identified a number of cost, quality control, and performance concerns about the Comanche program.

An updated report I requested from the GAO was released in June 2001. This report concluded that the concerns raised in the August 1999 report had only gotten worse.

It is not just the GAO that has raised concerns. The Director of Operational Test and Evaluation has also been critical of the Comanche.

I was pleased to see the House Armed Services Committee imposed a few conditions on the Army's Comanche helicopter program in H.R. 4546.

One of the conditions, a requirement that the Army reassess the cost and timeline of the Comanche program, is similar to what I proposed in an amendment last year.

The other condition, an annual report by the DOD Inspector General, is a useful step in providing for constant, independent oversight of the program.

However, I am concerned that the Committee did not go quite far enough in protecting taxpayers from runaway costs for a program GAO and others have consistently identified as failing to meet testing and performance goals.

The amendment I offered would have prohibited the Pentagon from awarding contracts for low rate initial production (LRIP) until the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, certified that the testing program has been rigorous enough to determine the program performs as expected in an operational environment, in other words, not just in computer simulation or laboratory tests. The amendment also required that the Comanche achieve key performance standards before contracts for LRIP could be awarded.

According to the June 2001 GAO report, a decision on whether to move forward with low rate initial production was expected in June 2005.

It is my understanding that in the year since the GAO report, the Comanche program has fallen even further behind schedule, and a LRIP decision now may not occur until 2008.

Some might argue that my amendment, therefore, was premature. I would argue that given the repeated mismanagement of the Comanche program, Congress must send the unmistakable message that the program will not advance toward production until timing, cost, quality, and performance concerns are all addressed to our satisfaction. My amendment would have sent that message.

Defense contractors push hard to get to LRIP decisions because, once they are over

that hump, they know it is nearly impossible to kill the program. That is why Congress needed to signal now that we have no intention of allowing the LRIP decision from being made until we are fully satisfied the Comanche will work as advertised and will be built within reasonable cost and time constraints.

I'd like to run down a few of the specific problems with the Comanche.

In August 1999, the GAO warned the Comanche faced significant risks of cost overruns, scheduling delays, and degraded performance primarily because the Army decided to (1) begin engineering and manufacturing development before key technologies had matured, (2) compress the flight-testing schedule, which increases concurrency between development and operational testing, and (3) begin initial production before completing operational testing.

In its most recent report, issued in June 2001, the GAO noted the problems identified in the August 1999 report have gotten worse. The GAO cites a range of concerns including understated acquisition program cost estimates; ambitious flight test schedules with substantial concurrency in test events; delays in another DOD program, the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF), which had been counted on to develop a critical component of the aircraft; inadequate facilities to fully test and integrate system hardware and software; and considerable growth in aircraft weight.

The program's total development and production cost estimate has increased by almost \$4.8 billion—from \$43.3 billion to \$48.1 billion. This includes a \$75 million increase in development costs and a nearly \$4.8 billion increase in production costs. As the GAO notes, these costs are likely to further escalate.

DOD's most recent cost estimate for the Comanche was done in April 2000. At that time, DOD's Cost Analysis Improvement Group estimated the Comanche would need an additional \$180 million for its engineering and manufacturing development phase. However, this money was not included in the April 2000 baseline.

Further, in January 2001, DOD added about \$504 million in funding to the Comanche program over the next few years. About \$84 million was earmarked for RDT&E, the remaining \$420 million was for production. These additional funds have not yet been reflected in the program's official cost estimates.

The Comanche program office also maintains a list of unfunded requirements that total \$68 million. According to the GAO, "The program office acknowledges that, unless additional funds are obtained, some yet-to-be-determined program performance requirements could be impacted."

The Comanche is also missing testing and production targets.

The GAO is particularly critical of the Comanche development and testing schedule, in which many crucial events come close together or concurrently in the late stages. The GAO specifically writes, "We have reported that when development work and low-rate initial production (LRIP) are done concurrently, significant schedule delays that cause cost increases and other problems are not uncommon in early production. Also, production processes are often not able to consistently yield output of high quality when full-rate production begins."

Before entering the LRIP stage, previous GAO work has shown successful commercial

firms already know that (1) technologies match customer requirements; that is, they can fit onto a product and function as expected, (2) the product's design meets performance requirements, and (3) the product can be produced within cost, schedule, and quality targets. According to GAO, "It is unlikely the Army will have this level of knowledge about Comanche" by the June 2005 LRIP decision date.

Specifically, the GAO notes "several critical subsystems—to be included in the mission equipment package—may not be available until development flight-testing is well underway. These subsystems are very complex state-of-the-art systems that have not been demonstrated on a helicopter platform like Comanche." The GAO goes on to warn "the Army's schedule for developing and testing software for the Comanche may not be completed prior to the full-rate production decision."

Failure to correct deficiencies prior to LRIP could lead to costly retrofits and repairs to aircraft already produced. As GAO wrote "To produce that many aircraft during low-rate initial production, the Army will have to ramp up its production capabilities rapidly and at a time when the aircraft design is still evolving as new subsystems are introduced and test results are evaluated."

The Comanche is also failing to meet performance requirements.

GAO says the Comanche is at risk of not achieving its rate of vertical climb requirement. The Comanche's ability to climb at a rate of 500 feet per minute is a key performance requirement as identified by the DOD itself. The Comanche's weight was a concern in the GAO's August 1999 report. The problem had only gotten worse by the time of the June 2001 report. The Comanche's empty weight had increased by 653 pounds—from 8,822 to 9,475—which threatens the vertical climb requirement.

GAO also says the Comanche is unlikely to complete the development and integration of its mission equipment package, which is needed to support a range of important functions including early warning, target acquisition, piloting, navigation, and communications.

GAO also warns the program is not successfully completing development of the system for detecting equipment problems. A critical component of the Comanche is its on-board fault detection system that can rapidly and accurately provide information about equipment problems. Without this system, the cost of maintaining the aircraft would increase. According to the Army, this system needs to be 75 to 95 percent accurate—75 percent for mechanical and electrical equipment and 95 percent for avionics and electronics equipment. However, the Comanche program office has concluded this requirement will be difficult to achieve within the current cost, weight, and packaging constraints and does not expect to achieve a mature fault detection and fault isolation capability until two years after initial fielding.

Finally, the GAO warns the Comanche is failing to achieve the "beyond-line-of-sight" communications capability needed to perform its mission. Satellite communications are essential to this reconnaissance capability. The Army was planning to rely on satellite communication technology that was being developed and miniaturized as part of the Joint Strike

Fighter program. However, the JSF has been delayed. The Comanche program office now believes it must develop its own satellite communication technology. GAO warns the development schedule "remains high-risk for the timely inclusion of this capability on the initially fielded Comanche helicopters."

Finally, the Pentagon's Director of Operational Test and Evaluation raised significant concerns about the Comanche in a 2000 report. Among the criticisms, the report said:

"It is highly unlikely that the Service can deliver the expected system performance within the current budget and schedule. Lacking an operational assessment of an integrated system, it is difficult to predict with any degree of confidence whether the individual subsystems can be successfully integrated, whether the subsystems will function properly in an operational environment, or whether, in concert, they will provide the anticipated benefits in operational performance."

"DOT&E's assessment of the Comanche's weight projections found several questionable areas, including overly optimistic expected weight reductions and questionable estimates of future weight growth."

"Overall, the Comanche has a risky test and evaluation strategy for integrating the MEP (mission equipment package) on the aircraft ... The resulting schedule compression allows little reserve in the timetable, thereby increasing the impact of unforeseen events/delays."

As the aforementioned warnings I've outlined from the GAO and the Pentagon's own Director of Operational Test and Evaluation make clear, Congress should not continue to pour money into the Comanche without regard to results.

Unfortunately, H.R. 4546 continues to sink billions of taxpayer dollars into weapons system of dubious utility and questionable performance.

RECOGNIZING OLDER AMERICANS MONTH IN MAY

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Older Americans Month, May 2002. The theme this year is America: A Community for All Ages, recognizing the national community in which we live, and paying tribute to the multi-generational family that is the strength of America.

Older members of our families and communities provide us with a historical perspective and contribute to our nation's greatness and prosperity. The experiences, stories, and knowledge of our senior citizens are integral to our understanding of our country and our world. To help preserve their stories I am proud to have authored legislation during the 106th Congress that created the Veterans History Project. The Veterans History Project is run by the Library of Congress, which coordinates a collection of video and audio recordings of the personal histories of American war veterans, as well as copies of their letters, diaries, and photographs. The library will also establish a publicly accessible archive for these recordings and documents.

Beyond this project, I have always strongly advocated for legislation that supports our Nation's seniors. Two of the most important

issues facing older Americans today are Social Security and prescription drug coverage under Medicare.

The solvency of Social Security is a serious concern for all Americans. I have consistently supported legislation that shores up and secures Social Security benefits for our older Americans. For example, I am an original cosponsor of H.R. 4671, the Social Security Widow's Benefit Guarantee Act. This bill would increase widows' and widowers' Social Security Benefits to 75 percent of the combined amount the couple had been receiving prior to the death of the spouse. In a typical case, a widow's benefit would increase by 12 percent, or more than \$100/month. The House just passed the Republican version of this bill, which is a good first step toward ensuring these benefits.

Similarly, the rising cost of prescription drugs is one of our most important health care challenges. Currently, senior citizens who pay for their own prescription medication pay more than twice as much for drugs than do the pharmaceutical companies' most favored customers. Exacerbating this problem is the fact that even though seniors use the most prescriptions, over 75 percent of seniors on Medicare lack reliable drug coverage.

Recently, both Republicans and Democrats have talked about introducing and passing legislation that provides prescription drug benefit under Medicare. I am working with my colleagues to craft legislation that would provide a voluntary Medicare prescription drug benefit, providing access for every senior no matter where they live or what their income.

Easy solutions to the high cost of prescription drugs and the solvency of Social Security do not exist. It is my hope that as the 107th Congress progresses, my colleagues will not forget about the needs of our older Americans, and will continue to work for legislation that preserves the benefits our Nation's seniors richly deserve.

HONORING DR. THOMAS MADDEN
ON HIS RETIREMENT AS SUPER-
INTENDENT OF LEMONT TOWNSHIP
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 210

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dr. Thomas Madden on his retirement as Superintendent of Lemont Township High School District 210. Since 1970, Dr. Madden has given his extraordinary talents and leadership as an educator to the students, faculty, and parents served by Lemont District 210. He has served with great distinction, and I am proud to highlight his outstanding record of accomplishments.

Under Dr. Madden's leadership, Lemont District 210 has witnessed dramatic growth and maintained an outstanding, quality education for students. Through his legislative initiatives and work with the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, Dr. Madden has helped to secure a ten-fold increase in federal impact aid—money that has gone to the direct benefit of his students and schools. He also has led the effort to secure \$26 million in construction bonds, allowing Lemont

District 210 to build new schools and facilities to accommodate significant increases in enrollment and staff.

Dr. Madden is an active participant in all aspects of the community. He serves on several local and national boards, including the Lemont Chamber of Commerce, the Lemont Area Development Council, and the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools. Dr. Madden has helped to promote a community and region that is supportive of families and local business, making our part of Illinois one of the fastest growing suburban areas in the nation. Most importantly, Dr. Madden has helped to build an education system that ensures that today's students will meet the challenges of tomorrow's global economy.

Dr. Madden embodies the values we as a nation applaud in our educators—commitment, quality, strength of character, and skill—and he serves as an excellent example to the students throughout the 13th Congressional District. I have valued his thoughts and advice on meeting the challenges of public education. I know that Lemont School District 210 is better for his leadership and I join with the students, faculty, and community in thanking him for his service and wishing him a happy and productive retirement.

HONORING GERALDINE (JERRY)
HENDERSON

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Geraldine (Jerry) Henderson, owner of Henderson Training and Consulting, in the Second Congressional District of West Virginia. She also owns and operates "A Governor's Inn," which is a bed and breakfast, in Buckhannon, West Virginia. Ms. Henderson has achieved the title of Women in Business Advocate of the Year. The West Virginia District of the United States Small Business Administration, a leader in the promotion and growth of our state, gives this award annually.

Ms. Henderson began Henderson Training and Consulting of West Virginia to give advice to business people. She leads classes throughout the state dealing with small business issues such as staff development, supervisory techniques and placing emphasis on hospitality and responsibility to the community. Ms. Henderson embodies the values that created the American success story: self-reliance, hard work, perseverance and optimism. I commend her for her 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 Ms. Henderson's tremendous achievement as the West Virginia Small Business Administration's Women in Business Advocate of the Year.

TRIBUTE TO STEN ERIC WILLIAM
CARLSON ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary American and a distinguished Californian, Sten Eric William Carlson, who is celebrating his ninetieth birthday.

Born on June 27, 1912, in Fort William, Ontario, Canada, Sten Carlson is the son of Johanna and Pers, who migrated from Sweden to Canada in the late 1800s, settling on a farm in Saskatchewan. Sten left Canada for the United States in 1951 where he met Elizabeth, his wife of forty-five years. They are the proud parents of Eric, 44, and Frank, who died tragically at an early age.

An employee of United Airlines for more than twenty-five years, Sten Carlson retired in 1977. He also worked for MacDonald Aircraft, building the Mosquito aircraft, a premier low flying plane used in some of our nation's most critical missions.

Sten Carlson has always given generously of his time and his multitude of talents to the community, focusing much of his volunteer work on victim support groups. He is a lifetime member of Lodge 1781, IAM, and continues to serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the Retirees. A volunteer at Peninsula Medical Center for more than fifteen years, Sten has devoted many years of service to KQED.

Sten Carlson is a devoted husband and father with a strong moral sense of right and wrong. His lifetime of activities has centered on his family and his community. His is a life based on the most celebrated of American values . . . honesty, dependability, courage, loyalty, and love of family, friends and country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Sten Carlson a happy 90th birthday. We are a better community, a better country and a better people because of him and all he has done.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall votes 171, 172, 173. If present I would have voted "yea."

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL
OFFICERS' WEEK

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, during National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, to honor our correctional officers for the work they do to keep our families safe. We do not thank these men and women enough for their service to our communities.

Day after day, week after week, our correctional officers work one of the most dangerous patrols in the country. They devote themselves to keeping violent felons behind bars, ensuring that our families can feel safe in our homes and on our streets. We know from the number of correctional officers who die in the line of duty each year that this is a dangerous profession that requires courage, hard work, and professionalism.

Our correctional officers are people like Bonnie Johnson, a mother of six, who works over 50 hours a week in a prison in Jackson, Michigan. For almost 20 years, Bonnie has put her heart and soul into her job. Or Rodney Olsson—a correctional officer with the Michigan prison system for roughly 14 years. Rodney drives over 60 miles to get to and from work. These fine men and women work holidays, weekends, and double shifts. They deserve our support.

We need to do our part in the weeks and months ahead to pass legislation that will protect the safety and working conditions of correctional officers. We should act to prevent further privatization of our prisons, which puts both our officers and inmate populations at risk. We need to ensure that our correctional officers receive meaningful, reliable pensions, good benefits, and decent wages. And we should invest adequate resources in prison programs that provide constructive activities for inmates that reduce recidivism and prevent violence. The work of our correctional officers gets more and more difficult with each passing day. In my home state of Michigan, the prison population has grown 38 times faster than our general population. And records show our inmate population is getting more violent. I commend Michigan's correctional officers for staying committed to the job despite these additional challenges.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution offered by Representatives Strickland, Sweeney, Horn, and Holden that officially recognizes National Correctional Officers and Employees Week. This resolution also requests that our President issue a proclamation urging citizens to honor our correctional officers and the work they do to protect us. We should pass this resolution without delay and give our correctional officers the respect they deserve for their service.

CONGRATULATING COLONEL
DENNIS L. VIA

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a great Army officer and soldier, Colonel Dennis L. Via, and to thank him for his contributions to the United States Army and to our country. On Thursday, June 13, Colonel Via will relinquish command of the 3rd Signal Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas for assignment to the Department of the Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Programs, here in Washington, DC.

Colonel Via began his career in 1980, graduating from Virginia State University as a Distinguished Military Graduate and earning a commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Signal corps. He commanded troops as

a Signal Platoon Leader, Company Commander, and Battalion Commander before taking command of the 3rd Signal Brigade. Dennis has also served in staff positions from battalion level to the Department of the Army at numerous posts in the United States and Europe, and along the way found time to earn a Master's Degree at Boston University.

Dennis Via is a consummate professional whose performance personifies those traits of courage, competency and commitment that our nation expects and demands from its military leaders. It is with both regret and pride that we wish him Godspeed and good luck as he leaves Fort Hood for his new assignment.

It is important to note that every accolade to Dennis must also be considered a tribute to his family, his wife Linda and their two sons, Brian and Bradley. As a wife and mother, Linda has been a true partner in all of his accomplishments.

Dennis' career has reflected his deep commitment to our nation, and has been characterized by dedicated service, a profound respect for our soldiers and their families, and an absolute commitment to excellence. I ask Members to join me in offering our heartfelt appreciation for a job well done and best wishes for continued success to an outstanding soldier and a good friend—Colonel Dennis L. Via.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT S. KIEVE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of San Jose broadcaster Robert S. Kieve. I would like to recognize his efforts as a radio pioneer deeply dedicated to the idea of the media providing a community service. He will be honored with the Spirit of San Jose Award on Monday, May 20, 2002.

Since 1967, Kieve had been one of the "mom and pop" owners holding out against large conglomerates, demonstrating the value of local ownership through his editorials, community involvement and loyalty to employees—who own 25 percent of his broadcasting company, Empire Broadcasting. In recently selling one of his radio stations, Kieve shared those profits with his employees in an usual and caring move for the business . . . but not for him.

Kieve, a former Eisenhower speechwriter, has been a pioneer in hiring women in an industry that women are dramatically underrepresented.

He has, for thirty years, been an outspoken, committed and vital force in San Jose, always willing to offer his opinions and provide a forum for others to share theirs.

Always willing to try something new, Kieve recently started three Internet radio stations featuring Beethoven, traditional country and big band.

Kieve will continue to operate two stations, KRTY-FM and KLIV-AM after his recent sale of KARA-FM, a San Jose institution, and will use a portion of the profits to help create a charitable foundation.

I am proud and grateful to thank Robert S. Kieve for reminding us all that one person can truly make a difference in the lives of many.

MONSIGNOR GEORGE C. HIGGINS:
AMERICA'S LABOR PRIEST

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, America lost its preeminent "labor priest" on May 1st when Monsignor George C. Higgins died at the age of 86 after a half-century career in the Nation's Capital devoted to the cause of social justice and the rights of labor. As head of the Catholic Bishop's Social Action Department for 35 years, Msgr. Higgins was an influential church figure and respected authority on the labor movement who dedicated his life to promoting the rights of workers around the world.

No one did more to advance the church's social teachings on a just economy and the rights of working people. Msgr. Higgins brought the church and labor closer together by showing working men and women that the church's social teaching was on their side—that work must be valued and workers honored, and that a just society demands that workers have the right to organize and bargain collectively.

Generations of American workers—who never knew his name—owe Monsignor Higgins a debt of gratitude for devoting his life to fighting injustice and defending their rights.

I would like to insert in the RECORD for the benefit of my colleagues the following statements by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops and by AFL-CIO President John Sweeney on Msgr. Higgins death, and an essay by E.J. Dionne entitled "The Great Monsignor."

MSGR. GEORGE HIGGINS, DEAN OF CHURCH
SOCIAL ACTION MOVEMENT, DIES

WASHINGTON (May 1, 2002).—Msgr. George G. Higgins, the "labor priest" who was generally regarded as the dean of the U.S. Church's social action ministry for the last half century, died May 1 at the age of 86.

After a long illness, Msgr. Higgins died at the home of his sister, Bridget Doonan, in LaGrange, Illinois, his native city. He had returned to LaGrange in January to speak at St. Francis Xavier Church, the parish in which he was raised. After delivering the talk on January 19, he fell ill with a severe infection and was hospitalized for a period of three months.

"Msgr. George Higgins was without parallel the authority on the Church's social teaching and on labor-management issues," said Bishop Wilton D. Gregory, President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). "He was a forceful and articulate figure in the Church and a major influence on the lives of several generations of Catholics dedicated to the cause of social justice. He was, above all, a good and dedicated priest. I pray for the repose of his soul and for the consolation of his family and the many persons in all walks of life to whom he will always be a vibrant and lasting inspiration."

A priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago, who spent 60 years of his life working in the nation's capital, Msgr. Higgins was probably the best known and most influential priest in the United States. He was widely admired within the Church and in the secular realm for his knowledge of the labor movement, ecumenism, Catholic-Jewish relations and many other fields, and for his talents as a skillful negotiator.

"The best informed priest in the United States," as U.S. Church historian John

Tracy Ellis once described him, Msgr. Higgins was an advisor to labor leaders and presidential commissions, a friend to bishops and to everyday Catholic people. Above all, he was a champion of ordinary men and women and of the workers' right to organize.

He headed the Social Action Department of the Catholic Bishops' Conference for 35 years, and his syndicated column, "The Yardstick," appeared in Catholic papers from 1945 until he penned his last piece in September, 2001, by which time macular degeneration had seriously impeded his vision. By then he had written nearly 3,000 columns. Most were on some aspect of the labor movement but his range of topics was vast. He had a special interest in Catholic-Jewish relations.

Msgr. Higgins was ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of Chicago in 1940. He came to Washington to study at the Catholic University of America, where he earned a doctorate in economics and political science, and took on a supposedly temporary position with the Social Action Department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, as the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) was then known. The following year he became assistant director of the department and, in 1956, its director.

While guiding that office, he used his column to teach on a wide variety of topics important to the Church, while using his personality and old-fashioned political skills to mediate labor disputes from coast to coast. He counseled Cesar Chavez and the United Farm Workers, and was a mediator between workers and growers in California and the Midwest. For 35 years he was chairman of the United Auto Workers' Public Review Board, an agency that handles grievances between rank and file workers and the union.

Msgr. Higgins was a peritus (expert) at all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) and was on the preparatory commission which drafted the council's laity document, the first U.S. priest to receive such an assignment. He became one of the best known interpreters of the Council to the English-speaking world as a daily member of the U.S. Bishops' press panel. After retiring from the Bishops' Conference in 1980, Msgr. Higgins was an adjunct lecturer in the Theology Department of the Catholic University of America, 1980-1994, and later professor emeritus.

Msgr. Higgins received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in White House ceremonies in 2000. The previous year he was awarded the Laetare Medal, the highest honor given by the University of Notre Dame.

In June, 2001, the International Catholic-Jewish Liaison Committee (sponsored by the Holy See and the International Jewish Committee for Interregligious Consultations) honored Msgr. Higgins as one of the great pioneers of the dialogue worldwide.

A dinner planned as a tribute to Msgr. Higgins last September 11 was postponed, but a reception in his honor was held two months later at the time of the U.S. Bishops' fall meeting. It was co-hosted by Bishop Joseph A. Fiorenza, then President of the Bishops' Conference, and Mr. John Sweeney, President of the AFL-CIO.

The Mass of Christina Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, May 7, at Holy Name Cathedral in Chicago. A visitation and Liturgy of the Eucharist will be celebrated at St. Francis Xavier, La Grange, May 6.

STATEMENT BY AFL-CIO PRESIDENT JOHN J. SWEENEY UPON THE PASSING OF MSGR. GEORGE HIGGINS

How like Msgr. George Higgins for his last day on earth to have been on the Feast of St.

Joseph the Worker—and International Worker's Day!

Throughout his entire life, this "labor priest," as we fondly and admiringly referred to him, fought for and lifted the lives of working men and women—hundreds of thousands of them. Wherever working people were joining together to build a better life, George Higgins was there. He prayed with striking miners in Wyoming, celebrated an organizing victory with meat cutters in Texas, stood with hospital workers and mediated between farm workers and grape growers in California, and testified on Catholic social teaching in a case before the Education Labor Relations Board in Illinois.

More than any other American in the 20th century, Msgr. Higgins argued that Christian beliefs must prominently include the notion that work must be valued and workers honored. His preaching on Catholic social teaching educated generations of leaders within his church and helped them apply the justice Gospel in their own areas.

And for more than 60 years, Msgr. Higgins championed the right of working men and women to join freely in unions to improve their lives, giving unremitting energy and effort and vision and wisdom to American's unions, in good as well as challenging years.

One venue for his inspiration was AFL-CIO conventions, at which he delivered invocations for more than 20 years. In 1999, in the opening invocation at the community convocation preceding our Los Angeles convention, he spoke of his belief in organizing as a path of justice:

"We will not have a decent society in the United States until a much larger percentage of the workers are organized into unions," he said.

Msgr. Higgins was a certain force in bringing labor and the church closer together, and his efforts over many years laid the ground work for the strong and growing partnership between the union movement and the National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice.

And while his preaching of the justice Gospel won him well-deserved praise, his pastoral attention to working families was also remarkable: many who suffered disappointment or disillusion were uplifted by his resolute faith in the reign of God and hopefulness in God's ultimate triumph over injustice. When I visited with him last Saturday I was struck by the gifts Msgr. Higgins had given to so many of us who were privileged to know him.

All workers—whether they are farm workers, health care workers, poultry workers, steel workers, immigrants, people of color, whites, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim or Protestant—owe a debt of gratitude to Msgr. Higgins.

So while we are saddened by his passing, we are—even more so—ever mindful of and deeply grateful for the conscience, courage, intellect and love that Msgr. George Higgins committed to America's workers and America's unions.

THE GREAT MONSIGNOR

(By E.J. Dionne Jr.)

There is no such thing as a timely death. But just when you thought all the stories on American priests were destined to be about evil committed and covered up, one of the truly great priests was called to his eternal reward.

Monsignor George G. Higgins was the sort of Catholic clergyman regularly cast as a hero in movies of the 1940s and '50s. He was an uncompromising pro-labor priest who walked picket lines, fought anti-Semitism, supported civil rights and wrote and wrote and wrote in the hope that some of his argu-

ments about social justice might penetrate somewhere.

He got attached to causes before they became fashionable, and stuck with them after the fashionable people moved on. Cesar Chavez once said that no one had done more for American farm workers than Monsignor Higgins. In the 1980s, he traveled regularly to Poland in support of Solidarity's struggle against communism and became an important link between American union leaders and their Polish brethren.

As it happens, even the day of Monsignor Higgins' death, at the age of 86, was appropriate. He passed from this world on May 1, the day that many countries set aside to honor labor and that the Catholic Church designates as the Feast of St. Joseph the Worker.

If Higgins had been there when that famous carpenter was looking for a place to spend the night with his pregnant wife, the monsignor would certainly have taken the family in. He would also have handed Joseph a union card, told him he deserved better pay and benefits, and insisted that no working person should ever have to beg for shelter.

Yes, Higgins sounds so old-fashioned—and in ever good sense he was—that you might wonder about his relevance to our moment. Let us count the ways.

One of the most astonishing and disturbing aspects of the Catholic Church's current scandal is the profound disjunction—that's a charitable word—between what the church preaches about sexuality and compassion toward the young and how its leaders reacted to the flagrant violation of these norms by priests.

Higgins, who spent decades as the Catholic Church's point man on labor and social-justice issues, hated the idea of preachers' exhorting people to do one thing and then doing the opposite. And so he made himself into a true pain for any administrator of any Catholic institution who resisted the demands of workers for fair pay and union representation.

"These men and women mop the floors of Catholic schools, work in Catholic hospital kitchens and perform other sometimes menial tasks in various institutions," he once wrote. "They have not volunteered to serve the church for less than proportionate compensation."

"The church has a long history of speaking out on justice and peace issues," he said. "Yet only in more recent times has the church made it clear that these teachings apply as well to the workings of its own institutions."

Where some religious leaders complain that they get caught up in scandal because they are unfairly held to higher standards, Higgins believed that higher standards were exactly the calling of those who claim the authority to tell others what to do.

It bothered Higgins to the end of his life that the cause of trade unionism had become so unfashionable, especially among well-educated and well-paid elites. For 56 years, he wrote a column for the Catholic press, and he returned to union issues so often that he once felt obligated to headline one of his offerings: "Why There's So Much Ado About Labor in My Column."

His answer was simple: "I am convinced that we are not likely to have a fully free or democratic society over the long haul without a strong and effective labor movement."

To those who saw collective bargaining as outdated in a new economy involving choice, mobility and entrepreneurship, Higgins would thunder back about the rights of those for whom such a glittering world was still, at best, a distant possibility: hospital workers, farm workers, fast-food workers and others who need higher wages to help their children

reach their dreams. He could not abide well-paid intellectuals who regularly derided unions as dinosaurs, and he told them so, over and over.

It is one of the highest callings of spiritual leaders to force those who live happy and comfortable lives to consider their obligations to those heavily burdened by injustice and deprivation. It is a great loss when such prophetic voices are stilled by scandal and the cynicism it breeds. Fortunately, that never happened to Higgins. He never had to shut up about injustice and, God bless him, he never did.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DAVE
SARTON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Dave Sarton for his contributions to the State of Colorado. As a member of the Board of Directors of the South-eastern Colorado Water Conservancy District for sixteen years, he is moving his talents and experience to other endeavors. Dave has been an integral part of securing and distributing Colorado's most precious resource, water. As he reflects on his service to a grateful board, community, and state, I would like to commend him for his efforts to improve the lives of his fellow Coloradans.

Dave has proven himself a valuable community, business, and governmental leader over the years and has served on countless committees in support of his community and state. He has served on the Colorado Springs City Council, on the Energy and Environment Committee of the National Association of Regional Councils, as director of the Colorado Springs Department of Public Utilities, as director and chairman of the Pikes Peak Area Council of Government, as president of Sunset Sertoma Club, as chairman of the El Paso Task Force on Alcoholism, as chair of the ARK Board of Directors, and as vice-chair of the Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce. In addition to his community duties, he is a proud business owner and operates a quality service for Colorado Springs as the president of Sperry & Mock/The Floor Store, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to bring the accomplishments and achievements of David Sarton before this body today. His leadership, hard work, and dedication to improving the lives of his fellow Coloradans is an example for all aspiring community leaders and it is for this reason that I wish to bring his accomplishments before this body of Congress, and nation. Thank you for all your hard work Dave, I wish you all the best, and good luck in your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MARY ANN KIRK

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, as Mary Ann Kirk prepares to leave Maryland to join her family in Colorado, I salute her lasting con-

tribution of public service to our State during the past fifty years.

Standing side by side with her children throughout their educational process, she also provided top leadership in the Montgomery County Heart Association; chaired numerous political and charitable fund raisers; and tutored elementary school children and political refugees in the ways of freedom in American democracy.

In 1978, she spearheaded landmark legislation in the Maryland General Assembly which created the Maryland Values Education Commission, and, as Vice Chairwoman, chaired its subcommittee work for four years. This Commission devised a list of 18 Character and Citizenship values affirmed by the Maryland Attorney General as Constitutionally sound for teaching in our schools, and served as a foundation, an impetus, for character/citizenship education efforts across our Nation. Today, there is an Office of Character Education within the Maryland State Department of Education and flourishing, growing, programs throughout the State—a direct result of Mary Ann Kirk's visionary work.

In 1978, when the Maryland General Assembly passed this landmark legislation, Senator Jennings Randolph (DWP) noted its passage in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. He ended his remarks with these words: "The State of Maryland will be the first to create a Values Education Commission. The flame of faith is now aglow in 'The Free State.' May other States see the light and feel its warmth."

In 1986, she organized and coordinated Maryland's observance of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution with the establishment of the FEDERALIST Foundation. This private/public partnership with Maryland State Archives recreated the beautiful, seaworthy Federalist, a 15-foot ship built in 1788 to honor Maryland's role as the seventh state to ratify the Constitution, and later sailed to Mount Vernon as a gift to George Washington. Two hundred years later, a horse drawn Federalist represented Maryland in Philadelphia's national Bicentennial parade; and, today, when not traveling to communities across the State to teach about the Constitution, resides under the dome of our State capitol in Annapolis—ever ready to convey our rich history to this and future generations.

In 1997, Mary Ann Kirk was honored by Governor Parris Glendening and the Maryland General Assembly as Maryland's Mother of the Year. She leaves Maryland as immediate past president of the Maryland Association of American Mothers, Inc., the official sponsor of Mothers Day.

We will miss her and wish her well. Maryland's loss is Colorado's gain.

INTRODUCING A BILL TO PROVIDE
IMPACT AID FUNDING FOR MI-
CRONESIAN CHILDREN

HON. PATSY T. MINK

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce a bill to provide Impact Aid funding for Micronesian children living in the United States. You might ask why should we? What is their special status that justifies this payment?

The Compact of Free Association negotiated by the DoD and the State Department with the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia in 1985, and with the Republic of Palau in 1986, enhanced the security of our nation. The Compact of Free Association gives the United States authority over security and defense matters in this region. It prevents other countries from entering into military alliances with the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau. Such military alliances could threaten the security of our nation.

In the period between 1918 and 1941, foreign powers did occupy these islands. And as history will recall, many WWII battles were fought in the islands fortified and occupied by Japan. After WWII the United States took over jurisdiction, and we inflicted grave harm to many of the islands' residents when the U.S. military tested 66 atomic and hydrogen bombs between 1946 and 1958. The long lasting effects of these tests are still felt by people living at Bikini, Eniwetok, and other atolls, and many have moved to the United States to live and to find health care.

In exchange for the sacrifices they have made in the Compact of Free Association, the United States allows citizens of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau to freely enter the United States without visas as nonimmigrant residents within the parameters laid out in the Compact of Free Association. Their status is as "habitual" residents which places them in limbo and for example, they can not qualify for food stamps.

According to the 2000 Census, 115,247 Micronesians are living in the United States. Many of these families live in low income or public housing, which does not provide local schools with the funds they need to educate Micronesian children. Our public schools accept the financial burden for educating Micronesian children, even though the federal government created this obligation and should pay for it.

Our nation is responsible for the education of these children in exchange for the military benefits our nation currently receives from Micronesia. Our government must take a more active role and help pay for these children's education. It's unfair to make these innocent children unwelcome pawns of our national defense policy.

My bill will treat Micronesian children living in the United States as military dependents and consequently allow schools to count them for the purpose of obtaining Impact Aid funding. It will give local schools the extra funds needed to ensure other children in their district do not pay for the cost of our defense strategy.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill and fulfill the obligation created by the Compact of Free Association.

THE 121ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
AMERICAN RED CROSS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, Clara Barton, a true visionary in American history, once stated: "I have an almost complete disregard of

precedent, and a faith in the possibility of something better. It irritates me to be told how things have always been done. I defy the tyranny of precedent. I go for anything new that might improve the past." Her motivation as well as her devotion to humanity led Clara Barton to found the American Red Cross in 1881.

Today we celebrate the 121st anniversary of the American Red Cross, which is one of the most renowned charitable organizations in our nation. It is made up of over a million Red Cross volunteers who provide much needed relief services to families, communities and countries around the world in times of crisis.

When unexpected disasters hit, the Red Cross is prepared. For example, the American Red Cross coordinates the collection of blood and ensures that the safest blood is available to save the lives of our armed service members and lives in over 5,000 hospitals across the country.

Internationally, the Red Cross has been active in helping millions of people fight malnutrition and communities gain access to such basic and vital needs as safe drinking water.

Each year, the American Red Cross quickly responds to more than 67,000 disasters, including transportation accidents, house fires, hurricanes, floods, earthquakes, and tornadoes.

One instance of the Red Cross's exemplary and timely response to a disaster was after a lethal tornado tore through my District in Southern Maryland on April 28th. Without delay, the Red Cross was on the scene to provide help after one of the fiercest tornado disasters ever on the East Coast.

Approximately 230 Red Cross volunteers poured in from across the nation to join 100 local volunteers. They worked tirelessly to help community members in their time of need by quickly erecting shelters and administering food, clothing, emergency medication and grief counseling.

As I walked through the streets of La Plata, stepping over the wires, rubble and debris of the once vibrant community, it was evident that there was a lot of work ahead for residents to overcome this tragedy. Fortunately, as a result of help from service organizations like the Red Cross, government officials and agencies, and citizens, it is clear that La Plata will rebuild and come back stronger than ever.

The Charles County Red Cross Chapter is a shining example of the dedication of the Red Cross, and why La Plata will persevere and once again thrive. The same evening that the tornado completely wiped out the Chapter building and all of their resources in La Plata, the Red Cross leaders and volunteers set up a temporary Disaster Operation Center in a vacant store building in Waldorf.

Since 1917, the county's Chapter has been instrumental in providing disaster preparation and care services. The Chapter plans to rebuild, just like the La Plata community will rebuild, and continue to dedicate time and energy to the citizens of La Plata.

The American Red Cross, since it was founded, has been instrumental in relieving the suffering and the saving lives of our local, national and international communities.

And thus it's with great gratitude and honor that I commend the American Red Cross today on its 121st anniversary. On behalf of the citizens of the 5th Congressional District of Maryland, who were affected by this most re-

cent natural disaster, as well as the millions of Americans whose lives have been bettered by this wonderful organization, I wish it only the best in the years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN
NEUMANN CATHOLIC SCHOOL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor I take this opportunity to recognize St. John Neumann as an institute of education, dedicated to providing a firm foundation for its community's youth. Established in 1977 in Pueblo Colorado, St. John became the new beacon of light for all who sought to provide their children with the option of a private education. It is with highest praise that I recognize St. John's 25th year of operation.

Each day, 230 students convene to mature and study in an atmosphere which embraces every child's eagerness to learn. Instructors provide a one-on-one relationship with students, tailoring the instructor's dexterity to the child's ability. Additionally, St. John promotes parental involvement in their child's education, and seeks to provide an atmosphere comparable to that of a family gathering.

Marking St. John Neumann's 25th anniversary of operation, this year's graduating class will be prepared for the journey ahead, confidently supported by a firm education at an extraordinary school. Many senior administrators have watched St. John grow and develop into a distinguished, highly acclaimed establishment within its community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I applaud an institution which provides its community with the groundwork to build a better future. St. John Neumann strengthens the integrity and character of each of its students. I commend the hard work and diligence which the faculty, community, and students have contributed to place St. John Neumann Catholic School amongst the leaders in education today.

VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to the hundreds of thousands of men and women who have bravely served their country in the Armed Forces, protecting freedom for all Americans.

Veterans earn a great number of positive qualities through their service, including experience, maturity, leadership and loyalty, which make them valuable and competitive candidates for employment.

The residents of the State of California and I are committed to ensuring that our nation's Veterans are treated with the respect that they deserve, and to promoting employer interest in hiring those individuals who have selflessly given their time in service of their country.

In my home state, May 2002 is "Veterans Appreciation Month," and I would like to take

this opportunity to bring the benefits of hiring veterans to the attention of all American employers.

I thank our country's veterans for their sacrifices, applaud employers who hire these courageous men and women, and I yield back the balance of my time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 20, 2002 I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 171, 172, and 173. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 171 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Con. Res. 314; rollcall vote 172 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Con. Res. 165; and rollcall vote 173 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Con. Res. 309.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 171, 172, and 173.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my District on Tuesday, May 20, 2002, and I would like the record to indicate how I would have voted had I been present.

For rollcall vote No. 171, the resolution recognizing the members of AMVETS for their service to the Nation and supporting the goal of AMVETS National Charter Day, I would have voted "aye."

For rollcall vote No. 172, the resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that continual research and education into the cause and cure for fibroid cancer be addressed, I would have voted "aye."

For rollcall vote No. 173, the resolution Recognizing the Importance of Good Cervical Health and of Detecting Cervical Cancer During its Earliest Stages, I would have voted "aye."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRUITA
MONUMENT HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor I take this opportunity to pay tribute to Fruita Monument High School in Fruita, Colorado for their incredible acts of patriotism and loyalty. After the tragic events of September 11, 2001, Monument High honored the bravery of our American citizens by creating a beautiful, patriotic mosaic. Today I applaud the spirit and dedication of the students and faculty of Monument High, and I recognize the efforts and achievements of such artists.

Standing eight feet tall, by eight feet wide, and weighing 500 pounds, "United We Stand" encompasses the ideals of America's freedoms and liberties. The finished mosaic illustrates the talent and hard work supplied by each student and it serves as a marvelous addition to any art display. Near Ground Zero in New York City will be its final destination, and its new home will be in Desoto Elementary School. Earning its creators numerous awards, "United We Stand" has touched all who have the privilege of viewing its meaningful message.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Fruita Monument High School with sincerity because they have taken the time to honor the true heroes of our nation. Today, I recognize "United We Stand" as an inspiring work of art before this body of Congress and this nation. Additionally, I recognize its nine incredible artists as esteemed patriots to our nation. It is my hope that all may some day admire this mosaic and remember it as a memorial, created to honor those who gave their life for our country.

DRAGON BOAT RACING

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, this Memorial Day weekend Washington will see the traditional Taiwanese sport of dragon boat racing right here on the Potomac River, featuring eight magnificent Taiwan-built dragon boats. Each boat is fully equipped with dragonhead and tail, paddles, steering oar and drum, and holds a crew of 23. Some 40 teams, including those from the D.C. Police Department, Harbor Patrol Officers, and congressional staff members will compete in the race on Saturday, May 25, and on Sunday, May 26, 2002. Prior to the start of the race, there will be a traditional opening ceremony at 11 a.m., on Saturday, May 25, at Georgetown's Thompson Boat Center. The opening ceremony will be highlighted by the dotting of the dragon's eye. Mayor Anthony Williams, Chairwoman Linda Cropp of the D.C. City Council, Representative C.J. Chen of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office and other community leaders will dot the dragon's eye, a ceremony to ensure good luck and fortune.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to see the Dragon Boat Festival Committee has put together such a wonderful dragon boat-racing program

this Memorial Day weekend. Dragon boat races are held around the world, particularly in Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong, and many other Asian countries. The race demonstrates wonderful team spirit, pageantry, and fun for people young and old. Coincidentally, this event celebrates Taiwanese American Heritage Week in the month of May. Furthermore, this event also shows the friendship of Taiwanese Americans for the people not only of Washington, DC, but of the entire Metropolitan area. Their sincere desire to introduce Taiwanese culture to American society must be acknowledged and appreciated. It is my hope that this dragon boat race will attract many more tourists to the Washington, DC, area.

My congratulations to the Dragon Boat Festival Committee. This is a unique opportunity for all of us to celebrate the Dragon Boat Festival and to learn about the many distinguishing aspects of Taiwanese culture and heritage.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LYLE NICHOLS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Lyle Nichols of Clifton, Colorado. Lyle is an extraordinary individual who devotes countless hours to admiring and preserving life's beauties. Lyle is an exceptionally talented artist, and today I applaud the talents he adds to our community.

Lyle is an individual who collects assorted bird nests, and scrap debris he discovers. He is also an artist of many sculptures that are admirable in their magnificence. His collection is substantial in size and it grows continuously with every sculpture. These self-created masterpieces sit, kneel, and stand in and around his home, in particular a 14-ton statuette arching over his front lawn. Lyle is truly a talented individual, whose amazing talents have connected his passion for art to every individual who comes to admire his work.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my appreciation towards Lyle for allowing us the pleasure to admire his beautiful creations. It is with great honor I proudly recognize Lyle Nichols as an artist before this body of Congress and this nation. I commend Lyle's artistic abilities, and praise his contributions, which assist in enhancing his community's future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PETER COORS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 21, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the contributions and achievements of Peter H. Coors. As chairman of Coors Brewing Company and the President/CEO of Adolph Coors, he is a shining example of personal success and civic responsibility.

A native resident of Golden, Colorado, Peter, known as Pete, has continued to lead his family's brewery in a manner befitting its fine reputation. As the head of this company, Pete provides the leadership and vision needed to bring this family tradition into the twenty-first century. His positions on the boards of directors of companies like US Bancorp, Inc., H.J. Heinz Company, and the Energy Corporation of America are a reflection of the respect that Pete has earned from his colleagues. Pete is also a member of the International Chapter of the Young Presidents Organization. Pete is a true Coloradan in his business and in his nature: he can often be found outdoors appreciating the beauty and splendor of Colorado.

In addition to Pete's contributions to Colorado's economy, he has also given his time and energy to humanitarian causes as well. He is on the executive board of the Denver Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, a member of the National Western Stock Show Association executive committee, and a trustee for the Seeds of Hope Foundation. Pete, who has a MBA degree, knows the value of higher education and remains active as a trustee of the University of Northern Colorado and a member of Denver University Daniels School of Business' Advisory Board. Most importantly Pete is the husband of his wife Marilyn and is a father to his six children.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and privilege to bring to light the excellence of Pete Coors to this body of Congress and this nation. In every aspect of his life Pete has excelled to the highest level of achievement. He has no doubt touched many lives through his civic work and leadership in our country and will continue to do so in the future. On behalf of this nation, thank you Pete for all that you have done and good luck in your future endeavors.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 23, 2002 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 6

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1310, to provide for the sale of certain real property in the Newlands Project, Nevada, to the city of Fallon, Nevada; S. 2475, to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to clarify the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior with respect to the Central Utah Project, to redirect unexpended budget authority for the Central Utah Project for wastewater treatment and reuse and other purposes, to provide for prepayment of repayment contracts for municipal and industrial water delivery facilities, and to eliminate a deadline for such prepayment; S. 1385, to

authorize the Secretary of the Interior, pursuant to the provisions of the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to participate in the design, planning, and construction of the Lakehaven water reclamation project for the reclamation and reuse of water; S. 1824/H.R. 2828, to authorize payments to certain Lama Project water distribution entities for amounts assessed by the entities for operation and maintenance of the Project's irrigation works for 2001, to authorize funds to such entities of amounts collected by the Bureau of Reclamation for reserved works for 2001; S. 1883, to authorize the Bureau of Reclamation to participate in the rehabilitation of the Wallowa Lake Dam in Oregon; S. 1999, to reauthorize the Mni Wiconi Rural Water Supply Project; and H.R. 706, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain properties in the vicinity of the Elephant Butte Reservoir and the Caballo Reservoir, New Mexico.

SD-366