

As we all are aware, there is a great deal of controversy with respect to the deployment of broadband services. This complex issue has divided Congress and the American people, as well as polarized segments of the telecommunications industry. However, we also know that broadband deployment is essential, especially in rural America. Communities in Ohio and the nation alike, equipped with broadband technology provide an environment encouraging economic growth by attracting new business, residents, knowledge, and jobs.

Mr. Speaker, as we in Congress continue to focus on spurring growth within the telecommunications sector, I thank the FCC for their efforts and ask that they create more certainty within the industry by moving expeditiously to complete action on the Triennial Review.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 157, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 157, the Pitts Amendment to H.R. 1298, a bill to provide assistance to foreign countries to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

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INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF  
KOREAN YOUTH IN KAZAKHSTAN

**HON. BOB BEAUPREZ**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Republic of Kazakhstan for their hospitality in hosting the first ever International Forum of Korean Youth Organizations. This forum has the goal of establishing an international framework for young Koreans throughout the world. These youth organizations are dedicated to the ideals of free markets and individual liberty. By hosting this democratic forum, Kazakhstan will further its growing international reputation as a free and democratic state.

The Republic of Kazakhstan is home to more than 14 million people and is the ninth largest nation in the world. It is an active member in the United Nations and the European Organization of Cooperation and Safety. After gaining their freedom on December 16, 1991, the emerging republic adopted a constitution on August 30, 1995.

Since 1998, the Korean Youth Movement in Kazakhstan, MDK, has been building relationships with different republic-minded organizations at home and abroad. By hosting the first international forum for Korean youth organizations around the world, the MDK is creating an environment to exchange experiences and build international cooperation throughout the Korean community.

Mr. Speaker, during this forum, young Korean leaders from around the world will be able to tour and sample the vibrant democracy that is flourishing in Kazakhstan. I ask that my

colleagues join me in commending our friends in the Parliament of Kazakhstan for their assistance and vision with this great International Forum on behalf of Korean Youth worldwide, and wish them much success.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALLEN BOYD**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. BOYD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Tuesday May 6, 2003 and missed rollcall votes 159, 160, and 161. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 159, 160, and 161.

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TRIBUTE TO JERRY "ACE"  
MILLER

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jerry "Ace" Miller, the long-time supervisor of boxing for the City of Knoxville, Tennessee, in my District.

Ace Miller is one of the most respected people in East Tennessee. He is part of a very influential group in our area called the "Burlington Boys," and we share many mutual friends.

Ace Miller has devoted his life to underprivileged young people by inspiring them to be the best that they can be no matter what they have to overcome in life. He has made a difference in the lives of many young men around the region.

Ace is widely regarded as a boxing expert all over the country and has made many friends around the Nation. He has long been associated with the Golden Gloves Charities and will continue to be the general manager of this great organization after his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, Jerry "Ace" Miller is a fine American who has touched the lives of countless young people. His dedication to the sport of boxing serves as an example for people all over our country. This Nation would be a much better place if there were more people here like Ace Miller.

I would like to congratulate Ace Miller on a tremendous career, and I urge all of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to read the fine article about him that was published in the Knoxville News-Sentinel.

[From the Knoxville News-Sentinel, Mar. 20, 2003]

ACE MILLER RETIRES AS KNOXVILLE'S  
SUPERVISOR OF BOXING

(By Chuck Cavalaris)

Ace Miller wanted to try and keep news of his retirement quiet.

You might as well ask someone to bang a drum softly—for 33 years.

It just isn't going to happen.

Miller retired as the City of Knoxville's supervisor of boxing, effective Feb. 27. He survived everything from three heart attacks in a matter of hours in April 1999 to floods and personal threat at the gym. Miller was hired in 1970 by former mayor Kyle Testerman and will continue to be the general manager of Golden Gloves Charities.

"This is just a particular time in my life when I am not so sure what the future holds," said Miller, who is known as "The Colonel" and will be 64 on March 31. "We've had disasters galore, but the greatest tragedy is losing some of the great volunteers who have been a part of this program."

It was a huge loss when his sister-in-law, Shirley Eckard, lost a battle with cancer in the 1980s. Bobby Mills died several years earlier. Cotton Jackson will never be replaced. Nor will Skinny Miller, Don Marshall or former State Rep. Ted Ray Miller, who was Ace's big brother. Others come to mind, such as Jim Brown, Norman Anderson and Raleigh Johnson.

On the other hand, someone like Stan Hamilton remains a vital part of a model program. He just happens to be one of the most-respected boxing referees in the world. Dr. Robert Whittle has been a Hall of Fame volunteer, working alongside Con Hunley, Gene Limbaugh, Glenn Allen, Max Witt and Joyce Spraker. Longtime City Council members Jack Sharpe and Larry Cox have provided advice, along with friendship.

"No one person could possibly accomplish what we have accomplished," said Miller, whose group raises almost \$100,000 a year. "It takes a team effort and I am fortunate to have a family who has been a big part of my passion for doing this."

The team he was referring to includes assistant coach Steve Whitt, Regina Sams Odom, Tracy Miller Davis, Dusty Miller Graves, Jerry Miller, Ellen Luttrell and, of course, his wife Lady Di, or Dianna the Great.

"My time with the city has ended," Miller said, "but my time in the gym is not over. The floor needs to be mopped. Then somebody has to sweep it."

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT  
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA MEN'S TENNIS  
TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the hard work, talent, and dedication of the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana Men's Tennis Team. Recently, the team won the Intercollegiate Tennis Association Men's Indoor Championship, a victory which demonstrated the team's tenacity and willingness to continue to strive for new feats of excellence, as well as why they are such a source of pride to their school and the Champaign-Urbana community.

The University of Illinois Tennis Team was the first team to win this tournament since 1983 that was not from the State of California, and, in addition, was the first Mid-Western team to come in first in the 31-year history of the competition.

True leadership is needed to allow any team to reach its full potential. Such leadership is exemplified by the work of Coach Craig Tiley and University of Illinois Athletic Director Ron Guenther. Their determination and vision have made the U of I Tennis Team a force to be reckoned with on the national level. Credit must also go to the student athletes themselves, who put forth and incredible amount of effort and sacrifice to meet the high standards set by their coaching staff.

Athletics often demonstrates how intelligence, physical ability, leadership, and teamwork allow men and women to overcome

great odds. The victory of the University of Illinois Men's Tennis Team at the ITA Championship is a terrific example of these attributes and I would like to extend to them my most sincere congratulations.

HONORING ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS KILLED IN LINE OF DUTY

**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity during National Police Week to honor all those courageous men and women serving as law enforcement officers who have been killed in the line of duty. I appreciate their courage as well as the bravery of their families and loved ones, and hope that they know that they have our sympathies and are in our prayers.

In particular today, I want to pay my respects to David March, a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff, killed in the line of duty.

Last year, during a seemingly routine traffic stop, Deputy March, a 33 year-old husband and stepfather, was shot and killed. His suspected killer is an illegal immigrant who fled to Mexico to escape facing the bar of justice.

Mexican officials have refused to extradite his assailant, Garcia because he could face the death penalty or life in prison without possibility of parole. This is because the Mexican government usually refuses to extradite Mexican nationals who commit crimes in the United States and flee to Mexico, unless there are assurances that the death penalty and life imprisonment will not be sought.

We cannot allow such criminals to make a mockery of our justice system. In response to this barbaric act, I have introduced House Concurrent Resolution 93 to encourage President George W. Bush to work with the Mexican government to renegotiate our extradition treaty with Mexico so that other prospective killers may be thwarted and those cowardly hiding across the border may be brought to justice.

Family and friends will long remember the integrity of Deputy David March and together we will work to bring about this needed change in policy. As we engage in the endeavor, we will keep in the forefront of our minds the integrity and goodness of David March.

JOHN STEKETEE, PIONEER IN YOUTH LAW

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 7, 2003*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to regretfully announce the passing of a great jurist whose pioneering efforts in the field of juvenile law have changed much of the way we think about this complex and often controversial area of jurisprudence.

John Steketeer was a third generation lawyer who spent over 30 years on the bench, mostly

as presiding/chief judge of the Kent County Michigan Probate Court, Juvenile Division. I came to know Judge Steketeer when he was the leader of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and I was doing the research that would culminate in enactment of the P.L. 96-272, the national foster care and adoption reform law of 1980. Judge Steketeer was one of the earliest jurists to focus on the importance of permanency planning for children who had entered into, and often became trapped within, the bureaucratic maze of the foster care system.

I frankly don't remember if I found him or he found me, but however it occurred, he played a hugely important role in shaping that legislation. Because of Judge Steketeer's involvement, we were able to craft legislation that included case planning, periodic reviews of placement, and requirements for appropriateness of placements. He genuinely believed that the system had to be accountable to the child. The record of his achievements on the bench in Michigan, and his friendship with then-President Gerald Ford, helped many of those who might otherwise have been indifferent to recognize the workability and importance of the reforms we were proposing.

The first Children in Placement study was conducted in his court in 1971, which enabled him to discover lost children in the system and make sure that plans were being made for them. Through his association with them he was instrumental in successfully encouraging judges across the country to see permanency as an important issue for children and families, and that it was a duty for judges to hold all accountable for permanency to be achieved for all children. Judge Steketeer was the first chair of the National Council's Permanency Planning Committee, and was the President of the Council 1984-1985. After retirement he continued to remain a strong advocate for permanency for the nation's children, and advocated for therapeutic juvenile and family drug courts.

I would like to extend my condolences and those of the House to his widow, Maribeth, his daughters Betsy Fenner and Martha Steketeer, his three step-daughters, Erin Checchi, Leigh Baker, and Laurie Baker, and his seven grandchildren.

This is a man who made a great contribution to our nation and especially to its children and families, and I know the House joins me in paying respects to his memory. I would also like to include an article from the Grand Rapids Press on Judge Steketeer.

[From the Grand Rapids Press, May 3, 2003]

JUDGE JOHN STEKETEE, A FORCE FOR CHILDREN, DIES AT 76  
(By Doug Guthrie)

A voice for children in need was stilled Friday with the death of retired Kent County Probate Judge John Steketeer.

Steketeer, 76, died from heart failure at Spectrum Health Blodgett. He battled cancer since before his retirement in 2000, following 33 years on the bench.

"This is one of those people who may have been better known in the nation than you thought you knew him at home," said David Mitchell, executive director of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges.

With enthusiasm for openness and change, Steketeer was a pioneer in efforts to move foster children more quickly into permanent homes. His reshaping of the juvenile welfare system in Kent County brought national attention.

Mitchell said word of Steketeer's death triggered a stream of e-mails at his University of Nevada office in Reno.

"Without his example, leadership and vision, we would not have moved the judicial system to the rules and permanence for children that we have achieved," wrote Judge Richard Fitzgerald of Louisville, Ky. . . . His mentorship of all of us has helped us in building a just system."

Said Mitchell, who served 18 years as a judge in Baltimore: "He was a great man and mentor to so many of us. He taught men and women throughout this nation how to be judges and child advocates. He was loved."

His closest friends and family were at a loss Friday to explain what in Steketeer's life gave him the strength to walk alone so many years ago against the current of conventional bureaucratic wisdom.

"I'm not sure what it was," said his son, John Steketeer. "He loved his work and had a desire to help."

Press columnist Arn Shackleford for 35 years has written weekly stories about local children in need of adoptive parents. She said it was Steketeer who encouraged her to start.

"The first quote I ever used from him was, 'You can't replace parental neglect with governmental neglect.' He was just a truly good person who loved kids," Shackleford said.

Raised on Grand Rapids' Southeast Side, Steketeer became the third generation of his family to practice law. After earning degrees from the University of Michigan and Wayne State University, he joined the family firm in 1956. He carried on another family tradition, serving as the Netherlands' vice-consul for Michigan.

Steketeer was elected to Kent County's Probate Court in 1967, handling estates, juvenile issues, and mental health commitments. The part of the job he liked best was obvious, as the man with the snow-white beard became known as the "Santa Claus Judge."

His office in the Waalkes Juvenile Center on Cedar Street NE became decorated over the years with hundreds of snapshots taken at adoption ceremonies, where Steketeer had everyone in every adopted family swear under oath to love one another.

Off the job, he loved to sail. He owned two sailboats in his lifetime, the Shields and Twin Wing, berthed in Holland. He never raced, only cruised and relaxed on the waves.

Despite already being diagnosed with lung cancer, it was state law that prohibited Steketeer from seeking another six years in office because of his age.

Even undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments, Steketeer remained active in his retirement.

Mitchell said he spoke with Steketeer last week about plans to attend the council's annual national convention in July in San Antonio.

Until recently, Steketeer also served as a visiting judge, filling in for others on the Kent County Circuit bench. He often stopped by the Kent County Courthouse to lobby for a new idea, visit his old staff or simply find a lunch partner.

"He was fighting the cancer and trying to live his life," his wife, Maribeth, said Friday.

Judge Patrick Hillary, who was elected to Steketeer's seat, said Friday was a busy day in court, but one with many pauses to reflect. Hillary used to practice as domestic relations attorney in front of Steketeer, and when elected, inherited his staff and caseload.

"People say, 'You replaced Judge Steketeer.' I'm always real careful to say, 'I succeeded Judge Steketeer,'" Hillary said. "Nobody could replace him."