

Let me emphatically state for those that may disagree with my remarks that I do not advocate censorship. I do advocate common sense. I believe the media lacks a solid understanding of our military and its mission. Providing media access to our troops is necessary to assist in providing accurate information for the American public and to counter false propaganda from other resources seeking to undermine our objectives. Such access can provide a better understanding and appreciation for what our young people do every single day in service to our country.

However, we must be mindful that reporting facts is quite different from generating an emotional story for ratings purposes. Today's media has a tremendous amount of access—much more so than during Desert Storm in 1991. With that access comes responsibility . . . responsibility to the troops, their families and the public. I ask that the media let our troops focus on the mission at hand, let them do their job and return safely home. Refrain from undermining that focus and the necessary morale . . . just because it might make a good story.

Mr. Speaker, we face challenging times ahead. Our troops need our support, our thoughts, and our prayers. May God bless them and their families and return them home safe.

TRIBUTE TO JAMIL DADA, 2003
DISTINGUISHED CITIZEN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the Inland Empire are exceptional. The Inland Empire has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated business and community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Jamil Dada is one of these individuals. On March 21, 2003, Jamil will be honored by the Boy Scouts of America and will receive the 2003 Distinguished Citizen Good Scout of the Year Award.

Jamil is the Senior Financial Manager for Provident Bank's eleven branches and serves as the manager of Investment Services. In addition to his outstanding professional career, Jamil finds time for numerous community organizations. He serves as Chairman of the Riverside County Workforce Development board which oversees approximately \$18 million of federal funding that Riverside County receives for workforce development and job training. His financial experience and integrity led to his appointment to the board by the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

In addition, Jamil serves as a board member of the Riverside Community College Foundation, the United Way of the Inland Valleys, the Boy Scouts of America Inland Empire Council, the Family Service Association of Western Riverside County and the Magnolia Center Division of the Greater Riverside Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the Planned Giving Advisory Board at the University of California, Riverside.

Jamil is a long time member of the Moreno Valley Rotary Club and currently is Vice-Chair-

man of the Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce. He is a board member of the Police Activities League and treasurer of the Moreno Valley Substance Abuse Task Force. He is also actively involved as the Vice President of Moreno Valley's largest food pantry, the Community Assistance Program. Jamil has also been instrumental at March Air Reserve Base as an Honorary Commander. He is also the Vice President of the March Air Field Air Museum, Chairman of the Friends of March Field and treasurer of the MARB Forum.

In 1993 the Moreno Valley Hispanic Chamber honored him as their Man of the Year and in 1994 he was Rotarian of the Year for Rotary District 5330 and Moreno Valley's Citizen of the Year in 1997. In 2002 he was the finalist in the Inland Empire Leaders of Distinction.

Jamil has set a standard of excellence and commitment in his work in the community that would be hard to match. His tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the Inland Empire. His involvement in the community makes me proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives the 2003 Distinguished Citizen Good Scout of the Year Award.

A TRIBUTE TO LUCY SCHWARTZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Lucy Schwartz in recognition of her passionate dedication to improving her community through civic participation.

Born in the East New York section of Brooklyn, Lucy was the fourth of five children. A first generation American, both of Lucy's parents were born in Russia.

She began her political activities at the tender age of 15, stuffing envelopes for the American Labor Party (ALP). Later, when her family left the ALP to become Democrats, Lucy began volunteering for the Democratic Party.

Lucy attended Thomas Jefferson High School where she met her husband Murray who she married at age 21. Their first son Stephen was born in 1942 and their second son was born five years later.

Concerned about her children's education, in 1952, Lucy started and became the first president of the parent's association for a brand new elementary school PS 273. Before meeting with the school's principal to discuss a possible parent's association, Lucy purchased a Roberts rules and Order book and received a book from the United Parent's Association on how to start an association. These two books became her bibles.

From 1953 to 1956, Lucy was president of the Boulevard Community Center. During her term, she helped form a nursery school. With the help of Meade Esposito, she also started a youth program in the community center. She would become President of this program as well as the Teenage Day camp at Tilden High School. Lucy, with Meade's assistance, was also a major fundraiser for the United Leukemia Society.

Motivated by the lack of street lightening on Linden Boulevard in Brooklyn and after being ignored by the local district leader, Lucy and her friends in the parent's and tenants' association decided to become more politically active. The group decided to form their own Democratic club, called the Thomas Jefferson Democratic Club. In 1960, the group had their first political victory when Lenny Yoswein was elected to the New York State Assembly. Lucy became the "Mother Hen" of the newly formed Democratic club, mentoring and providing guidance to countless young Democrats, including myself.

The Thomas Jefferson Club has been Lucy's love. She has held several volunteer positions such as the supervisor of the placement of inspectors on polling day, financial secretary, journal chairperson, and chairperson of the annual dinner/dance. In addition to the Club, Lucy also keeps her fellow cooperative owners up to date on current government programs that affect their lives.

When she is not volunteering, Lucy enjoys gardening. She has read extensively on this topic and has developed a green thumb. Wherever Lucy is, you can be sure that there is a green garden growing as well.

Mr. Speaker, Lucy Schwartz has been tireless in her devotion to civic participation and her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

HONORING SAYRE McFARLANE
MILLER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sayre McFarlane Miller on the occasion of her being selected as a recipient for the 2003 Common Threads Award. Common Threads is a joint venture of the Agricultural Education Foundation, California State University, Fresno's College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, and AG ONE Foundation. The award is given to women who have made a remarkable and visible contribution to the enhancement of their communities with their time and/or contributions. Honorees must live in Fresno, Kings, Madera, Merced, or Tulare County. They should have past or present roots in agriculture while showing outstanding involvement in a variety of community activities in addition to agriculture. The honorees make a difference with their philanthropic giving while serving as visible and credible role models for other women.

Sayre, a partner in the family farm, McFarlane and McFarlane of Clovis, has always believed that "the way to get things done is to put one foot in front of the other every day." from water policy to land use policy, she has held leadership roles in several agricultural, natural resource, and communities activities. She values her involvement as an agricultural representative in the Growth Alternatives Alliance, a land use policy group that developed the Landscape of Choice: Strategies for Improving Patterns of Community Growth.

Mrs. Miller has enjoyed a wide range of community involvement. Some of Sayre's philanthropic and community involvement include

sitting on the Fresno Irrigation District and the Kings River Water PAC's Boards of Directors. She has participated in the Association of California Water Agencies, the Fresno Art Museum, the Agricultural Council of California, the San Joaquin River Parkway and Conservation Trust, and St. James Episcopal Cathedral. Sayre cannot say for certain that the discourse of the boardroom surpasses the joy of receiving a Sunday school kindergardner's hug around the knees, but she has loved it all.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sayre McFarlane Miller for receiving the 2002 Common Threads Award. I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Sayre for her commitment to community service and agriculture and in wishing her many years of continued success.

A PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF
SANDRA "SANDY" BLESSLEY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, I hereby offer my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Sandra "Sandy" Blessley; and Whereas, Sandra Blessley was a gifted speaker and a Capital Guide for 29 years. Her dedication and love for her work was truly exemplary; after her first stroke she recovered by reciting her tour speech, so that she could return to work; and

Whereas, Mrs. Blessley will certainly be remembered by all those who knew her because of her personal sacrifices of time and energy to family, friends and community; and

Whereas, the understanding and caring to which she gave to others will stand as a monument to a truly fine person. Her life and love gave joy to all who knew her;

Therefore, while I understand how words can't express our grief at this most trying of times, I offer this token of profound sympathy to the family and friends of Sandra "Sandy" Blessley.

HONORING JEFF FAUX

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeff Faux, who is the founder of the nationally respected Economic Policy Institute. During his long career, he has been a merchant mariner, railroad worker, blueberry farmer, antipoverty official, Labor Department statistician, and instructor at Harvard University.

Jeff Faux used these work experiences to his advantage when undertaking the great task of founding and building the Economic Policy Institute, the nation's only think tank expressly dedicated to examining economic issues from the vantage point of how they affect working families.

Named after the poet Geoffrey Chaucer, Faux grew up in Queens, New York, as an avid reader but an apathetic student. Dropping out of high school, he joined the merchant ma-

rine and shipped out to the Caribbean, before realizing that he didn't want to spend the rest of his life that way.

Completing high school years before open enrollment at New York's City University, his wide-ranging reading stood him in good stead when heaced an examination that qualified him for Queens College, in spite of his uneven record in high school. On evenings, weekends, and summers while in college, he worked as a bartender (following his father who had been a charter member of Bartenders Local 164), on a railroad, and in an American Can Factory in Brooklyn.

After he severely injured his back, Faux was treated in Queens General Hospital, sparing him from what might have been a lifetime disability. While hospitalized, he mused that he was, in a sense, the product of public programs—born in a public hospital, educated in public schools, and put back together again in another public hospital. Faux traces lifelong commitment to progressive politics to this period of recuperation and reflection.

Inspired by President John F. Kennedy's New Frontier, Faux moved to Washington, D.C., where he worked, first, for the Bureau of Labor Statistics and, then, for the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency. Meanwhile, he enrolled as a graduate student at George Washington University, doing graduate work in economics.

Moving to the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), Faux became one of the originators of a new kind of anti-poverty program: the Community Development Corporation. Modeled after a project initiated by Senator Robert F. Kennedy in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, community development corporations promote economic development in low-income areas, from the inner cities to rural America.

Traveling throughout the country, and briefly living with migrant farm workers in Colorado and New Mexico, Faux helped to turn the concept of community development corporations into a national program. He also found the time to participate in the historic Selma-to-Montgomery march for voting rights and to register black voters in Virginia.

In the 1980's, Jeff returned to Washington, D.C. and set about a new mission: founding a progressive think tank that would focus on economic issues. Others involved in the project included Barry Bluestone, Robert Kuttner, Ray Marshall, Robert Reich, and Lester Thurow.

In 1986, the Economic Policy Institute opened its doors, with a staff of Faux, communications director Roger Hickey, an administrative assistant and a graduate research assistant. Originally commissioning papers by academics, EPI build its own capacity with the hiring in 1987 of Larry Mishel as research director. A year later, EPI published the first biennial edition of its signature publication, *The State of Working America*, which would be researched and written by Mishel and many of the economists who later joined the staff of EPI.

In the later eighties, as a wave of deindustrialization swept over the U.S., EPI helped build the case for plant closing legislation, work that bore fruit in the WARN Act of 1988. A few years later, EPI shaped the debate on the minimum wage, showing that the benefits of raising wages for the poorest workers far outweighed the potential cost in terms of inflation or job loss.

Joining the debate about the North American Free Trade Agreement, EPI explored international issues as well, pioneering the proposal that labor standards be included in trade agreements. On domestic issues, EPI developed a trademark tactic, releasing statements signed by prominent economists supporting increased public investment, opposing the balanced budget amendment, endorsing President Bill Clinton's first budget plan, and opposing President George W. Bush's tax cuts for the very wealthy. Surveys continuously find that EPI is the most widely quoted progressive think tank in the nation's news media.

In 2002, Faux stepped down as president of EPI and assumed a new role as EPI's first Distinguished Fellow. He has begun work on a book about the North American economy.

Today, we thank Jeff for his enormous contribution in improving the well being of working families all across the world.

HELP EFFICIENT, ACCESSIBLE,
LOW-COST, TIMELY HEALTH
CARE (HEALTH) ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 13, 2003

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this legislation. This bill would provide legal protections to HMOs and override all of our efforts to hold them accountable through the Patients' Bill of Rights. Worse, it would restrict patients' rights without actually solving the problems associated with high insurance costs.

The Democratic substitute, which we were prevented from offering, would have taken a comprehensive approach to the malpractice insurance crisis, recognizing the need for both tort reform and insurance reform. Not only would it have prevented frivolous lawsuits, but it would have also required insurance companies to pass their savings on to health care providers, in addition to providing assistance to the physicians and communities who need it the most. Even the CEOs of 4 insurance companies say this bill does not guarantee reduced insurance premiums for doctors.

Capping non-economic damages at \$250,000, as this bill does, will disproportionately hurt stay-at-home mothers, children, the elderly and the disabled—people who do not earn enough to show a substantial economic loss. They suffer just as much as a high-paid CEO, yet under this bill, they would receive virtually nothing for their pain and suffering.

I urge my colleagues to do right by these families and oppose this bill. Let's come back and pass a bill that will actually do something to address the malpractice crisis.

A TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS
TALIAFERRO

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 18, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Phyllis Taliaferro in recognition of her commitment to providing mental health treatment in the community.