

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING NEW GLARUS BREWING COMPANY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding achievements of the New Glarus Brewing Company of New Glarus, Wisconsin.

Small businesses provide the backbone of the American economy. Opened in 1993 by Daniel and Deborah Carey, the New Glarus Brewing Company has exemplified excellence in small business for ten years. The Careys' commitment to quality is demonstrated not only in the fine products of their successful brewery, but also by the numerous awards they have received.

Since its inception, the New Glarus Brewing Company has won recognition both nationally and internationally for their microbrewed beverages. At this year's Great American Beer Festival, held recently in Denver, Colorado, the Careys' presence was felt among such nationally-known brewing giants as Miller and Anheuser-Busch. Beating out forty-three entries, and in what the Careys called ". . . the biggest thing we have ever won . . .", the New Glarus Brewing Company took home gold and silver awards in the fruit and vegetable beer category for their Belgian Red and Raspberry Tart brews, respectively.

Even more impressive than national accolades is the noticeable cultural impact of this fine Wisconsin establishment. A marker of this pervasiveness can be seen in my own office in Washington, D.C. National awards and recognition combined with regional cultural contributions are truly reasons to be proud. An even better reason, however, are the thousands of Wisconsinites who enjoy the Careys' creations. I have had the honor to personally tour the New Glarus brewery. From this tour I learned that top-notch beers, such as Belgian Red and Spotted Cow, require high quality ingredients, outstanding staff, and remarkable ownership.

The Careys' ability to combine product quality and business savvy is commendable and deserves recognition. I am proud to call the New Glarus Brewing Company a true Wisconsin favorite.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL DELCONTE ON BEING NAMED "PERSON OF THE YEAR"

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michael Delconte of Hughestown, Stauffer Heights, Pennsylvania for being named "Person of the Year" by the Italian-

American Association of Luzerne County. I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to his achievements as he is honored at a dinner this Sunday, October 12, at the Woodlands in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania.

A member of the Italian-American Association of Luzerne County for ten years, Michael has served as the Secretary of the organization, and its President for the past two years.

Mr. Delconte is a 1951 graduate of Pittston High School and a retired federal employee. He worked at the Tobyhanna Army Depot for over 32 years serving as the Branch Chief Supervisor before he retired. He is a member of the Second Presbyterian Church of Pittston and a Past Worshipful Master of the Saint John's Lodge #233 Free and Accepted Masons where he currently serves as Treasurer. He currently serves as Sexton at the Second Presbyterian Church and as Secretary of the Pittston Red Devils athletic club.

Michael Delconte is the son of the late James and Rose Delconte. He has four living brothers, Matthew Colangelo, James, John and Robert Delconte. His brother Joseph Colangelo passed away in 1993. He has several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to represent a man who has displayed a lifetime leadership role in serving his community. I ask that my colleagues pay tribute to Michael Delconte as he receives this well deserved honor.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. LEON E. RONDENET

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man by any measure—Dr. Leon E. Rondenet. Dr. Rondenet was born in Chicago, IL, on July 28, 1922 to Leon and Loretta Rondenet (deceased). Leon Rondenet, O.D., is a World War II Medical Corps veteran. Dr. Rondenet is a graduate of the Northern Illinois College of Optometry. He has been in private practice for over 50 years. Dr. Rondenet has enjoyed providing the eye care needs for generations of Illinoisans.

Dr. Rondenet is an expert in difficult refractive cases and enjoys providing contact lens fittings for adults and children. He is a long-time member of the American Optometric Association and the Illinois Optometric Association. He has provided indigent eye care services for the Lions Club and supports the Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness.

Dr. Rondenet can be held to Ecclesiastes 7:18-19: "The man will avoid all extreme. Wisdom makes one wise man more powerful." Dr. Rondenet is an avid golfer and enjoys recreational fishing. He has been married to Mary Rondenet for 59 years. They have four children, Lee Jr., Mimi, John, and Bill.

LONG BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on September 22nd, the Long Beach Unified School District received the Broad Prize for Urban Education, which is awarded to the most outstanding school district in the country. This year the Long Beach Unified School District is America's Best Urban School System.

The Long Beach Unified School District was selected from five national finalists by a panel of 12 national leaders in the education, government, business and nonprofit sectors, including Boeing CEO Phil Condit, Florida Governor Jeb Bush and former Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Henry Cisneros.

The Broad Prize for Urban Education is the largest national education award and is synonymous with the Nobel Prize for schools. The Prize is awarded annually to urban school districts making the greatest overall improvement in student achievement while at the same time reducing achievement gaps across ethnic groups and between various incomes. The winning district receives a cash award of \$500,000 that goes towards scholarships for students to attend college or other post-secondary training.

Throughout the year, the Long Beach Unified School District will be highlighted and used as a model so that districts across the country can learn from their success. This will allow other school districts to replicate Long Beach's innovative teaching and educational strategies, thus extending their example and impact.

Long Beach's strength comes from their ability to evaluate and adapt its programs to meet the needs of specific students. This is no easy feat, considering that the Long Beach Unified School District is the third largest school district in California, serving 96,000 students. It also serves, according to U.S. Census, the most ethnically diverse city in the Nation with 46 different languages spoken by local students.

I commend the hard working teachers and school administrators of Long Beach for their contributions and commitment to our young people. I also would like to recognize the parents and our community for supporting the Long Beach Unified School District's efforts to help every child reach its full potential.

Education has always been tied to the promise of equality and opportunity for all and Long Beach Unified School District is an institution that gives every student an equal chance to succeed. Congratulations to the Long Beach Unified School District for this incredible achievement!

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING SCHOOL OF HUMAN
ECOLOGY AT UNIVERSITY OF
WISCONSIN-MADISON

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding 100 year legacy of the School of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The School of Human Ecology, originally named the Department of Home Economics, was founded in 1903 based on the hard work and dedication of numerous women important to the history of Wisconsin. Among these forward-thinking individuals were Helen Campbell, an author, reformer and home economist, and Caroline Hunt, a vibrant lecturer, mentor, and advocate of women's role in the field of science.

From these promising beginnings, the School today houses departments that span a variety of study: from Consumer Science to Foods and Nutrition to Human Development and Family Studies. The School is truly integral to the educational opportunities available at this fine state institution.

The School of Human Ecology has been well recognized for its commitment to individuals, families and communities in aiming to improve the quality of life for all citizens. This commitment has been demonstrated by the outstanding tradition of research undertaken by professors and students alike. The research operations of the School are not limited to pure academic undertakings but extend to include numerous outreach programs. The Helen Louise Allen Textile Collection, an example of both research and outreach, houses one of the premier compilations of fabric and textile art and artifacts in the Nation. It is through programs such as this that the School of Human Ecology admirably achieves its dedication to community.

I am proud to rise today and join the University of Wisconsin in honoring the impressive 100 years of accomplishments at the School of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. It is truly an honor to acknowledge the School's impressive past and promising future.

CONGRATULATING RAYMOND
ANGELI ON BEING NAMED "MAN
OF THE YEAR"

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my very good friend Raymond Angeli for being named "Man of the Year" by the Columbus Day Association of Lackawanna County. It is an honor to join the members of the association in paying tribute to his numerous achievements as he is honored at a dinner this Sunday, October 12, at Fiorelli's in Peckville.

Each year, the Columbus Day Association honors one local citizen of Italian ancestry who best represents the legacy of Christopher Columbus. Raymond Angeli represents this

legacy of strong innovative leadership and of personal sacrifice. He has been the president of Lackawanna College since 1994 and had previously served on the college's board of directors. At the college, he has transformed this 107-year-old institution into a vital vehicle to shape the leaders of tomorrow and serve the community at large. With tremendous ingenuity and initiative, Ray developed specialized educational programs designed to meet the needs of employers, while keeping the college's tradition of small class sizes and personalized attention to each student.

Mr. Angeli also has a distinguished career in government. The late Governor Robert Casey drafted him into service for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania where he served as deputy, then cabinet-level Secretary for the Department of Community Affairs.

Raymond Angeli has also exhibited leadership and sacrifice in defense of our Nation. He is a retired lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army where he served two combat tours of duty in Southeast Asia as a helicopter pilot and company commander. He received the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Air Medal, and Meritorious Service medals.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to represent a man who has played such a vital role in the Scranton community, northeastern Pennsylvania, and in defending the freedoms all of our Nation's citizens enjoy.

A TRIBUTE TO ALTHEA LOREEN
GRAYSON BANKS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman by any measure—Althea Loreen Grayson Banks. On September 27, 2003, Althea departed from us. She was a woman of many talents and accomplishments. She was employed as an office manager with Mississippi Family Doctors. She was also a licensed real estate agent broker and licensed funeral home director.

Althea was very involved in community and youth oriented organizations. She served as Girl Scout Troop Leader and was a member of Jack and Jill of America, Inc., Jackson Chapter of C.H.U.M.S., Heroines of Jericho Precious Jewel Count No. 146 and the Elks Kizzie Clifton Temple No. 671. She enjoyed horseback riding, tennis, shopping, sewing, and traveling.

Althea can be held to Proverbs 31:10 "Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies." Her life's joy was her children. She was a dedicated mother, daughter, sister, aunt, and friend. Althea was fun loving, energetic and kind hearted. She loved spending quality time with her family and touched the lives of many. The imprint she has left on the lives of others will be loving and everlasting.

IMMIGRANT WORKERS FREEDOM
RIDE

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on October 1, 2003, the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride arrived to Washington, DC. I welcome and salute the Immigrant Workers Freedom Riders.

Inspired by the 1961 freedom rides that sought to integrate bus terminals in the South, today's riders are visiting cities and towns across the country. They are raising awareness about the plight of immigrant workers and advocating for comprehensive change to our immigration system. Like Dr. Martin Luther King, these Americans, refuse to believe and I quote, "there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity in this great nation."

Let me share the story of one of those Americans. Salvador Guillen is the proud leader of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union (HERE) Local 681. He is a father of three children and has worked as a housekeeper at Disneyland's Paradise Pier Hotel for over 15 years. Salvador was born in Zamora, Michoacan, and has lived in the United States for 18 years. He is now a proud citizen of the United States.

In his own words, Salvador states:

I want workers like my two sisters who have not been able to legalize and who are forced to work jobs where they are abused, overworked, and underpaid to have the same opportunity.

I don't want my two sisters to suffer anymore like the time when our father was very sick. I remember they cried every night because they could not see him. Our father recovered, but to this day they still have not seen him since they left Mexico years ago.

I want all immigrants who work everyday and pay taxes to have the same opportunity I had for a better life, that is why I took time off my work, without pay, to ride across our country in support of immigration reform.

Salvador's journey exemplifies our democratic principles that all men and women are guaranteed the inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. May God bless all riders for embarking on this courageous and noble journey. I wish them all the best in New York City.

Together, we can implement sensible immigration policies that bring all immigrants one-step closer to the American Dream. For my part, I will continue to fight to defend our democratic values and make justice a reality for all of God's children. Juntos, podemos promover leyes más justas de inmigración, que ayuden a todos los inmigrantes en su lucha por conseguir el Sueño Americano.

IN APPRECIATION OF BOY SCOUT
VENTURE CREW 80

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say thank you to a group of dedicated individuals who helped their community before, during, and after Hurricane Isabel. Boy

Scout Venture Crew 80, sponsored by the First Christian Church of Alexandria and made up of youth members and adult leaders, came together to assist in administering first aid and to operate Amateur Radio for those in the afflicted areas.

Having been highly trained by their leaders in emergency communications and first aid, Venture Crew 80 exemplified the Boy Scout Motto, "Be Prepared." With the knowledge that Hurricane Isabel was quickly heading toward Northern Virginia, these young people and their adult leaders responded to the call of the Alexandria Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and the Fairfax Amateur Radio Emergency Service to assist them with their storm operations.

On Wednesday September 17, with most of the Northern Virginia area making preparations for the oncoming wind and rain, Venture Crew 80 were being briefed on how they could assist the city of Alexandria with radio communications support, and by 8 a.m. on Thursday they were on the call assisting the EOC and Red Cross shelters across the area.

Throughout Thursday, these dedicated individuals helped set up radios and other equipment needed to run a successful emergency operations center, assisted in assembling food, water, cots and blankets for shelters should they be needed during and after the storm, and helped gather emergency medical response gear for distribution. After completing the setup, they helped to handle the large amount of radio traffic between the EOC, Red Cross and the emergency shelters and monitored the amateur radio traffic. They remained at their posts, helping their fellow citizens make it through Hurricane Isabel, until 6:30 Friday morning.

Venture Crew 80 continued their support throughout the weekend at the EOC, various emergency shelters, the Mt. Vernon Recreation Center and their communities. Their first aid training was especially appreciated when neighbors came seeking aid and the nursing staff was unable to help.

On behalf of the residents of the City of Alexandria and Fairfax County, I would like to thank all the boys and girls, men and women who took their time and energy to help our community during Hurricane Isabel. It is obvious that the emergency efforts throughout the storm would not have been possible without the hard work of Venture Crew 80.

CONGRATULATING THE PHILIPS FAMILY FOR 268 YEARS OF VOLUNTEER FIRE SERVICE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Philips family of Stroudsburg for a combined 268 years of service to the Phoenix Fire Company No. 2 of the Stroudsburg Fire Company in Monroe County PA. I ask that my colleagues pay tribute this amazing legacy of service and dedication as this family is honored by the Borough of Stroudsburg Council at its meeting on Wednesday, October 15.

Mr. Speaker, I have the great fortune of representing a family that has over the years

dedicated their lives in volunteer service to Stroudsburg and the surrounding communities as members of the Phoenix Fire Company. Herman F. Philips, Lloyd F. Marsh, and Thomas Philips served all their lives and were members until they passed away. Robert W. Philips, Sr., Robert W. Philips, Jr., Richard Philips, and Millard "Skip" Philips all currently serve in the department. The Philips family firefighters have also risen to leadership positions within the department. Skip and Thomas were both assistant chiefs and chiefs, and Robert, Sr. was chief twice.

Their service to both the community and the fire department is remarkable. Equally amazing is the number of volunteer firefighters from one family. However, their longevity in the department is also noteworthy. Robert, Jr., is currently the least experienced volunteer firefighter of the Philips family with only 32 years of service. Robert, Sr., and Richard both have over 50 years while Skip is approaching 50 years.

Firefighters play a critical role in protecting our communities throughout northeastern Pennsylvania. Volunteer firefighters not only faithfully conduct their duties in the fire department, they also are community leaders and volunteer for other activities. The Philips family is no exception. They are pillars of the Stroudsburg community and deserve recognition for their remarkable service over several decades.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to represent this family that has played such an impressive vital role in their community and in voluntarily serving others.

TRIBUTE TO MR. RONALD OLSZOWY

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the life and work of an exceptional individual who I am proud to call my friend. Ronald Olszowy was honored by the Central of Polish Organizations on Sunday, September 28th, as the 2003 Marshal for the Passaic, Clifton and Vicinity Contingent of the 66th Annual General Kazimierz Pulaski Day Parade, which will be held on October 5th in New York City.

Over the past thirty years, Ron Olszowy has worked tirelessly on behalf of the men, women, and children of Passaic, Bergen, and Essex Counties. His selfless and unquestioning commitment to various civic, fraternal, and charitable organizations has left an indelible mark on the lives of many, demonstrating the positive difference that one person can make. It is only fitting that we honor Ronald Olszowy in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth.

The son of the late New Jersey Assemblyman Emil Olszowy, Ron grew up in a family committed to public service. Graduating from Lodi High School and Polk Junior College in Winter Haven, Florida, Ron entered the United States Army as a Military Policeman. During his 1968–1971 stint in the military, Ron held a top-secret security clearance within the Defense Atomic Support Agency. In September of 1968, he was decorated for heroism and credited with saving the life of another soldier.

Upon leaving the military, Ron received his bachelor's degree at William Paterson University, and soon became involved in local and state politics as the campaign manager for his father as well as for former Assemblyman Joseph Scancarella and former Assemblyman Gerry Zecker. In 1982, Ron applied the experience that he had gained in the Assembly elections to his role as a County Coordinator for Governor Kean's election. The election was successful and, in 1985, Ron Olszowy was appointed by Governor Kean as one of four public members of the New Jersey Economic Development Authority.

As the President and owner of Nationwide Bail Bonds and Interstate Insurance Agency in Clifton, Mr. Olszowy has demonstrated the same boundless enthusiasm, initiative, and personal drive that had made him so successful in the political arena. His distinguished work in the field of Bail Bonds led to his serving terms as both the President of the Professional Bail Agents of New Jersey and the President of the Professional Bail Agents of the United States. In both of these capacities, Ron has established himself as one of the foremost professionals in his field.

Yet Ron's commitment to enriching the lives of others extends far beyond the professional sphere. As the former director of the Board of the Passaic Boys and Girls Club, former director of the Passaic Lions Club, and Chairman of the Board of the American Cancer Society, Ronald Olszowy has devoted his time, talents, and energy to providing much-needed services to the residents of northern New Jersey. He has provided a valuable role model for the young men and women of the area, proving that the only real success in life comes from a true commitment to the community at large.

Mr. Olszowy's fine spirit of community service and volunteerism has been recognized across the State of New Jersey. He is a member of the Passaic, Bergen, and Essex County Police Chiefs Association and has been honored by Policeman's Benevolence Associations throughout Passaic, Essex, and Bergen Counties for his dedication to law enforcement. What is more, Ron Olszowy has three times been named Man of the Year for his acts of generosity—in 1991 by the American Cancer Society, in 1994 by the Italian-American Police Society of New Jersey and, in 1995 by the Passaic County Police Chiefs Association.

Mr. Speaker, the job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the extraordinary efforts of public servants like Ron Olszowy. I ask that you join our colleagues, the members of the Central of Polish Organizations, and myself in recognizing Ronald Olszowy for his outstanding service to the men and women of Northern New Jersey.

SEWICKLEY'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have the opportunity to pay tribute to one of America's premier communities on the occasion of its 150th anniversary. I am proud to serve as Sewickley's Representative in the

U.S. House and wish its citizens the best on this important milestone in its history.

Sewickley, rich in both history and tradition, was chosen by many area leaders as a desirable place to live and boasts fine architecture and landscapes.

I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating one of the nation's finest communities on its 150th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO ARIE P. TAYLOR

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the exceptional accomplishments and extraordinary life of a woman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this distinguished public servant for her impressive record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor Arie P. Taylor.

Arie Taylor was a remarkable woman who lived a remarkable life. She was on the front lines of progress for decades and proved to be a powerful force in transforming the landscape of our city and state. Her indomitable spirit sustained her through many challenges and molded a life of notable accomplishment. Born in Bedford, Ohio, it was evident at an early age that politics would play a major role in Arie Taylor's life. At age 19, she served under the first African American woman on the Cleveland City Council. After studying at Miami University of Ohio and Case Western Reserve University, she served a four-year stint in the Women's Air Force as a Staff Sergeant where she was the first black classroom instructor and noncommissioned officer in Women's Air Force training. Arie Taylor distinguished herself in national politics when as a delegate to the 1968 Democratic National Convention, she fought against seating all-white Southern delegations.

Arie Taylor's lengthy career in public service began in 1972 when she was elected to the Colorado House of Representatives representing House District 7 in northeast Denver. She was the first African American woman elected to the Colorado General Assembly and served six terms. As a state representative, she burnished a reputation of being forthright, outspoken and wearing great hats. She became a powerful advocate for African Americans, women, the poor, the elderly and other disadvantaged communities. Arie Taylor carried legislation that amended state civil rights statutes to include sex and gender. She carried fair housing legislation permitting women to access credit in their own names instead of having to rely on their spouses. She sponsored legislation for homemakers displaced because of domestic violence which, after passage, led to creation of a state income tax check-off to support organizations assisting victims of domestic violence. Arie Taylor further sponsored legislation that created treatment centers at the University of Colorado Medical Center for hemophilia and sickle cell anemia.

Her service to the City & County of Denver began as Deputy Clerk of Denver District

Court and Chief Clerk of the Denver Election Commission. Her career culminated in being appointed Denver Clerk & Recorder by former Mayor Wellington E. Webb in 1991. It comes as no surprise that Arie Taylor was the recipient of numerous awards including the Harriett Tubman Award for extraordinary efforts against racial violence. In 1999, the municipal center in northeast Denver was dedicated in her name.

Arie Taylor lived a life of meaning and one that was rich in consequence. It is the character and deeds of Arie Taylor, and all Americans like her, which distinguishes us as a people. Truly, we are all diminished by the passing of this remarkable woman.

Please join me in paying tribute to the life of Arie P. Taylor, a distinguished public servant. It is the values, leadership and commitment she exhibited during her life that serves to build a better future for all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO MG ARNOLD PUNARO

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to MG Arnold Punaro, United States Marine Corps Reserve, on the occasion of his retirement. Major General Punaro has served our Marine Corps and our Nation for more than 35 years.

A native of the great state of Georgia, Major General Punaro grew up in the town of Macon, and graduated from Mount de Sales Academy. He then chose to focus on higher education, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in English from Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. He would later earn Masters degrees at the University of Georgia and also Georgetown University. Like many fine, Southern gentlemen before him, he answered the call to duty and joined the Marine Corps, serving as a platoon commander in Vietnam where he was decorated for heroism and wounded in combat.

In 1973, after completing his active duty tour, Major General Punaro transferred to the Marine Corps Reserve, and continued to dedicate himself to the service of our country, working in the U.S. Senate for Senator Sam Nunn on national security matters for 24 years. In his work with the Senate Armed Services Committee as Staff Director of the Senate Armed Services Committee, he was involved in the formulation of all major defense legislation and the oversight and review of all major defense activities for over two decades. This included the Defense Officer Personnel Management Act and its Reserve counterpart, the Goldwater-Nichols Defense Reorganization Act, the Acquisition Streamlining Act, personnel transition provisions, special operations reforms, and all pay and benefits matters. Major General Punaro also remained actively involved in numerous Reserve organizations, including a tour on active duty in Operation Desert Shield and an extended tour on active duty as the Commander of Joint task Force Provide Promise (Forward) in command of U.S. Forces serving in the former Yugoslavia.

Throughout his career, both civilian and military, MG Arnold Punaro dedicated himself to improving our national security. He serves as

a member of Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld's newly formed Defense Business Board and is also a Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington, D.C. He serves on the adjunct faculty at the Marine Corps University and on the Secretary of Defense Reserve Forces Policy Board. As a general officer, he has spent 5 years in command, focusing on increased operational readiness and the integration of reserve forces into the total force Marine Corps. Always keeping the welfare of his Marines at the forefront of his efforts, Major General Punaro spearheaded several programs that directly benefited the quality of life for our service members.

Major General Punaro was recently mobilized on active duty, serving concurrently as a Special Assistant to the Commander, U.S. European Command and as Director of Reserve Affairs Division where he oversaw the largest mobilization in the history of the Marine Corps. In support of the Global War on Terrorism, more than 22,000 Reserve Marines were called to duty. More than 75 percent of those were deployed into theater, where they served with distinction. His dedication to the defense of our country, as a young man in Vietnam to his actions with the Senate together with his continued service with the Marine Corps Reserve, has been a lifelong endeavor. We have been fortunate to have such a high caliber marine officer in support of our nation.

Throughout his distinguished career, Major General Punaro has demonstrated uncompromising character, discerning wisdom, and a sincere, profound sense of duty to his country, and his Corps. On behalf of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, I would like to recognize Major General Punaro's accomplishments and his devoted service to the Nation. Congratulations to him, his wife Jan and their four children, 2LT Joe Punaro (USMC), Julie, Meghan, and Daniel on the completion of a long and distinguished career. I wish them all the best as they continue to live life beyond our country's beloved Corps.

RE-ENTRY OF THE UNITED STATES INTO UNESCO

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to direct my colleagues' attention to the re-entry of the United States into UNESCO—the U.N. Educational, Cultural, and Scientific Organization.

As Democratic Co-chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I congratulate the Administration on this important step toward playing a more active role in working with other member nations in the international cultural arena. I am heartened, as well, that First Lady Laura Bush led the U.S. delegation at the flag-raising ceremony at our new UNESCO Mission in Paris on Tuesday.

UNESCO promotes international co-operation based upon respect for commonly shared values. In the area of culture, it promotes arts education for children and supports artists, arts organizations, and the arts industry. It sees the arts as vital tools for economic development as well as international understanding. UNESCO's director general, Koichiro

Matsuura, recently saluted America's vast intellectual and cultural resources and good will. He termed America "a great nation so diverse that each of us can see himself in it; America holds up a mirror to the world."

As our country takes this important step to further international understanding through education, culture, and science, we should all look forward to working with the U.S. Mission in any way possible.

Unfortunately, ignoring the House's lead, the other body's Appropriations Committee has voted against funding to cover our UNESCO dues. I urge the White House, having sent Mrs. Bush to Paris, to weigh in—heavily and soon—to prevent the Senate from making her appearance into little more than a photo opportunity. Failure to do so would send a signal that the Administration does not truly recognize the important role that our country's best mirror to the world—arts, education, and science—plays in promoting international understanding.

HONORING THE REVEREND LARRY STAMPER AND SUE STAMPER

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Larry and Mrs. Sue Stamper on being the recipients of the second annual Woodbury University Movers and Shapers Award that recognizes outstanding volunteer service to Burbank and its residents by members of the community.

Sue Stamper is an Oklahoma native who attended Point Loma College. She has been active in the United Methodist Women, The National Charity League, P.E.O., Burbank Sister City Committee, San Fernando Valley Girl Scouts, Zoma, and Noon Rotary. She is also a member and participant in the Burbank YMCA since 1993, and has been involved in numerous Woodbury activities. Sue is a very talented musician, she plays the violin, piano, and organ. She is additionally a vocalist and enjoys singing at special events. She is currently vice president at First State Bank in Burbank.

Larry Stamper earned a bachelor's degree from Point Loma College and a master's degree from Claremont School of Theology. He is well known in the community as the pastor of Burbank First United Methodist Church. He is a member of the Burbank Community Hospital Foundation, and is on the board of governors for Goodwill Industries. He also serves on the board of directors of Wesley Homes, which are senior retirement homes sponsored by his church. Larry served on the Burbank City Council during the 1980's and was mayor from 1983–1984. He is a member and past-president of the Burbank Kiwanis Club. He was chaplain for the Burbank Police Department for 14 years. Larry has long been associated with Woodbury, and received an honorary doctor of letters from the university in 1992.

The Stampers have been married for 47 years and have three children and five grandchildren. Since moving to Burbank 31 years ago, they have played an active role in civic, philanthropic, and spiritual activities. They

have enriched Burbank through their selfless generosity of time and spirit and their constant willingness to better the community. Individually and together, their efforts have positively shaped the future of Burbank.

I ask all Members of Congress today to join me in commending Larry and Sue Stamper for their limitless energy and commitment to the community of Burbank.

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF YOUR FLU SHOT

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to inform my esteemed colleagues of the contents of their influenza vaccines. As we approach the flu season, many of you will visit the doctor's office and receive an annual influenza vaccine. This might prevent the flu, but what else will it do? You should be aware that the vaccine you are about to receive contains thimerosal—a mercury-laden preservative. Scientific evidence continues to accumulate regarding the biologically plausible connection between this preservative and certain neurological disorders.

The influenza vaccine is not the only vaccine that contains thimerosal. According to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), several currently manufactured U.S. licensed vaccines also contain thimerosal. From Anthrax to Hepatitis, from Influenza to Lyme disease, numerous vaccines exist that contain this preservative.

During my chairmanship of the Government Reform Committee, we held numerous hearings on the adverse effects of thimerosal. According to scientists, these hearings clearly demonstrated the potentially dangerous effects of vaccines containing mercury, and how easy it would be to save thousands of victims from the preservative's effects. Furthermore, some scientists have attributed the growth in Alzheimer's Disease and autism to the mercury found in these vaccines. In April 2000, when the Committee on Government Reform held its first hearing on the dramatic rise in the rates of autism, Federal agencies were estimating that autism affected 1 in 500 children in the United States. A recent study reported in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* indicates that ratio may actually be as high as 1 in every 150 children, and the problem continues to grow.

What is most shocking about these vaccines is that the pharmaceutical companies no longer need to use thimerosal as a preservative. They could easily eliminate all mercury from these vaccines. Experts believe that if single-shot vials were used for vaccines, then the thimerosal preservative would no longer be necessary. Moving to single-shot vials could have an enormously positive impact in helping to minimize the debilitating effects of mercury-laden thimerosal.

I am submitting to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for my colleagues' review a letter that I recently sent to corporate leaders in the pharmaceutical manufacturing industry.

You may already be aware that scientific evidence continues to accumulate regarding

the connection between thimerosal, autism and other neurodevelopmental disorders, and that many parents have become understandably concerned about the safety of pediatric vaccines. Although the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) asked vaccine manufacturers to begin removing the mercury-laden preservative thimerosal from vaccines in 1999, they were not ordered to do so. As a result, we now have a situation where concerned parents who do not wish their children to be exposed to thimerosal are unable to determine which vaccines currently on the market contain thimerosal and which are thimerosal-free.

During my tenure as Chairman of the House Government Reform Committee (1997–2002), a myriad of scientists testified at a series of hearings before the Committee that the mercury in vaccines is a contributing factor to developing neurological disorders, including autism and Alzheimer's Disease. Numerous scientists testified that there is a simple way to prevent doing further harm. Experts believe that if single-shot vials were used for vaccines, then thimerosal would no longer be necessary. Moving to single-shot vials could have an enormously positive impact in helping to minimize and perhaps even eliminate some of the cases of autism, Alzheimer's Disease, and other neurological disorders linked to mercury. Unfortunately, several well-known and firmly-established pharmaceutical companies continue to put thimerosal into vaccines for both children and adults, even though the pharmaceutical industry knows it is a highly toxic substance.

Reports still continue to surface concerning the marked increase in neurological disorders and a possible correlation to mercury-laden vaccines. In May of this year, the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) released a report entitled, "Autistic Spectrum Disorders, Changes in the California Caseload: 1999–2002." The findings of this report are truly alarming. California's autism population has nearly doubled in 4 years—from 10,360 reported cases in 1998 to 20,377 cases in December of 2002. This astounding growth rate represents a 97 percent increase in just four years, and nearly 100 percent increase in California's caseload since 1999. And California is not alone. The rate of growth in the population of persons with autism in California is commensurate with reported increases all across the Nation, in such diverse States as Georgia, Minnesota, and Massachusetts. We have an absolute epidemic on our hands. If this trend is allowed to continue at a constant rate, we could have up to 4 million autistic children in America within the next decade.

As you may already know, many pharmaceutical companies in your industry are concerned that they may be held liable in potential class-action lawsuits for brain damage caused by thimerosal, which is still found in at least three childhood vaccines. It is my belief that because of these concerns, language was inserted—at the last minute and under the cover of darkness—into last year's "National Homeland Security Agency Act" (H. R. 1158). This language would have protected pharmaceutical companies from future classaction lawsuits; however, the language was ultimately removed after being discovered by several deeply concerned Members of both the House and Senate.

As a leader of your industry, I implore you to eliminate mercury from your vaccines immediately. Mercury-free medicine protects and promotes the health of the world, as well as protecting your industry from future lawsuits. Thank you for your prompt and personal attention to this urgent matter.

For a chart of those vaccines that contain thimerosal, I invite my colleagues to visit the

Food and Drug Administration's website at www.fda.gov/cber/vaccine/thimerosal.htm.

A TRIBUTE TO GEORGE JAMES SINGER, JR.

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember George James Singer, Jr. George proudly served our Nation in World War II in the Army's 38th Division of the 147th Infantry. He served on the island of Tonga for most of his service from January 1941 to May 1943. The recession at his funeral mass was "Ah Weh, Ah Weh", a song that he learned while stationed in Tonga and loved to sing at family gatherings.

Born in 1917, George lived a full life. After devoting his life to his country, George returned home to Cincinnati, OH, where he settled down with the love of his life, his wife, Marjorie (nee Sturwald). A few years later, they had a daughter, Gayle. George worked most of his life at the Cincinnati Post-Times Star newspaper. Everyone who knew George, knew him to be a kind and gentle man. He loved to play golf and loved traveling around the world with his beloved wife, Marjorie. Marjorie passed away a few years ago and life was never the same for George.

This country owes George our appreciation for defending our freedom. America is grateful for his service. I offer my condolences to Gayle, his daughter, her husband, Bob, and George's two granddaughters, Amy and Katie. America lost another hero on September 9, 2003. Our Nation's loss is most certainly heaven's gain.

HONORING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF BILL AND CAROL CLAY

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to my parents, William "Bill" and Carol Clay, on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. As many of you know, my father, former Congressman Bill Clay, represented the 1st Congressional District of Missouri in this body for 32 years.

My parents were married on October 10, 1953 in St. Louis, Missouri. Their life together has been built upon a solid foundation of love, mutual respect, honor and dedication. Over the years they have worked very hard to be responsible parents to their three children, while at the same time toiling tirelessly to provide service to the "larger" family of constituents in St. Louis and beyond.

My father served in elective office for over 40 years and my mother stood by his side every step of the way. From their attempt to desegregate the public swimming pool at Fort McClellan in Alabama, to the marches and protests for employment opportunities at the Jefferson Bank and Trust Company and Howard Johnson's Restaurant in St. Louis, my par-

ents were at the forefront of the struggle for justice and equality from the very early years of their marriage. On one occasion, my father spent 118 days in jail as a result of protesting injustice. During that period, my mother would take us regularly to the jail house to see him, so that we would understand what he was doing and why. My parents instilled a deep sense of commitment to fighting injustice and righting wrongs within my sisters and me at an early age.

One of my fondest memories was in January 1969 when my father was sworn in as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Following his lead, as we normally would, my sisters and I raised our right hands in an effort to take the oath of office with him. At that time, we could not have foreseen an even prouder moment for our family when, 32 years later I had the privilege and honor of being sworn in as a Member of this esteemed body. As I was taking the oath of office, I looked over to my father and noticed a tear fall from his eye while my mother stood beside him, misty-eyed as well.

Throughout his long and distinguished career, my father has been a trailblazer, a pacesetter, an innovator and a fearless leader. At the same time, my mother has been the advocate, the nurturer, the rock solid supporter and the foundation of the Clay family. I take pleasure in reflecting upon all of the wonderful lessons and guidance they have given my sisters and me over the years. They taught us the importance of family commitment, being patient and respecting the opinions of others. They also taught us to always be prepared and look at life from a practical point of view.

Their contributions to our community and our Nation are enormous. In addition, their strong commitment to the education of young people is exemplary. Together they have helped raise over \$3 million in college scholarships for minority students through their efforts with the William L. Clay Scholarship and Research Fund. This Fund was founded by my father and the Congressional Black Caucus Spouses organization, of which my mother was a cofounder.

My sisters, Vicki Clay Jackson, Michelle Clay Rorie, and I will honor Bill and Carol in celebration of their golden wedding anniversary on Saturday, October 11, 2003. We are being assisted in this momentous undertaking by all five of Bill and Carol Clay's grandchildren—Angela Clay, Michael Alexis, H. Clay Rorie, Carol W. Clay and William L. Clay, III. Family, life-long friends and colleagues from throughout the Nation will be joining us on that marvelous occasion to extend thanks and appreciation for their love, guidance and friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues extend a well-deserved and heartfelt round of congratulations to Bill and Carol Clay as they celebrate 50 years of love and devotion to one another and to the Clay family.

BUILDING MOMENTUM

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. DELAY. Mr. Speaker, since the first days after 9/11, President Bush has made

clear two priorities in his vision for American security.

First, that the top priority of his administration is to defend our nation and free nations everywhere by declaring and winning a war against global terror. And second, that this war on terror is unlike any conflict in history, fought simultaneously on economic, military, and diplomatic fronts around the world.

In the last week, good news has emerged in several of these sectors.

First of all, American businesses created 57,000 jobs last month, strengthening our economy and putting paychecks back into our people's hands. Our national security is dependent on the creation of even more jobs and economic growth, so that we can afford to meet the ever-changing challenges of the war on terror.

That's why President Bush's tax relief has proven so vital, and why proposals to raise new taxes are so dangerous.

Even as the economy rebounds here at home, we've got to keep military, diplomatic, and economic pressure on the terrorists around the world. So, this week, the Appropriations Committee will take up the President's supplemental war budget request—after two weeks of hearings—to pay for our ongoing military and democracy-building efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

We are also committed to keeping up the diplomatic pressure on states that harbor and assist terrorists themselves. Toward that end, this week the International Relations Committee will take up the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Restoration Act.

This bill, which is cosponsored by 260 members of the House, identifies Syria's continued actions assisting international terrorism and lays out potential sanctions against Syria for such activity.

On the heels of Israel's justified destruction of a Syrian terrorist training camp over the weekend, it's imperative the United States remain true to the Bush Doctrine, support our allies, and stand up to Syria's continued allegiance with evil.

All three of these items, Mr. Speaker—the growing economic recovery, the supplemental war budget, and the Syria accountability bill—will continue to build America's momentum in the war on terror. That momentum will continue to forge prosperity and security for the American people and in turn create peace around the world.

TRIBUTE TO KURT ANDREW DODD

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, last week the Committee on Appropriations lost a dear friend and valued colleague, Staff Assistant Kurt Dodd. I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his service for the American people and to his memory.

Kurt Andrew Dodd was born on April 17, 1957. He began his Federal service in 1980 at the age of 23 as a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. After 17 years with USGS, Kurt came to work for the Appropriations Committee as a detailee to the Interior Subcommittee in January 1997. He spent the next

6½ years in the appropriations process, serving as minority clerk for the Interior Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee as well as staff assistant for the Treasury-Postal and Transportation-Treasury Subcommittees in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, the responsibilities of these positions were enormous, and Kurt carried out those responsibilities with the utmost professionalism, dedication, and intelligence. Most recently, Kurt reviewed the budget requests and oversaw financial management of the Department of the Treasury, the General Services Administration, and the National Archives and Records Administration. Congress appropriates over \$18 billion annually for those programs. And we did that each year counting on Kurt's expertise and recommendations. Kurt oversaw some of our Nation's highest priority programs, including those related to the tracking of terrorist financing and money laundering. His analysis and support were critical not only in providing for timely construction of Federal buildings in general, but also for renovation of the National Archives Rotunda, which recently reopened to the public. His service to the Nation and to the Committee on Appropriations will be sorely missed.

But anyone who knew Kurt would tell you that his dedication and hard work for the American people were only part of the story. His accomplishments include not one but three master's degrees—one in science, one in business, and one in history. He was a voracious reader, and a student of history. Kurt was just as comfortable discussing campaigns of the Peloponnesian War or riptides as he was going over Treasury Department balance sheets. And when his coworkers would express interest in a subject, Kurt would often give them a book from his personal collection to help spread the knowledge he had already attained. He was a true Renaissance man.

But most importantly, Kurt was a man of kindness, decency, and integrity. Generous to a fault, he was loved not only by his family, but also by his colleagues on the Hill who worked with him each day. His gentle demeanor, sense of fairness, and civility to all serve as an inspiration to those of us who work in the cauldron of ideas and passions we call Congress. We need more people like Kurt Dodd in the congressional community, to remind us that fairness, courtesy, and respect can get a lot more accomplished than posturing, arguing, and gamesmanship.

Sadly, Kurt's mobility, and ultimately his life, was cut short by multiple sclerosis. He suffered this terrible, degenerative disease for several years with great dignity, Mr. Speaker, continuing to perform his duties on the committee with extraordinary skill and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, it is a sad day for the Appropriations Committee. The American people have lost a dedicated public servant; his family has lost a loved one; and his colleagues in the government have lost a dear friend. I ask all Members to join me today in celebrating the life of Kurt Dodd and the example of hard work and professionalism he left for us to follow.

A TRIBUTE TO COMMITTEE STAFF DIRECTORS

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on July 17, 2003 our distinguished former colleague, Lee Hamilton, delivered an address to the U.S. Capitol Historical Society's dinner honoring the staff directors of committees of the House of Representatives.

The tribute to the directors was well deserved. They toil long hours and under great stress and pressure to ensure that the House of Representatives operates properly. Mr. Hamilton's remarks are also insightful as to the need for civility in the conduct of our often contentious business. Equally important is the need to respect and to follow the complex Congressional processes and procedures for deliberating the decisions that affect our nation.

I encourage others to read Mr. Hamilton's insightful and instructive remarks on how we conduct our nation's business, and I join him in honoring the hard work and dedication of the staff directors of the U.S. House of Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO COMMITTEE STAFF DIRECTORS

(By the Hon. Lee H. Hamilton)

The contributions of staff directors to the work of the Congress are immeasurable. I am reasonably confident that every committee chairman and ranking member would say they simply could not do their work without your leadership. I hope that gives each of you a full measure of satisfaction.

I want to talk for a few minutes about the role of the Congress in this country, the importance of politicians, and why your efforts are so important and worthwhile.

PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARD CONGRESS

You are, of course, familiar with those who are cynical about your work and the work of Congress. The brightest wits in American life have had their fun at the expense of the Congress. H.L. Mencken said that, "with the right pressure, Congressmen would cheerfully be in favor of polygamy, astrology or cannibalism." Mark Twain said, "suppose you were an idiot, and suppose you were a member of Congress. But I repeat myself." Will Rogers said that, "Congress was a never-ending source of amusement, amazement, and discouragement." Even so, we honor him with that magnificent statue just off the House floor.

We have all seen surveys like those showing that 66 percent of Americans can name the hosts of various game shows, while only 6 percent can name the Speaker of the House. When I was a member, I was never particularly disturbed by such survey results. After all, Americans are busy people with many demands on their time, and it is not easy to put in a full day's work and then read an article about Congress or turn on C-Span to watch the House or Senate in session.

Nor was I bothered by the barbs—after all, we have to appreciate that the bashing of Congress is one of America's all time favorite indoor sports. What did bother me, though, was the extent to which people do not understand or appreciate some of the basic concepts that underlie the workings of the Congress, and the role that Congress plays in the life of our representative democracy. Even if Americans don't know the

name of their senators or representative, they should know something about the importance of what they do to make the country work. Even if they don't know the players or the details of the legislative process, they should know something about how they relate to our system of government. If too many Americans get those concepts wrong, it does matter to the health of our democracy.

ROLE OF THE CONGRESS AND COMMITTEES

In my experience, far too few Americans really understand the most important function of the Congress. It is not, in my view, to pass any particular piece of legislation, or even a budget—but its historic mission is to maintain freedom.

The great phrases ring through our history—"We the people," "consent of the governed," "a more perfect union." These aren't just technical terms of political science. They are words that embody America's civic faith. You and I, above all others, are expected to know them in our bones, and to apply these grand concepts.

We rely on elected representatives to identify, sort out, and solve the difficult issues of state. It did not have to be this way. Our country would be vastly different if the Founders had placed power in the hands of a single ruler, or given much less voice to the American people.

In the Congress, Americans have a forum for debate and deliberation in which they can feel a stake. Traditional lawmaking is not just a nicety—it's a necessity if we're to remain a democracy. The lawmaking process allows us to resolve differences, and to live together peacefully, productively and successfully.

Most Americans may be familiar with the diagram of how a bill becomes a law. Whenever I see those charts I think to myself how sterile they are. They do not convey the dynamics—the frustration, the excitement, the complexity and the necessity of the process. Very few Americans understand that the details of this process of deliberation guarantee that their voices are heard, and freedom is protected.

I worry that astute legislators often bypass steps in the lawmaking process, arguing—in effect—that the ends justify the means. This "unconventional lawmaking" is increasingly applied to important legislation; but in doing this we bypass and put at risk the very democratic process that defines our system.

My view is that important proposals should not bypass the traditional process, including the committee review, because that is one important place where deliberation takes place. That's where members and staff can ask the hard questions. Committees provide expertise, and an opportunity to consider the merits and smooth out the problems in proposals. This is where we build consensus.

Some Americans feel that the legislative procedure is too slow and deliberative—they are annoyed by what they perceive as inside-the-Beltway scuffling, and wonder why Congress can't get things done faster. But do we really want a speedy system in which laws are pushed through before alternatives are considered and consensus developed? We misunderstand Congress's role if we demand it be a model of efficiency and quick action.

Our Founders designed a system in which all new proposals get careful scrutiny by going through many layers of review. They were far less interested in moving good ideas efficiently, than they were in preventing bad ideas from becoming the law of the land in the heat of the moment. People may sometimes complain about the process, but they benefit from its legislative speed bumps when they want their views heard, their interests protected, and their rights safeguarded. As former Speaker Sam Rayburn

used to say: "One of the wisest things ever said was, 'Wait a minute.'" That, in a phrase, is the essential role played by congressional committees.

IMPORTANCE OF POLITICIANS

Democracy, after all, is a process, not a product, and what our democracy really needs is more politicians. That was one line I used to say that was sure to get a reaction. Very few of my constituents agreed.

Showing skill as a politician has come to mean demonstrating the ability to raise campaign funds, engaging in the tit-for-tat of negative advertising, jockeying for public support based on polls and focus groups, or skewering an opponent with a one-liner during a televised debate. People have come to view the word politician—particularly with regard to the Congress—with disdain. Plenty of voters feel that politicians sell-out their beliefs and promises. "Stick to your guns," they urge.

Controversy and conflict are unavoidable in a nation as large and diverse as ours—a diversity that is rightly represented in the peoples' House. To avoid ripping apart at the seams, our country needs people who know how to accommodate different points of view and work for common solutions—it needs politicians.

You are an essential part of this effort. By working behind the scenes, knowing what Members want, proposing compromises, addressing all the difficult details of legislation, and dealing with all the worthy groups wanting contradictory things, you—as well as your bosses—have to be politicians in order to keep our democracy running.

BEING A GOOD POLITICIAN

For the most part, people don't pay attention to how their hopes, dreams and ambitions are turned into public policy through the lawmaking process. Most citizens and journalists take that very political process for granted. They shouldn't.

Constituents often asked my position on a substantive issue. I don't think anyone inquired about my political skills—and, in this world, political skills are essential to get things done. The key to being an effective legislator or staffer is respecting that system and figuring out how to make it work. So what political skills do you need—what skills does a member need?

First, you know how to consult, particularly with your colleagues—talking to them, listening to them, making sure they feel they are in the loop. Support for ideas is largely built one-on-one, but also in larger forums. Key individuals—inside and outside of the Congress—have their own ideas and valid concerns, and they expect to be able to share them. Lyndon Johnson had his own way of putting this with a sign he had in his Senate office: "You ain't learning nothing when you're talking."

Second, you calm—rather than inflame—discussions of controversial issues. Things can get pretty heated in the Congress, and disagreement is inevitable in a House as large and diverse as ours. It is relatively easy to make a bad situation worse. One thing that I'm certain of is that you cannot produce good legislation in a bad atmosphere. You can produce heat in such an environment, but not light.

Third, you know how to persuade. It takes an enormous amount of persuasion to build a majority in support of an idea. You all know how much persuasion is involved in getting approval of even a modest piece of legislation. You have to line up support and be in touch with sometimes hundreds of individuals from both parties, in the Congress and outside the Congress.

Fourth, you must be willing to share credit. I remember former Speaker Tip O'Neill

putting his arm around me and giving me some advice as we walked down the hall. "Neil," he said—he called me Neil for my first decade in Congress because I reminded him of a Boston baseball player named Neil Hamilton. "Neil, you can accomplish anything in this town if you're willing to let someone else take the credit."

Finally, you know how to compromise. Compromise is essential to producing law in our system. Good politicians, both legislators and staff, are able to find points of agreement that will allow a consensus to emerge. They will look for solutions that allow both sides to claim, if not victory, at least some gains.

Your skills are crucial in finding acceptable solutions. Compromise might involve altering some key words; phrasing in a change; inserting a new provision; requiring a study; splitting differences in funding; delaying or postponing implementation of a section. You have to seek these accommodations among rival interests because you know that it is necessary to make the Congress—and country—work.

From my perspective, the ability to build consensus is probably the most important single skill needed in the Congress—by Members and staff. Any fool can blow a meeting or discussion apart—it takes real political skill to bring people together. That is why we need more politicians of your skill these days, not fewer.

WHY IS IT WORTHWHILE?

Well, is this demanding, tedious process of passing legislation worthwhile? You and I know well the frustrations:

As a member, I always felt it was hard to keep on the right side of the voter. When I was in my district, I heard complaints that I wasn't spending enough time in Washington; when I was in Washington, people said I was ignoring the home folks and only paid attention to them during elections. When I drove an old car in my district, people said it looked like something a farmer would use for hauling trash; when I got a new car, they said the lobbyists had gotten to me. When I wore an old suit, people said I had no class; when I wore a new one, I was accused of going high-hat. When I missed church, people said I was an atheist; when I attended church, I was a pious fraud, trolling for votes in church. When Congress passed a lot of laws, we were a meddlesome Congress; when we weren't passing laws, we were an incompetent, do-nothing Congress ignoring the needs of the country. When we supported the president, people said we were a rubber-stamp; when we opposed the president, we were disloyal and obstructionist.

You can never please everyone when you are working in Congress, no matter how many hours you put in, no matter how skillful you are. You all know too well what I'm talking about as staff directors when I talk about the frustrations, among them:

- committee meetings go on without end;
- the work is tedious, requiring that you go over legislation comma by comma;
- you are constantly running from one meeting or appointment to another
- your daily schedule is always being interrupted, revised, of simply scrapped.
- if you have a family, you're going to miss many important family events;
- and you cannot plan ahead, whether for an evening off or for a vacation, because some event or emergency always demands that Congress stay in session longer than planned.

All the political posturing, sniping and scrambles to claim credit for good things—or avoid blame for bad—sometimes becomes disheartening, as does the constant maneuvering for partisan advantage. And for put-

ting up with all of this, you get paid less than you could make in the private sector, while facing harsh and frequent criticism.

Yet, despite it all, most members run for reelection and remain in Congress as long as they can. Most of you worked long and hard to become a committee staff director.

Is it all worthwhile? Yes, of course it is. Why? Let's be frank—some of it satisfies the ego. Some like the power and the trappings of power—when you speak, people listen, and that is very satisfying; but most of you, I think, are truly motivated by the belief that, as hard as it is, you can make a difference and enhance the lives of ordinary Americans.

Then, too, it is all pretty exciting—and interesting. The sheer challenge of public policy issues attracts us. There is a pervasive sense on Capitol Hill that it is where the issues of greatest importance to the nation are being sorted out. This is where the action is. Sometimes this is misplaced, but often it is not.

You struggle over the issues that aroused the passions of this country's founding generation. How much power should the federal government be given? How should powers be separated among the branches? How do we resolve the tension between encouraging individual liberty and security? What role should our country play in the world?

These great issues are subject to debate every time a new federal budget comes to a vote, or a major presidential initiative gets introduced on Capitol Hill. When you start working in Congress, you get a chance to take part in this ongoing debate—our great experiment with democracy.

Your public service gives you a stimulating, proud and lively career. So I salute each of you for the vital role that you play within this institution, and in your service to your fellow Americans. You are contributing to the success and direction of this country. I hope you feel that by working in the Congress you are given the unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people and the great affairs of this nation. I would wager that no matter where your career takes you from Capitol Hill, you will look back on your public service as the most rewarding of your career.

The work is hard, the recognition rare, the monetary reward modest; but your reward is a deeply fulfilling life in public service and a key role in American democracy. What more could you want?

HONORING SIX BRAVE BRENTWOOD POLICE OFFICERS AS TOP COPS

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate six courageous police officers from the Brentwood, Tennessee, Police Department for receiving this year's National Association of Police Organization's TOP COPS Award. The six police officers are Stephanie Bellis Warner, Tommy Walsh, Jim Campbell, Tommy Campsey, Richard Hickey and Steve Walling.

On May 6, 2003, their heroic and selfless actions prevented a number of innocent bystanders from getting hurt during the pursuit of a bank robbery suspect. Officer Warner caught up with the suspect at a busy intersection and was engaged in a brief gun battle. She was wounded during the exchange, as

was Sergeant Tommy Walsh, who arrived at the scene soon after Warner. Despite their injuries, the two continued to coordinate the suspect's apprehension.

Officers Jim Campbell, Tommy Campsey, Richard Hickey and Steve Walling arrived on the scene to find the suspect standing over the wounded Walsh with an assault rifle. The four officers, however, quickly ended the suspect's attempt to continue his shooting spree. For their heroism and sacrifice, all six officers are being honored during the association's 10th annual TOP COPS Awards ceremony this weekend in Washington, DC.

As this terrible incident demonstrates, police officers put their lives on the line every day to help and protect each one of us. I want to personally thank officers Warner, Walsh, Campbell, Campsey, Hickey and Walling for their contributions to society, not only on the day they stopped a violent bank robber, but also on each and every day they put on their badges and patrol our streets. This award is well-deserved.

BLACK/JEWISH FORUM OF
BALTIMORE, INC.

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Black/Jewish Forum of Baltimore, Inc. (BLEWS) upon their 25th anniversary, an event that is being celebrated at BLEWS annual dinner meeting on November 19, 2003.

Since its inception, BLEWS has acted to further understanding and cooperation between the African-American and Jewish communities in the Baltimore Metropolitan Area. Through a variety of programs and through dialogue, BLEWS has worked to overcome intolerance, discrimination, hate crimes and stereotypes. BLEWS has participated in the U.S. Attorney's Hate Crimes Task Force, assisted in defusing intergroup tensions at universities and helped community groups deal with hate crimes and diversity issues.

For the past 5 years, BLEWS has focused on its Youth Initiative with funding from several foundations. The Youth Initiative has conducted intensive all-day workshops for African-American and Jewish high school students to expose them to each other's history and culture, to dispel stereotypes and to encourage attitudes of tolerance, understanding and cooperation. These youth also have been taken to museums, plays, films and other activities that encourage friendship, greater understanding and community service.

Every spring, the high school students participate in a Jewish Passover/African-American Overcome Seder meal that celebrates the theme of freedom. Because of their outstanding work in intergroup relations, BLEWS was recognized by President Clinton as one of the "President's Promising Practices In Race Relations."

I hope my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in saluting BLEWS, a model youth organization that is worth replicating elsewhere in the United States.

NEWSPAPERS CALL FOR AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION OF THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call my colleagues' attention to two newspaper editorials concerning the leak of a covert CIA agent's identity. These editorials, printed last Thursday in the Contra Costa Times, of Walnut Creek California, and the San Francisco Chronicle, address the very serious federal crime involving the leak of the name and occupation of a covert CIA agent who is the wife of a former U.S. ambassador who investigated and then revealed that the Administration had used false information to justify the war against Iraq. Both newspapers call for a special counsel to investigate the White House's role in this leak, and the Chronicle suggests that Congress might need to conduct its own inquiry. The Washington Post and ABC News recently conducted a poll that found that seven out of ten Americans support a special counsel to investigate this serious matter.

I support many of my colleagues in the House and Senate who have called for a special counsel for similar reasons as stated by these newspapers. It is not credible that the United States Attorney General, John Ashcroft, can independently investigate a potential crime by this White House when not only was he appointed by President Bush but he employed the president's top political adviser on numerous occasions to help him in his Senate election campaign. The credibility of this Administration is already low, when you consider their failure to revive the economy, the clearly misleading nature of the evidence they provided to justify a war in Iraq, and their failure to properly prepare for the post-war conflict. The Administration owes it to the public to ensure that the most independent investigation possible is carried out regarding the leak of the CIA agent's identity.

The articles appear as follows:

[From the Contra Costa Times, Oct. 2, 2003]

INDEPENDENT PROBE

If President Bush wants to find out who leaked information about a CIA officer to journalists he should support an investigation by an independent special council, not just one by the Justice Department. The leak is a serious matter involving the wife of a diplomat who was critical of Bush's assessment of Iraq's attempt to get uranium from Africa.

Joseph Wilson IV, in a July 6 op-ed piece in The New York Times, recounted his mission on behalf of the CIA in early 2002. He was investigating the possibility that Saddam Hussein was attempting to obtain uranium for Iraq's nuclear arms program. Wilson charged that the Bush administration twisted some of the information to make a case for going to war against Iraq.

Eight days after the commentary appeared, Robert Novak wrote a column that revealed Wilson's wife, Valerie Plame, as a CIA official. Novak attributed his information about Plame to two "senior administration officials." Two other journalists from Newsday, Timothy Phelps and Knut Royce, expanded on Novak's column after confirming Novak's account.

Novak refuses to reveal his confidential sources. That is his right and obligation as a journalist. But we are suspicious of the motivation of Novak and those who leaked the information about Plame. It appears to be retaliation against Wilson and a warning to others.

The leak and almost gratuitous mention of Plame in the column put her and anyone she did business with in jeopardy. We wonder what Novak would have written in his column had some liberal columnist revealed the name of an undercover CIA officer.

The damage caused by the leak goes beyond the CIA and into the White House. Certainly Bush would like to unveil the leakers, and we trust that the Justice Department has competent investigators. However, it is important to avoid a conflict of interest, which would occur if the probe is handled by Justice, led by political appointee John Ashcroft.

The surest way to both nab the leakers and assure public confidence is through a special counsel. To do otherwise damages the credibility of the White House and leaves the door open for political demagoguery by the president's opponents.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle, Oct. 2, 2003]

A DANGEROUS LEAK

The Still Unfolding story that White House officials leaked sensitive information to silence a critic of the Iraq War is a troubling addendum to what so far has been the curious, if not exaggerated, reasoning behind the Persian Gulf foray in the first place.

This week the FBI launched a full-scale criminal probe to determine who disclosed the identity of an undercover CIA operative and whether federal law had been broken. A senior administration official has confirmed that two top White House staffers outed the agent to punish her husband, former Ambassador Joseph Wilson, who forced Bush to back track on his State of Union assertion that Iraq may be building a nuclear arsenal with uranium from Africa. Two years earlier, Wilson investigated and found no such Iraq-Africa link, and pilloried Bush in a newspaper op-ed for implying that there was.

As revenge, someone at the White House leaked to the press the name and occupation of Wilson's wife, an undercover weapons expert. Aside from threatening her life, it further inhibits the effectiveness of the nation's intelligence operations.

Bush disavowed any knowledge of the treacherous deed, but failed to show the kind of outrage this warranted. Either a special counsel should look into this matter, or Congress should conduct its own inquiry.

HONORING ESTHER SHIPP ON HER
90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Esther Shipp on her 90th Birthday. Born September 7, 1913, Esther has been a resident of Boulder City since 1941. I am pleased to join Esther's friends, her five generations of relatives, and all of Boulder City in congratulating her on reaching this milestone.

TRIBUTE TO MOTHER TERESA OF
CALCUTTA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and accomplishments of Mother Teresa of Calcutta who will be beatified by Pope John Paul II in Rome on October 19, 2003.

Born in Albania on August 26, 1910, Mother Teresa decided to become a Roman Catholic sister in 1928. She was assigned to a convent in Calcutta and became a teacher of geography and history at St. Mary's School. In 1948, Mother Teresa founded a religious order known as Missionaries of Charity to help the poor, the suffering, and the dying in Calcutta and around the world. Today, there are approximately 5,000 sisters in the order and over 400 missions around the globe.

Later in life, Mother Teresa focused her energies on hospice programs for those with AIDS. She offered unconditional love to everyone, regardless of class or position in life. Because of her actions, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979 and the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1985.

Few people in recent history have done more to help their fellow human beings than Mother Teresa. It is a privilege to recognize a person who has brought care and comfort to millions. I hope you and my other distinguished colleagues will join me in honoring her lifetime of service and dedication to the people of the world.

92ND TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 2003, one of our largest trading partners, the Republic of China on Taiwan, will be celebrating the 92nd anniversary of its National Day. I wish to join my colleagues in the U.S. Congress in sending best wishes to the 22 million residents of this lovely island. I also commend President Chen Shui-bian and Vice President Annette Lu as they continue to lead Taiwan to greater economic prosperity at home and greater participation in international activities abroad.

Just like our 4th of July, October 10th marks the beginning of a fantastic story of economic, social and political success that has culminated in Taiwan becoming a vibrant democracy in the Pacific Region. These are exciting times in the history of relations between the United States and Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, on this 92nd occasion of the Republic of China's National Day, it is important to remember that Taiwan has a strong relationship with the United States, and we hope this relationship will continue to flourish and grow in the years to come.

HONORING ALICE MAY LARSON ON
HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Alice May Larson on her 100th birthday. Alice was born in Duluth, Minnesota, on October 4, 1903, and currently resides in Boulder City. I am pleased to join Alice's friends, relatives, and all of Boulder City in congratulating her on reaching this milestone.

A TRIBUTE TO TAIWAN, THE
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor one of the United States' most reliable allies, the Republic of China, on the occasion of its National Day, October 10. That great nation, better known as Taiwan, has served as a mirror on our times, reflecting the agonies and dreams of the 20th Century and the soaring aspirations of the new century. The ROC was born of the tragedy of Communist betrayal, reared in the tension of the cold war, and reached maturity during the information age.

The ROC was the first casualty of Imperial Japanese aggression and our staunch ally in the fight to free the Pacific of that tyranny. In 1949, Chinese Communists seized power on the mainland and the central government of the Republic of China relocated to Taiwan. Since that time, we have rightfully considered Taiwan's security of vital interest to the United States. In 1950, President Truman ordered the Seventh Fleet to protect Taiwan from attack by the Chinese Communists and we have maintained a presence in the area ever since. Moreover, the Congress has consistently expressed its support of the ROC since the passage of Taiwan Relations Act of 1979.

Mr. Speaker, Taiwan has developed into Asia's premier democracy, having peacefully evolved from one party rule to the vibrant home of multi-party elections. It has seen opposition parties succeed the ruling KMT, the party of National founder, Chiang Kai-shek and the popular election of its legislative branch.

Taiwan's political development has been complemented by its economic rise as one of Asia's "Four Tigers," along with Hong Kong, Singapore, and South Korea. Since 1949, the ROC's economy has moved from a leader in agricultural exports, to a major manufacturer of small electronics and consumer goods, to today's premier Asian producer of capital- and technology-intensive commodities, such as personal computers and machinery. Because its economy has achieved such rapid growth, Taiwan boasts one of the world's highest standards of living, with only 1 percent of its population below the poverty line in 2000. Today, the ROC is an irreplaceable part of the world economy and vital to continued growth here in the U.S.

I know that my colleagues will join me in wishing Taiwan's President Chen Shuibian, its

Representative here in the U.S., C.J. Chen and the 23 million people of Taiwan a most happy National Day and continued peace and prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO CASHER CHOATE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Mr. Chaser Choate, who recently passed away following an extended illness. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends, and community.

Mr. Choate, born January 18, 1931, was the first of nine children of Edison and Eva Choate. Following high school graduation and after one quarter at Tennessee Tech, Mr. Choate was called to duty for service in the Korean war. In his third year of service, he was diagnosed with cancer and was forced to retire from the military. After having 85 percent of his stomach removed, due to the cancer, Mr. Choate returned to Tennessee Tech where he graduated with a degree in business.

Upon receiving his undergraduate degree he embarked for Florida. While in Florida and after a brief stint as an insurance adjuster, he found his calling as an educator. He returned to Tennessee and obtained a master's degree. He took a position with York Institute, his old high school, as a guidance counselor. Mr. Choate spent the rest of his career at York serving as a teacher of general business, economics, and English.

While at York, he was instrumental in the establishment of the Community Education Program. He helped establish the Adult Education Program and served as administrator of the GED Program. Mr. Choate was active in the Fentress County Literacy Council, Fentress County Foster Care Review Board, Fentress County Retired Teachers Association, Jamestown Rotary Club, and was a dedicated member of the Jamestown United Methodist Church.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Choate today. His dedication and selflessness to his community are examples to all who wish to lead.

HONORING SHERMAN FREDERICK
ON HIS ELECTION TO THE NE-
VADA NEWSPAPER HALL OF
FAME

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sherman Frederick on his election to the Nevada Newspaper Hall of Fame. I am pleased to join with all Nevadans in honoring him for his contribution to journalism and our community.

Sherman Frederick began his career in journalism as an intern at the Review-Journal, the paper he currently publishes. He also serves as President of the Stephens Media Group, allowing him to share his experience and expertise with newspapers around the country.

All of us who have been sworn to uphold the Constitution recognize the vital role our newspapers play in protecting our freedoms by remaining vigilant against any violations of our First Amendment. I urge all Nevadans and all members of this House to join with me in congratulating Sherman on winning this high honor.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE REPUBLIC
OF CHINA

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, October 10 marks the 92nd anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China and is celebrated internationally as Taiwan's National Day. As this historic day approaches, I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate President Chen Shui-bian and the people of Taiwan for their continuing political reforms and economic achievements.

Mr. Speaker, over the last decade, Taiwan has established itself as a strong and successful model of democracy. Under the leadership of President Chen, the government and people of Taiwan have continued to implement domestic reforms and strengthen diplomatic relations with surrounding nations. This continuing commitment to democratic progress can best be seen in next year's elections. With both the presidential and legislative elections scheduled for 2004, next year will likely prove to be a politically dynamic and exciting year for Taiwan. I applaud the robust multiparty democracy that Taiwan has become.

Mr. Speaker, along with its democratic development, Taiwan remains an important economic partner for the United States. We are Taiwan's largest market, but Taiwan is our 7th largest trading partner. This is a remarkable achievement for this island nation of 22 million people. Taiwan's accession to the World Trade Organization last year will set the stage for even greater opportunities for U.S. business.

Mr. Speaker, as Taiwan continues to earn international acclaim as a model of democratic progress and free market economics, I call on my colleagues to join me in commending Taiwan during the upcoming celebration of Taiwan's National Day.

CONGRATULATIONS ON TAIWAN'S
92ND ANNIVERSARY OF NA-
TIONAL DAY

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to offer my congratulations to the 23 million people of Taiwan; it will be celebrating the 92nd anniversary of its National Day on October 10, 2003.

Taiwan is a dynamic democracy, and world economic leader. With a total of more than 95 political parties, every public office is hotly contested through free elections. People enjoy full political freedom, including freedom of

press and assembly. Its per capita income ranks among the highest in the world.

The State of Washington, including the Seventh Congressional District, has enjoyed the close commercial, social and cultural ties that link our two nations. Many of our brightest leaders in the state trace their roots to Taiwan, and the Taiwanese American community is integral to our country's rich ethnic diversity.

The annual commemoration of this historic date is a valuable reminder that freedom and justice are paramount goals shared by our countries.

Again, congratulations to Taiwan and its people on their National Day.

REMEMBERING THE LATE JOE
LAPPIN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of my good friend and neighbor L.W. "Joe" Lappin. Joe passed away Monday, September 8, at the age of 85.

Joe, as everyone knew him, was a pillar of our community, as a member of the Boulder City Elks Club, Archeo Nevada, and the 31ers Club. Joe was a fountain of knowledge about Boulder City for all of those, including myself, who wanted to know about the origins and traditions of this unique community. As a former Mayor of Boulder City, I knew that I could count on Joe to know what needed to be done, and more importantly, what I was doing wrong.

Joe is survived by his wife Patricia, his two children and three grandchildren. We will all miss Joe, and I urge the members of this House to join me in expressing our condolences to his family and friends.

IN MEMORY OF ROMAN Q.
BENAVENTE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my dear friend, Roman Quichocho Benavente who passed away on September 30, 2003.

Roman was born on February 22, 1922. He was married to the late, Margarita Mendiola Mesa Benavente and father to Frances B. Leon Guerrero, Nora B. "Lola" Beck, Barbara B. "Bobbie" Vaira, Randolph Mesa "Randy" Benavente, Raymond Mesa Benavente, and Bernice B. Batson and the late Danny San Nicholas. He was also grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, uncle, godfather, and friend.

Roman was a shining example of the strength and courage of the Chamorro people. We are proud and grateful of his 50 years of service to his country and his people. He was a 30-year veteran of the United States Navy from which he retired as a Chief Petty Officer in 1970. He went on to serve with the United States Capitol Police, retiring after 20 years in 1991.

Although Roman and his family remained in the states after his retirement, his love for the island of Guam and his Chamorro heritage was constant. Together he and Margarita raised their children with a deep appreciation of their Chamorro heritage and a love of their island home. As a founding member of the Guam Territorial Society, now known as the Guam Society of America, Inc., he was an active member, planning and participating in all activities. More importantly, Roman has helped bring those of us residing in the area together to continue our local traditions and to help pass these traditions on to our children.

Roman was known for his kindness, generosity and his sense of humor. He was known for his love for God, his family and friends, his island and his country. He was known for his love of cooking, singing and dancing. Yet for the many things for which Roman will be remembered, I will especially remember Roman for his steadfast loyalty, support and friendship to me and my family throughout the years. Roman would open his home to us whenever we visited Washington, D.C. and I could count on his presence and participation at all my events. In fact, on the day I was sworn in as Guam's Delegate, he was the first person to arrive for the ceremony. He came early to offer his assistance. This was typical of Roman. Whenever anything needed to be done, he was the first to arrive and the last to leave, doing what needed to be done and having a great time doing it.

We have much to learn from Roman and the way he lived his life. He taught us to love, to laugh and to celebrate and to be there for each other. Though we mourn his death, we honor his life in living by his example. On behalf of the people of Guam, I extend our deepest sympathies and prayers to the family and friends of Roman Quichocho Benavente.

TRIBUTE TO MR. STEVE BARRON

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Steve Barron, a teacher at Claremont Middle School in New Hampshire. He passed away this summer, but has left behind a deep impression on his students. Because I cannot improve upon the sentiments expressed by one of his former students, Robin Lasko, I will simply include her letter to me and close by saying he will be missed.

DEAR CHARLIE BASS: On the night of July 25, 2003, one of the finest educators the state of New Hampshire has ever seen passed away. His name was Steve Barron, a seventh grade social studies teacher.

My name is Robin Lasko, and in the fall of 2003 I will become a junior at Stevens High School. Mr. Barron was my homeroom teacher in seventh grade. He will always be remembered for the things he taught me, things that books could never show. He taught me to have compassion for the earth, and to care even when no one else does. He taught me that being accepted by the public eye was not the only thing that mattered in life, and he taught me to think of the consequences of everything I do.

The first day of seventh grade, I walked into Mr. Barron's classroom and was very intimidated. My first thought was that I was

going to have to sit in this room everyday and listen to some old man talk about which countries lie on which longitudes. I soon found that I could not wait for my social studies class everyday. Mr. Barron did not only teach us the physical features of our world, but he showed us the culture, and the many different ways of life. Mr. Barron had a love for culture. He loved diversity and I am so very thankful that he passed a little of that on to me. To show how much he loved diversity I would have to know him like the back of my hand, but I don't. I do know a little about Steve Barron though, I know that he taught in an inner city school in New York City, and that he also lived in the Arctic Regions of Alaska, and if that is not a love for diversity, then I do not know what is.

Every year when it was time to do fundraisers, Mr. Barron always used the same two companies, one of them was called Humanities, and this company took a portion of their profit and gave it to an endangered animals foundation. Mr. Barron was a "devoted environmentalist". This was one way of showing that he cared about our planet. Another way was as part of our classroom grades we had to bring in plastic bags or some other form of recycling every week. He was helping the earth any way that he could. These two things are only a part of the great man that Steve Barron was.

I feel that Steve Barron should be Honored and Recognized as the wonderful educator and person that he was.

Steve Barron was born on August 22, 1943 in Brooklyn, New York. He was the loving husband to Linda (Kupiec) Barron for 29 years. He and Linda had two daughters, Jenny and Jenine. On July 25, 2003 Steven E. Barron died of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. In an ending to this letter I would like to quote the motto that Mr. Barron lived by, "The choices we make dictate the lives we lead."

Sincerely,

ROBIN L. LASKO.

SPINA BIFIDA AWARENESS MONTH

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the more than 70,000 Americans and their family members who are currently affected by Spina Bifida. October is National Spina Bifida Awareness Month. Spina Bifida is the Nation's most common, permanently disabling birth defect. It is a neural tube defect that occurs when the central nervous system does not properly close during the early stages of pregnancy. Each year more than 4,000 pregnancies are affected and of these 1,500 babies are born with Spina Bifida.

I would like to especially recognize Angelina Gonzalez-Abreu, the niece of my Chief of Staff, Arthur Estopinan. Angie is a precious little three year old who was born with Spina Bifida. She is an absolute delight who brings great joy to all who are blessed to know her. I have had the great pleasure of spending time with this vivacious little bundle of joy, and am moved by the tremendous progress she has made in her life thus far.

The Spina Bifida Association of America (SBAA), an organization that has helped people with Spina Bifida and their families for nearly 30 years, works tirelessly to prevent

and reduce suffering from this devastating birth defect.

I would like to acknowledge and thank SBAA and the local chapters in my State for all that they have done for the Floridian families affected by this birth defect.

The exact cause of Spina Bifida is not known, but researchers have concluded that women of childbearing age who take daily folic acid supplements reduce their chances of having a Spina Bifida pregnancy by up to 75 percent.

I am proud to be a member of the newly established Congressional Spina Bifida Caucus. The Congressional Spina Bifida Caucus will bring increased attention to this condition and advance initiatives that will improve the quality of life for those individuals and their families living with Spina Bifida.

I again wish to thank the SBAA and its chapters for all of their hard work to prevent and reduce suffering from this birth defect and for their commitment to improve the lives of those 70,000 individuals living with Spina Bifida throughout our Nation. I wish the Spina Bifida Association of America the best of luck in its endeavors and urge all of my colleagues and all Americans to support its important efforts.

COMMENDING VICTORINE Q. ADAMS FOR BEING HONORED BY THE BLACK/JEWISH FORUM OF BALTIMORE, INC. FOR HER MANY YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO BALTIMORE

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate the Honorable Victorine Q. Adams who is deservedly being honored by the Black/Jewish Forum of Baltimore, Inc. (BLEWS) at their 25th anniversary dinner meeting in Baltimore on November 19, 2003.

Mrs. Adams served effectively in both the Maryland General Assembly and the Baltimore City Council, where she served for 16 years. While a member of the City Council, she led the successful effort to establish the Baltimore Fuel Fund, the first such assistance fund in the nation. Early in her career in 1946, she organized the Colored Women's Democratic Campaign Committee and initiated a voter registration campaign that enrolled 4,000 persons. In 1958, Mrs. Adams and Ethel P. Rich organized Woman Power, which was instrumental in desegregating Baltimore's downtown hotels.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mrs. Adams for her significant contributions to Baltimore as an elected official, community leader, civil rights activist, businesswoman and humanitarian.

IN HONOR OF SHERIFF DON HORSLEY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an extraordinary leader of San Mateo County, California, Sheriff Don Horsley, who is being awarded the 2003 Distinguished Citizens Award by the Pacific Skyline Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Don Horsley was first elected Sheriff of San Mateo County in June 1993, with a law enforcement career that spanned more than thirty years. He began as a patrol officer in Daly City and later served as a patrol deputy in East Palo Alto. In these positions, he learned to effectively respond to the needs and concerns of citizens as he worked directly with them in their communities.

Sheriff Horsley has been unwavering in his commitment to the people of the communities of San Mateo County. In 1992, when the small community of East Palo Alto was given the dubious title of being the nation's "murder capital," Sheriff Horsley made a promise to the people of East Palo Alto that the Sheriff's office would help the community and make it the safe place its residents deserved. Immediately, 18 Sheriff's Deputies began working with the East Palo Alto Police Department and within 3 years, violent crimes were down 54 percent and homicides decreased by an astounding 86 percent. Because of Sheriff Horsley's commitment, the San Mateo County Sheriff's office continues to work with the City of East Palo Alto to ensure that its law enforcement needs are fully met.

Sheriff Horsley is a caring and compassionate law enforcement leader. During the expansion of the Maguire Correctional Facility, Sheriff Horsley ensured that the project included facilities for mental and health care, substance abuse recovery, and educational and religious needs for inmates.

Sheriff Horsley is a leader among his colleagues in law enforcement. He has served on the Board of Directors of the California Peace Officers' Association, the San Mateo County Criminal Justice Council, the San Mateo County Vehicle Theft Task Force, the County Narcotic Task Force, and the Northern California High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, among many other organizations.

Beyond his career in law enforcement, Sheriff Horsley is dedicated to improving the education and the lives of youth. He is not only a former classroom teacher and a Board Member of Redwood City's Garfield Charter School, but he is also a strong supporter of the Boy Scouts of America. He has been instrumental in the Law Enforcement Exploring program, the Boy Scouts' STAR Camp and the Sea Scouting program. Sheriff Horsley has served as Co-chair of the Attorney General and State Superintendent of Public Instruction's Safe Schools Task Force.

Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to call Don Horsley my friend and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and thanking Sheriff Horsley for his extraordinary service to our community, our state and our nation.

HONORING RITA C. KAY

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the numerous contributions made by Rita Kay for the children of Long Island. A selfless and dedicated woman, Rita has spent more than 30 years working on a variety of children's causes, and is well known for her intense involvement in Children's Medical Fund of New York (CMF).

Rita was compelled to ease the plight of sick children because of a combination of personal tragedy and great joy. After suffering several miscarriages and the pain of a stillborn child, Rita and her husband Barry were blessed with the births of their two sons, Brian and Bradley. In a fervent desire to help sick children and their parents, Rita joined CMF, the fundraising component of Schneider Children's Hospital of the North Shore—Long Island Jewish Health System. Through her many efforts, Rita has helped build the children's hospital into the 13th largest pediatric care center.

Rita's love for, and devotion to, children has been evidenced by the numerous events she has chaired and in which she has participated. Rita is best known for the longstanding relationship she has nurtured between Americana Manhasset shopping center and CMF, and the successful fashion luncheon sponsored by the Americana on behalf of CMF. The luncheon has helped CMF raise hundreds of thousands of dollars since its inception.

Rita's fundraising efforts have included an emphasis on corporate sponsorship. Under her leadership, Roslyn Savings Bank and Astoria Federal have become involved in CMF. Most recently, Rita co-chaired CMF's Wall Street Dinner Dance at Chelsea Piers, which raised an astronomical \$4,000,000 for CMF and Schneider Children's Hospital.

Rita's hard work is more incredible because of the number of other organizations in which she is involved. Rita supports and fundraises for Partner's in Women's Health, the Long Island Cancer Campaign, the Ronald McDonald House, the Mental Health Association of Nassau County, and the Nassau County Museum of Art. All of this, in addition to her full-time job as the Marketing Director for David Morse & Associates.

Despite all of Rita's volunteer efforts, her priority remains her family. Today, Rita is surrounded not only by her husband Barry and their sons Brian and Bradley, but also her daughters-in-law Helaine and Caren, and her four grandchildren, Jesse, Logan, Dylan and Zoe. They are incredibly proud of Rita for all of her hard work and accomplishments over the years.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Rita Kay for her dedication and devotion to the children of Long Island.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HANS AND ALMA ROEBBELEN ON 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate two good friends from my district in California, Hans and Alma Roebbelen, as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary this month.

Hans and Alma were born and raised in Europe, where they experienced the horrors of World War II firsthand. Hans endured challenges as a 15-year-old prisoner of war, while Alma had to flee her homeland before the advancing Russian army at the age of only 13.

When the chaos of war finally settled, Hans worked as a journeyman carpenter. Little did he know as such a young man that he would one day become a renowned builder half the world away. Later, Hans earned an architecture degree from the University in Buxtehude, and it was there that he met and fell in love with his future bride, Alma, who had embarked upon a career as a dental hygienist.

Shortly thereafter, Alma followed a professional opportunity that took her to Stockton, California. Although he wanted to follow her, it took Hans 20 months to leave Germany, given that the government did not want to lose its architects and other professionals abroad. Happily, the couple was married on October 18, 1953, within a week of Hans' arrival in Stockton. Indeed, that date marked the beginning of great things to come.

After starting a family and managing some of the largest construction projects ever undertaken in the Sacramento area up until that time, Hans and Alma desired to start their own company. Thus began Roebbelen Construction in 1957.

Roebbelen Construction has established a long history of excellent public construction projects, such as schools and prisons. However, over the last decade, the company has also successfully completed many design/build projects for private sector clients, including: J.C. Penney Co., MCI, General Motors, Aetna, Sears, SBC/Pacific Bell, Cable Data, Target, and other firms. Together with its sister company, Kleeman Roebbelen, it is now one of the largest local private companies in the Sacramento region. It is also the only general contractor in California to have received the ISO 9001:2000 designation from the International Organization for Standardization for the management of quality in a company's products and services.

Mr. Speaker, after spending so much of their lives with the firm they started, Hans and Alma recently retired from Roebbelen Construction. Now, they are blessed with the opportunity to enjoy the fruits of their labors. They often travel and spend quality time with their three children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Undoubtedly, the life Hans and Alma Roebbelen created together is a great American success story—one rooted in a love that has endured and grown for 50 years and counting.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 3, PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 2, 2003

Mr. MOORE. I am tired of coming to the House floor and pleading for Congress to pass a law that will truly stop late-term abortions and put this issue behind us. If not for the extreme politics of this issue, Congress could take up and pass today H.R. 809, the Late Term Abortion Restriction Act. The legislation, which I have cosponsored, would prohibit all late-term abortions, regardless of procedure, with exceptions only to protect the life of the mother and to avert serious adverse health consequences.

The House was not allowed to vote on H.R. 809 today, which is a great shame, since it goes to the heart of this issue rather than using it as a campaign message. H.R. 809 addresses what the American people truly want to stop: the termination of a viable fetus during late stages of a pregnancy.

Mr. Speaker, I am here today voting once again on legislation that I fully expect to be ruled unconstitutional—once again—by the U.S. Supreme Court.

On June 28, 2000, in the ruling *Stenberg v. Carhart*, the high court struck down a Nebraska ban on so-called "partial-birth abortion," ruling that the ban was an unconstitutional violation of *Roe vs. Wade* for two reasons. First, the ban, which is virtually identical to the one that will soon be signed into law, was found to be unnecessarily broad and without a necessary health exception to protect the well-being of the mother.

Despite this ruling, the bill before us today corrects none of the flaws that were clearly outlined by the Court. Today's vote is just another purely political exercise.

Like its predecessors, S. 3 does not include an exception to protect the health of the woman, despite clear instructions from the Court in more than one decision since 1973 that any law restricting abortion must include such an exception. This bill, despite cosmetic changes, is still unconstitutional.

I believe a woman has a right to make important decisions regarding her body and health. I also believe that the state can and should regulate abortion after the point of fetal viability. These two principles were set forth in the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* Supreme Court decision.

Today, I will vote against S. 3. I urge my colleagues who truly wish to ban post-viability abortions to consider H.R. 809 as a real solution to this personal and political issue.

CHANGE IN RUSSIA

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, it has been 12 years since the collapse of the Soviet Union and one of the most remarkable stories to

emerge from the wreckage of that failed system has been the steadily strengthening partnership between the United States and Russia. Two op-eds timed for President Vladimir Putin's recent visit to our country each highlight different facets of what is one of our most important international relationships. Ken Adelman explores the enormous successes of the Nunn-Lugar program, which has eliminated thousands of nuclear warheads and the systems that might have delivered them. Mark Medish, writing in the *Financial Times*, cites improvements in the Russian economy and the modernization and rise of free enterprise in Russia.

In the aftermath of the unpredictably timed and unexpectedly rapid demise of communism, Soviet assets were devolved to too few in too conflicted a way. Instead of a free market, the Russian economy became characterized by oligarchic enterprises. But with each passing year the Russian economy has become increasingly subject to the strength of individual market decisions, especially consumer oriented ones. A middle class is growing and saving.

Medish, in his article, optimistically emphasizes the positive. While it may not be the full picture, if sustained, the pace of entrepreneurial change in Russia bodes well for the future.

I commend these articles to my colleagues.

REAL ARMS CONTROL

(By Kenneth Adelman)

While hanging out at Camp David this coming weekend, Presidents Bush and Putin should toast an impressive—though largely unknown—joint win in their war against terrorism.

Over the past decade, their armsbuilders became arms-destroyers, cooperatively dismantling thousands of Russian nuclear systems. These weapons of mass destruction might otherwise have landed in terrorist hands.

When the Soviet Union collapsed a dozen years ago, we feared Russian hucksters would sell nuclear, chemical, and biological components to terrorists. After all, Russian arsenals were massive, while their state controls were piddly. Incentives to sell—to get big bucks quickly; and to buy—to get big bangs easily—loomed large.

Logic proved that what the late Secretary of Defense Les Aspin once dubbed “Russia's loose nukes” would be a staggering problem. But experience shows that it hasn't been one.

Parkinson's most perceptive law tells us that the success of any policy is measured by the catastrophes that do not occur. By that measure—or, really, any measure—the joint American-Russian effort to dismantle weapons has been a big win for international security, especially against international terrorists.

With Mr. Putin standing at his side last November, Mr. Bush said, “Our highest priority is to keep terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.” He went on to explain that “our nations must spare no effort at preventing all forms of proliferation.”

Surely the leading light in this campaign has been the Nunn-Lugar program. For a bargain price of some \$1.3 billion a year, America helps Russia disarm the meanest and most massive weapons in the world. According to the original co-sponsor, Senator Lugar, over the past dozen years, we've helped them destroy some: 800 ballistic missiles, over 800 launchers (followed by environmental restoration of the sites), over 100 bombers, more than 350 submarine launch-

ers, 20 ballistic missile carrying submarines, and, most importantly, more than 5,500 nuclear warheads.

That adds up to more than half of the old Soviet strategic nuclear arsenal. During the same period, much of the U.S. arsenal was eliminated as well, and newly independent former Soviet republics Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus were “denuclearized.”

In all my years of handling arms control issues—first, as an American ambassador at the United Nations, and then as director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency under President Reagan—I never imagined such a success. Indeed, nothing we achieved over the Geneva negotiating table produced anything on that order.

Mr. Lugar's colleague, former Senator Nunn, said earlier this summer in Moscow that “the gravest danger in the world today is the threat from nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons” and that “the likeliest use of these weapons is in terrorist hands.”

Always one to think big, Mr. Nunn proposed that “preventing the spread and use of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons should be the central organizing security principle for the 21st century.”

It's hard to top his notion, especially since the prospect of the world's most vile terrorists getting their hands on the world's most vile weaponry makes every civilized person shutter.

To make sure we keep these weapons out of the hands of terrorists, there is still plenty of work to be done by Russia and the U.S. as partners. In Russia, for example, several thousand nuclear warheads are still housed in hundreds of weapons storage sites; several hundred metric tons of bomb-building materials are spread around Russia's nuclear facilities network; and millions of pounds of nerve agents are stored in vulnerable facilities. A single artillery shell, small enough to fit inside a brief case, if stolen from one of these facilities, could be powerful enough to kill 100,000 people.

Imagine that last year's scare had been true—when the U.S. intelligence community thought terrorists had gotten their mitts on a 10-kiloton nuclear bomb and smuggled it into New York City. It turned out, thank goodness, that such a report was false.

But if something like that could be true, as indeed it could be, then shouldn't we do everything possible to make it un-true? And to make sure it never happens?

Again, Mr. Nunn had the right take here: “If a nuclear weapon goes off in Moscow, Paris, Tokyo, or some other city, what would we wish we had done to prevent it? We may not be able to make these terrorists less evil, but we must make them less powerful. We must keep them from acquiring weapons of mass destruction.”

The success of the cooperative efforts between Russia and America should give Messrs. Bush and Putin some pride this weekend. It calls for a Camp David toast.

RUSSIA'S ECONOMIC STRENGTH BEGINS IN THE HOME

(By Mark Medish)

President Vladimir Putin comes to the U.S. this week bearing good news. The Russian economy continues to gain speed, and investment-grade status may be around the corner.

As he drives through New York, Mr. Putin will see something striking: the logo of Russia's Lukoil has replaced the all-American Getty sign at local petrol stations. The symbolism is powerful. Russia and the U.S. can be meaningful investment partners. But the real question for the Russian economy is whether it can become more than the world's newest petrol pump.

Russia's relationship with market capitalism has been dramatic. Russia emerged from the ashes of the 1998 financial collapse to log almost five years of steady growth in gross domestic product.

An emerging Russian middle class has begun to assert itself with raw spending power. Retail turnover in 2003 may reach \$150bn.

Initially, the retail trend was strongest in food sales, but consumer durables are now increasing as a share of household spending. Domestic manufacturing has responded to this demand. Whether Russia can also grow into an export platform, as China has done, is an open question. Russia's skilled workforce, low labour costs, and central Eurasian location suggest that such an opportunity may exist.

The trend, if sustained, could have profoundly positive implications for Russia's overall economic and political development. Promoting this trend is likely to be a theme of Mr. Putin's meetings, both with prospective U.S. investors and, at Camp David, with President George W. Bush and his team.

The Russian consumer story has not gone entirely unnoticed by foreign investors. Ikea, the mass-market Swedish furniture retailer, opened several megastores in Moscow and St. Petersburg in 2000. Ikea's sales have been strong enough to justify plans for a further dozen stores across the country, evidence of middle-class patterns spreading beyond the two biggest cities. The German supermarket chain Metro is following suit. Russia's wireless sector is among the hottest in emerging markets.

The rising middle class strengthens the business case for big western consumer-oriented companies to take a closer look at Russia. Russians want quality furniture, mobile phones, televisions, appliances, and cars. If this continues, a boom in commercial banking and other services should not be far behind.

Having endured decades of supply-side privation under the Soviet command economy, average Russians are becoming dictators of market demand. This change is fuelled by several factors. Russian households are much wealthier than previously supposed; they seem to have a high marginal propensity to consume; and they have few debts.

The strengths of Russia's new consumers are also tied to abiding weaknesses in the economy. First, the unexpectedly high disposable income reflects years of accumulated “mattress money”—the uncounted grey economy. Some analysts estimate Russia's current GDP at nearly \$450bn, 40 per cent higher than official figures.

Second, the high propensity to consume partly reflects the lack of sound channels for savings and investment. Finally, the low debt level is due largely to the absence of wide-scale consumer credit facilities. Changing this will take time.

Policy challenges remain, including management of the windfall from high oil prices, diversifying the productive economy, deepening the rule of law, and entering the World Trade Organisation. These tasks can be achieved if Mr. Putin and his government continue to recognise their central importance and act on it.

A surging consumer sector will both reinforce and ease the process. Consumers are natural proponents of market reform and a business environment that promotes predictability, transparency, and wealth creation. An active middle class is the most potent force for change in market economies.

Economics is also politics. Mr. Putin's political strategy may depend increasingly on satisfying middle-class constituencies. This would mean responding seriously to their interests, while balancing the demands of

super-rich oligarchs, the security apparatus, and pensioners. If he succeeds, Mr. Putin's legacy will be a genuinely modern Russia.

A TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DOCTOR
W.J. HALL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Reverend Dr. W.J. Hall in recognition of his forty-two years of outstanding service as Pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church.

Dr. Hall was born August 1, 1928 in Oxford, North Carolina, the only son of four children born to Mr. and Mrs. Grant A. Hall. After attending High School in Oxford, Dr. Hall studied at Temple University from 1947 to 1949. Following his academic work at Temple, he returned to North Carolina where he enlisted in the United States Army, attaining the rank of sergeant. Dr. Hall resumed his academic studies at Shaw University, graduating with an A.B. degree in 1957. For the next two years, he earned 18 hours toward a master's degree while serving as the pastor of the Olive Grove Baptist church in Oxford and the Spring Street Baptist Church in Henderson, North Carolina.

In 1961, Dr. Hall was called to the Bethel Baptist Church. Since then, he has completed a Master of Theology degree from the Virginia Seminary and College. Later, the College conferred upon Rev. Hall three honorary degrees including Doctor of Divinity in 1965, Doctor of Humane Letters in 1977, and a Doctor of Laws in 1982.

Dr. Hall is widely recognized for his active civic involvement and several community accomplishments such as the Founder of the Self Help Council, the Omega Neighborhood Improvement Association of South Brooklyn, and chairman of the Bethel Baptist Day Care. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Baptist Educational Centers of Brooklyn and Long Island; the Board of Directors of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation as well as the Chaplain of the New York City Housing Police and Past Protestant Chaplain of the Holy Family Hospital.

Under the leadership of Dr. Hall, the Bethel Baptist Church has greatly increased its membership and is in the process of erecting a new three-story building adjacent to the church.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Dr. W.J. Hall has served his parishioners in exemplary fashion and has worked to improve the lives of everyone in his community for forty-two years. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
DESIGNATING THE SENATOR
JAMES B. PEARSON POST OFFICE

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, joined by the three other members of the Kansas House

delegation—Representatives JIM RYUN, TODD TIAHRT and JERRY MORAN—I am introducing today legislation that will designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3710 West 73rd Terrace in Prairie Village, Kansas, as the "Senator James B. Pearson Post Office Building."

Appointed to the U.S. Senate in 1962, upon the death of Andrew Schoepel, James B. Pearson served our state with distinction from 1962 through 1978. Elected in 1962, and re-elected in 1966 and 1972, Senator Pearson was a workhorse, not a showhorse. A senior member of the Foreign Relations Committee, he also rose to become Ranking Republican member of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee. Senator Pearson represented our state during an important and turbulent era, addressing issues that included: the Vietnam War; the civil rights revolution; enactment of the Medicare and Medicaid programs; America's space exploration program; and deregulation of the trucking and airline industries. Senator Pearson was a voice of reason and common sense during these difficult times and I am proud that he was originally from Prairie Village, which is located in the Third Congressional District of Kansas. Naming the Prairie Village Post Office after Senator James B. Pearson recognizes, in a small way, the important service he provided to Kansans for 16 years in the U.S. Senate.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank my Kansas House colleagues: JIM RYUN [in whose district Senator Pearson now resides], TODD TIAHRT and JERRY MORAN, for joining with me to make this resolution honoring a former Republican Senator truly bipartisan. Additionally, I commend Senators SAM BROWNBACK and PAT ROBERTS, who are planning to introduce a companion Senate measure next week when the other body is back in session. Mr. Speaker, I hope we can bring this long-overdue measure to the floor prior to the adjournment of this session of the 108th Congress.

HONORING ROSA WALKER
DISTINGUISHED LABOR LEADER

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ms. Rosa Walker for her 38 years of dedicated service to the working men and women of Texas.

Ms. Walker's dedication to public service is deeply ingrained in her character. A native Texan of Hemphill, her interest in the labor movement grew while employed with Southwestern Bell. As a member of the executive board for the Communications Workers of America (CWA), Ms. Walker was persistent in her commitment to protect and empower the working people of Texas.

She continued on this path as an organizer for the Industrial Union Department of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) and an employee of the Harris County AFL-CIO.

Ms. Walker is steadfast in her commitment to the principles of Democracy and citizenship, organizing numerous voter registration drives and get out the vote programs. She is also the

former Vice President of the Texas Coalition of Labor Women, founder of the Texas Consumer Association and a former member of the Texas Judicial Conduct Committee.

Ms. Walker's life exemplifies commitment to public service. Her many and significant contributions to the labor movement have helped color the landscape of the American political system by raising awareness of the issues affecting the working people of America.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 30TH
ANNIVERSARY OF
SACRAMENTO'S CH2M HILL

HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor CH2M Hill's 30th Anniversary in Sacramento and to acknowledge its 30 years of service to the greater Northern California region.

In 1973 the firm of CH2M Hill established an office in Sacramento with an initial staff of 4 individuals and brought with it a vision for development, a commitment to prosperity, and a dedication to community service. Today, 30 years later, CH2M Hill employs more than 240 local engineers, scientists, planners, and administrative personnel and has succeeded in realizing its goals by bringing growth and progress to the citizens of Sacramento.

CH2M Hill's efforts and work can be seen virtually everywhere in Sacramento. Just a few of its accomplishments include completing tunnel access to the California State University at Sacramento in time for the 2000 Olympic Trials; being the first environmental consultant helping to create the DNA light rail connection; removing over a million pounds of contaminants from the soil and groundwater beneath McClellan Air Force Base; managing the CalFED program to sort out water storage, transfer, and distribution in the Central Valley; and delivering over 2,000 other local and regional projects in the last 30 years which include providing landmark engineering and scientific services throughout northern California, most notably for the restoration of the Owens Valley and the seismic stabilization of the Bay Area's major bridges.

Proving consistently to be an industry leader in sustainable business innovation, CH2M Hill is credited with piloting the first office-recycling program in the City of Sacramento, as well as becoming the USEPA Best Workplace for Commuters company and aggressively promoting alternatives to single-driver commuting. It prides itself most however, with its constant commitment to community service.

The Sacramento Blood Bank benefited last year from the quarterly blood drive hosted by CH2M Hill and named them the Blood Drive of the Year. The Sacramento Food Bank for the past 4 years has had to send two trucks over to gather all the food contributed for the Holiday Food Drive by this organization. And a few years ago CH2M Hill answered the call from the University of California at Davis to become the corporate underwriter for their new Engineering building by raising over \$16,000 from staff alone in order to complete a \$50,000 pledge it made to the University. Individuals in CH2M Hill's office are constantly engaged in supporting 14 other community service and charity programs.

On behalf of myself and the citizens of Sacramento, I congratulate and thank CH2M Hill on 30 years of continued success and service.

CHINA'S TORTURE OF THE FALUN GONG

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, you may recall, I have been endeavoring to bring to our colleagues' attention the egregious abuses of human rights by the Chinese government toward its own citizens. Today I will provide information regarding the perpetual and unjustifiable harassment, torture and death of Falun Gong practitioners at the hands of the Chinese government. Many of the victims are old men simply trying to pursue their religious beliefs peaceably. They hope only for what we in America take for granted—the right to follow one's conscience. Instead they are brutalized by the state. I offer these accounts and hope that our colleagues will come to the same conclusion that I did—that we must act to help the persecuted people of China.

"IN THEIR OWN WORDS" STATEMENTS ON THE TORTURE OF THE FALUN GONG

Imagine the leader of the world's apparently most-promising emerging market suddenly banning the faith of one out of every twelve of his/her own citizens, subjecting them to arbitrary detention, forced-labor, brainwashing sessions, physical torture and death, and using a shocking amount of foreign investment capital to do it. Imagine no more. This is the reality.

According to the testimonies of thousands of victims, the Chinese government implemented the persecution through a three-prong directive to all levels of government:

Destroy Falun Gong practitioners physically through systematic, state-sanctioned forced-labor, torture and killings.

Destroy Falun Gong practitioners' reputations through a worldwide media campaign to demonize Falun Gong and falsely depict its practitioners as dangerous "cult" members and a menace to society.

Destroy Falun Gong practitioners financially, which, in a Communist nation where the government can exercise significant control over employment and housing, allowed the government to deny Falun Gong practitioners basic necessities for living, such as salaries/pensions, employment, education, housing, etc. in addition to suffering widespread extortion, confiscation of property and state-enforced fines when detained by police.

Almost 800 deaths from torture have been verified. Thousands more people have been forcefully incarcerated in mental hospitals where many are tortured. More than 100,000 have been sent to forced labor camps, typically without trial.

In January 2003, after more than 3 years of torture and abuse, 65 year-old Mr. Quanfu Zhang was beaten to death in a Chinese forced-labor camp. His 38-year-old son, Qifa Zhang, died 16 days later from sustained torture in the same labor camp.

In January of 2003, a U.S. citizen was detained and later imprisoned where he has been beaten and repeatedly subjected to brainwashing sessions in an attempt to force him to renounce his beliefs. His fiancé leads a grassroots call for his release in the U.S.

Sixty-seven year-old Li Jianhou from Nanchong City, Sichuan Province was tor-

tured to death in Deyang Prison, Sichuan Province on March 27, 2003. His wife is being held at a local detention center.

On July 18, 2003, After three years of torture and abuse, a university teacher from Jilin Province with a master's degree in philosophy was detained on several occasions for his practice of Falun Gong. He died in a Chinese Labor Camp.

In August 2003, Ms. Zhengshu Cui, an ethnic Korean and a graduate of the Baicheng Finance and Trade Training School who lived in northeastern China, died on August 12, 2003, from extended torture and abuse sustained while imprisoned for her beliefs in a forced-labor camp.

In August 2003, after being abducted multiple times and tortured by local police for his practice of Falun Gong, a 56-year-old farmer from Heilongjiang Province was subjected to forced-feeding with boiling water. Emaciated and unable to stand on his own, he died in a Chinese prison.

DEATH OF DONALD HOLLAND

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, South Carolina has lost one of its best public servants recently when State Senator Donald Holland of Camden, South Carolina, died at the age of 75. He was my colleague during my seventeen years of service in the South Carolina State Senate. He will always be remembered as a gentleman who conducted his chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee with civility. He was respectful of the minority and promoted open debate. His legacy will be the fair election laws appreciated by South Carolinians due to his chairmanship of the Election Laws Study Committee, where he was always respectful and understanding of my minority role. The Wilson family extends its deepest sympathy to the Holland family.

The following is his obituary printed in the State newspaper.

SEN. DONALD HOLLAND

CAMDEN.—The Honorable Donald Harry Holland, husband of Betty Bell Holland and father of Elizabeth Alberta (Lisa) Holland, died October 5, 2003, at his home. Funeral services will be held at Lyttleton Street United Methodist Church at 1 p.m. Wednesday, October 8, with the Reverend T. Lee Bryant Jr. and Chaplain George G. Meetze officiating, followed by committal in Beulah United Methodist Church Cemetery.

Holland, son of the late Eugene and Alberta Branham Holland, was born on a farm in the rural Kershaw County community of Cassatt on August 19, 1928. A graduate of Midway High School (1945), Holland entered the United States Army and was posted to the Asiatic-Pacific Theatre. At the age of 18, Holland served with U.S. Forces occupying Japan at the conclusion of World War II. As part of his duties with the Judge Advocates Office, Holland developed a proficiency for speaking Japanese and served as a translator.

Upon his honorable discharge from the military in 1948, Holland reentered the University of South Carolina and, under a combined program of undergraduate and law school studies then available, earned a law degree in 1951.

While concluding his studies at the University, Holland sought election to the South Carolina House of Representatives for

Kershaw County. His election in 1950, at age 21, began over one-half century of continuous public service under 11 governors. Holland's six terms in the House of Representatives were followed by five years of service on the State Highway Commission and 35 years of service in the South Carolina Senate.

At the time of his death, Holland was the longest-serving lawmaker in South Carolina. In South Carolina's post-colonial history, only three persons have provided more years of combined House and Senate service than Holland. In 1999, Holland was honored by the National Conference of State Legislators for having a tenure of service placing him among the ten most senior legislators in the country.

His long tenure was one of remarkable accomplishment. In addition to chairing the Senate's standing committees on Judiciary, General Laws, Corrections and Penology and Fish, Game and Forestry, Holland was the catalyzing force and chairman behind many of the body's most influential study committees and special committees. In the 1970s and 1980s, Holland led the state's efforts to reform and modernize its election laws and laws governing criminal prosecution and conviction. A champion of an effective and fair criminal justice system, Holland served as chairman of nearly all legislative conference committees, which produced significant legislation within the past 20 years in the areas of support of victims of violent crime, substantive criminal reform and drug interdiction.

As chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1995 until 2001, Holland devoted much of his energy and attention to children's issues and domestic violence. In recognition of his efforts, the South Carolina Victim Assistance Network named Holland "The Outstanding Legislator of the Year for 1999-2000."

In 1988, Holland, serving as chairman of the General Assembly's Screening Committee for Candidates for the Public Service Commission, began a 15-year effort to reform the qualifications of public service commissioners. Within the most recent legislative session and working in the bipartisan manner with which he was most comfortable, Holland's crusade for change in the Public Service Commission brought to the forefront legislation accomplishing significant reform. Holland also provided stable leadership to the Senate as chairman of its Redistricting Committee during the late 1980s and 1990s.

Of his accomplishments, Holland was most proud of his ability to serve his neighbors. His able service to the far-flung reaches of his geographically-large Senate district resulted in progress coming to areas where it was not a common visitor. Often recollecting the dire needs of South Carolinians during his boyhood, Holland stubbornly held to making sure that rural South Carolinians were not forgotten. His well-known devotion to these interests resulted in his having a statewide constituency. Holland was a member of Lyttleton Street United Methodist Church, the VFW, American Legion and Woodmen of the World. He was a 33rd degree Mason and a Shriner. Consistent with his abiding love of history, Holland was a member of the Kershaw County Historical Society and the South Carolinian Society, the repository for his personal and political papers.

Holland was predeceased by his stepmother, Ruby Gordon Holland. Besides his widow and daughter, he is survived by brothers of Camden, Dr. Alton Holland and Carl Holland; four sisters, Margaret Holland Ford of Camden, Maxine Holland Humphrey of Camden, Zulene Holland Dougherty of Camden, Sandra Holland Hatcher of Florence; a number of nieces and nephews; his beloved dog, Maggie, and cat, Bully.

The family suggests those wishing to make memorials may do so to Cassatt Baptist Church Building Fund, P.O. Box 110, Camden, SC 29032; the Beulah United Methodist Church Cemetery Fund, 820 Beulah Church Road, Camden, SC 29020; the South Carolina Troopers Association, 4961 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC 29212; or to the charity of one's choice.

THE PEOPLE OF THE TAIWAN
REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 7, 2003

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations and

best wishes to the people of the Taiwan Republic of China as we celebrate the National Day of the Republic. For over half a century, our two nations have celebrated a close friendship, and common values.

With the election of President Chen a few years ago, and the first substantial transfer of power, Taiwan has helped to set an excellent example for many nations about the importance, and successful exercise, of democracy, liberty, self-government, and self determination.

Mr. Speaker, as President Chen said in his address last year, "Despite twists and turns along the course of democracy, the people of Taiwan have never lost sight of the need for change . . . Looking toward a better tomorrow requires us to be vigilant today. The opportunity to create change is often transient, and

every minute wasted increases the cost of reform. We will not back down from our advocacy of reform and we will not stop until we achieve our aim."

President Chen's passion and his commitment to democratic ideals is commendable. I know I speak for many when I say that I am proud to count President Chen and the Republic of China among America's closest allies.

In closing, let me again express both my heartiest congratulations as Taiwan celebrates her birthday, and my deepest hope for our continued cooperation, friendship and shared progress.