

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO NORTH SAN MATEO COUNTY BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today and urge my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Boys and Girls Club of North San Mateo County on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary.

This extraordinary organization traces its roots back to April 16, 1953, when the State of California granted the South San Francisco Boys Club non-profit status. Nine years after being recognized by the state, the Boys Club of America elected the South San Francisco Boys Club to full membership. During the following decades, the South San Francisco club continued to expand, and in the early 1970's began granting memberships to young girls. A merger with the Pacifica Boys and Girls Club augmented the continued growth of the club, and the collective organization changed its name in 1991 to the Boys and Girls Club of North San Mateo County.

While its name may have changed, the club continues to inspire and assists all young people, especially those from disadvantaged circumstances, to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens. Providing a safe place to learn and grow, the Boys and Girls Club of North San Mateo County remains focused on its founding mission through five core areas of development. These areas, leadership skills, education, career development, health and life skills and the arts are key elements to providing a secure foundation from which the kids of today can develop into the leaders of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, the Boys and Girls Club serves more than 3.3 million boys and girls at 3,103 locations across the nation and around the world. The illustrious roster of alumni include Bill Cosby, Alex Rodriguez, Brad Pitt, Michael Jordan, President Clinton, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, Martin Sheen, Derek Jeter, Neil Diamond, and Denzel Washington. Since its inception in 1931 the Boys and Girls Club of America has made a difference in the lives of countless American children. However, it is with great pride that I am proud to say of all the locations the Club of Northern San Mateo County is the best around, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Club on its 50th Anniversary.

GARY BRADLEY—ONE MILLION ACCIDENT FREE MILES

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the hard work and professionalism of Mr. Gary Bradley, a constituent of mine from Asheville, North Carolina.

Mr. Bradley, who drives a tractor-trailer truck for the Roadways Express terminal in Asheville, North Carolina, was recently recognized for an outstanding achievement; driving one million accident free miles. Mr. Bradley is the head of the Roadways Express terminal's Injury Prevention Information program, which focuses on teaching defensive driving skills, which can prevent often fatal accidents. Gary's recent milestone proves that he certainly practices what he preaches.

Bradley has earned the plaudits of several of his colleagues. Asheville terminal manager Joel Pressley said "It's very rare when one of our drivers hit that mark. And the fact that he is an inner-city driver and why he drove a million miles is why we think it is so significant. I would consider him one of our best drivers."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 11th Congressional District of North Carolina, I want to thank Gary Bradley for his commitment to safety. He makes our highways safer and getting to our final destination a lot easier.

DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce and discuss a Concurrent Resolution concerning North Korea. It calls on North Korea and the United States, in a demonstration of good faith, to return to an interim level of compliance with the Agreed Framework.

Once both nations have agreed that this is an acceptable starting point, diplomatic negotiations can begin, and we can work together to develop a more comprehensive and mutually acceptable agreement or treaty.

Last year, when North Korea admitted that it has been operating a covert nuclear weapons program, I immediately introduced a Resolution condemning those actions and calling on North Korea and the United States to honor their commitments in the Agreed Framework.

The existence of a North Korean nuclear weapons program constitutes a real and imminent threat to the populations of South Korea, and Japan, and certainly to the U.S. forces stationed in those countries.

I was certain then, as I am now, that our wisest course of action was to meet our obligations under the Agreed Framework and continue monthly heavy fuel oil shipments to North Korea. I was also certain that if we did not honor our commitments, tensions between our two nations would rise at an alarming rate.

Regrettably, my Resolution was neither considered nor adopted in the 107th Congress. And indeed, the situation with North Korea has gone from bad to worse.

I have watched incredulously as this Administration has stumbled again and again, making a bad situation worse, because it has failed to develop even the rudimentary beginnings of a policy to deal with North Korea.

Enough is enough. Between our poorly defined declaration of war against terrorism and our imminent war with Iraq, we have all the conflict we can handle.

The crisis in North Korea is a serious one, and I don't for a moment believe that resuming an interim level of compliance with the Agreed Framework will be the end of it.

However, I do believe that we must do something to resolve this impasse and we must also do something to garner support for those nations most effected by North Korea's nuclear weapons capabilities—South Korea, Japan, and China.

If, in a show of good faith, we resume our obligations, we will be much more likely to have the support of those nations if sanctions are necessary in the future.

The responsibility for complying with treaty obligations rests with the two nations that signed the Agreed Framework—the United States and North Korea.

The responsibility for certifying that North Korea is in compliance with its portion of the Agreed Framework rests with the IAEA.

The responsibility for determining appropriate sanctions if North Korea fails to comply with its portions of the Agreed Framework rests with the United Nations.

It's that simple.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. I believe it will establish our nation as a leader in seeking diplomatic solutions to complicated problems and will be the first step in a developing a policy with North Korea that is achievable, attainable, and supportable by other nations as well.

TRIBUTE TO THE BALDWINVILLE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' SOCCER TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the victorious Baldwinsville High School Girls' Soccer team for winning the 2002 State Class A state soccer championship. This stellar team was the first Section III, Class A team to ever win a state soccer title.

• 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.

This great triumph is a direct result of years of hard work, discipline, dedication, and devotion to the sport. The players, coaching staff, and parents brought the game of soccer to new levels, and the entire team should be congratulated for a season that will no doubt go down both in school and district history.

I would like to recognize Coach Lisa Deil for guiding this team to victory, and for being recently named state coach of the year.

On behalf of the people of the entire 25th District of New York, I would like to congratulate the following champions for reaching such an exciting goal: Kate Ferrara, Jessilyn Fritz, Brenna Sexton, Lindsey Belle, Madison Gates, Ashley Gray, McKenzie Gray, Megan Jenkins, Vanessa Kenyon, Shaylyn Lawrence, Tessa Schraven, Carly Schurman, Mallory Wilder, Jessica Bill, Emily Mahar, Kim Ross, Dana Sheftic, Julianne Hasbrouck, Stacey Schurman, Danielle Wilder, Head Coach Lisa Deil, and Assistant Coach Jake Czyz.

HONORING DR. PETE MEHAS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Pete Mehas, Superintendent of Fresno County Schools. He will be honored by the United Cerebral Palsy of Central California on January 25, 2003. During his tenure as Superintendent, Dr. Mehas has initiated and enhanced school programs throughout Fresno County for persons with disabilities.

A Fresno native, Dr. Mehas attended Fresno City College, and went on to receive his bachelor's degree from Fresno State in 1962, his master's degree from UCLA in 1967, and his Doctorate in Education from the University of Southern California in 1979.

He began his professional career as an instructor at Roosevelt High School, then taught at Edison High School, and then signed on with the Clovis Unified School District and worked his way up to Associate Superintendent. Dr. Mehas served as a legislative advocate for schools, which eventually led to a series of statewide educational and legislative appointments by then Governor of California, George Deukmejian. In 1987, he was appointed by the Governor to the State Board of Education. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Mehas has participated in a series of Presidential summits on education and the future of American youth. In 1991, Dr. Mehas was appointed by President George Bush to a seventeen member advisory commission to implement the President's Executive Order on Latino education.

Dr. Mehas holds a lifetime California Standard Secondary Teaching Credential and a General Elementary Credential, as well as, a lifetime School Service Credential in General Administration.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Peter Mehas for his many years of service to the community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Dr. Mehas many years of continued success.

IN SUPPORT OF THE LIFE INSURANCE EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Life Insurance Employee Notification Act of the LIEN Act for short. As a strong supporter of the American worker, I am here on the floor reintroducing legislation to stop American companies from profiting in the deaths of their employees. Last year, over 50 of my colleagues joined me as cosponsors on this important consumer protection legislation. Excellent investigative reporting by the Houston Chronicle brought this unsavory insurance practice to my attention. Businesses operating in Texas are purchasing secret life insurance policies on their employees without their knowledge or consent. These policies are known as Corporate-owned Life Insurance or COLI.

Unfortunately, they also have another name "dead peasant policies." They are called dead peasant policies because these Corporate-owned Life Insurance policies are usually purchased for the rank-and-file employees and not the CEO, CFO, or the Board of Directors. Executive Insurance or "Key Man Insurance" is the norm in corporate America and I have no problem with that because it is disclosed to investors and the individual. Dead peasant policies, on the other hand, are not disclosed to the low-level employee because he or she is not eligible to collect the death benefit. This failure to notify the ownership of the death benefit is the crux of the problem.

American companies are purchasing secret life insurance on the chance that one of their employees dies and they can collect the six figure death benefit. These companies have created a death derivative. In a large company with thousands of employees, economic modeling can be done to predict how many policies will be collected on in a given year. This blood money can be used for whatever the company wants, but most importantly it is rarely used to compensate the families of the dead employee. While I find the use of life insurance in this manner offensive, I understand it is not illegal and is in fact condoned in many states; Texas is not one of them.

The LIEN Act is a sunshine bill that forces companies to disclose to the employee that a dead peasant policy has been purchased in their name. In addition, it requires the company to provide the name of the insurer, the benefit amount, and under whose name the policy is in.

I do not want to ban this practice, but simply provide workers with more information about what the employer is doing on their behalf. As we saw with Enron, corporations often do not provide pertinent financial information to their employees. I am frankly disgusted with this whole practice and am amazed that this all began as a simple tax dodge worth billions of dollars. In the mid 1990s, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) disallowed the classification of these policies as a legitimate business expense for the purpose of reducing their federal tax obligation.

I urge my colleagues to again cosponsor this important legislation protecting all hard

working Americans from dead peasant insurance.

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said that all of us have a responsibility to prepare our children for the future. I believe that education is the key to preparing our children for the future.

A year ago today, President Bush signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act (Act). This federal law requires annual testing and raises accountability standards for students and teachers. However, many states and school districts have complained that the funding has been inadequate and they lack guidance from the federal government to implement monumental reforms in the new education legislation. Furthermore, states are under a severe time crunch to make changes because the Department of Education did not issue final regulations on accountability and school improvement until late November 2002. In fact, accountability plans are due at the end of this month.

Earlier this month, the Center on Education Policy (Center) issued a report entitled, From the Capital to the Classroom, that reiterates a concern among educators—the Act's goals could be undercut by a lack of state and federal money as states face a budget shortfall. The federal government needs to provide more money to meet the requirements of the Act.

In my state of Maryland, like many other states in the country, improvements and progress have been made, but more planning is needed to implement the new federal law. It is unfair for the federal government to require new standards but then not provide the funds to carry out these standards. Mandates without resources provide an empty opportunity for our children.

I now urge Congress and the President to follow through on the promise made to students across America a year ago. More money must be given for states to fully implement the Act or this new law will be just another unfunded mandate for the states. The Bush Administration must give states more flexibility in implementing the Act to ensure that no child is truly left behind. Our children deserve no less. Our children deserve the education to prepare them for the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, January 27, 2003, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall numbers 13 and 14. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 13 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Res. 26, as Amended, Honoring the Contributions of Catholic Schools; rollcall vote 14 on Suspending the Rules and Agreeing to H. Res.

25, Supporting Awareness of Need for Youth Mentors. Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 13 and 14.

REDUCE TAXES ON SENIOR
CITIZENS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce two pieces of legislation to reduce taxes on senior citizens. The first bill, the Social Security Beneficiary Tax Reduction Act, repeals the 1993 tax increase on Social Security benefits. Repealing this increase on Social Security benefits is a good first step toward reducing the burden imposed by the federal government on senior citizens. However, imposing any tax on Social Security benefits is unfair and illogical. This is why I am also introducing the Senior Citizens' Tax Elimination Act, which repeals all taxes on Social Security benefits.

Since Social Security benefits are financed with tax dollars, taxing these benefits is yet another example of double taxation. Furthermore, "taxing" benefits paid by the government is merely an accounting trick, a shell game which allows members of Congress to reduce benefits by subterfuge. This allows Congress to continue using the Social Security trust fund as a means of financing other government programs, and masks the true size of the federal deficit.

Instead of imposing ridiculous taxes on senior citizens, Congress should ensure the integrity of the Social Security trust fund by ending the practice of using trust fund moneys for other programs. In order to accomplish this goal I introduced the Social Security Preservation Act (H.R. 219), which ensures that all money in the Social Security trust fund is spent solely on Social Security. At a time when Congress' inability to control spending is once again threatening the Social Security trust fund, the need for this legislation has never been greater. When the government taxes Americans to fund Social Security, it promises the American people that the money will be there for them when they retire. Congress has a moral obligation to keep that promise.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to help free senior citizens from oppressive taxation by supporting my Senior Citizens' Tax Elimination Act and my Social Security Beneficiary Tax Reduction Act. I also urge my colleagues to ensure that moneys from the Social Security trust fund are used solely for Social Security benefits and not wasted on frivolous government programs.

JOEL KAMINER—MARINE, BUSINESSMAN, COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the life and

achievements of one Western North Carolina's finest people, Mr. Joel Kaminer.

Born in New York City on February 22, 1937, the son of the late Abraham and Betty Kaminer, Joel David Kaminer graduated from New York University in 1958 with a degree in Business. He worked as a salesman in New York City for several years and then entered the United States Marine Corps. He received his honorable discharge in 1964, having served as a member of the elite Presidential Honor Guard. A member of the Marine Corps traveling football squad, Joel played games in Okinawa and Tokyo in front of large crowds of servicemen.

After leaving the Marine Corps, he briefly lived in Dallas, Texas and then moved to Miami, Florida where he entered the securities and investment industry. He lived in Miami for the next twenty-five years. Joel became an active member of his community in Miami, serving on the executive board of the Leukemia Society of South Florida and coaching youth league football.

An avid golfer, Joel and his wife Margaret moved to live permanently in Cashiers, North Carolina in 1991 where he was an active supporter of the community, supporting community improvement plans and local charities. He became a member of Cedar Creek Racquet Club and the Country Club of Sapphire Valley. His move to the mountains rekindled an old interest in politics, which began when he was involved in the 1972 presidential campaign of George McGovern. He became actively involved in the Republican Party of Western North Carolina. He loved talking about politics and the future of America. He also enjoyed attending live sporting events and spending quiet moments at home with his family.

His wife, Margaret Hart Kempner and son, Michael Kaminer reside in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. His daughter and son-in-law Tracy and Bill Kruckenberger live in Cashiers, North Carolina. He leaves three nieces, two nephews, two grand-nieces, and five grand-nephews, all of Florida.

Joel David Kaminer of Cashiers, North Carolina died Sunday, April 21, 2002. He is sorely missed by his family, his friends and his community.

A RESOLUTION TO CONDEMN THE
CURRENT POLITICAL UNREST
AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP IN
VENEZUELA AND CALLING ON
THE GOVERNMENT TO HOLD
NEW NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE VEN-
EZUELAN CONSTITUTION

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution condemning the current political unrest in Venezuela. I wish to express my strong concern about the direction of the government and its alienation of a large part of the citizenry.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to call also for new national elections in that country. Venezuela is an important member of the community of nations in this hemisphere. Venezuela is the world's fifth largest commercial supplier of oil

and the only Latin American member of the OPEC. Venezuela is the fourth largest supplier of oil to the United States.

The continued strike by workers in the petroleum industry in Venezuela has contributed to the rise in the price of crude oil on the world market, thereby affecting a major source of energy for the United States.

If the current political unrest and economic instability in Venezuela is not corrected, it could have further negative impact on the price of oil on the world markets.

This country, and indeed this region, which seemed to hold so much promise as a nation on the cusp of a new era, and was at long last emerging from a long dark period as a "military controlled ghetto," seems to be slipping once again into an era of "strong man" rule, and a state that embraces socialist dogma.

America must be more than an island of hope and beacon of opportunity in a region where there is low expectations, and so much unfulfilled potential. We must continue to show leadership in the region.

The Administration must follow through with vigorous support of the Summit of the Americas agenda and get on about the business of assisting all the countries in the region to develop their economies and strengthen their political institutions.

The House of Representatives must support our neighbors in this hemisphere and support them in the continuing struggle to become full democracies with strong economies.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and call on the leadership to act swiftly in bringing this to the floor for consideration.

TRIBUTE TO PENFIELD BOY'S
SOCCER TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Penfield boy's Soccer team for ending their 19-2-2 season as New York State Section V Class A Champions.

Last year the team won the school's first state championship, but had to share the title when the game ended in a tie. This year, the patriots rose to the top again, and won their first official title, the first Class A state title in 15 years.

This team truly deserves to end the season with such a rewarding finish. Years of hard work and dedication resulted in a season that will go down in school history, and will be remembered always. The players, coaching staff, and parents should be proud of this exciting accomplishment.

On behalf of the people of the 25th District of New York I would like to congratulate the following players, coaches, and bench personnel for this achievement: Mike Annechino, Steve DeMaria, Brian Annechino, Mike Evans, Jason Maher, Feliks Kogan, Felix Liverman, Tom Doran, John Koestner, Adam Agresti, Guilherme Fonseca, Greg Herbert, Brian Usinger, Matt Malone, Dave Carr, Jamarr Miller, Eric Schomske, Tom Gordon, C.J. Pruner, Adam Benson, Dan Bergan, Ari Silbermann, Jaden Rocco, Mike Lentine, Matt Bader, Ryan Kota, Jon Farber, Matt Kavanaugh, Ryan Michaels, Kyle Zinter, Ed Silco, Varsity Coach

Jon Butterworth, Assistant Coach Dave Heise, Program Coach Tim Graves, Assistant Alissa Vanmulem, JV Coach John Cotsonas, Frosh Coach Al Pisano, and Trainer Jen Stantz.

HONORING PATTY MANDRELL

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patty Mandrell, the outgoing President of the Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce. The Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce honored her at an Installation and Awards Banquet on January 18, 2003 in Chowchilla, California.

Born in Madera, California, Patty grew up in Dos Palos before becoming a resident of Chowchilla. Patty is very enthusiastic about writing, reading, and people, which makes her a key component in the community. Her interest in journalism led her to a part-time position at the Chowchilla News newspaper, where she later become Editor and is currently the Managing Editor.

Patty has been highly active in her community. She has served on the Central California Women's Facility/Valley State Prison for Women Citizen's Advisory and Drug Advisory Committees. Patty also sat as a Charter Board member for the Police Activities League. The honors that she has received vary from the Golden Apple Award in 1999, the Outstanding Citizen Award from the Fresno and Madera Counties Police Chiefs Association in 2000, and the Rotary Distinguished Public Service Award in 2002.

Patty and her husband of 34 years, Lyndon Mandrell, have two daughters Tricia and Stacy. To quote Patty, "God is my best friend; my Mom has always been my role model and I've never been ashamed of being my Daddy's girl."

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Patty Mandrell as the outgoing President of the Chowchilla District Chamber of Commerce and a true support of the Chowchilla community. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Patty Mandrell many years of continued success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD RAIL ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a simple piece of legislation making 3 new changes to the way that the Surface Transportation Board (STB) reviews rail construction projects, particularly when in residential areas.

I am introducing this legislation following the frustration I have experienced dealing with the STB on a matter of great importance to thousands of my constituents' quality of life—the potential San Jacinto rail line in Southeast Harris County, Texas. The level of concern in the community, on many issues, and the outpouring of public opposition produced during

the STB's formal process has been tremendous.

Residents are concerned with increasing traffic delays and accidents in an area already experiencing too many problems with train traffic. Citizens are concerned about the safety of their children going to school, the potential for dangerous spills and accidents, localized noise and air pollution, and several other concerns. Amazingly, in their Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the STB concluded that the project will have a negligible impact on the surrounding community. I have spoken with hundreds of people about this project, and I can say that the STB is flat out wrong.

I do not believe that they ignore the public interest at the STB on purpose, but I believe that the agency and its decision-making process are biased against the concerns of residents who are facing rail construction in their neighborhoods. I am introducing this legislation to change the decision-making process so that it is more balanced in three ways.

First, if there is a high level of public opposition, the legislation requires that the concerns of residents and local officials be taken into greater consideration than in the past, especially when the rail construction proposal is in a residential area.

Secondly, the legislation requires that, before a final determination, the STB determine whether a proposal would have a disproportionate impact on either minority areas or economically disadvantaged areas. If so, the STB would be required to report to the public what alternatives to the disproportionate impact proposal were considered and why they were not chosen.

Finally, the legislation would require the STB to investigate the providing of false, potentially material information about the project. During the investigation, the entire decision process is put on hold, and if the STB found that the false information was intentionally provided the application is automatically denied.

I am not introducing a rifle shot bill directed at a project in my area, but instead this legislation is broad based and applicable across the country. I have learned from my experience that the STB's balance needs to be shifted back towards the affected community.

DEDICATION CEREMONY OF THURGOOD MARSHALL COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, January 7 marks the first day of the 108th Congress. I am pleased and honored to be a Member of Congress and the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus. I am also pleased and honored that earlier today the Thurgood Marshall Commemorative Stamp was dedicated.

The dedication and issuance of this stamp in honor of Justice Thurgood Marshall, serves to recognize this great man for his civil rights achievements as a lawyer and for reaching the pinnacle of the U.S. Justice system as the first African-American Supreme Court Justice. President Lyndon B. Johnson nominated Justice Marshall to the Supreme Court where he served 23 years on the Supreme Court, retiring on June 27, 1991, at the age of 82.

Through his knowledge, advocacy and devotion to the cause of civil rights, Justice Marshall made a significant contribution to the battle fought in the United States courts to eradicate the legacy of slavery. I believe, however, that he should be revered most for his courage and independent judicial temperament—for breathing life into the text of the Constitution. He worked tirelessly to guarantee all Americans equality and liberty in their individual choices, especially on issues involving voting rights, housing and education. It is an honor to recognize a man whose career is a monument to the judiciary system and who has inspired so many to continue his quiet crusade.

Marshall was born and raised in the Congressional District I represent—Baltimore, Maryland—and actually lived in a home which is about eight blocks from where I now reside. We both attended Howard University and, more significantly, he was once turned away from the law school I attended and graduated—The University of Maryland School of Law. As such, I am especially proud to honor Thurgood Marshall, as I share a common path with this historic figure.

I believe Justice Marshall has had a significant impact on the events of the 20th Century. His efforts on behalf of African-Americans built a structure of individual rights that has become the cornerstone of protections for all Americans.

Prior to joining the Supreme Court, in 1954 Justice Marshall argued the case of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas* before the Supreme Court, where racial segregation in public schools was declared unconstitutional. In fact he won 29 of the 32 cases he argued before the Supreme Court, including cases in which the Court declared unconstitutional: a Southern state's exclusion of African-American voters from primary elections (*Smith v. Allwright, 1944*); state judicial enforcement of racial "restrictive covenants" in housing (*Shelley v. Kraemer, 1948*); and "separate but equal" facilities for African-American professionals and graduate students in state universities (*Sweatt v. Painter and McLaurin v. Oklahoma State Regents, both 1950*).

After his death, an article in the Washington Afro-American stated, "[w]e make movies about Malcolm X, we get a holiday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, but every day we live the legacy of Justice Thurgood Marshall."

Justice Marshall opened doors for all Americans and had a significant impact on the events of the 20th Century. Marshall was instrumental in supporting the rights of minorities and immigrants; limiting government intrusion in cases involving illegal search and seizure, double jeopardy, and the right to privacy; and in creating new protections under the law for women, children, prisoners, and the homeless.

His legacy has inspired Americans to name educational institutions, federal buildings, legal societies, libraries, and numerous academic achievement awards in his honor. And now a commemorative stamp in his honor. I know I join many in the Congress to say I am honored and privileged to be a part of history—the dedication of the Justice Thurgood Marshall Commemorative stamp.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, January 8, 2003, I was unavoidably detained, and therefore unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall No. 10, a procedural vote to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair.

Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 10.

LIBERTY AMENDMENT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Liberty Amendment, which repeals the 16th Amendment, thus paving the way for real change in the way government collects and spends the people's hard-earned money. The Liberty Amendment also explicitly forbids the federal government from performing any action not explicitly authorized by the United States Constitution.

The 16th Amendment gives the federal government a direct claim on the lives of American citizens by enabling Congress to levy a direct income tax on individuals. Until the passage of the 16th amendment, the Supreme Court had consistently held that Congress had no power to impose an income tax.

Income taxes are responsible for the transformation of the federal government from one of limited powers into a vast leviathan whose tentacles reach into almost every aspect of American life. Thanks to the income tax, today the federal government routinely invades our privacy, and penalizes our every endeavor.

The Founding Fathers realized that "the power to tax is the power to destroy," which is why they did not give the federal government the power to impose an income tax. Needless to say, the Founders would be horrified to know that Americans today give more than a third of their income to the federal government.

Income taxes not only diminish liberty, they retard economic growth by discouraging work and production. Our current tax system also forces Americans to waste valuable time and money on complacency with an ever-more complex tax code. The increased interest in flat-tax and national sales tax proposals, as well as the increasing number of small businesses that questioning the Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) "withholding" system provides further proof that America is tired of the labyrinthine tax code. Americans are also increasingly fed up with an IRS that continues to ride roughshod over their civil liberties, despite recent "pro-taxpayer" reforms.

Mr. Speaker, America survived and prospered for 140 years without an income tax, and with a federal government that generally adhered to strictly constitutional functions, operating with modest excise revenues. The income tax opened the door to the era (and errors) of Big Government. I hope my colleagues will help close that door by cosponsoring the Liberty Amendment.

NORTH CAROLINA
REPRESENTATIVE LARRY JUSTUS**HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the public service of North Carolina State Representative Larry Justus.

After graduating from Dana High School, Larry T. Justus entered the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where he pursued and received a degree in Radio and Television Writing and Production.

Larry Justus married Carolyn who is a native of Transylvania County, North Carolina. They have four sons: Scott, Ron, Christ and Seth. He is remembered as a loving father and kind husband.

Larry served his country bravely and retired from the United States Air Force as a Lt. Colonel after serving in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. He served as a Squadron Commander, Executive officer, disaster preparedness officer, information and public relations officer and a protocol officer.

Larry continued his role in our armed forces by being involved in the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Western North Carolina Retiree Officers Association.

Larry was committed to the principles of the Republican Party and worked diligently on behalf of the party. He served as a National Delegate to the 1980 Republican National Convention, a former member of the State Republican Central Committee, a member of the State Republican Executive Committee and was named "Outstanding North Carolina Republican" in 1974. He also served as the Henderson County Republican Chairman.

Larry will best be remembered for his unflinching service to North Carolina. Justus served Henderson County in the North Carolina House of Representatives from 1985 until his death in October of 2002 at the age of 70. He was known as an open, friendly, and accessible legislator and was the model for integrity in public service.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that my colleagues will join me in praising the life and work of Representative Larry Justus.

INTRODUCING THE TEACHER VIC-
TIMS' FAMILY ASSISTANCE ACT
OF 2002**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, a study conducted by the National School Safety Center on School Associated Violent Deaths notes that between 1992 and 2001, 33 teachers, school administrators, school employees, or volunteers, were fatal victims of school violence. This means that during that nine-year period, a teacher, school administrator or some other school employee in America was killed while performing the duties of his or her job every fourteen weeks.

A similar study done by the U.S. Department of Justice last year stated that teachers, school administrators and other school em-

ployees accounted for nearly 10 percent of all fatalities from school violence on campuses nationwide. Even more disturbing is that the majority of faculty fatalities occurred when a school employee attempted to stop a fight or some type of disagreement between students or other faculty members. In trying to stop school violence, these school employees became victims of school violence themselves.

On May 26, 2000, my district was struck with horror when a thirteen year old student walked into Lake Worth Middle School and shot and killed his teacher, Mr. Barry Grunow. While this tragic event once again raised the important issues of school safety, gun control, and the minimum age at which a child can be tried as an adult, to the Grunow family, the tragic death of Barry Grunow has meant much more.

In addition to the painful loss of a father and husband, Barry Grunow's death had a long-term affect on the entire Grunow family. Barry's death meant that, within six months, the entire Grunow family would find themselves without health care coverage; Barry's death meant that the Grunow family would incur added and unexpected expenses; and, ultimately, Barry's death means one less income that can be used to support Pam Grunow and her two children in the years to come.

In Spring 2001, the Florida State Legislature passed and the Governor signed the Barry Grunow Act, a measure that provided death benefits to the spouses and children of victims of school violence. Today, I come to the floor of the House of Representatives to say that it is time for Congress to follow Florida's lead and pass a similar measure.

I rise today to reintroduce the Teacher Victims' Assistance Act of 2002. The 108th Congress is the second consecutive Congress that I have introduced this legislation. Similar to Florida's Barry Grunow Act, the Teacher Victims' Assistance Act places teachers, school administrators, school employees and school volunteers in the same high-risk category in which we currently place many of country's most important role models.

My bill provides the spouses and children of educators who are killed as a result of school violence with the following death benefits: a one-time death benefit of \$75,000, \$1,500 to be used to assist with any funeral expenses, \$900 per month in living assistance to the victims' surviving spouse, \$225 per month in living assistance to each dependent of the victim until the age of 17, \$7,500 per year, for up to five years, for each dependent to be used to pay for college or other forms of higher education before the age of 25, opportunity to enroll in the Medicare health benefits program, and exempts the family members from having to pay any accumulated income tax by the victim as a result of school employment.

Mr. Speaker, never before has Congress made the historic statement that we need to compensate the families of educators who are victims of school violence. Many of us understand that violence in our schools is virtually impossible to eliminate completely. However, it is possible for Congress to ensure every educator in the country that if another school shooting such as those which occurred at Lake Worth High School, the future of educators' families shall never be in jeopardy.

The Teacher Victims' Family Assistance Act of 2003 makes such a commitment, and I urge my colleagues to pass it immediately.

TRIBUTE TO THE ONONDAGA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL BOY'S FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Onondaga Senior High School Boy's football team for winning the New York State Class C championship title and in the process continuing a 26 game winning streak. The Tigers roared in the Carrier Dome, and once again brought home a State title.

This team, with a solid coaching staff and a strong network of fans, strove for perfection, and as a result, won their second consecutive championship title. The OCS Tigers were Class D champions last year, and came out Class C victors this year. They are the only team in 10 years to win consecutive titles in different classes.

This team should be truly proud of such a well-deserved victory. The strength and dedication they have displayed over the course of their football careers and throughout this electrifying season has made their school and entire community extremely proud.

On behalf of the entire 25th District of New York, I would like to congratulate the following champions: Hodges Sneed, Andrew Abbott, Ryan Hotaling, Justin Graham, Richard Bova, Adam Legg, Don Cummings, Matt Popov, Carl Runge, John Manley, Chad Amidon, Ryan Clifford, Dakota McCann, Mike Hart, Kyle Martin, Robbie Cormier, Dan Germain, Zach Carrington, Zach MacCollister, Brian Beacham, Todd Amidon, Marty Brunner, Jacob Cummings, Cory Dill, Richard Beak, Todd Gardner, James Sanford, Matthew Majewski, Thomas Brownell, Caleb Golembiewski, Dan Willis, Scott Campbell, Pat Neuman, Kurt Wasilewski, Aaron Johnson, Steven Tiss, Felipe Diaz, Brad Glaister, Adam Goodman, and Jesse Schneider; Coaches Bill Spicer, Paul Taylor, Jeff Pierce, Victor Zampetti, and Rick Bailey; Volunteer Coaches Dave Pierce and Steve Louis; Managers Jim Barry, Nick Gilbert and Luke Joyce.

CONGRATULATING BILL JONES

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Bill Jones for 20 years of outstanding leadership and service to the State of California. A tribute was held in his honor on January 12, 2003, in Fresno, CA. Proceeds from the tribute will fund the Bill Jones Leadership Development Program in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at California State University, Fresno.

In 1971, Bill Jones graduated from California State University, Fresno with a degree in agriculture business. Bill, who grew up on a farm on Mendota, CA, began his elected career by serving in the State Assembly for 12 years. While there, he coauthored the "Three Strikes and You're Out" anticrime law. He was elected Secretary of State in 1994 and re-

ected in 1998. As the State's chief elections officer, Mr. Jones set a goal of 100-percent voter participation with zero tolerance for fraud. His voter outreach programs targeted California's minorities and young people. Bill Jones is a nationally recognized leader of agriculture, trade, and water issues as well.

The Bill Jones Leadership Development Program will provide an educational opportunity for individuals to develop their leadership skills. The program will focus on undergraduate students while providing them service opportunities. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to identify key elements of their personal leadership style, have a working knowledge of relational leadership theory, and understand the role leadership plays in organizations and communities. This program honors Bill Jones, who himself played an important leadership role while at California State University, Fresno.

Bill and his wife, Maurine, have two daughters Wendy and Andrea. Mr. Jones is a native California rancher who continues to work his family-owned farm in Fresno, and is the first resident from the Central San Joaquin Valley to serve in a statewide office.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and thank Bill Jones for his dedication to and hard work on behalf of the people of California. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Jones many years of continued success.

DAN WADDELL—COMMUNITY LEADER

HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a gentleman who was devoted to his community and to civic service, Dan Waddell of Hendersonville, North Carolina.

Dan Waddell was born in Commerce, Georgia, on June 3, 1921. He was the son of John Daniel Waddell Sr. and Lillian Marie Vollrath. They moved their family to Hendersonville, North Carolina in 1930.

Dan attended Hendersonville city schools, graduating from Hendersonville High School in 1938. He attended Brevard Junior College and became a member of the football team. John transferred to East Carolina University and in 1941 quarterbacked the team, leading it to an undefeated season. When Dan died, on October 19, 2001, he was headed to the team's Special 60th Reunion Ceremony for the 1941 team.

Following graduation from East Carolina University, he entered the U.S. Army, becoming a B-17 pilot in the Army Air Corps. He flew 31 missions and was shot down over Belgium. For his service to America and in defense of freedom in World War II, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Purple Heart.

After the war, he returned to Hendersonville and started a grading business, which he operated for more than 40 years. In 1960, he became president of Rasben Oil Company and he founded the Triangle Stop Food Stores in 1974. Also, he was the former president of Southern Burglar Alarm Company, which he

purchased in 1977. He became president of the North Carolina Petroleum Marketers Association in 1981 and in 1989 received the Will Parker award, the most prestigious award in the petroleum industry in North Carolina.

Active in community affairs in Hendersonville, Dan became a member of the First United Methodist Church, where he attended the Roy Johnson Bible Class. Dan also served his church as chairman of the board of trustees and finance committee member. He was also a member of the board of directors of Pardee Hospital. Dan held many other offices including the following: Exalted Ruler of the Elks Club, president and board member of the Hendersonville Country Club, chairman of the Tree Board, member of the Hendersonville County Environmental Advisory Committee, member and board member of the Greater Hendersonville Chamber of Commerce, member of the Merchants Association, president of the Partners for Economic Progress, member of the Kiwanis Club, and cofounder and member of the Hendersonville High School Alumni Association. Dan ran for City Council in 1999, and fought diligently and fairly for many customers and as an advocate for local business interests.

Dan was married to the former Claire Reaben of Hendersonville, who passed away in 1995. The former Jan Rouse of Hendersonville, North Carolina became John's second wife. His son, Hall and his wife Sonja live in Hendersonville, North Carolina. John's daughter, Sharon Johnson and her husband, Steve live in Hendersonville, North Carolina. John has four grandchildren, Christa Waddell, Beau Waddell, and Emily Johnson, all of Hendersonville, North Carolina, and Erin Johnson of Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. William J. Waddell, his brother, lives in Prospect, Kentucky. His sister Cynthia Armstrong of Waxhaw along with three stepsons, Chuck, Turner, and Randy Rouse and their families live in Hendersonville, North Carolina. In addition to his several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Dan Waddell served his family, his community and his Nation. Dan Waddell—truly a member of the "Greatest Generation."

INTRODUCING THE CONGRESS 2006 COMMISSION ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Congress 2006 Commission Act. My bill establishes a congressional commission to examine the current size of the U.S. House of Representatives and recommend to this body, if applicable, a size increase. Additionally, the Commission is directed to examine and consider alternatives to the current method by which Representatives are elected. Methods such as cumulative voting and proportional representation would, without doubt, result in a more diverse House of Representatives, as well as greater participation in the legislative process by Americans of all shapes, colors, and backgrounds.

Under the Constitution, the size of the House of Representatives can be as small as 50 Representatives and as large as one Representative per 30,000 people, or the equivalent to 9,380 Members, based on the 2000

Census. In fact, every decade from 1790 to 1910, following the release of the census, the House of Representatives passed apportionment acts, increasing the size of the House to reflect population increases as well as the introduction of new States to the Union. The current House size of 435 was established in 1911. Congress passed a law in 1929, setting the size limit at 435. The House's size was temporarily increased to 436 in 1959, and 437 in 1960, when Alaska and Hawaii were admitted to the Union, respectively. But in 1961, the size of the House was reapportioned back to 435.

In the past 90 years, U.S. population has more than tripled, but the size of the House of Representatives has remained the same. In the past 90 years, four States have joined the Union, but the size of the House of Representatives has remained the same. In the past 90 years, the United States has become the second most underrepresented democracy in the entire world, but the size of the House of Representatives has remained the same. In fact in the past 90 years, Congress has addressed permanently increasing the size of the House of Representatives only once.

When I was first elected in 1992, I represented roughly 589,000 South Floridians. Today, each of us now represents nearly 663,000 or 12.5 percent more people than 10 years ago. In 1982, each Member of the House represented about 534,000 and in 1972, the number was a mere 482,000 or 38 percent fewer people than today. This means that we represent well over 100,000 more people today than did our predecessors—and some Members still serving today—20 years ago. Frankly, at some point Members in this body are going to have to accept reality and begin asking, "As Representatives, are we as effective today as the Representatives of the 1970s when they had fewer people to represent?"

Mr. Speaker, the 108th Congress is the third Congress that I have introduced this legislation, and in light of the 2000 biennial census, it is clear that, to better serve our constituents, we should represent fewer. Indeed, the effect that an increase in the size of the House of Representatives will have on the American political system is obvious. Increasing the size of the House will result in a reduced amount of campaign spending, smaller congressional districts, more personal interaction between Members of Congress and their constituents, and most importantly, better representation for the American people.

I ask my colleagues for their support and cosponsorship of this bill, and I urge the leadership to bring it to the floor for an immediate vote.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM EDWARD
DAY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Mr. William Edward "Ed" Day of Lebanon, MO.

Mr. Day was born in Windyville, MO, on October 30, 1926, son of Henry G. and Gertie M.

Sweaney Day. He graduated from Windyville High School in 1944 and went on to answer his call to duty. Ed served his country in World War II with the U.S. Army and was stationed in Japan shortly after the end of the war. He came home and attended Draughn Business College in Springfield, MO. Not long after this, he was united in marriage to Barbara Jean McCain on May 29, 1948. They were blessed with four wonderful children, two daughters and two sons.

Mr. Day began his career in the oil business with Ozark Petroleum Company, which later became Skelly Oil. Skelly Oil took he and his family to Springfield, Joplin, and Kansas City. Mr. Day and a longtime friend of his, Will Bradley, decided to quit the oil business in 1969 and start their own business. Their new business was called B & D Truck Port and Restaurant in Lebanon, MO, and had been serving customers for the last 33 years.

Along with his successful business, Mr. Day was very active in his local church, First Christian Church. He served as chairman of the board, Elder Emeritus and he and his wife were members of the Pairs and Spares Sunday School Class. He was also closely involved in the Lebanon community. Ed was a Lebanon ambassador, a member of the Lebanon Chamber of Commerce, served on the board of directors of the Lebanon Country Club and the Lebanon Park Board. He was a past president and co-chairman of the Government Affairs Committee of the National Association of Truck Stop Operators in Washington, DC, with his friend Mr. Bradley, for many years.

Mr. Speaker, Ed Day was a valuable leader in his church and community. He was a genuine human being who would give you the shirt off of his back. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family: his wife, Barbara; his two daughters, Barbara and Mary Catherine; his two sons, Mike and Patrick; and all of his grandchildren.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF
CONGRESSMAN FRANK CREMEANS

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Congressman Frank Cremeans, former Representative of Ohio's 6th Congressional District, a District neighboring mine. Frank, a friend to many of us in the Chamber, passed away at his home on January 2, 2003.

Frank was born in Cheshire, Gallia County, Ohio on April 5, 1945. He graduated from Kyger Creek Local in Gallipolis; received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Rio Grande; and Master of Arts from Ohio University. He was an entrepreneur, a teacher, a school administrator, and a public servant.

Frank ran for Congress in 1994 and was elected to the 104th Congress, where he served the citizens of the 6th Congressional District with principle and vigor. He sought to restore the bonds of trust between the people and their elected Representatives by signing the Contract with America. Frank was a fiscal conservative, and cared deeply about constituent service.

Mr. Speaker, throughout the strenuous campaign and term in Congress, Frank Cremeans had the strong support of his loving wife, Carol, and children, John, Cari, and Leigh Ane. Family was always of great importance to him. Frank leaves a legacy of achievement in the arenas of business, education, and government. Through his successes, he touched many lives. We remember him today and offer our sincere condolences to his family.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD (DICK)
NUGENT UPON HIS RETIREMENT
AS REFUGE MANAGER FOR THE
JOHN HEINZ NATIONAL WILD-
LIFE REFUGE AT TINICUM, PA

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Richard (Dick) Nugent, upon his retirement as Refuge Manager for the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge at Tinicum, Pennsylvania. Dick has served the United States Government for more than 35 years, including the last 25 years at Tinicum. I was pleased to work with Dick Nugent to make the dreams of this unique National Wildlife Refuge a reality, promoting conservation and a cleaner, healthier environment for both wildlife and the citizens of the greater Philadelphia region.

The history of Tinicum Marsh, the largest remaining freshwater tidal wetland in Pennsylvania, goes back to the first settlements in the region in 1634. Swedes, Dutch, and English diked and drained parts of the marsh for grazing. At that time, the tidal marshes measured over 5,700 acres. The rapid urbanization since World War I reduced tidal marshes to approximately 200 acres. The remnant of this once vast tidal marsh is protected by the Refuge. Throughout his government career, Dick Nugent has been an environmental champion and a respected public servant. His selfless contributions are most deserving of our recognition and I am honored to bring forth his particular accomplishments at the Tinicum Refuge before this body and our nation today. The following list represents just some of what Dick has done:

Involved with the Refuge's master planning process and land acquisition efforts during the 1970s and 1980s.

Assisted in the planning, designing, and construction of the Refuge's maintenance complex and Cusano Environmental Education Center.

Instrumental in the increasing of the Refuge staff from 4 personnel to 14 full-time positions, several internships, a Refuge Friends' Group consisting of over 200 members, and a large cadre of volunteers.

Worked with the Environmental Protection Agency and other service staffers for the past two decades in assessing the contamination status of the Folcroft landfill, prior to it becoming a component of the lower Darby Creek Area Superfund Site.

Involved with the cleanup and natural resource damage assessment of Sunoco's 192,000-gallon oil spill on the Eastern portion of the Refuge that occurred on February 5, 2000.

Involved in the management and monitoring of various wildlife-related diseases and threats including: Lyme disease, West Nile Virus, rabies, tularemia, and botulism.

Responded to many Refuge-based fires and law enforcement incidents.

Served as the Fish and Wildlife Service's Field Response Coordinator for oil spills in the Delaware River/Bay Tri-State area.

Responded to dozens of spills to assess the impact to natural resources and to retrieve impacted waterfowl for rehabilitation at the Tri-State Bird Rescue and Research Center in Newark, Delaware.

During his long tenure in public service, Dick Nugent has demonstrated unflinching dedication, a high degree of loyalty, and a large measure of hard work. Dick will carry his strong spirit of public service, his respect for the natural world, and his concept of our duty to the environment into his retirement.

On the occasion of his retirement from government service, I commend Dick Nugent for his outstanding service. He is among Pennsylvania's finest, and I wish him well in the years ahead. Thank you Dick, you'll be missed.

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE ON WORLD AFFAIRS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the San Diego State University Institute of World Affairs on occasion of their 60th anniversary and in recognition of their continuing exemplary work. Rather than speak at great length about this fine organization, I'd like to submit for the RECORD the text of a resolution that I had the honor of presenting.

Whereas the San Diego State Institute on World Affairs is celebrating its 60th Anniversary; and

Whereas the Institute has gained the respect of the international community through its educational achievements and has greatly impacted its campus and community through its outstanding presentation and analysis of important world issues; and

Whereas the Institute has promoted international involvement and has been an active and prominent advocate of international awareness by bringing to California numerous highly respected ambassadors, Nobel Laureates, United Nations delegates, military and government officials, academics, journalists, scientists, business executives, and other noted experts on international issues; and

Whereas international issues have become increasingly important, and the knowledge of world affairs is vital to the success and security of our nation and of the international community; and

Whereas the successful efforts of the San Diego State University Institute on World Affairs have significantly and positively increased the growth of education, awareness, and information about international issues and world affairs; now therefore be it

Resolved, That Congresswoman Susan A. Davis of the 49th District of California congratulates the San Diego University Institute on World Affairs for sixty years of successfully educating the students, faculty, campus and community of San Diego State

University about international issues, world affairs, and their importance to our nation and for its diplomatic achievements as it continues to present highly respected individuals to the university.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL
MONTGOMERY C. MEIGS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a long and exceptionally distinguished career has come to an end. General Montgomery C. Meigs' 36 years of service to the Nation has been marked by meritorious service in increasingly demanding command and staff positions, culminating as Commanding General, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany and Commander, Stabilization Force, Bosnia—Herzegovina. Throughout, General Meigs demonstrated strong and inspiring leadership, unsurpassed executive ability, and an untiring dedication to the spirit and mission of the United States Army.

General Meigs was commissioned from the United States Military Academy in 1967. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, holding a Masters Degree and a Ph.D. in History. He is also a graduate of the Armor Officer Basic and Advanced Courses School, the United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the National War College.

General Meigs has served in command and staff positions over the last thirty-six years. He is a combat veteran of Vietnam, serving from July 1969 to June 1970 where he served as Commander, A Troop, 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Brigade, 5th Infantry Division and Squadron Maintenance Officer, Headquarters Troop, 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Brigade, 5th Infantry Division. He is also a combat veteran of Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm from September 1990 to May 1991 where he served as Commander, 2d Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

His service includes staff assignments as Assistant Professor, History Department, United States Military Academy, West Point, New York; Chief, Strategic Applications Branch, Office of the Director for Strategic Plans and Policy, J-5, The Joint Staff, Washington, DC; Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany; along with many other distinguished positions.

General Meigs' awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Bronze Star Medal with "V" device, Bronze Star Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medals, Army Commendation Medal (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Ranger Tab, and Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge.

Throughout his career, General Montgomery C. Meigs has made significant contributions at every level assigned. In his final assignment, he brought to bear the accumulated experience and dedication of a career spent serving the nation and our soldiers. He has provided continuity for the Profession of Arms—integ-

rity, loyalty, dedication, mentorship, vision, and the willingness to take and stand behind the risks associated with implementing change in the Army. General Meigs' distinguished performance of duty will have far-reaching impacts on the future of the Army. I am certain that my colleagues will join me in wishing General Meigs and his wife, Mary Ann, all the best.

WOMEN'S HEART WEEK

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Women's Heart Week, February 1 through 7.

We have heard for years about the devastating impact that heart disease has on men's health. It is a lesser-known fact, however, that heart disease is the leading cause of death among women 35 and older, and while the mortality rate for men with cardiovascular disease has dropped, the rate for women is rising. In fact, in every year since 1984, heart disease has killed more women than men.

Unfortunately, far too many people are unaware of these grim statistics. So much focus has been placed on heart disease in men, it has received little attention in women. Too little emphasis has been placed on conducting research into cardiovascular disease specifically in women—despite the fact that there are physiological differences between men's and women's hearts. Many of the diagnostic tools used to detect cardiovascular disease were developed for men and are thus less effective in women. For example, one study showed that treadmill stress tests, used so frequently to diagnose heart disease, produce up to 35 percent misleading results in women. Furthermore, women get poorer treatment for cardiovascular problems—they are twice as likely to die after a heart attack, twice as likely to have a second heart attack within two weeks of the first, and more than twice as likely to die after coronary bypass surgery.

It is important not only that medical researchers focus more on gender disparities in heart health and treatment delivery, but also that more women become aware of the preventative steps they can take to prevent heart disease. Smoking cessation is crucial—27 percent of American women smoke, and smoking is the most controllable risk for heart disease. Equally disconcerting, 70 percent of American women do not exercise regularly, another major risk factor for cardiovascular illnesses.

That is why I am so proud to see that the Women's Heart Foundation is bringing attention to these issues with Women's Heart Week. On February 1, WHF, along with Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, NJ, will offer a free public program including blood pressure and cholesterol screenings, cooking demonstrations, and discussion panels. Throughout the rest of the week, further events will teach heart-healthy shopping and medication safety.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask that all of my colleagues here in the House encourage their constituents to participate in Women's Heart Week. Together, we can help raise

awareness of the silent killer that continues to take so many of our wives, sisters, mothers, and daughters.

DAVID B. HARRITY

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, in 1965, David B. Harrity began his career with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Philadelphia, providing assistance to HUD's customers throughout Pennsylvania and southern New Jersey. In 1971, he became the first Low Rent Housing Specialist in New England, working in the Boston Regional Office with all six of the states' Housing Authorities. When HUD created the Executive Identification and Development Program in 1974, David was one of twenty-one individuals selected from a nationwide competition of more than 700 to participate in the Leadership Training. Following completion and receipt of a certificate from the Urban Executive Program of the Sloan Management School at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, David was appointed Special Assistant to the Regional Administrator in 1975.

In 1978, David continued to serve the Department as the Director of Housing Development and Management of the Hartford, Connecticut, HUD Field Office. In this capacity, he led a team of staff professionals who worked closely with HUD customers, providing mortgage insurance, housing subsidies, and management oversight of housing. Responding to local need in 1988, David joined the Connecticut Department of Housing, where he administered HUD's Section 8 Existing Certificate and the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Programs.

In October of 1992, HUD Secretary Jack Kemp appointed David as Manager of the Manchester office, where David brought his customer-oriented "can-do" attitude to assist customers and clients in New Hampshire, Maine, and Vermont. Despite the numerous reorganizations of the Department, his approach has always been to support and work with local officials to maximize HUD's program benefits for the 234 cities and towns in New Hampshire. Although the representative of a federal agency, David instilled in staff a willingness to accommodate local officials and administer HUD's programs in a manner best meeting local needs. An affirmation of his leadership skills is the recent Quality Management Review. Conducted by peers from HUD offices nationwide, the Review resulted in one of the highest overall ratings of any HUD office.

David's philosophy of giving to the community is reflected in his other activities. He is President of the Board of Directors of "The CareGivers, Inc.," a nonprofit organization whose mission is "helping the frail, elderly and disabled to maintain their independence and dignity." In addition, David is the past President of the NH Federal Executive Association as well as an "Ambassador" of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce. Furthermore, he is a Class of 2000 graduate of "Leadership Manchester" a program administered by the Chamber to increase under-

standing, coordination, and cooperation amongst community leaders. Finally, David serves as a "Granite State Ambassador," greeting visitors at the NH Information Kiosks in both the airport and Downtown Manchester, and as a Board of Director of the Manchester Rotary Club.

ANTONE SOUZA: MAN OF THE YEAR

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, people who continue to believe that there is a conflict between historic preservation and economic development have obviously never been to New Bedford, Massachusetts. A few days ago I had both the honor and the pleasure of participating in the sixth annual public reading of Moby Dick, one of the great works in American literature, the opening pages of which are set in New Bedford. Our reading takes place at the Whaling Museum, which is one of the important features of the national Park which we established as a tribute to America's whaling history. Integrating respect for the cultural and aesthetic heritage of the 19th century with the economic demands of the 21st is a difficult job, but done right, is an extremely rewarding one for the people not just of New Bedford but of the entire region, and indeed of the state. No one has been more effective in working at this task than Antone Souza, which explains why the New Bedford Standard Times made him its Man of the Year for 2002.

I have myself benefited enormously from Tony Souza's tutelage in trying to help these efforts, and I invite all of my colleagues who do not understand how preservation of a city's heritage is not only not an obstacle to economic development but, properly understood, a strong engine for it, to visit us in New Bedford.

And an important part of any such visit should be time spent with Tony Souza, whose experience and expertise in this area so potentially valuable for so many parts of America is always available, because of his passion for what he does, and his generosity in sharing his experience.

Mr. Speaker, I want to join in congratulating Tony Souza on being made Man of the Year, and even more important, in thanking him for the enormous contributions he has made to New Bedford, and to our national heritage. And in accord with our rules about being clear as to any conflicts of interest that might potentially arise, I am proud to note that he is the husband of my Deputy District Director, Elsie Souza. Together they form an extraordinarily effective partnership in so many ways.

Mr. Speaker, so that Members can fully understand the important public policy implications of the thoughtful approach to preservation which we take in New Bedford, I ask that the New Bedford Standard Times article on Antone Souza be printed here.

SOUZA SYNONYMOUS WITH REVITALIZATION
(By Jack Spillane)

If Tony Souza's ideas were like footprints, those footprints could be seen throughout the city of New Bedford, and even into the surrounding towns.

From the restoration of the Zelterion Theatre to the renovation of the Grinnell Mansion on County Street, Mr. Souza has, for more than a quarter century, fought the battle to preserve the architectural gems of New Bedford's past.

The executive director of the Waterfront Historic Area League since 1996, Mr. Souza is the latest in a long line of city preservationists who have, over time, reinvented a downtown that was once considered the worst section of the city.

For his body of work, Mr. Souza is The Standard-Times New Bedford Man of the Year for 2002. Nominations came from the community and the newspaper staff, with a newsroom committee making the final selection.

It has been a rewarding labor for Mr. Souza.

"The first time I went in (the Zeiterion) after it was restored and I saw all the kids enjoying the live theater that none of us had the opportunity to view when we were growing up, I literally cried," he said.

Mr. Souza sees himself as far more than a preservationist; he says he's also an educator for the city's working-class children, regularly going into the schools to talk about architectural history.

Mr. Souza also sees historic preservation as a spark plug for the community's business growth.

He gives the example of the Star Store's restoration and conversion into a UMass-Dartmouth campus spurring shop and restaurant growth downtown.

"Historic preservation is economic development," he said.

The past year has been a particularly successful one for Mr. Souza and WHALE.

The nonprofit group, after struggling for many years, raised some \$600,000 and has stabilized the structure of the Corson Building, a key textile-era commercial structure in the middle of the National Park.

The most ambitious project in the past year was a private-public partnership with developer Hall-Keen LLC to save five abandoned downtown office buildings.

Urban planners believe one of the keys to reviving downtown is to restore residential housing. When professional residents live downtown, they says, the shops and restaurants follow.

WHALE won three prestigious awards this year, one of them from the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the best managed preservation organization in America.

"WHALE has always looked at projects that no one else can handle and assumes those projects for itself," said former Mayor John K. Bullard.

"This takes guts, intelligence and lots of support. That effort would not be happening, without Tony Souza's leadership.

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN MAUREEN A. ALLEN

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to pay tribute today to a very special American and citizen of my congressional district in Alabama. Captain Maureen A. Allen of the United States Air Force Reserve.

Captain Allen is an Air Reserve Technician Evaluator Flight Nurse assigned to the 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron located at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama.

When President Bush called our nation to join the battle against terrorism in response to the terrible attacks of September 11, 2001, Captain Allen responded. As part of her 908th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, she volunteered for a 120-day overseas deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

As the senior medical member of her three-person crew, Captain Allen served in the position of Medical Crew Director, transporting combat and non-combat casualties resulting from operations conducted in the Afghanistan battle theater. She performed her duty of diagnosing and supervising the treating of military patients with the highest level of professionalism and skill, often in challenging environments both in the air and on the ground.

Captain Allen's patients included U.S. combat troops, Special Operations Forces, coalition and friendly forces, as well as civilian casualties and enemy prisoners of war. To be sure, it was not easy work as she and her crew lived in tented facilities and were often called upon to relocate in response to hostile threat or medical necessity.

Captain Allen, whose uncommon service to her nation has resulted in her receiving both the Air Force and Army Commendation medals, the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Air Force Training Ribbon, has not escaped the notice of our President.

President Bush requested that Captain Allen sit with the First Lady during tonight's State of the Union Address here in this Chamber. Personally, I believe the President made a fine choice in honoring Captain Allen for her patriotism. I joined the rest of Alabama in expressing pride in her service beyond the call of duty to America.

CIBOLA NATIONAL WILDLIFE
REFUGE CORRECTION ACT

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation on behalf of my friend, Mr. Frank Dokter, to right a past error by the Department of Interior in designating the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge. In the last Congress, similar legislation that would have adjusted the Refuge boundaries to allow a family business to continue, was passed by the House, but unfortunately did not see similar outcome in the Senate.

Mr. Dokter and his family operate Walter's Camp, a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) concession on land near the lower Colorado River in Imperial County, California, near and within the Cibola Refuge. The facility provides visitors with a family-friendly outdoors experience, which includes camping, hiking, canoeing, fishing, birdwatching and rock-hounding. In an increasingly crowded Southern California, Mr. Dokter and his family have provided a welcome diversion from city life to many of the region's outdoors enthusiasts.

Walter's Camp was first authorized in 1962, and in August 1964, Public Land Order 3442 withdrew 16,627 acres along the Colorado River to create the Refuge. The withdrawal er-

roneously included the 140.32 acre Walter's Camp, but neither the BLM nor the Fish and Wildlife Service immediately recognized the mistake. The BLM continued to renew the original permit, allowing the recreational concession use to continue unbroken until the present time. However, given the discovery of the past mistake, the BLM does not have the authority to continue issuing the concession contracts to Walter's Camp.

The Fish and Wildlife Service and the BLM agree that the land has "insignificant, if any, existing . . . or potential . . . wildlife habitat value," as stated in a Department of Interior memo. Therefore, I have introduced this legislation to correct this mistake and allow the BLM to continue to issue contracts to Walter's Camp.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I offer my sincere recommendation that this land be taken out of the Cibola National Wildlife Refuge, and that Mr. Dokter's family be allowed to continue their valuable and productive service to our region.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN CIVIL
RIGHTS RESTORATION ACT OF 2003

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud and honored today to be joined by Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. MALONEY and 80 other co-sponsors to introduce the "Violence Against Women Civil Rights Restoration Act of 2003." The Violence Against Women Act of 1994 ("VAWA") was historic legislation that contained a broad array of laws and programs to address domestic violence and sexual assault in our country.

In addition to funding numerous programs such as law enforcement and prosecution grants to combat violence against women, a National Domestic Violence Hotline, and battered women's shelters and services, VAWA created both civil and criminal causes of action to target domestic violence and sexual assault.

In 2000, the Supreme Court struck down a provision of VAWA, which allowed victims of gender-motivated violence to sue their attackers in Federal court. Importantly, that case, *United States v. Morrison*, 529 U.S. 598 (2000) did not affect the validity of the rest of VAWA, which is clearly constitutional. But, *Morrison* is just the latest in a series of cases in which the Supreme Court has, in my view, improperly narrowed Congress' authority to legislate under the Commerce Clause.

The Court's 5-4 majority disregarded the mountain of evidence that Congress had amassed through four years of hearings, documenting the effects of violence against women on interstate commerce. The Court's majority substituted its own judgment for that of Congress—and this from supposedly "conservative" Justices who purport to defer to Congressional findings.

In response to the *Morrison* decision, I am introducing the "Violence Against Women Civil Rights Restoration Act of 2003." This legislation will restore the ability of victims of gender-motivated violence to seek justice in Federal court, where there is a connection to interstate commerce.

For example, a rape victim could bring a civil suit against her attacker in Federal court where the attacker crosses a state line; if he uses a facility or instrumentality of interstate commerce—such as the roads, the telephone, or the Internet; or if he uses a gun, weapon, or drug that has traveled in interstate commerce. In addition, she could bring a case where the intent of the offense is to interfere with her participation in commercial or economic activity.

The bill also authorizes the Attorney General to prevent discrimination in the investigation and prosecution of gender-based crimes. This bill will ensure that all victims have fair and equal access to the courts.

I want to thank the domestic violence and sexual assault communities for their support of this legislation, especially NOW Legal Defense and Education fund, who defended Christy Brzonkala before the Supreme Court, and who has been instrumental in drafting this bill.

I look forward to working with the Majority, the Senate, and the White House to help pass this bill into law and restore the civil remedy for victims of gender-based violence.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO CAROLINE
GRETICK, 2003 RECIPIENT OF THE
ATHENA AWARD

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding woman from the Fifth Congressional District in Ohio. Caroline Gretick, of Bryan, Ohio, is a Consumer Advocate at the Four County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board (ADAMHs). She is being awarded the Bryan Chamber of Commerce and Stan Pepple Motors ATHENA Award. This is the twelfth presentation of the award presented annually by local Chambers of Commerce throughout the United States as well as several other countries. The award is given to individuals who exemplify excellence in their business or profession, who serve the community in a meaningful way and who assist women in developing their leadership potential.

Mr. Speaker, Caroline was the Co-Founder of the Bryan Montessori Pre-School, 1967-69. She was the Co-Director and a Teacher for the Williams County Head Start Program, 1966-71.

From 1981-91 she served at the Bryan Community Hospital. There she conducted interviews and developed statistical information for Certificates of Need for CAT-scan procedures. During her time there, Bryan Community was the smallest hospital to receive such approval. In addition to this duty, Ms. Gretick vetted applicants seeking hospital privileges. She was also the First Administrative Assistant at the Bryan Area Health Education Center.

Since 1993 Caroline has been a Consumer Advocate at the Four-County ADAMHs. There she has formalized existing depression support groups. She has also established and developed an extensive lending/research library at the ADAMHs Board offices. The library includes materials relating to brain disorders, to

include depression, bi-polar disorder, anxiety disorders and schizophrenia.

Ms. Gretick has attended and reported on annual conferences of the Depression, Bi-Polar Support Alliance (DBSA) and the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI). She has served as a liaison with national and state mental health organizations such as NAMI and DBSA and also the Ohio Depression Awareness, Recognition and Treatment (DART) organization. She has been instrumental in providing regular educational programming on depression at the Correction Center of Northwest Ohio (CCNO) and the Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Center.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Caroline Gretick. Our communities are served well by having such honorable and giving citizens, like Caroline, who care about their well being and stability. We wish Caroline and her family all the best as we proudly pay tribute to her accomplishments.

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE FUNDS
FOR THE REPAIR OF HOMES
DAMAGED BY HURRICANES

HON. FRANK W. BALLANCE, JR.

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. BALLANCE. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my colleagues Representatives WALTER JONES, MIKE MCINTYRE, and BOB ETHERIDGE, in introducing legislation to provide elderly residents of North Carolina affected by floods with resources to repair their homes. Despite the fact that several years have passed, the effects of the catastrophic flooding from a succession of hurricanes in the late 1990s continue to be felt in North Carolina even today.

Thousands of North Carolinians suffered major damage to their homes and have yet to make the necessary repairs. As is often the case in situations like this, it is those who are already vulnerable who are affected most. In this case, the elderly have suffered disproportionately. Because many of the elderly are on fixed incomes, their ability to pay for home repairs is often limited.

The late 1990s were an incredibly challenging time for Eastern North Carolina. For several years in a row, hurricanes struck our communities with torrential winds and tremendous rains. Hurricane Floyd alone was responsible for 51 storm-related deaths in North Carolina, the destruction of over 7,000 homes, and made 17,000 additional homes uninhabitable. Overall damage to the state of North Carolina was estimated at over \$6 billion dollars, making it the most costly natural disaster in the history of North Carolina. The hurricane flooded a combined area of 18,000 square miles, an area roughly twice the size of Vermont.

This legislation gives to the North Carolina Commissioner of Agriculture the authority to provide funds to low-income seniors in Eastern North Carolina for the purpose of home repair. The need is considerable. In fact, rural development officials in Raleigh tell me that they have over \$1 million in pending applications from the elderly seeking to repair their homes but zero resources with which to ad-

dress this matter. This legislation gives to the state of North Carolina the ability to respond to this need.

Though Hurricane Floyd may be just a memory to many, the residents of Eastern North Carolina continue to confront the challenge of rebuilding our communities on a daily basis. This legislation is a modest but important step that will enable our senior citizens to remain in their homes and to make the improvements necessary to render them habitable once again.

I am happy to say that this bipartisan legislation is founded on the shared recognition of both Republicans and Democrats that much work remains to be done to recover from the flooding that devastated our communities and I thank my colleagues for joining me in this effort. Our junior Senator, Mr. EDWARDS, is also a part of this effort and was recently successful in including language that is identical to this bill in an appropriations bill that is expected to be completed within several weeks. The bipartisan support for this bill is proof that the Edwards language should remain in the bill that the President will eventually sign.

TRIBUTE TO ANN S. MILLER AND
TED MALIARIS

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ted Maliaris and his mother, Ann S. Miller, for their patriotic effort in promoting their "A Tribute to America Tour."

Following the events of September 11, mother and son team Ann Miller and Ted Maliaris wrote and produced the song "A Tribute to America—A 21st Century Anthem" in hopes of lifting the spirits of the American public and members of our armed forces. These lyrics stand as a monument to the pride of the American people:

Our tears may fall and our hearts may be
shattered, but deep down in our souls
we are

Strong, we are proud, we are bold.

We have freedom in our land, we will fight
for our rights, we will stand up for the
brotherhood of man.

America America America
America you're Grand

We have the strength, we have the power, no
terrorist could ever withstand.

We will not hide, we will not cower, we will
stand up for the rights of our land.

We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
America red, white and blue
America, this song we sing for you

In times of need, compassion fills our hearts,
in times of dismay we are strong. We're
a land of freedom, a land of peace, and
no one can take this away.

We're America, America, America
America you're Grand

No one can destroy us through thick or thin
we're a nation that was built to survive
No terrorist plight can destroy our sight or
the strength of this motherland.

We're America, America, America
America you're Grand

God extended his hand and has given us
faith, for we will stand tall and proud.
We're a land of freedom, a land of peace, a
land like no other land.

We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave, Bold
America, America you're Grand America,
America you're Grand

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully urge the House to join me in paying tribute to these two fine Americans: Ann S. Miller and Ted Maliaris.

TRIBUTE TO CULVER-STOCKTON
COLLEGE

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 150th anniversary of Culver-Stockton College, which is located in Canton, Missouri.

Culver-Stockton College was founded as Christian University by early leaders of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Canton, Missouri was chosen as the school's location based on the close proximity to the Mississippi River and the enthusiasm for higher education shared by the Lewis County Disciples. The State of Missouri issued the college's charter on January 28, 1853. In 1917, Christian University was renamed Culver-Stockton College to honor benefactors Mary Culver and Robert Stockton.

Culver-Stockton's visionary founders were clearly ahead of their time. The school was the first college chartered west of the Mississippi River to educate both men and women. As both Christian University and Culver-Stockton College, the school has compiled a proud record of accomplishment and has made a meaningful contribution to the community throughout its history.

The forward-thinking ideas that are the foundation for Culver-Stockton College still influence the school today. Culver-Stockton is a 4-year residential, coeducational college that asks its students to realize their full potential. The college's alumni are living proof of the professional, personal and social service development that is cultivated on Culver-Stockton's campus. The college's administration, faculty and staff are committed to educational excellence, character development, and the integration of liberal arts.

In recent years, Culver-Stockton has achieved distinctions that include being named one of America's Best Christian Colleges, inclusion in the Templeton Foundation's "Colleges that Encourage Character Development" and membership in the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts.

With its Sesquicentennial Gala Week, Culver-Stockton College launches a year-long celebration of its 150-year history. This provides the opportunity to not only reflect on the school's past contributions, but to appreciate the important role the college continues to play in educating our future leaders. I congratulate both Culver-Stockton's administration and student body on achieving this milestone in education history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM RYUN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. RYUN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, regretably, yesterday my flight was delayed and I was unable to return to the House in time to vote on H. Res. 25, and H. Res. 26. I ask unanimous consent that the RECORD reflect that had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 13, H. Res. 26, and "yea" on rollcall No. 14, H. Res. 25.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 26, a resolution honoring the contributions of Catholic schools. I am pleased to have voted for this bipartisan resolution when it was passed unanimously by the House of Representatives last night.

The tremendous success of Catholic schools is evident around the country and particularly in the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois where outstanding scholastic progress has been achieved in schools like St. Ferdinand Catholic Elementary, St. Patrick High School, and Notre Dame High School for Girls. These schools provide strong academic curriculum and engender significant parental involvement. They not only teach students the importance of academic achievement, but also provide a balanced perspective on life that promotes responsibility, justice and social service.

Catholic schools also promote ethnic and racial diversity. Increasing numbers of children in Catholic schools in my district come from our minority communities. We must also recognize that students in Catholic schools are achieving exceptionally high graduation rates with increasing numbers advancing to higher education and giving back to the community through volunteer service.

It is also important to recognize that the Catholic school experience fosters more than just scholastic excellence. It provides spiritual guidance to students by encouraging fundamental ideals and an appreciation for family values, community service, and faith in their own lives. This, in turn, shapes Catholic school students into leaders of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I support this important resolution and encourage Catholic schools in my district and across the United States to continue contributing to the development of strong moral, intellectual and social values in America's young people.

EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, on January 27, 2003, I was in my Congres-

sional District in Rhode Island and consequently I missed two votes.

Had I been here I would of voted: "yes" on H. Res. 25 and "yes" on H. Res. 26.

PRE-BUTTAL TO PRESIDENT
BUSH'S STATE OF THE UNION
ADDRESS**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for inclusion into the RECORD a copy of a letter sent to President Bush on Monday, January 27, 2003. In the letter, I express my views as a "pre-buttal" to President Bush's State of the Union Address on Tuesday, January 28, 2003.

JANUARY 27, 2003.

Hon. GEORGE W. BUSH,
The White House,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: For the past few weeks, I have been away from my Washington office recovering from a surgical procedure. This time away has allowed me to live as a normal American outside of Capitol Hill. I have been an ear and a shoulder for my constituents and many normal/working, people who are concerned and worried about the economy, civil rights, education, war and other legitimate fears. These conversations have compelled me to share the thoughts and sentiments of numerous citizens who have telephoned, faxed and e-mailed me about the dismal state of our Union.

Mr. President, have you not noticed that there are others, actually the majority, in this country that do not subscribe to your very Republican morals, issues, and policies? On Tuesday when you speak to the nation, please tell us the real state of our Union and what you plan to do about it! The current situation under your leadership can be better labeled as a state of DISUNION . . . especially as it refers to your party's policies and positions on war, civil rights and the overall domestic agenda.

In these times of domestic disarray and homeland alarm, you are acting as a playground bully picking fights on a global scale when there are more pressings issues in your own front yard. There is little doubt that world issues are very serious and unsettling today. But, the United States of America can not serve as world police, especially now when we are faced with a continuing battle for basic civil rights, the education of our children and the safety of our families right here at home. President Bush, you are taking a hard position and standing your ground on the wrong issues . . . and you're standing nearly alone. Major United Nations member countries have expressed their displeasure with your insistence upon a personal vendetta against Saddam Hussein. It is estimated that a new Bush war with Iraq will cost this country \$6 billion to \$9 billion per month! Wouldn't that money be better spent securing prescription drug coverage for our seniors, keeping hospitals open and operational or funding programs like No Child Left Behind and the Vote America Act that have cleared the legislative process but stand stagnant due to frozen resources.

Wouldn't this country's most important resource, our young people, be better utilized as productive, college-educated members of society rather than soldiers in a war that nobody wants? Your insensitive, detached administration recently demonstrated its mis-

guided position on civil rights in higher education for minorities and women. President Bush, your own educational career was aided by preferential treatment. The only difference between the University of Michigan's admissions policy and your educational career is that the Bush special treatment was based on affirmative influence rather than affirmative action. The Michigan policy is not far removed for other points systems that award advantages to the children of board members, graduates of the institution and major donors to the university. Your hypocritical stance on the Michigan guidelines totally ignored the fact that policies of this sort are more than necessary and only start to alleviate the social and economic shortfalls of the citizens they are designed to assist. Millions of people are concerned that with the recent attack on affirmative action will come an overall evaporation of all civil rights for minorities and women. Mr. President, would you please tell the American people how you plan to promote the attainment of diverse student bodies at institutions of higher education? We must equal the educational opportunities for less fortunate citizens so that those without the affirmative influence of a U.S. President and a grandfather who sits on the board of trustees at Yale can earn a quality/marketable education as well.

Armed with such an education and life training, less affluent citizens will go on to have better paying jobs that will allow them to spend more on the necessities and spoils of life. What better way to stimulate the economy than to put more money in the hands of the largest section of the population of this country . . . the middle class American? Your new proposed tax plan would do nothing for the working American. Tax cuts will only put money in the pockets of those who already have it. Didn't you learn anything from your 2001 tax cuts which reversed the positive progression of the economy that was cultivated by the last administration and managed to bankrupt the country in record time? The Federal budget under your management has gone from a \$236 billion surplus to a \$159 billion deficit in merely 2 years . . . a \$395 billion swing of our economic prosperity. Have you learned nothing from the \$10 billion shortfall facing the state of Texas caused by your tax cuts as its governor? If we always do the same things we've always done, we will always get the same results we've always gotten! Mr. President, please tell us, the American people what you plan to do to regain the confirmed economic success of the Clinton administration that promoted the lowest unemployment numbers in decades, garnered higher wages and home purchases for the middle class, and saw industry and the stock markets flourish. Please address the fact that millions of Americans have lost their jobs, with their children being forced to leave college to come home to foreclosed homes and bankrupt parents.

What "is" the true state of the Union? Mr. President, knowing your heart and compassion as I know it, would you please address the very real issues I've put forth for and with the American people. We all would like to hear a plan that will benefit the masses and put us back on the path to financial stability, civil and social equality, and PEACE at home and abroad.

Sincerely,

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
Member of Congress.

AN EXCELLENT ARTICLE OUTLINING THE GREATER SIGNIFICANCE OF A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS QUESTION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to bring to the attention of my colleagues an article that appeared in the National Review Online on January 14, 2003. This article, written by Nikolas K. Gvosdev, artfully details the greater significance of a solution to the division of Cyprus. I ask that my colleagues please review this article, and keep it in mind as we continue our efforts in the 108th Congress.

[From the National Review Online, Jan. 14, 2003]

CYPRUS, IRAQ, AND THE WAR ON TERRORISM
(By Nikolas K. Gvosdev)

At first glance, Cyprus would appear to have little connection to either the forthcoming clash with Iraq or the ongoing war against international terrorism. Yet, the fate of this divided Mediterranean isle is closely linked with both. British Defense Minister Geoff Hoon, visiting Turkey in an effort to enlist Ankara's full participation in any potential military action against Iraq, said on January 8th that it was critical to demonstrate to Baghdad that the international community was "not simply going to pass resolutions and not see them enforced" and that "we restore Iraq to the international community as a peaceful neighbor of Turkey, that we work together to ensure a peaceful outcome to the present difficulties." Both outcomes are far more likely if a U.N.-drafted peace plan for Cyprus is accepted as the basis for a final agreement that would end a longstanding source of instability and tension in the Eastern Mediterranean.

Much attention has been rightfully focused on the February 28th deadline for a settlement. If an agreement cannot be reached, only the portion of the island controlled by the internationally recognized Republic of Cyprus will be admitted, leaving the unrecognized "Turkish Republic of North Cyprus" outside of the common European home, and further impeding the eventual accession of the Turkish mainland into the EU.

But there are more immediate consequences. Carl Bildt, former U.N. Special Envoy for the Balkans, observed that a settlement for Cyprus "concerns not only a divided island in the eastern Mediterranean, or the relationship between two important countries straddling the divide between Europe and the Middle East. It is of key importance in the quest for peace and stability in the entire post-Ottoman area that stretches from Bihac in Bosnia in the north-west to Basra at the Persian Gulf in the south-east."

The peace plan put forward by Kofi Annan envisions a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation for the island. Admittedly, it is not a perfect solution, for it tries to balance between the competing and clashing claims to self-determination of Cyprus's Greek majority and Turkish minority. What it attempts to do is to provide a workable mechanism for two communities to live and co-exist in shared geographic space within the framework of the internationally recognized Cypriot state and under the rubric of a common Cypriot nationality that does not require ethnic homogenization. At the same time, it hopes to prevent the opening of a Pandora's box that

could plague the entire Eastern Mediterranean: revising state boundaries; a plague that many fervently hoped the 1975 Helsinki Final Act had banished from Europe once and for all.

Iraq faces many of the same issues that be-devil Cyprus. Its current solution has been to subordinate all regional and ethnic groups to the personal, dictatorial tyranny of Saddam Hussein. When his regime falls, however, something must take its place. Simply dividing Iraq into three "cantons" (a Shiite province in the south, a Sunni center, and a Kurdish statelet in the north) is a recipe for disaster. Not only does such a "solution" fail to consider that populations are not neatly segmented (Baghdad, after all, has a largely Shiite population) and ignore other ethnic minorities dispersed throughout the country, it would preclude any central "Iraqi" identity from developing. This, in turn, would increase the risk of regional strife that would draw in neighboring states. (I commend readers to Dan Byman's excellent essay on this subject.)

On the other hand, a functioning Cypriot bi-zonal, bi-communal federation could serve as a model for reconstructing postwar Iraq in a fashion that respects local autonomy yet permits freedom of movement and investment across Iraq, allows for the creation of a durable Iraqi "identity" and maintains a viable Iraqi state within its current boundaries.

Another reason for making a settlement on Cyprus an urgent priority is that it can produce momentum toward solving other lingering conflicts in the Balkans and the Caucasus that have produced "brown zones" (whether unrecognized statelets like Abkhazia or ill-defined international protectorates like Kosovo) where definitive state authority is lacking. Such "holes" in the international system help to facilitate the activities of terrorists, organized crime factions and drug smugglers. If a workable bicomunal, bi-zonal federation can be created for Cyprus, it could then serve as a model upon which solutions for ethno-separatist conflicts such as Nagorno-Karabakh or TransDniestria could be crafted. It might also help to redefine and strengthen currently weak states such as Bosnia, which endures largely because of the ongoing infusion of outside capital and troops to sustain the Dayton Accords. Crafting more viable states throughout the arc of Eurasia serves long-term American interests as well. After all, the best means for weakening international terrorist networks are effective governments that can police their borders and exercise supervision over their territories.

Cyprus is not simply a "European" problem. It requires continued American effort as well. It is not a "distraction" from the larger problems that beset the United States. Rather, Cyprus may provide a way to deal with larger headaches in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF THE OPENING OF AN EXHIBIT HONORING MARY BAKER EDDY AT PACE UNIVERSITY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the opening of an exhibit honoring Mary Baker Eddy at Pace University in downtown New York City. Today, Pace University will host a reception honoring "This is Woman's Hour . . .," a nationally acclaimed

exhibit that has traveled around the country educating Americans about the extraordinary life of Mary Baker Eddy, one of the 19th century's greatest women pioneers.

I am pleased to welcome this exhibit to my Congressional district. Mary Baker Eddy may not be as widely known as Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, but she was well known to them. As an author, religious leader, and health reformer, Mary Baker Eddy was one of the first American women to live the life envisioned by the leaders who gathered at Seneca Falls in 1848 for the First Woman's Rights Convention. Commenting on Eddy's success as a spiritual leader, Susan B. Anthony said, "for nineteen hundred years . . . man has been much occupied establishing faiths and formulating creeds for woman to follow When woman does write her creed, it will be one of right actions, not of theological theories." Eddy's major work, published in 1875, was honored over a hundred years later by the Women's National Book Association as "one of 75 books by women whose words have changed the world." In 1908, at the age of 87, Eddy founded The Christian Science Monitor, which is known today around the world for its commitment to excellence and journalistic integrity.

Mary Baker Eddy has been honored by the National Women's Hall of Fame and the National Foundation for Women Legislators, and the exhibit now open at Pace University has received the praise of leaders in every city and state it has visited. It is now my pleasure to welcome this exhibit to Manhattan. It is fitting that this exhibit opens just a few blocks away from where the World Trade Center once stood; as we come together to envision the kind of future we hope to create, in our city, our country, and around the world, it is wise to remember Mary Baker Eddy's words: "The right of woman to fill the highest measure of enlightened understanding and the highest places in government is inalienable . . . This is woman's hour."

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF EVE W. PAUL

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Eve W. Paul, vice president and general counsel of Planned Parenthood Federation of America. Ms. Paul is retiring after 25 years of distinguished service to that indispensable and life-enhancing organization.

In her long career as an attorney, Ms. Paul has devoted herself to women's rights. She was on the board of the Stamford (Connecticut) League of Women Voters, and she was director and general counsel of the Connecticut Women's Bank.

Before coming to Planned Parenthood Federation, Ms. Paul served as a staff attorney with the Legal Aid Society, in its Family Court Branch, a post that reflected her life-long commitment to the welfare of women and children.

While serving Planned Parenthood, Ms. Paul headed the Legal Analysis Project. In that capacity she prepared a study of U.S. laws on family planning. She also has written extensively on reproductive health care issues,

including abortion, contraception, and minors' rights.

Throughout her career Ms. Paul has been an advocate for reproductive freedom, and has worked on a number of landmark cases that secured for women the fundamental human and civil right to make their own child-bearing choices.

I am honored to congratulate Eve W. Paul on her retirement. Her work in the service of human rights has left the world a better place. We wish her well.

HONORING THE INDO-AMERICAN
COMMUNITY FEDERATION AND
ITS FOUNDING PRESIDENT,
JEEVAN ZUTSHI

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Indo-American Federation and its Founding President, Jeevan, Zutshi on the occasion of the Federation's second annual Unity Dinner. Until 1995, Mr. Zutshi served as senior Vice President of the Federation of Indo-American Associations (F.I.A) focused on assisting new immigrants and educating youth.

The Indo-American Community Federation, founded in 1994, is an organization committed to promoting Indian socio-cultural heritage and the assimilation of Indo-Americans in mainstream America through participation and involvement.

In the aftermath of the September 11th terrorism attack, Mr. Zutshi convened Unity Dinner 2002 to bring the community together. Elected officials and community leaders were among the over 400 individuals representing California's diversity who attended Unity Dinner 2002. This year's Unity Dinner will be held on January 24, 2003 and will build on the success of the Federation's efforts to maintain positive intercultural ties.

Jeevan Zutshi fully exemplifies the goals of the Indo-American Federation. He has been an energetic voice for community acceptance of different cultures since he emigrated to the U.S. from Kashmir, India in 1972. In addition to the Indo-American Kashmir Forum, Mr. Zutshi is a founding member of the Indian American Friendship Council, the Federation of Indo-American Association of Northern California, and the Kashmiri Overseas Association.

I commend the Indo-American Community Federation and its founder Jeevan Zutshi for their important contributions to our community.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF KOREAN
IMMIGRATION TO THE UNITED
STATES

HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Korean immigration to the United States and the many contributions that Korean Americans have made to our great country.

The history of Korean Americans is rich in hard work, perseverance and the overwhelming desire to succeed. When the first Korean immigrants left their homeland in 1903, for a new world and an unknown future, they were unsure of what to expect. Numbering only 56 men, 21 women and 25 children, their journey brought with them the same hopes and dreams of all people seeking the promise of a better life in America.

For the past 100 years, thousands of Koreans have followed the lead of those first pioneers. Over the past century, Korean Americans have made numerous contributions to American society, American culture and our economy.

Today, Korean Americans are a thriving part of the American fabric and are poised to begin a new century of success in the United States. I believe their dedication to this country deserves the highest honor and praise.

I congratulate all Korean Americans on the 100th anniversary of Korean immigration to the United States. I offer my blessings for a safe and prosperous future.

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN BYRD

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a native South Carolinian and extraordinary young athlete, Mr. Jonathan Byrd. With his monumental victory at the Buick Challenge last year, Mr. Byrd became the first person to win on the PGA TOUR in his rookie year since Jose Coceres. Jonathan began the season ranked 404th by the Official World Golf Ranking and, by season's end, climbed to an amazing 72nd. Those achievements earned him the well-deserved title of PGA Rookie of the Year.

Jonathan's path to athletic excellence began when he was still a toddler in his hometown of Elgin, S.C. His father, Jim Byrd and good friend and occasional golfing buddy of mine introduced Jonathan to the game of golf at the young age of three. Jonathan first began developing his skills using a 5-iron that was cut down until the grip nearly reached the hosel. He played his first nine holes when in the second grade finishing at 62, and he has only improved since.

Mr. Byrd continued to hone his talent throughout adolescence and into early adulthood. He later won the Northeast Amateur and the Carolinas Amateur, was an All-American selection for three out of his four college years at Clemson University. He was a member of the 1999 Walker Cup Team.

I have followed Jonathan's career and have had the pleasure of golfing with him in South Carolina. I can personally attest to his extraordinary talent and strength of character. His success is a reflection of the overwhelming support he has received from his family, his community, and supporters. Their investment and faith in him have been justly rewarded.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in applauding Mr. Byrd for his outstanding athletic achievements. His integrity and dedication to physical excellence, and mental toughness are inspiration to all. Mr. Byrd's talent will serve him, his friends and

family for many years to come. I extend my most heartfelt congratulations to Jonathan Byrd for his accomplishments, and wish him good luck and Godspeed in all his future endeavors.

MEDICAL MONITORING FOR
RESCUE WORKERS

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to urge the President to spend the funds that this Congress authorized for medical monitoring of firefighters, police officers and others who so bravely responded to Ground Zero on September 11th, 2001.

I worked closely with my colleague, Mr. CROWLEY of New York and the other members of our state's delegation to designate \$90 million to screen and evaluate emergency responders for hazardous exposure in the wake of the attacks.

Sadly, the Administration has only spent a fraction of the full amount—enough to fund only 9,000 of 40,000 medical screening examinations. Based on an initial sample of 250 WTC workers, one-half of WTC workers are experiencing ongoing pulmonary problems, ENT symptoms and mental health issues.

I am disappointed that the administration is not spending the additional funds to cover the entire population of heroes who were there when we needed them.

This is a glaring example of the most outrageous priorities. The administration supported spending \$187 billion in a farm bill to subsidize America's farmers not to grow crops, but won't spend \$90 million to subsidize the health care of America's firefighters.

Mr. Speaker, when farmers need our help, we're there for them with subsidies. When big oil wants a hand-out, we're there for them with lavish tax-breaks. But when a New York City firefighter who was on the job on September 11th needs to be screened for a breathing problem, we tell him we can't afford to help.

I was with President Bush in the immediate aftermath of the attack at Ground Zero. I admired his leadership on that day, when he stood with our firefighters in the rubble. Now, we need his leadership in standing with our firefighters in his budget.

RECOGNITION OF VISTA,
CALIFORNIA'S 40TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the occasion of the city of Vista, California's 40th Birthday. I am a long-time resident and also have the distinct honor of representing the citizens of Vista in Congress.

Forty years ago Vista was a small agricultural community located in northern San Diego County. The residents felt that the community was being neglected due to its isolation from downtown San Diego. In order for the community to grow and expand, the residents of Vista

knew that they would have to unite and incorporate as a city. On January 28, 1963, the citizens of Vista voted to incorporate. The Vistans made the right decision and since its incorporation, Vista has experienced an enormous amount of growth and change. Today, Vista is a community of nearly 90,000 residents.

The people of Vista have always had a strong sense of tradition, family-values, and a value for diversity. For these reasons I chose Vista as the place to raise my family and the ideal place to grow my business. Vista is a community that has successfully linked culture, education, and commerce. Vista hosts a variety of community events year-round and enjoys an award winning public school system. Vista's business-friendly reputation and centralized location between Southern California's trade centers makes it attractive to businesses.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the city of Vista's 40th year of incorporation, I would like to personally thank all the citizens and community leaders that have molded Vista into the community it is today. I wish the citizens of Vista good fortune and continued success in the future.

THE VACCINE INJURY
COMPENSATION PROGRAM

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, in 1986, Congress established the Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, a no-fault compensation system that provided for quick and fair recovery for those who experience injuries related to a vaccination. It assured that victims would not have to go through long and expensive litigation with uncertain recovery.

Unfortunately, plaintiffs' attorneys recently began to seek ways around the administrative compensation program created by the act. They are trying to somehow distinguish injuries related to ingredients in vaccines from the vaccines themselves. The courts have uniformly rejected these attempts to circumvent the statute. It is the claimants, however, that suffer. Rather than receive the expedient compensation to which they are entitled under the vaccine program, they are drawn through a lengthy court proceeding—ultimately just to find themselves required by the court to file a claim under the no-fault system. Claimants do not lose any rights in this system because as a bipartisan coalition of the Congress set it up, claimants who are not satisfied with the compensation award through the program can then opt to proceed to traditional litigation.

The vaccine ingredient provisions in the Homeland Security Act sought to clarify current law and ensure that claims for all vaccine related injuries go through the vaccine program. Unfortunately, that purpose has been

misconstrued in the media due to the manner in which the provisions came to be in the Homeland Security Act. I support the repeal of the vaccine injury provisions to allow for further discussion and explanation of these measures. These measures did not change existing law and their repeal should not be seen as an attempt to change existing law.

TRIBUTE TO TOM CONNELL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Florida's most cherished and dedicated civil servants, Tom Connell. Tom will be leaving our office at the end of the month to begin his much-deserved retirement and I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all he has given and wish him well in his future endeavors. For the past 5 years Tom has worked as the Veterans' and Military Affairs caseworker for Florida's First Congressional District. He is the ultimate professional, the greatest of friends, and one of the most valuable members of our organization.

Over 100,000 veterans and 18,000 active duty military personnel reside in the district I represent, giving Mr. Connell the heaviest case-load of all our caseworkers. He continuously brings unique and valuable insight into the primary issues faced in the office, drawing from over 30 years of active duty in the U.S. Navy. Entering the service in 1965, he sailed beneath the open seas as a submariner, serving as Chief of the Boat on three different submarines. For the last 5½ years of his duty, Mr. Connell was appointed Fleet Master Chief of CNET, all the while learning and developing the tools he would need to truly become the district's expert on veteran's affairs and military issues.

Kindly referred to as "Father Tom" around the office, he has infinite patience when dealing with the more challenging casework. Regardless, he listens and genuinely tries to resolve their issues as best he can. The phone on his desk never seems to stop ringing and walk-ins have become a part of his daily routine. A gifted public speaker, Mr. Connell has been an outstanding representative at various veterans rallies and numerous events.

Mr. Connell joined the office with considerable experience as a caseworker and was instrumental in getting the office up and running in very short order. A talented and strong leader, Mr. Connell continuously takes the time to train and advise other members of the staff in an effort to make our office the best it can be in representing the people of Northwest Florida.

Mr. Speaker, at the end of the month I will lose a great member of my team. Not a day goes by where Tom's tremendous sense of humor does not make us laugh and we will miss his unique capability of never letting us

forget that we work for the greatest government in the world. Respected and admired by us all, I wish Tom nothing but the best as he embarks on his well-earned retirement with his beautiful wife Billie. He will be truly missed. Tom Connell, you are and always will be a reason for our success.

RECOGNITION OF RANCHO BUENA
VISTA HIGH SCHOOL BAND AND
PAGEANTRY

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rancho Buena Vista High School band and pageantry, an award winning group that was selected from a pool of hundreds of high school bands throughout the United States and abroad to participate in the 114th Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California.

Rancho Buena Vista High School located in Vista, California, has developed an instrumental music program that is one of the best in Southern California. The marching band, The Rhythm of the Ranch, and pageantry received top awards in the 2001 competitive season by winning the distinction of Grand Champion at the Etiwanda Field Tournament, Lester Oaks Field Tournament and the Savannah High School Field Tournament. The Rancho Buena Vista Drum Line also won the top award and was named Grand Champion in the spring 2001 Drums Across California Competition.

The Rancho Buena Vista High School band and pageantry was one of only 24 bands chosen to participate in this world famous parade. The Tournament of Roses Parade is seen each New Year's Day by approximately one million spectators, a domestic television audience of 80 million viewers, and an international audience of over 350 million people. The Rhythm of the Ranch band members raised the money to participate in the Rose Bowl Parade through extensive fundraising efforts. One of the marching band and pageantry's proudest accomplishments was being featured in an educational video produced by Warner Brothers Publications that was released and premiered at the school in January 2002. The video, Here Comes the Marching Band, was shown in conjunction with a fundraising dinner and the money raised was used to fund the parade trip and cover the costs of new uniforms and equipment.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the Rancho Buena Vista High School band and pageantry's participation in the Tournament of Roses Parade, I would like to congratulate them for their demonstration of excellence in music and performance. I wish them continued success in the future.