

gains rate will give us little bang for our buck. Many leading economists argue that the dividend cut especially is one of the least effective options to grow the economy.

This bill is a cruel hoax on New Mexico families. The overwhelming majority of hard-working New Mexicans will reap minimal benefits from these tax cuts. Although the final agreement hammered out by the House and Senate is much better than President Bush's original proposal, it still will not deliver much of a boost to the economy and instead increase the federal debt to be paid for by future generations.

With passage of this tax cut, Congress and the president are demonstrating their economic arrogance. Over 400 economists, 10 Nobel prize-winning economists, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan and a host of other credible experts have told us that this is not the way to go. It is not good economic policy, it is not good tax policy, it is not good fiscal policy, and it is going to put us in a deeper and deeper deficit hole. Eventually interest rates will rise because of the federal debt and that's going to hit middle-income families harder than the wealthy individuals who benefit the most from this misguided bill.

Two years ago, President Bush told us that we could enact his policies and virtually eliminate the debt held by the public by 2008. Now, the Bush Administration is asking Congress to raise the debt limit by almost \$1 trillion. It is an unprecedented turn of events. Those in the White House and their allies who want to eventually end the role of the federal government as we know it today—in education, homeland security, health care, Social Security, Medicare, veterans' benefits and other basic services—are well on their way.

The only beneficial provisions included here are the ones that we included in our alternative plan: raising the refundable child tax credit, speeding up tax relief for married couples, preventing more individuals from being hit by the alternative minimum tax, small business expensing, and the financial aid to the states. Unfortunately, these redeemable items will be strangled by the capital gains and dividends tax breaks for the few.

In 2001, I voted against the Bush tax cut bill because it was too skewed toward the wealthiest Americans and too fiscally irresponsible. Since then, we have gone from record surpluses to record deficits, and the economy is still floundering. Passing another enormous tax cut this year will only continue this trend and increase the economic problems that our children and grandchildren will inherit.

Tonight, I will do so again. I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this conference report.

BRUCE WOODBURY POST OFFICE

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to one of Southern Nevada's most distinguished citizens, Commissioner Bruce Woodbury. I have introduced legislation to name the United States Postal Service facility in Boulder City, Nevada in his honor.

I have worked closely with the members of the City Council of Boulder City, and the Mayor of Boulder City, Robert Ferraro, to appropriately thank Commissioner Woodbury for his many contributions to the great State of Nevada.

Commissioner Woodbury is a native of Las Vegas, and he has resided in Boulder City since 1978. He is a graduate of Las Vegas High School, and attended the University of Utah where he graduated Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Beta Kappa, and Magna Cum Laude. Mr. Woodbury then attended Stanford School of Law where he earned a Doctor of Jurisprudence and was a member of the Board of Editors of the Stanford Law Review.

In Southern Nevada, Commissioner Woodbury has served for many years as an outstanding civic leader. He has served as a member of the Clark County Commission for 21 years and on the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada for 17 years, the last 11 as that body's chairman. The magnitude of his contributions are seen by Nevadans every day. Commissioner Woodbury was instrumental in gathering support for the construction of the Las Vegas Beltway, the largest and most visible transportation project ever undertaken in Clark County. Through his leadership, Commissioner Woodbury has worked to minimize traffic delays, reduce inconvenience for drivers, and maintain access to local businesses.

In addition, Mr. Woodbury has been very involved in local, civic, and youth organizations. He is also a proud father and grandfather. I am pleased to introduce this legislation honoring him today. It has been my privilege to work with Commissioner Woodbury on a variety of projects and I can speak to his character as a leader, a citizen, and as a friend.

TRIBUTE TO PONTIAC HIGH SCHOOL'S HUSKIE BRIGADE

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to Pontiac Northern High School's "Huskie Brigade" for their victory at the U.S. FIRST Robotics National Championship in Houston, Texas last month. The twenty-four students, four teachers, and several engineers should be proud of this accomplishment.

Science and technology are the keystones to our economic prosperity. The quality education of America's youth is more critical now than ever as our society becomes more wired and globalized. Our students must be interested in science, mathematics, engineering, and technology to continue our success.

The For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) competition instills an appreciation of science and technology in students and teaches them how mastering these institutes can enrich our society. Corporations provide economic and professional support to FIRST and teams. General Motors Powertrain sponsored Pontiac Northern High School's team. Many Fortune 500 companies have significantly contributed to FIRST's growth and government organizations such as NASA are key partners. FIRST represents a cooperative team effort by stu-

dents, teachers, communities, corporations, and our government.

The Huskie Brigade competed in two regional events leading up to the National Competition. At the Great Lakes Regional, they were awarded the prestigious 2003 Regional Chairman's Award. At the Mid-West Regional, the Huskie Brigade finished as a finalist and won the Johnson and Johnson's Sportsmanship Award.

I congratulate the Huskie Brigade on their fine achievements and awards and wish nothing but the best for all the members in their future endeavors.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO SAMANTHA BENTON

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. WALDEN of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, colleagues, I rise today to convey my deepest appreciation to a member of my Washington, D.C. staff for her dedicated service to the people of Oregon's Second Congressional District. Samantha Benton left my staff last week to join the United States Department of the Treasury. I wish her well in this endeavor and am confident that she will excel in her new role.

Samantha was raised in my hometown of Hood River, Oregon, growing up on a family-owned orchard along the Columbia River Gorge. Her parents, John and Julie Benton, are well-respected members of the Hood River community and personal friends of mine. Samantha brought her "small town values" from rural Oregon to our nation's capital and to the job she performed assisting Oregonians visiting Washington, D.C. or seeking help from my office. She attended Westside Elementary School and Hood River Middle School before graduating from Hood River Valley High School in 1997. She then went on to attend the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, Washington, where she studied history and was active as Vice President of Program Development for the University's Zeta chapter of Alpha Phi. Samantha's interest in politics was apparent during her college years, when she worked as an intern in two Congressional offices. Samantha worked as an intern in my Washington, D.C. office during the summer of 1999, then worked in Congresswoman JENNIFER DUNN's Mercer Island District Office in 2000.

After her graduation in 2001, I was pleased to offer Samantha a permanent position on my staff. From the beginning of her tenure, she made Oregonians feel at home when they walked through the door of 1404 Longworth by offering them a warm and sincere reception. She faithfully attended to every detail in helping families navigate the sights and sounds of Washington, D.C. Time and again, she brought history to life by leading tours of the Capitol for Oregonians who had come nearly 3,000 miles so that they and their children could better understand the federal government and our nation's extraordinary history. Samantha arranged their itineraries, answered their questions, and went the extra mile every time to make them feel comfortable an entire continent away from their homes. In short, Mr.

Speaker, Samantha made their day and their trip.

I have a sizable stack of letters from Oregonians who took the time to write after their trip to Washington, D.C., to thank me for Samantha's assistance and her dogged determination to make sure their experience was memorable.

Mr. Speaker, Samantha's energetic and helpful demeanor was equally appreciated by her coworkers. She was attentive in recognizing when something needed to be done, taking the initiative to complete projects and lend others a helping hand. Whether she was drafting letters to address a constituent's concerns or keeping the information on my web site up to date, Samantha's contributions were always appreciated and on target. During her time in my office, she took a staff assistant role and developed it into something much more.

Samantha's attitude and intellect will serve her well as she continues her public service at the Department of the Treasury. Mr. Speaker, she will be a difficult person to replace. Sam, thank you for a job well done and good luck in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. CATHERINE  
OCHENSKI

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Catherine Ochenski in honor of her becoming the first female District Commander for the Veterans of Foreign Wars 11th district.

Kate proudly served her country in the Women's Army Corps from 1944 to 1946 both in the United States and in Europe. Her role during these 2 years was to assist in the aftermath of World War II. Kate has since gone on to wed a Marine veteran, and raise a family of three children. She has also served in a multitude of capacities at V.F.W. Post 1075 for over 15 years, where she currently has received the honor of being the first female District Commander. Kate's accomplishments are numerous, and her devotion to her country is steadfast.

I am honored today to recognize Catherine Ochenski for her many accomplishments, and to congratulate her on the celebration of her role as first female District Commander for the V.F.W. Post 1075.

RECOGNIZING THE MARRIAGE OF  
DENA MARIE CARLI AND DENNIS  
WAYNE POCIASK

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my best wishes for the upcoming marriage of Dena Marie Carli and Dennis Wayne Pociask on June 7, 2003.

Dena and Dennis met while on duty as police officers with the 13th District Chicago Police Department.

Dena, who is currently pursuing a law degree, has been working in law enforcement since 1995. She started as Cook County deputy sheriff and in 1999 became a Chicago police officer. Her parents, Officer Reno and Diane Carli, and her sister, Officer Lisa Carli, are all very proud of her decision to continue in the family business of keeping our city safe.

Dennis has been with the police force since 1998 and remains close with his mother, Tina, his brother, Ray, his sister-in-law, Pamela, and his niece, Holly.

Mr. Speaker, marriage is an occasion worthy of celebration and recognition. Please join me in wishing the very best for Dena and Dennis' new life together. May they share many pleasant memories in a marriage built on trust, friendship and a loving commitment to one another. I wish them many years of happiness and ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes.

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY CELEBRATES THE NORTH BRUNSWICK TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL ROBOTICS TEAM

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the victory of the 37 member team from North Brunswick Township High School who built the robot, Evil Machine, and took second place in the national FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition in Houston Texas. Building a champion robot is more than creating a machine with technical prowess. It represents hours of hard work, dedication, collaboration and communication among students, teachers, mentors and community members. FIRST is an example of technology at its finest. It involves identifying a problem, developing a hypothesis to solve it and implementing the solution.

To win second place in a national competition against 300 other high school robots is a good accomplishment. Each team that participated in FIRST was required to design and build a robot that solved the "game problem" using "kit parts" and a standard set of rules. Over a six-week period, the North Brunswick Township High School team designed "Evil Machine". His task for the competition was to collect and stack plastic storage containers on their side of the playing field, to knock down walls, and during the two-minute competition, to keep the opposing team's robots from doing the same activity.

FIRST is a critical program because it reinforces science education. Science is not just another subject. It is fundamental like reading and math. Science brings order, harmony, and balance to our lives. It teaches us that our world is intelligible and not capricious. A scientific framework provides us the skill for lifelong learning, for creating progress itself. These are very important skills for the very complex times in which we live.

I ask that all the members join me in congratulating these 34 North Brunswick Township High School Students for their excellence and their FIRST Robotics victory.

CONGRATULATING BOYD AND  
IRENE MADDOX ON 75 YEARS OF  
MARRIAGE

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, we in America have a penchant celebrating milestones in just about every endeavor, be it sports, business or even school attendance. But today I would like to recognize a truly amazing milestone, which is only rarely reached in our modern world: the 75th wedding anniversary of Boyd and Irene Maddox of San Bernardino County.

Boyd Maddox and Irene Crozier are lifelong residents of the Old West, growing up in the rugged early 20th-Century New Mexico Territory, marrying in Tombstone, Arizona and finally settling at the 250,000-acre Las Flores Ranch in the Mojave Desert—a working cattle ranch that still provides good employment to the cowboys of the 21st Century.

Boyd was born in Lordsburg, New Mexico in 1908 and grew up on a cattle ranch where he got to know a young neighbor girl named Sandra Day—later to become Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. After graduating from New Mexico Military Academy, Boyd became a messenger for Continental Bank of Los Angeles, and then worked his way up through a series of banks to become chief bookkeeper of the Douglas State Bank in southern Arizona.

Irene had graduated from Tombstone High School, and married the young bank officer on June 10, 1928 at Old Adobe Episcopal Church in her hometown. The couple homesteaded for 2 years, but the depression forced Boyd to go to work for the Civilian Conservation Corps as a bookkeeper.

A former bank employer had purchased a cattle ranch—the Las Flores Ranch in the Mojave Desert, and urged the Maddox's to come west and help him manage it. They finally visited in September 1938, and never left. Boyd became the working general manager and stayed for the next 50 years until his retirement. Irene raised Boyd, Jr., who is now 67.

Mr. Speaker, Boyd and Irene Maddox are enjoying an active retirement, traveling, visiting friends and reminiscing. I'm sure we would be spellbound by the stories they could tell of their remarkable life together all these years. Please join me in congratulating them on their 75th wedding anniversary, and wishing them many more years to come.

HONORING LEGENDARY PENN  
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACH  
CHRIS GEESMAN

**HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 2, 2003*

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a living legend, Penn High School football coach Chris Geesman from Mishawaka, Indiana.

Coach Geesman recently announced he plans to retire from coaching at the end of this school year.