

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JAMES "JIM"
VANDERFORD

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. James "Jim" Vanderford for his many years of service to Lake Mead National Recreation Area (NRA). Mr. Vanderford is both an amazing ambassador for the National Park Service and Lake Mead NRA and a dedicated public servant. I have worked with Jim throughout my career and am also proud to call him one of my good friends.

After serving our Nation in the U.S. Marines from 1960–1963, Mr. Vanderford began his civilian Federal career with the Bureau of Land Management in 1971. In May of 1974, he accepted a position at Lake Mead NRA and began his long career of service at one of Nevada's most important natural resources. He has served as the Chief of Maintenance and Engineering since August of 1994.

During his 30 years of service at Lake Mead NRA, Mr. Vanderford designed and supervised the construction and upgrade of many of the park's facilities, including picnic areas, launch ramps, courtesy docks, restrooms, and water and wastewater treatment facilities. He also supervised millions of dollars in Federal Highway Administration road construction projects.

The work Jim Vanderford did during his time at Lake Mead NRA has impacted each one of the more than 9 million people that visit Lake Mead each year. His work ethic and institutional knowledge will be greatly missed.

I wish Jim the very best in his retirement and look forward to seeing him and his wife Jeri Lynn as they continue to reside in Boulder City, Nevada. I am proud of all that Jim has done for Southern Nevada and commend him for all his years of service.

CONGRATULATING 2004 CENTRAL
VALLEY COMMON THREADS
AWARD WINNERS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lillian Draxler, Debbie Jacobsen, Margaret Jensen, Mary Wickstrom and Bernice Woolf, the recipients of the 2004 Central Valley Common Threads Award. This award is presented to women in agriculture who have made a remarkable contribution to their community through volunteer work and philanthropy.

Lillian Draxler has been dedicated to the dairy industry her entire life. She helped establish the JCJ Dairy 30 years ago. For 38 years, Lillian has been engaged in the 4-H program both in Fresno and Kings counties

serving in every capacity and coordinating every major event on the 4-H calendar. She provides leadership and funding to the Make-A-Wish Foundation, helps the Kings County Dairywomen amass scholarship funds for needy agriculture students, and is involved with the Dairy Herd Improvement Association. Lillian also assists the Farm Bureau and its Education and Agriculture Together programs.

Debbie Jacobsen has been active in the grape and teaching industry for more than 20 years. She is one of several principles in the family-owned J&L Vineyards and is teaching at Washington Union High School. Debbie currently serves as president of the Fresno County Farm Bureau and is the first woman to hold the position. She is a leader in the Farm Bureau's Ag in the Classroom program, speaking in classrooms and inviting school tours to her farm. She serves as co-chairman of the Fresno Fair Ag Education Fabulous Food Machine. Debbie is also on the Board of Directors for the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom and received the group's prestigious Volunteer Educator Award in 1995.

Margaret Jensen has been involved in agriculture throughout her life. She helped plant and develop the pistachio industry in Madera County and was involved in the first commercial citrus planting in Madera County in 1958. Margaret is involved with Fresno State's Ag One Foundation and has been a member of the Fresno County Farm Bureau since 1935. She has contributed to numerous projects that have helped to benefit Fresno and the entire San Joaquin Valley. Some of these include the Break the Barriers building fund and helping to fully fund the chapel at Children's Hospital of Central California, a place that provides comfort and quiet for all faiths. Mary Wickstrom has been a tireless advocate for agricultural advancement during her life. She established her own dairy in Chicago and, along with 11 other dairy families, formed the Hilmar Cheese Company. For several years, Mary shared the buying duties for items to be sold there. She is devoted to the preservation of productive farmland through good land use planning, and she puts those values to work. Mary participates as a member of the Merced County Planning Commission and as a charter member of the Merced County California Women for Agriculture. Mary has also been involved in the Hilmar FFA Booster Club and served as a leader in the 4-H program.

Bernice Woolf has been involved in numerous agricultural activities during the course of her life. She served three terms as a board member of the California Agricultural Education Advisory Board and currently serves on the board of the family businesses, Woolf Farming and Woolf Enterprises. These entities have her involved in the production, processing, and marketing of numerous agricultural products. Bernice is also a member of the Central Valley Chapter California Women for Agriculture, American Agri-Women, and served as director of Children's Hospital of Central California, the Fresno Arts Museum, and the Fresno City/County Historical Society.

She also contributed to West Hills Community College Farm of the Future.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the 2004 Central Valley Common Threads Award winners. These women have shown outstanding involvement, not only in agriculture but also in strengthening their respective communities. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing these honorees a bright future and continued success.

IN MEMORY OF SGT. 1ST CLASS
RICHARD STEVEN GOTTFRIED

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I inform the House of the death of Sgt. 1st Class Richard Steven Gottfried of Lake Ozark, Missouri. Sgt. Gottfried was killed when the Humvee he was riding in was hit by a bomb near Tikrit, Iraq.

In Sgt. Gottfried's family, military service was a tradition. His grandfather was a prisoner of war during World War II, his father was wounded in Vietnam, and his brother retired from the service. He was proud to serve his country, and he did so with courage and distinction.

Sgt. Gottfried was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. But these medals were by no means the extent of the honor bestowed upon him. The more than 400 people who attended his funeral, the tears of pain and the sounds of laughter as friends and family remembered the good times they shared with Steven all commemorated a life of kindness and service to others.

Mr. Speaker, when Sgt. Gottfried was killed he was nearing 20 years of service to his country in the U.S. Army and was preparing to retire. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his wife, Mary Jo; his son, Eric; and his daughter, Ashley.

CONGRATULATIONS TO STEWART
E. SUTIN, PH.D.

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Stewart E. Sutin, Ph.D., upon his appointment as president of the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC). I am confident that Dr. Sutin will be an excellent addition to CCAC, as well as to the community of southwestern Pennsylvania.

Dr. Sutin was previously employed by Mellon Financial Corp. as the senior vice president and head of the international department.

• 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.

He is a member of the Research Advisory Committee for Carnegie Mellon University and a member of the Bosch Institute for Applied Studies in International Management, one of Germany's largest international corporations. Dr. Sutin also serves on the advisory boards for the Center for International Studies, the Center for International Business Studies, and the Center for Latin American Studies, all at Duquesne University. Currently, he is a part-time lecturer at the Katz School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Sutin brings extraordinary management experience, including a history of working with CEOs and motivating large and diverse staffs. He has energized business, as well as developed strong ties to all levels of the Pittsburgh business community, including significant relationships with area business and community leaders. One of Dr. Sutin's main focuses will be to ensure that CCAC's educational programs and workforce development initiatives meet local, national, and international economic trends. This will help to ensure that the nearly 81,000 credit and noncredit students that annually attend CCAC will remain among the region's most prepared to meet the challenges of the business world.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in commemorating Stewart E. Sutin, Ph.D., for his recent appointment as the new president of Community College of Allegheny County. His success serves as an inspiration to all of western Pennsylvania, as well as CCAC.

HONORING CORPORAL ROBERT
TOMCZAK FOR HIS ACTIONS
DURING OPERATION IRAQI FREE-
DOM

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the bravery and courage of Marine Reserve Corporal Robert Tomczak for serving our Nation during Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his actions in the face of heavy fire from the enemy, Corporal Tomczak was recently awarded the Bronze Star. I offer my thanks and the thanks of all Nevadans for Corporal Tomczak's dedication to his fellow Marines and for his willingness to serve our country in battle.

Corporal Tomczak served as the machine gun team leader for the Las Vegas-based Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Marines. In the face of heavy enemy fire, Tomczak fought bravely and honorably to disrupt a flank assault and to silence incoming rocket-propelled grenade fire. While firing from behind sandbags, an armed gunman in a vehicle rammed his position, and falling sandbags from the vehicle's impact caused Corporal Tomczak to temporarily lose hold of his weapon. While still under enemy fire, he crossed into the open to retrieve his weapon and redeploy against the enemy.

Southern Nevada is proud to have men like Corporal Tomczak serving in our Nation's armed services. It is my distinct honor to commend Corporal Tomczak for all that he has done in his service to our country and for the State of Nevada.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF ROBERT
N. BROWN

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, Robert N. Brown's story began in Columbus 83 years ago on May 7, 1920, when he became the second baby born at the Bartholomew County Hospital. He was born the son of Raymond S. and Anna Newell Brown. He married Alice Elizabeth "Betty" Frantz on Aug. 9, 1947, in Columbus. He married Eloise Albert Sears on May 7, 1994, in Columbus. He was preceded in death by his parents; his first wife on August 19, 1991; and a sister, Elizabeth Marshall.

And Bob Brown was a family man who loved his family. He is survived by his second wife, of Columbus; a son, Jeffrey N. Brown of Columbus; daughters, Peggy A. Brown of Fountain Hills, Arizona, Rebecca E. Brown Thompson of Christchurch, New Zealand, and Susan A. Brown of Downers Grove, Illinois; stepchildren, Susan Sears of Briarcliff Manor, New York, and B.J. Sears of Los Angeles; a brother, Dr. Richard Brown of Phoenix; grandchildren, Zoran and Alex Gvojcic, both of Downers Grove, Sarah DeClue of Chandler, Arizona, Erin Boggs of Scottsdale, Arizona, Cameron Thompson of Christchurch, and Christi and Ian Brown, both of Columbus; and two step grandchildren, Kelsey and Sayre Sundberg, both of Briarcliff Manor.

Please know that each of you have our deepest sympathies and prayers in your loss.

His daughter Susan told me this week, "Dad always had time for us, and until I grew up, I never knew how unusual that was."

His professional accomplishments are equally extraordinary.

Mr. Brown was the former publisher of The Republic newspaper and chairman of Home News Enterprises.

A Purdue University graduate, he was a U.S. Army veteran serving in World War II and during the Korean War.

He was named to the Indiana Newspaper Hall of Fame and received the Community Service Award from the Chamber of Commerce and the Mayor's Arts Award.

Professionally, he served as president of Hoosier State Press Association and the Inland Daily Press Association and was deeply involved in the American Newspaper Publishers Association and the American Press Institute.

He was an inventor, obtaining patents for a copy-cutting device and a composing room system for classified advertising.

Among his community affiliations were Bartholomew County Hospital Board trustee, Hospital Foundation, North Christian Church, United Way, Rotary Club, Heritage Fund, Columbus School Foundation, Foundation for Youth, Columbus Jaycees and the Boys Club Council. He and his wife, Betty, established the Robert and Betty Brown Awards for Vocal Excellence. An instrumental scholarship also was added.

And we will enjoy the product of that philanthropy throughout this service.

His story ended Friday, March 19, 2004, at Shell Point Pavilion in Fort Myers, Florida.

But that hardly tells the story. There is so much more to tell because Bob Brown was

also a hero and an inventor and that story needs to be told as well.

Bob Brown was a soldier. After graduating from Purdue in May of 1941 Bob Brown went to work but would write in the family history, "Overshadowing everything we did was an ominous cloud of war."

Duty called. He enlisted in Army in 1942. Enrolled in the army school of advanced electronics at Chicago University and 2nd Lt Bob Brown, US Army Signal Corp reported to Fort Monmouth, New Jersey on 3 Dec 1942. An engineer by training, Lt Brown was schooled to operate a dramatic new top-secret technology known as Radar.

On 22 January 1944, Lt Bob Brown shipped out for the European theatre aboard the Queen Mary. He arrived in England and helped assemble Starting Point, the first early warning radar system in the history of modern warfare.

And he was there on 6 June 1944: D-Day. He wrote of that experience in the family history and I quote generously from his account of that time:

One of the most dramatic days of my life was 6 June 1944. I awoke to a deafening roar and leaped out of my pup tent to find the sky filled with planes from horizon to horizon. There were bombers and fighters from the Allied countries of every size . . . All were either going or returning across the channel. 'My God! It's here'—the long awaited invasion had actually come. We knew we were part of it, but when and where?

On 10 June 1944, four days later, the word came down. "Board an assigned landing craft with all vehicles at dawn 11 June and be prepared to land at Omaha Beach." The tension and excitement were unbearable. Our time had really come . . . As the beach neared, we all became quiet with apprehension. What would it be like to face enemy fire?

When we arrived at the beach we were relieved to see the fighting had moved in land . . . For 100 miles around us, including the southern coast of England, the northern coast of France and the Channel between I could clearly see every ship in the water and many vehicles moving on the land.

. . . For that brief period the magnitude of the operation overwhelmed me. We had actually landed in France! This invasion had to be the greatest feat in history.

Lt. Brown would serve courageously from D-Day to the Battle of the Bulge. After WWII, he returned to the service during the Korean War to train new heroes in the use of radar in combat operations at bases around the country.

Years later, as the illness that would take his life clouded his mind, according to Peggy, it was the memories of his service in World War II that, "Were the last memories to go." Almost until the end, he spoke with affection of the men and the times when his generation won freedom for the people of Europe and every generation that would follow.

His son Jeff told me that even 50 years later, "He felt his military service in World War II was the greatest contribution of his life."

And he was right. Lt. Brown was a hero.

Accordingly, and in recognition of his service to the people of France, I have been authorized to posthumously present the Medal of the Jubilee of Liberty, minted on the 50th anniversary of the D-Day invasion to Robert N. Brown on behalf of the Regional Council of Normandy and the grateful people of France

for his heroism in Normandy France during Operation Overlord in June of 1944.

And Bob Brown was an inventor. Having studied electrical engineering at Purdue University and serving as a radar technical officer during World War II, Brown was fascinated by new technologies and gadgets.

And while he held two patents on labor-saving newspaper-production devices, it went deeper than that.

As his son Jeff told me this week. "He was an inventor. He wanted to invent something So he invented a newspaper."

Brown had succeeded his father Raymond Brown as publisher of the family-owned newspaper in Columbus, the Evening Republican (now called The Republic). Ambition and entrepreneurial spirit motivated Bob Brown in the early 1960s to start a newspaper from scratch, rather than buying an existing newspaper. It was, as Jeff would tell me this week, "His defining professional moment."

Foreseeing Johnson County's booming population growth in the decades ahead, Brown founded his newspaper, the Daily Journal, to cover the entire county.

Brown spearheaded construction of the Daily Journal's first ever glassed-in plant on US 31, the first newspaper in the nation to be built from the ground up with the then innovative offset-press technology.

The "Journal Hill" site north of Franklin took shape Sept. 14, 1962. The 11,000-square foot glass-enclosed building allowed passers-by on US 31 to see the new Goss Suburban offset press inside.

Offset printing was a technological leap forward. After a newspaper page was composed, it was photographed and the negative was rendered into a thin plate for the printing press. The innovation was less time-consuming and labor-intensive than the old "hot-type" printing method.

Publishers from all over the country came to Journal Hill to marvel at the new technology and this showman's glass wall display of the presses. Today virtually every major newspaper in America reflects both of these Brown innovations.

The first issue of the Daily Journal rolled off the press on July 22, 1963. Afternoon delivery was the norm at the time. From the start, his colleagues attest, Mr. Brown set the tone for the Daily Journal's news coverage: Fairness to all and special treatment for none.

Howard "Bud" Herron, former editor and later publisher of the Daily Journal and now publisher of The Republic in Columbus, noted Brown's push for employees to excel.

Herron recalled that Brown gave editors and publishers the freedom to make their own news judgments.

"He was a believer in the total integrity of the news operation," Herron said.

And Bob Brown was a gentle man. As Dorothy Hayes, one of the Daily Journal's original employees, recalled last week in a story that demonstrated the rare combination of kindness and high standards that characterized his life. "He was a perfectionist, and you tried so hard to do everything the way he wanted it done."

Hayes, now 70, remembered that Brown insisted on certain rules.

"He had this thing about Scotch tape. He didn't like it," she recalled.

Hayes, who had just turned 30, had whimsically Scotch-taped a clipping stating "Don't

trust anyone over 30" to her cash register. The boss was not amused.

Brown wandered over and was talking to Hayes; and during the conversation, he nonchalantly scraped off the Scotch tape with his fingernail.

"He never said a word to me, but I got the message: 'Do not use Scotch tape,'" Hayes laughed. "He was very meticulous," she added compellingly. "He was the kindest man I've ever met, and the most fair."

And so he was. When I met Mr. Brown as a floppy haired junior highschooler, I was taken aback by his genuine interest in me and my future. He listened to my ideas and ambitions and always took time to gently challenge my plans and my thinking with a grandfatherly touch. I can still hear his voice during countless sessions in the Brown family living room, following one of my pronouncements about how I saw things, when he would gently say, "Mike, you might want to look at that a little differently."

Bob Brown was a gentle man, an inventor, a hero and a family man.

But make no mistake about it, Bob Brown was a leader too.

As Bud Herron said, "He didn't tiptoe through life. Everywhere he went he left broad, bold footprints."

And perhaps his peer and personal friend, Mr. J. Irwin Miller put it best when he said, "Today this community lost one of its great sons." The former Cummins Inc. Chairman went on to say, "The fact that The Republic is a thriving, fourth-generation family business is a testament to Bob's leadership, vision and hard work. He will be greatly missed by his family and by all of us who were honored to know him personally."

His devotion to his family, his service to America, his personal kindness; and his bold vision for his enterprise and our community are all the elements of a life of great quality.

It is written, "No greater love has a man than this that he should lay down his life for his friends."

Bob Brown put his life on the line for his nation, and laid down the balance of his life for his family, his community and the people of the enterprise to which he was born . . . namely . . . his friends.

And we, his friends, bid him this tender farewell with hearts overflowing with gratitude to God for the privilege of having known this man . . . Confident that just a few days ago, this good man—his mind and memory restored—his body young and strong again—as he did so many years ago, stepped onto the sands of another shore into the warm embrace of Raymond, Anna, Betty and Elizabeth and heard those deserved words, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H.

Con. Res. 393) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2004 and 2006 through 2009:

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Chairman, Congress does not have an income problem. What we have is a spending problem. We don't need to increase taxes, as the alternative budgets propose. What we need to do is hold down spending in order to start reducing this deficit.

My constituents are simply taxed-out. I can't go back to them and say that instead of allowing the tax relief approved in 2001 and 2003 to continue, we plan to let their taxes go back up so that Congress can spend more.

Which priorities come first? The priorities of families out there working hard and small businesses striving to expand and create jobs or the priorities of those who want more government spending? I believe the priorities of our families and small businesses come first, but others just don't seem to get it.

As a small business owner, I know how important tax relief is to the growth of small business, the economy and for job creation. We're on the right track with economic growth and job creation, and we need to continue down that path. Passing a budget alternative that increases taxes moves our country and the economy in the wrong direction. We need to continue to grow the American economy—not the American government.

The Republican budget gets our spending under control, cutting the deficit in half over four years without reducing our national defense, homeland security or veterans care. It acknowledges that out of the trillions of dollars in Federal spending, there is waste and abuse we can cut without diminishing effective and useful programs and benefits. Our budget sets sound priorities and gives us the means to follow through on them.

As we consider these budget alternatives today, the bottom line is that all of the Democratic alternatives raise taxes in order to grow spending. The Republican budget does not raise taxes and reduces spending. It's not hard to guess which alternative my constituents prefer.

ARIZONA'S VFW VOICE OF DEMOCRACY ESSAY

HON. RICK RENZI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to announce that Arizona's winning essayist for VFW Voice of Democracy writing contest is Stephanie Hall, from Lakeside, Arizona in the First Congressional District.

In her essay, Stephanie recalls her grandfather's memories of his service to the Nation and the lessons of responsibility, patriotism and duty he taught her through his stories. Stephanie pledges to honor the memory of her grandfather and the legacy of those who served before him to safeguard the principles which they fought to defend.

I commend Stephanie for a thoughtful essay, and include it here in the RECORD for my colleague's attention.

MY COMMITMENT TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

As I helped my grandma pack my grandpa's belongings, I spotted an old, familiar shirt that Grandpa had loved to wear. I picked up the shirt, pressed my face into its folds, and breathed deeply. It smelled of mothballs, coffee beans, and Grandpa. Suddenly, all the emotions I had been fighting to contain all day welled up inside of me and threatened to seep out in the form of tears. I pressed the shirt tighter against my face. How I missed this wonderful man. I could hardly walk a step through my grandparent's house without being reminded of some memory. I remembered Grandpa cheering me on enthusiastically as I played baseball in the backyard. I remembered my excitement when Grandpa taught me how to build sand tunnels on the beach. But of all the memories, my fondest were those spent sitting next to Grandpa in his big chair, listening to his stories. For some reason, the stories that most captivated me were of my grandpa's escapades fighting in the Korean War. It astounded me that, not only had my grandpa wanted to fight, he even lied about his eye problem so that he could join the conflict. I asked him once why he didn't just stay home where it was safe. His answer was profound and has never left me. He stated simply, "Honey, I owe such a great debt to this country for the freedom and opportunities she has given me. My father was born in Norway and my mother was born in Ireland. They came here to provide a better life for me. I wanted to do my part to make sure that those same freedoms and opportunities I have been blessed with, were available for my children and grandchildren to enjoy."

My grandpa, as well as so many other dedicated men and women who fought for our country, completely embody to me the quote by Thomas Paine which states, "If there be trouble, let it be in my day, that my child may have peace." My generation would not have been able to enjoy so many of the opportunities, privileges, and peaceful times in our day had our forefathers not made a commitment to preserve them in theirs. Just as so many battles have been fought in the past to preserve America's future, today we are still fighting for the same reason. However, the battles we fight on a daily basis are of a different kind. Sometimes they've even so subtle that we don't even recognize our foes.

The youth of today are under constant bombardment from many such disguised enemies. From the many harmful images portrayed by the media, to the dangerous substances readily available from our peers, it is evident that daily life for the average teenager has become a battleground. Yet the youth of today are destined to become the leaders of tomorrow. If we are to successfully carry on the bright torch of freedom, then we must prepare ourselves today. We need to be an active member of our community by becoming involved in community service, activities, or programs. We need to be aware of the world around us, so that we will be able to make educated decisions when we enter the voting pool. It is also very important to pursue a quality education, so that we will be able to find success and have a stronger voice in the decisions we make. We must ready ourselves to step forth and overcome the challenges that will inevitably face us. For after all, as Wycleaf Jean stated, "We must be the change that we wish to see in the world."

I am like my grandpa in that I too owe such a great debt to my country. My grandpa was given opportunities that his parents never had, and he used every opportunity to its utmost and then gave back by serving his country and improving the lives of his fellowmen. I have even more privileges, free-

doms, and opportunities because of the path previously paved by my grandpa. I enjoy luxuries he never did. I have time and resources he never had. By following my grandpa's example and by using my opportunities to be the best I can be, I will be prepared to serve my country in various capacities, to have a greater influence for good on those around me, and to show my commitment to America's future. I will not let the sacrifices of our forefathers be in vain.

I will show my gratitude for the sacrifices made by my grandpa, along with so many other great men and women, by taking advantage of the many privileges given to me. These privileges came at a very dear price, paid for with pain, blood, and even human lives. By taking advantage of the many opportunities I have been given, just as my Grandpa, I too will be able to preserve the many freedoms and opportunities that I have been blessed with for my children and all future generations to enjoy.

DR. DOROTHY I. HEIGHT—A
SALUTE ON HER 92ND BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute one of the major leaders of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's, Dr. Dorothy I. Height, as she celebrates her 92nd birthday. As an African-American teacher and social activist, Dr. Height has secured her place in American society as a true liberator of black America.

Born on March 24, 1912, in Richmond, Virginia, she was educated in the public school system in Rankin, Pennsylvania. Dr. Height established herself at a very early age as a student with exceptional oratorical skills. Those skills earned her a scholarship to New York University where she received her bachelor's and master's in 4 years.

Dr. Height began her career working as a caseworker with the New York City Welfare Department. At the age of 25 she became a volunteer with the National Council of Negro Women while working simultaneously with the National Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA). Dr. Height developed leadership-training activities for volunteers and staff, and developed programs to promote interracial education.

In 1957 Dr. Height was named President of the Council of Negro Women, a position she held until 1997. While serving as President she worked closely with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, and A. Philip Randolph. She encouraged President Dwight D. Eisenhower to desegregate schools and President Lyndon B. Johnson to appoint African American women to positions in government.

As one of the major leaders of the Civil Rights Movement Dr. Height held many important positions such as being appointed as a consultant on African affairs to the secretary of state, and serving on the President's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped.

Secretary of Health and Human Services Louis Sullivan recently appointed Dr. Height to the Advisory Council of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities, and by President Bush to the National Advisory Council on Aging.

Dr. Height received a number of awards for her outstanding contributions, including: Woman of the Year from Ladies Home Journal (1974), induction into The National Women's Hall of Fame (1993), Springarn Medal from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (1993), William L. Dawson Award for "decades of public service to people of color and particularly women" from the Congressional Black Caucus, Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Clinton, and holds honorary degrees from more than 20 universities, including Harvard, Howard, Princeton, and Tuskegee Institute.

At the height of nearly 70 years of service Dr. Height is the author of a new book: "Open Wide The Freedom Gates: A Memoir." She continues to promote the importance of unity in black family life by organizing the Black Family Reunion Celebration, which continues to preserve the traditional values of the African-American family. Dr. Height is still active socially and professionally and serves as President Emeritus of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW).

IN TRIBUTE OF GREEK
INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 183rd anniversary of Greek Independence Day.

On March 25, 1821, the people of Greece rose up against the oppressive rule of the Ottoman Turks. For 8 years, the Greeks struggled for freedom and democratic self-governance until their independence was secured in 1829. The success of this struggle—after almost 400 years of Turkish domination—demonstrates the remarkable ability of human beings to overcome enormous obstacles in the path to freedom.

The United States and Greece share a deep commitment to democracy and rule of law. American political thought was influenced just as much by Greek philosophy as the Greek revolution of 1821 was inspired by the American fight for freedom in 1776. In fact, Greek intellectuals used the U.S. Constitution as the basis for the constitution they drafted in the 1820s.

The common struggles of our countries have forged a bond that spans the generations. The friendship between the United States and Greece is based on a common heritage and shared values. Greece has stood by the United States as a steadfast ally during World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, the Persian Gulf War, and now, the war on terrorism.

The citizens of Greece are preparing to host the 2004 Olympic Games, an honor that holds particular historical significance. Beginning in 776 B.C., the Olympic Games were held in the valley of Olympia in Greece every four years for almost 1200 years.

The modern Olympic Games were created by Baron Pierre de Coubertin and inspired by

the ancient games. First staged in 1896 in Athens, the games attracted about 245 athletes to participate in 43 events. At the Sydney 2000 Games, more than 10,000 athletes took part in 300 events.

The Olympic Movement has survived wars, boycotts and terrorism to become a symbol of the ability of the people of all nations to come together in peace and friendship. And in 2004, the games return to their birthplace.

The Greek Government has made tremendous progress in recent months to improve the security infrastructure for the upcoming games and wish them the best as they prepare for the challenge of hosting the world's premiere athletic event.

I represent a large and active Greek-American community, and I have been proud to support U.S. participation in negotiations over Cyprus, the fight for freedom and human rights for all Cypriots, the inclusion of Greece in the Visa Waiver Pilot Program, and the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew.

I congratulate the people of Greece on the anniversary of their independence, and I look forward to working together with Greek-Americans and the Greek Government on issues of mutual interest in the years ahead.

HONORING KASEY MILLISKI

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Kasey Milliski upon her nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. Ms. Milliski is a volunteer at the Ronald McDonald House Charities. The Ronald McDonald House provides a "home-away-from-home" for families of children being treated at nearby hospitals, and she has dedicated herself to helping many Delaware families in need.

Ms. Milliski's passion for volunteer work was born out of her own personal hardships. In turn, she continues to reach out to sick children and their families with kindness and compassion. Ms. Milliski's simple approach to helping others is genuine and has a profound impact on many.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Ms. Milliski upon her nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. She is truly worthy of this honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, on March 25, 2004, because of my leave of absence, I was unable to vote on legislation. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall 84, Previous Question on H. Con. Res. 393, "no";

Rollcall 85, H.R. 3786, allowing the Treasury to print documents for foreign governments, "yes";

Rollcall 86, H.R. 2993, Extend the Commemorative Coin Act, "yes";

Rollcall 87, H.R. 254, North American Development Bank, "yes";

Rollcall 88, H. Con. Res. 393, Budget Resolution, Congressional Black Caucus Substitute, "no";

Rollcall 89, H. Con. Res. 393, Stenholm/Blue Dog Substitute, "yes";

Rollcall 90, H. Con. Res. 393, Spratt/Democratic Substitute, "yes";

Rollcall 91, H. Con. Res. 393, H. Con. Res. 393, Final Passage, "no";

Rollcall 92, H.R. 3095, Allowing Local Officials to Order the Lowering of the U.S. Flag to Honor Deaths of Current or Past Local Government Employees, "yes".

HONORING MRS. NANCY O'CONNOR
OF BUENA VISTA, COLORADO

HON. BOB BEAUPREZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman of great spirit and integrity.

Mrs. Nancy O'Connor has been a friend of mine for many years. She has utilized her passion for our democratic system to assist many Republicans like myself by serving on various campaigns. Nancy is one of the most sincere and generous individuals I have had the pleasure of knowing.

In addition to her 20 years of hard work for the good of the Republican Party, Nancy is the wife of Mr. Richard O'Connor and a wonderful mother to Mrs. Roxanne Hansen and Ms. Amber O'Connor. Nancy and Richard moved to Chaffee County, Colorado in 1971 to establish Hummingbird Hill Ranch and have been active community members ever since.

Nancy has also been a respected real estate broker for over 30 years. She has been the recipient of many awards for her dedication, including the recognition as fifth in the nation for sales under United County Real Estate in 2003 and fourth in the nation for 2002. She is also a respected Rotarian, member of the Chaffee County Republican Women and has been the Chairwoman of the Chaffee County Republican Party for 16 years.

Nancy has been a leader for many community service efforts in her community. For 12 years she has given her time and her wonderful talents as a cook to raising money for the Buena Vista High School Presidential Classroom project. She has helped many young men and women in her community to participate in this extraordinary experience by sponsoring the annual lasagna dinner with the Chaffee County Republican Women, and making enough homemade lasagna every year to feed an average of 250 people.

During her two-year term as President of the Buena Vista Rotary Club, in addition to winning the Humanitarian Service to Mankind Award, Nancy also led an effort to restructure the playground at Columbine Park for the kids of Buena Vista. Her efforts raised enough money to buy new equipment and not only add fun for local youth, but improved the community atmosphere as well.

To say the least, Nancy is an extraordinary woman with a very kind heart. She brightens the day of anyone she encounters and is al-

ways willing to offer a helping hand to those in need. To this day, she continues to send homemade cookies to myself and the other Colorado Republican delegation to say thank you for what we do.

Mr. Speaker, I would just like to take this opportunity to say thank you to Nancy for all that she does.

HONORING JIM ELLISON

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Jim Ellison upon his nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. For over 25 years, Mr. Ellison has aided Delawareans who are confronting personal crises. As a volunteer for CONTACT, Delaware's crisis line, Mr. Ellison has logged a state record of 8,553 hours, many of which he accumulated during the 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. shift.

Mr. Ellison's lifetime of service has had no limit. Prior to becoming a volunteer, he worked 29 years as a revenue officer for the Internal Revenue Service. Mr. Ellison also served in the Army Air Corps and from January 1944 until August 1945, Mr. Ellison cleaned machine guns for B-24 bombers.

Jim Ellison's tireless dedication to the well-being of others should serve as an inspiration to us all. He is a most worthy candidate for the Jefferson Award and a truly outstanding Delawarean and American.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Mr. Ellison upon his nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. May we all learn from, and exemplify, his selflessness.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHIE PEREZ

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to pay tribute to the life of Richie Perez—a longtime community activist who lived in Brooklyn.

Richie Perez was a fighter. He fought for the rights of all people, and he fought against the devastating inequities that plague our society. He fought for the poor, the disenfranchised, the downtrodden—and gave them a voice.

His passion for activism began in the 1960s as a former member of the community-based organization for Puerto Rican empowerment called the Young Lords Party. He most recently founded the National Congress for Puerto Rican rights, acting as the co-chair of its Justice Committee, which works with families of victims of racial discrimination and police brutality.

He was a mentor to many and a hero to even more. He imparted his ideas and philosophies onto others by teaching classes on the Puerto Rican experience in New York, mass media and social policy at New York City's Hunter College. Not only was he an activist and a teacher, but he was an author as

well, publishing several groundbreaking written works.

Richie Perez was a truth-seeker. Wherever he went, he spoke the truth, lived by the truth, and inspired the truth in others. He embodied the meaning of righteousness and what is good and real in our local communities. He believed in giving people a second chance, and in fighting back against the injustices that had imperiled them.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richie Perez, and join with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize his extraordinary life.

TRIBUTE TO THE NFA CONVENTION IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA

HON. RIC KELLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. KELLER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the National Franchisee Association (NFA), the association of Burger King franchisees. The NFA will be in Orlando May 3–6, 2004 for its 12th Annual Convention and Tradeshow. I am delighted the NFA has chosen once again to return to Orlando. In fact, this will be the third time the NFA has visited Orlando with nearly 3,500 Burger King franchisees, vendors, and other participants. With its theme parks and attractions, Orlando is one of our Nation's premier vacation and convention destinations—it's clear to see why groups like NFA want to return to Orlando over and over again. The theme of this year's NFA convention, "The Magic of the Fire," is quite apropos as it combines the "Magic" of Orlando and the entrepreneurial "Fire" of the Burger King franchisees.

Two Burger King franchisees, in particular, have been instrumental in bringing the Burger King family to Orlando. They are Julian Josephson and Dominick Vespoli.

Julian Josephson, the Chairman of the NFA, has a story very similar to many of our immigrant ancestors who brought their entrepreneurial spirit to this country seeking a brighter future. Julian moved to the United States from Johannesburg, South Africa in 1978. Since then, he and his business partner Stanley Smiedt, have built a successful business that includes nearly 40 Burger King Restaurants in Southern California, Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado. Julian has not only provided exceptional leadership to the NFA as chairman and vice president, he has served his community through numerous initiatives. Julian has been a dedicated husband and father to his wife Jenny and their children Heidi and Anthony. Julian and Jenny are the proud grandparents of Maya Silberstein.

Dominick Vespoli is the Convention Chairman. Dominick grew up in Jersey City, New Jersey and began working in Burger King restaurants in 1974. He worked in a variety of jobs learning the skills needed to run successful restaurants. In 1990, Dominick became a Burger King franchisee. He, and his business partner Nathan Blau, now own and operate 10 successful Burger King restaurants in New Jersey. Dominick has been a dedicated husband and father to his wife Celenia and their two sons, Jason and James.

The restaurant industry as a whole employs 12 million men and women, a significant driving force for our economy. I commend Julian and Dominick, and their fellow franchise owners, for their contributions to job creation and economic growth. These entrepreneurs are the backbone of our economy. I wish to thank them for their outstanding service to the NFA and their commitment to their communities. I look forward to seeing them both and the other Burger King franchisees when they visit Orlando in May.

HONORING JEFFREY BUSCH

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Jeffrey Busch upon his selection as the Jefferson Award winner in Delaware. Mr. Busch is the founder and chairman of Safe Blood for Africa, an organization dedicated to stemming the tide of HIV and AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa. With true innovative spirit, he has brought a business approach to the logistical problems of getting safe blood to this region. Mr. Busch is not only a commendable American citizen, he is an exemplary citizen of the world.

With the utmost humility, Mr. Busch ensures safe blood for transfusions in 20 sub-Saharan African nations. His organization also protects Africans from the spread of such diseases as hepatitis B and C and syphilis. One would never know to speak to Mr. Busch that he has likely spared thousands of Africans from the dangers of HIV and AIDS.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Jeffrey Busch upon his selection as the Jefferson Award winner in Delaware. His selflessness serves as an example to us all. Furthermore, it has been my sincere privilege to know Mr. Busch personally, and I am very proud to that he is a Delawarean.

RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the American Legion, a noble organization, chartered by Congress in 1919. The American Legion turned 85 this week and its members across our Nation are celebrating this historic event.

I'm proud to report that my home district celebrated this occasion recently at an event hosted by Retired Air Force Colonel Ted Buck of Mt. Vernon. He served 22 years active duty including 30 months during the Vietnam War. He received two Distinguished Flying Crosses, The Vietnamese Gallantry Cross with a Silver Star and the Purple Heart. He was also awarded the Legion of Merit award for his duty as a pilot for Dr. Henry Kissinger on his historic shuttle diplomacy.

I mention Colonel Buck by name because he puts a face on an organization made up of

many heroic men and women who, like Colonel Buck, have put their lives on the line for this Nation. While patriotism and support for our men and women in uniform comes in and out of favor here in Washington, D.C. our Nation is blessed to have an organization that exists to meet the needs of our veterans. I consider myself fortunate to be a member of the American Legion and I'm honored to have the opportunity to wish them a happy 85th birthday. I speak for all of my colleagues in wishing the American Legion many more years to continue their work to insure appropriate respect for the American veteran and their families.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 2004

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 393) establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2005 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2004 and 2006 through 2009:

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Chairman, a few days ago, I reluctantly voted for the budget resolution that was thoroughly debated on the House floor. My reluctance in voting for the budget was based on one main cause, my concern for our nation's veterans. Even though we increased funding in veterans' care once again, I believe there was further room for improvement.

The budget that we passed is a step forward in the areas of deficit reduction and spending control. I am heartened by our efforts to cap some areas of government spending but disappointed that we continue to debate the proper level of veterans' funding. In the past months, there has been great discussion in the funding that these brave individuals who have sacrificed so much for our country will receive from the VA. With that discussion, I believe that we should never lose sight of what these veterans have accomplished and what they have meant to our Nation's freedom.

As this process moves forward, I believe that there are additional areas of the budget that can be curtailed to further supplement our veterans' funding needs. For example, we should continue to scrutinize our massive foreign aid budget for savings that can be returned to the U.S. shores and to the veterans' needs.

In the end, I voted for this budget because we must continue the process and we will have opportunities to improve our veterans' funding. Additionally, to delay this budget means we delay our national defense and our homeland security priorities. To delay this budget risks not having a budget at all and that leaves no barriers to government spending. In a time of war, we can not allow that to happen.

We must all work hard to improve the budget before it comes to conference. I hope that

at that point we will all be able to vote for the budget without reservation and with the confidence that our Nation's veterans have been properly cared for by the government.

HONORING JOANNE GLAUSER

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Joanne Glauser upon her nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. Mrs. Glauser is the co-founder of the Delaware chapter of Shoes That Fit and truly exemplifies the American spirit. After reading an article about children who were too poor to have clothes that fit properly, Joanne decided to take action. Five years later, she was named "top volunteer in the nation" by the executive director of Shoes That Fit.

In only the last 4 years, Mrs. Glauser's chapter has provided over 35,000 items to needy children in Delaware. Her selflessness and dedication have touched the lives of thousands who may otherwise have gone without.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Mrs. Glauser upon her nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. May she continue to serve as an example to us all.

CHILD NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT AND INTEGRITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 24, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, obesity and poor nutritional habits are growing problems in our Nation, particularly among our children and adolescents. Health costs alone will be stratospheric in the near future due to the poor eating habits of our youth.

The very foods children need for good nutrition are often grown in their own communities. Farm to Cafeteria projects across the country link farmers with local schools to serve students the freshest possible foods as part of the National School Lunch Program. When combined with nutrition education, farm visits, and school gardens, children learn to enjoy and even get excited about eating healthy—and at the same time family farmers strengthen their markets and community ties. While Farm to Cafeteria projects have proven cost-effective over time, schools often need assistance to cover the initial staff resources, training, and equipment required for a successful project.

To respond to this need, our colleague RON KIND and I have introduced the bipartisan Farm to Cafeteria Projects Act (H.R. 2626) that is now a part of this bill. The Farm-To-Cafeteria provision establishes a \$10 million competitive grant program to provide schools with up to \$100,000 to cover these costs and garner long-term benefits for children, farmers, and their communities during the term of the reauthorization.

I ask my colleagues to vote for this piece of legislation, to show the country that we care about what our children are eating.

TRIBUTE TO THE NORTHWEST BRONX COMMUNITY AND CLERGY COALITION ON THEIR 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the Northwest Bronx Community and Clergy Coalition as they celebrate their 30th anniversary.

Formed in 1974, the NWBCCC is a 501(c)3 organization with the mission of uniting area residents to identify common problems and empowering them to work together to solve them. The NWBCCC unites nine neighborhood organizations and a youth organization, Sistas and Brothas United, in an effort to improve the neighborhoods of the Bronx. They seek to influence the most important decisions that are made within their community, such as private investment patterns, the delivery of government services and major land use considerations.

This important organization is engaged in several initiatives aimed at improving housing and education. The NWBCCC Housing Committee provides tenant organizing assistance to over 75 tenant associations, resulting in hundreds of repairs and reinvestments to buildings each year. NWBCCC has also worked extensively to reduce overcrowding in schools. In 1999 and 2000 the organization's efforts led to the construction of over six new schools and annexes.

Mr. Speaker, what impresses me the most about this organization is its commitment to youth. Sistas and Brothas United, the youth organization within NWBCCC, has made great strides to help develop the minds of the youth in my community. SBU organizes hundreds of neighborhood youth to build youth leadership in order to identify local problems and work to bring about solutions. SBU's work currently focuses on school reform, campaigns to renovate abandoned buildings to become schools and youth centers, and efforts to improve parks and traffic safety.

In an effort to raise the consciousness of people within their community, some of the members of SBU have begun to compose and perform thought provoking and insightful poetry. The following is a poem that was written by Jorman Nunez and Jacklyn Torres, active members of SBU.

JN: Jacky And I are going to tell ya something from our prospective so listen to our lyrics

JT: Jorman got something to tell yall now, so Jorman let em hear it

JN: Asthma rates have been going up and all I do is gasp and pant

What are they doing to fix this? They're building another filtration plant And what amazes me is in the Bronx they want to do it

Using the excuse of in a couple of years our water's going to be polluted

Trying to take the Bronx down well we don't want to destroy her

Besides . . . the only reason it's going to get polluted is cause they're constantly letting development be done over our water

so they're basically polluting our water and trying to fix it later as a solution

And build a plant to put smoke in there air and cause more pollution

There's something else I want to say ladies and gents

Check this out look at this environmental statement

Planning to build it in our low class area cause the statement say they should

And rejected putting it in another place just cause it was a white upper class neighborhood

We have to do whatever in our power to stop this by all means

Cause I'm tired of seeing all this atrocious disappointing scenes

JT: Attention every one, ladies and gentlemen gather round

The other night I'm writing a poem and my ceiling's fallin down

Now yall must be wondering if my landlord is a clown

Well his name's * * * * *, so how does that sound

Since the landlord don't wanna help with the infestation of rats

I guess the only solution is to buy 10,000 cats And as the funds for us go up, the neighborhood's still in strife

Unfortunately, because of this, a small child lost his life

Even after this, we remain on the same path How many more casualties will we have, you do the math

So until these the problems are solved, don't even think of us relaxin

Cuz I still can't understand why a slumlord lives in a mansion

So I've said what yall need to know until we see better days

But my turn is over so Jorman say what you gotta say

JN: This has been keeping me up and I can't even rest

I just need to get a couple of things off my chest

the Governor is probably annoyed and thinks he's being mistreated

Shouldn't we be angry whenever he says education is vital and doesn't even mean it

Politicians get angry when we get so mad we shiver and shudder

But don't we have a right to be angry when we have books older than my grandmother

Governor I got something to tell you only once there won't be a sequel

We never are going to stop bothering you until all education is equal

Governor when I see you I'm going to be mean with my salutation

You're going to hear all of the angry voices of the minorities that you said only need an 8th grade education

I think you and the position of governor should start doing its separation

Cause the last time I checked governors aren't suppose to gamble with our education

They're suppose to help with problems that come along until they see no

But I guess he just rather be gambling with our future in one of his casinos

But listen I'm done I don't want to waste more of your time

Jacky it's your turn give them a piece of your mind

JT: Soldiers of society trying to keep their eyes on me

In their hands is my education And I blindly search for academic salvation

Though I have no books to read, no chairs to sit in, no room to breathe

And yall say keep your head up Well, to tell you the truth, I'm fed up

Even the Governor says we don't need college

All we need is an eight-grade education? Yeah, that's enough knowledge

Though my sarcasm seems amusing, It's dripping with the truth

Why does the government fail to realize the importance of our youth?
 Governor, I have some things I'd like to say
 But they would be inappropriate
 So Jorman, it's your turn to play
 JN: Jacky ya kind of mad ya need to rest
 At least both of us got that stress off our chest
 So that's just a part of what we know I hope
 this wasn't a loss
 I just want to let ya see a couple of our points get across
 JT: Yo Jorman look at their faces, don't they look kind of stunned?
 JN: And that was just us two imagine all of us as one anniversary
 JT: Man, if they only knew the power they hold in their hearts and in their voices
 JN: Together they have the power to move mountains its all up to there choices
 JT: So Jorman don't you think it's about time they get involved?
 JN: Yeah cause if all of us unite all out problems would be solved
 JT: Yeah, we should follow the examples of Rosa Parks, Malcolm X, and Dr. King
 JN: Cause they all fought for what they believed in and now they're letting freedom ring
 JN & JT: You have power in a lot of things, don't listen to all their lies
 Cuz no one can ever take away your right to organize

This powerful poem demonstrates the level of awareness these youth possess and their strong commitment to empowering their community.

Mr. Speaker, through housing and education initiatives as well as youth empowerment programs the NWBCCC continues to provide invaluable service to the people of the Bronx. For their 30 years of service, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this remarkable organization.

HONORING MEGHAN PASRICHA

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 29, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Meghan Pasricha upon her nomination as a Jefferson Award finalist. Ms. Pasricha is founder of the successful Anti-Tobacco Action Club at Sanford School in Hockessin, Delaware. As a 10th grader, Meghan started her organization with 12 members and a goal: raising teenage awareness of tobacco-related health hazards.

Her hard work has paid off and today Meghan is the State chairwoman of the Kick Butts Generation, an anti-tobacco organization with over 4,000 local members. Ms. Pasricha's dedication to educating people about the dangers of tobacco is limitless. She recently gave a presentation at the World Conference on Tobacco in Heis, Finland, and has reached out to groups of children in places as far away as Mhau, India.

Mr. Speaker, I commend and congratulate Ms. Pasricha upon her nomination as a finalist for the Jefferson Award. Her determination and drive to educate and empower others serves as an example to us all. She is truly worthy of this honor.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 30, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 31

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stephen L. Johnson, of Maryland, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ann R. Klee, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator, Charles Johnson, of Utah, to be Chief Financial Officer, Benjamin Grumbles, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator, all of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Gary Lee Visscher, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

SD-406

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul V. Applegarth, of Connecticut, to be Chief Executive Officer, Millennium Challenge Corporation, Department of State.

SD-419

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005, focusing on active and Reserve military and civilian personnel programs.

SR-232A

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To resume hearings to examine the current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry focusing on soft-dollar practices.

SD-538

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold a closed hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for intelligence and world wide threat assessment.

S-407, Capitol

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management, Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Manage-

ment, and Office of Environment, Safety and Health.

SD-138

1:30 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in meeting the nation's water resource needs in the 21st century.

SD-406

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Senate Sergeant at Arms and the United States Capitol Police.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To continue hearings to examine the current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry focusing on fund costs and distribution practices.

SD-538

Foreign Relations

European Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the effects of the Madrid Terrorist Attacks on U.S. European cooperation in the war on terrorism.

SD-419

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention programs.

SD-124

Intelligence

Closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

APRIL 1

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Clean Air, Climate Change, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the implementation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate matter and ozone.

SD-406

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the proposed Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2005, focusing on the military strategy and operational requirements of the unified and regional commands; to be followed by a possible closed session in SR-222.

SD-106

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and Protocol to Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Aircraft Equipment, concluded at Cape Town, South Africa, on November 16, 2001 (Treaty Doc. 108-10), Additional Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Romania Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment of May 28, 1992, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-13), Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Republic of Bulgaria Amending the Treaty Between the

United States of America and the Republic of Bulgaria Concerning the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of September 23, 1992, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-15), Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Estonia to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of April 19, 1994, signed at Brussels on October 24, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-17), Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Czech Republic to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment of October 22, 1991, signed at Brussels on December 10, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-18), Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Slovak Republic to the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic Concerning the Reciprocal Encouragement and Protection of Investment of October 22, 1991, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-19), Additional Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Latvia to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of January 13, 1995, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-20), Additional Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania to the Treaty for the Encouragement and Reciprocal Protection of Investment of January 14, 1998, signed at Brussels on September 22, 2003 (Treaty Doc. 108-21), and Additional Protocol Between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland Concerning Business and Economic Relations of March 21, 1990, signed at Brussels on January 12, 2004 (Treaty Doc. 108-22).

SD-419

Appropriations

Interior Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-124

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-226

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the National Institutes of Health.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Transportation Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine future challenges facing the United States Postal Service.

SD-138

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-628

1:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for programs under its jurisdiction.

SD-192

2 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to mark up the proposed Federal Housing Enterprise Regulatory Reform Act of 2004.

SD-538

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

Immigration, Border Security and Citizenship Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine securing our borders under a temporary guest worker program.

SD-226

Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the proposed Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2005, focusing on military installation programs.

SR-232A

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine NASA fiscal year 2005 budget request.

SR-253

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert N. Davis, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, and Pamela M. Iovino, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Congressional Affairs.

SR-418

APRIL 2

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the proposed Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2005, focusing on the Department of Defense Counternarcotics Program; to be followed by a closed session in SR-232A.

SR-222

APRIL 7

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-485

APRIL 8

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

European Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine anti-Semitism.

SD-419

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for foreign operations.

SD-138

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine National Park Service concessions program, including implementation of the National Park Service Concessions Management Improvement Act (Public Law 105-391).

SD-366

APRIL 21

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Foreign Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for foreign assistance and to combat international terrorism.

SD-124

APRIL 27

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine sustainable, low emission, electricity generation.

SD-366

MAY 11

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the impacts and costs of last year's fires, focusing on the problems faced last year and what problems agencies and the land they oversee may face next season, including aerial fire fighting assets and crew, and overhead availability.

SD-366

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.

345 CHOB

CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 31

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider pending nominations.

SD-430

POSTPONEMENTS

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of William Duane Benton, of Missouri, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit, Robert Bryan Harwell, to be United States District Judge for the District of South Carolina, and George P. Schiavelli, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

SD-226