

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MR. DENNIS WELLER

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Mr. Dennis Weller. Mr. Weller was awarded the Contractor of the Year Award by the Associated Builders and Contractors on February 26, 2004. This award is given annually to an individual who has demonstrated significant accomplishment for Associated Builders and Contractors, the merit shop, and the construction industry.

Mr. Weller is president and chief executive officer of Structural Associates, Inc. in East Syracuse, New York. In addition, he has held numerous leadership positions with Associated Builders and Contractors, including vice chairman on the national executive committee and chairman of the chapter development committee.

Kirk Pickerel, Associated Builders and Contractors president and CEO, said of Weller, "He and his firm have pursued a free enterprise, merit shop approach to construction in a State and region that has long been dominated by those who oppose such concepts." Mr. Weller is a source of pride to our community and should be commended for his hard work and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO ELDER ELLIS SMITH, JR.

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize a respected member of my district, Elder Ellis Smith, Jr., as he and his congregation celebrate the dedication of their church on April 4, 2004. Elder Smith celebrates this event with his beloved wife, First Lady Elresia Smith, their three sons, Ellis Tarique III, Ellis Jerod IV, and Terrell, and their daughter, Jullisa.

Elder Smith was born in Newark in 1961, which makes him my neighbor for almost 43 years and counting. He is a graduate of West Side High School in Newark, Evangelical Bible Institute in Parsippany, and he attended Upsala College in East Orange.

Elder Smith formed Siloah Church in 1997 and had the first services at his kitchen table at his Parsippany residence. Sunday afternoon services were held for a brief period at Rouzeu's Manor in Orange. The Smith family eventually converted the family room of their residence into a Sanctuary, where Sunday morning services and Bible study continued until they acquired a site in East Orange in early 2001, changing the ministry's name to The Love of Christ.

From its nascency, assembled around his kitchen table, to its full emergence as The

Love of Christ Ministry, Elder Smith has nurtured this growing gathering of the faithful. As they celebrate and dedicate this special event, I hope that he will be encouraged as he sees the fruits of his labors and will be refreshed to continue his ministry with excitement and vigor.

It is my distinct honor to join with his congregation and our community in offering our encouragement and support as they celebrate the dedication of their church. I hope that this will be a time of great blessing for him and his family.

We are all grateful for his leadership and vision, as well as his community involvement through the Statewide Parent Advocacy Network and the Coalesce Youth Organization.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to Elder Smith for his years of pastoral ministry, and I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing him the strength and grace to continue for many years to come.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH YEAR OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress and friends of Taiwan get ready to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act, I rise to express my continued support for friendship between America and the Republic of China on Taiwan. Despite the regrettable fact that our two nations no longer enjoy formal diplomatic relations, the U.S. and the Republic of China on Taiwan have remained strong allies for the better part of a century.

Much of this strong relationship is based on the Taiwan Relations Act, which has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security and stability in the Taiwan Strait and the Western Pacific since its enactment in 1979. Over the last quarter century, the Republic of China on Taiwan has built a strong economy and a healthy, vibrant and fully functioning multiparty democracy, conducting free elections at all levels, including the recent and razor-thin reelection of incumbent President Chen Shui-Bian.

The 1979 Taiwan Relations Act viewed Taiwan's membership in international organizations as conducive to Taiwan's stability and economic prosperity. Over the years, the U.S. has continued to support the participation of Taiwan in international affairs, its accession to the World Trade Organization and the ROC's ongoing efforts to become an observer in the World Health Organization. I believe Taiwan's active participation and contributions to these and all international organizations will be beneficial not just to the people of Taiwan but to the international community at large.

Mr. Speaker, the last 25 years under the framework of the TRA have been positive for

both the Republic of China on Taiwan and the United States. The Taiwan Relations Act has helped to maintain stability and security for the people of the United States, the people of Taiwan and for those in neighboring countries.

Maintaining and enhancing the close strategic, commercial and military cooperation between the United States and the Republic of China on Taiwan have been of critical importance for the last 25 years and will remain so in the future, in large part thanks to the TRA.

CHINA AND WTO RULES

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, there is a problem that Congress needs to pay attention to in terms of the dramatic increase in the price of scrap steel. It is hurting manufacturing in Michigan and around our country. China is bidding up the price and hoarding steel. If China won't conduct business and comply with WTO rules, then we need to consider drastic action, such as cutting off imports coming from China. If the shelves of some of our discount stores go bare, buy American.

TRIBUTE TO THE JAMESVILLE-DEWITT BOYS' VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Jamesville-Dewitt boys' varsity basketball team. The team went undefeated this season with 29 wins and no losses or ties. The team rose to become class A State federation champions, defeating St. Joseph's of Buffalo in overtime by a score of 78 to 73. The team's 29 wins were the most recorded by any team in section three history.

There were six outstanding players who made big plays to bring their team to victory in the final game of the season. Senior co-captain Jeremy Black led the squad with 20 points and was 6 of 8 from behind the three-point line. Junior Andy Rautins, the tournament MVP, finished with 18 points and six assists. Junior Ari Greenberg also scored 18 points; and senior Reggie Flynn scored 8 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and had five assists. Jamesville-Dewitt's coach, Bob McKenney said of the team, "I've never had a group with a will to win like these guys."

The team includes Brian Becker, Jeremy Black, Zach Bratek, Corey Chavers, Andrew Cottet, Zachary Drescher, Reggie Flynn, Aaron Greenberg, Manuel Karam, Tim Palma, Andy Rautins, John Romano, Justin Stern, Spencer Traino, Micke Triche, and Chris

• 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.

Vieau. They are coached by Bob McKenney along with assistant coaches Lisa McKenney and Charlie Falgiatano. These boys are a source of pride to our community and should be commended for their hard work and dedication.

CELEBRATING GREECE'S 183RD
INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, as a long time supporter and member of the Hellenic Caucus, I would like to recognize and congratulate the people of Greece on their Independence Day, which they celebrated last week. 183 years ago, the Greek people won their freedom and independence from the Ottoman Empire. This is a great event, not only for Greece, but for all countries because it represents and reaffirms our belief in self-determination and democracy.

Our nation is built on the principles of the ancient Greek philosophers. Our founding fathers looked to Greek political and philosophical ideals while forming our nation. Years later, we were able to return the favor when the United States independence movement helped fuel the strength of the Greek people in seeking their own sovereignty from a foreign empire.

I am also proud to say that the Greek community is especially prominent in New York State. We have the largest Greek Community in the U.S. and we are home to the Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

I am honored to join my colleagues in celebration of this significant achievement in history and to congratulate the Greek people on their independence day.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY SPECIALIST
ADAM FROEHLICH

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Army Specialist Adam Froehlich who was killed while serving our country in Baqubah, Iraq on March 25, 2004. He was a member of 2nd Platoon, Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery, a part of the 1st Infantry Division and stationed in Bamberg, Germany.

Specialist Froehlich was a true patriot who, deeply moved by the attacks of September 11th, joined the Army after graduating from Overbrook High School in Pine Hill, New Jersey. At Overbrook High School he was a varsity wrestler. After fulfilling his commitment to the Army, Specialist Froehlich planned to use the GI bill to attend college and become a gym teacher.

Specialist Froehlich's love of his country predated his enlistment in the Army. His decision to serve his country was a natural path

for him to take. Even at his young age, he understood the connection between the freedom that we all enjoy and the historical sacrifices of those in uniform.

Specialist Froehlich is survived by his parents Stephen and Rosemarie, his brothers Steve and Jeff, his sister April and his grandfather John, all of South Jersey. He will be laid to rest with full military honors on Saturday April 3, 2004 in Berlin, New Jersey.

I extend my deepest sympathy to the Froehlich family and express my immense gratitude for the heroic service of Specialist Adam Froehlich.

TRIBUTE TO CURTIS WILLIAMS,
SR.

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, a few days ago, Curtis Williams, a great and patriotic American, passed away in Lenoir City, Tennessee.

Mr. Williams, or Curtis to almost everyone, was a City Councilman in Lenoir City and a former member of the Loudon County Commission. He served on many boards and committees and worked with numerous civic and charitable organizations. He loved people and obviously wanted to help as many as he could.

Curtis was not rich or famous, but much more importantly, he was a kind and good man. He loved his family first and his community and his Country next, and this shone through in everything he said and did.

This Nation is a better place today because of the life Curtis Williams led, and I want to commend and praise the work he did.

I want to also call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD the article about Curtis that was published by the Knoxville News Sentinel.

[From the Knoxville News Sentinel, Mar. 31, 2004]

COUNCILMAN'S DEATH LEAVES BIG HOLE IN LC
COMMUNITY

(By Ann Hinch)

Monday's presentation of a \$215,000 FEMA grant at Lenoir City Fire Station No. 1 promises all the hallmarks of an event Curtis Williams Sr. would've loved: his little city and his firefighters benefiting from much-needed federal funds, politics and old friends.

Sadly, the famously cheerful councilman will attend the April 5 presentation only in memory. Williams, 77, died of congestive heart failure at midnight March 15.

He'd been absent from most of the semi-monthly council meetings in the months preceding his death, wanting to attend but ultimately too ill and tired to do so. He would have especially enjoyed Monday's event, as he was also the city's fire commissioner and helped snag the FEMA grant.

"He'd get ready to come to the meetings, but at the last minute, he'd just be too tired," daughter Debbie Cook explained.

Cook, one of Williams' and wife Tiajaunia "Ty's" three children, said her father's doctor told the family in January that Williams didn't have long to live. In typical fashion,

rather than mourn his mortality, she said her father asked frankly about funeral plans, regaled with old stories and made the most of time with family during his last weeks.

"I remember telling him that last weekend, how when I was growing up I remember him always helping the 'little man,' " Cook recalled, adding with a laugh, "and he answered, 'Well, I was the little man!'"

"He saw himself as a true public servant. If someone called him asking for help to get a job, or a place to live, or food, he'd help them as much as he could."

Williams served on the city council from 1997 until his death, but was hardly a political neophyte. He spent 11 years on the Loudon County Commission until a heart attack forced him to leave in 1980 and also retire from his job as assistant plant manager with the local Charles H. Bacon Co. textile plant.

Taking a break from political office didn't mean a break in politics. An avid Democrat all his life, Williams volunteered for at least six boards, not including the committees he chaired and served on during his 18 years of elected office. And he even counted the occasional Republican among his political comrades, including Rep. JOHN J. DUNCAN Jr., and his father, the late Rep. John J. Duncan.

"It seemed almost every time me or my dad came to Loudon County, we would see him," recalled Duncan, whose father began campaigning for office there while the younger Duncan was in high school. "He was a real strong supporter of both of us."

"I think that he set a good example for anyone in public office. He had a heart for service and liked to help people."

Duncan will make the grant presentation. Loudon County Attorney Harvey Sproul was county mayor while Williams served on the commission. He recalls the projects they worked on to modernize the county, including being one of the first Tennessee counties to institute planning and zoning in 1972.

"He was supportive of trying to get things done and trying to establish a foundation for future county growth," Sproul said. "He was almost unequaled in public service; he served on so many boards, and was very progressive."

Duncan had the most contact with Williams through veterans' organizations. Williams was proud of his three-year tour of duty in the Navy during World War II; Cook said Williams was proud to serve his country, to the point of having his legal guardians (he and his siblings were orphaned young and lived with relatives) help him lie about his age at 17 so he could join the Navy in 1943.

"They didn't ask for anything (age proof) back then," Cook said. "They just said, 'Do you want to fight?'" Williams helped storm the beach at Normandy on D-Day and was a gunner in the Pacific.

After the war, Williams returned to his job at Bacon, where he'd worked since he was a boy; he would work there 36 years. He married his childhood sweetheart, earned his GED, and attended classes at the University of Tennessee not toward a degree, but simply to learn more. Two of his three children—Cook and Curtis Williams Jr.—followed him into local politics (daughter Bernita Gamble did not). He left behind a large family, including seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

He also left a hole on the city council, where his term would have ended next April. Mayor Matt Brookshire, who is now responsible for appointing the position, said, "His presence here was missed for a long time, and he'll continue to be missed. He did enjoy (his work)."

IN HONOR OF MATTIE RHODES
CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF
SERVICE IN 2004

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an agency that has supported Kansas City area children, families and communities for 110 years. The Mattie Rhodes Center provides social services, mental health counseling and provides emerging artists a venue for their work.

The center is named for Mattie Rhodes, a young woman who worked for the less fortunate with a group of Sunday school friends call the Little Gleaners. In 1890, at the age of 19 she died of typhoid fever. Mattie left \$500 to be used for the benefit of children. The Little Gleaners honored her wish and founded the Mattie Rhodes Memorial Society in 1894 with this pledge: "I promise to do all I can to help the needy and suffering by working for them, learning about them, giving for them, and trying to interest others in them."

That pledge made 110 years ago remains a reality today. The mission of the Mattie Rhodes Center is to "strengthen children, families and community by providing social services, mental health counseling and art experiences in a bilingual, culturally sensitive environment." Mattie Rhodes offers services such as individual and family counseling, Hispanic mental health programs, job readiness and placement and educational experiences for children. More than 650 individuals and families access family services each year through the Mattie Rhodes Center. The majority are of Mexican descent and are recent immigrants who speak little or no English. Each year more than 1,700 children benefit from mentoring programs, youth support groups and arts education geared to youth from the suburbs and Kansas City's urban core. The Mattie Rhodes Art Center continues to be a place where children can have fun, learn about, appreciate and create art. In 1999, the Mattie Rhodes Center reached out to Hispanic artists and art patrons by establishing the Mattie Rhodes Art Gallery. It provides a unique experience for Latino artists to display their work, and for the community to view and appreciate. The exhibits educate children and the public about the importance of Latino arts in the West Side community and the greater metropolitan area.

Area daycare centers, elementary and high schools, community organizations and individuals constitute the broad based sector reached by Mattie Rhodes Center programs. These groups include Garcia School, McCoy School, Northeast High School, Rose Brooks Domestic Violence Shelter, Hand-In-Hand and the Missouri Division of Family Services, Hispanic artists and patrons.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the Mattie Rhodes Center in Kansas City, Missouri for its 110 years of outstanding service. I congratulate this excellent organization in conjunction with The Mattie Rhodes Art of the Mask Auction on April 3, 2004. The auction has grown from a children's art center project into a community celebration. This year's auction will be the twelfth in Mattie Rhodes Center's history. I am proud to have contributed by creating a clay mask for the event.

Ms. Mattie Rhodes would have been proud of these accomplishments. Eleven decades after her wish, the Mattie Rhodes Center continues to care for those less fortunate by providing programs that help children and families become more self reliant, confident, creative and productive members of their communities. From the humble beginnings of a committed young girl's dying wish to her name sake agency that now serves thousands of Kansas Citians, the Mattie Rhodes Center is keeping her promise alive and making a dramatic difference in the lives of the less fortunate.

REIMBURSING MEMBERS OF
UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES
FOR CERTAIN TRANSPORTATION
EXPENSES

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 30, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Senate bill 2057, a bill to reimburse members of the Armed Forces for certain travel expenses incurred while on leave before the Central Command Rest and Recuperation Leave Program was expanded to include domestic travel.

This bill, which recently passed the Senate, directs the Secretary of Defense to reimburse members of the Armed Forces for transportation expenses for up to one domestic round trip that was taken between September 25 and December 18, 2003.

Mr. Speaker, the past few years have been a difficult and strenuous time for the brave and dedicated men and women of our Armed Forces. Our soldiers are tasked in missions across the globe, from Iraq and Afghanistan to South Korea and the Philippines. Many of these missions involve combat or other extreme hardships.

In addition to being kept apart for months at a time, military families have to cope with rising health care costs and uncertainties about the future. Deployment orders for reservists and the National Guard are increasing, and stop-loss measures have been put in place for enlisted personnel who thought they were on the verge of going home. Tens of thousands of military families lack adequate housing and affordable medical care, and Democratic efforts to increase family separation and danger pay have been defeated by Republicans in this body.

Each deployment period, soldiers only receive a brief period of leave to reunite with their families and enjoy respite from the hazards of serving abroad. That soldiers, in some instances, should have had to pay for their own transportation costs while on leave is most unfortunate.

Mr. Speaker, it is reasonable for Congress to demonstrate its gratitude to the men and women of the Armed Forces by ensuring that they do not have to pay out of pocket for travel expenses incurred while transitioning from the difficulties of deployment to the welcoming arms of their families at home.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

BACK OUR VETERANS HEALTH

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, since the creation of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) health system, the Nation's doctors of chiropractic (DCs) have been kept outside the system and all but prevented from providing proven, cost-effective and much-needed care to veterans, including those among the most vulnerable and in need of the range of health care services DCs are licensed to provide. In 2002, 4.5 million patients received care in DVA health facilities, including 75 percent of all disabled and low-income veterans. Although the DVA health care budget is roughly \$26 billion, in 2002, less than \$370,000 went toward chiropractic services for veterans.

I am proud to introduce legislation—H.R. 4051, the Better Access to Chiropractors to Keep Our Veterans Healthy Act (BACK Our Veterans Health Act)—that is designed to provide veterans with direct access to a doctor of chiropractic, if that is their choice, through the veterans health care system. In developing this bill, I have worked closely with chiropractic patients, particularly our veterans, who know the benefits of chiropractic care and bear witness to the positive outcomes and preventative health benefits of chiropractic care. I was also pleased to work with the American Chiropractic Association (ACA), the Nation's largest chiropractic organization and the national voice of doctors of chiropractic and their patients. I am told by the ACA that there are more than 60,000 doctors of chiropractic and in excess of 25 million chiropractic patients across America.

Specifically, my bill seeks to amend title 38 of the United States Code to permit eligible veterans to have direct access to chiropractic care at Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals and clinics. Section 3 of the measure states that "The Secretary [of Veterans Affairs] shall permit eligible veterans to receive needed [health care] services, rehabilitative services, and preventative health services from a licensed doctor of chiropractic on a direct access basis at the election of the eligible veteran, if such services are within the State scope of practice of such doctor of chiropractic." The measure goes on to directly prohibit discrimination among licensed health care providers by the DVA when determining which services a patient needs.

Over the years, Mr. Speaker, representatives of the Department of Veterans Affairs have come before the House Veterans Affairs Committee, a panel on which I serve, and have insisted that chiropractic benefits are available to veterans and that no bias exists within the DVA against the chiropractic profession. But the facts I cited above speak otherwise. For all practical purposes, access to chiropractic care has been nonexistent within the DVA system. Chiropractic care has so seldom been offered to veterans that it can be fairly said to be a phantom benefit—and for years, Mr. Speaker, the DVA has done nothing to correct this deficiency. There is simply no evidence that the DVA has ever acted proactively in any meaningful and substantive way to ensure that chiropractic care is made available to veterans—and because of that

track record of neglect that the U.S. Congress felt compelled to take action. And as a result, Congress in recent years has enacted three separate statutes seeking to ensure veterans access to chiropractic care—Public Law 106–117, Public Law 107–135 and Public Law 108–170. The last of those statutes gives explicit authority to the DVA to hire doctors of chiropractic as full-time employees. I'm proud to have worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to help advance those initiatives—and I am hopeful that a reluctant DVA has finally seen the light.

I understand that the VA Secretary Principi has just released some new policy directives regarding chiropractic care and that, at last, we may be on our way to seeing the true and full integration of chiropractic care into the DVA. But Mr. Speaker, if the past is any guide to the future, then I must remain concerned until I see these new policies firmly in place and working well in all DVA treatment facilities. To help ensure that in the future, barriers to veterans who want and need chiropractic care are fully removed, I am pleased to introduce legislation that would require the DVA to make chiropractic care available on a direct access basis to our veterans. If the previous legislation had actually been implemented, my legislation would not be necessary—because referrals to doctors of chiropractic would actually be taking place with the encouragement and support of the DVA leadership. I hope this is what happens under Secretary Principi's new guidance—but as insurance, Mr. Speaker, in case the Department loses their newfound enlightenment somewhere along the way—perhaps under a less supportive Secretary—then the enactment of the legislation I propose would guarantee the right of a veteran to obtain this important service without the cost and stumbling blocks of going through potentially hostile gatekeepers. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting unimpeded access to chiropractic care throughout the veterans health care system and help enact this measure.

HONORING LEW AND SUSAN
MANILOW

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Susan and Lew Manilow of Chicago on their recent 30th wedding anniversary.

Both Susan and Lew have been active members of the community and continue to support the many causes important to them.

Lew is a retired attorney who has wide interests in the arts, public policy and business. He grew up in Chicago and has lived there all his life, where his passion for theater continues to grow.

Lew has served as the former chair of the United States Advisory Committee on Public Diplomacy and was a key member of the Democratic Leadership Council. He is a long-time member of the board of directors of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs and was the founding chair of its Middle East Committee.

In addition, Lew is a founding trustee and former president of the Goodman Theatre and

leading advocate for the North Loop Theatre District. In addition, he is on the board of trustees for both the Museum of Contemporary Art and The Art Institute. Lew's generosity and devotion to the fine arts earned him the prestigious distinction of being one of 24 recipients of the National Medal of Arts and Humanities awarded by President Clinton in December 2000.

Dr. Susan Manilow, also actively involved in our community, has been a chairman of both the Mount Sinai Health System and the Chicago Health Policy Research Center. She is currently a chairman for the Foster A. McGaw Prize Committee, which recognizes health care organizations that are committed to community service, and to improving and expanding care.

Family has also always been a priority in Lew and Susan's life. Her two children, Edwin and John Eisendrath, are the proud parents of six grandchildren. His children, David, Karin, and John, are parents to seven grandchildren, with one more on the way.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the fifth district and entire Chicago community in congratulating my friends Lew and Susan Manilow on their 30th anniversary, and wish them, and their extended family, all the happiness in the future.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE
OF ANTONIA HERNÁNDEZ

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, today, my colleagues Mr. ANÍBAL ACEVEDO-VILÁ, Mr. JOE BACA, Mr. XAVIER BECERRA, Mr. DENNIS CARDOZA, Mr. CHARLIE GONZALEZ, Mr. RAÚL GRIJALVA, Mr. LUIS GUTIERREZ, Mr. RUBÉN HINOJOSA, Mr. ROBERT MENENDEZ, Ms. GRACE NAPOLITANO, Mr. SOLOMON ORTIZ, Mr. ED PASTOR, Mr. SILVESTRE REYES, Mr. CIRO RODRIGUEZ, Ms. LINDA SÁNCHEZ, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ, Mr. JOSÉ SERRANO, Ms. HILDA SOILS, Mr. NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ and I join together to honor the career of Antonia Hernández as President and General Counsel of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF), a nationally recognized non-profit organization. Through the legal system, community education, research and advocacy MALDEF is dedicated to protecting the civil rights of the nation's 40 million Latinos. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Hernández on her 23 years of distinguished service at MALDEF and to thank her for her tireless advocacy on behalf of the Latino community in this country.

In so many ways, Antonia Hernández is a role model for all Americans. Born in Mexico, she and her family moved to the United States when she was only 8 years old. They settled in the Maravilla area of East Los Angeles where her father supported his wife and six children as a gardener and laborer. As the eldest child, Antonia Hernández learned English quickly and excelled in school. She would later go on to attend UCLA where she received her bachelor's degree, teaching certificate and, in 1974, her law degree.

Soon after passing the California State Bar exam, Antonia Hernández became a U.S. citizen. She later told a Los Angeles Times re-

porter that her patriotism to this country helped to inspire her interest in public service. "I love (this country) more than most because I don't take the rights and privileges of an American citizen for granted. I remembered there was a knot in my throat when I took the oath (of citizenship)," The Los Angeles Times reported in 1985.

An expert in civil rights and immigration issues, she began her legal career as a Staff Attorney with the Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice and worked as counsel to the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary under the leadership of Senator EDWARD KENNEDY. In 1981, Ms. Hernández joined MALDEF as Regional Counsel in Washington, DC. Ms. Hernández was elected to MALDEF's presidency in 1985 where she was responsible for directing all litigation and advocacy programs, managing a \$6.2 million annual budget, and supervising a 75 person staff.

Ms. Hernández's management expertise guided the organization to long-term financial stability. In 1991, she created a permanent endowment for MALDEF by raising funds for the national headquarters building in Los Angeles. She has been pivotal in overseeing the national expansion of the organization, which today has offices in Chicago, Houston, Sacramento, Washington DC, San Antonio, and Atlanta. Most recently, Ms. Hernández directed the opening of the Atlanta office in 2002, to serve the burgeoning Latino population in the Southeast.

A tireless champion for educational equity, Ms. Hernández has numerous accomplishments in this area. She led MALDEF's legal challenge to the state of Texas in Edgewood Ind. Sch. Dist. v. Kirby to counter the economic and racial disparities used in financing Texas public schools. This legal battle, which began in 1984, ended successfully in 1995 when the Texas Supreme Court held that the Texas legislature had the authority to require wealthier school districts to share their funding with poorer districts, in turn creating an educational system that provides greater opportunities for all Texas children.

In California, MALDEF successfully challenged a similar school financing system in *Godinez v. Davis*. The state had a system that short-changed urban schools while providing more money to suburban areas. This case resulted in the award of hundreds of millions of dollars for urban area schools, many with a significant number of Latino students.

Antonia Hernández fought for the rights of limited-English proficient students by mounting a case against the Denver School District in 1984 for their lack of programs to educate non-English speakers. As a result of their legal victories, MALDEF won the creation of noted bilingual and multicultural programs for the Latino students of Denver.

Antonia Hernández also won key victories for Latino students by expanding their access to higher education. In 1993, MALDEF was victorious in *LULAC v. Richards*, where the Texas Supreme Court ruled that the lack of higher education programs in the predominantly Latino area of South Texas violated the state constitution.

Under Ms. Hernández's leadership, MALDEF helped to secure the right for undocumented students in California to attend state universities. In 2001, MALDEF developed a successful grassroots campaign in support of legislation that allows undocumented students in California to enroll at any

publicly financed California university for the same cost as other state residents. To further this effort nationwide, in 2003, she established the Ellen and Federico Jimenez Scholarship Fund for undocumented students who are ineligible for state or federal financial school assistance. This scholarship makes the critical difference in the lives of students who would otherwise be unable to afford the cost of a higher education.

As a mother of three children, Antonia Hernández also realizes the tremendous influence parents have in lives of their children. That's why, under her leadership, MALDEF graduated thousands of parent leaders from its Parent School Partnership (PSP) program, which instructs parents on how to become involved in their children's education.

In the area of employment, Antonia Hernández has provided opportunities for Latinos by mounting legal battles for fair hiring practices. Her work on the landmark legal case of *Ballasteros v. Lucky* forced the food service industries to allow Latinos to work in every major grocery chain in California. The victory resulted in the hiring of Latinos in several hundred retail stores.

Antonia Hernández has been a tenacious defender of immigration reform. Working with Congress and state governments, she has been a devoted advocate on behalf of fair and just immigration reform. Most notably, in 1985, MALDEF successfully halted the implementation of California's Proposition 187, which would have barred immigrants from receiving public education, medical services, and other public benefits.

Underlying all of MALDEF's efforts is a steadfast commitment to political empowerment in the Latino community. With this in mind, under Antonia Hernández's leadership, MALDEF has vigorously defended the Voting Rights Act of 1965. In 1982, she helped to create a new section of the Act that explicitly outlaws discriminatory election practices. She also championed a bilingual provision to protect limited-English proficient voters. In order to ensure a strong political voice for Latinos throughout the country, MALDEF led nationwide census outreach campaigns in 1990 and 2000. Over the years, MALDEF has won many Latino-majority voting districts, one of which resulted in the first Latino seat in 100 years in Los Angeles County (1990 Garza v. County of L.A.) and another which created the state of Illinois' first Latino Congressional district as a remedy for past discrimination in the Chicago area (1995 King v. Illinois State Board of Elections).

Antonia Hernández has worked to ensure that Latinos receive their fair share of public services, including access to medical insurance, language translation for public services, and fair and equitable treatment in land-use decisions. Just one example is the 2001 case in which MALDEF won a case against the City of Poth, a South Texas town that finally agreed to pave the streets in its Latino neighborhoods.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Hernández is a visionary. Through her work at MALDEF, her service to the Latino community has truly improved lives and helped to carry out the organization's unwavering mission to remove obstacles that prevent the Latino community from realizing its dreams. We thank her for her many years of public service and we are grateful that she will continue her work in the community as she

moves on to serve as President and CEO of the California Community Foundation. Her courage, compassion, and, above all, her dedication to helping others have made a difference at MALDEF and in the Latino community. We trust that this is indeed not an end to her work in public service, but a new beginning to even greater victories ahead.

USES AND MISUSES OF INTELLIGENCE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, in just over 3 years the United States has faced two acute intelligence failures. The first was the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The second can be found in the arguments made to go to war in Iraq. Weapons of mass destruction have not been found. Anti-American sentiment has been strengthened and spread across the Islamic world. In the aftermath the United States has been saddled with a long-term commitment to pay the rising costs of war and endure the continuing loss of life in Iraq. It is in this context America's hard-won lessons from its past covert activities should be turned to, to guide us in our current endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD a copy of the following speech by Professor Raymond H. Close delivered to the Princeton Middle East Society at Princeton University last month on the uses and misuses of intelligence in the conflict with Iraq.

USES AND MISUSES OF INTELLIGENCE

(By Raymond H. Close)

Today I want to describe to you the details of a few specific situations that took place a number of years ago where intelligence estimates and covert actions were employed, and in some cases deliberately distorted, in a manner calculated to support policy objectives of the U.S. Government that might otherwise not have received the support of the American people and the approval of the world community. From an assessment of those experiences in the past, perhaps we can draw some useful lessons to guide our intelligence officials today in fulfilling their professional obligations more honestly and appropriately.

My own experiences in the twenty years that I spent actually engaged in clandestine operations in the Middle East were entirely in the areas of old-fashioned espionage and so-called covert action—which I define as the effort to achieve specific strategic objectives for the United States through secret intervention in the political processes of another country. As you all know, the term "covert action" can also include the employment of lethal violence in some situations to accomplish objectives that could not otherwise be justified by our own legal system or by humanitarian principles, carried out by methods designed to hide our government's role behind a shield of "plausible denial".

Let me start by telling you about some of my experiences in Lebanon during the years 1952-1958, from which some lessons can still be drawn, I think.

In 1957, I participated in a covert action operation in Lebanon, explicitly ordered by President Eisenhower, in which it was our objective to keep a government in power that was committed to the open and enthusiastic support of American policy objectives

in the region, but was under assault by internal elements determined that their country should adopt a more independent stance. We were initially successful, but our crude manipulation of the democratic process during Lebanon's 1957 parliamentary elections contributed directly to a civil war that was ended only on the landing of a large U.S. Marine and Army military force one year later. To justify that armed intervention, we deliberately and knowingly provided false intelligence to the United Nations purporting to prove that our forces had responded to indirect aggression against the freely elected government by forces inspired and supported by international communism. This was pure fabrication. By the autumn of 1958, following our military intervention, the government that we had supported by our covert action had been replaced by a regime composed primarily of individuals who had been leaders of the political opposition, but who were not by any objective standard enemies of the United States. The supreme irony, I always thought, was that shortly thereafter Barry Goldwater wrote a book in which he extolled the glorious success of our ill-advised and ultimately counterproductive covert action operation in Lebanon. Goldwater recorded that, in a triumphant demonstration of how to employ U.S. power in the cause of freedom, a communist regime had been overthrown in Lebanon and replaced by a pro-western government. This breathtaking contradiction of historical fact was an example to me of how effective the big lie can be, and has, particularly in recent months, reminded me to keep an open mind when it comes to assertions of fact by senior American policymakers. A case in point: On February 5th, 2003, just one year ago, Secretary of State Colin Powell, in his now-famous report to the United Nations Security Council, said this: "My colleagues, every statement I make today is backed up by sources, solid sources. These are not assertions. What we're giving you are facts and conclusions based on solid intelligence." Secretary Powell's use of the pronoun "we" in this statement was clearly intended to include CIA Director George Tenet, whose face appeared right over Powell's shoulder throughout the presentation. Tenet's presence could only have been intended to put the CIA's official stamp of approval on everything Powell was reporting—even information that Tenet must have known was highly questionable.

The Bush Administration apparently felt under pressure to strengthen its case for war in Iraq by persistent enhancement of whatever intelligence happened to be available that seemed to support their policy objectives. The details of how that corruption was implemented are much less important, however, than the violation of principles that allowed a preemptive war to be initiated on the basis of evidence that was known by the senior levels of our government to be inconclusive, and even demonstrably false in some cases. This misuse of intelligence will have long-term costs, first among which is that American and world public opinion will, in future crisis situations, be so dubious about the credibility of American intelligence that approval and support of other U.S. military actions overseas may be withheld by the international community even in situations where intervention is urgently called for. Secondly, the personal image of George W. Bush relying on questionable information to make life and death decisions has drastically compromised his credibility and effectiveness as a national and world leader. Finally, the present crisis has revealed flaws in the way various intelligence agencies in Washington evaluate their product, and how honestly and objectively it is packaged and marketed to their customers in a competitive

political arena in which the possession of allegedly "solid" secret information can provide such a formidable advantage.

Another appropriate example, from which valuable lessons can still be derived today, concerns events in Africa in the late summer of 1998, when the Clinton Administration retaliated against terrorist bombings of the American embassies in Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam by launching long-range Tomahawk missiles at targets in Afghanistan and the Sudan. The missile attack on Khartoum, in particular, because it was based on embarrassingly inaccurate intelligence, made subsequent American counter-terrorism strategy much more difficult to implement. At that time, in September 1998, I wrote the following in an op-ed piece published in the Sunday Outlook Section of the Washington Post under the headline: "We Can't Defeat Terrorism with Bombs and Bombast". This is an extract from that article, written exactly three years before 9/11:

"To launch missiles into countries with which we are technically at peace—and to kill their citizens—is to declare that the United States is free to make its own rules for dealing with the international problem of terrorism. What standing will we have in the future to complain about any other country that attacks the territory of its neighbor, citing as justification the need to protect itself from terrorism? Did those who authorized these attacks think through the long-term implications of this short-sighted and dangerous precedent?

"Let's get down to practical realities. The new threat we face is often stateless, without sovereign territory or official sponsorship. Friendly governments around the world—especially those with large Muslim populations such as India, Pakistan, Egypt, Turkey, Jordan, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Gulf states and the new republics of Central Asia—share a common need for internal and regional stability. Terrorism is a weapon that threatens all civil authority. This set of circumstances provides an unprecedented incentive, which is to say a God-given opportunity, to establish new systems and procedures for intergovernmental cooperation, even among states that may differ on other basic issues. But the fight against a silent and hidden common enemy requires infinite patience and tact on the part of law enforcement agencies and intelligence services. It demands absolute secrecy, mutual trust and professional respect. If the United States loses its cool without warning, if it is seen by others as a loose cannon that resorts to sudden violent action on a massive scale, the critically needed cooperation will not be there." Later in the same article I added: "President Clinton and others have labeled all Islamic terrorists as members or 'affiliates' of the 'Osama bin Laden Network of Terrorism.' This is, of course, the common mistake of demonizing one individual as the root of all evil. In fact, elevating bin Laden to that status only gives him a mantle of heroism now and, more ominously, will guarantee him martyrdom if he should die. Informed students of the subject have known for years that although the various militant Islamist movements around the world share a common ideology and many of the same grievances, they are not a monolithic international organization. Our recent attacks, unfortunately, may have inflamed their common zeal and hastened their unification and centralization—while probably adding hosts of new volunteers to their ranks. We are rolling up a big snowball."

I received many complimentary messages after that article appeared in the Washington Post, including one from Robert Bryant, Deputy Director of the FBI, who invited me to lunch and told me that he had in-

structed all his officers who were working on the terrorism target to read it. He particularly appreciated the emphasis that I had put on dealing with terrorism by patient criminal investigation and cooperation with other international law enforcement agencies rather than by what I had dubbed "bombs and bombast". The intelligence indicating that the pharmaceutical factory in Khartoum was producing a precursor of biological weapons was completely incorrect—another case of bad intelligence having been seized upon to justify a violent military initiative that proved to be unjustified and seriously counter-productive. Thomas Pickering was Deputy Secretary of State for Political Affairs at the time. I clearly remember when this distinguished and highly respected statesman, a former U.S. ambassador to Jordan, Israel, India, the Philippines and the United Nations, appeared on national television to explain and defend the Clinton Administration's Tomahawk missile attack on the Sudan, offering confident and positive assurances of the accuracy of U.S. intelligence reports that the Daral-Shifa plant was a critically dangerous installation—putting himself in exactly the same humiliating position that Colin Powell is in today as a result of his similarly inaccurate testimony before the United Nations one year ago.

Finally, I would like to take a look at some important features of the present situation in Iraq, looking again for lessons that should have been drawn from earlier experience, but were ignored. Here I am prepared to go out on a limb with some current intelligence estimates of my own. In other words, I'm ready to make some predictions about the future, based on my own past experiences. I offer these predictions with confidence, but with sincere hopes that they will prove to be wrong.

The United States began its invasion of Iraq operating under a number of seriously flawed expectations that were based on nothing other than bad intelligence, construed by dedicated ideologues to suit their own preconceived misjudgments.

One expectation was that gratitude toward the United States for liberating their country from Saddam's terrible dictatorship would be the determining factor in shaping Iraq's political future, in defiance of overwhelming evidence that their own social and cultural heritage would inevitably take precedence over American dictates. Secondly, the U.S. has maintained a confident expectation that a new government of Iraq would grant the U.S. long-term leases on military bases from which the U.S. could project its power throughout the entire Middle East and Central Asian region for a long time into the future. Another expectation has been that the new Iraqi government will continue in the future to cooperate closely with the United States in the management of its oil and gas resources, even when Iraq's own economic and political needs might be in conflict with American objectives. And fourthly, the Bush Administration leadership (and especially the neo-cons and their allies in Congress) have all confidently expected that Iraq would become a fully cooperative partner in dealing with the Israeli-Palestinian problem, even when U.S. policies are in conflict with Iraqi conceptions of justice. It is as if our intelligence experts have suffered total amnesia when it comes to the historic realities of nationalism in the Arab world.

My prediction is this: Any new political group aspiring to leadership of Iraq must recognize that its popularity and its credibility will depend on the degree to which it can demonstrate its independence (read that as "defiance") of American influence. When this finally becomes apparent, the United States Government will decide to interfere

with the political process to whatever extent, and by whatever means, are necessary to ensure that control of the country remains with acceptably cooperative and compliant Iraqis. I think that such an operation would of necessity be anything but covert, and I'm ready to predict that it will be a messy failure. My conviction that the CIA will be directed to ensure the installation of a compliant new regime in Iraq is based on my experiences in Lebanon and elsewhere, which demonstrated that men who occupy the Oval Office seem inevitably to develop an irrational confidence that by pushing a button they can have their dirty tricks department across the Potomac River in Langley perform a covert action operation to fix the problem—justifying the action as necessary to protect the freedom of the American people and the welfare of all humanity.

In my opinion, the hard reality is that when push comes to shove, the Bush Administration, for all its exalted protestations of virtue and Godliness, is not going to allow a government that defies U.S. policy objectives to take power in Baghdad. High principles will, as I have seen so many times in my own experience, be compromised as necessary to produce results that can be presented as justification for a preemptive war costing thousands of human lives and uncounted billions of dollars. The end result will be that the entire Middle East will be destabilized, while the forces supporting and sustaining terrorism will be injected with new vigor.

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT LAVERN
JOHNSON-REYNOLDS

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with the utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize, pay tribute to, and celebrate the retirement of Sergeant Lavern Johnson-Reynolds. Joining the United States Capitol Police on February 12th, 1979, Sergeant Reynolds served our country honorably for over 25 years. During these 25 years of dedicated service, her duties entailed a variety of assignments, which included the United States Capitol Police's Senate Division, Communications Division, Capitol Division and Criminal Investigations Division. Additionally, Sergeant Lavern Johnson-Reynolds served as an instructor in the Training Academy for 10 years. She earned her promotion to Sergeant in December of 1995.

On a personal note, Laverne married Dr. Gary Reynolds and gave birth to their daughter Destiny Johnson-Reynolds during her tenure on the force.

Mr. Speaker, as family, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate Sergeant Lavern Johnson-Reynolds' many accomplishments, it is with great admiration and pride that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting this exceptional officer whose dedicated service will be sorely missed. She served our country proudly with the United States Capitol Police for over 25 years, training future officers, and protecting this institution, Members of Congress, and staff. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House of Representatives join me in conveying our appreciation for Sergeant Lavern Johnson-Reynolds' dedicated service, and reciprocate the honor she has illustrated through

her dedication, loyalty, and service to our country.

NATIONAL OUTSTANDING YOUNG
FARMERS AWARD

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member would ask his colleagues join in congratulating Brad and Amy Williams of Cedar Bluffs, Nebraska, for being one of the four winners of the 48th Annual National Outstanding Young Farmers Awards presented by the U.S. Junior Chamber (Jaycees) and the John Deere Company. The 2004 awards event marked the 38th year that the John Deere Company sponsored the program, which is administered by The U.S. Junior Chamber (Jaycees), and supported by the Outstanding Farmers of America Fraternity and the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

Brad and Amy Williams both stated that they didn't think they would win. But win, they did. An AP wire article on the Williamses stated, "The Cedar Bluffs couple underestimated themselves and their farming operation. Before the ceremony was over, they were in the spotlight." And, it is a well-deserved spotlight as the couple won the award by farming 2,015 acres of corn, soybeans and hay along with working a 2,700 swine farrow-to-feeder pig operation.

In addition, the Williamses have increased their number of no-tilled acres during the past 16 years. In 2003, they used the no-till method on 65 percent of the 2,015 acres they farm thereby conserving soil moisture, reducing erosion and lessening soil compaction. In doing so, they also provided additional cover for wildlife including pheasants and quail.

But, farming for Brad and Amy Williams is not just about conservation, it is also about keeping up with rapidly changing technology and becoming more efficient. In all of these areas, Brad and Amy Williams' efforts have paid off—not only in receiving this award for being Outstanding Young Farmers, but also about in being successful stewards of the land.

ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIAL BE-
COMES THE FIRST DIABETIC TO
STEP ONTO INTERNATIONAL
FREESTYLE WRESTLING MAT

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus to report on an extraordinary sports history that soon unfolds. This April 8th, at USA Wrestling's U.S. Nationals in Las Vegas, Peter J. Wirs, the elected State Constable for the City of Harrisburg's Fourth Ward, will become the first diabetic ever to step onto an international freestyle wrestling mat; notwithstanding that Mr. Wirs is 49 years old; suffered a heart attack December, 2001; and suffers from acute and chronic asthma.

Constable Wirs' success story of overcoming diabetes to participate in a sport he has longed to compete in since junior high school marks an important lesson for all of us. Today, diabetes is now epidemic, according to the Centers for Disease Control, the National Institutes of Health, the American Diabetes Association and other national healthcare leaders. This is all the more critical as more and more Americans are suffering from obesity.

Unfortunately, this problem is not new. President Kennedy, speaking at the 1962 Army-Navy Game in Philadelphia, asserted that: "We are under-exercised as a Nation." Kennedy initiated the President's Council on Physical Fitness to urge America to pursue more exercise and sports in our daily lifestyles.

Today, over one-third of all Americans are obese, and more than 60 percent of Americans are overweight, according to the Centers for Disease Control. Obesity is a major precursor for Type II diabetes, where the pancreas produces too much insulin or the body otherwise cannot process the insulin the pancreas creates.

Diabetes is now an epidemic, as reported by Time magazine this past December 8th, 2003. 16 million Americans are expected to contract Type II diabetes. "Type II diabetes is increasingly being diagnosed in children and adolescents," according to the ADA National Diabetes Fact Sheet. Type II now appears to be at the "highest risk" during puberty, according to the ADA's October, 2003 issue of Diabetes Forecast. While approximately one in every 400 children and adolescents have Type I diabetes; recent Government reports indicate that one in every three children born in 2000 will suffer from obesity, which as noted is a predominant Type II precursor.

Among adults age 20–55; 8.3 percent of all adult men will be afflicted with diabetes, while 8.9 percent of all adult women age 20 will contract it.

Diabetes is even more prevalent among minorities. 13 percent of African-Americans age 20 and older, and 10.2 percent of all Hispanic-Latino Americans have or will have diabetes, meaning that on average, Hispanic Americans are 1.9 times more likely to have diabetes than non-Hispanic whites of similar age.

As a result, diabetes represents a substantial economic toll. In 2000, \$91.8 billion was spent on direct medical costs for diabetes, while an additional \$39.8 billion was spent on disability, work loss, premature mortality, etc., resulting from diabetes. In other words, the annual cost is \$7,764 for every U.S. diabetic. Medical expenditures per capita for diabetics is 6.5 times that of nondiabetics.

Yet, studies universally show that "lifestyle interventions"—this is to say a regimen of diet and exercise—can reduce development of diabetes by 40 percent to 60 percent. However, lifestyle intervention requires discipline with a tangible end result that is within reach. It requires personal resolve, a lifelong commitment.

That's what makes the story unfolding this April 8th at the USA Wrestling's Nationals so impressive. Constable Wirs, a constituent and good friend of mine, two years ago weighed over 250 pounds. Two years ago, his Type II diabetes was so out of control that Wirs would lose a whole day a week from insulin shock, a situation where a diabetic loses motor move-

ment coordination, the only remedy is in essence to sleep it off. This means that Pete Wirs would lose 52 days or over seven weeks a year to diabetes. Over the past 25 years, diabetes has cost Mr. Wirs over 1,300 days or 185 weeks out of his life. It took all of his energies and effort to simply pursue his professional career as a journalist, publisher and political leader. He had nothing left for personal pursuits, leisure or sports, let alone a social life.

However, Pete Wirs always wanted to compete in wrestling, the one sport he was shown to be good at in junior high school physical education classes. However, back in the 1960's and 70's, we didn't know about Type II diabetes, only what today we call Type I or insulin-dependent diabetes. Because Wirs' Type II diabetes was unknown, no one was able to ascertain why he was so heavy, sluggish and constantly out of breath. His diabetes was finally diagnosed in 1975 by the late Philadelphia Councilwoman Dr. Ethel D. Allen.

Two years ago, Pete Wirs finally said enough was enough, in his own words he was "sick and tired of diabetes controlling him, now he was going to control diabetes." Pete Wirs started to exercise every day. I would repeatedly see him exercise at the Harrisburg YMCA. Pete Wirs also started jogging, and now jogs five miles a day up and down Harrisburg's Riverfront Park through City Island. He dropped from 250 pounds to 167 pounds. And Pete Wirs got involved in the one sport he always wanted to compete. It wasn't an easy sport like golf, but among the most physically and emotionally demanding sports man partakes in—wrestling.

Today, Pete Wirs had his life back, so much that this past November 22nd, he got married, to the very attractive Anna May Casper in Historic Old St. George's Methodist Church inside Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia.

And on April the 8th, Pete Wirs, despite being 49 years old and a heart attack victim, will become the first diabetic ever to step onto an international freestyle wrestling mat in the USA Wrestling Nationals and Veterans Championships at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Mr. Speaker, we don't know whether Constable Wirs will win or lose his first match. Although in the Veterans Division, competitors are divided into both age and weight, there is no doubt that Pete Wirs will be up against seasoned, experienced amateur wrestlers. But no matter what the score, Pete Wirs will have scored a morale victory by simply stepping onto the mat; by getting his diabetes under control, and proving to all of us that physical fitness is not a diet, a fad, but a life-long commitment to healthy eating, continuous exercise and sports activity.

Mr. Speaker, so important is this milestone for all diabetics, the Pennsylvania Wrestling Club of which Constable Wirs serves as executive president, is administering a nationwide public service program to encourage diabetics to commit themselves, as has Mr. Wirs, to a lifestyle of dietary control and exercise. Entitled "Going for the Gold," the campaign will award up to 500 "Diabetic Control Points" for diabetics engaging in continuous exercise and participation in an organized amateur athletic sport, all while raising money for the American Diabetes campaign.

Mr. Speaker, Constable Wirs is an inspiration to all diabetics and indeed to all of us. In

President Kennedy's words, Pete Wirs becomes a "profile in courage" when he steps onto the freestyle wrestling mat this April 8th for his first competitive match. Our congratulations to Constable Wirs, and all of his fellow team members, coaches and boosters in this important sports history in the making.

PREVENTIVE SCREENING FOR
COLORECTAL CANCER

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to re-introduce the Eliminate Colorectal Cancer Act, a bill that can save the lives of thousands of people who might otherwise fall victim to the only completely preventable form of cancer.

Few people realize that colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. for men and women combined. It kills more Americans every year than either breast cancer or prostate cancer. An estimated 146,940 people will be diagnosed with this cancer in 2004, and 56,730 will die from it.

This is an unspeakable tragedy because colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and curable when detected at an early stage. When colorectal cancer is detected before it has spread, the five year survival rate is over 91 percent.

Further, colorectal cancer is the only cancer we know how to prevent. If polyps are discovered in the colon, they can be removed before they become cancerous and the cancer will never develop.

And yet tens of thousands of Americans continue to die from this disease, mostly because their cancer is detected at a later, less treatable stage.

No one should die of colorectal cancer. This cancer is preventable and detectable. It is slowgrowing and easy to stop in its tracks. The fact that over 56,000 Americans die of this disease is nothing more than a massive failure of our preventive health system.

For most Americans, two barriers effectively block their access to colorectal cancer screening: ignorance, and lack of insurance coverage. Many people simply don't realize they are at risk. When they are educated by their doctors and other sources, however, the vast majority are ready to undergo screening.

This brings them to the second major obstacle—insurance coverage. Not all insurers cover colorectal cancer screening, even for those groups at higher risk. All men and women over the age of 50 should be screened regularly, as well as those under 50 at high risk. Screening tests are crucial because colorectal cancer often causes no symptoms until it is widespread.

A recent Lewin Group study of the insurance plans offered under the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) is illustrative. Lewin researchers reviewed the plan materials offered to subscribers to determine which covered the full range of colorectal cancer screening methods. In 2002, only 3 percent of FEHBP plans covered screening colonoscopy. In 2003, that number jumped dramatically to 28 percent. Clearly, insurers are realizing that these screening exams make

sense. Colorectal cancer screening is cost-effective, considering that treatment for a patient with an advanced form of cancer can easily be \$40,000 or more. Preventive screening is good policy, good health care, and good economics.

I am therefore proud to introduce today the Eliminate Colorectal Cancer Act, a bill to require insurers to cover a regular colorectal cancer screening exam. Doctors and patients will be able to decide together the appropriate screening method and frequency of testing. My friend and colleague, Rep. PETER KING, has joined me as original cosponsor of this vital initiative. In the Senate, a companion bill is being introduced today by Senators EDWARD KENNEDY and PAT ROBERTS.

I am pleased to report that a wide range of respected organizations have already lent their support to this initiative, including the American Cancer Society. These organizations will be working diligently to educate Members of Congress about the need for this legislation and to urge their support for it.

The wall at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial lists the names of 58,235 Americans who lost their lives over the course of that conflict. Every year, we lose almost that many men and women to colorectal cancer. But we have the power to eliminate colorectal cancer. I urge all of my colleagues to cosponsor the Eliminate Colorectal Cancer Act and put us on the path to realizing this worthy goal.

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS SEXUAL
ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Rape and sexual assault affects women, children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds. I commend the work of local organizations to end this type of violence.

The importance of these issues is illustrated by statistics that indicate that there were 10,176 forcible rapes reported in 2002; and that the Bureau of Justice Statistics estimates that over 70 percent of rapes are never reported to police; and that one in three women, one in four girls, one in six boys and one in eleven men will be victims of sexual violence at least once in their lifetimes.

While one person, organization, agency or community cannot eliminate sexual assault on their own, we must work together to educate our entire society about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, as well as to support survivors and their significant others, and increase support for agencies providing these services.

Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center has led the way in Santa Barbara in addressing sexual assault by providing 24-hour hotline services to survivors and their significant others, responding to emergency calls, offering support and comfort to those impacted by sexual assault during medical exams, criminal proceedings, and empowering those impacted by sexual assault to chart their own course for healing.

Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center has set an important example of how forging collabo-

rative relationships between service agencies and organizations improves the quality of service for those most profoundly and directly impacted by sexual violence.

Ending sexual assault in Santa Barbara must include active public and private efforts in collaboration with Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center, including dialogue about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it and how to help survivors connect with crucial counseling and support services.

As a nurse, I understand firsthand the importance of education as it pertains to healthcare and to the prevention and elimination of sexual assault. I commend the efforts of the Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center as they work to educate our community and provide crucial services to victims and their family members and significant others.

I want to express my strong support for all programs aimed at the elimination of sexual violence and hereby proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

TRIBUTE TO LARRY DOYLE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Larry Doyle, a friend and a talented local government administrator, who is retiring today after 21 years of dedicated service to the city I am pleased to call home: Royal Oak, MI.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Doyle was instrumental in guiding the city of Royal Oak through many exciting changes. I have been privileged to work with him and have seen first hand his professionalism and his dedication to the city and its residents.

His service began during the initial stages of the city's revival, first as Deputy City Attorney in 1983, then as city attorney in 1990. With the completion of Interstate 696 on the southern border, Royal Oak began reaping the benefits of its central position in southeast Michigan. With his active involvement businesses quickly utilized the location and the opening of diverse restaurants and unique shops brought visitors as frequently as local residents.

After a nationwide search, the city leadership rightly asked Larry to take the management helm of the city in 1994. Over the following years, he set policies that aided in bringing the city a new ice arena, a new district court, improvements in city parks, as well as tremendous growth in property values. These efforts lead to the recent "Cool City" designation by Governor Jennifer Granholm, not only for a vibrant downtown, but for a desirable hometown community for residents.

Larry's commitment to the city did not end with the workday. As an advocate and a resident, he can be found supporting any number of local events such as the Woodward Dream Cruise or the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The people of Royal Oak have indeed been well-served by all of his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated public servant. I am pleased to join with the residents of Royal Oak in thanking Larry Doyle for his service to our community and wishing him and his wife of 30 years, Sue, good health, happiness and success in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE UNION LEADER AND WMUR-TV

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to announce significant milestones for two New Hampshire institutions: 141 years for the Manchester Union Leader and 50 years for WMUR-TV.

As Presidential candidates competing in our First-in-the-Nation Primary can tell you every 4 years—and I can tell you every day—these media outlets provide vital information to thousands of Granite Staters every day. The Union Leader has done it since March 31, 1863—WMUR for the past 50 years this month.

The breadth and depth of the coverage these different sources provide ought to be a model for local press everywhere. One is locally owned and the other by one of the world's largest diversified communications companies.

At a time when citizens have access to more sources of news, weather, and entertainment than ever before, each is a significant part of the New Hampshire community and a respected center of journalism.

I offer my congratulations for the Union Leader's and WMUR's many decades of community service and best wishes for continued coverage in the decades to come.

HONORING MILDRED WALLHAUSEN

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Mildred Wallhausen, a great Missourian, a great American, and a great friend of mine. Millie is more than a hero to the many men and women whose lives she has touched—she is a mentor. I and many others owe Millie a tremendous debt of gratitude for her selfless service.

Millie will turn 90 on April 3, 2004. For the great majority of her 90 years, she has participated in the public life of my congressional district. For 68 of her 90 years, Millie has been a member of the newspaper staff of the Charleston Enterprise-Courier. She and her family have published the paper since her husband's death in 1969.

Over the years, Millie has served as reporter, photographer, editorialist, bookkeeper, file clerk, advertising salesperson, and editor in addition to her long service as publisher. She is a member of the Missouri Press Association Hall of Fame.

Millie cannot be defined in terms of the titles she has held at the newspaper, however. She has been a pillar of her community. Serving on nearly every committee in the community and encouraging participation in public affairs are just the start. After the death of her husband, Millie adopted three young women, wards of the juvenile court, and provided a stable home environment for them. Millie knew firsthand the value of an adult role model to these girls, she herself was orphaned at the age of 4.

Among her other civic activities, Millie has served as president of the PTA and two women's federated clubs, as a member of the State Mental Health Task Force, and as a Sunday School teacher at various churches in the communities in which she has lived. Even at the age of 90, Millie is still an active member of the Boards of the Mississippi County Community Sheltered Workshop and the East Prairie Housing Authority.

Not only has Mildred Wallhausen changed our communities, she has forever changed the lives of the people who call them home. She has always looked upon her responsibilities at her newspaper as a form of public service. As a personal hero of mine, she has shown uncommon strength in her desire to both do good through her own actions and communicate good through her work. She is an invaluable servant of our Nation, and she is an example for women everywhere.

Congratulations Millie, on your 90th birthday, and thank you for your guidance and kindness to me, your community, State, and Nation.

COMMENDING THE TAIWAN PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the voters in Taiwan, an astounding 80 percent of whom participated in the recent Presidential election, for once again demonstrating their commitment to exercising their democratic rights.

Taiwan's political system has undergone dramatic changes. Fifty years ago the country was ruled by an authoritarian dictatorship under martial law. Today it is a vibrant, multi-party democracy, having completed its third direct Presidential election. Taiwan has robust political parties with free and fair elections at all levels of government.

The margin of the Presidential victory in Taiwan was very small. However, recount issues and open demonstrations were part of the democratic process in which free expression is revered and protected. These impassioned times are the tests of true democracies.

Taiwan and the United States share a strong bond in their commitment to the ideals of a free society. Taiwanese-Americans, many living in the New York City area, are a vital part of that relationship. The Taiwanese-American community, which numbers in the hundreds of thousands, is actively engaged in our own political system, and its citizens are enthusiastically involved in the betterment of local communities across our country.

As we hope for dialogue and stability in cross-strait relations, we can also hope that one day the people of mainland China will be able to select their own leaders by democratic means.

Today, I commend the people of Taiwan for embracing democratic ideals and providing an important symbol of freedom in the Asia-Pacific region.

THE AMERICAN LEGACY FOUNDATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise on this, the fifth anniversary of the American Legacy Foundation, to recognize the tremendous strides this organization has made in improving the health of millions of Americans. Through its various programs such as Circle of Friends, Great Start, and Priority Population, as well as its Truth Campaign, the Foundation has played a tremendous role in promoting both the cessation and the prevention of tobacco use in our country. As the largest youth smoking prevention campaign in the United States, the Truth Campaign in particular has been cited as a factor in the current 28-year low in youth smoking rates.

Smoking costs our society not only in the lives lost but also in the billions of dollars spent on related health care. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable deaths in our country, killing 440,000 people each year, and exposes thousands of children to the harmful effects of second-hand smoke. I strongly hope that the American Legacy Foundation will continue to receive the Federal funding it needs in order to carry out its campaign for a tobacco-free nation. Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me to recognize the American Legacy Foundation for its ongoing contributions to the health of our great nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CESAR E. CHAVEZ

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize and celebrate the birthday of Cesar E. Chavez. Cesar Chavez, an icon in the Latino community and beyond, would have been 77 today.

Cesar Chavez was born near Yuma, Arizona, and grew up in migrant labor camps, into the poverty of a migrant worker's life. He became a historical figure who embodied humility and extraordinary strength in his peaceful struggle towards social justice. He dedicated his life to tirelessly championing the rights of farm laborers and along with Dolores Huerta, founded the United Farm Workers union, fighting for better wages, conditions and respect for farmworkers.

I have introduced the Cesar E. Chavez Lands Legacy Act (H.R. 1034) to ensure that Americans can fully understand his life, vision, and impact on improving the lives of millions of Americans. I hope that his legacy and memory will someday become a fundamental piece of American history so that all Americans will understand the fight that Cesar Chavez began in the fields, a fight for social justice, civil rights, and human rights that continues today. Thanks to this fight, the Latino community, including myself, has been able to enjoy certain benefits and privileges that otherwise might not have been possible.

TRIBUTE TO CESAR CHAVEZ

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual of great significance to the history of our country. He provided a voice for those that could not be heard and hope for those that no longer believed.

Above all, Cesar Chavez was a man who fought for those that could not fight for themselves. Through his nonviolent struggle for economic and social equality, Cesar touched the lives of millions of people and inspired a generosity of spirit and love for our fellow man.

Born of a Mexican immigrant, Cesar Chavez grew up working with migrant farm workers, toiling in the fields while receiving below average wages.

His firsthand knowledge of the plight of the farm worker helped shape Cesar's beliefs and led him to become an advocate for the migrant working community.

He committed himself to organizing these workers to campaign for safe and fair working conditions, reasonable wages, decent housing, and outlawing child labor.

As the founder of the National Farm Workers Association, he provided hope that farm workers may one day realize the basic protections and rights deserved by all Americans.

His influence, however, extends far beyond agriculture.

He organized voter registration drives in urban areas, initiated complaints against mistreatment by police and welfare officials, and empowered workers to seek advancement in education and politics.

To gain national attention to the growing civil rights movement, Cesar frequently staged non-violent strikes, boycotts, and pickets.

He also used fasting as a way to peacefully protest without resorting to the violence that existed throughout our society.

However, many in his community refused to accept his notion of equality and resorted to killing and beating of many of his workers.

Yet through it all, Cesar never wavered in his commitment to La Causa.

He was a dedicated champion of equal rights; not just for farm workers, but for all Americans.

This was recognized in 1994 when he became only the second Mexican-American to be honored with the highest civilian award in the United States: the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

This is why I stand here today on his birthday. I have previously introduced a resolution urging Congress and the President to declare this day a national holiday to honor this great Latino visionary.

But today, I want to further honor this great leader by introducing a bill that awards him the Congressional Gold Medal.

With faith, discipline, and soft-spoken humility, Cesar Chavez led a very courageous life.

His tremendous passion and resolve to fight for civil rights was an exhibition in selflessness and love.

By awarding him the Congressional Gold Medal, we are saying that we understand these sacrifices that Cesar Chavez made for our country.

He has left an enormous legacy that has provided hope for the hopeless, inspiration for the uninspired, and the prospect of a better life for all.

For those of us that have ever lost faith, Cesar Chavez teaches us never to give up.

With hard work and the belief that all men and women are indeed created equal, we can aspire to greater things.

I urge all my colleagues to honor Cesar Chavez and his legacy, not only on this day, but every day.

His inspirational words will always ring true: Si, se puede! Yes, we can!

HONORING THE 77TH ANNIVERSARY OF CESAR CHAVEZ'S BIRTHDAY

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we honor Cesar Chavez on the anniversary of his 77th birthday, and ask the Members of the House to join us in paying respects to a man who brought awareness of labor injustices to national light. His efforts made a path for all those who came after him, so that they would be able to continue his fight for justice.

Cesar Chavez grew up in the fruit and vegetable fields, working the land with his own hands from dawn to dusk. He knew the injustices that faced labor workers on a daily basis, and understood the need for change.

From those fields, Chavez rose to be the head of the United Farm Workers of America (UFW) instilling in the UFW the principles of non-violence practiced by Gandhi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

When the UFW began striking in the 1960's, to protest the treatment of farm workers, the strikers took a pledge of non-violence, determined not to detract from the message of improved labor conditions.

For those of us who lived through this tumultuous time period, we heard of the great odds Chavez faced as he led a successful five-year strike-boycott. Through this boycott, Chavez was able to forge a national support coalition of unions, church groups, students, minorities, and consumers.

By the end of the boycott everyone knew the famous inspirational chant "Si se puede!" — "Yes we can". The chant unified diverse groups by encouraging them to become active participants, by taking pride in with what is just and fair while all along preserving the dignity of their efforts.

Chavez also spoke out in other areas and helped communities to mobilize by assisting them with voter registration drives and insisting that minority communities had just as much a right to have equitable access to educational opportunities.

To this day Chavez's legacy lives on. His influence can be seen in the legislation that comes to this very floor. Legislation that aims to provide for our children's education, improve healthcare in our community, and ensure our civil rights and liberties are respected.

We must also continue the fight to ensure that in today's world, the rights of workers are still protected. Whether it's working in the

fields, in the kitchens, or in our factories, the blue-collar worker is an invaluable resource to America and to the American economy.

It is important that these workers be treated with the respect and dignity that they deserve and that all the rights afforded to those working in air conditioned offices is also extended to those working in the sun heated fields and the like.

America has seen few leaders like Chavez. He is in a rare group of people who made their life mission count. His life and his deeds have left a lasting imprint on American history.

We can only hope to continue to fulfill his vision as we walk through the halls of Congress to create a better tomorrow for the Hispanic community and all Americans.

HONORING NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor National Women's History Month. The National Women's History Project was founded in 1980 and is a non-profit educational organization committed to recognizing and celebrating the diverse and significant historical accomplishments of women. The legacy of others who shaped society inspires one's own longings to contribute. For young women, role models can inspire their sense of what is possible. Knowledge of women's strengths and contributions builds respect and nourishes self esteem.

During Women's History Month, our nation celebrates the many accomplishments of women. Women are leaders in business, government, law, science, medicine, the arts, education, and many other fields. As bosses, mothers, sisters, daughters, wives and friends, they bring compassion and integrity to our work spaces and community settings and teach our children the values that make our country great.

Thousands of outstanding Kansas City women have left their mark on our community by blazing new trails; by being the first woman to make a significant contribution in the greater metropolitan area. A beloved woman in Kansas City, known as the matriarch, is the late Lucille Bluford. Always a voice of conscience and reason, a woman of influence and great moral character, she began her career in 1930 as a reporter for The Kansas City Call. After owner Chester A. Franklin died in 1955, Ms. Bluford became managing editor, publisher and the first woman owner of a newspaper in the community. Her leadership, guidance and direction raised the consciousness of the African American community to the struggles of the Civil Rights Movement in the 60s and 70s and rallied the readers to call for political action. In 1990, the University of Kansas awarded her it's Distinguished Service Citation, the highest honor to be bestowed upon a KU graduate for service to humanity. She was the second African American student to major in journalism at KU. Among her many countless awards, she received an honorary doctorate from the University of Missouri, which years earlier denied her admission. In 1939, she bravely sued MU, but lost the case.

While she may have lost that battle, her action prompted a series of legal challenges that ultimately led to the abolishment of the "separate but equal" doctrine in education.

Ms. Bluford's career accomplishments opened doors for another female entrepreneur in journalism, Clara Reyes, who started Kansas City's first bilingual newspaper, *Dos Mundos*, in 1981 in her basement. She had sold real estate to people from different countries who often asked where to find bilingual professionals. Reyes took it upon herself to fill the void. She did not know much about the publishing world, but thought that if she could sell real estate, she could surely sell advertising.

For more than 20 years, Clara Reyes has been a strong voice in the Hispanic community who wrote about issues important to Latinos in the Greater Kansas City area. Clara Reyes has helped "*Dos Mundos*" grow to become one of the leading bilingual newspapers in the Midwest dedicated to serving the community through daily news and information.

Martha W. Gilliland, Ph.D., Chancellor of the University of Missouri-Kansas City holds a doctorate in environmental engineering/systems ecology from the University of Florida. On August 30, 2002, she received a prestigious national honor from the Policy Studies Organization: "Top Public Policy Practitioner."

Under her leadership, UMKC, has established a progressive and ambitious agenda for the urban campus of 14,000 students. Chancellor Gilliland and her leadership team are poised to transform UMKC into a 21st century institution and a national model in scholarships and creative activity by attracting and nurturing responsive community leaders while providing the resources to achieve the University's vision of creating a vibrant environment of learning and campus life experience.

Today, the vision of these Kansas City women: Lucille Bluford, Clara Reyes and Martha Gilliland, inspire women in our community to blaze new trails and seek their dreams.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring National Women's History Month, as we celebrate the many ways women strengthen and enrich America. Their lives and work provide guideposts of hope for our future and for our children, and remind us all of what the human spirit can achieve when our collective eyes are fixed upon helping reach our greatest potential. I salute them one and all in honor of National Women's History Month.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 3550

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3550, the Transportation Act—A Legacy for Users (TEA-LU). I am pleased that my good friends Chairman DON YOUNG and Ranking Member JIM OBERSTAR of the House Transportation Committee have agreed to increase transportation funding for the Territories.

Congresswoman MADELEINE BORDALLO (Guam), Congresswoman DONNA CHRISTENSEN (VI) and I have worked on this issue for the past year and Congressman NICK RAHALL, Ranking Member of the House Resources Committee, has supported our efforts.

As a result of our work, the Territorial Highway Program (which includes American Samoa, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands and CNMI) will be increased from \$33 million to \$40 million for FY 04, FY 05 and FY 06. For FY 07, FY 08 and FY 09, funding will increase to \$50 million. Despite the Transportation Act (now known as TEA-LU) being \$100 billion less than what was originally proposed, the Territorial set aside will increase by 23.6%.

Moreover, I have worked closely with Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member OBERSTAR to include \$14 million for high priority projects in American Samoa. This funding is in addition to American Samoa's annual federal highway funds and will be used for village road improvements, drainage mitigation, shoreline protection and upgrades and repairs of the Ta'u ferry terminal facility.

In consultation with the Honorable Togiola Tulafono, Governor of American Samoa, I have asked the Committee to set aside \$9.4 million for village road improvements in the Eastern, Western, Central and Manu'a districts of American Samoa.

In further consultation with Senator Tualo Fruean and High Paramount Chief Mauga and members of the Pago Pago council of chiefs, we have also set aside \$1 million for drainage mitigation for Pago Pago village roads.

In consultation with Senator Tago Suilefaiga, Representative Fagasoia Lealaitafea and Representative Mary Taufete'e and members of the Nuuli council of chiefs, we have set aside \$1 million for shoreline protection and drainage mitigation for Nuuli village roads.

In consultation with Senator Faamausili Pola and members of the Ta'u village council of chiefs, we have set aside \$1.6 million to upgrade and repair the Ta'u harbor facility.

Finally, in consultation with Senator Faiivae Galea'i, Senator Lualemaga Faoa and members of the Leone and Malaeloa councils of chiefs, we have set aside \$1 million for drainage mitigation for Malaeloa-Leone village roads.

Again, I thank my colleagues, both Democrat and Republican, and I also thank the local leaders of American Samoa, including Governor Togiola, for working closely with me to make sure that American Samoa's needs are addressed in this historic and important initiative.

I urge passage of this bill and I again commend Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member OBERSTAR for their leadership and support.

HONORING JEFFEREY OBLER

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Jeffrey Obler, longtime professor of political science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He lost his battle with pneumonia last Saturday at the age of 62.

I, knew Jeff as a fellow educator and colleague, and several members of my staff who attended Carolina also knew him as a mentor, one with an extraordinary talent for teaching. It is at their request—and utilizing their thoughts, words, and memories—that I rise today in his honor.

Dr. Obler started his path in education at New York University and earned his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin before landing at the UNC Department of Political Science. A teacher of international relations and political philosophy, he was a leading academic voice on campus and an outstanding citizen in the greater community. For more than 25 years of his life, Dr. Obler served the university with distinction, touching the lives of countless students and leaving an indelible mark on the community.

Dr. Obler's work, which focused on the link between moral theory and public policy, has been published in many prestigious academic journals, including *Political Theory*, *Comparative Politics*, and the *British Journal of Political Science*. He received numerous awards and distinctions during his tenure at UNC, including two Tanner Teaching Awards and a Students' Undergraduate Teaching Award. Yet Dr. Obler's most meaningful legacy was built through his unparalleled dedication to teaching.

In the classroom, Dr. Obler displayed an intellectual curiosity that never waned, inspiring his students to join him in the pursuit of knowledge with a style of teaching that was more engaging conversation than lecture. He could explain complex moral and political arguments with depth and conviction, while always encouraging students to arrive at their own conclusions and beliefs. This accessible style made Obler a favorite among undergraduates, who regularly lined up outside his door during office hours to seek his mentorship on issues large and small.

His abilities also won him great respect among his peers in the UNC faculty, many of whom have described him as the best classroom professor in the department. This respect was so great that Dr. Obler was selected from among the entire political science faculty to lead a course about teaching methods for graduate students. He also served the department as Director of Undergraduate Studies and Director of Internships and Awards.

Dr. Obler is survived by his two children, a long-time companion, and students like my staffers who will forever treasure the lessons he has taught them. His legacy is one that will be treasured for generations.

ARTS ADVOCACY DAY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and support Arts Advocacy Day. I would like to thank the artists who have come to Capitol Hill to visit with members of Congress regarding support for arts education as essential to the creative ingenuity of the cultural fabric of our society. We appreciate their extraordinary talent and we welcome them to Washington.

The Congress must provide sufficient funding for arts education in our schools and the National Endowment for the Arts. These programs are vital to supporting the creation, preservation and presentation of the arts and humanities in America. In my district, numerous schools have taken essential steps toward

integrating arts education in their student's daily routines. Unfortunately, budget cuts threaten the longevity of these programs. Studies have demonstrated that reading and math scores improve with participation in arts education classes. A U.S. Department of Justice study found that arts education reduced student delinquency in San Antonio by 13% and increased the communications skills of students in Atlanta by 57%. Test Results from the College Board have shown that college bound students involved in the arts and humanities have higher overall SAT scores than other students. I'm proud to have been part of the legislative effort to empower the Secretary of Education to fund arts education programs in our schools through the No Child Left Behind Education Act of 2003.

Beyond our borders, the WTO must stand firm against the piracy of our artists' intellectual property. We in Congress must strengthen our commitment and effort with our trading partners to end piracy. Theft of intellectual property has a significant economic affect on the United States. The recording industry, for example, reports a loss of \$286 million in sales with our trading partner, China. In addition, market access and investment barriers prevent the entertainment industry from serving markets overseas thus and increases demand for pirated U.S. entertainment products. The Congress and the United States Trade Representative need to work together to apply pressure to the governments of countries where piracy is rampant.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Arts Advocacy Day.

HONORING CESAR CHAVEZ ON HIS
77TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cesar Chavez on his birthday. I ask the members of the House to join us in paying our respects to a man who brought awareness of farm labor injustices to national light, and who made a path for all those who came after him.

Chavez's legacy continues to live on today. His influence can be seen in the legislation that comes to this very floor. Recently, Leader PELOSI and I have joined national civil rights leader John Lewis, in introducing H.R. 3809, the FAIRNESS Act, comprehensive civil rights legislation that will protect workers from discrimination and workplace abuse.

We also continue the fight to ensure that in today's world, the rights of workers are still protected. That is why those of us who work daily on the issues of fairness, justice and equity know that even though we have been fighting these battles for more than half a century, we have not won the war and discrimination still exists. That is why it is important to ensure our laws stay current with the times. We cannot allow loopholes to create a situation where it is legal to discriminate against segments of our population. Under the Fairness Act all workers—and that is a very important point—all workers may obtain relief from unfair labor practices.

As you know, Democrats in Congress have advocated on behalf of immigrants for years to

help them earn status as lawful permanent residents, secure a path towards citizenship, and pursue opportunities in higher education.

Mr. Speaker, we must keep in mind that immigrants make indispensable contributions to our economy. They compose an increasingly essential proportion of our workforce. Their tax payments help finance government programs, of which they are both users and beneficiaries. Making immigrants true stakeholders in our society means not only bringing them out from the shadows of the undocumented, but also providing them access to lawful permanent residency status. Ultimately, the value of immigrants to our society should not be valued just in dollar terms. Rather, we should measure the enrichment to our culture and the overall vitality immigrants bring to American society.

I remain committed to improving the lives of all immigrants in this country, and I will continue advocating for programs that offer immigrant workers meaningful access to permanent legal status and a clear path towards citizenship. Today we can still hear Mr. Chavez say his chant of encouragement, pride and dignity: "Sí, se puede!"—yes, it can be done.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for letting me address the House of Representatives today to honor Mr. Chavez on the occasion of what would have been his 77th birthday.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF
CESAR ESTRADA CHAVEZ

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in honor of Cesar Chavez. Cesar Chavez was born on this day in 1927.

Cesar Chavez once said, "Real education should consist of drawing the goodness and the best out of our own students. What better books can there be than the book of humanity?" He believed that "the end of all education should surely be service to others." It is a belief that he practiced until his untimely death.

In Dallas, Texas where I serve, to honor his love for education, the city opened the Cesar Chavez Learning Center. The Center enrolls almost 900 students and maintains an attendance rate of 96.6 percent.

Mr. Chavez could have written his own book on humanity and service to others. He was willing to sacrifice his own life so that others could have a better life. He built a great union through persistence, hard work, faith, and non-violence.

Blending the nonviolent resistance of Gandhi with the organizational skills of his mentor, the social activist Saul Alinsky, Mr. Chavez captured worldwide attention in the 1960's. Leading an initially lonely battle to unionize the fields and the orchards of California, he issued a call to boycott grapes. It soon became the cause to celebrate.

Mr. Chavez, who was described by Robert F. Kennedy in 1968 as "one of the heroic figures of our time," was widely acknowledged to have done more to improve the lot of the migrant farm worker than anyone else.

Asked what had motivated his stubborn fight, he said, "For many years I was a farm worker, a migratory worker, and, well, person-

ally—and I'm being very frank—maybe it's just a matter of trying to even the score."

But he ultimately failed to realize his dream of forging a nationwide organization. In most of America, farm workers continue to toil for low wages, without job security. They are still vulnerable to exploitation.

Along with thousands of other families during the depression in the Southwest, Cesar Chavez's family fell on hard times. They sought a new life in California. They found it picking carrots, cotton and other crops in arid valleys, following the sun in search of the next harvest and the next migrants' camp.

Mr. Chavez never graduated from high school, and once counted 65 elementary schools he had attended "for a day, a week or a few months."

Beginning with the Industrial Workers of the World at the turn of the century, unions tried for decades to organize immigrant unskilled workers, first Chinese, then Japanese and later Filipinos and Mexican-Americans, on whom California growers depended.

But the field hands, their organizing drives vulnerable to the competition of other poor migrants seeking work, found themselves fighting not only powerful growers, but also the police and government officials.

By 1965 Mr. Chavez had organized 1,700 families and persuaded two growers to raise wages moderately. His fledgling union was too weak for a major strike. But 800 workers in a virtually moribund AFL-CIO group, the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, struck grape growers in Delano. Some of the members of his group demanded to join the strike.

That was the beginning of 5 years of La Huelga—"the strike"—in which the frail labor leader, who was 5 feet 6 inches tall, became familiar to people in much of the world as he battled the economic power of the farmers and corporations in the San Joaquin Valley.

A New York Times article stated, "He was shy and not an outstanding public speaker. But he showed humility that, with his shyness and small stature, piercing dark eyes and facial features that hinted at Indian ancestors, gave him an image as a David taking on the Goliaths of agriculture.

Mr. Chavez's style was monastic, almost religious. He said his life was dedicated only to bettering the lives of the exploited farm workers. He was a vegetarian, and his weekly salary of \$5 was a virtual vow of poverty. Articles about him often spoke of his "saintly" and even "messianic" qualities.

By 1968, Mr. Chavez had urged Americans not to buy table grapes produced in the San Joaquin Valley until growers agreed to union contracts. The boycott proved a huge success. A public opinion poll found that 17 million Americans had stopped buying grapes because of the boycott.

On April 29, 1993, Cesar Chavez was honored in death by those he led in life. He left this world better than he found it and for that we honor him today.

ATTACKS ON ETHNIC SERBS IN
KOSOVO

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, the values of Western civilization are being tested in Kosovo

today. Since Wednesday, March 24, 30 Serbian Orthodox churches and monasteries dating as far back as the 12th century have been burned to the ground by Kosovar Albanians, as have numerous ethnic Serb villages. Dozen of Serbs have been murdered or are missing. Despite the presence of 18,000 international troops, tyranny and terror has returned to Kosovo.

These acts of terror are designed to eradicate the remaining physical and cultural presence of the Serbian people in Kosovo, and therefore of the Christian presence in the region. No other explanation of these sickening events is credible. Spontaneous reactions of embittered communities never manifest themselves like this.

Derek Chappell, the U.N.'s Kosovo Mission spokesman said of the recent attacks against Serbs, "It was planned in advance." Another U.N. official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, stated that "This is planned, coordinated, one-way violence from the Albanians against the Serbs. It is spreading and has been brewing for the past week Wherever there is a Serbian population, there is Albanian action against them."

Recent violent reactions by hooligans in Serbia that resulted in the torching of two mosques—one in Belgrade and another in the second largest city of Nis—were tragic and cannot be justified. The reaction of the Belgrade authorities in condemning these acts and arresting the perpetrators was swift and efficient. Hundreds of rioters were arrested and the situation is under control. Acting Secretary Armitage also praised on March 19 the quick action of Belgrade authorities in quelling violence against Muslim religious sites and properties in Serbia, and thanked the Serbian Government for effectively strengthening

measures to protect diplomatic missions and minority cultural sites.

Why are similar measures not being taken in response to the violence against the Kosovar Serbs and their Orthodox churches and monasteries?

Just as we did in Bosnia, we should make aid, assistance, positive diplomatic relations, and loan guarantees conditional upon an improvement in the human rights situation. In particular, we must make it absolutely clear to the leadership of the Kosovar Albanians that we expect them to investigate these and previous crimes against Kosovo's Serb minority and arrest and prosecute the perpetrators of these crimes. Since 1999, not a single homicide against a Kosovar Serb has even gone to trial. This cannot stand.

Additionally, we must double our efforts to create secure conditions for the successful and permanent return of a critical mass of Kosovo Serbs. We must make it clear to the Albanian leadership that their abuse of the U.N.-created interim institutions of Kosovo cannot continue. A free people committed to the principles of democracy and representative government, human rights standards and the principle of religious freedom, cannot translate that into tyranny of the majority.

CHAD CAMPBELL WINS BAY HILL INVITATIONAL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 31, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chad Campbell for his outstanding

performance at the Bay Hill Invitational Golf Tournament. Campbell finished at 18-under-par 270, to win the invitational.

Campbell has been a rising star in the golf world since he graduated from the Buy.Com Tour in 2001 to the U.S. PGA Tour. He won three events in his first season in 2001 on the Buy.Com Tour and quickly progressed to the U.S. PGA Tour in less than a month. In 2002 alone, he secured two top-10s and safely kept his card for 2003, where he would win four top-10s by the end of March. Chad Campbell would finish the season with one win, three second places, and total winnings of \$4 million.

A challenging invitational, Chad Campbell competed neck-in-neck with fellow golfer Stuart Appleby. On the ninth hole, Appleby lost the lead when he got another bogey and fell behind for the first time in 27 holes. Appleby later three-putted the par-3 14th hole, leaving a potential opening for Campbell.

Next, Campbell holed his birdie putt. Now Campbell held Appleby by a two-shot lead with three holes to play. By the last round, though, Campbell trailed four behind Appleby. The strong, determined player that he is, Campbell answered the challenge by producing a rock-solid, bogey-free round of 66, leaving him within one shot at the turn and tied after the 12th hole. He finished the day with a birdie on every putt. Chad Campbell's victory at the invitational allows him to return to next year's Mercedes Championships.

Once again, I articulate my sincere congratulations to Mr. Campbell for his hard work and rally at the Bay Hill Invitational in Orlando, Florida; and I look forward to watching his outstanding career in the years ahead.

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 Thursday, April 1, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

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

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the employment situation for March. 1334 LHOB

APRIL 4

2:30 p.m.
Intelligence
Closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters. SH-219

Intelligence
Closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters. SH-219

APRIL 6

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 1366, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make grants to State and tribal governments to assist State and tribal efforts to manage and control the spread of chronic wasting disease in deer and elk herds. SD-406

2 p.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of Veterans Affairs. SD-192

APRIL 7

9:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the United Nations oil-for-food program. SD-419

10 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
To resume hearings to examine U.S. Postal Service reform issues, focusing on the chairmen's perspective on governance and rate-setting. SD-342

Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SR-485

Judiciary
Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine a proposal to split the Ninth Circuit. SD-226

2 p.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the National Bank Preemption Rules. SD-538

Governmental Affairs
Financial Management, the Budget, and International Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 346, to amend the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act to establish a governmentwide policy requiring competition in certain executive agency procurements. SD-342

2:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
African Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine fighting HIV/AIDS in Africa; to be followed by a nominations hearing. SD-419

Judiciary
Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine crude oil relating to higher gas prices. SD-226

Environment and Public Works
Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water Subcommittee
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the detection of lead in District of Columbia drinking water, focusing on needed improvements in public communications and the status of short- and long-term solutions. SD-406

Appropriations
Military Construction Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for

Army and Navy military construction programs. SD-138

APRIL 8

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold closed hearings to examine military implications of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea; to be followed by an open hearing at 10 a.m. in SH-216. SH-219

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