

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF PETER RINALDI AND
THE ENGINEERS OF THE PORT
AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND
NEW JERSEY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, there were many heroes on September 11th, and many more in the months that have followed. I rise today to pay tribute to the engineers of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, each of whom could tell you a different story about the difficult days and arduous work following September 11th. I would like to tell you a little about one Port Authority engineer, Peter Rinaldi, who joined his fellow New Yorkers in the tremendous rescue and recovery effort at Ground Zero. The following excerpt is from "American Ground: Unbuilding the World Trade Center," by William Langewiesche, published in the July/August 2002 edition of *Atlantic Monthly*.

At age fifty-two, Rinaldi was an inconspicuous olive-skinned man with graying hair and a moustache, who observed the world through oversized glasses and had a quirky way of suddenly raising his eyebrows, not in surprise but as a prompt or in suggestion. He had grown up in the Bronx as the son of a New York cop, had gone to college there, and had married a girl he had met in high school. Though he and his wife had moved to the suburbs of Westchester County to raise their three sons, he had never cut his connection to the city, or quite shed his native accent. For twenty-eight years he had commuted to the World Trade Center, to offices in the North Tower, where he worked for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, deep within its paternal embrace and completely secure in his existence. There was an early warning in the terrorist bombing of 1993, which caught him in an elevator. Nonetheless, he was wholly unprepared for the destruction that followed in 2001. During the days after the attack, when to New York City officials the Port Authority seemed to have disappeared, it was hunkered down across the river in its New Jersey offices, suffering through a collective emptiness so severe that people themselves felt hollowed out. Peter Rinaldi felt it too, though he was far away at the time of the attack, vacationing with his wife, Audrey, on the Outer Banks of North Carolina.

Back in New York . . . Rinaldi was assigned to New York City's recovery team . . . [and] given the job of supervising the consultants who had been brought in for the specialized belowground engineering. The underground, beneath the pile, was a wilderness of ruins, a short walk from the city but as far removed from life there as any place could be. It burned until January, and because it contained voids and weakened structures, it collapsed progressively until the spring. The job of mapping the chaos fell to a small team of about six engineers who did some of the riskiest work at the site, climbing through the crevices of a strange and unstable netherworld, calmly charting its con-

ditions, and returning without complaint after major collapses had occurred.

By mid-November only one important underground area remained to be explored—a place people called "the final frontier," located deep under the center of the ruins, at the foot of the former North Tower. It was the main chiller plant, one of the world's largest air-conditioning facilities—a two-acre chamber three stories high that contained seven interconnected refrigeration units, each the size of a locomotive and capable of holding up to 24,000 pounds of dangerous Freon gas.

With the huge quantities potentially involved here, a sudden leak would fill the voids underground and spread across the surface of the pile, suffocating perhaps hundreds of workers caught out on the rough terrain and unable to move fast. To make matters worse, if the Freon cloud came into contact with open flames, of which there were plenty here, it would turn into airborne forms of hydrochloric and hydrofluoric acids and also phosgene gas, related to the mustard gas used during World War I. Then it would go drifting. People accepted the danger. The standard advice, "Just run like hell," was delivered with a little shrug. Everyone knew that if the Freon came hunting for you at the center of the pile, you would succumb.

Of all the people setting out now for the chiller plant, twenty men redefined by these ruins, the one who would have the greatest influence on the unfolding story was an obscure engineer, a lifelong New Yorker named Peter Rinaldi.

For twenty-eight years the World Trade Center was a second home to Peter Rinaldi. After its destruction, he and his fellow Port Authority employees worked "seven days a week, often fifteen hours a day" to make sure that those involved in the recovery effort would be safe, and to restore needed services, such as subway and commuter train service, to those returning to live and work in lower Manhattan. His leadership in the days following September 11th took him, on that day in November, into the debris of the World Trade Center, where it was determined that the Freon had vented and the recovery work could continue in relative safety.

Today, nine months after that horrible day, as we celebrate the lives of those we have lost and commemorate their heroism and bravery, we thank those who have given so much of themselves to the recovery of our great city. I would like to extend my thanks to the employees of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, each of whom has come to embody the spirit of public service to the city they have served so admirably.

U.S.-RUSSIA RELATIONS

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, President Bush has returned from a successful summit in Moscow. As the Cold War ce-

des more and more into memory, our relations with Russia continue to improve, as they should. Russia has made a significant contribution to the struggle against terrorism since the attacks on the United States last September. While there remain serious differences in the area of human rights, foreign policy, and economics, we should welcome President Putin's "turn to the West" and encourage Russia to further integrate into an international community of mutual security, free trade, and democratic structures.

Nevertheless, over this summit banquet of warm words about the "new strategic relationship" looms a "Banquo's Ghost" of tragic and monumental proportions.

I refer to the war in Chechnya—the subject of a recent hearing of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which I co-chair—which continues to wreak havoc and death on combatants and non-combatants alike. The brutality of the so-called "anti-terrorist operation" of the Russian military has been amply documented by reputable Russian and international organizations. Bloody military "sweeps" of civilian areas, bestial "filtration camps" and "holding pits" have become hallmarks of what passes for Moscow's military strategy.

One month ago, the Helsinki Commission heard chilling testimony from Ms. Aset Chadaeva, a nurse from Chechnya who resided in a community near Grozny, Chechnya's capital. Ms. Chadaeva described an event in February 2000, when the Russian military carried out one of its most notorious "anti-terrorists" operations:

Young Chechen men living in Chechnya today have two choices: to wage war or to wait for Russian soldiers to arrest or kill them. All three of my brothers were illegally detained by Russian servicemen. One of my brothers—officially classified as disabled because of his poor eyesight—was severely beaten by Russian soldiers in my presence. When I asked the soldiers why they were arresting him, they told me: "He's a Chechen! That's reason enough!" I treated women who had been raped by Russian soldiers, and I've also seen the bodies of women who had been killed after being raped. During both wars, I buried many dead. Bodies were left lying in the streets. I, my brothers, and my neighbors collected them so they wouldn't be eaten by dogs.

In February 2001, the remains of over fifty persons were found in a mass grave in a village located less than a mile from the Russian military headquarters in Chechnya. Russian authorities attribute their deaths to Chechen partisans.

In 2000 and 2001, the UN Commission on Human Rights in Geneva condemned the widespread violence against civilians and alleged violations of human rights and humanitarian law by Russian forces. I would note that even Chechen officials who have sided with Moscow in the conflict with the secessionist movement have criticized the reign of terror created by the Russian military in Chechnya. Unfortunately, efforts to have a resolution passed this year at the Human

• 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.

Rights Commission failed with allies and friends casting the swing votes either in opposition to the resolution offered by the European Union or abstaining. The United States does not currently have a seat on the Commission and thus was not voting.

A Human Rights Watch report of February 2002 entitled "Swept Under: Torture, Forced Disappearances, and Extrajudicial Killings During Sweep Operations in Chechnya" describes the "sweeps" conducted by the Russian military in the summer of 2001:

Troops rounded up several thousand Chechens, mostly without any form of due process, and took them to temporary military bases in or near the villages. According to eyewitnesses, soldiers extrajudicially executed at least eleven detainees, and at least two detainees "disappeared" in detention. . . . Twelve former detainees [gave] detailed testimony of torture and ill-treatment, including electric shocks, severe beatings, and being forced to remain in "stress position." Eyewitnesses also gave testimony about widespread extortion, looting, and destruction of civilian property.

Eventually, Russia's top military officer admitted that the troops had committed "widespread crimes." International revulsion against the conduct of these "sweeps" was so great that in March of this year, the Russian military introduced "Order No. 80," according to which "sweeps" are to be conducted "only in the presence of procurators but also of the local authorities and the organs of internal affairs," and local authorities are to be provided with a list of detainees. However, reports by human rights groups indicate that even these minimal requirements are not being observed on the ground. In a rare admission, the military commander in Chechnya has acknowledged that innocent people have disappeared during the "sweeps."

In October 2000, Human Rights Watch issued "Welcome to Hell," a vivid and horrifying description of arbitrary detention, torture and extortion in Chechnya. As described in the report, groups of Chechen non-combatants, usually men of military age, are detained on suspicion of participation or collaboration with Chechen guerrillas, and subjected to brutal and humiliating interrogations. This is the description of the procedure followed at the infamous Chernokozovo prison:

Detainees at Chernokozovo were beaten both during interrogation and during nighttime sessions when guards utterly ran amok. During interrogation, detainees were forced to crawl on the ground and were beaten so severely that some sustained broken ribs and injuries to their kidneys, liver, testicles, and feet. Some were also tortured with electric shocks.

In many cases, a detainee was released only after relatives or a loved one paid a bribe to his captors. In other cases, the detainee simply disappeared. Chechnya is filled today with desperate souls seeking word of their missing loved ones who are presumed dead.

Even if the Russian Government manages to create a graveyard in Chechnya and call it peace, it will be a Pyrrhic victory, sowing the seeds of social disintegration in Russia. The prominent Russian journalist and military analyst Pavel Felgenhauer has written, "The complete impunity of the military leaders is leading to the moral decay of their subordinates." He concludes that "the war in Chechnya is serving to destroy both the armed forces and the [Russian] state."

Mr. Speaker, these comments should not be seen as an endorsement of Chechen separatism, and we must frankly admit that some Chechen partisans have been linked with international terrorist organizations who see Chechnya as a staging ground for "jihad" against Moscow. I am fully aware of the depredations visited upon the people of the North Caucasus by marauding kidnapers, hijackers and terrorists. According to press reports, some Chechen guerrillas have executed "traitors" who work for the pro-Moscow administration in Chechnya.

But this does not absolve the Government of Russia from having to live up to basic standards of conduct such as the Geneva Conventions and the Code of Conduct of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. "Anti-terrorist operations" and "territorial integrity" are not synonymous with waging total and barbaric war against one's own citizens.

How many more bodies will show up in mass graves? How many young Russian soldiers' bodies will be sent homes to grieving parents in Russia? How many more displaced persons will spend another winter in tents?

The Administration has called upon Chechnya's leadership to "immediately and unconditionally cut all contacts with international terrorist groups, while calling for "accountability for [human rights] violations on all sides," and a political solution to the conflict. I urge the Administration to continue to use every appropriate opportunity to condemn human rights violations in Chechnya, and impress upon Moscow the need for a just political solution. I trust that the return of the United States to the UN Human Rights Committee in Geneva will afford one more such opportunity.

The last leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, once called Afghanistan a "bleeding wound." Chechnya is now the "bleeding wound" for the Russian Federation. I say this as someone who wishes Russia and the people of Russia to prosper. The time for a cease-fire and serious negotiations is at hand.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF FALLEN HEROES

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, on Dec. 16, 1944, on a snowy battlefield known as "Hill 88" near the Belgian border with Germany, the Battle of the Bulge began. As the German army advanced, heavy casualties were sustained by the U.S. Army's 99th Division, Company C, forcing surviving G.I.'s to leave fallen comrades behind in shallow graves with only dog tags, sticks, and weapons to mark them. These soldiers were lost, but not forgotten, and after 57 years, six of the more than thirty soldiers designated as Missing in Action after the battle will be given the honor they deserve after sacrificing their lives for their country.

I want to recognize the extraordinary effort by veterans from the battle and a group of Belgian nationals, who worked together to find the remains of six MIA's. This search has spanned across several generations. In September of 1988, two young Belgians, Jean-

Louis Seel and Philippe Speder, were digging in the Ardennes Forest when they discovered the remains of Private First Class Alphonse Sito of Baltimore, Maryland. This prompted William Warnock to compile a list of the 33 missing soldiers, which was published in the 99th Division Association news letter by Dick Byers, a seminal member of the 99th Division. Based on mail and data they received, Byers and Warnock prepared a map pinpointing the location where they believed the remains of Second Lieutenant L.O. Holloway could be found. After a two-day search in November 1990, Seel and Speder were successful in recovering Holloway's remains. His remains were returned to Texas at the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in September 1991.

The Holloway case convinced Vernon Swanson of Deerfield, Illinois, that the remains of his "foxhole buddy," Jack Beckwith, could be found. Swanson enlisted the cooperation of a wartime cohort, Byron Witmarsh, and set about the task of recovering the remains of their fallen comrades. Hoping to find Beckwith's remains, Swanson and Witmarsh joined forces with Byers, Seel, Speder, and Warnock in 1991. The group pored over records in the National Archives, the National Personnel Records Center, and the U.S. Army History Institute. An old map of the grave sites was found in Beckwith's Army file, however, an aerial photograph discovered in the National Archives proved to be the critical piece of information. It showed "88 Hill" in December 1944, from which Bill Warnock identified a grouping of trees where the grave sites were. Warnock then transferred the locations of the graves to modern topographic maps and the Belgians were on the hunt again for the remains. In April 2001, Seel decided to search an area that, to his amazement, turned up a dog tag which marked the grave site of Private David A. Read. Seel returned with Speder and two other members of the Belgian search team, Marc Marique and Luc Menestrey. On April 17, the remains of Jack Beckwith, Saul Kokotovich, and David Read were found. Over the next two days the Belgian search team labored to exhume the remains. Each of the dead was found with a single dog tag around his neck, rotted clothing, and boots. David Roth of the U.S. Army Mortuary Affairs activity was contacted and took possession of the remains to complete the official identification process.

Vernon Swanson vowed to someday return to recover the remains of his friend, Private Jack Beckwith. Over the years he made many inquiries to fellow veterans of the battle, organized an international search team, and succeeded in finding lost soldiers in a forgotten corner of a vast woodland in Belgium. During the months of June and July the remains of all six comrades will find their final resting place in a cemetery of their families' choice. On June 8, 2002, burial ceremonies were held in Ada, Oklahoma for Private First Class Ewing Fidler. On Saturday, June 22, 2002 the remains of Private First Class Jack Beckwith, Private First Class Saul Kokotovich, and Sergeant Frederick Zimmerman will be laid to rest in the American Military Cemetery in Henri Chapelle, Belgium. Private First Class David Read will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery on July 18. Private First Class Stanley Larson will be returned to Rochelle, Illinois on July 22. I want to offer my thanks to the Department of Casualty and Mortuary Affairs and

the American Battle Monuments Commission for their efforts, without which none of this would have been possible. I also want to honor the search team of the U.S. Army's 99th Infantry Division and the Belgian "Diggers" for their dedication and hard work in honoring the memory of these brave soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the defense of the freedoms we enjoy. Above all, I want to thank Vernon Swanson for his determination not to leave his brothers-in-arms behind on the battlefield. His service and that of his comrades are the reason why we live in a free society today.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM F. GREEN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Mr. William F. Green for his commitment to health care.

Mr. William F. Green has spent almost 35 years of creating, implementing and enhancing medical programs and services for the underserved. After a distinguished tour of duty in the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Green pursued an undergraduate degree in sociology. Recognizing the need to strengthen and integrate health care and business systems, he later obtained Masters Degrees in both business and social work.

He has also held many Executive Health Care Administrator positions in various hospitals including St. Mary's Hospital, St. John's Hospital, and the Interfaith Medical Center. He was named Vice-President of Ambulatory Services at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center and later took the position of Vice-President of External Affairs and Government Relations.

Mr. Green is a member of many professional associations such as the American College of Hospital Administrators, National Association of Black Health Executives, and the Royal College of Health Administrators.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. William F. Green is devoted to improving community health and advancing the health profession. I hope that all my colleagues will join me in honoring this remarkable person.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID MARCH

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a resolution to honor the remarkable life of David March, a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff killed in the line of duty.

On May 1, 2002, during a seemingly routine traffic stop, Deputy March, a 33-year-old husband and stepfather was shot and killed.

Deputy March's life is that of a true American Hero. Even as a high school football and baseball star, his life long dream was to serve his fellow man through a career in law enforcement.

During his seven years of service, Deputy March garnered the admiration and respect of his superiors and subordinates.

A week before he was shot, Deputy March wrote these words to a friend in the Department.

I feel I give a full days work when I'm here. My contacts with the public are positive. Most of all, I have learned to enjoy what I am doing. My goals are simple. I will always be painfully honest, work as hard as I can, learn as much as I can and hopefully make a difference in people's lives.

May the tragedy of David March's death never overshadow the glory of his life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, because of duties I was required to perform, pursuant to State statute, as Democratic county chairman in my district, I was unable to be present for votes after 1:30 p.m. on June 12, 2002.

On rollcall No. 223, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall No. 224, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall No. 225, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

REFUGEES FIRST

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I recently read an op-ed in the Israeli paper, Ha'aretz, entitled Refugees First written by Dr. Avi Becker, the Secretary-General of the World Jewish Congress. In the article, Dr. Becker discusses the role of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, UNRWA, for Palestinian refugees. The article brings to light how these refugee camps are coming under control of the Palestinian Liberation Organization and being converted to "military bastions", a strict violation of U.N. policy. The Palestinian refugees of the UNRWA refugee camps are suffering and have not been offered a rehabilitation program to rebuild their communities outside these camps. The United Nations and the international community must reform their current policies on these camps and formulate a new humanitarian vision that will benefit the Palestinians within these camps and elsewhere. I strongly recommend that my colleagues read the following article.

REFUGEES FIRST

It is revealing that only after the Arab/UN abortive attempt to send a fact-finding committee to Jenin, questions have been raised in the international media about the role of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA). Several articles in the American media have asked bluntly: "What exactly is the UN doing in its refugee camps (with our money)?" The United States today finances more than one-fourth of UNRWA's operations, about \$90 million, annually. Some Arab oil countries give together less than \$5 million annually, while Iraq and Libya pledge nothing.

Since the current mandate of UNRWA runs through June 30, 2002, it is essential to re-

view and reassess the role of this UN agency. UNRWA, according to its self-proclaimed mission described in its Web site, does not aim to solve the problem of the refugees. While all of the world's refugees are dealt with by the UN High Commissioner of Refugees (UNHCR) who is charged with working for their ultimate rehabilitation, UNRWA, which had existed for more than 50 years, was never meant to actually solve the problem of the Palestinian refugees but rather to perpetuate it.

Under the auspices of UNRWA, some major principles of international law are violated. In 1998, the UN Security Council affirmed the "unacceptability of using refugee camps and other persons in refugee camps . . . to achieve military purposes," a commitment which was immediately confirmed by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in a 1998 report to the Security Council, in which he urged that "[r]efugee camps . . . be kept free of any military presence or equipment, . . . and that the neutrality of the camps . . . [be] scrupulously maintained." It is therefore important to apply the same principles in the case of the UNRWA camps.

In 1976, the Lebanese ambassador to the UN Edward Ghorra warned the international community of the fact that UNRWA camps in Lebanon had been taken over by terrorist organizations. In his letter to the then UN secretary-general, Kurt Waldheim, the ambassador said that "the Palestinians acted as if they were a state within the State of Lebanon They transformed most, if not all, of the refugee camps into military bastions . . . in the heart of our commercial and industrial centers, and in the vicinity of large civilian conglomerations." (The letter was published as an official UN document.)

In reality, UNRWA camps, with 17,000 employees, had come under PLO control, and under the UN flag they were functioning, for all intents and purposes, as military camps. In October of 1982, UNRWA released a most comprehensive report, which related in great detail that its educational institute at Sibleen, near Beirut, was in reality a military training base for PLO fighters, with extensive military installations and arms warehouses.

The forthcoming renewal of UNRWA's mandate must be used to put pressure on the UN agency to begin a reform plan which will prepare the ground for its future integration with the UN High Commission on Refugees. Thus, in preparation for the decision on the mandate renewal, UNRWA must be asked to develop reliable and viable policies on two fronts: to enforce the ban, required under both international law and UN policy, against using their camps for military and terrorist purposes, and to draft a rehabilitation program which will build new neighborhoods for refugees outside the camps, wherever they are located.

The tragedy of the Palestinians cannot be addressed by existing UN policies and practices. Any comprehensive peace plan dealing with Israeli withdrawal and new borders with a Palestinian state must include as a major component a thorough political and humanitarian solution for the Palestinian refugees. While the borders and security arrangements are obviously issues that need to be concluded, the refugees' situation must be addressed first, and a realistic practical solution must be developed which is based on dealing with the real conditions of their daily lives. The issue of the Palestinian "right of return" cannot be left in limbo, looming over every peace initiative, including the most recent Saudi one, which did not address the refugee issue clearly.

Polls taken in Israel in recent days show that a significant majority of the Israeli public is prepared to accept the establishment of a Palestinian state, the dismantling

of settlements and the making of far-reaching compromises for a sincere peace. As stated by President Bill Clinton on July 28, 2000, the refugee problem in the Middle East is two-sided, and includes the Jews from Arab lands "who came to Israel because they were made refugees in their own land." The Jewish post-1948 refugees, whose number was about the same as that of the Palestinian refugees from the same period, were resettled and rehabilitated in their new home—Israel. The Palestinians of the UNRWA refugee camps have not been offered any form of rehabilitation anywhere, and this is precisely the reason that the camps have become the incubators for so many suicide bombers. Thus, a peaceful resolution of the conflict continues to be stymied by the violent consequences of a decades-old policy of deliberately neglecting the Palestinian refugee problem and of deferring its resolution until some far-off future date. Today, for the sake of peace, the UN and the international community must reverse their long-standing and destructive Palestinian refugee policies and offer a dramatic and new humanitarian vision to the Palestinian refugees in the UNRWA camps and elsewhere.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JAMES W.
DELONY OF THE UNITED STATES
ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today and honor Colonel James W. DeLony of the United States Army Corps of Engineers. On June 13, 2002, Colonel DeLony retired after serving the people of this great nation for over twenty-eight years.

James DeLony was a decorated officer, who spent his career ensuring that the freedoms the United States holds dear are protected. Throughout his illustrious career, Colonel DeLony was honored with the Legion of Merit Award, Bronze Star Medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Saudi Arabia/Kuwait Liberation Medal, two Humanitarian Service Awards, Senior Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Ranger Tab.

As Commander of the Wilmington District United States Army Corps of Engineers, Colonel DeLony continued to serve the people by managing many civil works projects in southeastern North Carolina. Without the dedication and determination of Colonel DeLony, many of these projects would not have been possible. From the Wilmington Port to the Brunswick, New Hanover, and Pender County beaches, his commitment has been unwavering and steadfast.

We owe Colonel James W. DeLony our sincere appreciation for his twenty-eight years of committed service to our nation. His devotion to the people of the United States should serve as an example to us all.

May God bless him and his family, and may God bless this great nation.

PERMANENT DEATH TAX REPEAL
ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, all across this country moms and dads are striving to provide a bright future for their children. Parents who own small businesses or family farms put years of sweat and blood into making them prosper so they will have something to leave behind for their children. Here in America, dreams really do come true as individuals work hard to achieve great success. But here in America, we are also cursed by an offensive tax penalty that often forces families to lose these small businesses and family farms.

Last year when President Bush signed the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 into law, Americans were pleased to know that this curse, commonly called the death tax, would finally be terminated by 2010. What many did not realize is that this tax is scheduled to come back from the dead to haunt us January 1, 2011.

If a farmer or small business owner dies on December 31, 2010, no death tax will be charged. But if that person dies just one day later, the government will once again be there to offer its condolences by charging up to a 60 percent tax on the value of the farm or business. Instead of the final wishes of the deceased family member being honored with respect, the government just wants more money to waste in Washington.

After 2010, Americans who pay taxes their entire life will be taxed one final time when they die. No taxpaying citizen deserves to have the fruit of their labor taxed twice.

Just two months ago the House passed a bill that would make last year's tax cut permanent. Unfortunately, some politicians don't want to see this money leave Washington and have made every effort possible to obstruct doing away with this tax. That is why we are once again discussing this matter.

Any vote in opposition to permanently eliminating the death tax is a vote in favor of higher taxes for millions of Americans. Whether we make last year's tax cuts permanent with one vote or a dozen votes, I will continue fighting against raising taxes for my constituents in Kansas. I urge my friends and colleagues to join me today in voting to permanently kill this disgraceful tax burden imposed on families during their time of grief.

The death tax issue is not about how many rich or poor people have to pay a certain tax. It is about the inherent impropriety of taxing death. Whether a person is rich, middle-class, or poor, it is wrong to tax the dead.

I was proud to cosponsor the Permanent Death Tax Repeal Act of 2001 last year, and I look forward to its passage today. When I talk to Kansas farmers, agriculture producers, business owners and others who have invested wisely, I consistently get the same message: don't tax us when we die.

The American people are tired of Washington taxing and spending their money, and one of the most egregious actions this Congress can do is allow the death tax to come back to haunt us again.

Mr. Speaker, let's bury the death tax for good.

CEDAR CREEK BATTLEFIELD AND
BELLE GROVE PLANTATION
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, after more than 11 years of study, effort, and public comment, I am proud to announce that today Senator JOHN WARNER and Congressman BOB GOODLATTE and I are introducing legislation to create the Cedar Creek Battlefield and Belle Grove Plantation National Historical Park. The concept for the establishment of a new national park in the Shenandoah Valley was one of the key recommendations within the Management Plan for the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District.

This legislation is the result of work from a broad range of interest groups including the National Park Service, local partner organizations, locally elected officials, local landowners and others. I want to recognize their efforts to produce this legislation. I believe the strength of this legislation lies with this widespread public interest.

Legislation for the new park is an outgrowth of a bill sponsored by Senator WARNER and the late Congressman French Slaughter in 1988 and the law passed in 1996 which established the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District sponsored by Senator WARNER and myself. The local citizen-based commission established for the Battlefields District recommended that Cedar Creek Battlefield be established as a new national park. The accompanying Park Service study found in fact only Cedar Creek met the criteria to be designated a national park.

Originally conceived as purely a battlefield park, the local stakeholders expanded the vision to include a broader scope of history. The new park will preserve and interpret the rich story of Shenandoah Valley history from early settlement through the Civil War and beyond and protect the historic landscape which features panoramic views of the mountains, natural areas, and waterways in the northern Shenandoah Valley.

Importantly too, the other nine Civil War battlefield sites within the Shenandoah Valley will benefit from the national park designation in the valley and increase in tourism at the new park, but each will continue to be protected and managed locally.

The proposed park boundary includes approximately 3,000 acres at the intersection of Frederick, Shenandoah and Warren counties and is based on the 1969 boundary established for the Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historic Landmark. Today, of the 3,000 acres, Shenandoah County and three private preservation groups, including Belle Grove Plantation, collectively protect nearly 900 acres within the park boundary.

For years it has been the burden of local organizations to protect, honor, and interpret these nationally significant lands. Given increased development pressure, federal involvement is needed to help support the local efforts, to preserve historic lands for future generations, and to ensure continued high quality interpretation of the area.

This park is a model for a new type of national park for the future. A key provision allows all landowners to continue their right to

sell their land whenever and to whomever they choose. The keys to this model are:

A national park based on partnerships and local community involvement.

A park where private organizations, families, and individuals will continue to live, work, and play within the boundary.

A park that shares with visitors the full range of its cultural and natural history.

A park created by the local community for the benefit of this and future generations.

The park also will work with the community as land use and zoning decisions will continue to be administered by local authorities at the county or municipal levels.

There are several landowners who will become key partners to the park by operating independent anchor sites within the 3,000-acre park boundary that serve to collectively benefit the visiting public. For example, the Cedar Creek Battlefield Foundation will continue to host the annual Battle of Cedar Creek Reenactment Weekend and other events and the Belle Grove Plantation will continue to be open to the public as a private museum holding living history, education, and charity events within the new park. In addition, Shenandoah County has plans to develop a light recreation county park with hiking trails and scenic overlooks on nearly 150 acres along the North Fork of the Shenandoah River within the national park boundary.

Local involvement has played a key role in the crafting of the park legislation. The adjacent towns of Middletown and Strasburg enthusiastically endorsed the creation of the new national park. Private landowners within the proposed boundary shared thoughts and ideas on ways to ensure private property rights and quality of life and these important themes have been included within the legislation. The concept is for this to be a local park first and foremost—park that is part of and benefits the local Shenandoah Valley community.

HONORING THE METROPOLITAN CHORUS

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of The Metropolitan Chorus (TMC), a community symphonic chorus located in Arlington, Virginia. This season marks the 35th anniversary of the organization's founding.

As the only community symphonic chorus based in Arlington County, TMC remains a visible force in Virginia's 8th Congressional District and plays a leading role in the cultural life of the region. This 90-member chorus offers residents the opportunity to perform a wide range of music, with pieces spanning the Renaissance period through the 21st century.

In the wake of the tragic events of September 11th, the TMC provided assistance to grieving citizens by organizing and conducting the Chorus and the Arlington Symphony Orchestra in Arlington's Day of Remembrance and Appreciation. Featuring many local and state dignitaries, the tribute honored the victims and emergency rescue personnel of the Pentagon attack. This rousing event lifted the spirits of all who were in attendance.

Under 26 years of outstanding direction by Artistic Director Barry Hemphill, the TMC has performed in a colorful array of venues from the Kennedy Center to Constitution Hall and in various locations throughout the world. A number of these shows were performed for free and given at special early times specifically for the elderly. Through actions such as these, TMC has proven its dedication to the development and promotion of the performing arts in Northern Virginia.

I applaud TMC's many contributions and wish them all the best at their season ending performance on June 24, 2002 at Lubber Run Amphitheater in Arlington Virginia capping off a highly successful 35th Anniversary season.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. WINSTON PRICE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Dr. Winston Price for his commitment to helping others.

After completing his training at Cornell Medical College and New York Hospital, Dr. Price began practicing pediatrics in Brooklyn in 1978. He also served as a Medical Director for Aetna US Healthcare and for the Pediatric Ambulatory Department at SUNY Health Science Center in Brooklyn. Dr. Price is currently an Assistant Professor of Clinical Pediatrics at the SUNY Health Science Center in Brooklyn as well as the Chief Medical Consultant for V CAST II International, a medical information systems and technology company. He has also been a medical advisor and lecturer with the Cornell Cooperative Extension and New York Department of Social Services.

Dr. Price sits on many committees including the Board of Trustees of the National Medical Association and he chairs the Informatics Subcommittee. He serves on a committee of the American Academy of Pediatrics as well as a committee of the National Committee for Quality Assurance. Dr. Winston Price was also appointed to the Administrative Review Board of the New York State Department of Health and served on that 5-member appellate board.

Dr. Price has also taken a special interest in serving the needs of abused women and children. He has remained an active advisor to the parenting program of Brooklyn and serves on the Board of the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect in New York State. He also serves on the Committee on Proactive and Ambulatory Medicine (COPAM) of the American Academy of Pediatrics as well as the PPAC Committee of the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA). He co-authored the American Medical Association Guide on the Treatment and Prevention of Sexual Assault.

Even with all of these commitments, Dr. Price is an active member of several other organizations including the Office of Professional Medical Conduct and the Medical Society of the State of New York.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Winston Price is dedicated to improving health care in the community. I hope that all my colleagues will join me in honoring this remarkable person.

TRIBUTE TO MS. JOANNE CARTER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and express my high regard of Ms. Joanne Carter, the Legislative Director of RESULTS.

Since 1992, Joanne Carter has been the Legislative Director of RESULTS, an international grassroots citizen's lobby whose purpose is to create the political will to end hunger and the worst aspects of poverty, and to empower individuals as advocates with their governments, the media and in their communities.

RESULTS has active chapters in over 100 U.S. cities and in the UK, Canada, Japan, Australia and Germany. RESULTS works on a range of international and domestic issues—including expanding basic health programs to combat TB, AIDS and other major infectious killers, access to microcredit loans to allow very poor women to start their own businesses, reform of World Bank, health policy, and expanded access to Head Start preschool programs and quality early child care in the U.S.

Prior to joining RESULTS' staff in 1992, Joanne Carter coordinated RESULTS grassroots activity for New York and the northeast region of the U.S., and was a practicing veterinarian. She holds a DVM (Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) degree from Cornell University and has done graduate research in reproductive physiology. She has served as a VISTA volunteer and as a recruiter for the Peace Corps.

As many know, I have worked diligently on the global AIDS, TB and malaria crisis. As I have worked with my colleagues in the Congress and with health experts, people living with AIDS, TB or malaria, and the activist community, Joanne has been a key figure in helping me get people organized and sounding the clarion call. She understands so well the moral obligation and responsibility of wealthy governments and all of us, as individuals, to do all that we can to make a difference in stopping these horrific diseases.

Tonight it gives me great pleasure to honor Joanne. Please know that I stand with you in this fight and look forward to our continued work on these important priorities.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Girl Scouts who are celebrating their 90th anniversary this year. Just this past weekend thousands of Girl Scouts converged upon the National Mall to celebrate this anniversary and to pay respect to the values and ideas that the Girl Scouts has infused within them.

Today there are 2.7 million Girl Scouts across the United States. Through the Girl Scouts these young women are provided the opportunity to serve others while at the same

time discovering their own full potential. This organization infuses young women with core values and sound decisionmaking.

The Girl Scouts is also an educational experience for young women. They engage in activities that teach them about technology, science, money management, as well as health and fitness. All of this is accomplished while these young women build friendships and bonds that will last a lifetime.

The results are there as well. Over two-thirds of Girl Scout alumni are doctors, lawyers, educators and community leaders. They are out in our communities making a difference and using the values they learned from their days as Girl Scouts to positively influence our world.

I doubt that Juliette Gordon Low had any idea how successful the Girl Scouts would be when she held that first meeting in her living room back in 1912. Mrs. Low formed the organization in an attempt to provide young women with the opportunity to develop physically, mentally and spiritually. All one has to do is to look back over the Girls Scouts' long and illustrious history to see how successful Mrs. Low has been.

COMMENDING RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY ON RECEIVING FREEDOM OF SPEECH MEDAL

TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, although freedom and democracy are integral elements in the political systems of many countries, basic freedoms are still denied in many others and are not fully institutionalized in still others. Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty targets these areas, including Eastern Europe, the Middle East, Central Asia, Russia, and other former communist states, in order to promote free speech and political dialogue.

For more than fifty years, the organization has tirelessly supported free-thinking, freedom of expression, and democracy. Recently, the broadcasts have even been expanded to include and specifically target areas with large Muslim populations. In recognition of this history of work, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute awarded the "Freedom of Speech Medal" to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty on June 8.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty on receiving this award and recognize its outstanding work in promoting freedom. I earnestly commend the following acceptance speech given by my dear friend Thomas A. Dine, the President of RFE/RL, Inc., and request that the speech be placed in the RECORD.

ACCEPTING THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH MEDAL, ROOSEVELT STUDY CENTER MIDDELBURG, THE NETHERLANDS

Thank you for this wonderful, deeply meaningful award. It is a great, great honor to receive the Roosevelt Foundation's 2002 Freedom of Speech medal. No name better animates and exemplifies the work of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty and its daily commitment to freedom and democracy than Roosevelt.

As President of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, I accept this award not only on be-

half of the organization as it exists today, but also on behalf of its achievements during the Cold War and its importance as a fighting force in promoting freedom and democracy in the future, applying the highest journalistic standards of accuracy, balance, and objectivity.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty has been battling for the cause of free speech and expression for over 50 years.

My colleagues and I will continue to fight as long as this most fundamental of freedoms is being controlled or suppressed in the countries to which we actively communicate via radio, Internet, and television.

Heading an entity called "Radio Free Europe," I am often asked, "But isn't Europe free?" It is true that the collapse of communism and of the Soviet Union has brought freedom to many parts of Europe that had been deprived of it for too long. However, suppression of speech, press, and assembly, sadly remains very much the rule on the European continent.

In Russia, for example, the Kremlin seems increasingly determined to control as much of the media as possible. Most recently, the government has coercively placed under its control several prominent independent media outlets, from television to radio to print, cloaking these power grabs as business transactions. More ominously, over the course of the last two years in Russia, 36 journalists have been killed or have disappeared. And last week Russia's Minister of the Press Lesin, in response to our daily news broadcasts in the Chechen language, warned us to stop interfering in Russia's domestic affairs.

The President of Ukraine is no friend of the first freedom. He is a likely suspect in the death of at least two reporters who dared criticize his administration for corruption and criminality. He is certainly responsible for a culture of fear that pervades the Ukrainian media environment.

The nation of Belarus is now under the thumb of the dictator Alexander Lukashenka, a man who openly expresses admiration for Stalin. Lukashenka ceaselessly harasses the press; deaths and disappearances of journalists have taken place in Belarus as well.

And a final contemporary example of the dismal condition of freedom of expression inside today's Europe exists in the Balkans, where Serbia, Croatia, Macedonia, and Bosnia are still not out from under the intimidation and controlling state grip of the Milosevic era.

In response to the specific challenges we face in this young century, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty has expanded the scope of its broadcasting across Europe and Asia. These broadcasts address the most difficult, but perhaps the most thrilling, battle yet for free speech: in areas populated by Muslims in Southeast Europe, Russia, the northern and southern Caucasus, Central Asia and Southwest Asia.

The terrorist attacks of September 11th highlighted for all of us the importance of the Muslim world in today's geopolitical landscape. Accordingly, a majority of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's current 33 languages are targeted to peoples that practice the Islamic religion.

Our broadcasts now include Albanian and Bosnian to the former Yugoslavia; Tatar and Bashkir to Russia's Volga River region; Crimean Tatar to Ukraine; Avar, Chechen, and Circassian to Russia's North Caucasus; Azeri to Azerbaijan and Northern Iran; the languages of Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Turkmen, Tajik, and Uzbek to Central Asia; Farsi throughout Iran; Arabic to Iraq; and now Dari and Pashtu to Afghanistan.

I am particularly proud of the latter two, Dari and Pashtu, in which we are now broad-

casting 10 1/2 hours a day to Afghanistan in response to that crisis. Next week, we will broadcast the Loya Jirga's deliberations live! Just as importantly, we have also established a program to train Afghan journalists in Kabul and Prague to help ensure that the new Afghanistan will be graced with a robust free press practicing the highest of professional standards.

In closing, it is a particular honor, both for me personally and for the organization I represent, to receive this award from an organization bearing the Roosevelt name. As President, Franklin Roosevelt instilled human rights in our collective consciousness and injected human rights into the center of our foreign policies.

So did Eleanor Roosevelt through her tireless work helping to create the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is no coincidence that a 1950's photograph of the former First Lady of the United States sitting in front of a Radio Liberty microphone adorns my office wall in Prague.

And it is Article 19 of the Universal Declaration that is the motto of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, indeed all of United States international broadcasting.

It is a simple, but compelling and timeless pronouncement—"Everyone has the right . . . to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

This motto appears on our stationery, in all of our literature, on prominently placed hall plaques. It symbolizes everything we strive to achieve.

The more than 2,000 worldwide staffers of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty are eternally grateful for receiving one of this year's Four Freedom awards. I promise this Foundation and this distinguished audience that we shall energetically continue our mission of promoting freedom and democracy today—in order to expand freedom and democracy tomorrow.

Thank you very much.

THOMAS A. DINE,
President, RFE/RL, Inc.

RECOGNITION OF CHIEF DEPUTY DANNY CHANDLER

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to bring to the attention of my colleagues a True Texas Hero, Chief Deputy Danny Chandler.

On behalf of the people of the Third District of Texas, I want to congratulate him on his promotion to be the first-ever Director of the Office of Security and Emergency Management in Dallas.

America is a whole different country since September 11. This is a different kind of war with a different kind of enemy. That is why Dallas has taken the lead to win the war for freedom, both at home and abroad. I know he will do a fine job heading that effort.

The Commissioners Court of Dallas County could not have picked a better leader. Starting as a Deputy Sheriff in 1973, Chief Chandler dedicated 29 years of his life to the Dallas County Sheriff's Department.

A highly decorated officer, he has put the lives and safety of others before his own. It's no wonder that Dallas Morning News named him a "Special Angel."

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege today to recognize the courage and service of Chief Chandler. His selfless sacrifice, hard work and dedication to his community are an example to us all. The people of Dallas and the surrounding communities are blessed to have his leadership and commitment to our neighborhoods.

Chief, you have my admiration and support as you protect our Great State in the fight for freedom.

God bless you and God bless America.

THE MILITARY RETIREE
DISLOCATION ASSISTANCE ACT

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a common sense piece of legislation to help our military retirees. As my colleagues know, service members and their families will move many times in a typical military career. These permanent changes of station or PCS often involve considerable additional expense, including the loss of rental deposits, connecting and disconnecting utilities, and wear and tear on household goods.

To help defray these additional costs, Congress in 1955 adopted the payment of a special allowance—a dislocation allowance. This was done to recognize that duty station changes and resultant household relocations are due to the personnel management decisions of the armed forces and not the individual service members. This amount was increased in 1986 and again in recent years. This is an important benefit for our military members.

However, as important as this benefit is, there is a category of service members who are not eligible to receive the dislocation allowance—the military retiree. This is despite the fact a vast number are subject to the same expenses as their active duty counterpart. In August 2000, the Marine Corps Sergeant Major Symposium recommended the payment of dislocation allowances to retiring members, who in the opinion of the Sergeants Major, bear the same financial consequences on relocating as those still on active service.

Military retirees must often seek employment not knowing what opportunities exist in the civilian world, where those opportunities are located, what the pay will be, or what possibilities are available for spousal employment. Retirees are sometimes faced with the prospective employers who offer less wages knowing they are in receipt of retirement pay, and falsely believing that retirees don't need the same salary as civilians for the same position. Additionally, the military retiree will have to meet the same financial demands for mortgages, insurance, taxes, and food on a smaller income.

For those reasons, I am introducing the Military Retiree Dislocation Assistance Act. This legislation would help ease the transition into retirement by amending 37 USC § 407 to authorize the payment of a dislocation allowance to all members of the armed forces retiring or transferring to an inactive duty status such as the Fleet Reserve or Fleet Marine Reserve. The vast majority of these retirees have given our Nation over 20 years of dedicated service.

They have helped protect the very freedoms we all hold dear. Rather than simply pushing them out the door upon retirement, we should reward their service by providing modest assistance for their final change of station move. That is exactly what Military Retiree Dislocation Assistance Act does.

A TRIBUTE TO FLORUS WILLIAMS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Florus Williams who passed away in April. Mr. Williams, a highly decorated community member for many years, is survived by his wife of 63 years, Frances, four children, 20 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren.

Mr. Williams was born in Fresno, CA, on January 2, 1916, but he lived in Pacific Grove, in my district, for 79 years. He served on the Pacific Grove City Council from 1971 to 1986 and served as mayor of Pacific Grove from 1976 to 1986. Mr. Williams also served as foreman of the Monterey County Grand Jury from 1987 to 1988 and was a member of Masonic Lodge 331 in Pacific Grove. He was also a recipient of the Masons's Hiram Award for his excellent service to the community.

Mr. Williams was known for his firm convictions. He truly believed in his work, and worked to improve the quality of life on the Central Coast. His admirable career of public service was dedicated to the citizens of Pacific Grove, and his contributions have made a significant impact. I, along with the Central Coast community, would like to honor the life of Mr. Florus Williams, whose dedication and contributions will be greatly missed.

REMEMBERING WORLD WAR II
HERO GINO MERLI, MEDAL OF
HONOR WINNER

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great American, Gino J. Merli of Peckville, PA. Mr. Merli passed away Tuesday at the age of 78, and with his passing, we have lost a true American hero.

I would like to insert here the two articles which appeared in the Scranton Times and Tribune on Wednesday about Mr. Merli, who exemplified the best of America's "Greatest Generation."

WWII HERO GINO MERLI DIES

(By David Falchek)

Gino Merli didn't embrace fame or his role of war hero.

Yet he accepted them as he lived his life, with a sense of duty.

So the man who rarely talked about the event that earned him the Medal of Honor responded to every letter praising him for his heroic deeds.

Mr. Merli died Tuesday at his Peckville home. He was 78.

On the night of Sept. 4, 1944, Army Pvt. Merli was manning a machine gun when German forces attacked near Sars la Bruyere, Belgium. The outnumbered U.S. forces began their retreat, but Pvt. Merli held his position, providing cover fire. Under attack with his fellow soldiers dying around him, he played possum.

When the Germans turned their attention to the retreating men, Pvt. Merli rose from the ground and fired, repeating the ploy again and again.

When he returned from World War II, his duty became serving other veterans. For 34 years, he was an adjudication officer at the VA Medical Center in Plains Township.

When veterans, unaware of Mr. Merli's record, talked about their war experiences, he never mentioned his own.

"He never put himself or his experiences against anyone else's," explained friend and Marine veteran Ike Refice. "You never saw him point to himself or say 'Look at me. I have this medal.'"

Not much changed in the time since he received a hero's welcome in Scranton in 1945 or walked the beaches of Normandy with Tom Brokaw in 1984.

In 1945, he told a cheering crowd of 500 people at the Hotel Casey that he'd "rather be on the battlefield any day than make a speech."

Yet, in a letter he sent to admirers, he wrote that he may have been motivated by "my dead buddies or my hatred of war."

NBC News anchor and author Tom Brokaw remembers Mr. Merli always talking of other soldiers, rather than himself.

"He was a reluctant warrior, full of modesty and humility," Mr. Brokaw said. "The fact that he went to a church and prayed for men he had killed through the night was typical of him."

Mr. Merli was an inspiration for Mr. Brokaw's book "The Greatest Generation." The two met often. When Mr. Brokaw began writing his book about ordinary people doing extraordinary things, he said he was thinking about Gino Merli.

"I came to love him," Mr. Brokaw said.

Mr. Merli helped change how local people defined "American."

During World War II, Italy's alignment with Axis countries stoked anti-Italian and antiimmigrant sentiments. Italian Americans often found their patriotism questioned.

Gino Merli's heroics helped many in Lackawanna County see beyond ethnicity, said his son, Gino Merli Jr.

"When people saw my father come home and heard what he did, it changed their perception about what it means to be American," he said. "People saw the first- and second-generation immigrants sacrificing life and limb for the United States and for freedom."

In 1994, Mr. Refice and Mr. Merli visited Europe to retrace their steps through Europe. Oddly, the rural area where Mr. Merli held back Nazi troops was unchanged.

They met a Belgian man who, at the age of 16, watched Mr. Merli confound the Nazis again and again. During their visit, the town put a monument in the village common thanking Mr. Merli.

In his final days, he still shied away from speeches. But he did like to stand before a crowd for one purpose, Mr. Refice said. He enjoyed leading a crowd in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Lately, Parkinson's disease and a heart ailment held him back.

As a final encore last Saturday, the History Channel showed Roger Mudd's special on the Big Red One, the first infantry division, which featured Mr. Merli.

In letters he sent to admirers, Mr. Merli wrote:

"Not everyone can be a Medal of Honor recipient. But everyone can take pride in himself—have pride in his heritage. We must always keep trying to better ourselves and our surrounding and we must never quit. Always remember America is you and me."

MERLI HELD POSITION SO HIS UNIT COULD
ESCAPE

(By David Falchek)

At age of 18, Gino Merli was barely an adult and hadn't even graduated from high school.

Yet he became a hero.

Before he faced his greatest challenge as a gunner with the 1st Infantry Division, he had survived landing on Normandy and two subsequent battle injuries.

Pvt. Merli was a machine gunner near Sars la Bruyere, Belgium, on the night of Sept. 4, 1944, when German forces attacked.

As the outnumbered and outgunned GIs started retreating, Pvt. Merli held his position to provide cover fire as a tightening circle of German troops closed in on him. Tracer bullets and grenades blew up before him. His assistant gunner was killed, the cooling system of his gun was destroyed and death appeared certain. He slumped next to his dead colleagues, feigning mortal injury. German soldiers poked the bodies and turned them over with bayonets. Pvt. Merli didn't budge.

When the Germans advanced to pursue U.S. troops, Pvt. Merli sprang up, shooting in all directions. As new waves of Germans approached, he repeated the shot/play dead sequence.

In a speech in Scranton in 1945, Sgt. Milton V. Kokoszka recalled that horrible night.

"I saw (Pvt. Merli) had not been taken prisoner and after we moved some distance I would hear our machine gun open fire again," he said. "I saw different enemy groups move into the emplacement and each time the gun would stop, and then start firing again as soon as they left. He had pretended to be dead."

During the night, he watched a silhouette of a German soldier in the moonlight. The German knew his routine, Pvt. Merli thought, and was waiting for him to move. Although technically the enemy, Pvt. Merli felt a connection to the soldier he referred to as "that German boy" for the rest of his life.

The Germans sustained heavy losses at the nearby front, and 700 surrendered. The allies found Pvt. Merli the next day. He was covered in the assistant gunner's blood and his clothing was in tatters from bayonet jabs.

Around him were 52 dead Germans, 19 directly in front of his gun.

Pvt. Merli's only request was to visit a church.

He prayed for the men he had killed and for the safety of the German soldier he had watched through the night.

Mr. Speaker, we see the bravery and dedication of Gino Merli being carried on today in the men and women who are fighting our new war on terrorism. All of us in Northeastern Pennsylvania are proud to claim Mr. Merli as one of our own, and I join my fellow residents of Northeastern Pennsylvania in sending best wishes and condolences to his family.

IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION FOR
THE STOCKHOLM CONVENTION,
THE ROTTERDAM CONVENTION,
AND THE PROTOCOL TO THE 1979
CONVENTION ON LONG-RANGE
TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLU-
TION ON PERSISTENT ORGANIC
POLLUTANTS

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. I am pleased to join my colleague, Mr. GOODLATTE, in introducing today by request the Administration's implementing legislation for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, and the Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Trans-boundary Air Pollution on Persistent Organic Pollutants.

The Stockholm Convention was adopted on May 22, 2001, after many years of international negotiation under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Programme, UNEP, and it establishes an international framework for regulating the production, use, and disposal of persistent organic pollutants, including polychlorinated biphenyls, PCBs, and dioxin. The United States signed the Stockholm Convention over 1 year ago, along with over 110 other countries, but the United States cannot ratify the treaty until the Senate provides its advice and consent, and until sufficient authority has been granted through Federal legislation to ensure that the mandates of the agreement can be enforced.

On April 11, 2002, the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, submitted to the Congress legislation to implement the Stockholm Convention, the Rotterdam Convention, and the Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Persistent Organic Pollutants. This legislation amends the Toxic Substances Control Act, TSCA, as well as the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) by providing the EPA with the authority to eliminate or restrict the production, use and release of 12 chemicals that can adversely affect human health because they are toxic; they persist in the environment for long periods of time; they circulate globally; and they biomagnify and accumulate in foods consumed by humans.

Specifically, the bill amends TSCA to prohibit or severely restrict the use of Aldrin, Chlordane, Dieldrin, Endrin, Heptachlor, Hexachlorobenzene, Mirex, Toxaphene, PCBs and DDT, while providing specific limited exemptions for their continued use. In the event that these chemicals continue to be used in accordance with an exemption, this legislation requires a certificate to accompany the chemicals providing detailed information. The legislation also provides EPA with the authority to collect additional information from manufacturers to assist in evaluating additional chemicals for potential addition to the restricted list in the future, and to prohibit the exportation from the United States of these banned or severely restricted products, unless the exportation complies with specific conditions and restrictions established by the EPA. The bill also requires

exporters of listed substances to provide prior notice to EPA of all exports and to include additional labeling, and the bill similarly amends FIFRA to prohibit the use, sale and exportation of the prohibited or restricted chemicals that are pesticide active ingredients.

Today, I am pleased to introduce by request the Administration's legislative package that, once enacted, will allow the United States to ratify the underlying treaties. As the chairman of the Environment and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, I look forward to working with the administration, my colleagues in the House and other body, and all interested parties, in putting a package together that we can send to the White House soon. As we proceed, I will keep an open mind on the need to make improvements to the bill I'm introducing today. This can and should be bipartisan legislation that will demonstrate the United States' leadership in the international environmental arena.

A TRIBUTE TO STEVEN
KAPLANSKY: A TRUE NEW YORK-
ER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Steven Kaplansky in recognition of his long time commitment to his community.

Steve was born in Manhattan and he grew up in Queens, amidst the historic Bowie House and Quaker Meeting Hall. Here, Steve learned important lessons of cultural diversity and love of community, which he took with him throughout his life. He went on to receive his college education at Long Island University, where he majored in sociology and history. He earned his masters degree from the Hunter School of Social Work, and became a New York State certified social worker.

Aside from two years which he spent building community centers in Florida, Steven Kaplansky has spent his entire professional career in New York City. As an assistant director of the Flushing YHMA, he developed programs with the Lexington School for the Deaf and the Association For Help To Retarded Children, as well as an interracial youth council with Baptist churches. In 1976, he became the youngest executive director of a YHMA, and developed nontraditional programs, such as enriched and senior housing for the elderly, the only kosher Battered Women's Shelter in America, community services programs for those being discharged from mental institutions, interracial councils, neighborhood preservation projects and one of the first local development corporations in New York City.

Steven's nonprofit work has been equally impressive. He was instrumental in establishing the Sam Levenson Cultural Arts Foundation and helped to establish One World One Heart, a nonprofit organization, which provides cultural, educational and neighborhood enrichment programs through music for communities-at-large. A one-time board member of the Local Development Corporation of East New York and a current board member of the

Brooklyn Bureau of Community Services, Steven was recently a of a Department of Employment study for job retention in the food industry in New York City. He is also a trustee for Local 348S Food and Commercial Workers Union and the Director of the Koni Arts Foundation. In addition, he has worked on environmental issues, including water, power, and food waste, with both the city and the state.

From the 1980's until recently, Steven has worked for Blue Ridge Farms as the Government Community and Public Relations Director, as well as the Personnel Director. He was instrumental in providing donations to the community, including aiding at Ground Zero. Furthermore, he helped the company save over 500 jobs. He has also worked in food banks, homeless shelters, block associations, local police councils, youth groups, and senior centers. He currently is working with Aviation Systems of New York to develop technology to prevent explosions in airplanes, and is a consultant to World Vision, Inc. a music management and entertainment corporation.

Mr. Speaker, Steven Kaplansky has spent his life working tirelessly on behalf of his community. As such, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable man.

HONORING NATIONAL SMALL
CITIES DAY

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, Friday, June 14, 2002, marks the first "National Small Cities Day" in honor of smaller communities of our country. I would like to help make our colleagues aware of this event and the significant role that small cities play in making up our great Nation.

An overwhelming majority of Americans live in cities with populations under 25,000. These small cities form the backbone of our Nation and contribute enormously to the character of all Americans. It is in these cities that we find the spirit of America in which we take so much pride and give so much to protect.

Living in a small city affords Americans the ability to involve themselves in the building of a community through involvement with local schools, government, and the daily activities which go into raising their community's children to be responsible, virtuous citizens.

Small cities across America will be joining each other today to recognize the contributions to our way of life made by their communities and those who live in them and help them thrive. We should all join them in recognizing and thanking our citizens who comprise these communities for all that they have done and continue to do every day.

RECOGNITION OF KEEPING THE
PROMISE

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere appreciation for

those men and women currently serving in our armed forces, in particular those who are engaged in the war against terrorism.

My home state of Oregon welcomed ships from the U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard and the Canadian Fleet during our annual Rose Festival held this past week. I would like to thank Captain Terry Bragg, Commodore Destroyer Squadron One, his staff and crew aboard the USS *Paul F. Foster*. The *Paul F. Foster* and crew will soon be deployed in support of Enduring Freedom.

Also I would like to thank Rear Admiral Erroll M. Brown, District Commander of the 13th Coast Guard District, the Men and Women aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Hamilton* for their appearance at this event.

I can assure you that the leadership, morale, and dedication of all the officers aboard these ships were of the highest caliber as well as those men and women who serve aboard these ships. I can truly, say, the defense of our nation is in good hands when we have such professionals as those aboard the ships that visited Oregon this past weekend. All serve our country with pride and all Americans should be proud of them.

When we ask people to put their lives on the line to protect our country, we have a profound obligation to honor our promises to those whose service has kept our nation free. The men and women who have served our country so honorably know best that freedom is never free, that it is only won and defended with great sacrifices.

Once again I want to extend my gratitude and pride to all the men and women who serve our country, in the armed forces.

You make us all proud.

CONDEMNING THE PRIVATIZATION
AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF
OUR AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleague, Mr. BLUMENAUER and the others, in condemning the executive order issued late last week which will allow our air traffic control system to be commercialized and privatized.

We in Congress passed legislation strengthening our public transportation systems to help insure greater safety and the prevention of terrorism. We have recently federalized airport security and baggage inspection. Are we, at the same time, turning over absolutely essential air traffic control to the private sector, which utterly failed in airport security? How is this going to increase public confidence in air travel?

It is outrageous to propose actually privatizing a government service as essential as assuring the safe and orderly operation of the thousands of airline flights daily. When the private sector cannot perform an important and vital service adequately, it becomes essential that the government assure that it is performed to public expectations. That has become the case with air travel. It flies in the face of logic that any steps be taken toward dismantling the air traffic control system and turning functions over to the private sector.

I have been working with and debating officials in the Administration on the merits of privatizing government functions. As a member of the House Armed Services Committee, I have been deeply concerned about the outsourcing of military jobs for many months. Clearly, this is another attempt to bring the private sector in to perform duties carried out by the civil service and other professionals.

Mr. Speaker, I am not against the private sector nor making a profit. But there are instances where making profits should be a totally secondary consideration. Profit must not be the bottom line in assuring public air travel safety.

Perhaps privatizing OMB would be a good next step. It might bring some level of common sense to the Administration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to officially state for the record that I incorrectly recorded my vote on rollcall No. 225 as a "yea" vote. I intended to vote "no" against passage of the Tax Limitation Amendment to the Constitution, H. J. Res. 96.

WEST GENESEE WILDCATS, 2002
NEW YORK STATE LACROSSE
CHAMPIONS

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate a victorious day for West Genesee High School as both the men's and women's lacrosse teams captured the New York State Lacrosse Division 1, Class A Championship titles. It was a memorable day that will go down in history for the Wildcats, as both teams soared triumphantly to the top.

The day began as the women's team traveled to Cortland, New York to defend their state title, and this is exactly what they accomplished. The team ended their undefeated season with a 15-11 win. Later that afternoon at Hofstra University, the men's lacrosse team regained the State title with an exciting 10-9 victory. As Coach Mike Messere stated "It was one of the most exciting games I've seen."

West Genesee Lacrosse has always had the reputation for a stellar program, and as displayed this past weekend, the program continues to generate gifted athletes. These students work year-round to master the sport, and because of their relentless hard work, dedication, and passion for the game, they came out true champions.

I am proud of these devoted athletes, and I commend the coaching staff, parents, and entourage of supporters who traveled this long road with them. This type of outcome does not happen overnight, nor is it a result of just one season. It takes years of dedication to get such results, and this entire team should be proud of their accomplishments.

I would like to acknowledge the athletes and coaching staff who brilliantly represented their school, county, and state this past weekend:

For the women: Chrissy Zaika, Eileen Gagnon, Vanessa Bain, Shannon Burke, Meghan Burgoon, Katie Donovan, Lindsey Moore, Jackie Griffin, Kendall Tupper, Lindsey Shirtz, Kelly Fitzgerald, Colleen O'Hara, Nicole Motondo, Katherine Kenneally, Juilie Fabrizio, Kelly Kuss, Katherine DelPrato, Beth Elmer, Lindsey Hamann, Meghan O'Connell, Katie Kozloski, Keelin Hollenbeck, Eileen Flynn, Head Coach Bob Elmer, and Assistant Coach Erica Gerber.

And for the men: Mike Malfitano, Dean Mancini, Jake Bebee, Zack Forward, Jeff Murphy, Jed Bebee, Alex Cost, Kevin Hennigan, Matt O'Connell, Andrew Hanover, Rob Lemos, Mike Conklin, Cheney Raymond, Mark Conklin, Pat McCormack, Chad Clark, Drew Dabrowski, Devin Burgoon, Kiel Moore, Mike Solamon, Jim Mullaley, Andrew Sugar, Bill Gleason, Casey Rotelia, Chris Bulawa, Brian Cummings, Matt Woolsbiager, Brian Calabrese, Bob Toms, Mike Malone, Andy Zysk, Matt Cassalia, P.J. Burns, Head Coach Mike Messere, Assistant Coach Bob Deegan, and Scorekeepers Melissa McCarthy, Shadia Nesheiwat, Monica Macro, Kim Fischmann, Danielle Wood, and Jessica Lebduska.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND SOLOMON
YOUNG-MIN KIM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Reverend Solomon Young-Min Kim, a well-respected leader in both the Brooklyn and Queens communities.

Rev. Kim was born in Pusan, Korea. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Metallurgy from Korea University and has studied at the New York Theological Seminary, the Korea New Church Seminary, and the Swedenborg School of Religion.

Rev. Kim is the pastor of The Mirral Church in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. He has helped solve ethnic issues between the Korean businessmen and the Black community, by getting the Korean businessmen to employ more residents from the Black community. He has also fostered relationships between the Korean community and the Caribbean-American, Haitian, and Italian communities. Rev. Kim's work with Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center, as well as with the Brookdale Hospital Schulman Institute Nursing Home, has allowed him to spend time visiting the sick and the shut-in. He has also worked with the New York City Department of Correction by providing spiritual guidance and hope for a renewed life after prison to the population. Additionally, Rev. Kim helped organize the Census 2000 effort in the Korean communities of Bensonhurst, Bayridge, Flatbush, East Flatbush, Flushing and Queens, as well as in New Jersey.

Rev. Kim's activism is also evident in his attitude towards education. He formally supports an after-school program for Korean students in Bayridge and Bensonhurst who are having a tough time academically. But Rev. Kim's commitment to education extends to people of all ages. In addition to the Korean Youth Festival, he has established senior/youth intergenerational programs, aimed at initiating ongoing

dialogue, participation and education, as a team in the Korean community.

Rev. Kim's efforts have earned him numerous accolades and awards, such as the Asian American Heritage Award from the Borough President of Brooklyn, the Distinguished Ecumenical Award from the Wesley McDonald Holder Regular Democratic Club Women's Caucus, and the Community Service Award from Assemblyman Clarence Norman Jr.

In closing, I would like to personally thank Rev. Solomon Young-Min Kim for his steadfast devotion to Brooklyn's Korean community and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly dedicated spiritual leader.

INTRODUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE
LAW ENHANCEMENT ACT
OF 2002

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced an important bill, the "Administrative Law Process Enhancement Act of 2002," that reforms the organization of the administrative judiciary within the Social Security Administration ("SSA") by establishing an Office of Administrative Law Judges (the "Office") within SSA that is administered by a Chief Administrative Law Judge ("Chief Judge") who reports directly to the SSA Commissioner.

The national ALJ hearings function and hearings field operation that presently is within the SSA Office of Hearings and Appeals ("OHA") would be transferred to the office by the proposed legislation. The Chief Judge would be in charge of the office, be appointed by the Commissioner for a term of six years that is renewable once, and be subject to removal only upon a showing of an enumerated cause. The Associate Commissioner of OHA would continue to administer the Appeals Council. The changes proposed in the bill provide for a reorganization of the SSA that will not result in any additional costs to SSA or the government.

Currently, the SSA is without a functioning Office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge. The functions for both the adjudication of administrative claims by SSA administrative law judges ("ALJs") and the appellate process for the review of ALJ decisions by the Appeals Council are located within the OHA. The ALJ portion of the OHA is under the dual leadership of a Chief Judge and an Associate Commissioner of OHA. The position description of the Chief Judge places the Chief Judge in charge of the national ALJ hearings function and hearings field operation of OHA. The Associate Commissioner of OHA is placed in charge of the national ALJ hearing function and the Appeals Council, and has major policy-making and policy-implementation responsibilities for OHA. The Chief Judge reports to the Associate Commissioner of OHA, who in turn reports to the Deputy Commissioner for the office of Disability and Income Security Programs ("ODISP"), who in turn reports to the SSA Commissioner.

In the current organization of SSA, the OHA and the ALJ function are submerged in the bureaucracy and are far removed from the Commissioner. The Social Security Advisory Board

recently prepared a report on the Social Security disability system that expresses concern about the OHA functions being buried too low in the agency, the need to elevate these functions to direct oversight by the agency leadership, and the need for greater ALJ function independence. Charting the Future of Social Security's Disability Programs: The Need for Fundamental Change, January 2001, p. 19. The current structure prevents the Commissioner from having effective oversight of the ALJ hearing process. The ALJ adjudication function should not be treated as a staff responsibility in SSA. The ALJ adjudication function is a major program of the agency with every individual in this Nation being a potential claimant within the SSA system. The SSA ALJ hearing system protects a constitutional right of our citizens and provides a constitutionally protected due process hearing to members of the American public. This vital process should have direct oversight from the Commissioner and the Chief Judge should have direct interaction with the Commissioner.

Another major defect in the current OHA is created by the dual leadership responsibilities of the Chief Judge and the Associate Commissioner. Frequently, these two leaders are competing for power to control the administrative and/or policy decisions for the ALJ hearing component of SSA that has deprived OHA of strong, effective leadership. Several years ago, the Associate Commissioner attempted to reorganize the responsibilities of the Chief Judge and divest the Chief Judge of most of the powers of that office, leaving the Chief Judge with some minor duties relating to judicial education and staff support for the Associate Commissioner. The Associate Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner of ODISP also tried to compel the Chief Judge to resign because he resisted the inappropriate diminution of his duties. This scheme was thwarted by the efforts of interested individuals and organizations together with the oversight action of the Congress.

The lack of effective leadership and direction of the OHA and reduction of the Chief Judge function also has resulted in an organization that has been deteriorating in its efficiency. For over 10 years, several reforms have been imposed on the SSA hearing process. Each attempt has resulted in failure. Subsequent to the latest reform, the HPI reorganization in the hearing office process that was implemented in January 2000, the number of case depositions have dropped while the case processing time and the case backlog have increased. The result has been poorer service for the American public.

Better service for the American public by increasing case dispositions, reducing processing times, reducing case backlogs, and improving decision quality will result from the proposed legislation, which will ensure effective leadership of the ALJ hearings component of SSA. The ALJ hearings component of SSA will be treated as an organization that is responsible for administering a major agency program. It no longer will be organized as a staff function within SSA. The Commissioner will have direct oversight of the ALJ hearings component of SSA, which is necessary to effectively administer this important program that provides constitutional due process hearings for the American public. The ALJ hearing component of SSA will have one individual responsible for administrative operations and policy

making: a Chief Judge who reports directly to the Commissioner. The bill will improve leadership, efficiency and quality in the ALJ hearings component of SSA by eliminating the possibility of detrimental political struggles between the Chief Judge and other subordinate leaders within SSA, which will prevent changes in the ALJ hearing process that are motivated by the negative force of intra-agency infighting and ensure that the American public receives fair constitutional due process hearings.

Establishment of the office of Administrative Law Judges within SSA significantly would increase the speed and quality of the disposition of Social Security Act claims for the American public and increase public trust and confidence in the integrity and independence of decisionmaking by SSA ALJS. This effort should be a bipartisan activity of the Congress in the interest of good government, and to that end, I invite my fellow colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in sponsoring this bill and in making the office of Administrative Law Judges within SSA a reality this year.

REFLECTIONS ON 9/11

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a student in my district, Craig Halbrooks, who is the grandson of Judge Larry Craig, a great friend and respected judge in Smith County. Judge Craig brought to my attention his grandson's poem, which reflects on September 11. This poem—written by a 14-year-old—captures the sentiments of many Americans and many of our youth regarding that terrible day in our nation's history, and I would like to share it with this body:

On September 11, 2001 the United States was struck with an act of terror
With the Afghanistan leaders responsible,
soon there would be nothing there.
Why would some do such a thing?
Take their lives to destroy another's, what could they be thinking?
Nearly four months later, the tears still flow
and emotions run high
Why did these people have to hurt so many lives?
As we board planes, subways, and even a bus
We wonder just exactly who we can trust.
It matters little whether Christian, Muslim
or Jew
We wonder what each is capable to do.
We look around us on the ground and in the sky
Wondering who will be the next to die.
Will it be a child, family or friend?
When will this scary stuff end?
I'm so glad that we have a President who
Strives to protect even me and you.

IN MEMORY OF AUBREY LEE
MCALISTER

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Aubrey Lee

McAlister, who passed away around this time last year—May 15th, 2001. I still think of him often. He was 89. Audrey was a distinguished reporter, war veteran, caring community leader and beloved husband and father. He and his wife, Aubrey, were dear personal friends—ones we visited with often.

Aubrey was born on October 5, 1911 in Walters, Oklahoma. Even as a young teenager he showed his eagerness to work in journalism spending his after-school afternoons learning to operate printing equipment and type setting as a printer's devil in the local paper's office.

After High School, Aubrey went to Cameron College and transferred to Oklahoma State University, where he received his degree in journalism. At the outbreak of World War II, Aubrey enlisted in the US Navy, even though he was exempt from the draft. As a Navy enlisted correspondent he served in the Pacific theater aboard the USS *Colorado*, a vessel that participated in the battle for Okinawa.

Aubrey moved to Bonham in 1955 when he bought the Bonham Daily Favorite, a local newspaper, with a partner. He served as its publisher until 1976. Across the state he was active as a member of the board of the Texas Press Association. He served as the President of the TPA in 1964.

Within the community, he served as an elder and a deacon of his church, the First Presbyterian Church, and was a long-time and active member of Rotary International. He was a Paul Harris Fellow and had served as president of two different clubs. In 1964, he was named East Texas Chamber of Commerce Man of the Month and the Bonham Chamber of Commerce named him the town's Outstanding Citizen. He also served as the chairman of the Bonham Water Authority, which oversaw building a community water reservoir. He helped organize the city's first planning and zoning commission and was chairman of the Fannin County Fair.

Most of all, Aubrey was a loving father and husband who always showed his kindness to others. He was survived by his wife, Audrey; one son, Don McAlister; a granddaughter, Sara Delao; and his brother, Ray McAlister. Mr. Speaker, we will miss him but always remember him as a beloved community leader and kind man who gave a lot to East Texas—Aubrey Lee McAlister.

A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF
REVEREND S. AMOS BRACKEEN 2D

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Rev. S. Amos Brackeen 2d, 83, a social activist, and founder of the Philippian Baptist Church, who recently died after providing more than four decades of spiritual and civic leadership in Philadelphia.

From the time Rev. Brackeen arrived in our city in 1959 to become pastor of Jones Memorial Baptist Church, he was recognized as a theological activist.

In the early 60's he stood on street corners with civil rights leaders and demanded accountability from the Philadelphia Police Department when a white officer shot and killed

an African American man suspected of shoplifting. He was appointed by the Mayor to a committee helped to expose racial disparities in the payment of city workers.

As a member of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Philadelphia and Vicinity, Rev. Brackeen fought discriminatory practices by city labor unions. He also led the North Philadelphia Human Relations Committee, which sought to improve relations between police and the residents of North Philadelphia.

While continuing the fight for equality for African Americans, he also focused on the importance of economic equity. In that regard he became part of an effort that established an African American owned bank in Philadelphia.

In 1965, he founded Philippian Baptist Church in the First Congressional District with less than a hundred members. Today, there are 1,500 congregants.

However, his theology went beyond America's shores. As treasurer of the Baptist Foreign Missions Bureau, he gathered support from his congregation to help build a church in Nigeria, West Africa and a church and school in Haiti. He also sponsored the establishment of the Philippian Baptist Home Mission for Haitians newly migrated to Philadelphia.

While Rev. Brackeen was born in Port Arthur, Texas, the son of the town's first African American physician, his adopted City of Philadelphia has been enriched and spiritually fed by this progressive and dynamic child of God and leader of the faithful. I know my colleagues will join me in expressing my condolences to his loving family and congregation.

ON THE DEATH OF DR. MAXIE C.
SPROTT

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the outstanding career of Dr. Maxie C. Sprott, who unfortunately passed away this week. During a tenure of forty-five years, Dr. Sprott dedicated his time to make sure that those members of his community unable to afford health care, received the proper medical treatment they deserved.

Dr. Sprott, with the help of his brothers, opened Sprott Hospital in 1955 to give black residents a place to receive medical care and black doctors a place to practice. He also was heavily involved with the "I have a Dream" program, providing mentoring and educational service to young people. Despite these great achievements, he was a humble man, accepting such items as poultry and fish as pay from patients when they could not afford office visits.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Maxie Sprott's career was seasoned with numerous examples of selfless hard work and extraordinary achievement in service to our great Nation. His contributions to Southeast Texas are immeasurable. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Dr. Sprott for his enduring service in the field of medicine and the generations of families that he took care of.

Thank you for your service, Dr. Sprott, your work was part of the fiber of Southeast Texas, and with your passing a great loss will be felt in the spirit and the heart of our community.

A TRIBUTE TO MAURICE A. REID

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Maurice A. Reid, the President and CEO of the Brownsville Community Development Corporation (BCDC), and his many years of dedicated service to the community.

Maurice Reid has a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the Executive M.P.A. program of Baruch College, CUNY, and a Bachelor's Degree from the School of Business, Manhattan College. In 1995, he completed a two-year fellowship from the Southern Regional Council as a Voting Rights Expert-in-Training.

He joined the BCDC after nine years as the Deputy Director for the Center for Law and Social Justice at Medgar Evers College, CUNY. Prior to assuming his post at the CLSJ, Maurice served as Administrative Assistant and District Director to newly elected Congressman Major or Owens.

Maurice's management career began when he became the first director of the Brownsville Community Council's Head Start Program. He also helped found the Brownsville Child Development Center, and served as the first Executive Director/CEO for twelve years. Maurice has also held positions as the President of the Central Brooklyn Mobilization Democratic Club, the Chairperson of the Committee for An Effective School Board # 23, and as the Chairperson and Secretary/Treasurer for United Housekeeping Service, Inc. and United Homecare, Inc. Additionally, he has been a member of the Coalition for Community Empowerment and the Board of Directors of the American Reading Council. Maurice is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Community Health Care Association of New York State.

After nearly 17 years of involvement with the BCDC, as a board member and Chairperson, he became President and CEO. His hard work and dedication have clearly paid off.

Mr. Speaker, Maurice A. Reid is committed to serving and improving his community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving this recognition and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable man.

**PERMANENT DEATH TAX REPEAL
ACT OF 2002**

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the permanent repeal of the death tax. The repeal of this particular tax is especially important in ensuring that small and minority-owned businesses as well as family farms are not destroyed due to the inability to pay this archaic tax.

A family death is already a difficult burden to bear. The death tax furthers the family's pain by presenting the survivors with the choice of either paying a large death tax or, if unable to secure the funds to pay the tax, sell-

ing their family's farm or business. Not only do survivors lose their jobs when forced to sell a family business, but countless employees of the business often find themselves on the streets as well, losing their job, health insurance, and benefits. We cannot continue to watch as children who have worked their entire lives in a family business lose what is rightfully theirs simply because selling their business is the only way they can raise the necessary funds to pay the estate tax.

Additionally, numerous surveys of small business owners have indicated that the estate tax is a primary threat to the expansion of their businesses because they spend more money on estate planning than expansions. Lack of business expansions translates to a lack of new jobs being created at that business.

Finally, I want to clarify that under the law enacted in 2001, the death tax is to be repealed in 2010 ensuring that all assets transferred from one generation to the next would not be subject to the estate tax, but would instead be subject to the capital gains tax. Appropriately, the families of the decedent would have a choice to either continue the family business or sell it and then pay a capital gains tax. Families should make the decisions regarding the sale of their farms and businesses rather than be forced to sell in order to pay an exorbitant death tax.

**PERMANENT DEATH TAX REPEAL
ACT OF 2002**

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 6, 2002

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as Co-chairman of the End the Death Tax Caucus in support of this bill and in opposition to the death tax. Eliminating this unfair provision in our tax code has been a priority of mine since becoming a Member of this body.

Today's death tax places a tremendous burden on America's small businesses and family-owned farms, which are at the heart of the economic vitality of our communities. Small businesses and farms can quickly reach the current low exemption levels for the death tax.

For example, urban convenience stores invest an average of \$1.24 million per store for land, building and equipment, and rural stores invest almost \$900,000 per store. Construction companies often need to purchase expensive heavy equipment to build our buildings, roads, and bridges. Our farmers, machine shops, and many other businesses often invest in equipment that involve high capital outlays. The Alabama Farmers Federation tells me that much of family farm estates is usually locked up in their farmland, which often must be sold to pay the estate tax. Too often, this tax has forced American families to liquidate a business or farm that was built on years of hard work and sacrifice.

The tax relief package enacted last year provided temporary relief from the death tax. This law provides for a slow drop in death-tax rates from 50 percent to 45 percent and then an abrupt drop to zero in 2010. For some of us—like myself—this reduction does not occur fast enough. Over the same time period, the

exemption increases from \$1 million to \$3.5 million. Regrettably, current law resurrects the death tax in 2011, with tax rates as high as 55 percent and an exemption at the low level of \$675,000.

This temporary repeal does little to alleviate the estate-planning burden on our families. It forces them to play expensive, cumbersome games of tax strategy instead of allowing these entrepreneurs to reinvest their money and time into building their business. In fact, the temporary nature of the current law has made an already-complex tax code more complicated, and estate planning more difficult. Estate planning for farms is further complicated by the uncertain nature of the future net worth of farm operations. This money spent on estate planning—both attorney's fees and insurance premiums—would be better spent invested back into the business and providing job growth for our nation.

Family businesses spend nearly \$14.2 billion a year on estate planning and insurance costs. This capital that is used for estate planning is an economic drag on family businesses at a time when they must deal with other economic burdens beyond their control.

The sunset provision simply prevents small business owners and farmers from taking advantage of the repeal. Unless they know for a fact that they will pass on by the year 2010, they must continue to pay tax advisors to help them secure their family's welfare in the future.

According to the IRS, just in the tax year 1999 alone, \$227 million was collected from the estate tax in my state of Alabama. One study shows that permanent repeal would increase our GDP a total of \$150 billion over 10 years, and it could provide an additional 165,000 jobs per year. The anti-growth death tax causes small businesses—who are under-capitalized in the first place—to cut back on labor, re-investment, and risk-taking. Studies have also shown that the death tax encourages small business owners to sell out or merge with larger companies.

Furthermore, the death tax can encourage the rich to spend down their savings on lavish consumption. A Joint Economic Committee study estimated that the death tax existence has reduced the nation's pool of savings by \$497 billion.

Mr. Speaker, this tax is an unfair tax. It double-taxes income that was already taxed when it was earned. It is collected at a time of deep grief for our families. And it penalizes those who have worked hard over a lifetime to provide for the future security of their family.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, the time has come to finish the job and get rid of this unfair, burdensome tax once and for all. The death tax reduces wages, it reduces job creation, it discourages savings, and it is a leading cause of the liquidation of small businesses. Permanent relief from this death tax is critically important for America's family-owned small businesses and farms.

Finally, let me thank my colleague from Washington and Co-Chairwoman of the End the Death Tax Caucus—Congresswoman DUNN—for working with me in a bipartisan manner to remove this unfair provision from our tax code.

I urge Members to support this legislation.

HONORING LOUISE BELKIN, FRANK JOSLYN, AND TERRY WERDEN FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO TEACHING AT THE WEST DISTRICT SCHOOL IN FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of three excellent teachers from West District School in Farmington, Connecticut. They are Mrs. Louise Belkin, Mr. Frank Joslyn, and Mrs. Terry Werden. All three will leave West District at the end of the 2001–2002 school year.

Mrs. Belkin has been an elementary school teacher in the Farmington School System for 33 years, teaching at West District for 27 years. She has been a leader in the field of mathematics and served as the school's math resource teacher for 14 years. During this time, she created and composed math curriculum and assessments for the district as well as organized and taught the district's math summer school program. She has served as an elementary-level representative to the ATOMIC Executive Board and a PIMMS Fellow. In 2001, she co-authored a geometry book to be used by teachers published by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Mrs. Belkin has actively served in the Farmington Education Association, serving as the building representative for ten years, treasurer for fourteen years and a member of the negotiations committee through five contracts.

Over the past 20 years, Mrs. Belkin has arranged for me to hold annual press conferences for West District School's fifth grade. I have looked forward to this every year and regret that Mrs. Belkin's retirement and the change in the grade structure in the Farmington School system mean the end of these events at West District School.

Mr. Frank Joslyn was recognized as Farmington's Teacher of the Year for 1993–94. He served with the Farmington Education Association as a building representative, a Council member and an officer. He developed and implemented a "Homes of America" program for both parents and children, teaching them history through architecture. He also co-planned and produced the annual Veteran's Day Program at West District School. And he served as West District's "lead teacher" for more than 8 weeks during the prolonged illness of the principal. Mr. Joslyn's influence on the school body and fellow members of the faculty has been tremendous. He has shared his artistic skills to enhance the school building, designing a display case, memorial benches, banners as well as the school's letterhead and note cards and a memorial sculpture. While everyone at West District School will miss Mr. Joslyn's leadership and artistic insight, we take comfort in the knowledge that the students at Farmington's new 5–6 school will benefit from his talents and abilities.

Mrs. Terry Werden has been with West District School for 34 years, serving as the Science Resource Teacher for 13 years. She served as an outdoor educator, organized the "Kids and Chemistry" nights for several years

and introduced the "Invention Convention" the West District School's Grade 5. She also has given her time as an active member of the Farmington Education Association, and as a member of curriculum teams for writing, science and social studies. She currently has three students whose parents she also taught in the Farmington School system. Mrs. Werden is a dedicated public servant and her influence has been strongly felt throughout West District School and the families it serves. Her presence within our walls will be greatly missed, as she moves on to teach at Farmington's new 5–6 school.

These three educators have served on the same team for a quarter of a century. Combined, their efforts have amounted to 93 years of service at the West District School. The children, parents and families whose lives have been touched by their expertise and dedication can never forget the example of public service these three outstanding educators have set. I wish them well in all their future endeavors.

THE RECOGNITION OF DR. SIDNEY PESTKA, 2001 NATIONAL MEDAL OF TECHNOLOGY LAUREATE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Sidney Pestka who was named the 2001 National Medal of Technology Laureate for his pioneering achievements in the field of biotechnology. Dr. Pestka is from my district and joins us from the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School at the University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey in Piscataway, New Jersey.

Mr. Chairman, in 1969, Dr. Sidney Pestka began a project to determine what interferon was—a substance that held the possibility of curing viral diseases, diseases that defied treatments, diseases that challenged the ingenuity of medicine for centuries, diseases including hepatitis, influenza, Ebola, Dengue, Yellow Fever, West Nile, and even the common cold. The possibility that a single medicine could treat all or at least many viral diseases was alluring. After a few months evaluating the scientific basis and potential of interferon, Dr. Pestka began to translate this dream into reality.

For the next seventeen years, Dr. Pestka made a remarkable series of discoveries and developments, often bucking prevailing beliefs and designing innovative solutions to problems along the way to success. His achievements carried out at the Roche Institute led to numerous medical applications including cloning of the human genes, development of immunological assays with monoclonal antibodies and medical application of interferon for viral diseases, to name only a few. In 1986, Dr. Pestka's dreams became reality when the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved the interferon that he developed.

The approval of interferon by the FDA was significant, not only because it allowed Dr. Pestka's development to be applied to treat viral diseases but also because it prepared the pathway for many other biotherapeutic agents

now used in the clinic and stimulated the creation and development of today's extensive biotechnology industry. Dr. Pestka's achievements are the basis of several U.S. and foreign patents and interferon is now a major product of several U.S. and foreign companies. The market for interferon is expected to exceed \$7 billion by 2003.

In addition to interferon's commercial impact, there was no general antiviral therapy available before Dr. Pestka began his work on interferon; today, interferon is the first and only general antiviral therapy. Interferon is used to treat hepatitis B and C, diseases that afflict 300 million people worldwide. Today, interferon is used for the treatment of cancers such as metastatic malignant melanoma, kidney and bladder cell carcinoma, some leukemias, AIDS-related Kaposi's sarcoma, and multiple sclerosis. Mr. Chairman, many individuals are now alive and well after treatment with interferon as a result of Dr. Pestka's achievements.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to point out that the potential of interferon has caught the imagination of the public with many newspaper, magazine and journal articles about interferon over the past twenty years. Most scientists in academia do not bring achievements in research directly into commercial products with special considerations for scale up, environmental impact, economy, efficiency and efficacy. Dr. Pestka has bridged this gap by making seminal achievements in all these avenues from concept, to basic research and to practical application. He has fostered new industries in multiple areas, developed new medicines for previously untreatable diseases, and brought new hope to those afflicted. These pioneering achievements were prefaced and followed by many other basic scientific discoveries in chemistry, biochemistry, genetic engineering and molecular biology from the genetic code and protein biosynthesis to interferons, cytokines, receptors and cell signaling.

In closing, Dr. Pestka's achievements in innovation and translation provide a role model for this and future generations.

TRIBUTE TO MARATHON GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Marathon High School Girls Field Hockey Team for winning their fourth consecutive Class D New York State Championship. The MHS Girls Field Hockey team, coached by three-time New York State Championship Coach Karen Funk, finished the year with an unprecedented (24–0) season while also receiving the New York State Scholar/Athlete Team Award by maintaining a team average of 94.5.

The Lady Olympians scored a total of 127 goals this season while only allowing 6 goals against them which contributed to 18 total shutouts this season. In addition to their outstanding season, MHS had two National All American players and two All State Players. With a combination of hard work and determination the MHS Girls Field Hockey Team

has established a dynasty within the realms of Girls Field Hockey.

On behalf of the residents of the 25th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate the Marathon High School Girls Field Hockey team and their coach Karen Funk on their Class D New York State Girls Field Hockey Championship. With these remarks, I would like to recognize the following players and staff: Coach—Karen Funk, Scorekeeper—Jenelle Dayton, Alexandra Askew, Brooke Atwood, Nikki Billings, Amanda Bliss, Danielle Braman, Lauren Brooks, Nicole Dann, Danielle Dayton, Danielle Diaz, Heather Doran, Alissa French, Lisa Gilbert, Jamie Gofgosky, Jessica Gofgosky, Eileen Hoyt, Maranda Kinsman, Tiffany Marsh, Jolene Phillips, Allison Robertson, Jacki Rose, Shira Thomas, and Kaitlin Veninsky.

Congratulations to all.

A TRIBUTE TO LENFORD L.
ROBINS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lenford L. Robins, a leasing representative and a fine individual.

Currently the Founder and Chairman of Bridgeport Capital Resources Inc. Mr. Robins attended St. George College in the West Indies and subsequently worked as a law clerk in the Criminal Justice System, Sutton Street Court Division, Kingston, Jamaica, and immigrated to the United States in 1969 to further his studies. In the United States, he attended New York School of Dentistry and Brooklyn Community College, where he received his degree in Orthodontic Dentistry. He went on to invent the "Tooth Aligner," commonly known as the "Spring Retainer," which is used in all dental practices globally.

In 1973, Mr. Robins changed his career path and pursued corporate financing. He became a member of the "Elite Clout Club" of First Investor Investment Corporation, and joined Ford Motor Credit from 1976 to 1979, where he was trained as a representative. He has worked as a Leasing and Credit manager for Toyota Motor Credit, Honda, Volkswagen, and BMW, and has received several awards for his outstanding performance and contributions in the leasing industry.

Mr. Robins has also served as the Director of Leasing for Emar International and Reserve Lease Systems, as the President of Leasing Research International, and as the Director of International Markets for Blockwell Funding Corporation. He has also headed the International Division for GFI Business Capital. In each of these capacities, he has used his expertise to train others, and has been recognized and respected by his peers. As proof of his prominence, Mr. Robins has been interviewed on the Bill McCreary Report on Fox Channel 5 Television and CNBC Television, and has been written about in several newspapers and magazines. He is also the author of "The Advantages of Leasing."

I would like to commend to my colleagues' attention the many achievements of Mr. Lenford L. Robins, a true expert in equipment leasing.

ARTICLE BY GEOFF D. PORTER

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the record a June 1 New York Times op-ed by Geoff D. Porter, a professor of Middle Eastern studies who expresses frustration at what he says is a slow and ineffective means by which the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been trying to recruit those proficient in Arabic. Since his insight as to the need for experts in the various dialects makes a compelling argument, I've also forwarded a copy of the article to FBI Director Robert Mueller.

I thank my friend, Professor David Randall Luce of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee for bringing this article to my attention.

[From the New York Times, June 1, 2002]

LOST IN TRANSLATION AT THE F.B.I.

(By Geoff D. Porter)

In announcing his restructuring of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Robert S. Mueller III, its director, stressed the importance of upgrading the F.B.I.'s intelligence capabilities by recruiting "the right people with the right experience." If my own experience with the agency is any guide, that should include an urgent recruiting drive for people with the right Arabic language skills.

Less than a week after the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, I responded to the F.B.I.'s calls for Arabic translators. I know of a half-dozen other Middle Eastern studies graduates who also applied—Ph.D.s who, like me, are proficient in one or more Arabic dialects, as well as in Modern Standard Arabic. Ultimately—dismayed by what seemed to us the agency's flawed understanding of what proficiency in Arabic means—none of us pursued our candidacies.

I applied less than a week after Sept. 11 but wasn't called for the four-and-a-half hour translation test until January. It wasn't until February that I sat for a four-hour interview and polygraph test. The F.B.I. was then to begin a six- to eight-month background check. At the earliest, I might have started translating more than a year after I applied.

The slow pace, however, wasn't the most unsettling characteristic of the process. There was something more worrisome: The F.B.I.'s Arabic translation test simply does not measure all the language skills needed for intelligence gathering focused on Arabic speakers.

The Arabic-language test—copyrighted in 1994 by the Defense Language Institute, according to the back of my exam booklet—was solely in Modern Standard Arabic, the Arabic most frequently studied at American universities. This is the form used for official speeches and in the news media in Arab countries—but almost never in conversation. It differs substantially from the spoken varieties of Arabic in vocabulary, syntax and idioms—enough so that a non-native speaker who learned only Modern Standard Arabic would not be able to understand Arabic speakers talking to one another.

The regional dialects also differ from one another—varying considerably from one end of the Arabic-speaking world (in Morocco) to the other (in Oman). The dialects are, for some Arabic speakers, mutually unintelligible. (Once, I mistakenly gave a Cairo taxi driver directions in Moroccan Arabic, and he responded: "Ich spreche kein Deutsch.")

These varieties of Arabic are the language of the market, the home and the street for

the world's 200 million Arabic speakers. Yet no colloquial Arabic, in any dialect, appeared anywhere on the F.B.I.'s Arabic translation test, which included a listening-comprehension section.

During my post-exam interview, I tried to offer some feedback about the test's failure to measure skills in everyday spoken Arabic, but the interviewer brusquely moved on to his next question. Nor was there a chance for me to name the two Arabic dialects in which I am proficient. The interview is scripted; there is no room for unscripted interaction. All the other Middle East studies applicants with whom I spoke said they, too, noticed the test's shortcoming but couldn't find an opening to comment on it.

As the F.B.I. reorganizes, it should improve its recruitment of Arabic translators by adding tests that measure fluency in one or more of these numerous Arabic dialects. Otherwise, its translators may be limited to reading Arabic newspapers or listening to Al Jazeera broadcasts. They may misunderstand wiretapped phone conversations or be unable to identify crucial information. Until the F.B.I. shows more willingness to listen to the experts it is trying to attract, it will not get the expertise it needs.

CONTINUATION OF RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to racial discrimination which continues to be a problem in America. Recently, in my home state of Mississippi, more specifically, Brandon, Mississippi, a couple was discriminated against while trying to buy a home. Mr. and Mrs. Michael Keys, an African-American couple, were attempting to purchase a home in Brandon when they were harassed verbally by a neighborhood resident, Chris Hope. Hope threatened the safety of the Keys' children after asking them why did they want to stay in a white neighborhood.

Mr. Hope was later subpoenaed when the Department of Housing and Urban Development filed charges on behalf of the Keys, who filed a housing discrimination complaint. Mr. Hope was later ordered to pay \$146,000. Hope is to pay \$126,000 to the Keys for damages and \$8,140 to their real estate agent. He has to also pay \$11,000 in civil penalties.

Mr. Speaker, HUD released a statement saying that, "racial discrimination will not be tolerated". I strongly support that statement. Discrimination is too often overlooked because it is thought of as a topic of the past. This story reinforces my belief that racial discrimination still exist. We must respond accordingly to discrimination cases.

A familiar document that we know as The Declaration of Independence states that "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." Racial discrimination is not only a moral injustice but it is also a legal injustice.

PROPOSING A TAX LIMITATION
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITU-
TION OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to make a speech that I should not have to make. I rise to discuss a constitutional amendment that should not have made it to this floor. In short, this debate is a waste of my time, your time, and the American taxpayer's money.

Let me be more specific. H.J. Res. 96, the Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment, has been brought to the House floor for a vote seven times in the past seven years. Each time, year after year, it has failed to gain the $\frac{2}{3}$ majority needed to pass. I expect that this year will be no different.

But let's suppose that this year is different. Let us imagine that some of us decide to give in to political expediency and decide to vote for a constitutional amendment that will impair our legislative duty to determine the proper tax rate for the American people and for our government. Would it pass the other body? Undoubtedly, no. Would it pass the state legislatures? Doubtful.

Why then do the Republicans continue to bring this legislation to the floor? Do my colleagues on the other side of the aisle believe that we do not have more important things to talk about? That homeland security and the reorganization of our intelligence community can wait another day or even another hour for us to waste our time on this worthless amendment? That the hundreds of thousands of Americans who are out of work right now and about to run out of temporary unemployment relief can hang on a few more days while we entertain the pigheaded decision to reintroduce this legislation for the seventh time in so many years?

Maybe some of my colleagues suppose that in defiance of precedent and simple math that this amendment will miraculously pass this year? I guarantee you it will not. That said, I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote against this amendment and to refrain from wasting our time and the time of the American people with this legislation in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on July 12, 2002, I missed rollcall votes No. 223, No. 224, and No. 225. Had I been present I would have voted "Yea" on rollcall vote No. 223, "Yea" on rollcall vote No. 224 and "Nay" on rollcall vote No. 225.

TRIBUTE TO SYRACUSE UNIVER-
SITY LACROSSE, 2002 DIVISION I
NCAA MEN'S LACROSSE CHAM-
PIONS

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of the Syracuse University Lacrosse team, the 2002 Division I NCAA Men's Lacrosse champions. On May 27th, the Orangeman won their second national title in three years. I am proud to represent this entire team of fine young men led by Head Coach John Desko and Assistant Coaches Roy Simmons III, Kevin Donahue, and John Zurberti.

Lacrosse is one of the oldest American sports, and the members of this team—have taken the game to an incredibly high level. It is no wonder that lacrosse is growing at such a rapid pace with young athletes looking up to role models such as these students, who have dedicated almost their entire lives toward mastering this sport. They have truly made their University, the city of Syracuse, and lacrosse fans nationwide, proud of their accomplishments.

It is my honor to acknowledge the following members of this team who have joined together to achieve the ultimate goal of becoming Division I National Champions: Chris Bickel, Solomon Bliss, Matt Bontaites, Andrew Boyle, Travis Bryan, Drew Bucktooth, John Burns, Josh Coffman, Nick Donatelli, John Glatzel, Kevin Gowin, Tom Hardy, Brian Herloski, Pat Hogan, Ryan Hogan, Joel Howard, Sean Lindsay, Steve Lykudis, Alex Mummolo, Brooks Neal, Brian Nee, Mike Nockunas, Kyle Olson, Jaret Park, Bill Perriit, Jay Pfeifer, Jake Plunket, Michael Powell, Dave Puccia, Joe Sabasteanski, Mike Smith, Brian Solliday, Michael Springer, Billy St. George, Andrew Starr, Steve Vallone, Donn Vidosh, Zack Wallace, Brett Walther, Spencer Wright, Alex Zink.

A TRIBUTE TO NEZAM KELVIN
AND CYNTHIA HOSEIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Nezam Kelvin and Cynthia Hosein, for their outstanding volunteer work with the 500 Block Association Community Garden and Food Pantry.

Kelvin, as he is known, and his wife Cynthia were born and raised in Trinidad, West Indies. In 1989, they moved to East New York in Brooklyn. They have two children, Princess (18) and Kelvin Jr. (13), and attend the Shepherd Home Open Bible Church.

Mr. Hosein is the President of the Euclid 500 Block Association Community Garden and Food Pantry, where both Kelvin and Cynthia volunteer. This picturesque garden is located on Euclid Avenue between Belmont and Sutter Avenue. In the spring of 2000, the Association built a basketball court behind the garden to provide neighborhood kids a recreational alter-

native to "hanging out" in the street. In addition to basketball, the site is used for regular cookouts for the kids and volunteers. In November 2000, the Association, together with Food For Survival and Green Guerillas, opened their food pantry. The number of people served, already at 440 families, increased dramatically after September 11, 2001. The line is so long, police assistance is now necessary to maintain an orderly process. Needless to say, the food pantry has had a tremendous effect on the community.

I would like to congratulate Nezam Kelvin and Cynthia Hosein, and the Euclid 500 Block Association Community Garden for their dedicated efforts in support of our Brooklyn community and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring these dedicated community servants.

NOT IN MY NAME

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, Rita Lazar is a remarkable woman. She lost a child, a son, in the horrible attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. But Rita Lazar remains a pacifist, dedicating her life to eradicating war all over the world. And she is brave. She wrote a letter to the New York Times, that in essence said that although she knew this country's response to 911 would be war, she and many others feel that the answer is peace. She asked, as many have asked, that this country not go to war, not in the name of her son. Not in the name of her child.

All over the world, there is a movement afloat. People are coming together to say please, please, please, do not go to war—not in my name, and not in the name of my child.

Not in My Name. Not in the Name of My Child. People are saying to governments . . . War? No, not in my name. Destruction? . . . No, not in my name. Weapons of Mass Destruction? No, not in my name. Pollution? No, not in my name.

People from every walk of life—young and old, rich and poor, gay and straight, are saying: Not In My Name.

There is an entire coalition of people who, though horribly saddened by the events at the World Trade Center, send out a mighty call for peace. The September 11 Families for A Peaceful Tomorrow have given us a powerful message—they want a world in which no one, no child, no son, no father, no husband, no wife, no mother, no loved one has to suffer the horror of losing a family member in the name of war. Their bravery is a reminder of our duty towards making the world in which we live one of peace. If you go to their website at peacefultomorrow.org, you will see a quote from Martin Luther King Jr., that says, "Wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows." These people, these brave and suffering souls, have lost sons and daughters and husbands and fathers and wives and mothers to the 911 attack, and yet, miraculously, they are saying, don't go to war, not in the name of our loved ones, Not in the Name of My Child.

Among them are Phyllis and Orlando Rodriguez, who lost their only son Greg at the World Trade Center. The Rodriguez' also sent

a letter to the media with the headline, "Not in Our Son's Name." They pleaded for a peaceful solution to this conflict, and they are joined by thousands upon thousands of people all over the world, as witnessed by the huge rally in Washington, DC on April 20 2002, where an estimated two hundred thousand people called out for an end to war.

And this cry is deepening, from a cry against war to a cry against injustice everywhere.

People all over America are saying that they don't want American corporations stealing the resources of other countries and destroying the forested lands and waters of this country—not in their name.

Israeli settlers have a peace group called Not in My Name. They are saying to the Israeli government, yes, we want a home, yes, we want a safe place to be, but not through violence and destruction and terror. They are saying to the Israeli government—don't take land from Palestinians, don't destroy their infrastructure, don't take their homes, don't destroy their family structures and their communities and their neighborhoods. Not in My Name, Not in the Name of My Child.

Why is this Not in My Name movement growing? Because when all is said and done, people all over the world, rich and poor, old and young, want to do what is right. Americans want to do what is right. People know it is wrong for destruction to occur in their name. Not in My Name. Not in the name of my child. It's like saying to a murderer—"Don't kill for me," It's saying to those who pollute our waters, Not in my Name. It's saying to those who destroy the economy of other countries—Not in my name, not in the name of my child.

Americans are gathering the courage to just say no. We are saying no to addictive lifestyles, addictive consumerism. We are saying no to wars and corporate takeover and the IMF loans that gobble up people and their resources.

And all over the world, people are saying, if you are committing these acts in my name, then don't. If you are committing these acts—waging war on the innocent, destroying the environment, buying bombs when babies need bottles . . . then don't do it for me. Not in My Name, Not in the Name of My Child.

Americans want peace, and justice and to live up to the conscience of its forbears. So we are joining people of good will around the world who say, Not in My Name, Not in the Name of My Child. Not in My Name, Not in the Name of My Child. Not in My Name, Not in the Name of My Child. Not in My Name, Not in the Name of My Child. Not in My Name, Not in the Name of My Child. Not in My Name, Not in the Name of My Child.

TRIBUTE TO THE BOROUGH OF
ESSEX FELLS

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Borough of Essex Fells and its residents on the occasion of its Centennial celebration.

Essex Fells, which was incorporated as a municipality by the New Jersey State Legisla-

ture on March 21, 1902, is the smallest municipality in Essex County, measuring a mere 1.6 square miles. Despite its size, the borough is home to some of the friendliest people, the loveliest homes, and gardens in New Jersey.

In the 18th and 19th centuries, the wooded hills and valleys that now comprise the municipality were sparsely settled, with only seven or eight farms located along what is now known as Roseland Avenue.

The expansion of the railroad system and improvements in other forms of transportation brought about the development of real estate in areas surrounding large cities. This resulted in the development of a community that would come to be known as Essex Fells.

Anthony Drexel, a prominent developer and planner from Philadelphia, had a vision and dream to build a unique community with beautiful homes situated in a rustic area of New Jersey. In 1888 he sent his representative, Charles W. Leavitt, to survey the situation around the extension of the railroad service in the Caldwell.

Following a report that the location seemed ideal for use as a high-level residential community, Mr. Drexel formed the New York Suburban Land Company in 1889 and purchased one thousand acres of land south of Caldwell. Included in part of the purchase were the land and the historic home of General William Gould, which became the home of the land company's new president, Mr. Leavitt. The majority shareholder in the corporation was John R. Fell, Mr. Drexel's son-in-law.

The hilly and rocky terrain made an imaginative and skilled approach to the planning necessary. To lay out an over-all community concept, Mr. Drexel hired well-known landscape architect Ernest W. Bowditch.

As this new area began to be developed and built, it was fortunate enough to be able to install such technological advances as electricity, in-door plumbing, and telephones, conveniences that are commonplace one hundred years later—but were true innovations then!

Essex Fells was given its name in honor of the county in which it was developed, Essex, and because the word "fell" suggests a rolling, hilly area, although Mr. Fell must have had some input into the name Essex Fells!

Throughout the past one hundred years not much about the character of Essex Fells has changed from the original concept of a residential rustic community. Today, the municipality is home to over 2,100 residents, a very small number by New Jersey standards, the Essex Fells Water Company, a public elementary school, a post office, and a park.

Mr. Speaker, this weekend the fine neighbors of Essex Fells will be joining together for a parade and community picnic to celebrate this auspicious occasion. I urge you and all of my colleagues to join Mayor Edward Abbot, Borough Council members James N. Blake, Rupert Hauser III, James W. Irwin, Julianne H. Rose, Thomas St. John, and, Lynda Youngworth, and the Citizens of Essex Fells in wishing them well during this special anniversary year.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA PARISH

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the 50th anniversary of the establishment of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Falls Church, Virginia.

Since holding its first Mass on Easter Sunday, 1952, St. Anthony's has profoundly impacted its congregation, students, and the community at large. Today the multi-ethnic parish continues to flourish while upholding a strong tradition of excellence in both the Catholic Christian ministry and community service. The accomplished past of the church has been characterized by generous contributions to local worship, education, and medical care. St. Anthony's sizeable and multifaceted endeavors have been remarkably effective.

In 1954, the church established St. Anthony's School, which now enrolls 620 students in grades pre-kindergarten through eighth. This notable commitment to education is further reflected in the valuable resources the church has made available to its community. These range from a religious education program for public school students to a computer-training course for adults. A partnership with Fairfax County and the Hispanic Committee of Virginia in a Day Laborers' Program highlights the church's dedication to improving education.

St. Anthony's has undertaken substantial initiatives in improving local health care by providing a mobile mammogram van, running Alcoholics Anonymous groups, and offering 24-session parenting classes. Additionally, the church co-sponsors quarterly health fairs with organizations such as the National Institutes of Health, whom they further assist in conducting bone-marrow screenings.

The Parish also has made strides in emergency assistance. St. Anthony's has relieved many people facing hardships by helping with medical costs and utility payments. The establishment of "Mary's House" enabled the church to aid single homeless mothers by providing them a caring environment. Moreover, St. Anthony's offers services such as counseling, tax assistance, Thanksgiving dinner, and the collection of Christmas gifts to those in need.

With all of these accomplishments, there is great reason for St. Anthony's and its community to celebrate. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I extend my warmest congratulations on their 50th Anniversary. The Parish most certainly has distinguished itself through its devotion to community service, and I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding 50 years of excellence.

PROPOSING A TAX LIMITATION
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITU-
TION OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose H.J. Res. 96, Tax Limitation Constitutional Amendment. There are three key points that are relevant to this constitutional amendment:

This Constitutional Amendment states that any bill changing the internal revenue laws will require approval by two-thirds of the Members of both the House and Senate.

A Constitutional Amendment must pass both houses of Congress by a 2/3 vote before it is passed onto the states for ratification.

Adoption of the 16th amendment in 1913 first allowed direct taxation of the American people by the federal government.

The underlying legislation of H.J. Res. 96, is an attempt to help the most well to do Americans through a constitutional amendment that limits the ability of Congress to raise taxes and cut deficits. It is no secret that this legislation is designed to disproportionately help the richest people in this country.

H.J. Res. 96 could make it difficult to maintain a balanced budget or to develop a responsible plan to restore Medicare or Social Security to long-term solvency. H.J. Res. 96 is a resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America with respect to tax limitations, that would require any bill, resolution, or other legislative measure changing the internal revenue laws require for final adoption in each House the concurrence of two-thirds of the Members of that House voting and present, unless the bill is determined at the time of adoption, in a reasonable manner prescribed by law, not to increase the internal revenue by more than a de minimis amount.

By requiring a two-thirds supermajority to adopt certain legislation, H.J. Res. 96 diminishes the vote of every Member of the House and Senate, denying the seminal concept of "one person one vote". This fundamental democratic principle insures that a small minority may not prevent passage of important legislation. This legislation presents a real danger to future balanced budgets and Medicare and Social Security.

Under H.J. Res. 96, it would be incredibly difficult obtaining the requisite two-thirds supermajority required to pass important, fiscally responsible deficit-reducing packages. And at a time in our history when the Baby Boomers are now retiring, H.J. Res. 96 could make it more difficult to increase Medicare premiums for those most able to pay their fair share of the bill, and could make it difficult balancing both Medicare and Social Security payroll taxes in the long term.

H.J. Res. 96 would make it nearly impossible to plug tax loopholes and eliminate corporate tax welfare, or even to increase tax enforcement against foreign corporations. H.J. Res. 96 would also make it nearly impossible to balance the budget, or develop a responsible plan to restore Medicare or Social Security to long-term financial solvency.

I am deeply troubled by the concept of divesting a Member of the full import of his or

her vote. As Professor Samuel Thompson, one of this Nation's leading tax law authorities, observed at a 1997 House Judiciary Subcommittee hearing on the same proposal: "the core problem with this proposed Constitutional amendment is that it would give special interest groups the upper hand in the tax legislative process."

By requiring a supermajority to do something as basic as getting the money to run government, H.J. Res. 96 diminishes the power of a member's vote. It is a diminution. It is a disparagement. It is inappropriate, and the fact that this particular amendment has failed seven times in a row suggests that Congress knows it.

H.J. Res. 96 will also make it nearly impossible to eliminate tax loopholes, thereby locking in the current tax system at the time of ratification. The core problem with this proposed constitutional amendment is that it would give special interest groups the upper hand in the tax legislative process. Once a group of taxpayers receives either a planned or unplanned tax benefit with a simple majority vote of both Houses of Congress, the group will then be able to preserve the tax benefit with just a 34 percent vote of one House of Congress.

In addition, H.J. Res. 96 would make it inordinately difficult to make foreign corporations pay their fair share of taxes on income earned in this country. Congress would even be limited from changing the law to increase penalties against foreign multinationals that avoid U.S. taxes by claiming that profits earned in the U.S. were realized in offshore tax havens. Estimates of the costs of such tax dodges are also significant. An Internal Revenue Service study estimated that foreign corporations cheated on their tax returns to the tune of \$30 billion per year.

Another definitional problem arises from the fact that it is unclear how and when the so-called "de minimis" increase is to be measured, particularly in the context of a roughly \$2 trillion annual budget. What if a bill resulted in increased revenues in years 1 and 2, but lower revenues thereafter? It is also unclear when the revenue impact is to be assessed, based on estimates prior to the bill's effective date, or subsequent determinations calculated many years out. Further, if a tax bill was retroactively found to be unconstitutional, the tax refund issues could present insurmountable logistical and budget problems.

I hope that my colleagues take seriously the path H.J. Res. 96 would lead us down were it to be adopted as is, therefore, I urge my colleagues to oppose H.J. Res. 96.

PROPOSING A TAX LIMITATION
AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITU-
TION OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, already this year is nearly half gone. But more than half our year's work remains undone—including consideration of the President's proposal to establish a new Department of Homeland Security. If we are to complete the year's

work on time, we need to put every day to good use. But that's not what we are doing today.

Instead, today the House is again considering a proposed constitutional amendment that was debated, and that failed of approval, just last year. I think that is a waste of time, especially since the proposal does not deserve to pass.

I'm not a lawyer, but it's clear that the language of the proposal is an invitation to litigation—in other words, to getting the courts involved even further in the law-making process. To say that Congress can define when a constitutional requirement would apply, provided that the Congressional decision is "reasonable," is to ask for lawsuits challenging whatever definition might be adopted. Aren't there enough lawsuits already over the tax laws? Do we need to invite more?

But more important than the technical aspects of this proposal, I think it is bad because it moves away from the basic principle of democracy—majority rule.

Under this proposal, there would be another category of bills that would require a two-thirds vote of both the House and the Senate.

That's bad enough as it applies here in the House, but consider what that means in the Senate. There, if any 34 Senators are opposed to something that take a two-thirds vote, it cannot be passed. And, of course, each state has the same representation regardless of population.

Consider what that means if the Senators in opposition are those from the 17 States with the fewest residents.

Looking at the results of the most recent census, the total population of the 17 least-populous states is about 21 million people.

That's a respectable number, but remember that the population of the country is more than 280 million.

So, what this resolution would do would be to give Senators representing about 7 percent of the American people the power to block some kinds of legislation—even if that legislation has sweeping support in the rest of the country, even if it had passed the House by an overwhelming margin, and even if it was responding to an urgent national need.

Right now, that kind of supermajority is needed under the constitution to ratify treaties, propose Constitutional amendments, and to do a few other things.

But this resolution does not deal with things of that kind. It deals only with certain tax bills—bills that under the constitution have to originate here, in the House. Those are the bills that would be covered by this increase in the power of Senators who could represent such a very small minority of the American people.

Why would we want to do that? Are the proponents of this constitutional amendment so afraid of majority rule? Why else would they be so eager to reduce the stature of this body, the House of Representatives, as compared with our colleagues in the Senate?

Remember, that's what this is all about—"internal revenue," however that term might be defined by Congress or by the courts. When Congress debates taxes, it is deciding what funds are to be raised under Congress's Constitutional authority to "pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States." Those are serious and important decisions, to be sure, but

what is wrong with continuing to have them made under the principle of majority rule—meaning by the members of Congress who represent the majority of the American people?

So, Mr. Speaker, I cannot support this proposed change in the Constitution. Our country has gotten along well without it for two centuries. It is not needed. It would not solve any problem—in fact, it probably would create new ones—and it would weaken the basic principle of democratic government, majority rule. It should not be approved.

IN HONOR OF YONG SOO JUN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Yong Soo Jun, who has actively promoted the interests of Korean-American entertainers.

Mr. Jun, who currently lives in Fresh Meadow, New York, moved to New York from Chicago in 1980, and immediately became affiliated with the Korean American Entertainers Association, which at the time, had about thirty members. Over the next six years, Mr. Jun participated in and helped organize many charitable events and performances for the Korean community throughout New York and New Jersey.

In 1986, for business purposes, Mr. Jun moved to Virginia, and spent the next ten years traveling from state to state. During this time, Mr. Jun constantly organized and participated in numerous events, bringing smiles to the faces of virtually everyone with whom he came into contact.

Upon his return to New York in 1996, Mr. Jun picked up where he left off. He immediately resumed his activity with the Korean American Entertainers Association, which by then had increased its membership to about 100, and became President of the organization in 2001. As President, Mr. Jun met Reverend Solomon Y. Kim, the pastor of the Miral Church, in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. Their collaboration has produced many special events, including a performance at Brookdale Hospital's Shulman Institute Nursing Home, and charity events for children with leukemia. A devoted husband and father, Mr. Jun used to view receiving an applause after one of his performances as his ultimate goal, but has found another calling in life in helping others in need.

Therefore, I would like to acknowledge Mr. Yong Soo Jun for his accomplishments and volunteer work for the communities of New York.

TRIBUTE TO CITY OF WESTMINSTER FOR DISTINGUISHED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Westminster,

Colorado. This outstanding community was recently recognized at the 40th Annual Excellence in Government Awards Program hosted by the Denver Federal Executive Board as the recipient of the Distinguished Local Government Award.

Westminster, in the Congressional District I am proud to represent, has used the concept of "Improvement through Cooperation" as it strives to improve local services through a series of innovative intergovernmental cooperative agreements with local, state and federal government partners.

The City has taken a leadership role in providing strong, representative management on complex issues that affect citizens living in Westminster and surrounding communities. Westminster led the way in 1980, bringing the cities of Thornton and Northglenn and other stakeholders to set up a water-monitoring program that led to The Clear Creek Watershed Management Agreement in 1994. Over a period of 20 years the original agreement has been expanded to more than 23 entities that benefit from this successful watershed-monitoring program. Water quality has been improved and enhanced and many ancillary groups help in the sampling efforts, sample collection and quality assurance.

In 1986 Westminster negotiated a first of its kind intergovernmental agreement with the city of Thornton to address the development of the Interstate 25 corridor to make a commitment to study and plan for orderly growth and development. The goal was to simplify governmental structure and reduce and avoid friction between the two cities. This groundbreaking agreement crafted a joint land use plan, established annexation and service areas and revenue sharing.

In 1997, Westminster led the way again by taking the leadership on a second intergovernmental agreement with the cities of Broomfield and Thornton to study additional highway interchanges on Interstate 25 as the traffic impacts continued to grow. New intergovernmental agreements were signed, original agreements were amended to meet current needs and the citizens of these communities have highway corridors that are designed to address traffic demands.

Water rights and water quality are concerns for every western city. In a state with limited supplies and an expanding population, carefully negotiated water agreements are critical to limiting legal disputes and preserving financial resources. Fourteen years ago, Westminster provided regional leadership when it signed the Clear Creek Water Quality Agreement with three neighboring cities and the Coors Brewing Company. Citizens have cleaner, more abundant supplies of water and can be proud of the sophisticated legal agreement that has served the partnership for more than a decade.

Regional parks, libraries and recreation facilities have all been enhanced by cooperative agreements with neighboring cities and educational institutions. Strong intergovernmental agreements expand services for local residents in several communities. New golf courses, fitness centers, ice skating arenas and parks with campsites, hiking trails, campgrounds and water recreation all provide exceptional leisure time activities.

On a personal note, I have, on my own, "adopted" a section of the Dry Creek open space in Westminster as a way to help main-

tain the quality of life and the environment of this community. Through these efforts, along with many volunteers, I have witnessed firsthand the pride that the citizens of this city have for their community and its environment. This dedication has also been manifest in the City's extensive oversight of the cleanup of the Rocky Flats facility, a former nuclear weapons production facility that exists just west of Westminster. The City was one of the first to suggest that this site be converted into a national wildlife refuge once it is cleaned and closed.

Westminster continues to find innovative ways to partner with private corporations, sister communities, public officials and local citizens to bring a superior quality of life to its residents. I applaud Westminster for the outstanding examples of cooperative agreements that have been instituted and look forward to their continued success on behalf of the Coloradans they serve.

COMMEMORATING HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY SHANE BENNETT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor the memory of a brave law enforcement officer, Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Shane Bennett. Deputy Bennett was killed early Wednesday morning, as he and two other deputies charged into a home and stopped a robbery and assault on an innocent family.

He and his fellow officers were summoned by a 911 call from a teenaged girl. Five gang members had broken into their house, and were in threatening the ten people inside with guns. Tragically, it appears that they had made a mistake, since they were demanding jewelry, money, and drugs, none of which these innocent people possessed.

While only two members of the family were shot, a woman of 22 and her 3 month old son, the outcome could have been much worse if the officers had not arrived and come to the family's rescue.

These assailants were all members of the Latin Kings street gang, and two of them had criminal records, including weapons possession charges. Two of them were killed by the officers, and the rest were tracked down and captured by an intensive manhunt through the nearby woods and homes by officers from a half-dozen local police agencies.

After hearing of the shooting, law-enforcement officers from all over the Houston area gathered at Memorial Hermann Hospital, prepared to roll up their sleeves and give the gift of life for their brother in arms.

Sadly, as they arrived, they were met with the news of Deputy Bennett's death, and could do nothing but comfort his family, and each other.

Shane Bennett, 29 years old, was a member of the class of 1990 at Spring High School, in north Harris County. He had been patrolling the second patrol district, which covers 300 square miles of unincorporated Harris County, since 1997.

His colleagues remember him as a dedicated officer, who loved his job. He was

known for his eagerness to combat the drug trade in this area, and was often involved in breaking up meth labs, a dangerous job due to the volatility of the chemicals used in the process.

Ed Christensen, president of the Harris County Deputies' Association, remembered him as a tireless and hardworking officer. He also said, "Shane died a hero. What would have happened if he hadn't been there? He laid down his life and gave the ultimate sacrifice. He absolutely laid down his life for his fellow man."

Deputy Bennett is survived by his wife, Teresa, and his 20 month old daughter, Alyssa. According to reports, as he lay mortally wounded, the name of the young girl who will never know her father was the last words he was able to speak.

We are indebted to Shane Bennett for his courage, and we share the grief of his family and offer kind words, knowing that it is a poor substitute for their loss.

Every day, ordinary men and women make an extraordinary commitment when they put on the badge that symbolizes the oath they took to protect and serve, the badge that also makes them a target. Every day, they leave their families behind, not knowing if they will come home that night.

Congress should continue to make sure that we keep our commitment to the law enforcement by providing funding for more officers, better equipment, and advanced training. It not only saves the lives of officers, but it makes our families, our homes, and our neighborhoods a safer place to live.

HONORING SUFFOLK COUNTY OFFICERS AND LOIS APRILE AND DENISE BRENNAN

HON. FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Suffolk County Officers Lois Aprile and Denise Brennan who have been selected as the recipients of the Rotary Club of Smithtown's 32nd Annual Peter J. Biegon Award.

Police Officers Aprile and Brennan were appointed to the Suffolk County Police Department on January 25, 1988. After graduating from the Police Academy they were assigned to the Fourth Precinct, assuming the duty of patrol officers. Their professional association and friendship go back many years.

It wasn't long after being assigned to the Fourth Precinct that it became evident that these two energetic officers were committed to establishing programs to benefit a wide range of community interests. In recognition of these efforts, they were both assigned to the Fourth Precinct COPE Unit in 1995.

Police Officer Aprile is certified as a crime prevention officer, a school—resource officer and a DARE instructor. She is currently working toward the completion of a master's degree in counseling at C.W. Post, L.I.U. She is a member of several committees, including the Sachem Committee on Drugs, Hauppauge School District Drug Task Force and is a board member of the Smithtown Veterans Youth Program. She is also a member of the

Long Island Association of Crime Prevention Officers.

She acts as a volunteer for the Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts and serves as a religion education instructor for St. Philip and James Church. She gives freely of her time to the Special Olympics, Toys for Tots and various community outreach groups.

As one of the precinct's school liaison officers she helped create a program at the Smithtown Middle School to decrease problems among students relating to theft, fighting and other misconduct.

She has been recognized as cop of the month and has received several awards from public officials for her work with the Smithtown Veteran's Youth Program.

Police Officer Brennan has received certifications as a school resource officer and crime prevention officer. She is a member of the NYS Juvenile Officers Association.

She also serves as one of our school liaison officers and sits on several committees addressing youth development and delinquency prevention programs. She is a member of the S.A.F.E. Schools Committee, Kings Park Compass, Sachem Teen Driving Committee and the Raynor Park Youth Program.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF 19TH CENTURY ITALIAN-AMERICAN INVENTOR ANTONIO MEUCCI

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2002

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of legislation considered by the House this week which calls attention to an under recognized historical figure, Antonio Meucci, and his work on an invention that we today know as the telephone. Mr. Meucci is a testament to the hard work and innovation that made America great.

Most Americans know the story of Alexander Graham Bell, the man given sole credit for the invention of the telephone. This resolution makes clear, though, that another man made enormous strides in laying the groundwork for the invention, an Italian immigrant by the name of Antonio Meucci.

Antonio Meucci was born near Florence, Italy, in 1808. He studied mechanical engineering at Florence's Academy of Fine Arts and then worked in the Teatro della Pergola and various other theaters as a stage technician until 1835, when he accepted a job as a scenic designer and stage technician in Havana, Cuba.

Fascinated by research, Meucci read every scientific tract he could get his hands on, and spent all his spare time in Havana on research, inventing a new method of galvanizing metals that he applied to military equipment for the Cuban government. At the same time, he continued his work in the theater and pursued his experiments.

As a result of his research, Meucci had developed a method of using electric shocks to treat various illnesses. One day, while preparing to administer such a treatment, Meucci heard his friend's voice over the piece of copper wire running between them. He realized

he had stumbled onto something much more important than any other discovery he had ever made, and he spent the next ten years bringing the principle to a practical stage. The following decade was to be spent perfecting the original device.

Antonio Meucci called his work on this project, "teletrofano." Meucci was unable to commercialize his invention because he did not speak enough English to navigate the American business community, and, having spent most of his life savings on his work, he was unable to raise sufficient funds to pay his way through the patent process. Instead, he had to settle for a caveat, a one-year renewable notice of an impending patent, which Meucci first filed in 1871.

While a brilliant inventor, Meucci was victim of a series of financial and personal misfortunes. A Western Union affiliate laboratory—where Meucci was keeping his models to demonstrate his work—reportedly lost his working models, and as Meucci—was subsidizing off public assistance, he could not afford the \$10 necessary to renew the caveat in 1874. In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell, who conducted experiments in the same laboratory where Meucci's materials had been stored, was granted a patent, and thereafter credited with inventing the telephone. Nine months later, the government moved to annul Bell's patent on the grounds of fraud and misrepresentation, which the Supreme Court remanded for trial.

Meucci died in 1889, the Bell patent expired in 1893 and the case was discounted as moot without ever uncovering the true inventor of the telephone. If Meucci were able to renew his caveat, a patent to Bell could have never been issued.

The world of science and invention is a highly competitive one, where inventors compete to make and market their discoveries. It is only right that we call attention to the work of one brilliant inventor who history has not given his proper due, and who made enormous contributions toward the invention of this device. I urge support for the bill.

RECOGNIZING WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT DR. JOHN L. HENDERSON

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Dr. John L. Henderson, who, for the past 14 years, has served as the president of Wilberforce University, which is located in Greene County, Ohio in the 7th Congressional District.

On June 30th, Dr. Henderson will be retiring after a distinguished career in which he served at Wilberforce and in leadership positions at Xavier University, the University of Cincinnati, Sinclair Community College and Cincinnati Technical College. He also has taught education, counseling and psychology courses since 1966.

Dr. Henderson's tenure at Wilberforce has been marked by many accomplishments, not the least of which is the institution's physical growth. Some of the major facilities constructed during his tenure include: a health

and wellness center, a gymnasium/student activities center, new dormitories, a communications center and a new administration building.

As a former member of the Wilberforce Board of Trustees, I have always found Dr. Henderson to be a dedicated educator and administrator, and a true advocate for the students and faculty at Wilberforce. His professional demeanor and extensive experience in Ohio's outstanding system of higher education have always made it a pleasure to work with Dr. Henderson and I have been privileged to have been able to work on the school's behalf in the Ohio State Senate and in Congress.

Dr. Henderson's comprehensive knowledge of higher education has been recognized with his selection to leadership positions in numerous educational organizations. He is a member of: the Board of Directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the Council of Independent Colleges and Universities, the National Commission of Cooperative Education, the Council of Presidents of The College Fund/United Negro College Fund, Minorities in Mathematics, Science and Engineering and the Givat Haviva Educational Foundation that oversees the education of college students in Israel.

Most recently, President George W. Bush appointed Dr. Henderson to serve on the President's Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Henderson received his bachelor's degree from the Hampton Institute in 1955, and his Master's degree in Education in Counseling and Guidance from the University of Cincinnati. Dr. Henderson continued his studies at the University of Cincinnati and received his Doctorate of Education in Counselor Education.

As Ohio's Seventh District Representative to the Congress of the United States, I take this opportunity to publicly recognize Dr. Henderson and his achievements on behalf of Wilberforce University. His many contributions to the educational growth of the nation's oldest privately funded historically black co-educational institution of higher learning are noteworthy and I thank him for his service.

A TRIBUTE TO HOWARD PITSCHE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Howard Pitsch in recognition of his long-term dedication to his community.

Howard is a twenty-year resident of Fort Greene who has assisted in promoting the progressive revitalization of the community. He is the chair of the Fort Greene Association, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to historic preservation, strengthening community relations and improving the quality of life and parks. In this position, he has used his professional expertise as a marketing manager for Newsweek to enhance the profile of this vital community organization.

He builds relationships with social and cultural organizations to improve the Fort Greene and Downtown Brooklyn areas. The Fort Greene Association sponsors a scholarship for a student to attend the Brooklyn Music School. The Association also works to restore Fort

Greene Park and contributes to the creation of a Brooklyn Bridge Park.

As Fort Greene Association Chair, he serves as the liaison between the Association and elected officials, Community Board Two, the 88th Precinct Council and the Brooklyn Borough President's office. His ability to juggle and maintain these various relationships is a true talent.

Mr. Speaker, Howard Pitsch has dedicated himself to serving his Brooklyn community. As such, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

IN TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT FIRST CLASS DANIEL ROMERO

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an American hero. Sergeant First Class Daniel Romero was killed while diffusing ordnance in Afghanistan on April 15, 2002. A member of the Colorado National Guard from Lafayette, Colorado, Daniel was called to active duty following the September 11 attacks against our country.

A ten-year veteran of the National Guard, Daniel was a communications specialist in the Special Forces. He also attended jump school, language school, and paramedic school. Daniel received the highest praise from his fellow soldiers including his Master Sergeant, who said, "I always rode him hard and every time he stepped up to the plate." He was sent with his unit to Afghanistan as a paramedic coordinator and ended up mastering a new communications system that had confused the rest of the unit. Daniel's versatility was just one of the traits that made him a model soldier.

Like so many of our brave men and women, Daniel left his home to defend his country. He left behind his parents Michael and GERALYN, his two sisters Stephanie and Gabrielle, and his new wife Stephanie Wendorf. To them, our humble nation thanks them and praises them, for they have paid the ultimate price in the name of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, as we are engaged in this battle to free the world from terror, I am sure that every one of my colleagues will join me in saluting Sergeant First Class Daniel Romero. His dedication and devotion to his family, his unit, and his country can serve as an example to all Americans. He is a symbol of the values that makes America great and is a testament to the spirit that will see this country through even these troubled times.

CONGRATULATING NASA AND DR. FRANKLIN CHANG-DÍAZ FOR A SHUTTLE MISSION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate NASA on the successful launch of the Space Shuttle Endeavour on June 6. This important mission has delivered the Expedition Five crew, and continues to in-

stall the Leonardo Multi-Purpose Logistics Module and the Mobile Remote Servicer Base System on the International Space Station.

This launch marks Endeavour's 18th flight and also marks the 14th shuttle flight to the space station. This launch is also historically significant because Astronaut Franklin Chang-Díaz makes a record-tying seventh flight into space. He now shares the record with Astronaut Jerry Ross.

During this mission, Astronaut Franklin Chang-Díaz, along with French Space Agency Astronaut Philippe Perrin have also preformed three scheduled spacewalks that continue the assembly of the International Space Station. These extravehicular activities mark the first time that Chang-Díaz and Perrin have been the first spacewalks for both astronauts.

Four years ago, I had the privilege of meeting and getting to know Dr. Franklin Chang-Díaz, an outstanding scientist and an accomplished astronaut. During this four year period, Dr. Chang-Díaz has accompanied me to nine middle schools in my district to talk about the importance of our national space program and to encourage students to take more math and science classes. I have also had the opportunity to visit his plasma propulsion laboratory at the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Dr. Chang-Díaz is a man of many talents. Not only is he the second human to make seven space flights, he is also currently developing the new Variable Specific Impulse Magnetoplasma Rocket (VASIMR) concept. The VASIMR prototype rocket engine is designed to shorten the trip to Mars and provide a safer environment for the crew.

Dr. Chang-Díaz has been working with scientists at NASA and the Department of Energy to develop this project. To date, he has been able to secure just enough funding to keep the project operating. However, this project is too important to allow it to just survive. I am hopeful that NASA will quickly realize the need to have a dedicated stream of funding for the VASIMR project.

Our nation is fortunate to have such outstanding individuals, like Dr. Chang-Díaz and the other crew members, as part of our national space program. Our NASA astronauts are scheduled to arrive back to earth on Monday, June 17. At that time, I look forward to welcoming back our heroes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Astronaut Franklin Chang-Díaz, the Johnson Space Center in Houston and everyone at NASA for a successful launch and a successful mission.

HONORING NADINE CIOFFI AND THE WILLIAM FLOYD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Ms. Nadine Cioffi and the William Floyd Elementary School in Mastic Beach, New York, upon their receipt of The New York State Health Facilities Association's "Group Volunteer of the Year" award for 2002.

Ms. Cioffi is honored today for her unwavering commitment to the students of William

Floyd Elementary School by establishing a pen-pal club 13 years ago for her 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders.

Every September the students of Ms. Cioffi's classes send letters to the residents of Cedar Lodge Nursing Home in Center Moriches, New York and have the opportunity to meet with their pen pals later in the year. This program has served to enrich the lives of both students and seniors alike.

The value of bringing lives together has been rich and fulfilling. Students have the opportunity to speak and listen to seniors who have much to give of themselves. Students provide company and friendship to the residents of Cedar Lodge, friendship they might not otherwise have received in their day to day lives.

Ms. Cioffi has shown a commitment to excellence and a spirit of ingenuity that has fostered a thriving relationship between her students and residents of Cedar Lodge Nursing Home. She has planted and nurtured the seeds of friendship and virtue within the budding minds of her students. I am truly touched by her devotion, and wish her success in all of her future endeavors.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY HONORS
MR. ALLEN M. SILK, ESQ.

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize, honor and thank Mr. Allen Silk, a dedicated advocate for abused and neglected children and their families in the Trenton/Mercer County area since 1976.

Over four separate decades, Mr. Silk has been active in helping children and families through the Mill Hill Child and Family Development Corporation. Established in 1971 as a child care center and safe haven for babies ages 2–12 months, Allen has helped to expand the center's reach tremendously. Specifically, Allen Silk has helped to expand the services of the Mill Hill Center from just sixty children to over one hundred and forty children at any given time.

Mr. Silk has also played an integral role in forming the Mill Hill Foundation, and in doing so he has aided in raising awareness and funds for the abused and neglected children at the Mill Hill Center. By increasing awareness, Mr. Silk has helped many Americans to come to terms with the reality of child abuse and neglect.

I commend Mr. Silk on the work he has done to help children and families. Mr. Silk has helped those children who do not have a chance to defend themselves from the ravages of abuse and neglect, and I am sure that Mr. Silk has helped to improve the lives of thousands of children.

Allen Silk has truly been a champion for those children and families served by Mill Hill. I am very pleased to be able to recognize his passion and devotion to helping so many people.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, again, I rise to celebrate and honor this true New Jersey treasure. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Allen M. Silk, Esq. of the Mill Hill Child and Family Development Corporation.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF
THE OHIO BURGEE

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the adoption of the Ohio state flag, which is officially and affectionately known as the Ohio burgee because of its unique swallowtail design. The Buckeye State is the only state in the union to have a flag that isn't rectangular, which is fitting, since Ohio is unlike any other state.

Cuyahoga County resident John Eisenmann designed the burgee and then transferred his rights and interests in the flag to the State of Ohio. He received a U.S. patent for his design in 1901 and the Ohio Legislature officially adopted it on May 9, 1902. Mr. Eisenmann, an accomplished architect, may have been inspired by the shapes of the guidons carried by the U.S. cavalry. The flag was intended to be first flown from the Ohio building at the Pan-American Exposition of 1901, a circumstance which also may have contributed to its unusual shape. Mr. Eisenmann also designed the Cleveland Arcade; was instrumental in the effort to construct the Perry Victory and International Peace Memorial at Put-In-Bay, and authored Cleveland's first comprehensive building code.

The flag's large blue triangle represents Ohio's hills and valleys, and the stripes represent roads and waterways. The 13 stars grouped about the circle represent the original states of the union; the 4 stars added to the peak of the triangle symbolize that Ohio was the 17th state admitted to the union. The white circle with its red center not only represents the "O" in Ohio, but also suggests Ohio's famous nickname of "The Buckeye State."

For 100 years, the Ohio burgee has been one of the most instantly recognizable symbols of the State of Ohio. It has flown beside Old Glory on thousands of flagpoles and been carried in parades celebrating our independence, noteworthy events in state history, even at the head of columns of Ohio troops returning from conflicts overseas.

As we look forward to the upcoming Centennial of Flight celebration in Dayton and the state Bicentennial in 2003, I encourage all Ohioans to proudly display their Ohio burgee on its 100th anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND CRAIG
B. CADDY SR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Rev. Craig B. Caddy Sr. and his spiritual service in the community.

Born to Lucille Atkins, Rev. Caddy began his ministry 19 years ago under the leadership and teachings of the late Rev. Dr. D.W. Batts in his native home of Bedford-Stuyvesant. He realized the needs of his community and saw the vital role that the church played in meeting those needs. In 1999, he was called to serve as the Pastor of the Friendship Baptist

Church. Since then, he has built the Friendship Baptist Church into a community centered institution that provides GED preparation and testing, computer literacy, computerized book-keeping, computer technology, introductory Spanish courses, as well as a partnership with Phoenix House of America.

Rev. Caddy is currently a board member of the NAACP, the Bedford Stuyvesant Legal Services, the State University of New York (BEOC), the Neighborhood Advisory Board, and the Community Action Board. In addition, he serves on the Chaplain Staff of the New York City Police Department and the Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Rev. Caddy is not only a spiritual father to his community, but also the father of two children of his own, Nyasha Joy and Craig Jr.

The Bedford Stuyvesant community is blessed to have Rev. Caddy serving them. May God continue to bless him and the work that he does. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Rev. Craig B. Caddy Sr.

A BILL TO AMEND THE TOXIC
SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT AND
THE FEDERAL INSECTICIDE,
FUNGICIDE, AND RODENTICIDE
ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleague Representative PAUL GILLMOR in introducing legislation submitted by the Administration which would implement three very important international agreements involving the distribution and sale of chemicals and pesticides in international commerce.

This legislation will amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, and the Toxic Substances Control Act in order to comply with our obligations under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs Convention), the Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution on Persistent Organic Pollutants (LRTAP POPs Protocol), and the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (PIC Convention).

Due to their unique characteristics, POPs, which include substances such as DDT, PCBs and dioxins, are chemicals of both local and global concern. POPs are toxic, persist in the environment for long periods of time, and accumulate as they move up the food chain. The United States, among the very first to call for a global POPs Convention, provided strong leadership throughout the negotiations to bring this important environmental treaty to a successful conclusion.

Likewise, the PIC procedure is designed to give participating countries in the developing world information about the risks posed by banned or severely restricted chemicals, as well as certain severely hazardous pesticide formulations.

Each of these conventions represent a well thought out and balanced approach at gaining international agreement on procedures to protect human health and the environment. I commend all of the negotiators from the

present and past administrations that worked on these agreements.

Mr. Speaker, the legislation we introduce today represents a starting point from which Chairman GILLMOR, working through his Subcommittee on Energy and Commerce, and I

through mine on Agriculture, will build bipartisan legislation under which the United States would be in full compliance with our international obligations under these conventions.

I look forward to working with my colleagues, the Administration, and interested

constituencies to develop this legislation and ensure that the United States continues to hold our position of leadership in developing effective, achievable and balanced international environmental policy.