

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl has been translated into 67 languages and has sold more than 31 million copies. It is the most widely read memoir of the Holocaust. For many American students, this book is their first exposure to the horror and historical uniqueness of the Holocaust.

Anne Frank has become an inspiration to youth of all faiths and is a symbol of children throughout the world who suffer in war, subjugation and oppression. She serves as a beacon of bravery, hope and tolerance under the most harsh, inhumane conditions. Her life and death are reminders of the need for constant vigilance and international human rights.

U.S. postage stamps have honored well-respected and influential people, and I believe that Anne Frank deserves recognition. It is appropriate to honor her in this very unique way.

Today Anne Frank would have been 74 years old. She was a talented writer, and her contribution to the world cannot be understated. In one year from today, we will be remembering her on her 75th birthday. I am hopeful that this postage stamp will be issued in time for this milestone.

I encourage all my colleagues to cosponsor this important resolution.

SOUTH CAROLINA SEWER DIVERS

HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in South Carolina, a new breed of heroes are saving the city of Charleston from a potentially catastrophic sewage explosion and subsequent environmental disaster. It will take years and millions of dollars to replace the aging Charleston sewage tunnels. Until then, the Commissioners of Public Works are calling upon divers to repair the existing pipes and tunnels. Already two sewage tunnels have suffered minor cave-ins, but these divers were able to prevent the dumping of millions of gallons of wastewater into the harbor. Sewage divers are crawling more than 120 feet underground into a mire which is so dark and filled with murky sludge that even the strongest light is unable to reveal what surrounds them.

Daily, these brave men risk their lives to protect the well being of other citizens in their community. Although their job has a high level of difficulty, the divers do not complain but fearlessly complete what they believe is "just their job."

On behalf of the residents of South Carolina and especially Charleston, I would like to commend the sewer divers for their bravery, selflessness, and dedication to the historic city and its overall welfare.

DISABLED VETERANS TAX

HON. JIM MARSHALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. MARSHALL. Mr. Speaker, today I am signing a discharge petition that I brought to the House floor to right a wrong that has been done to disabled American veterans for more

than a century. In 1891, the United States of America imposed the Disabled Veterans Tax. We did not call it by this name. We did not even call it a tax. Instead we called it a prohibition upon concurrent receipt. We called it something few Americans would understand.

Mr. Speaker, our predecessors in Congress called their law a prohibition upon concurrent receipt because they did not want to call it what it is, a tax on disabled veterans. This bad law prohibits retired veterans from receiving both their retirement pay and any benefit for a service-related disability at the same time. In effect, it is a 100% tax on a retired veteran's disability benefits. As a veteran's disability increases, so does the tax imposed by our government.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to call the concurrent receipt prohibition what it really is: the Disabled Veterans Tax. It was wrong then. It is wrong now. It is time to end the Disabled Veterans Tax.

Mr. Speaker, I receive a disability benefit for wounds received in Vietnam. But my benefits are not taxed away. The Disabled Veterans Tax does not apply to me because I only served two years. Had I provided more service to my country—enough to be entitled to military retirement benefits—then the Disabled Veterans Tax would tax away my disability benefit completely.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot imagine how any member of this body can defend the Disabled Veterans Tax, a tax that not only punishes disabled veterans, but punishes most those who served our country most, those who made the military a career. Congress should be ashamed of itself.

Mr. Speaker, for years a large majority of the members of this House have cosponsored House Resolution 303, a bill that would end the Disabled Veterans Tax. And for years, House Resolution 303 has been bottled up in committee, just like campaign finance reform was bottled up. The discharge petition process forced a vote on campaign finance reform. I am using that same process to force a vote on ending the Disabled Veterans Tax.

At last count 322 members of this Congress are co-sponsors of House Resolution 303. Only 218 of these co-sponsors must sign the discharge petition for us to force a vote. This bill has broad bipartisan support. Both Democrats and Republicans have co-sponsored House Resolution 303. I am a Georgia Democrat, but by my discharge petition seeks to force a vote on a bill authored by a Florida Republican.

Mr. Speaker, some will ask whether we can afford this tax cut, whether we can afford to let these disabled veterans keep their benefit money. I believe many cosponsors of House Resolution 303 have already answered that question twice this year. These cosponsors already have voted for tax cuts 400 billion dollars and 200 billion dollars greater than what we eventually enacted. So Mr. Speaker, on the question whether we should finally eliminate the Disabled Veterans Tax, I trust we will not hear questions about affordability coming from those already on record in support of far, far larger tax cuts.

Mr. Speaker, the Disabled Veterans Tax is wrong. As of this morning, 322 cosponsors of House Resolution 303 agree with me. Let's bring it to a vote. No more half measures. No more evasions. No more hypocrisy. It's time for members who continually co-sponsor this bill to put up or shut up, once and for all.

TRIBUTE TO THE MCCOLLOUGH INVADERS IN THEIR 38TH YEAR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the McCollough Invaders, a gospel missionary brass band who this week will be celebrating their 38th Anniversary.

These men are only a few of the many unsung heroes of our community, who have given of their time and have never asked for anything in return. This group of men began their careers as early as 9 years of age. During the 1960s, these boys were encouraged by the late Bishop Walter McCollough to make a positive contribution to the community while simultaneously improving the quality of their own lives.

Many came from broken homes where there was no father figure. Their grandparents, aunts, uncles, older brothers, sisters, other relatives or friends would step in when a parent was not around. In order to make ends meet, many of their families depended on public assistance. In some cases, these boys were left to themselves to survive on their own.

Despite these personal obstacles, these young boys devoted their lives to ministering music to many in need of relief from the day-to-day frustrations and anxieties of life. Throughout the 1960s, they performed around the country. Their dedication to the peace movement and to playing Gospel music helped shaped the America we know today.

Today the McCollough Invaders are still making history. Some of these young men no longer live in New York. However, they continue to influence and help others cope with life's frustrations by making burdens just a little bit lighter. Some have used what they have learned many years ago by working with young Gospel bands and marching bands in other inner cities in Washington, DC, and Charlotte, N.C. Their travels have taken them as west as California and as south as Florida.

Others have become business leaders or entrepreneurs in the fields of finance, healthcare, energy, and technology. Many continue to work with youngsters who are mirrored images of themselves almost two scores ago. It is certain that these young men have been and will continue to be role models for others who will also make significant contributions to our communities.

Though the McCollough Invaders can be heard on any given Sunday at the same venue in Harlem, New York at 125th Street and Frederick Douglass Boulevard, we join the City of New York on Saturday, June 14, 2003 as The McCollough Invaders celebrate 38 priceless years of providing service to the Harlem community and the world.

A TRIBUTE TO AL DAVIS

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2003

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to join with my colleagues and celebrate the life and mourn the untimely, tragic

death Friday evening, May 30, of Albert J. Davis, Chief Democratic Economist of the House Ways and Means Committee.

Let me express my deepest condolences to Al's longtime companion, Mary Beilefeld. While our words today cannot replace the loss felt by Mary, I hope it is somehow comforting that her loss is not only hers but is shared by the Members and staff of the House Committee on Ways and Means and by all inside and outside of this institution who had the privilege of working with Al.

I never saw a day when Al did not possess an amiable and peaceful air about him. And when you got him talking, it was wonderful seeing this gentle man's passion for his work, for economic justice and fairness come pouring out, the passion that fueled his mind and body while he spent long hours in his Longworth office writing the reports and memos on which my colleagues and I on the House Ways and Means Committee relied.

During the past several years, Al provided us with the most up-to-date, readable, and, dare I say, entertaining analyses of budget and tax information available in Washington. There were many flights back to Los Angeles where a stack of Al's most recent memos written late the night before or bright and early that morning helped me pass the time and prepare for the committee or floor debates ahead.

I have many fond remembrances of Al. For instance, there were the times when the two of us and perhaps John Buckley, his colleague on the Ways and Means Committee Democratic staff and accomplice in such matters, would sit behind the committee dais in 1100 Longworth and in an effort to liven things up a bit, devise a spirited line of questioning for a witness before the committee. Or other times when with only moments to spare, Al would come through with a quote, note, number, or other factoid from his encyclopedic memory or his always-threatening-to-burst accordion file folder that was central to the argument I was preparing to make during a tax mark-up. But perhaps my fondest memories of Al will be the after-hours, informal banter in the hallways or whenever we would run into each other in which the thoughtful, comedic, and interesting character of this wonderful human being would shine.

Mr. Speaker, Al Davis was a public servant in the best sense of the phrase. The work he did, whether it was writing memos, crunching numbers, or producing charts and graphs, was all with the goal of ensuring that the public was served well by its government. I will long remember Al and his contributions to the Ways and Means Committee and this House and I ask that my colleagues remember and honor his memory as well.

THOMAS FRIEDMAN COLUMN ON
SERVICE CUTS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL, II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, as the Republican majority shortchanges working families on the child tax credit; as our veterans' benefits are cut; as the majority approaches cuts in transportation funding; as we experience a

lack of funding for education and homeland security initiatives, and as the President is cutting services for the many in his incessant thirst to help the wealthy few, Thomas Friedman offers a view in his column "Read My Lips" in the June 11, 2003 edition of the *New York Times*, which I recommend to all my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans alike. It is as follows:

[From the *New York Times*, June 11, 2003]

READ MY LIPS

(By Thomas L. Friedman)

Democrats have been groping for a way to counter George Bush's maniacal tax cuts, which are designed to shrink government and shift as many things as possible to the market. May I make a suggestion? When you shrink government, what you do, over time, is shrink the services provided by federal, state and local governments to the vast American middle class. I would suggest that henceforth Democrats simply ask voters to substitute the word "services" for the word "taxes" every time they hear President Bush speak.

That is, when the president says he wants yet another round of reckless "tax cuts," which will shift huge burdens to our children, Democrats should simply refer to them as "service cuts," because that is the only way these tax cuts will be paid for—by cuts in services. Indeed, the Democrats' bumper sticker in 2004 should be: "Read my lips, no new services. Thank you, President Bush."

Say it with me now: "Read my lips, no new services—or old ones."

Whenever Mr. Bush says, "It's not the government's money, it's your money," Democrats should point out that what he is really saying is, "It's not the government's services, it's your services"—and thanks to the Bush tax cuts, soon you'll be paying for many of them yourself.

As the former Nixon-era commerce secretary Peter Peterson just observed in this newspaper, when Mr. Bush took office the 10-year budget projection showed a \$5.6 trillion surplus—something that would easily prefinance the cost of Social Security. The first Bush tax cut, coupled with continued spending growth and the post-9/11 costs, brought the projected surplus down to \$1 trillion. "Unfazed by this turnaround," notes Mr. Peterson, "the Bush administration proposed a second tax-cut package in 2003 in the face of huge new fiscal demands, including a war in Iraq and an urgent 'homeland security' agenda." Result: now the 10-year fiscal projection is for a \$4 trillion deficit.

This in turn will shrink the federal government's ability to help out the already strapped states. Since most states have to run balanced budgets, that will mean less health care and kindergarten for children and the poor, higher state college tuition, smaller local school budgets and fewer state service workers. And Lord only knows how we'll finance Social Security.

Everyone wants taxes to be cut, but no one wants services to be cut, which is why Democrats have to reframe the debate—and show President Bush for what he really is: a man who is not putting money into your pocket, but who is removing government services and safety nets from your life.

Ditto on foreign policy. As we and our government continue to spend and invest more than we save, we will become even more dependent on the outside world to finance the gap. Foreigners will have to buy even more of our T-bills and other assets. And do you know on whom we'll be most dependent: for that? China and Japan. Yes, that China—the one the Bush team says is our biggest geopolitical rival.

"In the 1990's, Japan's and China's excess savings were financing our private sector in-

vestment, because the government was in surplus," says Robert Hormats, vice chairman of Goldman Sachs International. "Now, with these looming deficits, China and Japan are being asked to finance our government's actual operations." That makes us very dependent on their willingness to continue sending us hundreds of billions of dollars of their savings. Should China and Japan not want to play along, your services will very likely be cut even sooner (unless you believe in "voodoo economics"). Which is why Democrats should rename this tax bill the China-Japan Economic Dependency Act.

I don't think Democrats can win the presidency with a single issue. You win the presidency by connecting with the American people's gut insecurities and aspirations. You win with a concept. The concept I'd argue for is "neoliberalism." More Americans today are natural neolibs, than neocons. Neoliberals believe in a muscular foreign policy and a credible defense budget, but also a prudent fiscal policy that balances taxes, deficit reduction and government services.

To name something is to own it. And the Democrats, for too long, have allowed the Bush team to name its radical reduction in services, and the huge dependence it is creating on foreign capital, as an innocuous "tax cut." Balderdash. This new tax cut is a dangerous foray into wretched excess and it will ultimately make our government, ourselves and our children less secure.

FLORIDA'S FALLEN HEROES

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2003

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, as our Nation remembered its war dead on Memorial Day and June 6th D-Day, I believe it is fitting to pay tribute to all of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. In our most recent conflict in Iraq, 14 individuals from my State of Florida gave their lives in service to our Nation in that war. While we honor and remember all those brave men and women and their loved ones who have given their full measure of devotion to their country from the days of the American Revolution to this hour, I submit the names of the following members of our military, their age, service and Florida hometown for special remembrance:

Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Aviles, Tampa, 18, Marine Corps.

Cpl. Armando A. Gonzalez, Hialeah, 25, Marine Corps.

Cpl. John T. Rivero, Tampa, 23, Army National Guard Infantry.

Lance Cpl. Brian R. Buesing, Cedar Key, 20, Marine Corps.

Lance Cpl. David K. Fribley, Fort Myers, 26, Marine Corps.

PFC Michael R. Creighton Weldon, Palm Bay, 20, Army.

Lance Cpl. Antonio J. Sledd, Tampa, 20, Marine Corps.

Ranger Specialist Marc A. Anderson, Brandon, 30, Army.

Army Ranger Sgt. Bradley S. Crose, Orange Park, 30, Army.

Navy SEAL Chief Petty Officer Matthew J. Bourgeois, Tallahassee, 35, Navy.

Sgt. Michael C. Barry, Brandon, 29, Army National Guard.

CWO Timothy W. Moehling, Panama City, 35, Army.