

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.