

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE FOX CHASE CANCER CENTER

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. HOFFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Fox Chase Cancer Center for its 100 years of outstanding effort and achievement in the fields of cancer treatment and research.

Chartered in 1904, the Fox Chase Cancer Center was the Nation's first cancer hospital. Since its inception, the hospital has provided quality care for patients and has developed and refined methods of cancer treatment. The Fox Chase Cancer Center has been recognized for integrating strong basic and clinical research programs with programs of cancer treatment and detection, cancer control and community outreach efforts, and cancer prevention research and services. These efforts have earned the center various honors including a Nobel Prize for medicine, a Lasker Clinical Research Award, memberships in the National Academy of Sciences, and American Cancer Society Medals of Honor.

Founded on a spirit of optimism and determination, the center remains a national leader in cancer care. I congratulate the Fox Chase Cancer Center on its 100 years of dedicated service to the community.

### H.R. 2264 CONGO BASIN FOREST PARTNERSHIP ACT OF 2003

**HON. JOHN S. TANNER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2264, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership Act of 2003, that the House passed on October 7, 2003. As I said in my statement on that day, I have personally visited some of the areas that this bill will help to protect, and I highly recommend it to the House and hope that we adopt it again today with the other body's changes.

The International Conservation Caucus, of which I am a founding member and cochair, was formed in order to build support for the Congo Basin Forest Partnership initiative and to help with other international conservation efforts around the world. As members, we share a conviction that the United States has the opportunity and the obligation to advance the protection of the worldwide environment for current and future generations. The mission of the caucus is to act on this conviction

by providing the strong U.S. leadership necessary to conserve the world's most biologically rich and diverse places. The Congo Basin Forest Partnership Act is one of the first steps in achieving our mission.

Our contribution under the act will focus on providing field-based conservation activities within 25 million acres in Cameroon, the Central African Republic, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, and the Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, and Sao Tome/Principe. It is estimated that forest areas in the Congo basin are being depleted at a rate twice the size of Rhode Island every year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 2264, the Congo Basin Forest Partnership Act.

### HONORING RON YANKE

**HON. C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great personal sadness to note the passing of Ron Yanke, a dear friend who left us too soon and whose life and contributions truly made the world a better place.

Ron was a brilliant businessman with boundless energy and passion. He was a visionary philanthropist with unending kindness and generosity. He was a community leader who deflected attention from his many civic achievements. And he was a role model whose honesty, integrity, humility, and positive disposition set the standard for everyone he met.

But more than anything, Ron Yanke was a warm and loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend. I had the joy and privilege of knowing Ron well for much of my life and will forever miss his friendship and counsel. There are few men more deserving of recognition for their accomplishments and few less disposed than Ron was to seek or accept it.

His entrepreneurial talents helped create jobs for thousands of people in Idaho and throughout the Intermountain West with companies like Micron Technology, Yanke Machine Shop, RY Timber, Boise Mobile Equipment, YMC Inc., and Nashua Homes.

His selfless nature advanced such worthy causes as the Peregrine Fund, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the Boys and Girls Clubs, and Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center.

His personal charm and compassion enriched the lives of everyone fortunate enough to have known him. Mr. Speaker, I am blessed to be counted in that number, and Idaho is

blessed to have been home to Ron Yanke. I hope you will join me in extending the sympathies of the House of Representatives to his wife, Linda, and his family.

### TRIBUTE TO ANDY DIVINCENZO

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great man who will be sorely missed: Andy DiVincenzo of Buffalo, New York.

Some people seem to have a special talent for success, a kind of Midas touch. Andy DiVincenzo was one of those people. Whether in his business and culinary endeavors, his charitable work, or his family life, Andy imbued everything he did with a special charm, energy, and passion.

Andy was the founder, head chef, and owner of the famed restaurant Billy Ogden's, which opened in the Lovejoy area of Buffalo in 1989. Since opening, both Andy and Billy Ogden's have received numerous four-star reviews. For 10 years running, Andy was selected to represent the Buffalo Bills at the Super Bowl's famous Taste of the NFL, where the Nation's finest chefs, as well as NFL legends, volunteer their time in support of hunger relief efforts throughout the country. Though busy with his restaurant and catering business, Andy also dedicated himself to numerous charitable causes. He devoted time to the Kids Escaping Drugs program and served on the board of the famous Camp Good Days and Special Times, which serves children with cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

Within the local community, Andy was adored, known for his big heart and willingness to help people. He believed everyone deserved a second chance and worked to help provide it. Buffalo, Western New York, and, indeed, the world are better places for having had Andy DiVincenzo among us.

Tragically, Andy has been taken from us too soon and too young. He passed away in his sleep on January 25 at the age of 52. He left behind a loving family, including his wife, Eleanor, daughters Tara and Adriana, and mother, Viola. These were the women in his life to whom he could never deny anything and for whom he would do anything to please. His siblings, Frank and Donna, as well as cousins, nieces, nephews, and others all join in mourning his death.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the remarkable life of Andy DiVincenzo and in extending our sincere condolences to his family.

• 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.

FLOOR ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. DAVID DREIER ON THE AMENDMENT PROCESS FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1561, UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK FEE MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2003

**HON. DAVID DREIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, the Committee on Rules may meet the week of February 9 to grant a rule which could limit the amendment process for floor consideration of H.R. 1561, the United States Patent and Trademark Fee Modernization Act of 2003. The Committee on the Judiciary ordered the bill reported on July 9, 2003, and filed its report with the House on July 25, 2003.

Any Member wishing to offer an amendment should submit 55 copies of the amendment and one copy of a brief explanation of the amendment to the Rules Committee in room H-312 of the Capitol by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10.

Members should draft their amendment to the text of the bill as reported by the Committee on the Judiciary.

Members should use the Office of Legislative Counsel to ensure that their amendments are drafted in the most appropriate format. Members are also advised to check with the Office of the Parliamentarian to be certain their amendments comply with the rules of the House.

ON THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION CONCERNING ISRAEL AND THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

**HON. W. TODD AKIN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, December 8, 2003, the General Assembly of the United Nations, sitting in an emergency special session, adopted Resolution ES 10/14, requesting the International Court of Justice to render an advisory opinion on the legal consequences of Israel's security fence.

The placing of this issue before the ICJ as the result of a political campaign within the U.N. General Assembly is a highly unsatisfactory means of dealing with a profoundly complex and contentious issue. If successful, this initiative portends an increasingly political and divisive use of the ICJ.

There is an increasing concern by many countries that the use of the ICJ to obtain an advisory opinion will undermine the stature of the court as well as the role of international law. It is also important that the ICJ continue to abide by the principle of not addressing such contentious issues without the consent of all parties involved. To do otherwise could set a precedent that could serve to weaken the stature of the U.N. by encouraging a new level of politically oriented activity.

This requested abuse of the ICJ would raise the threshold of politically oriented activity. It is

important to note that this controversial initiative has not garnered the support of even a majority of U.N. members. Only 90 states, none of them democracies, voted in favor of the resolution.

Israel is a small democratic nation with myriad adversaries bent on its destruction. The undeniable truth remains that Israel, as with any other nation, has the right and responsibility to protect the lives of its innocent civilians from brutal terrorist attacks. Consequently, the question of the preservation of due process with the General Assembly and the preservation of the integrity of the ICJ is essential.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH IN LEWISVILLE, TX

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The First United Methodist Church of Lewisville on its 125th anniversary. The First United Methodist Church is dedicated to developing a haven for Christian believers to be able to explore their professions of faith in Jesus Christ.

Through its constant growth over the last 125 years, FUMC-Lewisville has helped the extended Lewisville community to live a more active lifestyle of worship, education, spiritual, mental, and physical development. FUMC-Lewisville serves as an example of a long-standing organization that seeks to help others while continuing growth within the church itself.

The Lewisville chapter currently has diverse groups for every member of the community. The motivated individuals who continue these on-going ministries are the reason that the church is able to celebrate its 125th anniversary today. By sponsoring programs such as Trinity Troupe for actors of all ages, 11 music groups, 8 Bible studies, Covenant group for women of the church, My Brother's Keeper for men to meet every month for breakfast and fellowship, marriage intimacy classes and athletic programs, the church has made an effort to ensure that everyone who wants to be at FUMC-Lewisville is welcomed with open arms and has a place to feel at home in fellowship with other believers.

The church was established on January 25, 1879, with Reverend J.S. Sherill as an equal to a District Superintendent, along with three preachers: G.W. Jackson, L.E. Joshua and L.D. Addington. The first building was not constructed until 1881, but the church thrived for three years without an actual place of worship. By 1887, Lewisville had the only Sunday school in the area with a steady attendance of 75. By 1910, the church had moved to a new building, where it survived the wars and depression. With one last move, FUMC-Lewisville found its present home.

We congratulate the efforts of this church and hope to increase the participation of others in the community who wish to follow the example of FUMC-Lewisville. Through this church, the members are able to make a difference in the lives of people of all ages throughout the community by helping them to

begin a walk of growth and love that will remain constant throughout their lives. The church should take pride in its hard work and commitment to civic involvement that has spanned the past 125 years. We wish the best for the future of FUMC-Lewisville and hope that the next 125 years will be as blessed as these 125 years have been.

TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR ELLIOTT

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arthur Elliott, a dear friend and mentor of mine who passed away.

Art attended Michigan State University and fought for our country during World War II in the U.S. Army for 5 years. Following his education and service, he continued an expansive career in real estate development and building. Holding in high regard civic responsibilities, Art led by example, actively engaging himself in Michigan's political affairs.

Art served as the chairman of the Republican Party for both Oakland County and the State of Michigan. In 1960 and 1964 he represented Michigan Republicans as a delegate to the party's national conventions. Also, Art was a delegate at the Michigan State Constitutional Convention. In addition, he played an instrumental role in the election of Michigan Governor George W. Romney.

Art was an admired counselor and advisor. He shared his wisdom, good judgment, and advice with many, and his political instincts were unparalleled. Still, his reputation transcended political lines because of the relationships he fostered with all individuals he knew and worked with.

An advocate of community service, Art served as president of the local chapter of the Rotary International, of which he was a life-long member. He sat on the board of directors of Lake Superior State University and Trout Unlimited. He was also president of the committee that renovated Traverse City, Michigan's Park Place Hotel.

Art had a passion for traveling, fly fishing, photography and family life. As a husband, father, grandfather and friend he will be remembered for his integrity, dedication, and guidance.

Mr. Speaker, Art was a dear friend who had a strong regard for the individual and Republican ideals. He was admired and will be remembered by all those he knew.

THE COUNTER-TERRORIST AND NARCO-TERRORIST REWARDS PROGRAM ACT

**HON. HENRY J. HYDE**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, today I am very pleased to introduce, along with TOM LANTOS, the Ranking Democratic member of the House International Relations Committee, and my colleague from Illinois, MARK STEVEN KIRK, a bill, the "Counter-Terrorist and Narco-Terrorist

Rewards Program Act." This bill makes some major changes and modifications to the long-established U.S. State Department Rewards Program.

The State Department Rewards Program has clearly prevented acts of terrorism in the past, has helped bring to justice long-sought terrorists, such as the individual who fled to Pakistan after assassinating our CIA employees in Virginia, and has served as a valuable intelligence and information tool in the global war on terrorism. The Rewards Program could do even more, if we enact this bill, with its reforms.

After our experience with the efforts to date to capture Osama bin Laden and to reinvigorate and expand the reach and flexibility of the Terrorist Rewards Program, it's time for a renewed, expanded reward authority in the State Department, one that tackles and contends with the growing links, as recently reported in the press, of the illicit drug trade and the financing of terrorism. Our global terrorist enemies may very well be changing their methods and means, and we need to be even more flexible and creative than they are.

Our statutory changes to the State Department Rewards Program, 22 U.S.C. 2708, as proposed in this bill, would be as follows:

First, a name change, so that the program is hereafter known as the "Terrorism and Narco-Terrorism" Rewards Program, reflecting the growing links between illicit drugs and the financing of terrorism, whether in places like Colombia, Afghanistan, or others around the globe.

Second, clarification that any information provided that disrupts the terrorist financing networks, including information related to illicit narcotics production or international trafficking, is eligible for reward monies. This information need not be tied to any specific act of terrorism, as the State Department now seems to require before any reward for information on illicit drugs can be paid out. We need clarity in the law concerning any link in illicit drugs to terrorism, and more explicit authority for the State Department to pay rewards to those pursuing or reporting the drugs that "support" or help "sustain" global terrorism.

Third, added flexibility in the forms of payment, by providing authority for the Secretary of State to give rewards other than money for useful information related to terrorism and drugs related to terrorism, such as vehicles, appliances, commodities, and other goods and services. In places like Afghanistan, a motorcycle or transport vehicle may be just as valuable as cash in gaining cooperation in the fight against terrorists. The changes more clearly authorize this new kind of reward.

Fourth, added authority for the Secretary of State to conduct media surveys, analyses of media markets and the best means of communication, as well as literacy levels of proposed foreign audiences for the Department's reward efforts. We create the authority to find the best means to get rewards messages out for widest dissemination and effect. We also add authority to create media ads after market analyses and literacy level analyses has been completed.

Fifth, in addition, clear authority is given for the Secretary of State to buy radio, TV, and newspaper ads, and procure any other media means abroad, including public service announcements for the rewards program. For example, the match books and wanted posters

we have used in the effort to find Osama Bin Laden may be of limited value in some rural areas of Pakistan or Afghanistan where there is 30 percent literacy, but a BBC radio slot with a rewards offer might just reach the audience we need. The authority is now there to pursue greater exposure for these rewards.

Sixth, statutory change is made to reflect a current optional reward set administratively for Osama bin Laden at \$25 million today. Current law is raised by the bill from \$5 million to \$25 million for these terrorist and narco-terrorist rewards. We also provide the Secretary of State the added option to raise to a maximum of \$50 million the reward for Osama bin Laden, if events warrant it and it might facilitate his capture. Bin Laden deserves such a high price on his head, and we would welcome the chance to pay this amount for the capture of this global terrorist.

Seventh, finally, we require, 90 days after enactment, that the administration submit a plan to the Congress that maximizes the publicity surrounding the reward for Osama bin Laden's capture.

The bill's text follows, and I asked that it be included in the RECORD with these introductory remarks as well.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Counter-Terrorist and Narco-Terrorist Rewards Program Act".

#### SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF STATE COUNTER-TERRORIST AND NARCO-TERRORIST REWARDS PROGRAM.

(a) PROGRAM NAME.—Section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended—

(1) in the section heading by inserting "COUNTER-TERRORIST AND NARCO-TERRORIST" after "STATE"; and

(2) in subsection (a)(1) by adding at the end the following new sentence: "The program shall be known as the 'Department of State Terrorist and Narco-Terrorist Rewards Program'."

(b) DISRUPTION OF TERRORIST FINANCING NETWORK.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (5) by striking "or" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (6) by striking the period and inserting "; or"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(7) the disruption of financial mechanisms of a terrorist organization, including the use by the organization of illicit narcotics production or international narcotics trafficking—

"(A) to finance acts of international terrorism; or

"(B) to sustain or support any terrorist organization."

(c) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF REWARD.—Subsection (e)(1) of such section is amended—

(1) by striking "\$5,000,000" and inserting "\$25,000,000";

(2) by striking the second period at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new sentence: "The Secretary may authorize a reward of up to \$50,000,000 for the capture or information leading to the capture of Usama bin Laden."

(d) FORMS OF REWARD PAYMENT.—Subsection (e) of such section is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(6) FORMS OF PAYMENT.—The Secretary may make a reward under this section in the

form of money, a nonmonetary item (including such items as automotive vehicles), or a combination thereof."

(e) MEDIA SURVEYS AND ADVERTISEMENTS.—Such section is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (i) and (j) as (k) and (l), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (h) the following new subsection:

"(i) MEDIA SURVEYS AND ADVERTISEMENTS AUTHORIZED.—

"(1) SURVEYS CONDUCTED.—For the purpose of more effectively disseminating information about the rewards program, the Secretary may use the resources of the rewards program to conduct media surveys, including analyses of media markets, means of communication, and levels of literacy, in countries determined by the Secretary to be associated with acts of international terrorism.

"(2) CREATION AND PURCHASE OF ADVERTISEMENTS.—After the surveys authorized under paragraph (1) have been conducted and in accordance with their findings, the Secretary may use the resources of the rewards program to create advertisements to disseminate information about the rewards program among populations in countries identified under paragraph (1). The Secretary may purchase radio or television time, newspaper space, or make use of any other means of advertisement, as appropriate.

"(3) ADVERTISEMENT FOR CAPTURE OF USAMA BIN LADEN.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Counter-Terrorist and Narco-Terrorist Rewards Program Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on International Relations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report documenting a plan to increase advertising to maximize awareness of the reward available for the capture or information leading to the capture of Usama bin Laden."

#### BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

#### HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 6, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Boy Scouts of America on their 94th anniversary. The Boy Scouts of America was founded on February 8, 1910 through a National Charter from Congress.

The Boy Scout movement was founded in England by British Lord Robert Baden-Powell who would later author and illustrate scouting's first manual in 1908. The Boy Scouts of America would be founded from the good deeds of a British Scout.

In an ironic twist, in 1909 Chicago publisher William Dickson Boyce became lost in London. He was soon approached by a boy of 12 who offered to guide him to the address he was seeking. Boyce offered to pay the boy a shilling for his help, but the boy replied, "No Sir, I am a Scout. Scouts do not accept tips for good turns."

Later in his stay, William Dickson Boyce, and the unknown scout, went to British Scout headquarters to meet Baden-Powell, the founder of the Scouting movement. From that meeting forward, Boyce became determined to start Boy Scouting in America.

On February 8, 1910 Boyce filed incorporation papers for the Boy Scouts of America in the District of Columbia. He stated that the purpose of this organization "shall be to promote, through organization and cooperation

with other agencies, the ability of boys to do things for themselves and others, to train them in Scoutcraft, and to teach them patriotism, courage, self-reliance and kindred virtues, using the methods which are in common use by Boy Scouts."

Today, millions of young men aged 6–18 have been involved in Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and Venturing.

We congratulate the Boy Scouts of America on this "Scout Sunday" for striving to instill high values and strong leadership skills in the young men of our nation. These men should be celebrated for their high ideals and dedication to their communities. We take pride in the Boy Scouts' hard work and commitment to civic involvement.

#### IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID WU**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 2004*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3030) to amend the Community Service Block Grant Act to provide for quality improvements.

Mr. WU. Mr. Chairman, I held a town hall meeting in Scappoose, Oregon on Monday night. Scappoose is in Columbia County, which has a double-digit unemployment rate.

The first person to speak at that event was a woman who told me that her unemployment benefits will run out this month, she is terrified of losing her health insurance, and she is considering taking a job in California, leaving her children and family behind.

Time after time in Oregon, I hear the heartbreak of a jobless economic recovery.

Oregon has a jobless rate of 7.2% and we have lead the nation in unemployment for most of the past two years. And, it is estimated that as I speak, there are over 34,000 Oregonians who have exhausted all forms of unemployment assistance without finding a job.

These are not just statistics. Each one of these 34,000 people risks losing their car, their home, or being unable to afford college for their children, or vital health care for their family.

Mr. Chairman, all Oregonians hope for an improved economy that creates permanent high paying jobs.

But today, these new jobs do not yet exist in Oregon. And so today, we must show compassion and extend unemployment assistance.

At the end of that same town meeting in Scappoose, a gentleman also talked about the pain of being unemployed and asked me a straight question, who can change this?

I gave him a straight answer. If the President picked up the phone and asked for an unemployment extension we would get it done this week.

I said that before I knew we would be asked to vote the Miller amendment today. So today, I want to say to the President, sir I challenge you to feel the passion, the anger, and the pain of the millions of Americans who are out of work.

Pick up the phone Mr. President, and let's extend unemployment benefits this week.

I call on my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in supporting the Miller

amendment and I yield back the balance of my time.

#### IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 4, 2004*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3030) to amend the Community Service Block Grant Act to provide for quality improvements.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of this amendment. Today the House must once again come together to provide relief to America's unemployed. Much like a year ago, the President says that the economy is improving, but those words are cold comfort to those who have not only lost their jobs but also their unemployment benefits in recent weeks.

It is always the same story with this administration—the recovery is right around the corner. We have been hearing that now going on 3 years. Already this month, 375,000 unemployed Americans have exhausted their state benefits. In my State alone, nearly 26,000 people will have neither a paycheck nor extended unemployment insurance benefits. That is the second highest number of workers who have exhausted their benefits on record. These folks have been left with no job or assistance and believe me—they are struggling to provide for their families this winter.

This amendment extends unemployment benefits for workers for another 6 months retroactively to December 20th, when Congress failed to act before adjournment. Of course, we learned last month that only 1,000 new jobs had been created—despite administration estimates that said a quarter million new jobs would be created that month.

Mr. Chairman, this majority acts as if unemployment benefits were some kind of hand-out—welfare for working families. But their inability to find work is hardly due to a lack of trying. If anything, it is due to the failed economic policy of this administration, which promised a million-and-a-half new jobs with its last round of tax cuts. That those jobs have not materialized seems apparent to everyone but them.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment is the least we can do. Too many families were left out in the cold this holiday season due to the Republicans' refusal to address this issue. This amendment is not enough, but it is better than nothing, which until now is all this majority has supported.

#### HONORING GIVE KIDS A SMILE NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL ACCESS DAY

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the American Dental Association for organizing the 2nd Annual Give Kids A Smile National Children's Dental Access Day. Today,

dentists from across the country will be generously volunteering their time to provide free screening and dental care services to children in need.

In its inaugural year last year, dentists participating in Give Kids A Smile National Children's Dental Access Day provided free care to an estimated 1 million disadvantaged children nationwide. Beyond providing free dental services and dental health education, this annual effort is aimed at raising awareness about the large number of children that go without dental care each year and the impact this can have on their overall health and wellness.

Give Kids A Smile Day provides a tremendous opportunity for parents who lack adequate health or dental coverage to get needed dental care for their kids. There is a clear need for this. According to a recent report on health care quality, only 38 percent of children in poor health and less than half of all children between the ages of 2 and 17 have seen a dentist in the past year.

Access to good health care is synonymous with access to good dental care and too many children and families are being left behind. Given the impact untreated dental disease can have on a child's health, school performance and overall quality of life, there is no question that we need to improve awareness about and access to dental care.

I applaud the American Dental Association for spearheading this effort. I commend the California Dental Association for their participation and the many dentists in my district from the Southern Alameda County Dental Society and the Alameda County Dental Society for performing this public service. Their contributions now and in the future will go a long way in improving the health of many needy children.

#### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS "50 YEARS OF PROGRESS AND OPPORTUNITY"

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of North Texas for celebrating 50 years of desegregation on their campus. In the summer of 1954 the University of North Texas accepted doctoral student A. Tennyson Miller as the first African-American student admitted into the university.

Since 1954 African-American students have been scholars, athletes, both homecoming kings and queens, and most importantly leaders. They have shaped and molded the identity and character of the University of North Texas. The excellence of UNT today is directly linked to the diversity of its students.

The year of 1954 was a turning point for civil rights and in particular, for the African-American community. Literally, the doors of opportunity began to open up in America's history. The landmark Supreme Court decision of *Brown v. Board of Education* sent public institutions in an uproar when it aimed to desegregate public schools.

Within this tumultuous and controversial time, of the beginning of the Civil Rights

Movement in the 1950s, the University of North Texas took a giant step forward by opening its doors to African-American students. And it is only appropriate, that during February, Black History Month, that UNT celebrates their own turning point in history with the 50 Years of Progress and Opportunity, 1954–2004 culminating in a celebration on Saturday, February 14, 2004.

In 2004, the UNT is commemorating its desegregation as well as the incredible progress made in during those 50 years. I congratulate the African-Americans who overcame barriers to pave the way for others at the University of North Texas. I also applaud the university's former and current African-American students, faculty and staff for their continued dedication to the Mean Green of UNT.

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SUPPORTING TAIWAN

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support Taiwan, a democracy and a dependable friend of the United States. In fact, the United States is Taiwan's largest trading partner, while Taiwan is the seventh largest United States trading partner. In the year 2000, total U.S.-Taiwan trade was approximately \$65 billion, with a Taiwan surplus of approximately \$16 billion. Taiwan's chief exports to the United States include clothing and footwear, toys, and various electronic products. In recent years, Taiwanese government officials have attempted to accommodate increased United States pressure on trade issues. They met many U.S. demands for greater market access for U.S. goods and services and responded to U.S. complaints by taking stronger measures to protect U.S. copyrights and other intellectual property rights.

At the same time, Taiwan's political system had undergone dramatic changes, including a transition to democratic political pluralism. The combination of these developments led to subtle changes in U.S.-Taiwan ties, including

deepening economic, military, social, and other contacts. Today, the United States is an important investor and trading partner for Taiwan, with United States markets receiving about 25 percent of Taiwan's exports. Taiwan continues to enjoy Export-Import Bank financing, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) guarantees, most-favored-nation status, and ready access to U.S. markets.

Beijing regards Taiwan as a renegade province of China, and PRC officials have grown particularly upset over the statements and positions taken by Taiwan's democratically elected president, Chen Shui-bian, who increasingly has referred to Taiwan as a sovereign independent country. These statements and positions have contributed to an intense domestic debate in Taiwan over its national status. President Chen also has been a strident proponent of using the scheduled March 20, 2004 presidential elections to hold an unprecedented national referendum on several policy issues. Beijing strongly opposes a referendum in Taiwan, fearing it could be used to gauge support for—and possibly to declare—Taiwan independence.

In recent years, the PRC has steadily increased its missile build-up along the south China coast opposite Taiwan, now deploying close to 500 missiles. As Taiwan faces military threats from China, the people of Taiwan plan to express concern over their wellbeing and security in a proposed referendum on March 20, 2004. Therefore, as the world's leading democracy, we must support the people of Taiwan and their right to hold this referendum.

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TRIBUTE TO LINDA WEST

**HON. JOHN P. MURTHA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 6, 2004*

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with you and my colleagues a tribute to a lady from southwestern Pennsylvania who has made a difference in the lives of countless veterans.

When Linda West was in junior high school in Uniontown, in Pennsylvania's 12th Congress-

sional District, she began visiting the homes of housebound veterans as part of a community-service project. This effort marked the beginning of a mission that would lead a coalition of veterans and community organizations in Las Vegas, NV, to honor her with a Lifetime Achievement Award last December.

As a student at the University of Cincinnati, Linda worked with veterans in Uniontown during semester and summer breaks. After graduation, she relocated to Las Vegas and formed new relationships with veterans there to match those she had found so rewarding in Uniontown. She visited veterans in hospitals, delivered food to their homes, assisted with burials and arranged honor guards. In recognition of her efforts, the Chapel of Four Chaplains more than 20 years ago confirmed her as an assistant Nevada State chaplain, the first female lay clergy in the organization. She receives no pay or reimbursement for expenses.

She is a national service officer of Veterans of the Vietnam War, where she has helped veterans with their medical, spiritual and health-care benefits needs for more than 15 years. When necessary, she has practiced suicide intervention with these veterans, especially those suffering from the effects of Agent Orange.

She worked with a Vietnam veteran to ensure passage of the first increase in Nevada's veterans' property tax exemption in the 48 years since the bill was passed in 1953. The legislation, including added benefits for veterans who were more than 60 percent disabled as a result of their service, was intended as a thank-you to the State's veterans but had become nearly meaningless over the years.

She also worked with a veteran to derail legislation that would have ended the teaching of American Government and history in Nevada's public schools, instead adding a mandate for the teaching of the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence.

Here in the 12th Congressional District, we're grateful to Uniontown native Linda West Myers for the generous contributions she has made to our Nation's veterans.