

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the Centennial Junior High School ninth grade class before this body of Congress and this nation for their outstanding service to the State of Colorado and this country. The documentary video they are producing will be distributed nationwide, providing indispensable guidance to a countless number of Americans. There is no telling how many homes and lives their efforts will save in the years ahead. I thank them for their dedication to their community and our environment.

TRIBUTE TO THE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call attention to another achievement of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, based in Golden, Colorado. It is appropriate that on its 25th anniversary, the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) has garnered yet another award recognizing its contributions to the development of clean energy technologies.

In its December issue, *Scientific American* magazine has named NREL one of the *Scientific American* 50—the magazine's first list recognizing annual contributions to science and technology that provide a vision of a better future.

NREL, along with Spectrolab Inc., was selected by the magazine for its work in increasing the efficiency of photovoltaic solar cells. NREL's research into multi-junction solar cells for more than a decade has led the way to ever more efficient cells, offering the potential of cheaper electricity from the sun.

The magazine noted that all the recipients of the *Scientific American* 50 have "demonstrated clear, progressive views of what our technological future could be, as well as the leadership, knowledge and expertise essential to realizing those visions."

I continue to be proud of the tremendous contributions that the National Renewable Energy Laboratory has made—to Colorado, our country, and our world. Congratulations to all at NREL on this important award.

IN HONOR OF THE JOINT PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FOR OLDER ADULTS

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Joint Public Affairs Committee for Older Adults on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. Since 1977, JPAC has been committed to ensuring a voice for older New Yorkers in community change and the policy-making processes that affect their lives. I have been proud to stand with JPAC many times through the years, and it is my great pleasure to congratulate JPAC on this occasion and to join their celebration.

For 25 years, JPAC's citizen leaders have worked tirelessly to improve the lives of all

New Yorkers by empowering older adults to advocate on their own behalf. JPAC educates older adults on legislative and consumer issues, in addition to providing them with important information on benefits and entitlements for which they may be eligible. JPAC has enabled a growing number of older people to participate in efforts to influence public policy while leading senior centers around the city to incorporate education and advocacy into its programs in innovative ways. Over the years, JPAC has come to play a significant role in promoting cooperation within the aging community around issues of shared concern.

Among the programs I find most valuable is JPAC's ten-week intensive leadership training program, known as the Institute for Senior Action. For eight years, the Institute for Senior Action has given seniors the skills necessary to become more effective advocates in our community. Having had the opportunity to join JPAC at several of the Institute's graduation ceremonies, I have seen firsthand the pride, enthusiasm, and commitment to the community that JPAC's programs instill in participants.

From consumer protection, to community safety, to health care and coverage, JPAC has contributed to the quality of life of all New Yorkers. I congratulate JPAC's staff, leadership and volunteers on a quarter century of success, and I wish them the very best for the future.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LURA POWELL

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, two years ago, Battelle selected a new leader for the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in my home community of the Tri-Cities, Washington. She came to our Washington from a distinguished government career in the "other" Washington, the Nation's Capitol, as director of the Department of Commerce's Advanced Technology Program. Her tenure there, and her training as an analytical chemist, brought unique talent to serve this laboratory. She is also the first woman selected to serve as director of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory. I am, of course, speaking about Dr. Lura Powell. Dr. Powell announced recently that she will step down as director at the end of this year, and I want to thank her for her commitment and leadership in the community.

Among her accomplishments, Lura will be remembered for her commitment to leverage the capabilities of the Laboratory to develop academic partnerships in the region. While Director, she signed Memorandums of Understanding with the University of Washington for the Institute for Nanoscience, the Joint Institute for Cell Signaling, and the Center for Global Security; a Northwest Bioproducts Research Institute with Washington State University, University of Idaho, and the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory; and The Collaborative Research and Education program with Oregon State Universities and the Oregon Health Sciences University.

Dr. Powell's commitment to the Tri-Cities community and the state of Washington is evi-

denced by her many activities and board memberships. At home, she has been a tireless promoter of economic growth and science education. She helped create and advocate a vision for the Tri-Cities that calls on everyone to stretch the limits of what is possible. She serves on the board of directors of the Kadlec Medical Center, the United Way of the Benton-Franklin Counties, the Tri-City Industrial Development Council and the Three Rivers Community Roundtable and the Junior Achievement of the Greater Tri-Cities. For the State of Washington, she is a member of the Washington Roundtable and serves on the Washington Technology Alliance Board.

I want to thank Lura for her leadership these past two and a half years and to wish her, her husband, Art, and her daughters much happiness and good health. I hope they will make their home in the Tri-Cities so that we may all continue to benefit from their involvement.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 5712

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 13, 2002

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to introduce today H.R. 5712, a bill to improve roadway safety for motorists, bicyclists, pedestrians and workers in proximity to vehicular traffic.

In this Congress we have spent, and likely for years to come will spend, a great amount of time trying to secure our homeland from terrorist threats. But, we will never be truly secure, if our families and communities continue to face daily the risk of disabling or life threatening motor vehicle crashes—today's leading killer of American young people. Motor vehicle crashes kill more than 42,000 people and injure more than 3 million people every year. These crashes cost our economy more than \$230.6 billion a year or an average of \$820 for every person living in the United States.

We have learned a great deal about making our roadways safer for the traveling public, since we began the national Interstate construction program nearly fifty years ago. Among the most successful federal safety programs is the Section 130 Railway-Highway Grade Crossings program. The U. S. Secretary of Transportation's "1996 Annual Report to Congress" found that this single program prevented 8,500 fatalities and 38,900 non-fatal injuries since 1974. This Report also stated that fatal, nonfatal-injury, and combined fatal-plus-nonfatal-injury accident rates have been reduced by 87, 64 and 68 percent, respectively. The Department of Transportation no longer compiles this data, but the program continues to save lives everyday.

We have much work ahead of us to improve further roadway safety in America. This bill that I am introducing today will expedite the use of proven solutions to reduce the likelihood of crashes, injuries, and fatalities and I urge its rapid adoption.

Since their inception, the Section 130 program and the Section 152 Hazard Elimination program have made available to States significant funding to reduce risks on dangerous roadways. Increasing State flexibility and reallocating, funding; clarifying and expanding project eligibility, and improving data collection, analysis, and reporting will further enhance their effectiveness.