

10 of those years creating and growing his own advertising, graphic design and printing business, a true testament to the hard work and dedication apparent in all his undertakings.

During his illustrious career Mr. Diefenbacher has worked as a consultant, professor, and journalist, passing his limitless knowledge on to countless others. He has held various management positions in companies such as IBM Corporation and Decision Data Corporation.

As a young man, after receiving his Bachelor and Master of Management Engineering Degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Robert served in the U.S. Navy as the Chief Engineer on a destroyer in the Atlantic and Mediterranean fleets. His heroics serving our nation as well as serving those in our community demonstrate Robert's tremendous leadership abilities and have allowed him to hold countless positions of prestige. He is the current Chairman of the West Whiteland Township Concert Series, a past President of the Rotary Club of Central Chester County, past Chair of the Chester County School to Career Partnership. He served as Chair of the Continental Committee of Paoli Presbyterian Church and is Past-Chair of the Advisory Committee of the former Penn State Technology Development Center Business Incubator.

Robert's service has not gone unnoticed by his peers, he has received the Service Award from the Exton Region Chamber of Commerce, was recognized with Thirty Awards for Excellence in the Neographics Competition of Graphics Arts Association, received a Philly Gold Award for a Consumer Magazine Advertising Campaign, a Business of the Year Award from the Exton Region Chamber of Commerce, an Outstanding Service Award from the Chester County Intermediate Unit and a Chamber Service Award from the Chester County Chamber of Business & Industry.

I ask that my colleagues join me today to commend and honor Robert H. Diefenbacher for his many years of service to our community and wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE  
PASSING OF KIT GINGRICH

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 25, 2003*

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my condolences to the family of Speaker Gingrich. His mother, Kit Gingrich, died Tuesday night in Harrisburg, PA, at the age of 77.

Having lost a parent myself, I know personally the pain that such a passing brings. My heart goes out to the speaker and to his siblings, who lost a loving and devoted mother. Speaker Gingrich's sister, Susan Gingrich, said nothing brought her mother more pleasure than her family. One of her proudest moments was watching her son, Newt, sworn in as speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives in January 1995.

Speaker Gingrich is from Cobb County, which is my home county, and I represent some of the areas that he formerly represented.

In Cobb County and throughout Georgia, the speaker remains a beloved and revered figure for his great leadership and his contributions to our state and to our nation.

On behalf of the people of Georgia's 11th District, I want to let the Gingrich family know they're in our thoughts and prayers during their time of loss.

COMMENDING MAJORITY LEADER  
TOM DELAY

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 25, 2003*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the House Majority Leader, TOM DELAY, for his insightful speech yesterday at The Heritage Foundation. The Majority Leader clearly reminded us that we are a nation at war, engaged in a historic battle against enemies of freedom and liberty.

Yet, just two years after September 11th, instead of consistently working together to defeat international terrorism, some of my colleagues seem more intent on criticizing our Commander in Chief. Sadly, as Majority Leader DELAY said, "In the face of two of the swiftest, most humane, and most successful military campaigns in human history, they descend to name calling.

A political party must offer more than anger and name-calling, they must offer a positive agenda. They cannot just criticize, they must offer solutions. The American people, do not want petty partisan politics and constant nitpicking, they want safety and security from terrorism.

The Majority Leader correctly reminded us, "The United States is at war, and we want the nation—and its political parties—united behind our common mission to defeat global terror."

In conclusion, may God bless our troops.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PAYDEN  
BELL

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 25, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to a young man from my district. Payden Bell of Bayfield, Colorado was the victim of a terrible accident earlier this summer and has shown an amazing level of courage by persevering in the face of difficult odds. As he continues on his path toward recovery, I am honored to recognize Payden before this body of Congress.

Payden was working with the family mule when something apparently spooked the animal and it took off running. In the process, a rope got tangled around Payden's feet, dragging him for over a half-mile. Suffering from life-threatening abrasions and gashes to his body and head, Payden was released from the hospital after 18 days and is expected to make a full recovery.

One can only imagine the pain and suffering Payden experienced. Many adults would not have the will power to overcome the agony of such an injury, yet this young boy has recovered so rapidly that his family believes it is nothing short of a miracle. Payden had skin grafts, stitches and was even placed in an antibiotic jacket to help him heal. Less than three weeks later, his wounds were largely healed.

Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge Payden's triumphant recovery and his courageous spirit throughout this ordeal. Payden's accident was tragic, and his determination has been remarkable. I would like to wish this young man a continued recovery and all the best in the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE FORDHAM HILL OWNERS CORPORATION

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 25, 2003*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the Fordham Hill Owners Corporation, which celebrated its 20th anniversary in October of 2002.

High on a hill overlooking the Harlem River in the Bronx, New York, is the Fordham Hill community. Its nine buildings are situated on 12 acres of beautiful landscaped property; lofty trees of many varieties reach skyward and the rare black furred squirrels give Fordham Hill a suburban feel.

The residents of the Fordham Hill complex are among the fortunate few to have discovered this hidden oasis; where residents enjoy the benefits of the community's close proximity to various sites such as Yankee Stadium, the Bronx Zoo, and the Bronx Botanical Garden. In addition, a wide variety of nearby services, recreational activities, dining, shopping, schools, universities, hospitals, and churches add to the quaintness of the community.

Mr. Speaker, this beautiful community was planned, designed and completed by the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States in 1950. Initially created to serve as apartments for rent, this complex was transformed by E. Thomas Williams Jr., a skilled real estate investor and entrepreneur, who in 1980 outlined a plan to convert the financially troubled apartments into co-op dwellings. Williams, determined to buy the complex, raised funds, took out loans and eventually gained ownership of 65 percent of the complex. He and members of the original co-op committee worked diligently to gain support for the conversion by convincing tenants that a major benefit of buying their apartments was an opportunity for them to accrue some equity in their property after years of paying rent. By 1982 the conversion was in place, the Fordham Hill Owners Corporation was established, and Fordham Hill became the largest privately funded cooperative complex in the city of New York.

The Fordham Hill Owners Corporation is a diverse community of people from all backgrounds and professions who take pride in the community and play an active role in preserving the quality of life at the co-op. As a result of the direct involvement of co-op members, the community is thriving and continues to add splendor to the Bronx.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring the Fordham Hill Owners Corporation for maintaining a well-run corporation with a high quality of life for residents for more than twenty years.