

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH INSURANCE PROMOTION ACT

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, with nearly 44 million Americans lacking basic health care coverage, it is time to take action. Health care is a basic necessity—not a luxury—for all Americans.

The House Republicans claim to be concerned about the uninsured, but actions speak louder than words. Consider what they've passed this year. Their budget resolution decimates Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The Republican budget requires a \$2.2 billion cut in Medicaid funding, which will compromise the well-being of over 500 million children, their parents, seniors, and disabled individuals. This comes at a time when States are already in fiscal crisis, resulting in nearly every State cutting their own Medicaid program by slashing eligibility, cutting benefits, raising co-payments and reducing provider payments.

Republicans have also tried to allow \$1 billion in SCHIP funding to expire on September 30, despite the critical need to provide health care coverage to needy children. Earlier Federal and State cuts to Medicaid and SCHIP have already caused irreparable harm to families in Texas. Since SCHIP cuts in Texas took effect last September 1, 2003, enrollment for kids has dropped from over 507,000 children to 377,051. For those children fortunate enough to retain some health coverage, they have had to endure the loss of all dental, vision, and hospice benefits.

How is this acceptable? How can we tolerate cuts that will compound this problem?

Mr. Speaker, it is a commonly held misconception that people without health insurance are people who don't work. Nationwide, more than eight in ten of the nearly 44 million uninsured persons in 2003 lived in families where the head of the family worked. In fact, in most States today, a significant portion of the workforce is without insurance.

Too many hard-working, tax-paying Americans lack even the most basic health insurance coverage. It is time to move beyond the rhetoric and take action.

My home State of Texas actually leads the nation with 27 percent of our employed or self-employed workers without health insurance. This can be partially attributed to the fact that many of those uninsured are working in small businesses. In 2000 more than 17 percent of the labor force in Texas worked for businesses with 20 or fewer employees. The prohibitive expense of health insurance is a barrier to most small employers offering health coverage. The United States Chamber of Commerce recently estimated that it costs small businesses approximately \$9,000 a year to provide health insurance for each employee.

Mr. Speaker, join with 87 of my colleagues today in offering legislation that will provide immediate, concrete relief by introducing the Small Business Health Insurance Promotion Act today. This legislation will help secure affordable coverage for millions of self-insured individuals and employees of small businesses.

As an incentive to provide coverage, the Small Business Health Insurance Promotion Act would make small businesses or self-employed individuals eligible to receive a 50 percent tax credit for four years to defray the cost of health insurance. The bill would also authorize funding to create state and national multi-insurer pools to provide comprehensive and affordable health insurance choices to small employers and the self-employed.

To receive the tax credit, participating employers must offer all of their employees coverage through either the qualified state or national health insurance pools. These purchasing pools would ensure comprehensive and affordable health insurance. Participants would receive a choice of plans virtually identical to those available to Members of Congress and other Federal employees.

I also join my fellow democratic colleagues today in introducing the FamilyCare Act and the Medicare Early Access Act. The former builds upon the Medicaid and SCHIP programs by providing new funding to cover working parents. This legislation is expected to cover over 7.5 million low-income parents as well as improve coverage of children. The Medicare Early Access Act addresses the serious problem faced by the many retirees who lose or do not have health coverage in retirement but are not yet eligible for Medicare. This legislation will allow uninsured people between the ages of 55 and 64 to purchase Medicare. Enrollees will be given a 75 percent refundable, advanceable tax credit which will make it affordable. This legislation could result in coverage of 3.5 million previously uninsured people.

There are grave consequences for families without health insurance. People without coverage are less likely to get important preventive care and therefore are concomitantly more likely to suffer from serious health complications as problems go untreated. It also harms our economy. Sick people are not productive people. It makes sense to fortify the health of our nation.

The Small Business Health Insurance Promotion Act, FamilyCare Act and Medicare Early Access Act that we are introducing today offer real solutions to real problems. Together these initiatives could provide health coverage to more than 1/2 of the 44 million uninsured Americans. They represent a great step in the right direction that I am proud to be a part of.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 622, supporting the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day and urge my colleagues to support its adoption.

Pursuant to a joint resolution approved October 1, 1962, Congress authorized and requested the President to designate May 15 of each year as "Peace Officers Memorial Day" and the week in which it falls as "Police Week."

In this regard, I applaud my colleagues JOEL HEFLEY, TOM DAVIS, HENRY WAXMAN and BART STUPAK, a former Peace Officer himself, for sponsoring H. Res. 622 to further encourage the observance of a day of remembrance for the more than, 1600 Federal, State, and local peace officers who were killed or disabled in the line of duty in past 10 years.

Mr. Speaker, Police Memorial Day 2004 will be a particularly sad one for my constituents in the Virgin Islands and me because of the passing of Virgin Police Officer Cuthbert Chapman who was shot several times on April 17 as he tried to stop a robbery.

Officer Chapman, also known as "Chappy," "Kimba" and "Cutty," was remembered as a soft-spoken and kind-hearted friend who was always willing to give a helping hand. He was a 12-year veteran on the force. He joined the police department on June 15, 1992, and was assigned to the Bicycle Patrol Unit at Wilbur Francis Command in Frederiksted. Chapman also served in various units and bureaus in the department.

As we remember and pay tribute to Officer Chapman, I must also mention and recognize some of the other Peace Officers, including Randy Stevens, Steven Hodge, Richard Callwood, Dexter Mardenborough, Wilbur Francis, Allen William, and Patrick Sweeney, who lost their lives striving to keep the streets and communities of the Virgin Islands safe.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that we acknowledge and commend the courage and dedication shown by all Peace Officers who have given their lives for their fellow citizens. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR POLICE OFFICERS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak today regarding my grave concerns about funding for our Nation's police, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel.

• 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.

This week is National Police Week—a time we set aside to remember and honor the brave men and women protecting our streets and communities.

I would like to note that the names of nine New York police officers who are being added to National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial at a candlelight vigil on Thursday, May 13, 2004. These police officers fell as far back as 1906 and as recently as last year. They are:

1. Rodney J. Andrews, Detective, New York City, New York.
2. Michael F. Brophy, Sergeant, City of Utica, New York.
3. James Ivan Broughton, Police Officer, Middletown, New York.
4. Jeffry Todd Edelson, Sergeant, New York State Police.
5. Neil A. Forster, Police Officer, New York City, New York.
6. James Verneuil Nemorin, Detective, New York City, New York.
7. Fred Preston, Police Officer, Patchogue, New York.
8. Glenn Matthew Searles, Deputy Sheriff, Onondaga County, New York.
9. George A. Stillwell, Deputy Sheriff, Suffolk County, New York.

We here in Congress do many things to honor our police officers. Just this term, I authored legislation to name a Post Office in my district for Edward O'Grady, Waverly Brown and Peter Paige. Twenty-three years ago an armed gang attempted to rob a Brinks Armored Truck in the middle of the day at a crowded mall and these three brave souls fell in the line of duty. But, Congress has another important job to do when honoring our "finest." We have a responsibility to provide funding to help our police—and in fact all first responders—do their jobs.

The President shares this responsibility. Yet, his budget for fiscal year 2005 is woefully inadequate. A few simple figures:

Provides only \$97 million for COPS, a \$659 million cut below the 2004 enacted level—and in FY04 COPS was funded at \$748 million;

Totally eliminates the Byrne formula and discretionary grants, yet in FY04 formula grants were funded at \$495 million and discretionary grants were funded at \$208 million; and

Also it eliminates Local Law Enforcement Block Grant grants, which were funded at \$223 million in FY04.

As a New Yorker who was watching from my home in the Bronx on September 11—watching as the greatest attack on U.S. civilians was ever undertaken—I am greatly disappointed by the President's poor request. As a New Yorker who watched the greatest act of heroism I can remember—hundreds of firefighters and police officers running into the World Trade Center as they burned, I am saddened by the President' weak request. As a New Yorker who watched in abject horror as the towers fell, killing thousands, including hundreds of firefighters and police, I am angered by the President's insufficient request.

Later, I learned that a police helicopter was circling the Trade Center site and could tell the second tower would soon fall. Yet, the police could not warn the firefighters inside because they used a different radio system. I pledged to myself and my constituents that I would do everything I could to make sure this never happened again. Thus, I joined my colleagues, Mr. FOSSELLA and Mr. STUPAK, in au-

thoring legislation to provide funding to our states and localities to purchase interoperable radio equipment. H.R. 3370, the Public Safety Interoperability Implementation Act would use proceeds from spectrum auctions to help our police and firefighters and EMS personnel.

I urge my other colleagues to join us in this effort.

I also urge my colleagues to join me and the other speakers here tonight in fighting for the funding needed to make our districts safer.

IN RECOGNITION OF REV. DR.
LARRY PICKENS

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our guest chaplain, Rev. Dr. Larry D. Pickens, a well-known pastor in my Congressional district. Currently senior pastor at First United Methodist Church in Elgin, Illinois, Rev. Pickens recently was named top staff executive of the United Methodist Commission on Christian Unity and Interreligious Affairs. In this role, Rev. Pickens will direct the Methodists' relations with other churches and work to build unity among the denomination's 8.3 million members.

A former pastor in inner-city congregations in Chicago for fifteen years, Rev. Pickens has also served as a delegate to a "people-to-people" seminar on the legal system of South Africa. Within the church, Rev. Pickens has spent the last four years as a member of the Judicial Council, giving him a better understanding of church governance.

Admitted to both the Illinois Bar and the South Carolina Bar, Rev. Pickens holds a J.D. degree from DePaul University College of Law. He also holds degrees from Chicago Theological Seminary, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, and North Park University.

We are honored to have Rev. Pickens with us this morning. His involvement in his community and his new role in seeking unity among all denominations underscores his devotion to doing God's work for the betterment of humanity.

Thank you, Rev. Pickens, for being here this morning to open the United States House of Representatives and for your continued service and dedication.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SHAWN
MITCHELL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Shawn Mitchell and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to the State of Colorado as a member of the Colorado General Assembly. As a three-term member of the State House of Representatives, he will be remembered as a legislator with the utmost dedication and talent, and will continue to be known as a leader in the community. As he moves on in his ca-

reer, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, are eternally grateful for all that he has accomplished in his tenure in the Colorado House of Representatives.

One of Colorado's top lawyers, Shawn was elected to serve the people of District 33, representing parts of Adams, Boulder, Broomfield, and Weld Counties in 1998. During this last term he chaired the Information and Technology Committee, and served on the State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee. While serving as a legislator, Shawn has maintained a private law practice in the Denver area, and has previously served as Special Counsel to former Colorado Attorney General Gale Norton, now our Secretary of the Interior. His civic involvement includes serving as president of the Colorado Chapter of the Federalist Society, and three years on the Denver Rocky Mountain News Board of Editorial Contributors.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that State Representative Shawn Mitchell has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his district and the people of Colorado in the Colorado General Assembly. I am honored to bring his hard work and commitment to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service Shawn, and I wish you and your wife Yvette all the best in your future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING E. ROBERT
STEPHENS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. E. Robert "Bob" Stephens for volunteering his services for 31 years to the East Norriton Fire Engine Company.

Bob Stephens is a citizen who has dedicated much of his life to helping people. He has done so through his extensive volunteer work at the East Norriton Fire Company. Bob joined the East Norriton Fire Company in 1973 and is still an active member today.

One year after Bob joined the East Norriton Fire Engine Company, he was put on the Drivers List. In 1976, he was promoted to Assistant Chief Engineer and held that position until 1986. Later that same year, Bob was again promoted, this time as Chief Engineer of the East Norriton Fire Engine Company. In 1980, eight years after he joined the East Norriton Fire Engine Company, Bob was awarded Life Membership.

During his service, Bob made many significant contributions to the Fire Company and to the community. Bob attended as many county and state fire schools as he could in order to learn as much as possible about his volunteer work. As a ranking member of the Fire Company, Bob served on many different committees where he was able to use the expertise gained in the fire schools to better the Fire Company in which he volunteered. Bob actively served on the banquet, building, truck, and uniform committees and later became a member of the East Norriton Fire Engine Company's Board of Trustees.

Bob has also been the recipient of numerous awards from the East Norriton Fire Engine Company. Bob was the three-time recipient of

the President's Award, a recipient of the Chief Engineer's Award, and a two-time recipient of the Fire Fighter of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today to recognize Robert Stephens's dedication to volunteer work and the East Norriton Fire Engine Company and the contributions he has made to the East Norriton community and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

REGARDING H.R. 4280, THE
H.E.A.L.T.H ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I'm holding my nose and voting against H.R. 4280, which would limit medical malpractice awards. I am not pleased that we are voting on this bill again, since an identical bill is languishing over in the Senate and I doubt that by passing it today we will jolt the Senate into moving on the bill. I think the vote today has more to do with politics than with policy.

I think we're beating a dead horse. Both sides have dug in and aren't willing to compromise. In the meantime, we aren't doing anything to reform our medical liability system and we aren't doing anything to make health care more affordable and accessible for Americans. Our system is inherently adversarial and we've continued this fingerpointing game and done nothing to improve patient safety and health care access, which is what we're really talking about here.

I think we need a system that is non-punitive and encourages openness and improvement so that doctors can report medical errors without fear of being sued. This will help us understand medical errors and improve procedures and patient safety. Fewer medical errors will result in fewer medical malpractice suits, which in turn will help keep malpractice insurance rates and health care premiums down. That's why I voted for H.R. 663, the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act, which would create a voluntary medical error reporting system under which patient safety organizations would receive, on a confidential basis, and analyze information on reported errors. They would then be expected to develop and disseminate evidence-based information to help providers implement changes in practice patterns that help to prevent future medical errors. In addition to this legislation, I think we should explore ideas like alternate dispute resolution, no-fault systems, and medical courts.

I also want to make it clear that I am not opposed to capping damages because I think it helps keep health care costs down and keeps doctors accessible, like in my home State of Colorado where we have caps. However, I think H.R. 4280 sets low and arbitrary limits on damages, which will hurt those at the bottom of the income scale the most. Also, I don't think we should be shielding large and powerful HMOs and drug companies from liability.

Mr. Speaker, ultimately this issue is about health care access and patient safety. If we aren't going to compromise, I hope we'd start thinking outside the box on how to end the logjam on tort reform. I offer these ideas as a way to get there, because we aren't going to get there from where we are today.

RECOGNIZING ASIAN AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and to pay tribute to the 120,000 individuals of Asian descent I represent in California's 32nd Congressional District. I am fortunate to represent an ethnically diverse district that has experienced first hand the economic and cultural contributions of the Asian Pacific American community.

Although less than 4 percent of the U.S. population is Asian, I am proud that 19 percent of the congressional district I represent is of Asian descent. Some cities in my congressional district have a well-established Asian Pacific American community. Monterey Park, for example, is home to a vibrant Asian American community and has a City Council that is majority Asian. Other cities in the congressional district I represent, like West Covina, have experienced an increase in their Asian population in more recent times. From 1980 to the present, West Covina's Asian Pacific American population has grown from 4 percent to 23 percent.

Asian Pacific Americans bring diversity to our community and also contribute to our economy and to our advancement as a nation. Asian Pacific Americans have made vast contributions in the fields of medicine, technology, and agriculture that benefit all Americans. Furthermore, throughout times of heightened national security, Asian Pacific Americans have fought to protect democracy in every war since the Civil War. For example, despite the disturbing racism toward Japanese Americans during World War II, Japanese Americans volunteered to serve in the armed forces as part of the 442nd Infantry Regimental Combat Team. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team remains the most decorated unit in U.S. military history. Not only did these Japanese servicemen show their loyalty to the United States, but they also earned more than 18,000 individual decorations in less than 2 years. These noble service members deserve our recognition.

In closing, I would like to commend organizations in California's 32nd Congressional District that exemplify and promote Asian diversity during Asian American Heritage Month.

A TRIBUTE TO JOAN PETERSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Joan Peterson in recognition of her substantial contributions to her community.

Upon gazing on their beautiful baby girl, parents Emily Cole and John Stafford named her Joan, celebrating the namesake of both grandmothers.

Joan spent her early years of elementary education at Clio Public School where her grandmother, Joan Guice taught first grade,

her mother taught 10th grade and her grandfather Professor Charles Guice served as principal for 50 years. Her latter years were spent at St. Joseph Catholic School where she graduated 8th Grade. Upon completing elementary school, she attended Holy Rosary High School in Lafayette, Louisiana and graduated with honors.

Joan attended college at Tuskegee University with a major in Nursing Education. However, when her mother moved the family to Brooklyn, New York, she enrolled at Medgar Evers College and completed her education in Business Management. She later attended New York University and received a certificate as an Administrative Assistant.

Joan worked with the United Negro College Fund as an Employee Associate where she began to develop a format that would bring together all graduates of other black colleges to participate in a job market. This has now evolved as a site on the Internet for job placements.

Joan later met and married hometown friend, David Peterson, Jr. From their union, two children, Danielle and David Peterson III, were born. The children attended St. Paul Community Christian School where Joan became very involved in her children's education and participated in all fundraising activities. When the children transferred to P.S. 308, Joan continued to be active and was the Financial Secretary for the P.T.A. until her daughter Danielle graduated. Joan joined the Concerned Women of Brooklyn in which she is still an active member. In 1997, Joan's husband became ill and passed away. Subsequently, Joan bought a house and moved to Bedford-Stuyvesant, where she immediately joined the Block Association where she now serves as Financial Secretary.

Joan presently works for the Health and Hospital Corporation as a Senior Systems Analyst. In her sixteen years of service, she has worked in several areas, Office of Affiliations, Construction Management, Kings County Reconstruction Project, Elmhurst Modernization Project, Accounting Department and presently she is in the Receiving Department at Queens Hospital.

As a recipient of several awards as an Outstanding Leader in her community and school, Joan is interested in developing a program that would address young males, ages 10-18 years. Joan is a member of St. Paul Community Baptist Church, where Rev. Johnny Ray Youngblood is the senior pastor.

Mr. Speaker, Joan Peterson has actively participated in improving her community through various volunteer positions. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

TRIBUTE TO THE 21ST SPACE
WING GUARDIAN CHALLENGE 2004

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 21st Space Wing at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado.

The 21st Space Wing, under the Command of Brigadier General Richard Webber, also

under Air Force Space Commander General Lance W. Lord, recently participated as champions in the 37th annual Guardian Challenge competition and won the coveted Aldridge Trophy for Best Space Operations

Guardian Challenge is the only national competition for Air Force Space Command professionals and has a history of competitions dating back to 1967. It allows nearly 200 best-of-the-best competitors from various Air Force Space Wing Teams around the nation to test their skills against each other in tough competition and rigorous evaluation. The competition helps them better perform their missions by increasing their overall capabilities. Teams qualify by competing at their home stations against difficult criteria set in a competitive environment. By qualifying, teams compete at the national Guardian Challenge competition where they demonstrate their capabilities. In this case, Team 21 from Peterson Air Force Base came home with high honors, securing the coveted Aldridge Trophy, which is awarded to the Best Space Operations Wing.

I extend congratulations to the top-notch competitors in Guardian Challenge who earned the Aldridge Trophy for the 21st Space Wing. From Space Operations this includes: Captain Michael Bruno, Crew Commander, Technical Sergeant Kenneth DeFeo, Space Operator, Captain Jennifer Berger, Crew Commander, Staff Sergeant Robert Widrick, Crew Chief, Airman First Class Jennifer McCord, Space Console Operator, Flight Lieutenant Jay Garratt, Crew Commander, Flight Sergeant Ken Callaghan, Space Operator, Sergeant Stewart Williamson, Operations Team Trainer, Corporal Andrew Leckie, Space Operator, Corporal Gary Wright, Space Operator, SAC Kristopher Cochrane, Space Operator. From Communications: Staff Sergeant David Kisner and Senior Airman Jon McCullar, both Communications competition. From Security Forces competition: Staff Sergeant Duane Blackmon, Staff Sergeant Jon Scott, Airman First Class Steven Israel, Airman First Class Thanongsack Phanda and Staff Sergeant Matthew Tussey.

In addition, I extend special congratulations to Staff Sergeant Matthew Tussey of 137th Space Warning Squadron, Air National Guard in Greeley, for earning the Top Gun Trophy and medal for overall best marksman in all of Air Force Space Command.

I would also like to honor the entire Team 21 Wing Staff: Command Chief Master Sergeant for the 21st Space Wing, Vance Clarke; Colonel Gary Pond, 21st Maintenance Group Commander; Lieutenant Colonel Bryant Anderson, 21st Operations Group Deputy Commander; Colonel Al Kemmet, Jr., 21st Space Wing Guardian Challenge Project Officer; Staff Sergeant Jason Hand who was "Iron Mike"—the Team Mascot; Major Matthew Carroll, Guardian Challenge Project Officer Advance Team; Mr. Dick DuBose and Mr. Mel Thiel, both Guardian Challenge Advance Team and Technical Sergeant Roger Kelley, Transportation Support.

Mr. Speaker, I take great pleasure today in congratulating the 21st Space Wing for their outstanding achievements in this year's Guardian Challenge. They are true professionals in our United States Air Force and are part of the best space and missile team in the world.

IN RECOGNITION OF INDIANA STATE TROOPER SCOTT PATRICK DURING NATIONAL POLICE MEMORIAL WEEK

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. In recognition of National Police Memorial Week and the ultimate sacrifices given by police officers across the nation, I wish to recognize the service and memory of Indiana State Trooper Scott Patrick.

Trooper Scott Patrick, a three-year veteran of the department, was shot by a driver he had stopped to help on an exit ramp of Interstate 80/94 in Gary, IN. He died December 22, 2003 at the age of 27.

Trooper Patrick's name and service will be among 362 fallen officers, killed in the line of duty in the past year and added to the National Police Memorial here in Washington during National Police Memorial Week.

Our mere words, even our sincere thanks cannot add to the life of this young husband, father, son and brother. Trooper Patrick has paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to the people of Indiana.

We can ensure the life and sacrifice of every officer slain in the line of duty is never forgotten. We can try to assure the survivors that his sacrifice was not in vain, and we must do what we can as citizens to increase the public's appreciation for law enforcement, especially the dangers faced on our behalf to protect us.

To the Patrick family, grateful Hoosiers and a grateful nation say thank you.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SUZANNE WILLIAMS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Suzanne Williams and thank her for her extraordinary contributions to the State of Colorado as a member of the Colorado General Assembly. As a four-term member of the State House of Representatives, she will always be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader of the community. As she moves on in her career, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, are eternally grateful for all that she has accomplished in her tenure in the Colorado House of Representatives.

Representing Arapahoe and Denver counties for District 41, Suzanne has worked in neighborhood schools for twenty-two years as a special education teacher. Suzanne's intimate knowledge with education has served her well as a member of the Education Committee, sponsoring legislation to implement funding for full-day kindergarten in low-performing school districts. Other legislation Suzanne has sponsored includes the Child Care Loan Forgiveness Program that assists childcare professionals in attending community college to gain more skills, and the American Indian Scholars license plate, which estab-

lished a scholarship fund for Colorado American Indians to attend a college or university within the state.

Suzanne's efforts to better her community include extensive involvement with civic organizations. She currently sits on the Colorado Special Education Advisory Board and the Colorado Medicare Consortium, and she has served on the board of directors for Aurora Sister Cities, D.A.R.E. Colorado and the United Cerebral Palsy Association. The Colorado Chapter of American Mothers, Inc, recognized her outstanding commitment to community service in 1996 when she received the Colorado Mother of the Year Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite clear that State Representative Suzanne Williams is a person who has demonstrated an exceptional level of dedication and commitment to her life long pursuit of public service. It is her incredible devotion along with her passion for contributing towards the betterment of her community and the State of Colorado that I wish to bring before this body of Congress and this nation. It is my distinct pleasure to honor Suzanne here today, and wish her and her husband Ed all the best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING GORSKI CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Gorski Construction Company as it celebrates 50 years of excellence in the construction industry.

Caesar J. Gorski, Sr. started the Gorski Construction Company in 1954 with a \$75 surplus pickup truck from Peco Energy Company and carpentry and masonry tools that he had gathered during a four-year apprenticeship with Mecca Construction. In the beginning, Gorski constructed stone chimneys and repaired barns. From 1954 until 1974, Gorski Construction built three to four custom homes each year. In the late 1960s, Gorski Construction took on the new task of building commercial properties.

Gorski Construction earned a first-place award from Associated Builders and Contractors for the design and construction of the Gorski headquarters building. The 16,200 square-foot, two-story brick building won the "Excellence in Construction" Eagle award for pre-engineered buildings costing less than 2 million dollars. The \$1,640,000 building was built in 7 months and was occupied in November 2002. The Company uses the corporate headquarters to showcase their construction prowess for prospective clients.

In 2003, the Company completed three major construction projects with a 17-person crew and several subcontractors. For example, they designed and built the \$3.5 million, 30,000 square foot food processing facility for Don's Salads in Skipack Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. Gorski Construction also built the \$1.4 fire station for Goodwill Fire Company in West Chester, Pennsylvania. The Company also completed a five-bedroom, 6,000 square foot Mediterranean style home in Limerick Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

This year, Gorski Construction is working on a 22-acre extension to the Iron Bridge Corporate Center that will be finished by summer 2004. The Company is also renovating the St. John's Lutheran Church in Hamburg, Pennsylvania with new hardwood floors and more seating for its choir. The \$300,000 project will be completed in late August 2004.

When Caesar J. Gorski, Sr. founded his company in May 1954, he quickly gained a reputation as a creative builder who took great pride in his craftsmanship. Over the past 50 years, Gorski Construction has grown into a nationally recognized design and construction firm that has extensive experience in industrial, institutional, and commercial construction.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Gorski Construction Company for its innovative vision, exemplary craftsmanship and contributions made to the quality of life of the citizens of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

HONORING THE BLUE RIVER
RESTORATION PROJECT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the coalition that has dedicated years of energy to restoring Colorado's Lower Blue River for the community, the economy and the environment.

One of the most cherished aspects of Colorado life is the access to pristine views and the wide variety of outdoor activities. Summit County provides both, sitting in the heart of Colorado's mountain country. With scenic mountains, majestic forests, and wild rivers, this region is world-renowned for its remarkable vistas and outdoor activities.

For decades the Blue River was designated a Gold Medal fishery. However, in recent years the Blue River in Summit County has been impacted by nearby historic mining activities and other development, as well as years of drought. The river became so shallow below the Dillon Dam that native fish species were unable to live in this river's habitat. This not only damaged the various fish, it also hurt the local fishing industry which relies so heavily on vacationing anglers.

Facing a major environmental and financial problem, a diverse group of citizen groups united behind the idea of restoring the Blue River to its original state. Among these groups were Trout Unlimited, the Town of Silverthorne, the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, Summit County, the United States Forest Service, and the National Forest Foundation. These groups worked together to raise the money to return the river to its natural width, thus restoring the riparian habitat. Moreover these enhancements have helped bring the community together and have proven to be a model for similar restoration projects.

The restoration has been a tremendous success. Mr. Andy Gentry, president of the local Trout Unlimited chapter, received a national award recognizing his role in the project. The American Public Works Association selected the project as one of the most outstanding projects in the nation.

In addition to the national recognition and appreciation, the most rewarding aspect of the restoration project was returning the Blue River to its natural beauty. Anglers can now fish for trout in its sparkling waters. Hikers can walk the trails adjacent to the river and take in the wonderful views.

Mr. Speaker, the Blue River Restoration Project is a shining example of collaborative and successful outdoor public works projects. It is a model for future projects and proves that groups of concerned citizens can cooperate to improve the environment and enhance the quality of life in their communities. This is especially important as hunting and fishing activities significantly contribute to the health of Colorado's economy—as well as the health of the environment.

I have attached a newspaper story about this accomplishment.

[From the Summit Daily, May 2, 2004]

RESTORATION NAMED 'EXEMPLARY PROJECT'

(By Christine McManus)

SILVERTHORNE.—After receiving a third award for their Blue River restoration efforts, local Trout Unlimited members are looking for other stream beds in the county to improve for fish habitat.

The most recent accolade for the Blue River project came April 17 when the Colorado Trout Unlimited (TU) honored the local Gore Range Anglers chapter of TU and its partners with the Exemplary Project Award.

"The one constant about trout is they like to live in beautiful places. Summit County fits that perfectly," said Andy Gentry, president of the local chapter.

Trout Unlimited and its partners worked together to narrow the channel of the Blue River.

With declining stream flows during the ongoing drought, and only minimal releases from the Dillon Reservoir Dam, the 120-foot wide channel below the dam provided water too shallow for fish to survive.

The restoration project generally narrowed the channel to 30 feet wide.

The project preserved the Gold Medal status of the fishery, as declared by the Colorado Division of Wildlife on 13 rivers in the state.

The Exemplary Project Award from Colorado Trout Unlimited recognizes outstanding projects that have a significant impact on coldwater fisheries.

The award also recognizes successful partnerships between Trout Unlimited and other local and state groups, local governments and/or state and federal agencies.

Partners who worked on the Blue River restoration included the town of Silverthorne, the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG), the National Forest Foundation, the Colorado Division of Wildlife, the U.S. Forest Service and Summit County.

Gentry said the project would not have been done without all the partners.

"The Blue River Restoration Project has made a significant impact on the county and the fishery," said Kevin Batchelder, Silverthorne town manager.

"This project really showed how many different government entities, nonprofit organizations and local organizations can work together to make a lasting impact on their community."

Trout Unlimited and NWCCOG hope to work with other local governments and nonprofit organizations on additional river restoration projects, said Gentry and Liz Finn, NWCCOG assistant executive director.

The chapter is putting together a list of river restoration projects they would like to explore this summer.

The Upper Blue River, the Tenmile Creek, Swan River drainage and Lower Blue River are being considered, Gentry said.

"Hopefully other Summit County governmental entities and groups find projects for Trout Unlimited to be involved in as well," Gentry said.

In January, the Colorado Chapter of the American Public Works Association selected the project for the Project of the Year Award in the Utility Drainage and Environmental in the Small Communities category.

In September 2003, Gentry won the National Trout Unlimited Distinguished Service Award for his efforts with the Blue River Restoration Project.

RECOGNIZING THE INAUGURATION
OF THE RICARDO MONTALBÁN
THEATRE

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Nosotros organization and the Ricardo Montalbán Foundation for their exceptional leadership in creating and inaugurating the Ricardo Montalbán Theatre in Hollywood, California.

Over 33 years ago, the legendary film and television actor Ricardo Montalbán had a vision for a place where Latino artists, and those in support of Latino artistry, could unite and work towards the common goal of "improving the image of Latinos in the entertainment industry." Today, we are able to see Mr. Montalbán's dream come true via his Nosotros organization and its partner, the Ricardo Montalbán Foundation.

After years of hard work and tireless leadership, tonight's opening of the Ricardo Montalbán Theatre will historically mark the inauguration of the first major theatrical venue of its size in our country to be founded and named after a Latino artist. For generations to come, the Montalbán Theatre will operate and present performances that will encompass the same ideals that its founders held nearly 34 years ago.

As reflected through its mission statement, the Ricardo Montalbán Theatre will produce, present and support exceptional world-class theatre that examines issues of common concern for all people, as seen through the lens of the Latino experience. By offering theatre in an accessible and state-of-the-art facility that emphasizes artistic partnerships and community participation, it will also aim to establish a genuine cultural center for Los Angeles, and contribute to the development of a new vision for the American theatre.

We are fortunate to have passionate and exceptional leaders like Ricardo Montalbán, who has dedicated his career to improving the image of Latinos—both in front and behind the camera. I commend his leadership for expanding Latino employment opportunities in the entertainment industry; for training Latinos to become better actors and industry professionals; and, most notably, for reaching out to the community and encouraging talented young people to enter the entertainment profession.

I wish Ricardo Montalbán, the leadership of the Nosotros organization and the Ricardo Montalbán Foundation continued success in their future professional and artistic endeavors. They exemplify excellence in American leadership today.

A TRIBUTE TO OJEDA HALL-
PHILLIPS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ojeda Hall-Phillips in recognition of her dedication to increasing economic opportunities for women and minorities in her community.

Ojeda Hall-Phillips is the Deputy Director of the Local Development Corporation of East New York, a 25-year old community economic development, not-for-profit corporation dedicated to developing business, job and housing opportunities for the residents of East Brooklyn and the surrounding areas. A strategist and planner, Ojeda runs the Brooklyn Enterprise Center at the Local Development Corporation of East New York whose mission is to build economic independence among women and minorities through enterprise formation and expansion and skills development, with special emphasis on low-income African Americans and Latinos in East Brooklyn. She previously served as an associate in the strategic planning departments of the investment banking firms of Salomon Smith Barney and JP Morgan.

Also an entrepreneur, Ojeda is the Associate Publisher of *Glory Magazine*, a lifestyle magazine that empowers African American Christian women to live out their faith in everyday life from fitness, health, beauty, and fashion to money management, spiritual growth, parenting, and relationships. She has been a contributing writer for *Heart & Soul Magazine*, writing articles focusing on repairing credit and managing finances.

A member of the Board of Deaconesses of the Brown Memorial Baptist Church, she became head of Spiritual Ministries for the Women's Ministry Institute at Brown Memorial Baptist Church in 2002. She co-leads the Women's Bible Studies and the First Friday Women's Revival Series.

She currently serves on the Boards of Directors for: Groundwork Inc, a youth development program to support young people living in high poverty urban communities to develop their strengths, skills, talents and competencies through effective experiential learning and work programs with special emphasis on youth in East New York; the New York City Financial Network Action Consortium, an initiative to build better community development credit unions in New York City; Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow, a job readiness program providing training and employment for hard to employ youth and adults in Brooklyn and; the Association of Women's Business Centers which develop and strengthen a global network of women's business centers to advance the growth and success of women business owners.

Ms. Hall-Phillips earned a bachelors degree in government from Harvard University and is currently pursuing a Master of Divinity degree from the Drew Theological School in Madison, NJ. She is the winner of Drew University's Lawrence E. Toombs Prize in Old Testament History, F.B. Yetter Prize in Old Testament Studies; and the Patricia Wickham Prize in Feminist Scholarship and Spirituality and Social Justice Award. She is married to Minister Samuel Phillips III, Associate Minister of the

Brown Memorial Baptist Church. Ojeda and her husband live in the Bedford Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn.

Mr. Speaker, Ojeda Hall-Phillips has dedicated her life through professional and volunteer efforts to increasing economic opportunity for all. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL
JOHN A. "ANDY" LOVE

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of a truly extraordinary gentleman, Major General John A. "Andy" Love.

General Love has proudly served the United States and is retiring on May 21, 2004 to civilian life from a stellar 36 year career in the Colorado Air National Guard.

Andy Love earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1967 from Colorado College in Colorado Springs, Colorado in Political Science. After that, Andy joined the Colorado Air National Guard. He did undergraduate work in pilot training at Williams Air Force Base, in Arizona, where he earned his pilots wings and became a Squadron Fighter Pilot who has over 2500 hours in the F100, A-7 and F-16.

Andy served in many capacities for many years at Buckley Air National Guard Base in Colorado and eventually became the Vice Commander of the 140th Fighter Wing, then on to Deputy Commander for Operations. Soon after that he became the Assistant Adjutant General to the Air National Guard unit at Buckley. In September 2000, Andy became the Assistant to the Commander of Air Force Space Command, which required a move from Buckley to Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado. In April 2003, General Love was promoted to the position from which he now retires as the Assistant, for National Guard Matters, to the Commander of NORAD/USNORTHCOM (North American Aerospace Defense Command/US Northern Command).

Major General Love has much to be proud of in his extensive military career, but also for the many awards and decorations he's received, including: Legion of Merit Award, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Air Force Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Colorado Meritorious Service Medal, Active Service Ribbon, Foreign Deployment Service Ribbon, Colorado State Emergency Ribbon, Mobilization Support Ribbon, and Colorado Long Service Ribbon.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating Major General John A. "Andy" Love on his successful military career, and thanking him for his years of service to a grateful nation.

AWARDING OF AN HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE TO SISTER FRANCESCA THOMPSON FROM THE CHRISTIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, INDIANAPOLIS, IN

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sister Francesca Thompson, O.S.F., Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana.

Sister Thompson, born in Los Angeles, CA, received her B.A. in English from Marian College, Indianapolis, IN. She earned a Masters of Education degree with a concentration in Communication Arts from Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH. Later, Sister Thompson earned a PhD in Theatre/Speech at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

Her 50 years of teaching experience include St. Joseph Elementary School of Cincinnati, OH; High School English and Speech at the Academy of the Immaculate Conception, Oldenburg, Indiana; Theatre, Speech and Black Studies at Marian College in Indianapolis, IN; a Teaching Fellow in Acting at the University of Michigan; Assistant to the Dean, Associate Professor African-American Studies, and the Department of Communications at Fordham University, Bronx, New York and Assistant Dean and Director of Multi-Cultural Programs at Fordham University, Bronx, New York.

Sister Thompson's publications include her Dissertation: *The Lafayette Players, 1915-1932. History of the First Black Dramatic Stock Company in the United States; Twice Called: Autobiographies of Seventeen Convert Sisters; (one chapter): Notable Women in American Theatre; Black Women in America, historical encyclopedia; Families: Black and Catholic, United States Catholic Conference, Department of Education; and Oscar Micheaux and His Circle.*

Her background experience in directing include such classics as: "Midsummer's Night Dream", "Hotel Paradiso", "In White America", "As You Like It", "Ten Angry Women", and "The Dutchman" and encompasses original plays entitled "Rag Dolly", "The Inside Story", "Remember When", "Precious Dear's Magic Christmas" and Happiness Is".

Her organizations are the National Black Federal Theatre Board; Jesuit commission on Minority Affairs; National board of Operation P.U.S.H., and the Broadway Tony Board.

Sister Thompson is an accomplished lecturer and public speaker in the areas of Theatre, African American Studies, Communication, the Black Family and Ministering the Black Community.

Mr. Speaker: I echo the thoughts of behalf of many former students, friends and colleagues whose lives have been touched by Sister Thompson.

Finally, throughout her illustrious career, Sister Thompson has shared her many gifts and talents in many places and with many people. It is the sharing of her gifts that makes her a genuine treasure. Mr. Speaker I have enclosed a copy of the extensive résumé of Sister Frances Thompson.

RÉSUMÉ

Sister Francesca Thompson, O.S.F., Dean's Office—McGinley Center #211, Fordham University at Rose Hill, Bronx, New York.

Birthplace: Los Angeles, California, Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, Indiana.

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

B.A. English—Marian College, Indianapolis, Indiana.

M. of Ed. Concentration in Communication Arts—Xavier University, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Ph.D. Theatre/Speech—University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

1954–1961: Taught grades two through eight: St. Joseph Elementary School, Cincinnati, Ohio.

1961–1967: High School English and Speech: Academy of the Immaculate Conception, Oldenburg, Indiana.

1967–1982: Theatre, Speech, Black Studies: Marian College, Indianapolis, Indiana.

1969–1971: Leave of absence to complete Ph.D., Teaching Fellow, Acting: University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

1974–1982: Chairperson Department Theatre/Speech: Marian College, Indianapolis, Indiana.

1982–1999: Assistant to the Dean, Associate Professor African-American Studies, and Associate Professor in Department of Communications: Fordham University, Bronx, New York.

1999– : Assistant Dean/Director Multi-Cultural Programs, Associate Professor in Department of Communication, and Associate Professor of African American Studies: Fordham University, Bronx, New York.

CLASSES TAUGHT, COLLEGE LEVEL

Acting Technique, Advanced Acting, Problems in Acting, Oral Interpretation, Introduction to Theatre, Theatre Criticism, Theatre History, Survey of Dramatic Literature, Black Literature, Black Drama, Directing, Speech, Teaching Speech on the Secondary Level (Class for Education Majors), Conflicts and Choices—20th Century Drama, Tension Between God and Man Found in Dramatic Literature, Shades of Values: Themes in Black and White Drama, Beginning Acting.

PUBLICATIONS

Dissertation: *The Lafayette Players, 1915–1932. (History of the First Black Dramatic Stock Company in the United States).*

Twice Called: *Autobiographies of Seventeen Convert Sisters, (one chapter):* Bruce Publishing Company, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1959.

Contributor: *Black World, Freeing the Spirit America, U.S. Catholic, Black Masks (theater magazine), magazines.*

The Theatre of Black Americans, Vol. 11, ed. Dr. Erroll Hill, Chapter 1, "The Lafayette Players. New York: Prentice-Hall, 1980.

Families: Black and Catholic, ed. Sr. Thea Bowman, FSPA. Washington, D.C.: United States Catholic Conference, Department of Education, 1985.

Notable Women in American Theatre, Vol. 1, ed. Dr. Alice Robinson. New York: Greenwood Press, 1989.

Black Women in America: Historical Encyclopedia, ed. Darlene C. Hine. New York: Carlson Publishing, 1993.

Oscar Micheaux and His Circle, ed. Bowser, Gaines, Musser. Bloomington, IN, Indiana University Press, 2001.

BACKGROUND EXPERIENCE

Directing: *This Bird of Dawning, Dutchman, The Miser, The Silver Cord, And We Own The Night, At Liberty, Midsummer's Night Dream, Hotel Paradiso, In White America, As You Like It, Ten Angry Women, The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-In-The-Moon Marigolds, I Never Saw Another Butterfly, River of My Song, Belle of Amherst, Black Vignettes (an original musicale) and numerous Children's Theatre productions.*

Original plays: *Rag Dolly, The Inside Story, Precious Dear's Magic Christmas, Remember When, Happiness Is . . .*

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Nominated for Outstanding Teaching Fellow of the Year at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor.

Special "Sojourner Truth Award" given by the members of the Union for Black Identity—Marian College, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Brotherhood Award—awarded by the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Outstanding Alumni Award—Marian College, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Key to the City, Mayoral Award—Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Indianapolis Education Association's Dr. Martin Luther King Human Rights Award.

New York State English Council Award for Teacher of Excellence in Drama.

Sister Francesca Thompson Scholarship Endowment established by the Sisters of St. Francis Oldenburg, Indiana Justice and Peace Committee.

Teacher of the Year Award—Fordham University, Bronx, New York.

Pierre Toussaint Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Black Catholic Community.

International Black Women's Conference: A. Nomsa John—Inspiration Award.

National Catholic Education Association: A. Koob National Award for Outstanding Contribution to Catholic Education.

Honorary Degree: Doctor of Humane Letters, LeMoyne College, Syracuse, New York, May 1996.

Selected as one of 25 of "The Most Influential Individuals in Catholic Education Over the Past 25 Years." Award presented by the Peter Li Education Group under the auspices of the National Catholic Education Association—Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Presenter of Commencement address and Honorary Degree recipient—Marian College, Indianapolis, Indiana, May, 1997.

Received the degree of Doctor of Fine Arts, from St. Michael's College, Winooski Park, Colchester, Vermont—May 1997.

Received Outstanding Alumnus of the Year Award from the Department of Theatre, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan (Ph.D., 1972).

Honorary Degree: Doctor of Fine Arts, Fordham University, May 2002.

Outstanding Sagamore Award—Given by the Governor of Indiana for Superlative Service to the Governor and the State.

ORGANIZATIONS

The Armstead-Johnson Foundation for Theatre Research, New York, New York (Executive Board Member).

Martin Luther King, Jr. Fellow (Executive Board Member).

National Board of Operation P.U.S.H.

Jesuit Commission on Minority Affairs.

Former Board of Trustees, St. Michael College, Winsooki, Vermont.

National Black Federal Theatre Board.

Broadway Tony Board.

PARTIAL LIST OF LECTURE SITES

John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio.

Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

Indiana University.

Purdue University.

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

University of Missouri, Kansas City, Missouri.

Notre Dame University.

Rochester University of Theology.

Mt. St. Joseph International Theological Institute, Cincinnati, Ohio.

M.L.A. Conference, Chicago, Illinois.

American Theatre Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Trinity Baptist Church, Los Angeles, California.

Conference on Black Women; Indianapolis, Indiana.

Canaan Baptist Church, New York, New York.

First Nazarene Baptist Church, Camden, New Jersey.

Antioch Baptist Church, Seattle, Washington.

Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, D.C.

P.U.S.H. National Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana

Conference on Ministry to Blacks in Higher Education, Daytona Beach, Florida.

National Black Progressive Baptist Conference, Chicago, Illinois.

National Black Pastor's Conference, Detroit, Michigan, 1979.

National Black Pastor's Conference, Chicago, Illinois, 1980.

15 talks in Oakland, California, "Scholar in Residence" for the Public Secondary Schools.

Tri-State (Ohio, Illinois, Indiana) National Conference for Hospital Administrators and Staff.

Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.

National Vocation Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

National Conference on Peace and Justice, New York, New York.

Network of Black Career Women, New York and Cincinnati, Ohio.

N.A.A.C.P. Regional Conference, Michigan.

Conference on Ministering in the Black Community, Adrian, Michigan.

Urban Education In-service Program, Cleveland, Ohio.

Black Urban Child Conference, Archdiocese of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

Conference on Catechetics for the Black Community, School Office Archdiocese of Washington, Washington, D.C.

Black Catholic Conference, New York, New York.

LCWR Conference, Kansas City, Missouri.

Molloy College, Rockville Centre Diocesan Office, Rockville Centre, New York.

Union Theological Seminary, New York, New York.

St. Paul Community Baptist Church, Brooklyn, New York.

Fordham Prep, New York, New York.

National Progressive Baptist Women's Luncheon, Brooklyn, New York.

Faculty In-Service Lecture, Rice High School, New York, New York.

Office of Black Ministry, Awards Banquet, New Haven, Connecticut.

St. Augustine's Anglican Church, New York, New York.

St. Charles Lawanga National Institute for Black Seminars (Faculty), Chicago, Illinois.

National Catholic Educator's Association; St. Louis, Missouri.

Claremont School of Theology, Commencement Address, Los Angeles, California.

Black American Law Student Association, Fordham University, Bronx, New York.

C.S.J. International Conference, East St. Louis, Illinois.

Conference for Inner-City Teachers, Boston, MA.

N.A.A.C.P. Awards Banquet, East St. Louis, Illinois.

National Conference of Black Criminal Justice Employees, St. Louis, Missouri.

African-American Catholic Catechetical Conference, Los Angeles, California.

National Black Theatre Program Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.

National Black Catholic Conference, Keynote Address, Washington, D.C.

Presenter BLACK SPIRITUALITY RETREAT, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

BLACK EXPO, Indianapolis, Indiana.

National LCWR Conference, St. Paul, Minnesota.

National "Future of the Church" Conference, Washington, D.C.

National Black Clergy and Black Religious Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Future of the Church Conference—Washington, D.C.

Saint Meinrad Seminary.

Pacific Coast Religion Congress—Keynote Address, Los Angeles, California.

Institute for Black Catholic Studies—Xavier University; New Orleans, Louisiana.

Black Catholic Congress—Keynote Address, Atlanta, Georgia.

Inner-City Teacher's Conference, Oakland, California.

Black History Month Celebration, Museum of Natural History, New York, New York.

Symposium on Black Performance, Columbia University, New York, New York.

North American Conference on Incultration in the Church, Rome, Italy.

Archdiocese of Chicago, Illinois—City-Wide Black Catholic Revival.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration—St. Francis, New York, New York.

Black History Month Celebration—San Francisco, California.

Peace and Justice Center Lecture Series—Cincinnati, Ohio.

New York Archdiocesan Institute for Elementary and Secondary Teachers, New York, New York.

Major Superiors of Religious Men Conference, San Antonio, Texas.

Archdiocesan Afro-American Theology Conference, Los Angeles, California.

"100 Years of Catholic Social Thought"; International Conference, San Francisco, California.

National Association of Anglican Women, Washington, D.C.

National Black Theatre Conference, Winston Salem, North Carolina.

International Black Women's Conference, New Jersey.

Inter-faith Celebration of Martin L. King, Jr. Day, Angelican Cathedral, Garden City, New York.

National Catholic Educational Conference, St. Louis, Missouri.

AEEE National Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Inter Faith Ecumenical Service to Initiate: Stop the Violence Week, Temple Emmanuel, New York, New York.

Conference on BLACKS IN SILENT FILMS—Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.

The International Chapter Convocation of the FMM Congregation—Boston, Massachusetts—December 1996.

National Black Catholic Congress, Covington, KY. Keynote, 1999.

National Black Theatre Conference, Winston Salem, N.C., 2001.

International Silent Film Festival: Le Giornate Del Cinema Muto, Sacile, Italy, Guest and Speaker for the Festival.

National Black Catholic Congress, Chicago, Illinois, 2002.

Keynote Speaker for the 100th Anniversary Celebration for the oldest Black Catholic Church in Indianapolis, IN—Holy Angels Parish.

Scholarship Fund Raiser for the University of Michigan Theatre Department, Ann Arbor, MI.

Black History Month speaker for St. Paul of the Ship Wrecked—San Francisco, CA.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRANK WEDDIG

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Frank

Weddig and thank him for his dedication and service to the Colorado General Assembly as a member of both the State Senate and House of Representatives. Frank has brought an outstanding level of energy and integrity to the Colorado General Assembly throughout his years of public service, and as he celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a great legacy of commitment to the people of Colorado.

Representing the people of Arapahoe County in District 36, Frank was elected in 2000 based on his fair and balanced approach to government and his previous political experience. In 1977, he was appointed to the Aurora Parks and Recreation Board; in 1979, he was named to the Aurora Planning and Zoning Commission; and from 1981 to 1994 served on the Aurora City Council. In 1994, he received an appointment to the State Senate and was subsequently reelected in 1996, before running for the State House of Representatives in 2000. During his tenure in the General Assembly Frank has worked hard to improve education and promote fiscal responsibility. During his last term, he sat on the Local Government Committee and the State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute before this body of Congress and this nation to State Representative Frank Weddig for his selfless efforts of public service during his tenure in the Colorado General Assembly. The level of integrity and honesty he has displayed while serving his district and the people of Colorado has earned the respect and admiration of his peers. I would like to extend my congratulations to Frank on his retirement and wish him and his wife Pat all the best in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO COL. CELIA Y. BRAMBLE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Col. Celia Y. Bramble in recognition of her dedication to the work of Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn.

Celia Y. Bramble is currently an Associate Executive Director for Training and Organizational Development at Kings County Hospital Center. She began her career at Kings County Hospital in 1967 after migrating from St. Vincent and the Grenadines. She moved up the ranks from Staff Nurse and Head Nurse to administrative positions through academic achievement, clinical competence and dedication.

In her current role, Celia has overall responsibility for planning, coordinating and developing educational programs for professional and support staff within the Central Brooklyn Family Health Network. This includes overseeing over 40 training initiatives managed by Community Health Partnership funds. One of her greatest rewards is to see support staff, who she has coached and mentored, become practical and registered nurses. One of her major achievements is the 100 percent success rate that she has had in preparing students to take the New York State Board for Nursing examination.

Ms. Bramble is also responsible for coordinating clinical experience for students in 14 programs of nursing. She serves on the advisory board of 7 of these programs. In her role as board member, she provides guidance to faculty to include the need for curriculum changes to support current trends in nursing, so that new graduates can successfully make the transition from student to practitioner. Some of her recommendations resulted in programs of nursing adding Cultural Diversity, Pain Management and Introduction to Nursing Management to the curriculum.

Ms. Bramble received her undergraduate degree from CW Post College, Long Island University; a Master of Arts in Teaching in Nursing and a Masters in Education from Columbia University. She also holds a Certification in Nursing Education and Staff Development from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. Among her professional awards are the New York State Nurses Association Nursing Education Award and the Health and Hospitals Corporation Multicultural Award for developing programs to promote tolerance for a culturally diverse workforce.

Ms. Bramble's accomplishments extend far beyond her professional affiliations. In 1981, she was commissioned as a Captain in the United States Army Reserve. Over the years, her devotion to duty, clinical skills and leadership qualities elevated her to the rank of Colonel. Her distinguished military career included assignments in various military hospitals in peacetime and wartime. Her last assignment was Commander of the 344th Combat Support Hospital at Fort Hamilton, New York, until she retired as a Colonel in April 2003. Her military honors include: The Legion of Merit award, the Army Commendation Medal with Four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters, numerous Certificates of Achievement and Letters of Commendation.

Mr. Speaker, Col. Celia Bramble has dedicated her life to providing quality healthcare to both civilians and military personnel. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, on May 11, 2004, during rollcall vote Nos. 153, 154 and 155 I was unavoidably detained. If I had been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote Nos. 153, 154 and 155.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH YANKOSKI—A LEGACY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, CIVIC AND HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS

HON. CURT WELDON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great sadness and tremendous gratitude to honor the life of my good

friend, Joseph Yankoski, a generous and dedicated community leader who will be greatly missed in Delaware County, Pennsylvania. As his family, friends and neighbors mourn the passing of Joe Yankoski, I want to take a few moments to remember his work and the difference he made in the community he served so faithfully.

For many years, Joe served as executive director of employment and training for Delaware County. As Joe led the agency through a time of transition and expansion, he was known for his straightforwardness and positive outlook in seeking solutions to assure that residents receive the training they need to find employment or to advance their careers. His inspirational leadership had a profound effect on helping people to better their lives. Even after his retirement, Joe continued to assist others as a consultant to the Delaware County Workforce. His life was centered around service to others.

Adding to his already extraordinary list of accomplishments in the community, Joe plunged himself into other areas of community service and involvement. He was a member of the American Legion Post 227, the advisory council for the County Office of Services for the Aging, an officer with the American Association of Retired Persons, a member of the Delaware County Retirees, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Navy League.

The example of Joe Yankoski's citizenship and dedication to duty will be his enduring legacy. Representative of the sacrifices of this great country is the proud and gallant record of his service in the United States Navy during World War II and the Korean War. He served on the USS *North Carolina*, USS *Catoctin* and the USS *Des Moines*.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering, a dedicated community leader and friend to many in the 7th Congressional District. I wish Joe's wife of 52 years, Nancy and family, my heartfelt condolences and may they find comfort in knowing that the many people he affected deeply value his dedication and generosity and the example of his life and work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I missed the vote on Agreeing to the Amendment to the Stark of California Substitute Amendment to H.R. 4279, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the disposition of unused health benefits in cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements (No. 161). I intended to vote "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, on May 12, I was unable to vote on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 637, providing for the

consideration of H.R. 4275 (rollcall 156); and on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 638, providing for the consideration of H.R. 4279, H.R. 4280 and H.R. 4281 (rollcall 157). Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on both measures.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO NANCY SPENCE

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Nancy Spence and thank her for her extraordinary contributions to the State of Colorado as a member of the Colorado General Assembly. As a three-term member of the State House of Representatives, she will be remembered as a legislator with the utmost dedication and talent, and will continue to be known as a leader in the community. Let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, are eternally grateful for all that she has accomplished in her tenure in the Colorado House of Representatives.

Representing the people of Arapahoe County in District 39, Nancy was first elected in 1998 after serving many years on the Cherry Creek School Board of Education. Nancy has used this background effectively in the State House, championing public education reform as the Chair on the Education Committee. She also has worked hard for a fiscally responsible government to reduce taxes for small business and the people of Colorado, and served on the Transportation and Energy Committee. Nancy's excellent legislative record has garnered her numerous awards, including the 2003 Student Voice Award by the Colorado Student Association for Higher Education, the 2002 and 2003 Guardian of Small Business award by the National Federation of Independent Business, and the 2002 President's Award from the University of Colorado School of Dentistry.

Nancy's efforts to better her community include extensive involvement with civic organizations. She is a lifetime member of the Cherry Creek Valley Historical Society; member of the Colorado Commission on Higher Education, member of the WICHE Legislative Committee, and is a past member of the Governor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Higher Education.

Mr. Speaker, it is quite clear that State Representative Nancy Spence is a person who has demonstrated an exceptional level of dedication and commitment to her life long pursuit of public service. It is her incredible devotion along with her passion for contributing towards the betterment of her community and the State of Colorado that I wish to bring before this body of Congress and this nation. It is my distinct pleasure to honor Nancy here today, and wish her and her husband Peter all the best in their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO EVA COOPER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Eva Cooper in recognition of her nursing services to the Brooklyn community.

Eva Cooper has worked at Brooklyn Jewish Hospital and Interfaith Medical Center for over 37 years. Eva is currently the Nurse Manager of four Ambulatory Care sites and the PCAP (Prenatal Care Assistance Program) Coordinator for the Medical Center. She began her career in health care as a Licensed Practical Nurse on a busy 40-bed surgical unit. Eva would always make every effort to give the highest level of patient care. On several occasions, when semi-private rooms were available some patients preferred to remain on the unit, because they were so pleased with the care they were given.

Upon receiving her diploma from the Brooklyn Jewish School of Nursing, Eva began working in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit as a Staff Nurse. During her tenure on the unit she was promoted to Assistant Head Nurse in 1988 and to Manager in 1992. Eva was the Chairperson of the Baby Alumni Celebration for 3 years, which focused on the accomplishments of the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) graduates. When the St. Johns Episcopal Hospital and Brooklyn Jewish Hospital merged in 1983, Eva organized the smooth transition of the NICU.

In 1995, Eva was offered an opportunity to become the Nurse Manager of Ambulatory Care Services of the hospital-based Pediatric and OB/GYN Clinic and two community-based clinic sites. Eva regularly participates in community health fairs, stressing the importance of regular visits to the doctor, balanced nutrition and regular exercise. She spearheads the Reach Out and Read Program at Interfaith Medical Center. The Reach Out and Read Program is a national literacy program that advocates the distribution of books to all children, ages 6 months to 5 years, at each well-child visit. She organizes many events including Easter basket celebrations, Halloween parties and Christmas parties.

As the PCAP Coordinator, Eva advocates for the prenatal patients of Bedford-Stuyvesant and Crown Heights. The program provides insurance coverage for women, who are uninsured or underinsured, during their pregnancy and post-partum visits. Eva also organizes the Ambulatory Care Services quarterly Prenatal Open House Tours, which allows patients to view the Maternal Child Unit and introduces the staff responsible for patient care.

Eva has been recognized for her leadership abilities and unselfish commitment to patient care on numerous occasions: Nurse of the Year—1988, IMC Women's Auxiliary Recognition Award—1998, and Manager of the Year—2002. She is a member of several community organizations including Brooklyn Perinatal Network, Caribbean Women's Association and the Fulton Street Merchant's Association.

Eva earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Medgar Evers College, and a Masters Degree in Health Services Administration from Central Michigan University. Eva currently attends Self-Realization Fellowship Church in New York.

Mr. Speaker, Eva Cooper has dedicated her life to providing quality nursing services to the people of Brooklyn. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that I am recorded as "not voting" on May 6, 2004 on rollcall #149.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had my vote been recorded, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall #149 (to suspend the rules and pass H. Res. 402, regarding the urgent need for freedom, democratic reform, and international monitoring of elections, human rights, and religious liberty in the Lao People's Democratic Republic).

TRIBUTE TO MARC M. SELTZER

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and remarkable man, Marc M. Seltzer, who is being honored on May 13th at ORT's 2004 Jurisprudence Award Dinner. Marc has made outstanding contributions in the legal field, has written extensively, and is a widely recognized expert on especially complex litigation.

Marc is a native Californian, who received his bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley and his law degree from UCLA. Upon graduating from law school, he became a Deputy Attorney General for the State of California. After several years, he went into private practice and ultimately joined Jack Corinblit and Martin Shapero, forming the firm Corinblit, Shapero, and Seltzer, which later became Corinblit and Seltzer. They blazed an impressive legal trail which included a massive equity funding securities litigation case. Marc also served as the sole lead counsel for the plaintiff in one of the largest and most elaborate west coast securities fraud cases—the ZZZZ Best securities fraud case.

In 1998, Jack Corinblit retired and Marc joined forces with long-time friends and colleagues to become the resident managing partner of the newly opened Los Angeles office of Susman Godfrey L.L.P. In only a few years, the office became one of the leading litigation firms in Los Angeles.

In addition to his extensive legal accomplishments, Marc has served in a plethora of civic and professional organizations. He served as President of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles in 2002 and is currently the Vice President of the Ninth Judicial Circuit Historical Society. He is also vice chairman of the Executive Committee of the Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law Section of the State

Bar of California; a member of the Board of Directors of the National Equal Justice Library; and a trustee of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. He has also served as chairman of the Dean's Circle at UCLA School of Law.

Marc is married to the Honorable Christina A. Snyder, United States District Judge for the Central District of California. Together, this distinguished couple has given unstintingly of their time and resources to improve their profession and their community.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in saluting Marc M. Seltzer and congratulating him as he receives this richly deserved honor.

CONGRATULATING "BATTLE OF THE BOOKS" PARTICIPANTS FROM CAMDEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the fifth and sixth grade students and teachers in Camden County, NJ who participated in the Second Annual Battle of the Books. Battle of the Books is a nationwide program designed to foster and encourage a devotion to reading. Through this program, librarians and reading teachers select several books that each participating student is then required to read. Each week students meet to discuss the material they read and, in early spring, a competition is held to test the knowledge that the students have amassed as a result of their voracious reading.

The Battle of the Books is a worthwhile program which greatly enhances the educational experiences of all who choose to participate. I ask that my colleagues join me in commending all of the participating students (including my daughter, Jacquelyn) for their devotion to reading, as well as the teachers and advisors for all that they do to educate our nation's youth.

Participants were, from Atlantic Avenue School in Haddon Heights, NJ: Jacquelyn Andrews, Ben Huber, Kate Quinn, Michael Wasienko, and Samantha Wentz. From Bell Oaks School in Bellmawr, NJ: Ryan Campanella, Courtney Clark, Valentina Covalenco, Robert O'Donnell, Vidhi Patel and Ryan Carney. From Glenview Avenue School in Haddon Heights, NJ: Jason Jenson, Zachary Andrews, Matthew Capula, Robbie Migliaccio, Christopher McKane, and Nick Sabota. From Kershaw School in Mount Ephraim, NJ: Kristina Marioni, Joe Benigno, Ben Doria, Nicole Fisher, Jessica Lanchang, Nicole West, Chris Fehr, Melissa Jost, Rhea Keith, Amanda Monteleone, Brianna Ingram, and Sarah Myers. From Pine Hill Middle School in Pine Hill, NJ: Shelby Cubbler, Chris Harris, Kori Lok, Emily Oriente, Monica Thompson, and Jackie Springer. From Seventh Avenue School in Haddon Heights, NJ: Beth Packi, Matthew Deeney, Rebecca Baron, Megan Hall, Marc Delmonico, and Nathaniel Harshaw. From Mary Volz School in

Runnemede, NJ: Michael Bieg, Carly Drebit, Sean Fredhoff, Brian Kissam, Andrea Lowe, Rachel McKelvy, Michael Cook, Andrea Farino, Jennifer Koss, Amanda McAnally, Brianna Rodriguez, and Evan Prims. From Woodland School in Barrington, NJ: Jill Costello, Alexa Diedrich, Alyssa Jarmusik, Megan Roney, Amanda Woodward, Tyler Franceschini, Edwin Gross, Donny Lang, Mike Muniz, Erik Tate, and Matt Waite. And, from Yellin School in Stratford, NJ: Amanda Hubler, Jeffrey Abbott, Jesse Debes, Sarah Price, Rachel Overpeck, David Calber, Katie Keen, Maryann Baxler, Joshua Forrest, Katelyn Sullivan, Vincent Carpinelli, and Ryan Cooper. The librarians and reading teachers who served as advisors for the students were Mrs. Nancy Healy, Mrs. Jo Ann Burns, Ms. Nancy Clark, Mrs. Susie Leon, Mrs. Susan Mosebrook, Mrs. Diane Drayer Beler, Mrs. Sue Milon, Mrs. Julie LaRubbio, and Mrs. Debbie Reinholdt.

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF ORANGE IN RECOGNITION OF THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORANGE PEACE STATUE

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the spirit and civic pride that the Town of Orange, Massachusetts and its residents have demonstrated over the past 70 years towards the care and preservation of the bronze Peace Statue by Joseph Pollia.

The 12-foot high "peace statue" stands in a small park in the center of Orange. Designed by Joseph Pollia in 1934, this sculpture received national attention when it was dedicated as a memorial to veterans of World War I. First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt sent a letter commemorating the event and coverage of the statue appeared in the Christian Science Monitor.

The statue addresses the need for world peace through its inscription "It Shall Not Be Again" and is said to be the only "peace statue" of its kind. It depicts a doughboy just returning from the war torn fields of France. He is seated on a stump and beside him stands a 10-year old American schoolboy carrying a book. The statue, which weighs 1,120 pounds, was installed on two granite blocks.

Seventy years ago today this statue was unveiled as a memorial to the brave men of Orange who gave their lives to protect our country. It has also served as a beautiful reminder that peace is an alternative to war. The sculpture's inscription, "It Shall Not Be Again", could not be more timely as the nation once again honors the memory of young men and women who have given the greatest sacrifice to protect our nation and its citizens. In honor of our nation's veterans, I again ask that we recognize the national significance of this statue and thank the people of Orange, Massachusetts for keeping it safe for future generations to enjoy.

HONORING CORRECTIONS OFFICER
CHRIS WILSON AND SERGEANT
JOSEPH DEMATTEO

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Police Week, I would like to recognize the bravery of two law enforcement officers from my district whose heroic acts were honored this week by Corrections USA, a leading national voice for correctional officers.

It is said that correctional officers "patrol law enforcement's toughest beat," and nothing could be truer. Everyday, these officers work to keep violent felons behind bars and put their lives at risk to ensure that our families can feel safe in our homes and on our streets. The work they do is critical to the safety of our communities, and their sacrifices exemplify the spirit of public service.

Far too often these sacrifices go unnoticed, but on Monday May 10th, Corrections U.S.A. honored some of these extraordinary public servants at their Medal of Valor Awards Ceremony. Each of the award recipients went beyond the call of duty, putting their lives in jeopardy in order to save the life of another. They all responded admirably to the crises they faced, and demonstrated the true strength of their character. I was pleased and honored to join Corrections USA in recognizing the courage of these fine officers, and would like to take this opportunity to share the stories of two of my constituents who were honored at this event.

On July 16, 2003, Corrections Officer Chris Wilson quickly came to the aid of one of his colleagues at the Middlesex County Adult Correction Center in North Brunswick, New Jersey, saving him from a severe beating at the hands of an inmate. Mr. Wilson immediately responded to fellow Officer Tim Morris's distress call and found him being attacked by an inmate. Mr. Wilson restrained the inmate and spared Mr. Morris from further injury. Officer Wilson received a Gold Medal of Valor for stopping this brutal attack.

Sergeant Joseph DeMatteo, a 22-year veteran of the Middlesex County Adult Correction Center, demonstrated his strength of character by assisting victims of a car accident he witnessed on his way to work. On July 23, 2003, Sergeant DeMatteo saw an SUV flipping over a small car, and quickly rushed to the scene to help. Because of his experience as a volunteer fire fighter and first aid responder, he assisted the driver in the first car, who was pinned from the chest down under the car's motor. When he noticed flames in the second car, Sergeant DeMatteo left the first driver in the care of another individual assisting at the scene and rushed to the other car. Sergeant DeMatteo and another individual were able to break the windows of the car and move the injured driver to a safe spot on the grass. Once the driver was stabilized, Sergeant DeMatteo went back to the other driver that was still trapped in his car. He stayed with the driver and helped keep him calm until emergency workers arrived to release him. Sergeant DeMatteo received the Life Saving Award for his efforts.

I commend the bravery of these individuals and extend my heartfelt gratitude to correc-

tional officers across the country for their service to our communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House on Thursday, May 6th, due to an unavoidable commitment. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way; rollcall vote 147, H. Res. 628, providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 627) "yea"; rollcall vote 148, H.R. 2443, the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2003 "yea"; and rollcall vote 149, H. Res. 402, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the urgent need for freedom, democratic reform, and international monitoring of elections, human rights, and religious liberty in the Lao People's Democratic Republic "yea."

On rollcall vote 150, H. Res. 627, deploring the abuse of persons in the United States custody in Iraq, regardless of the circumstances of their detention, urging the Secretary of the Army to bring to swift justice any member of the Armed Forces who has violated the Uniform Code of Military Justice, expressing the deep appreciation of the Nation to the courageous and honorable members of the Armed Forces who have selflessly served, or are currently serving, in Operation Iraqi Freedom, and for other purposes "yea."

On rollcall vote 151, H. Con. Res. 326, expressing the sense of Congress regarding the arbitrary detention of Dr. Wang Bingzhang by the Government of the People's Republic of China and urging his immediate release "yea"; and rollcall vote 152, H. Res. 398, expressing the concern of Congress over Iran's development of the means to produce nuclear weapons "yea."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TOM WIENS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Tom Wiens, and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to the State of Colorado as a member of the Colorado General Assembly. Elected to serve the people of District 45 in 2002, he will be remembered as a legislator with the utmost dedication and talent, and will continue to be known as a leader in the community. As he moves on in his career, let it be known that I, along with people of Colorado, are eternally grateful for all that he has accomplished in his tenure in the Colorado House of Representatives.

A businessman and rancher, Tom grew up on his family's historic ranch where they raise hay and cattle, and breed champion cutting horses. During his time at the State House, he has served on the Business Affairs and Labor Committee, and the Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee. His work as a legislator garnered him the Freshman Legis-

lator of the Year award in 2003 by the Independent Bankers of Colorado, and the Colorado Fire Chiefs Association made him an honorary member.

While Tom has effectively served the people of Douglas and Teller Counties in the General Assembly, he has stayed an active participant in the community. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Children's Hospital Research Foundation, and is a member of the National Western Stock Show and Rodeo Association. He is involved with parent organizations at Douglas County High School and Larkspur Elementary, works with several faith-based community outreach programs, and is a member of Cherry Hills Community Church. He also has served as a volunteer police chaplain and is a former Director of the Colorado Ski Museum and Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that State Representative Tom Wiens has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his district and the people of Colorado. It is his incredible devotion along with his passion for contributing towards the betterment of his community and the State of Colorado that I wish to bring before this body of Congress and this nation. It is my distinct pleasure to recognize Tom here today, and wish him and his wife Diana all the best in their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO IFE-S. CHARLES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Ife-S. Charles in recognition of her commitment to community empowerment.

Ife-S. Charles was born in Trinidad, West Indies and immigrated to the Prospect Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York 30 plus years ago. She attended Holy Spirit Junior High School, Brooklyn Technical High School in Fort Greene and later went on to earn a degree in Human Services. Ife currently resides in the community of Crown Heights with her daughter.

She is a New York State Certified Mediator specializing in Community, Family and Parent Teen Mediation. She is the Deputy Director at the Crown Heights Community Mediation Center (CHCMC) located on Kingston Avenue in Crown Heights. Her job at CHCMC gives her the opportunity to work with youth and families in her neighborhood. She works closely with the 71st and 77th Precinct Youth and Community Affairs Officers, where she conducts Conflict Resolution Workshops at Empowerment Programs offered by the precincts. She has trained youths in peer mediation and conflict resolution. She is the Director of the 77th Community Task Force which is an effort to enhance community and police relationships.

Ife subscribes to her own E3 philosophy: Enlightenment, Enrich and Effect. This is a philosophy that she uses in her work with the community and youth. Her attraction to community work is part of who she is which is why she enjoys serving as a motivational speaker at local churches and community centers. Ife can be seen speaking to the young women and men of the community where she gives them words of encouragement or directs them to organizations for their own self-improvement. On any

given day you can find life in her office with a group of young people talking about life issues and ways of dealing with such issues. For those not attending school, she works diligently at finding them placements in GED and/or job training programs. She further supports the youth in her community by attending open school meetings with teachers, and by enrolling some in karate school, often negotiating fees with the Sensei so that "her children", as she frequently calls them, will have a place to go and not get caught up in what the streets do not have to offer.

Life credits her love for the work that she does to her Creator and her daughter Jahdai. She is also inspired by her son, Malchijah, who departed this life several years ago.

Mr. Speaker, life Charles has dedicated her life to the betterment of her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

A TRIBUTE TO NINA COAKE FOR 55 YEARS OF FOSTER PARENTING

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I am honored today to pay tribute to Nina Coake of San Bernardino County, California, who has been mother to 1,152 children over the past 50 years, and helped create one of the most successful foster parent systems in the Nation along the way.

Nina and Vernon Coake took in their first two foster children in 1943, and then in 1945 built a 10-room home to provide care to many more abused, neglected and drug-addicted children. She cared for as many as six at a time constantly until she retired at age 81.

Foster parents are special people, Mr. Speaker. The Coakes told the county's Child Protective Services that they would take in children at any hour of the day, any day of the week. They understood that watching over these troubled children requires constant vigilance and love. Many have been abandoned, molested or physically abused, and it takes an exceptional person to find a way to make these young people understand that someone cares for them.

The Coakes opened the first shelter care home in 1976, and their work ultimately allowed the county to close its dependency lock-up section at juvenile hall. In 1996, Nina Coake began caring for medically fragile infants and small children, taking in severely drug-exposed and abused infants and seeing them through drug withdrawal episodes and healing broken bones.

Nina Coake has been a leader in foster parent groups, serving as president of the San Bernardino County Foster Parent Association for 10 years, and in a variety of statewide roles, ultimately becoming president of the California State Foster Parent Association for four years.

She was a leader in convincing the county to require 20 hours of foster parent training—more than twice the State-mandated 8 hours. She has presented numerous workshops at local colleges, as well as 25 statewide training

conferences—including chairman of three statewide meetings. Two years ago, she was the primary foster parent representative in a statewide group that helped redesign the California Child Welfare System.

Mr. Speaker, Nina Coake was named Loma Linda University Medical Center's Hometown Hero in 2001, and on May 18 this year will be celebrated at a county luncheon in her honor. Please join me in thanking her for all her years of loving dedication to the children most at need in our society, and wish her well in her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, on the afternoon of May 12, 2004, I was absent for several votes because President Bush requested my presence at the White House for an extremely important meeting about the situation in Iraq and other national security issues.

I regret that I missed the votes. However, had I been present, I would have voted:

Vote No. 165, Motion to Recommit With Instructions—H.R. 4280 "nay."

Vote No. 166, Final Passage of H.R. 4280, "yea."

Vote No. 167, H. Con. Res. 378, "yea."

Vote No. 168, H. Con. Res. 409, "yea."

THE STOP COUNTERFEITING IN MANUFACTURED GOODS ACT

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation—the Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act—that addresses the mounting problem of counterfeit manufactured products. I hope my colleagues will join me in passing this bill at the earliest opportunity.

The size and scope of counterfeit manufactured goods around the world is growing every day. In fact, the International Chamber of Commerce estimates that seven percent of the world's trade is in counterfeit goods and that the counterfeit market is worth \$350 billion.

Not only are these counterfeit goods a documented health and safety risk for consumers here and abroad, but these counterfeit goods also impact our economy by stealing sales from legitimate American manufacturers and costing Americans high-paying manufacturing jobs.

In fact, the U.S. Customs Service has estimated previously that counterfeiting has resulted in the loss of 750,000 jobs and costs the United States around \$200 billion annually. Counterfeit automobile parts alone cost that industry over \$12 billion. It is estimated that if these losses were eliminated, the auto industry could hire 200,000 additional workers.

The plight of manufacturers in this country has received a great deal of attention in recent months, and rightfully so. The plight is real.

Manufacturers in this country are the most efficient and technologically advanced in the world, but they face many challenges. In the face of massive global competition, the biggest problems facing manufacturers are the costs they can't directly control, and harm the environment in which they compete. As policy makers, I believe we should focus on improving that environment, and cracking down on those companies who break the rules in the United States and abroad is one way that should garner strong bipartisan support.

The Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act does this by strengthening the federal trademark law used to prosecute counterfeiters. It has three key provisions.

First, the bill provides for the mandatory destruction of the equipment used to manufacture and package counterfeit goods. Under current law, counterfeiters can have their illegal goods seized, but retain the equipment they used to make them. I think we can all agree that we should not leave counterfeiters in business, and this provision will help us in that effort.

Second, the bill clarifies that Title 18, Section 2320, prohibits trafficking in counterfeit labels, patches, and medallions that are unattached to any goods. Sophisticated counterfeiters have sold counterfeit versions of the trademarks themselves in the form of patch sets or medallions that can later be attached to generic merchandises and given the appearance of a genuine product. This is counterfeiting and should not stand.

Finally, the bill offers greater protection for "famous" marks by removing the requirement that the spurious trademark be used in connection with goods or services identical to those for which the spurious mark is already registered.

One important example of why this last provision is necessary is the famous Nike "swoosh." Nike had never intended to enter the sports watch market, so it did not register its trademark for sports watches. A counterfeiter took advantage of this loophole by selling sports watches bearing a counterfeit Nike "swoosh" because that trademark was so popular. Nike was forced to add sports watches to its trademark registry because it had no recourse under the law to stop the counterfeiter. The bill closes that loophole.

The Stop Counterfeiting in Manufactured Goods Act will have a positive impact here in the United States, but its reach can be global. Counterfeit manufactured goods are a worldwide problem and we will need the cooperation of our trading partners to effectively fight counterfeiters. With these provisions in law, our trade negotiators will be able to seek stronger anti-counterfeiting provisions in bilateral and international agreements with trading partners, with these improvements as the basis for asking other countries to enact similar changes.

I thank Congressman MARK GREEN of Wisconsin for joining as an original co-sponsor of this legislation. I encourage all my colleagues to join us in cracking down on the counterfeit goods that threaten public safety, steal sales from legitimate manufacturers, and cost American jobs.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this legislation into law.

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP G. GROSE, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant from the State of South Carolina, a dear friend, and former colleague, Philip G. Grose, Jr. Phil is officially retiring from State Government as Director of the South Carolina Executive Institute after serving in various state government capacities for 36 years. His extraordinary leadership and service deserve recognition.

Phil is a native of Greenville, South Carolina, but he left his home state to earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in English at Washington and Lee University in Lexington, Virginia. His first professional job was as a staff writer and sports reporter for the *Charlotte Observer* in 1960. He went on to hone his writing and investigative skills as a reporter for *Broadcasting* magazine in New York, but returned to his native state to accept a position at *The State* newspaper in Columbia. There he served as Sports Writer and Business Editor, before finding his niche as Government Affairs Editor. That assignment helped Phil marry his love of politics to his skill of writing, and would unwittingly launch his second career in government.

In 1967, Governor Robert E. McNair recognized Phil's expertise and invited him to join the Governor's staff as News Secretary and Research Assistant. His adeptness and understanding both government and the media insured Phil's success in this role.

In 1967, John Carl West succeeded Bob McNair as Governor and invited Phil to serve in the new administration as Executive Assistant for Public Affairs. It was while Phil was preparing to serve in this capacity that he and I first met, when after some cajoling from him I accepted an invitation from Governor West to join his staff and was placed under Phil's tutelage. Phil shared his enormous talents and his enthusiasm was infectious. He merged efficiency and effectiveness in a manner I had not seen before, and made government work fun and productive. I learned a great deal from him and developed a great deal of admiration and respect for him.

Because of his tremendous abilities, Phil was elevated through a number of increasingly important positions in state government after Governor West tenure as Governor ended in 1975. Phil served as Executive Assistant to the President of the University of South Carolina, Chief Deputy Commissioner for the South Carolina Department of Social Services, Director of the South Carolina State Reorganization Commission, and Assistant Executive Director of the State Budget and Control Board.

In 1989, Phil was tapped to serve as the Director of the Executive Institute, where he leads statewide executive education programs for public sector leaders. He also manages the South Carolina Center for Excellence and the Budget and Control Board's training center.

Phil Grose is married to the former Virginia Maxwell. They have a daughter, Patricia Grose Williams, a son-in-law John D. Williams, and two grandsons, Harrison Philip Williams and David McCully Williams, all of Starnberg, Germany. Phil and his wife have both had very distinguished careers, and my wife Emily

have enjoyed being a part of their professional and personal lives. Although Phil has decided it is time to retire from his official role as a public servant, I know he will never relinquish his role of serving the public.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and the members of this august body to join me in commending Phil Grose on his compassion, his intelligence, his unflagging sense of humor, and his uncompromising dedication to his home state. His name may not be well known, but his words and phrases broadly read and widely quoted. His work is evident throughout South Carolina state government, and serves as an inspiration to many of us who currently serve. The impact of his service will be felt by future generations of public servants, and I am proud to have him as a friend and to honor him today.

ROBERT L. HABUSH TO BE HONORED BY THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, May 24, 2004, the American Jewish Committee's Milwaukee Chapter will proudly honor my friend, Robert L. Habush, as the Community Service Human Relations Award Recipient.

Every year the Chapter acknowledges one member of its association that has distinguished him or herself as an outstanding example of service and leadership to the Jewish community and the city as a whole. Bob is continually identified as a philanthropist who donates substantial time, talents, and financial resources to the people of Milwaukee.

In Wisconsin academic circles, Bob has strived to ensure that Wisconsin's future lawyers carry on his legacy of excellence. From lecturing at Marquette University and the University of Wisconsin, to writing instruction texts on litigation techniques, and providing funding for scholarships and clinics, he has moved to improve the state of legal education in Wisconsin.

A litigator for 42 years, Attorney Habush has been named as Best Trial Lawyer of the Year for the Wisconsin Academy of Trial Lawyers and one of the Best Lawyers in America by the Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA), and served as the President of the Wisconsin Academy of Trial Lawyers and President of the ATLA.

Bob has also been a dedicated friend to the Milwaukee Jewish Community. Not only has he donated his legal expertise to the Jewish Community Center legal team on a pro bono basis, but his fiscal gifts have made it possible for the Jewish Family Services to create of the JFS Robert and Mimi Habush Family Center, the administrative offices and counseling facilities for the organization. The Habush family has also donated an eight family apartment building as an independent housing facility for local residents with special needs.

Robert Habush is the embodiment of Albert Einstein's quote, "It is every man's obligation to put back into the world at least the equivalent of what he takes out of it." Bob has continued to be an inspiration to others on what difference one individual can make on the be-

half of many and is a deserving recipient of this great honor.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GREGG RIPPY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Gregg Rippy and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to the State of Colorado as a member of the Colorado General Assembly. Appointed to fill District 57's vacated seat in September of 2000, and subsequently elected for two more terms, Gregg will always be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader of the community. As Gregg moves on in his career, let it be known that I, along with the people of Colorado, are eternally grateful for all that he has accomplished in his tenure in the Colorado House of Representatives.

A fourth generation Coloradan, Gregg has worked in the family construction business started by his grandfather since age fourteen. He began his political career on the Glenwood Springs Planning and Zoning Commission in 1992, and has served as secretary and treasurer for Garfield County's Republican Party. Due to legislative redistricting in 2001, Gregg became the incumbent for District 61, serving Eagle, Garfield, Gunnison, Hinsdale, and Pitkin counties, and was reelected for the 2003-2004 term. For this last term Gregg has chaired the Local Government Committee and served on the Agriculture, Livestock, and Natural Resources Committee.

Gregg has garnered numerous awards for his outstanding record as a legislator. In 2003, the National Association of Home Builders named him State Official of the Year. He also received the Excellence in Leadership award and the Defender of the American Dream award from the Colorado Association of Home Builders, and the Legislator of the Year award from the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties. Some of Gregg's extensive community involvement includes holding several degrees in the Masonic Lodge, and he is a charter member and ex-president of the Glenwood Springs Sunrise Rotary.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that State Representative Gregg Rippy has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his district and the people of Colorado in the Colorado General Assembly. I am honored to bring his hard work and commitment to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service Gregg and I wish you and your wife Marilee all the best in your future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO PRISCILLA MADDOX

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Priscilla Maddox in recognition of her entrepreneurial accomplishments as well as her contribution to dietary and health sciences fields.

Priscilla Maddox is part owner, and co-founder of Kitchen for Hire, a commercial kitchen for caterers and others who do large volume food preparation. A unique concept, Kitchen for Hire has been established since September 2000 in Brooklyn, New York.

Priscilla began her career at Sydenham Hospital, New York, where she worked for 10 years as head of the Microbiology Department. She then moved on to the Marcus Garvey Nursing Home in Brooklyn where she served as Infection Control Coordinator for six years. In 1983, Priscilla headed the Isabella Geriatric Center in New York City as a Licensed Nursing Home Administrator. After retiring from the Center, Priscilla became self-employed and ran PMM Enterprises for six years. In 2001, Priscilla became an instructor at Medgar Evers College, where she presently conducts Continuing Education Classes, including Cooking for Diabetics.

A holder of many licenses and certificates, Priscilla possesses a Food Handler's License from the City of New York Department of Health, a Commercial Cooking and Catering Certificate, Better Process Control School, Cornell University Food Processing Extension; Nursing Home Administrator's License, New York State Department of Health; Health Care Risk Management, Institute of Medical Law/American Institute of Medical Law, Inc. which was approved by the State of Florida Department of Insurance.

Priscilla works with a number of community-based organizations. She is a member of the National Register of Who's Who 2004 and the Women's Chefs & Restaurateurs. She is also a member of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce (CACCI); the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce; Community Board #8 in Brooklyn, NY; the Washington Avenue Merchants Association (WAMA); the Non-Profit Risk Management Institutes in Washington, DC; the Renaissance Health Care Network Auxiliary at Harlem Hospital. In addition, Priscilla works with the Isabella Nursing Home Corporation and the advisory board of Visions Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Priscilla has been at the forefront of many continuing education programs including those sponsored by American Association of Homes & Services of the Aging, NY and WIBO, Workshop in Business Opportunities. She recently received a citation at the 13th Luncheon and Awards Ceremony for "Visions: Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired" from Brooklyn Borough President, Marty Markowitz,

Priscilla is a graduate of Pace University. She received her Masters in Health Service Administration from the New School for Social Research in New York. She has also received additional education on Care for the Elderly in the Orient sponsored by the University of California in Los Angeles Gerontological Society of America.

Mr. Speaker, Priscilla Maddox has made several and varied contributions to her community including service to the elderly, business development, and sponsoring continuing education programs. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

COMMENDING WALDO "WALLY" SMEBY, 2004 IOWA SMALL BUSINESSMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an accomplished small businessman from my Congressional District. Waldo "Wally" Smeby, President of Metalcraft, Inc. in Mason City, Iowa was recognized by the U.S. Small Business Administration as the Iowa Small Business Person of the Year. Next week Mr. Smeby will join other accomplished small business people in Orlando, Florida as the Small Business Administration will award the National Small Business Person of the Year.

Wally is well deserving of this recognition.

Wally first joined Metalcraft as an assistant controller in 1959, and in the true spirit of the American Dream, began working his way up. He went on to become controller, sales and marketing director, general manager, and finally company president from 1988–1993. In 1993, after the passing of founders of the company, Wally purchased the company.

His entrepreneurial achievements have established Metalcraft with worldwide sales of over \$7 million and 70 employees. The majority of the growth and success the company has enjoyed has come while Wally was in a leadership position.

Wally's dedication and work provides benefits to the entire country. Small businesses are the engine of the American economy, as they represent 99.7 percent of all employers.

As his Congressman, and fellow small businessman, I join with all Iowans in wishing Wally the best of luck next week. And, I thank him for the work he has done for his community, his state, and his country.

TRIBUTE TO THE PHYSICIANS,
CONSULTING PHYSICIANS AND
EMPLOYEES OF STONEWALL
JACKSON HOSPITAL

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Stonewall Jackson Hospital and the over thirty physicians, more than 80 consulting physicians and 200 dedicated employees who provide the warm professionalism and the personal touch that patients have come to expect from their local hospital.

Stonewall Jackson Hospital is located in the historic city of Lexington, Virginia and they are celebrating their fiftieth anniversary in the same location.

Since this week is National Hospital and Healthcare week, I think it is only fitting to recognize the important contributions that Stonewall Jackson Hospital and their employees have made to our community.

Stonewall Jackson Hospital (SJH) is the primary healthcare provider, serving the communities of Lexington, Buena Vista and the surrounding Rockbridge County. Stonewall Jack-

son Hospital is a non-profit, critical access hospital dedicated to quality care and patient comfort.

Stonewall Jackson Hospital began in 1907 with the dedication of a group of local women—The United Daughters of the Confederacy—and the financial and logistical support of the local community.

Mary Anna Morrison Jackson, widow of Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson wanted to start a nursing home for older ladies. This was an effort to preserve the only home "Stonewall" had ever owned; it was being considered for demolition and replacement with a community building. The United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC), looking for a fitting memorial for T.J. Jackson, approached Mrs. Jackson in 1901 about buying the home for use as a hospital. Mrs. Jackson consented and Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hospital officially opened in 1907. The UDC held a "shower" to provide linens and pantry items to the new hospital.

For the next fifty years the women of the UDC financed, supported, and managed the affairs of the hospital. It was a struggle for the hospital to survive. At this time, doctors made house calls. No one went to the hospital for treatment unless they were very seriously ill. Hospitals were thought to be for the insane and the desperately ill only. In the first five years of operation, Stonewall Jackson Hospital saw only 26 patients.

The increase of knowledge pertaining to infection and the growth of the community, eventually prompted doctors to centralize their services at the hospital, requiring patients to come to them, rather than the other way around.

Commitment and support through the last century allowed the hospital to grow, expand, and move to its current location. In 1954, Stonewall Jackson Hospital moved across town to its present site. An enhanced structure was completed on the same site in 2002.

The recently completed, state-of-the-art medical facility blends modern technology with comfort, cutting-edge equipment with small-town hospitality. Stonewall Jackson Hospital truly redefines healthcare in the community.

OFFICER JOHN PATRICK WATSON—
ALASKAN HERO

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the men and women in blue who have given the ultimate sacrifice. Every year, thousands of law enforcement officers from all corners of our Nation come together to hold a candlelight vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial at Judiciary Square. Spouses, children and even those who just want to say thank you come together to honor the over 16,000 heroes whose names have been inscribed on that marble wall. These heroes are law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Today, I pay my respects to these heroes and to share the sorrow as we remember and honor them for their unselfish commitment to protect and serve. We honor their lives and all they have done to make our streets a safer place for us to live.

Last year, 145 law enforcement officers gave their lives in the line of duty. Today, I would like to recognize and honor a fellow Alaskan: Officer John Patrick Watson, who gave his life Christmas Evening, 2003 while responding to a possible domestic dispute call. Officer Watson, an eighteen-year veteran of the force and resident of Kenai, Alaska was shot to death with his own weapon, allegedly by one of the individuals on whose welfare he was checking. Officer Watson is the first member of the Kenai Police Department to lose his life in the line of duty but his loss was not in vain. He will be remembered for his commitment to his job, his friends and most of all his family. He along with the other fallen members of the law enforcement community share a special bond with one another. They will be regarded as heroes, a bond they will share for eternity. It is only fitting that we celebrate their lives not for the way they died, but for the way they lived.

Officer John Patrick Watson went to work on Christmas Day as a hero and that is the way he will always be remembered. I pray for his wife Kathy, his daughter, six stepchildren and his family in Michigan. Officer Watson is a true Alaskan Hero.

CONGRATULATING MONSIGNOR
CONSTANTINE SICONOLFI HON-
ORED FOR THE 2004 AMERI-
CANISM AWARD

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I call the attention of the House of Representatives to Monsignor Constantine Siconolfi as he is honored by Amos Lodge No. 136 of B'nai B'rith with the 2004 Americanism Award at the 52nd annual awards dinner this Sunday at the Jewish Community Center in Scranton, Pennsylvania.

Monsignor Siconolfi has dedicated his life to ministry in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Ordained in 1959, he was an assistant pastor at St. Patrick's in Milford, St. Cecelia's in Exeter and Holy Family in Scranton. In 1970, he was appointed as the Diocese of Scranton's director of ecumenism and human affairs, director of Catholic cemeteries, rector of Villa St. Joseph in Dunmore and director of the Campaign for Human Development.

Monsignor Siconolfi also served as the Bishop's Representative to the Pennsylvania Conference on Inter-Church Cooperation and to the Community Action Department of the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference. In 1985, Monsignor was named pastor of Holy Family Church in Scranton.

Monsignor Siconolfi founded and continues to serve as executive director of St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen, which has served free daily meals to the needy of our area since 1978. Monsignor Siconolfi has been involved in a variety of other community and civic activities. He founded the Scranton-Lackawanna Labor Management Committee and the Marion Center for Women. He has served as director of the Scranton-Lackawanna Human Development Agency, Scranton Neighbors Inc., the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council and Meals on Wheels of Lackawanna County. He continues

to serve on the boards of the Mayor's Human Relations Commission, UNICO, the Columbus Day Association and La Festa Italiana.

It is an honor and a privilege for me to represent this remarkable gentleman who gives of himself so freely. Mr. Speaker, today I ask you and my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating Monsignor Siconolfi on receiving this great honor.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM SCHATZ
OF CLEVELAND, OH, PRESIDENT
OF THE ASSOCIATION OF METRO-
POLITAN SEWERAGE AGENCIES

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. William B. Schatz, General Counsel of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS), in Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Schatz serves as the district's representative to the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA). On May 24, 2004, the members of AMSA elected Mr. Schatz to be the president of the Association stemming from his exemplary commitment and dedication to a clean-water community.

AMSA's mission is to effectively maintain a strong leadership role in the development and implementation of scientifically sound, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly policies for the protection of the health of the public and the environment. In May of 2004, AMSA celebrated 34 years of service to the clean-water community and the nation.

Mr. Schatz has served with distinction at NEORS from 1979 and for over 20 years has been a leader in the water quality arena working on many projects on behalf of the district and AMSA. His distinguished background includes service as the ad hoc legal advisor to the Ohio Association of Metropolitan Wastewater Agencies, as a member of the Advisory Board of the National Enforcement Training Institute, and as a member of EPA's Quality Review Committee on grant audits. Mr. Schatz has served in several capacities with AMSA, including chairing the Legal Affairs Committee, Water Infrastructure Funding Task Force, Joint AMSA-AMWA Insurance Committee, as well as serving on AMSA's Board of Directors.

Mr. Schatz was instrumental in establishing NEORS as a leading agency in the wastewater industry and in helping to guide its capital programs. Mr. Schatz has also had an influential voice in convincing Congress to fund the conversion of NEORS's physical chemical Westerley Plant to a conventional biological process. Mr. Schatz has also played an important role in helping shape critical national policy issues on infrastructure funding, enforcement, and construction grant audit appeals.

Cleveland, Ohio is honored to be the home to Mr. Schatz. It is no secret that he is a man who, day in and day out, goes above and beyond the call of duty. He is to be commended for his extraordinary efforts on behalf of the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District and on his election to lead the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN OIEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to John Oien of Delta, Colorado for his outstanding career in the U.S. Forest Service and to congratulate him on his recent retirement. Over his thirty-seven year career, John helped preserve the beauty of the national forests in Colorado and other Western states, while making them more accessible for the public to enjoy. His service to this nation is commendable and worthy of recognition by this body of Congress and this nation.

John graduated from California Polytechnic State University with a degree in environmental design while working for the Forest Service in the Angeles National Forest. Following his graduation, he worked in National Forests in California, Nevada, and Idaho focusing on the planning of recreational areas. In 1979, John arrived in Delta, Colorado, where he began to work on the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests. He has also done scenery management work on the Grand Mesa Scenic Byway and the San Juan Skyway, and worked with the Western Colorado Interpretive Association to allow the public to better understand the many qualities of the national forests.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that John Oien has been an invaluable resource for the State of Colorado and to our National Forest System. His selfless dedication to preserving a priceless part of America's landscape is worthy of acknowledgment before this body of Congress and this nation today. Thanks, John, for all your hard work, and I wish you and your wife, Jenifer, all the best in your well-deserved retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO LISA DAVIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Lisa Davis in recognition of her commitment to public service and help of those in greatest need.

Lisa is the third of four children born to Blackwood and Eliza Davis. She is proud to have grown up in Crown Heights and is now a longtime resident of Bedford-Stuyvesant.

A graduate of Ohio University, with a Bachelor of Science in Recreational Therapy, Lisa sought employment with the New York City Housing Authority as a Youth Community Center Director upon her return to Brooklyn. After 4 years, she left the Authority to work as a case manager for the Bureau of Child Welfare. Shortly afterward, she became a New York State Parole Officer, assigned to a special unit named S.H.O.C.K. This program managed only parolees younger than 22 years old and convicted of a drug-related crime. After several years of providing her services to the city and State, she left the public sector for 7 years to assist with the management of the family business.

Five years ago, Lisa returned to the NYC Housing Authority as a Community Coordinator for Brooklyn South and quickly advanced to the position of Citywide Program Manager. She was soon promoted to Senior Program Manager.

As Senior Program Manager, she develops, implements, manages and evaluates youth and senior center programs throughout the borough. Lisa is the creator of NYC Housing Authority Kids Walk, which is approaching its third event year. She is putting forth a great deal of effort to connect health care services to the Brooklyn Housing Developments, Brookdale University Hospital, adolescent obesity program, Fit for Life; SUNY Downstate Hospital, Asthma Mobile Unit and the Arthur Ashe Institute for Urban Health.

Lisa has also committed herself to a number of volunteer activities. Currently, her highest priority is PowerPlay NYC Inc, which empowers young women through play.

Lisa's mantra of "Not everyone thinks like me, and that's okay," has allowed her to have a successful professional life as well as a fulfilling personal life.

Mr. Speaker, Lisa Davis has dedicated virtually all her professional life to improving the lives of young adults and seniors in need. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, during an absence yesterday, I regrettably missed rollcall votes 165–168. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall No. 165, "yea;" rollcall No. 166, "no;" rollcall No. 167, "yea;" and rollcall No. 168, "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GIRL SCOUT RESEARCH INSTITUTE'S PUBLICATION OF "FEELING SAFE: WHAT GIRLS SAY"

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address an issue that is of concern to every member of this body and every citizen of our Nation. That issue is the safety of our children.

Recently, the Washington Post featured an article describing the findings of a national survey conducted by researchers from Duke University and the nonprofit Foundation for Child Development. The title of the article tells the story of their results; "Baby Steps Made in the Well-Being of Children." The good news it shares is that children and teens are safer today than they have been in the past 30 years—less likely to commit or be victims of crime, to become young parents, and less likely to smoke, drink or use drugs.

This is good news indeed, but as we all know, there is a difference between being safe

and feeling safe. We can understand this distinction because we all experience some anxiety when the threat level moves from yellow to orange or when we become aware of terrorist acts. As adults, we work to manage our reactions to these incidents. Likewise, our children struggle daily with feelings of safety that impact their quality of life.

The Girl Scouts of the United States of America is an esteemed organization, founded in the State of Georgia in 1912 and chartered by the U.S. Congress in 1950. Throughout its history, the Girl Scouts have worked to improve the lives of young women through traditional scouting and other educational programs. Now the Girl Scout Research Institute has produced a report titled "Feeling Safe: What Girls Say" based on original research. Through this publication, young women speak to us about what factors in their homes, schools and communities cause them to feel safe or unsafe and talk about their strategies for coping with such feelings.

For example, the report reveals that while physical safety is a key concern for urban and suburban girls, girls who live in rural communities are concerned about emotional safety, specifically about being teased. This finding supports the incorporation of anti-bullying and conflict resolution programs into our public schools. Feeling Safe also emphasizes that families and supportive friends can help girls strategize about ways to increase their feelings of safety and by so doing, become more empowered. This finding supports what we have already learned about the important role volunteer mentors can play in a young person's life.

I would like to commend the Girl Scouts of America for this research and the production of a user-friendly report that can be a guide for local, State and Federal policy makers. I recommend it to each of my colleagues and hereby pledge my continued support for this exemplary organization that has made all the difference in the lives of so many girls.

MILLER MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON OVERTIME

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Miller Motion on Overtime which would instruct conferees to adopt provisions to prohibit overtime cuts, while allowing the administration to improve overtime rules. I am proud that in my home State of Illinois on March 31, the State House and Senate passed legislation that made Illinois the first State in the country to exempt the State from the changes to overtime pay rules. This legislation was signed into law by our former House colleague, Governor Blagojevich.

This legislation will preserve overtime compensation for 375,000 workers in Illinois. Unfortunately, not every State will be able to pass legislation to protect their workers. The Department of Labor's new regulations will cut the pay and lengthen the hours for workers making as little as \$23,660. This would mean a pay cut for middle-income Americans, when millions depend on overtime pay to make ends meet at a time when the median income has

declined with an increase in cost for education, child care, basic health care, health insurance, heating and cooling and gasoline.

In 2000, overtime pay accounted for about 25 percent of the income of employees who worked overtime. With the new regulation middle-income workers making between \$23,660 and \$100,000 will lose their overtime—this includes our police, fire fighters, day care workers, chefs, plumbers, electricians, nurses, and journalists. With over 60 percent of women with children under the age of two being part of the workforce, nursery and pre-school teachers are playing more important roles in our children's lives. As the work day extends for parents, so does the work day for nursery and pre-school teachers. The average pay for these teachers is \$8 an hour, with many working 10 hours a day. Yet they will no longer qualify for overtime.

An average police officer starting salary is around \$40,000. They protect us, keep us safe, walk the streets—put their lives on the line. After September 11th, our Nation became more grateful and devoted more respect to our officers and first responders. Yet we now want to take overtime away from them which could be used to benefit our economy and the lives of their families. There are already some police departments that do not pay overtime but offer comp time. Although, comp time is nice—with heightened security alerts and the need for more police on our streets, many do not get the opportunity to use this comp time when they would like. Instead, many police officers retire 20–30 years later receiving a check for their unused comp time.

Mr. Speaker, we can not turn our backs on our working Americans. Without overtime, many will have to struggle to maintain their current way of living. I am not just prolabor, I am proud to be pro-family. And I know that these new regulations would be destructive to our working families. These regulations mean more work hours, less time with families, and even worse, less job creation.

The Illinois State Government understands. Our other body, the United States Senate understands—now the House needs to realize the importance of these new regulations. I ask my colleagues to support this motion.

HONORING BARBARA NOEL

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Barbara Noel, a Santa Ana High School teacher, who was recently honored with the Bravo Award.

The Bravo Award was established in 1983 by the Music Center Education Division to recognize teachers for creativity and innovation in Arts education. Three Bravo Awards are handed out each year: one to a school, one to an arts specialist, and one to a general classroom teacher.

Barbara is only the second dance teacher in 22 years to win this prestigious award and I am very excited for her. I wish to thank her for innovation and dedication in teaching the arts to out school children.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ED WARD

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the life and memory of Edwin "Ed" Ward of Durango, Colorado who passed away recently at the age of eighty-nine. Ed lived a full life as a devoted family man and beloved member of his community. As his family mourns his loss, I believe it is appropriate to remember Ed and the many contributions he made to his community and state.

Born and raised in Delta, Colorado, Ed spent twenty-three years working with power companies helping to maintain the generating stations and their infrastructure in Western Colorado. Ed represented his fellow employees as an elected union representative for Local 57 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Upon his retirement in 1976, Ed dedicated his efforts to numerous civic organizations in his Durango community. He was active in the Animas Valley Grange, Pomona Grange, and Durango Elks Lodge. He also served for ten years on the board of directors of Animas Water Company, and on the board of the Animas Mosquito Control District Board. Ed was also a member of the La Plata County Fair Board and the Fair Grounds Commission.

Mr. Speaker, we are all terribly saddened by the loss of Edwin Ward, and I am deeply honored to bring his life to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation. My heart goes out to his family during this difficult time of bereavement.

TRIBUTE TO DR. LINDA BRADY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Dr. Linda Brady in recognition of her commitment to the provision of healthcare services to the people of Brooklyn.

Dr. Linda Brady is a physician executive with extensive clinical and healthcare management experience. She was appointed President & CEO of Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center in 1999, and has been associated with the hospital for 19 years. She previously served as the Hospital's Medical Director as well as the Director of the Department of Neurology & Psychiatry. Dr. Brady was the guiding force behind the development of the Geriatric Psychiatry Inpatient Unit, which has received considerable praise for the highly professional and compassionate care rendered in the treatment of older adults with psychiatric disorders.

Dr. Brady served as the Associate Medical Director of Psychiatric Emergency Services at Kings County Hospital from 1980 to 1993. A cum laude graduate of Barnard College, Dr. Brady received her medical degree from the New York University School of Medicine and completed her psychiatric residency at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, Bronx Municipal Hospital Center. She is a Board Certified Psychiatrist with added qualifications in

Geriatric Psychiatry and an Assistant Clinical Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at SUNY Health Sciences Center of Brooklyn. Dr. Brady is a member of the American Psychiatric Association, the American College of Physician Executives, and the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Dr. Brady has received numerous awards for community service from various elected officials and Community Based Organizations, including the Bikur Cholim of Crown Heights, the Caribbean Women's Health Association, the Boy Scouts of America and the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce & Industry. She pledges that Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center will continue to forge ties to the culturally diverse community in which it is located and will remain a vital part of the healthcare delivery system in Brooklyn.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Linda Brady has dedicated her life to improving mental health services for the residents of Brooklyn. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable health professional.

RECOGNIZE HEIDI CAPRARO

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Heidi Capraro, of Hillside Middle School in Northville, who was chosen as Michigan's Teacher of the Year for 2004-2005. Mrs. Capraro has shown extraordinary commitment to her students and her profession over the past 14 years.

Mrs. Capraro's enthusiasm and patience have made her a favorite among her students, and a well-respected teacher among her peers. She is an engaging instructor known for incorporating hands-on learning as a key element of her science curricula. Her willingness to devote extra time and attention to her classes repeatedly leads to academic and personal successes among her pupils.

In addition to being a conscientious and competent educator, Mrs. Capraro is a dedicated mentor and role model for the students of Hillside Middle School. She is held in high esteem not only among her colleagues, but by parents and students as well, and her influence carries on long after her students leave the sixth grade.

On behalf of my constituents of Michigan's Eighth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing Heidi Capraro for this well-deserved honor, Michigan's Teacher of the Year.

THANKING MS. JANET CONRAD
FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement in May 2004, we rise to thank Ms. Janet Conrad for 30 years of outstanding service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Janet began her career at the House working as a Junior Communications Terminal Operator and for the past 30 years has served this great institution as a valuable employee at House Information Resources (HIR) within the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO).

While at HIR, Janet held many positions of increasing responsibility, requiring her to learn new and evolving computer technologies. Initially, Janet worked in the Bill Status Office providing the status of bills in the legislative process to both the American public and the House community.

In the early 1980s, when the House began using personal computers, Janet began working in the User Assistance Office. There she continuously expanded her technical expertise to help House staff in their use of personal computers and a wide range of desktop software. Over time she began supporting increasingly complex hardware and software technology projects to include evaluating software, configuration of network servers, and development of applications and databases for Member, Committee, and House Support Offices.

Since 2000, Janet has been an invaluable member of HIR's Information Management directorate where she had primary responsibility for the Customer Tracking System (CTS). CTS is used by the CAO to collect, record and report customer service delivery information. Janet has been very customer oriented, displayed great passion for her work and has maintained excellent relationships with her customers.

On behalf of the entire House community, we extend congratulations to Janet for her many years of dedication and outstanding contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. We wish Janet many wonderful years in fulfilling her retirement dreams.

RESUMING EDUCATION AFTER
DEFENSE SERVICE (READS) ACT**HON. JIM MATHESON**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, tonight I am introducing legislation to assist a number of soldiers across the nation, based on stories I heard from Reservists in my home state of Utah. These Reservists served honorably in U.S. operations in Afghanistan over the past few years. Over two separate activations, they served 24 months on active duty in the Marine Corps. When they finally returned home, it was to find out that they fell under a loophole within the Montgomery GI Bill. They were ineligible for educational benefits for Reservists, because while they served the requisite 24 months on active duty, their service was not consecutive.

I think that at a time when our nation and our military is increasingly relying upon Reservist contributions for extended periods of time, Reservists have certainly earned the same educational benefits that they would be entitled to if their service had been for 24 straight months.

As a result, my legislation will change the criteria for Montgomery GI Bill eligibility to include at least 2 years of cumulative active

duty service over a period of 5 continuous years. It will apply to Reservists activated between 9/11 and the end of 2006, in order to accommodate those who are serving honorably in Afghanistan and Iraq.

I truly thank the Marine Corps Reservists of Fox Company for bringing this issue to my attention, and for their service to this great Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall no. 153, 154, 155, I was not present due to inclement weather in Texas which delayed my arrival in Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JACK SELWAY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to Jack Selway for his admirable service and dedication to his Pueblo, Colorado community. I would also like to congratulate him on receiving the 2004 Robert Hawkins award by the Mental Health Association of Pueblo. The award is named in honor of Robert Hawkins who served as Superintendent of the Colorado Mental Health Institute-Pueblo, and is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution in heightening the awareness of mental health in the Pueblo area. This award is a well-deserved testament to his achievements.

Jack and Victoria Rosser co-founded the Mental Health Association of Pueblo in 1999 with the purpose of trying to eliminate the stigma of mental illness and to increase patient access to treatment through education, advocacy, and research development. A public relations professional, Jack is a well-known and dedicated member of the community. He has emceed numerous public events, including the ceremonies for the 2000 convention of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society held in Pueblo, where he performed our National Anthem. Jack also is a member of The Greater Pueblo Chamber of Commerce and The Pueblo Economic Development Corporation. He is a member of the Rotary Club of Pueblo Number 43, and has established an organization that is collecting the history of the first 100 years of Rotary International. In addition to co-founding the Mental Health Association of Pueblo, he founded the local chapter of the Depressive and Manic Depressive Association of Pueblo, and created a website with information on mental health resources.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Jack Selway has a strong commitment to the community of Pueblo and to improving the quality of mental health care in the Pueblo area. His efforts to strengthen his community are truly remarkable, and his receiving the 2004 Robert Haw-

kins Award is a well-deserved testament to his tireless efforts. It is my privilege to recognize the accomplishments and service of Jack Selway before this body of Congress and this nation. I sincerely thank him for his service and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO SHEILA PEMBERTON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Sheila Pemberton in recognition of her contributions to her community and dedication to providing quality health care to all people.

As a young adult growing up in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, it was always Sheila Pemberton's dream to pursue a career in nursing which would enable her to serve humanity. In her nursing career, which spanned over 40 years, Sheila has always advocated for her clients to receive quality health care. As a young nurse, Sheila joined a small, elite group of Public Health Nurses within the City of New York Department of Health.

As a Public Health Nurse, Sheila worked in various capacities in the Bedford Stuyvesant community. She was passionate about the quality of care provided to both adults and children. She worked in child health clinics, which covered a wide range of health problems and was truly an advocate for children. As a School Nurse, she worked tirelessly with children from elementary to high school in both public and parochial schools. During her tenure she interacted with students, parents and teachers to promote health in the community with emphasis on the family as a unit. She is a strong voice for the physically and mentally challenged and whenever there is a call for help, Sheila will answer it.

She is a lifelong member of Chi Eta Sorority, Theta Chi Chapter. From her inception in this sorority, Soror Pemberton, as she is called, has lived up to the motto "Service for Humanity." She works diligently to carry out the goals of the sorority and always makes herself available to provide assistance in any capacity.

Sheila is an ardent member of her church and has served as co-chairperson of the health organization. These activities include organizing health fairs, visiting the sick, shut-ins, accompanying patients to the doctor and providing childcare on occasions for parents.

She has always advocated for the helpless, less fortunate and at present, she advocates for a physically challenged individual who lives in a special residence. She visits him on a regular basis and attends meetings on his behalf.

Ms. Pemberton has been recognized with many awards for her extensive and varied experiences, including: certificates of achievement and recognition from the NYC Department of Health for 25-30 years of service; a Proclamation from the Office of the Mayor, City of New York; the Bureau of School Children and Adolescents for Contributions to the Bureau; District 21 Board of Education for Staff Development; and for participating in the Developmental/Delayed and Disability in Children program in New York City. Many sorority

honors have also been bestowed on Sheila including: The Marguerite Creth Jackson Sisterhood Award for Service for Humanity of Chi Eta Phi Sorority; for Outstanding Co-chairperson of the Hospitality Committee of Chi Eta Phi Sorority in 1990; and for serving as Dean of Pledge Chi Chapter June 1992 to June 1997.

Mr. Speaker, Sheila Pemberton has dedicated her life to providing quality health care to her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, through the following statement, I am making my financial net worth as of March 31, 2004, a matter of public record. I have filed similar statements for each of the 25 preceding years I have served in the Congress.

ASSETS—REAL PROPERTY

Single family residence at 609 Ft. Williams Parkway, City of Alexandria, Virginia, at assessed valuation. (Assessed at \$1,134,600). Ratio of assessed to market value: 100% (Unencumbered)	\$1,134,600
Condominium at N76 W14726 North Point Drive, Village of Menomonee Falls, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at assessor's estimated market value. (Unencumbered)	117,400
Undivided 25/44ths interest in single family residence at N52 W32654 Maple Lane, Village of Chenequa, Waukesha County, Wisconsin, at 25/44ths of assessor's estimated market value of \$1,072,000	609,090.90
Total Real Property	1,861,090.90

Common and preferred stock	No. of shares	\$ per share	Value
Abbott Laboratories, Inc.	12200	41.10	\$501,420.00
Agere Systems Class B	184	3.12	574.08
Alistate Corporation	370	45.46	16,820.20
American Telephone & Telegraph ..	275,973	19.57	5,400.79
AT&T Wireless	414	13.61	5,634.54
Bank One Corp	3439	54.52	187,494.28
Bell South Corp	1367,1389	27.69	37,856.08
Benton County Mining Company ...	333	0.00	0.00
BP PLC	3604	51.20	184,524.80
Centerpoint Energy	300	11.43	3,429.00
Chenequa Country Club Realty Co ..	1	0.00	0.00
Comcast	423	28.76	12,165.48
Covanta Energy	910	0.00	0.00
Darden Restaurants, Inc	1440	24.79	35,697.60
Delphi Automotive	212	9.96	2,111.52
Dunn & Bradstreet, Inc	2500	53.50	133,750.00
E.I. DuPont de Nemours Corp	1200	42.22	50,664.00
Eastman Chemical Co	270	42.68	11,523.60
Eastman Kodak	1080	26.17	28,263.60
El Paso Energy	150	7.11	1,066.50
Exxon Mobil Corp	9728	41.59	404,587.52
Gartner Group	651	11.65	7,584.15
General Electric Co	15600	30.52	476,112.00
General Mills, Inc	2280	46.68	106,430.40
General Motors Corp	304	47.10	14,318.40
Halliburton Company	2000	30.39	60,780.00
Highlands Insurance Group, Inc ...	100	0.00	0.00
Hospira	1220	38.44	46,899.24
Imation Corp	99	37.62	3,724.38
IMS Health	5000	23.26	116,300.00
Kellogg Corp	3200	39.24	125,568.00

Common and preferred stock	No. of shares	\$ per share	Value
Kimberly-Clark Corp	17678	63.10	1,115,481.80
Lucent Technologies	696	4.11	2,860.56
Merck & Co., Inc	34078	44.19	1,505,906.82
3M Company	2000	81.87	163,740.00
Medco Health	4109	34.00	139,706.00
Monsanto Corporation	8360	36.67	306,561.20
Moody's	2500	70.80	177,000.00
Morgan Stanley/Dean Whitter	312	57.30	17,877.60
NCR Corp	34	44.06	1,498.04
Newell Rubbermaid	1676	23.20	38,883.20
One Group Prime Money Market Fund			76,453.23
Pactiv Corp	200	22.25	4,450.00
PG&E Corp	175	28.97	5,069.75
Pfizer	22211	35.05	778,495.55
Piper Jaffrey	30	54.15	1,624.50
Qwest	571	4.21	2,403.91
Reliant Energy	300	8.21	2,463.00
RH Donnelly Corp	500	30.25	15,125.00
Sandusky Voting Trust	26	85.00	2,210.00
SBC Communications	2476,783	24.54	60,780.25
Sears Roebuck & Co	200	42.96	8,592.00
Solutia	1672	0.39	652.08
Tenneco Automotive	182	12.69	2,309.58
Texas Genco	15	35.75	536.25
Unisys, Inc	167	14.28	2,384.76
US Bank Corp	3081	24.54	75,607.74
Verizon (Bell Atlantic)	1201,8641	36.54	43,916.11
Vodafone Airtouch	370	23.90	8,843.00
Weenergies (Wisconsin Energy)	1022	32.15	32,857.30
Total common and preferred stocks and bonds			7,174,989.40
Life insurance policies	Face \$	Surrender \$	
Northwestern Mutual #4378000	12,000.00	60,909.81	
Northwestern Mutual #4574061	30,000.00	146,261.80	
Massachusetts Mutual #4116575	10,000.00	9,915.21	
Massachusetts Mutual #4228344	100,000.00	238,456.61	
Old Line Life Ins. #5-1607059L	175,000.00	37,495.60	
Total life insurance policies		493,039.03	
Bank & savings & loan accounts		Balance	
Bank One, Milwaukee, N.A., checking account		\$52,566.71	
Bank One, Milwaukee, N.A., preferred savings		4,986.23	
M&I Lake Country Bank, Hartland, WI, checking account		14,099.41	
M&I Lake Country Bank, Hartland, WI, savings		362.83	
Burke & Herbert Bank, Alexandria, VA, checking account		2,844.90	
Firstar, FSB, Butler, WI, IRA accounts		91,813.72	
Total bank & savings & loan accounts		166,673.80	
Miscellaneous		Value	
1994 Cadillac Deville—retail value		\$5,423.00	
1989 Cadillac Fleetwood—retail value		2,980.00	
1996 Buick Regal—retail value		4,660.00	
1991 Buick Century automobile—retail value		2,243.00	
Office furniture & equipment (estimated)		1,000.00	
Furniture, clothing & personal property (estimated)		170,000.00	
Stamp collection (estimated)		75,000.00	
Interest in Wisconsin retirement fund		276,690.49	
Deposits in Congressional Retirement Fund		153,052.77	
Deposits in Federal Thrift Savings Plan		186,207.69	
Traveller's checks		7,418.96	
17 ft. Boston Whaler boat & 70 hp Johnson outboard motor (estimated)		7,500.00	
Total miscellaneous		\$892,175.91	

Total Assets: \$10,587,969.04.

Liabilities: None.

Net Worth: \$10,587,969.04.

Statement of 2003 taxes paid

Federal income tax	\$79,221.00
Wisconsin income tax	26,049.00
Menomonee Falls, WI property tax	2,097.00
Chenequa, WI property tax	20,175.00
Alexandria, VA property tax	9,977.00

I further declare that I am trustee of a trust established under the will of my late father, Frank James Sensenbrenner, Sr., for the benefit of my sister, Margaret A. Sensenbrenner, and of my two sons, F. James Sensenbrenner, III, and Robert Alan Sensenbrenner. I am further the direct beneficiary of six trusts, but have no control over the assets of either trust. My wife, Cheryl Warren Sensenbrenner, and I are trustees of separate trusts established for the benefit of each son.

Also, I am neither an officer nor a director of any corporation organized under the laws of the State of Wisconsin or of any other state or foreign country.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS HAUCK, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF SUNFLOWER ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding businessman, and a man who is proud to be a "Kansas by choice," Chris Hauck.

On June 1, Chris will retire from his position as president and CEO of Sunflower Electric Power Corporation in Hays, Kansas. His retirement feels like the end of an era, but if I know Chris, it is only the beginning of a whole new chapter in his life, a chapter that will be full of time spent with loved ones, and time given to the community.

Although Chris is not a native Kansan, he soon realized that Hays is a place where he could raise his family, be active in the community, and put his business talents to good use. I have known Chris Hauck since his arrival in Hays. As soon as he took charge, Chris began leading Sunflower Electric into a new era of financial success. Through an intensive reorganization of the company's debt structure and an aggressive marketing campaign, Sunflower Electric has seen a 152 percent increase in sales to member electric systems.

Chris has been active in his industry, aside from his formal duties at Sunflower Electric. He is a past president of the Western Fuels Association, and is still a member of its board of directors. He is also a past president of the Greening Earth Society. Chris co-founded the Western Power Producers, a regional coalition of western cooperative utilities, and served as its president for a time. He has also been involved in both the MOKAN and Southwest Power Pools, and the National G & T Manager's Association Technical Advisory Committee.

This man's influence and expertise has influenced his industry on the global level as well. Chris served on the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Global Climate Task Force. During his time on the task force, Chris was part of a committee that, in 1993, influenced the United National Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Apart from his professional life, Chris is deeply involved in prison ministry. He travels weekly to Ellsworth Correctional Facility along with his wife, Rita. Rita and Chris recruit inmates to participate in the Prison Fellowship Ministries' Inner Change Freedom Initiative. The Haucks believe wholeheartedly in the prison ministry, and I commend them for their devotion to bringing God's word to the inmates in Ellsworth.

Not only has Chris brought Sunflower Electric to new heights, and not only has he spent countless hours giving the gift of faith to Kansas inmates, but Chris Hauck is also a great family man. Chris and Rita are the proud parents of two remarkable sons, Les and Christian. Both of these young men are graduates of the United States Air Force Academy. Les, now a captain, has returned from the Persian Gulf and continues to serve his country at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona as an F-16 instructor pilot. Christian, a first lieutenant, is based in Atlanta, Georgia. In addition to serv-

ing as a hospital facilities engineer, Christian plays on the United States Combined Armed Forces Rugby Team. Later this year, Chris will be joining his son, and the team, to travel with them as a videographer.

Chris Hauck has been many things to many people. At one time, he was a big-city guy. Now, he is a self-proclaimed "Kansan by choice." In his words, Kansans, "have much to be thankful for, and little to complain about." I know I am certainly thankful for Chris—for his contributions to the western Kansas economy, for his commitment to ministering, and for his friendship. Thank you, Chris, for your service. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

CONGRATULATING CLARK METAL PRODUCTS COMPANY ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND THANKING THE COMPANY FOR ITS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Clark Metal Products Co. on its 50th Anniversary and to thank the company for its numerous contributions to the community.

Now a third generation family business, Clark Metal Products Co. has maintained a strong commitment to improving the quality and integrity of its product while exceeding the expectations of its customers. The company was founded by J.W. Clark, Sr. in 1954 upon the principle of providing efficient, top quality work at a reasonable cost, and the progress that it has made in the past fifty years confirms the company's dedication to this principle. Since that date, the company has expanded its capabilities and heightened its goals tremendously as it strives to become a world-class organization.

In the last fifty years the company has come closer to reaching this goal. Clark Metal Products Co. was recently named to the Pittsburgh Technology Council's Tech 50 list, which is comprised of the 50 best technology-related companies in the Pittsburgh region. Centrally located in the heart of the northeast, the company has been able to continue a steady growth rate since its inception.

As one of Pennsylvania's leading technology companies, Clark Metal Products Co. offers complete fabrication services such as, CNC punching and laser cutting, CNC forming, CNC machining, MIG and TIG welding, paint and powder coating, silk screening and mechanical assembly. Regardless of the task at hand, the experience and expertise of each and every employee guarantees every project to be completed with the best possible results.

For its incomparable generosity, service to the community, and unabated commitment to excellence, Clark Metal Products Co. deserves the highest recognition. The company continues to grow and maintain a high level of quality, providing an example that all businesses should follow. I congratulate the Clark Metal Products Co. on its 50th Anniversary and eagerly await its future progress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent during roll call votes 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, and 168. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 163, 164, 166, 167, and 168. I would have voted "nay" on roll call votes 161, 162, and 165.

RECOGNIZING THE VERMONT SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION'S SCHOOL ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to share with you some information regarding an outstanding program in my State that helps schools save hundreds of thousands of dollars annually in energy costs, while dramatically reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental pollutants.

Since 1993, the Vermont Superintendents Association's School Energy Management Program has assisted Vermont schools with the implementation of cost-effective energy choices and efficiency measures.

Energy cost savings realized by the more than 125 public and private schools which the School Energy Management Program has assisted now exceed an estimated \$950,000 annually. A significant proportion of these annual savings is due to the 23 public schools which utilize biomass wood chips for all or part of their heating requirements.

The concept of the School Energy Management Program was developed by the Vermont Department of Public Service in 1993 and the Vermont Superintendents Association agreed to host the program. The program is supported by the Federal Government via various grant funds; the Vermont Department of Public Service; the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation; the Vermont Department of Education; Efficiency Vermont, the statewide electric efficiency utility; the Montpelier-based Biomass Energy Resource Center; the Vermont Department of Health; the Vermont School Boards Insurance Trust's School Management Resource Center; the state's electric and natural gas utilities; and private architectural and engineering firms.

Participation in the program is voluntary and core consulting and assessment services of the School Energy Management Program have traditionally been provided to schools at no direct cost to Vermont school district taxpayers and with no compensation or "shared savings" demands. The program takes pride in "saving real taxpayers real money" for the long term, while improving the educational environment for Vermont students and saving energy.

The program works to accomplish on-site energy assessments and provide energy conservation consulting services to schools. The program's work is not limited to one energy

source or type. It includes: biomass heating, including ongoing support to the 23 Vermont public schools which now utilize biomass wood chip heating systems; electric energy efficiency; advice concerning electric, natural gas, propane, and fuel oil water and space heating fuel choices; and school kitchen equipment efficiency.

One of the program's most remarkable components is the development of wood chip heating systems, an environmentally sound energy choice saving money for Vermont schools and Vermont taxpayers. These systems provide many benefits to Vermont schools and set an excellent example for schools and public buildings in Vermont and across the country.

Wood chip heating can provide significant cost savings to many schools: Vermont schools currently save over \$366,000 in fuel costs annually by utilizing wood chip heat.

More than 10 percent of public school students in Vermont currently attend wood heated schools and in Vermont there are now 23 public schools which use wood chips for heat and two more schools will start using wood chips for heat in late 2004.

Wood chips are a renewable source of energy, currently saving Vermont schools over 720,000 gallons of fossil fuel annually by utilizing wood chip heat.

Wood chip utilization recycles carbon that already exists in the natural carbon cycle; therefore no new carbon dioxide is added to the atmosphere from this biomass energy source.

Wood chips are supplied from Vermont and the adjacent region; hence money spent on wood chips stays in the local economy and supports jobs in the area's forest products industry.

For buildings 50,000 sq. ft. and larger, fuel cost savings likely more than offset capital financing costs combined with additional maintenance staff time requirements; hence, in many cases, a system can "pay for itself" in 5 to 10 years.

I enthusiastically commend the Vermont Superintendents Association's School Energy Management Program for setting an excellent example for school systems and other public and private facilities throughout Vermont and across the country. Mr. Speaker, it is my intention to introduce legislation to encourage schools across the country to take advantage of their innovative, environmentally sound and cost-effective heating and energy solutions. It is imperative that American schools save money on energy costs for their taxpayers, help improve environmental conditions related to heat and energy production, and help support their local job markets in the process.

TRIBUTE TO HENNA WHITE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Henna White in recognition of her work to heal divisions and solve problems within her community and among families in Brooklyn.

Henna attained national recognition for her work in inter-group relations, which began in the wake of the Crown Heights disturbances in

1991. She is a South African who grew up during the turbulent years of apartheid and was instrumental in forming "Mothers to Mothers," a dialogue group composed of Jewish and African-American women who meet regularly to learn about and from each other. She has received a number of awards for her inter-group activities and she continues to work with communities and groups to help foster harmony.

Henna has also been at the forefront of issues dealing with domestic violence. She is a well-known speaker on the topics of domestic violence and women's issues and has organized conferences, forums and educators' workshops. She created Brairot, a batterer's intervention and counseling group for Orthodox Jewish males as well as a sex offenders program designed to meet the specific religious and cultural needs of sexual offenders. She has been the guiding force in helping communities break through the denial and realize the tragic effect of domestic violence on families.

After reading about the tragedies of newborn babies being left in dumpsters, Henna created a program called Baby Safe Haven. Baby Safe Haven gives new mothers the opportunity to anonymously leave a newborn at a safe place such as a hospital or a firehouse, keeping the baby safe and giving the mother immunity from prosecution.

Approximately 7 years ago in the aftermath of Yitzhak Rabin's assassination and in response to the rhetoric that divided the Jewish people, Henna founded the Jewish Women's Dialogue under the auspices of the American Jewish Committee. The Dialogue is a group of approximately 30 women from all walks of life with differing and opposing religious views who have learned to listen and talk to each other. The women have created a foundation of trust based on shared beliefs about their differences while maintaining a level of understanding and respect for each other. This organization is now being replicated throughout the New York Jewish community as well as in Boston and Washington.

In her professional life, Henna works for the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office as Community Liaison for District Attorney Hynes. She serves as the Chairman of the Board of Kingsbrook Hospital. She is the first woman to chair the Board of Directors and has been spearheading many programs that educate women when it comes to health related issues.

Her work with youth and families is recognized throughout New York, especially in the areas of teens at-risk and drug addiction. Henna is also the President of the Jewish Community Council of Canarsie and a board member of the American Jewish Committee. Henna is a Chassidic Lubavitch woman born in South Africa who now resides in Canarsie, Brooklyn with her husband, Asher, and their four children.

Mr. Speaker, Henna White has helped solve some of the most difficult and private issues facing families across Brooklyn. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

HONORING REV. C.W. NEWSOME ON HIS RETIREMENT AND RECOGNIZING THE 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NORTH RICHMOND MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today before my colleagues in Congress and this great Nation to honor a wonderful friend and true warrior in my district upon his retirement after serving 38 years as a pastor in Richmond, California.

Rev. C. W. Newsome, pastor of the historic North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church in the humble community of North Richmond, California, is a steward in the fight for social justice and economic equality. He has dedicated his life to the service of God, extended the doors of his church to provide economic and educational opportunities to the residents of Richmond, and bravely supported our country during World War II.

I am also proud to join the rest of our community in recognizing this year the 85th anniversary of the establishment of his church.

I can remember as a child attending events in North Richmond with my father, the late California State Senator George Miller, Jr., that a young Rev. Newsome would hoist me up on his shoulders to enable me to have a broader vision of my surroundings. More than 25 years later, in the 1970s, I stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Rev. Newsome and other African American faith and labor leaders on the steps of the Social Security building in Richmond. We assembled to protest discriminatory employment practices against African American workers by companies receiving Federal contracts, and I supported their demands that the Nixon Administration pay African American laborers 2 weeks in back pay owed to them for work that they performed on the Federal building project.

Acting as spokesman for the African American carpenters, Rev. Newsome was successful in receiving \$18 million for the workers. In September 1975, I proudly stood at the side of Rev. Newsome as we attended the opening ceremony for the newly constructed Frank Hagel Social Security Administration building on Nevin Street in Richmond.

Prior to his path in the ministry, C.W. Newsome proudly served in the segregated United States military where he fought for equality at home and freedom abroad. When World War II began in 1937, there were fewer than 5,000 black enlisted men in the United States army. In 1943, Rev. Newsome joined more than a million black men who had voluntarily enlisted in all branches of the armed forces to join in our country's war against Nazi fascism in Europe. While serving in the U.S. Marine Corps, he sustained an injury and was honorably discharged.

Despite widespread opposition to hiring African American and women workers in the civilian defense industry, Rev. Newsome answered President Franklin Roosevelt's call for civilians to join the country's effort to produce large numbers of "Liberty Ships" and "Victory Ships" for the war industry.

He and millions of other African Americans migrated westward to California to find work in

the shipyards. In 1944, Rev. Newsome settled in Richmond and worked as a clipper in the Kaiser Shipyard. His job was to groove steel for welding so that ships could withstand storms on harsh seas. The national westward migration of African Americans from the south to work in the shipyards during War II, and the contributions made by Rev. Newsome and other migrants, including thousands of women laborers, helped establish California as one of the leading industrial hubs in the world, and their efforts helped Richmond to become part of what is known today as the Rosie the Riveter National Historical Park.

Rev. Newsome received his Associate of Arts degree from Contra Costa College in San Pablo, California, and later completed studies at the University of California, Berkeley, Center for Drug and Alcohol Abuse. He studied theology at Bishop College in Dallas, Texas, and he earned his doctorate degree from Reeds Christian College—Western Theology Seminary in Los Angeles, California.

In 1954, Rev. Newsome served as organizing pastor of Holy Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church in Richmond and he later headed Community Baptist Church in Santa Rosa. In 1975, Rev. Newsome was recognized by then California State Senator James Mills for his studies and contributions in Christian education.

Rev. Newsome's relationship with the North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church formally began in 1966 when he became the church's interim pastor under the direction of the late Rev. F.W. Watkins. After Rev. Watkins' unfortunate passing, Rev. Newsome assumed the pastorship of the church and has served at its helm for 38 years. While assuming his responsibilities as pastor of North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church, Rev. Newsome also worked as a custodian in the Richmond public schools until 1967.

While working in the schools, Rev. Newsome witnessed first-hand how illegal drugs were being brought into high schools and the devastating effect that drugs were having on young people and their families. He understood that drugs and poverty were obstacles to learning for many children attending public schools in Richmond. Therefore, Rev. Newsome began a mission to keep students safe by fighting to close school campuses to drug dealers, and, in 1977, he successfully convinced the Richmond school district and the community to designate Kennedy High School as a closed campus.

For his valiant leadership on behalf of Richmond's children, he was named "Man of the Year" by the Richmond Unified School District.

Rev. Newsome's church has a proud and long history that I also rise to honor. Back in 1921, a small group of parishioners laid the cornerstone for what was to become the very first "Negro Baptist Church" in Contra Costa County. Today, North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church is a lighthouse for residents living in the City of Richmond as well as the unincorporated community of North Richmond. Rev. Newsome opened the doors of his church to the community in many ways. Under the leadership of Rev. Newsome, North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church has amply opened its doors to serve the community.

Identifying the need to provide job training to residents in North Richmond, an economically depressed community, the church opened the North Richmond Career Center.

The church served as a national model by providing residents with job skills and successfully putting over 200 young people into meaningful jobs. Several years ago, Rev. Newsome and his congregation helped to establish the North Richmond Clinic and the North Richmond Senior Apartments. Recently, church leaders are working with other faith-based groups to end blight by constructing affordable housing for low-income residents living in North Richmond and other areas of the City of Richmond.

Rev. C.W. Newsome's wife, Alice, serves as first-lady of North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church and is a great member of our community. Rev. Newsome is a loving husband and father and a beacon in our community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and my privilege to call him a friend and a colleague in our shared struggles on behalf of the people of North Richmond and Richmond. I rise to show my respect and offer my heartfelt appreciation to the Rev. C.W. Newsome for his lifetime of service to the ministry, to our community, and to our Nation, and to recognize the 85th anniversary of the remarkable community church in which he has served, the North Richmond Missionary Baptist Church.

HONORING DR. YOSEF A.A. BEN-JOCHANNAN: A PIONEER OF BLACK HISTORY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Yosef A.A. Ben-Jochannan: professor, author, and educator of black history to troubled children. I would like to ask the members of the House to join in paying respect to an outstanding intellectual.

Educated in Puerto Rico, Cuba, and Spain, "Dr. Ben" as he is affectionately called, is a true scholar, earning doctoral degrees in Cultural Anthropology and Moorish History. He is not only a historian but also a trained lawyer, engineer, and Egyptologist. Dr. Ben has been devoted to the exploration of ancient African civilizations and the emphasis of Egypt's importance towards the understanding of religion and African history. He moved to Harlem in 1942 and later began teaching troubled children at Harlem Prep about black history. He has also served as a professor in Cornell University's African Studies and Research Center. Since 1941 Dr. Ben has visited Egypt twice a year and hosted more than 30 educational tours of Egypt focusing on the roots of ancient Nile civilizations and religions. At 85 years old, he has published 42 books, one being the world renowned "The Black Man of the Nile and His Family".

Dr. Ben's scholarly work in the illumination of Africa's role in present "Western" religions has broken new ground for historians. His exceptional educating and tours have inspired many. His work in Harlem has especially touched me and it is with great admiration that I and other Members of Congress shall look upon this brave innovator of African historiography.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GABRIEL L.I.
BEVILACQUA

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments and contributions of Mr. Gabriel Bevilacqua, Chancellor of the Philadelphia Bar Association. It is a privilege to recognize an individual that strives to ensure that Philadelphia is always at its best.

Mr. Bevilacqua is a member of the litigation team for Saul Ewing, LLP as well as an involved leader of numerous professional and civic organizations. Mr. Bevilacqua has held various leadership positions that include being Chair of the firm's Health Law Litigation Committee, serving 7 years as a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association's Board of Governors, and serving as the Bar Association's Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. He currently serves as a Trustee for the Philadelphia Bar Foundation and is a respected former President of the foundation.

Mr. Bevilacqua has remained active outside of the professional arena by being an active member of the Nazareth Hospital Board of Trustees, and by serving on the Board of Directors for Nazareth Hospital, St. Mary's Hospital, and Holy Redeemer Hospital Home Health Agency. Gabriel Bevilacqua was selected as "Pennsylvania Super Lawyer" by Philadelphia Magazine for 2004 for successfully upholding a professional and personal commitment to the Greater Philadelphia area.

It is my honor to recognize a person whose dedication to the community has enriched the lives of countless individuals in both my district and the state of Pennsylvania. I hope that all of my distinguished colleagues will join me and his family in honoring Mr. Gabriel Bevilacqua.

RECOGNIZING THE CONCERNS OF
POLICE SURVIVORS, INC.

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this means to recognize Concerns of Police Survivors, Inc. The organization, which provides support and encouragement to families of law enforcement officers who have given their lives, observes its 20th anniversary on May 14. The organization, also known as COPS, has grown into an international non-profit organization comprised of 13,000 families in the United States, with an affiliate in the United Kingdom.

The genesis of COPS occurred in 1983, when ten survivors of fallen officers gathered to talk about the difficulties they faced when their loved ones were killed. Within a year they decided there was a need for a support organization that could understand the trauma inflicted on surviving families and agencies when an officer was killed in the line of duty.

COPS was officially organized on May 14, 1984, with 110 police survivors attending the first National Police Survivors' Conference in

Washington, DC. It organized independently from other police organizations in order to allow members to reach out to any survivor regardless of their loved one's police organization affiliation.

COPS sponsors weekend retreats for surviving spouses, parents, adult children, siblings, and in-laws. The organization also hosts a week-long summer camp and a weekend wilderness experience in the Colorado Rockies for surviving children. With funding from the Department of Justice, COPS presents training that teaches officers how to help surviving families, affected co-workers, and communities deal with the tragedy of line-of-duty deaths.

Mr. Speaker, COPS is providing an important service to those families and coworkers of officers who have lost their lives. From humble beginnings in a basement office to a brand new facility in Camdenton, Missouri, COPS has brought healing and support to those who have lost a friend or loved one. I know my fellow Members will join with me in thanking members of this organization for their work and dedication.

FREEDOM FOR NELSON MOLINÉ
ESPINO

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Nelson Moliné Espino, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Moliné Espino is a pro-democracy activist working for freedom for the people of Cuba. He is the President of the Confederation of Democratic Workers of Cuba and a member of the 30 November party. Mr. Moliné Espino has dedicated his energy and talents to liberating the oppressed people of Cuba from the tyrannical regime.

As a leader in the struggle for freedom and human rights for the people of Cuba, Mr. Moliné Espino has been a constant target for the dictator's thugs. According to Amnesty International, he has been harassed for his activities, called into a police station, and threatened with arrest if he did not abandon his struggle for human rights and workers rights.

Because of his belief in freedom, Mr. Moliné Espino was arrested as part of the tyrant's vicious crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists in March 2003. On March 20, he was detained and his home was searched. Eventually Mr. Moliné Espino was "indicted" on charges that he had mixed with people dedicated to "subversive" activity. After a sham trial, he was sentenced to 20 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Moliné Espino is languishing in the inhuman squalor of Castro's totalitarian gulag. According to reports, since his trial in April 2003, he has again been "tried and sentenced" to an additional year on charges of "disrespect". Let us be clear, Mr. Moliné Espino is locked in the grotesque inferno of totalitarian repression simply because he believes in democracy and human rights.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that peaceful pro-democracy activists are locked in a diabolical gulag 90 miles from our shore. My

Colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of Nelson Moliné Espino and every prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

RECOGNIZING "COVER THE
UNINSURED WEEK"

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize May 10–16 as "Cover the Uninsured Week." This is an important opportunity to put the spotlight on those individuals without access to coverage as well as those with inadequate coverage. Over 44 million people—15% of the U.S. population—lack health insurance coverage of any kind over the entire year. It has been said many times, but it must be said yet again—the United States is the only industrialized nation which fails to provide universal health care to its people. I hope the "Cover the Uninsured Week" will not just stimulate discussion, but action, so that soon that statement will no longer be true.

Individuals without health insurance are more likely than insured Americans to postpone health care, not getting the care they need and not filling prescriptions. Access to health insurance also has a major impact on the financial well-being of families—over a third of the uninsured had a serious problem paying medical bills in the past year and nearly a quarter was contacted by a collection agency. The alarming fact is that this disturbing trend is only worsening. Throughout most of the 1990s, the number of uninsured has been steadily increasing by about 1 million people every year. This problem persists despite the fact that a recent Kaiser Family Foundation poll found that 78 percent of all Americans believe that the government has a responsibility to expand health insurance coverage to more Americans. This strong sense of national support for expanding health care to the uninsured is a mandate to the government to act now on this urgent problem that is profoundly affecting the ability of Americans to live healthy and productive lives.

The lack of affordable health care and the national epidemic of the uninsured is not a problem with a single face. The uninsured are a diverse group of people—they are young professionals, small business owners, laborers and service employees. They are children, parents, and the near elderly. Any working person in this country can end up being uninsured at some point in their life. Today, I would like to look beyond the numbers and present before you snapshots of two people from my state of Illinois who are living without insurance.

Jocelyn Graf of Oak Park, Illinois had to give up her health insurance when she started her own small English language training business and discovered that she could not afford the insurance plans available on the market. Jocelyn has received discounted medical care with assistance from the Campaign for Better Health Care. Jocelyn explained that she has been willing to risk living without insurance because she is young and healthy, but the lack of coverage would have been harder to deal with if she had ongoing health needs or was injured.

Uyles Singleton of Chicago, Illinois worked for an envelope manufacturing company for 35 years. When the company went out of business last July, Uyles had only one month's notice his employer coverage insurance, which provided him and his wife access to medical care. Uyles quickly discovered that he could not afford to pay the exorbitantly high insurance premiums and now has to pay for all of his medical and prescription drug expenses out-of-pocket. Uyles pays \$300 a month for his monthly medications to treat a chronic condition and can no longer afford to visit his regular primary care physician. In February, Uyles went to Cook County Hospital after separating his shoulder where he was x-rayed, but was not treated because he was unable to pay for the costs of care.

Unfortunately, the problem runs much deeper than just the uninsured. Perhaps the sleeping giant of our health care coverage crisis is the population of Americans who are underinsured and lack access to urgent and necessary care. If you have a chronic medical condition and your employer changes health insurance providers or you change jobs and your new policy does not cover a preexisting condition, then you or your family may experience a serious gap in coverage. If you are in need of mental health coverage that your insurance does not cover, you will be unable to access appropriate care. And if you are self-employed or unemployed for even a small stretch of time, you may find yourself priced out of the health insurance market or paying high premiums for an insurance policy that may only cover catastrophic costs. Even temporary gaps in coverage affect the health and financial stability of the so-called "insured population." A 2002 Kaiser Foundation study found that 38 percent of insured individuals report that they or their families experienced at least one problem accessing medical services in the past year, nearly one-fifth (18 percent) reported that they postponed seeking medical care and 15 percent had a problem paying medical bills.

These numbers have real meaning to the people I represent. I have been contacted by a constituent who, although being insured, suffers from breast cancer, a condition not covered by her insurance provider. The very expensive cost of fighting this disease falls squarely on her shoulders with no help from her insurer. I am greatly troubled by the many constituents that I have heard from who struggle to pay the high premiums for their insurance, only to have to ration the medical care they need for themselves and their children because of deductibles that reach \$5,000. Insurance available in today's market is clearly not a full-proof guarantee that people can access the care they need. Given the very thin line distinguishing the underinsured from the uninsured, Congress needs to act to guarantee comprehensive, quality care for both the uninsured and the badly insured.

Any of us could become uninsured and face similar problems in obtaining medical care. Action on this critical issue is long since overdue. I urge my colleagues in Congress to not delay. We must act to make health care a right entitled to each and every single American.

CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS OF HALF HOLLOW HILLS EAST HIGH SCHOOL

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the students from Half Hollow Hills East High School in Dix Hills, New York for their hard work in the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" national finals.

The students, Carolyn Abott, Emily Chin, Samuel Dixon, George Duroseau, Jason Feinstein, Steven Frank, Antonia Fthenakis, Carrie Gerber, Qais Ghafary, Hannah Goldsmith, Bruce Halperin, Emily Kratter, Sami Rashid, Dan Rogove, Jessica Rosenbaum, Gayle Rudofsky, Lauren Shikowitz, Ricki Silverman, Rohini Singh, Caryn Teitelbaum, Shara Venezia-Wallerstein, Jason Vinokur, Nicole Weinstock, Joshua Wolinsky, and Joseph Wolken, led by their teacher Scott Edwards, demonstrated a remarkable understanding of the fundamental ideals and values of American constitutional government.

It is truly an honor to call these outstanding young Americans my constituents. Their success in this competition is also a testament to the exceptional teachers at Half Hollow Hills East High School and elsewhere on Long Island.

I offer my congratulations on their hard-won honorable mention and commend these students on their dedication to the study of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

HONORING OAKLAND ARD

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Oakland Ard, who is being awarded the "Here's looking at you award."

Mr. Ard was born in Sampson, Alabama on September 17, 1925. Mr. Ard left Alabama for Florida on his twenty-fifth birthday.

He was employed by the Port St. Joe Paper Company from 1950 to 1952 and went on to work for Saint Regis Paper Company in Jacksonville, Florida between 1953 and 1957.

In 1957, Mr. Ard moved to Jay, Florida and began working at the Container Corporation in Brewton, Alabama.

Mr. Ard has been a great provider for his community by serving on the Jay Hospital Board of Trustees for four years, the ARC Board of Directors in Santa Rosa County for six years, SRC Chamber of Commerce for nine years. He is currently serving on the Committee's of Government and Military Affairs and the Board of Directors for SHIP.

Mr. Ard has generously volunteered his time with the Jay First Baptist Church in any needed capacity that involves helping his church or people in need. He has been a member of the Jay First Baptist Church for forty years.

Mr. Ard's unselfish deeds of giving his time to help others have made him a well-known and well-loved man throughout his community.

Mr. Ard and his lovely wife Marian have two sons, Freddy and Ronnie, four grandsons and one great grand daughter.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to recognize this special person for the example he has set in his community. I offer my sincere thanks for all that he has done for Northwest Florida and this great nation.

PROCLAMATION FROM MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH GRAVE DEDICATION CEREMONY

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues a proclamation that was read at a grave dedication ceremony at the Mount Pleasant Primitive Baptist Church in Jones County, Georgia. This proclamation honors a patriot of the American Revolutionary War, Private Reuben McLeroy, an ancestor of one of my constituents, Mr. Travis Ellis of Hampton, Georgia. I would like to thank Mr. Ellis and the members of the Georgia Society of Sons of the American Revolution for honoring the life of Private McLeroy and keeping the memory alive of the patriots of the Revolutionary War who achieved our independence and fought for the freedoms we enjoy today as American citizens.

REUBEN MCLEROY, A PROCLAMATION

Whereas, The Lyman Hall, Ocmulgee, and Piedmont Chapters of the Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution conducted on April 24, 2004 a dedication of the grave marker commemorating the service of Revolutionary war patriot, Private Reuben McLeroy, and

Whereas, Reuben McLeroy married Christiana Johnson in April 1776 and lived in Wake County, North Carolina at the commencement of the Revolution. Reuben would enlist in the North Carolina Militia and serve gallantly for the duration of the war. Reuben's unit would participate in the Battle of Eutaw Springs and perform beyond expectations. It was at Eutaw Springs that the outnumbered colonists would defeat the enemy and end the British stronghold in the south.

Whereas, By the end of the Revolutionary War, Reuben McLeroy and family would migrate to Wilkes County, Georgia. When the county was later subdivided into several counties it was in Clarke County that Reuben was ordained as a Baptist preacher in September 1804 at the Mars Hill Baptist Church. Reuben would then move his family to Jones County, Georgia in 1810 and serve the Walnut Creek Baptist Church until his death on February 12, 1820.

Whereas, I recognize and extend my appreciation to the Sons of the American Revolution, Lyman Hall, Ocmulgee, and Piedmont Chapters, for their efforts to provide historical and educational knowledge and to perpetuate the memory of the men who, by their services and sacrifices during the War of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people; now

Therefore: As the Representative for the Eighth District of Georgia in the U.S. House of Representatives, I do hereby recognize the selfless sacrifice made by Patriot Reuben McLeroy as well as all others who with their courage and valor fulfilled a nations quest for Liberty. I hereby confirm the dedication of a grave marker for Private Reuben McLeroy and call this observance to the attention of our citizens.

IN RECOGNITION OF SGT. S.J. TESKE AND THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE U.S. MILITARY

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the men and women of the United States armed services currently serving in the theaters of Afghanistan and Iraq. These men and women, from a diverse, cross-section of America perform their duties with pride and deep patriotism. Our soldiers remain committed to fulfilling a democratic Iraq where men, women and children can freely live without fear of a dictatorial regime and the suppression of individual freedoms. The successes that liberated Afghanistan from the Taliban and Iraq from Saddam Hussein resulted from the commitment, skill and expertise our soldiers displayed on the battlefield.

Mr. Speaker, I recently spoke to Sargent S.J. Teske of Boca Raton. Sgt. Teske is a member of the U.S. Marine Corps and has recently been deployed to the Iraq region. Following my conversation, I was presented with a letter written by this brave American. I ask unanimous consent to include Sgt. Teske's letter in to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

May God bless Sgt. Teske and the men and women of our armed forces.

A LETTER FROM ONE OF OUR TROOPS

APRIL 5, 2004.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This afternoon I received a phone call from my brother requesting me to write a letter about how I felt about being deployed to Iraq. A relatively easy task to which I replied, "No problem, you will have it tonight." I debated as to whether I should give a generic, political or military answer or one that came from my heart. Needless to say, last night came and went.

I lay in bed looking at my fiancé fast asleep and our darling 1 year old lab curled up next to me, thinking about the weeks that lie ahead and how few I have left prior to my departure. Visions of the good-byes I would soon have to make to my parents, brothers, sisters, fiancé and friends ran through my mind and my eyes quickly swelled with tears. I thought about my 10 year high school reunion that I would miss in November, Christmas, birthdays, my best friend's wedding, dropping out of school, taking a \$30,000 salary cut and how my fiancé and family would have to take on so many responsibilities. Then the thoughts about why I had joined the Marine Corps 9.5 years ago came to mind, the blood, sweat, tears and pain throughout those years I put my body through to become one of "The Few". As my mind recaptured all of these memories and the soon approaching anxieties I decided that this is my answer to that question:

I feel that it is my responsibility to deploy to Iraq and partake in Operation Iraqi Freedom, not just as a responsibility to my troops and the Marine Corps, but to our Country. Freedom is not free. The fatigues I wear do not represent the United States Marine Corps; they represent all who have given their lives before me so I could have the opportunity to wear them. I belong to a brotherhood of individuals who are willing to sacrifice the most priceless gift, so others can know how amazing the meaning of Freedom really is. It is a responsibility and an obligation to a commitment made so many years

ago that I still today continue to choose to be apart of. I find pleasure in the simple things in life and the things you cannot buy or put a price tag on, it is these things we most often take for granted, and the cost of maintaining and defending them is Freedom—this is my job and my motivation.

I certainly don't benefit from monetary remunerations, our accommodations most often are made of the ground we walk on and the MREs we eat would not be considered as edible staples by most people's standards. The luxury of a shower or a cold glass of water are things that are most often, taken for granted, still I believe that our rewards are much greater. When I see innocent children laughing on their way to school, not worrying about the brutalities of war, destruction or hatred, my heart smiles. Sunday mornings sitting in the pew at church I understand what the definition of Freedom really is. Our Flag flying so proudly above every building stands for everything we are defending. To have the opportunity to continue my education, have a career, a home, vehicles and a family—that "wows" me. Our country is so spectacular, so beautiful, so amazing, so incredible and so untainted compared to that of not only my destination, but also so many others. I am proud to be a part of a mission that will make a difference not only in our generation, but our world. I have Faith that we will endure, and we will succeed in this war on terror. For me, there is an Honor and Pride that goes along with that.

I find strength in knowing that I am a part of an organization that is determined to end terrorism and overwhelmed with the confidence within us that we will succeed. Our Nation or any other Nation should never again have to feel the agony we felt on September 11th. I believe in God, our Marine Corps and our Country. Conclusively, what I feel about being deployed to Iraq and the sacrifices that will go along with it, is that I am proud to defend a Flag whose colors will never run, a military that will never falter and proud to serve such an amazing Nation. God Bless America and Semper Fidelis.

SJ TESKE, SGT USMC

HYBRID CARS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, rising global temperatures. Dangerously polluted air. A hamstrung foreign policy. Our dependence on fossil fuels contributes to countless problems, and California is on the frontline of many of them.

The first step out of this morass may be hybrid cars. With double the gas mileage of standard cars and far lower tailpipe emissions, they could dramatically reduce our unsustainable levels of energy consumption. I believe we should do everything possible to encourage hybrid use, which is why I support recent efforts to let hybrid drivers use the carpool lane regardless of the number of passengers in the car. A pending bill in the California legislature institutes a pilot program along these lines: 70,000 permits for hybrid users to access the lane, with a review of the program once 50,000 permits have been distributed.

Federal law currently prohibits such a program, but the transportation bill working its way through Congress removes this ban and

allows local jurisdictions to decide the issue for themselves. I support this change as a sensible and flexible way to encourage hybrid use. In fact, the House version of the bill originally required that hybrids be charged a toll to use the lane, a provision I considered unnecessary and heavy-handed. I proposed an amendment to remove this requirement, and guided this amendment to House passage.

The strongest criticism of this proposed change is that it will lead to overcrowded carpool lanes. We should take this concern seriously, since the carpool lane was created as much to relieve traffic congestion as to improve air quality. But there are a number of reasons to think this problem will not materialize or will be manageable if it does.

First, hybrids account for less than one half of one percent of new cars sold today. While it is true that car makers will soon be expanding their hybrid product lines considerably, it is estimated that hybrid cars will still amount to less than five percent of new car sales by 2013. Many of these cars will be hybrid sport utility vehicles that will not meet the Federal transportation bill's strict fuel efficiency standard for access to the carpool lane.

For that matter, Caltrans has estimated that carpool lanes around the state are at two-thirds of their maximum capacity. There is room for adding hybrid cars.

Of course, the goal is to encourage widespread adoption of hybrid technology. In some sense, we should hope that the lane will become more crowded, because it will be a sign that the incentive is working. That is why a flexible solution is essential. Local jurisdictions should monitor their own carpool lanes and impose restrictions as needed. The California bill perfectly embodies this approach: rather than diving in head first, the proposed program tests the waters with a limited number of permits.

Some have argued that once the lane is open to hybrid drivers they will not submit to new restrictions, even if a crowded carpool lane makes such restrictions necessary. This naturally assumes that access to a clogged carpool lane is worth fighting for. More important, it suggests an approach to governing that would limit us from trying new ideas; we must not avoid taking action for fear of our own success.

Allowing hybrids in the carpool lane is a bipartisan, problem-solving move toward cleaner air, and it will cost taxpayers little or nothing to implement. We should proceed forward in a cautious way, understanding that other goals are at stake but that freeing ourselves from the straightjacket of fossil fuels is worth the effort.

RHODE ISLAND'S SENIORS
CENTERS

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, almost 60 years ago, the nation's first senior center opened in New York, marking the beginning of the senior center movement. Today, almost 10 million older Americans participate in senior centers across the country. In my district alone, the First District of Rhode Island, we are fortunate to have 24 senior centers. I visit these centers often, and when I do,

I am continually impressed by the dedicated directors and staff who work to make these facilities welcoming to all members of the community.

This week is National Senior Center Week, and the theme is "Senior Centers on the Move!" I cannot think of a better phrase to describe the seniors in Rhode Island. Senior centers give them the opportunity to get out of the house to attend exercise classes, computer seminars, dances, Feng Shui demonstrations, and hundreds of other activities. Some senior centers even sponsor overnight trips to neighboring cities. Many centers promote health and wellness beyond exercise classes, by bringing physicians and nurses to the centers for office hours. By hosting seminars on healthy living and the management of chronic illnesses, like diabetes, these centers are enhancing the lives of seniors and their families.

Rhode Island's seniors centers, and the centers around the Nation, are one stop centers for seniors and their families to get the care they need, both physically and emotionally. Whether you go to get your blood pressure checked, take an exercise class, or meet a neighbor for lunch, the senior center's staff welcomes you like family. I would like to congratulate Rhode Island's senior centers, and all senior centers, on National Senior Centers Week, and their directors and staff who work to bring the most up-to-date activities to the seniors community. The commitment of the directors and staff is commendable and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their dedication and for working to sustain the heart of our communities.

I would like to recognize the following Senior Center Directors in the First District of Rhode Island:

Debra Diniz, Barrington Senior Center; Rita Ayers-Gaulin, Bristol Senior Center; Mary Luz, YMCA Community Center; Lori Gagnon, Cumberland Senior Center; Bob Rock, East Providence Senior Center; Charlotte Richardson, Jamestown Senior Center; Lois Durkin, Lincoln Senior Center; Marjory O'Toole, Little Compton Community Center; Arlene Kaull, Middletown Senior Center; David Dean, Edward King House.

Pauline Moyer, Florence Cray Center; Amanda Leinhos, Martin Luther King, Jr. Center; Karen Testa, Salvatore Mancini Center; Joan Crawley, Leon Mathieu Center; Cynthia Koniecki, Portsmouth Senior Center; John Deluca, Davinci Center; Jessica Haley, Hamilton House; Sue Robbio, Jewish Senior Agency; Everret Cavalho, Mt. Hope Center; Lori Silvia, Fox Point Senior Center; Marilyn Heller, Smithfield Senior Center; Janice Gomes, Tiverton Senior Center; Elizabeth Hogue, Warren Senior Center; and Jill Anderson, Woonsocket Senior Center.

CO-SPONSORSHIP OF H.R. 4061

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in regards to H.R. 4061, the Assistance for Orphans and Vulnerable Children Act of 2004, which passed the House International Relations Committee by unanimous consent on March 31st.

Last week the International Relations Committee filed House Report 108-479.

Because House rules prohibit the addition of additional co-sponsors to a bill once the committee report has been filed, I am not able to formally add another Member of Congress as a co-sponsor of this legislation.

I ask that the record show that Mr. TERRY of Nebraska is in support of my bill and should be considered by this body as a co-sponsor of H.R. 4061.

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS. ALMON LONG ON THE HAPPY OCCASION OF THEIR 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Almon J. Long of Larksville, Pennsylvania, as the happy couple celebrates the joyous occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary today.

My good friend Al Long is a retired grocery business owner who served in the Army. As a veteran, he has long been a strong advocate of veterans' rights. When I need to know what is important to our veterans, it comforts me to know that I can always count on Al to air the concerns of Northeastern Pennsylvania's veterans. When the Wilkes-Barre VA Medical Center was in danger of being closed, Al headed up the local effort to save the facility, including helping to round up more than 30,000 signatures that I personally delivered to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

Al has held several offices within the Pennsylvania Department of Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, including State Commander for the organization. Al currently serves as the State Legislative Chairman.

Cora Long is a retired garment worker who remains active in the VFW Post 283 in Kingston.

The couple has three children, Linda Colianni of Larksville; Lori Schmidt of Wapwallopen; and Allan Long of Ashley. The couple also enjoys their three wonderful grandchildren, Vinny, Michael and Courtney. They also enjoy time with their pug, Rudy.

The Longs were married in the First Evangelical United Brethren Church with the Rev. Warren Loesch officiating. Cora's attendants included the late Joyce Shewan, Marilyn Valent Duda, the late Mrs. Ronald Williams and Patricia Swiderski. Al's groomsmen were William Rehn Jr., the late Edwards Shewan, the late Michael Figler, Arthur Rehn, the late John Lockman and William Young.

Cora Long is the daughter of the late William and Ruth Rehn of Wilkes-Barre. Al is the son of the late Mary Gregory of Larksville.

The couple will be honored at a party on Saturday, May 15, 2004, at Saint Ignatius Church in Kingston.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and privilege to stand here today and pay tribute to the Longs, a loving couple who has played such a vital role in ensuring veterans' rights and who stand as pillars of their community.

HELP EFFICIENT, ACCESSIBLE, LOW-COST, TIMELY HEALTHCARE (HEALTH) ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this bill because we should not impose a one size fits all solution to the problem. We need to bring the patients, doctors and insurance companies to the table to address this problem as a whole and not just target one factor in the rising cost of malpractice.

Medical malpractice is an issue of concern and we need to look at ways of addressing the real issues. We need to look at patient safety. We need to look at ways of helping doctors that have been negatively impacted and we need to find ways to stop frivolous lawsuits. With these underlying problems is a one size fits all answer a solution. Will this address doctors and patients needs? Will this ensure that patients receive the care they need and will doctors be able to provide the appropriate care to heal our sick?

I do strongly believe that a factor that has been left out of this debate is the insurance companies. What role do they play and what information do they provide and is it accurate? Are these companies playing on the fear of doctors and patients to increase their premiums? We cannot continue down this path without addressing this issue. We must have an open debate where all the major players are involved and we do not pit doctors versus patients. If this problem persists and we start to lose doctors we must force all these players to the table to rectify the problem.

We are fortunate in the state of Maryland to have caps. These caps have done a good job in keeping the health care standards in the state so high. Anything we work in Congress should allow for the states to address their individual needs. Maryland is best suited to address the needs of the doctors and patients in our state. We do not need a forced federal one-size fits all solution for our state. We need an open dialogue.

HELP EFFICIENT, ACCESSIBLE, LOW-COST, TIMELY HEALTHCARE (HEALTH) ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, this bill claims to be a cure for the high cost of insurance premiums paid by doctors. But it's really just what the insurance companies ordered.

It's a public policy placebo that doesn't relieve the sting doctors are feeling from sky-high insurance premiums. It only offers the illusion of relief, while pumping cash into the bottom line of the insurance companies.

Capping damages may save insurance companies money when their policyholders are sued, but the bill doesn't require insurers to pass along one cent of savings to doctors in the form of lower medical liability premiums.

Last year, when H.R. 5, the so-called "HEALTH" Act, was considered in the Energy and Commerce Committee, I offered an amendment to ensure that any savings from the bill's caps on damages for patient pain and suffering would be passed along to doctors in the form of reductions in their liability insurance premiums. This would directly protect innocent doctors from the impact of rising insurance rates brought about by negligence, while increasing the likelihood that consumers would see some benefit from caps. The Republican side defeated my amendment.

I asked the Rules Committee to make my amendment in order so that we could have a full and open debate on it during Floor consideration, but the Republicans refused to make my amendment in order.

This year, the Republican Majority went one step further—not only did Republicans refuse to make my amendment in order, they completed bypassed the Committee process altogether, ramming this bill right to the House Floor without any hearings and without any opportunity to amend it in Committee.

The amendment I offered last year in Committee established the "missing link" in this bill between liability caps and lower premiums for physicians. It would have balanced the competing interests in a way that would allow some progress on this issue. But balance does not seem to be what the Republican leadership is looking for. Instead, they bring forward a bill that no one can amend at all and which blames rising premiums on the victims of medical errors by capping their damages for pain and suffering, while completely ignoring the effect that insurers' own bad business decisions have on the high cost of premiums.

Such a slanted, one-dimensional view of the problem is bad for doctors and bad for patients. Without any guarantee that savings from the bill's cap on damages will go to doctors—not the insurance industry—this bill deserves to be defeated. Someday, we will see a majority in this Congress that is willing to go to bat for consumers and doctors alike to reduce the soaring cost of providing good medicine, instead of handing out "discount cards" that are becoming a license to raise prices across the board. Sadly, that day has not yet arrived.

I urge my colleagues to reject this harmful bill. Put the interests of physicians and patients above insurance company profiteering. Vote "No" on H.R. 4280.

DEPLORING ABUSE OF PERSONS IN UNITED STATES CUSTODY IN IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2004

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague and good friend, the gentleman from Massachusetts for yielding me this time. At seven in the morning today, he and I, and the other members of the Committee on Rules, met to discuss this resolution.

Once again, the Republican majority has determined to use the Committee on Rules to frustrate the democratic procedures.

Once again, the Republican Party has stifled debate and offered a closed rule.

As America commits itself to promoting Democracy in Iraq, the Republican majority in the House of Representatives, for partisan purposes, refused to allow an open debate on this most important issue.

It is as if the Republican majority starts and ends every Congressional session, which is broadcast live by C-SPAN, by saying, "Please do not try this at home." Today, again, they set exactly the wrong example of how to proceed democratically.

I condemn these horrible acts, and would have supported a resolution that properly and sincerely addressed the horrors that took place in Iraq. I believe that such a resolution could have come to the House floor under unanimous consent, and would have enjoyed full bipartisan support.

Now, it is important for us to recognize that the American military has no peers. It is also important for us to recognize that the absolute, overwhelming, great majority of the men and women in the military are not the kind of people that are now being investigated, and are not the kind of people that would commit these abuses.

I, for once, will not allow the offensive acts of a few to stain the service of more than 300,000 American men and women who have risked their lives for freedom. Our military has worked too hard and accomplished too much to be stained by the actions of a few.

That said, in a society committed to civil and human rights like ours, there is no place for the sorts of atrocities that occurred in Iraq. No American would allow for this kind of conduct. Everyone feels awful that this occurred and deplores the abuses of persons in America's custody in Iraq.

However, this resolution does not say what I think it should say. It condemns the abuse, but presents unacceptable omissions and inexcusable political provisions. Therefore, the resolution needs to be amended.

First, I would have supported a resolution that condemned the abuses and sought accountability because I believe this to be a time for remorse and self-criticism.

We are a Nation used to pointing the finger elsewhere; now, the fingers of the international public are pointing—rightfully so—back at us. Therefore, we must harshly and steadfastly deal with these atrocities and hold responsible all those that have contributed to the abuses. I trust that we can do this together with our friends and allies, taking advantage of such international organizations as the United Nations and the Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe that have experience and knowledge on how to fight and prevent human rights violations worldwide.

But, this resolution instead tries to change the subject and avoid the problems by bragging about the removal of Saddam Hussein. This is not a time to spin the bad news or play politics. And, this resolution is not the proper place to defend the mistaken decision of going to war in Iraq. I refuse to belatedly vote for the war in Iraq under the guise of a dishonest and untruthful title.

Second, I would have supported a resolution that made accountable all those whom, regardless of rank or party loyalty, contributed to a culture that condones human rights abuses. Ultimately, what happened in Iraq and its aftermath has been a failure of leadership

of the Commander in Chief, and a failure of leadership of the Department of Defense from Secretary Rumsfeld, and the resolution should have pointed this out.

More courageous leaders would have recognized their responsibility, faced up to the situation, and said, "the buck stops here." But, instead, those in the Bush Administration failed to do their jobs and give straight answers. And, the resolution of the Republican Congressional majority has been drafted to absolve the leadership of any blame.

We must take a good and hard look at the Bush Administration. I trust that justice and accountability will come for those who perpetrated abuse of Iraqi detainees, and those in the chain of command who failed to act upon learning of these appalling acts.

Third, I would have supported a resolution that loudly and strongly decried the fact that for too long the information regarding the abuses in Iraqi prisons was in the hands of military higher-ups who did not deem the oversight responsibilities of Congress important enough for them to bring the matter forward. Congress was not notified of the problems at Abu Ghraib prison, even though the Department of Defense had a report outlining the conditions there at least 3 months ago.

To conclude, it is unfortunate that this matter does not come to the floor under unanimous consent. It does have, as I pointed out this morning, a few flaws that could easily have been corrected had the majority determined that it was proper to do so.

I take this opportunity to apologize not only to the detainees but also to all others who likely feel that America has lost its moral authority.

Had this resolution been true to its title, "Deplored the Abuse of Persons in United States Custody in Iraq," I would vote in favor of it. However, for the above-mentioned reasons, I cannot support the legislation in question. I will vote nay as a patriot, and a human rights defender.

I oppose this resolution in its present form.

MIDDLE-CLASS ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 5, 2004

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the more than 2 million taxpayers who are unfairly burdened by the alternative minimum tax.

The AMT was originally designed in 1969 to ensure that the wealthiest Americans would still pay a fair share of taxes. The AMT now burdens many middle income Americans in what was once envisioned as an alternative minimum tax has now become more of a mandatory maximum tax.

The AMT is not a technicality of significance to only a few bureaucrats and the tax lawyers. It is not a mere glitch, the repair of which would only help a handful of wealthy individuals. It is a system that affects 2.4 million families this year. By 2010, 30 million Americans will be faced with minimum tax liability.

Unfortunately, under the Republican bill today, AMT exemption would only be raised to

\$40,250 for single taxpayers and \$58,000 for married couple filing jointly in 2005. This would still leave 1 million families paying the AMT. Unlike other tax cuts being forced through by Republicans, this will only be a temporary 1-year fix. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that a true fix of the AMT would cost \$376 billion over 10 years. But Republicans have refused to pull back their tax cuts for the wealthy, which have created a \$3 trillion deficit, in order to pay for this essential middle class tax relief.

I ask unanimous consent to insert into the record an editorial from the May 10, 2004 Los Angeles Times highlighting the budget gimmicks being used to disguise the cost of AMT and other tax cuts.

Today Democrats bring to the House floor a true solution to the AMT problem. The Democratic substitute completely exempts married couple families with incomes under \$250,000 from the alternative minimum tax, providing tax relief to more than 10 million families.

The Democratic plan is fully paid for by cracking down on corporate tax shelters. Nearly two-thirds of corporations paid no tax at all in 2000 and this is an important step to ensuring that corporations pay their fair share while relieving middle class families from the unfair burden of the alternative minimum tax.

It is important that we act today to ensure average income Americans will not unfairly face the alternative minimum tax in 2005. However, I believe we should provide this relief in a fiscally responsible manner that will not burden future generations of Americans. I urge my colleagues in joining me today in support of real AMT relief.

[From the Los Angeles Times, May 10, 2004]

PRESTO!—IT'S DEFICIT MAGIC

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan is increasingly testy about the perils of the federal budget deficit, warning Congress and the Bush administration last week that it poses "a significant obstacle to long-term stability." The higher the debt goes, the more the threat of inflation increases. That forces the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates, slowing economic growth. Friday's sunny job creation figures, though good news, also intensify pressure to raise rates.

The Congressional Budget Office projects a deficit of \$477 billion for 2004—and by 2013, a recent average college graduate will shoulder \$51.520 of the total national debt. The new \$25 billion request by the White House to underwrite the Iraq occupation will be on top of those projections. But Congress continues living in a fiscal house of mirrors, using gimmickry to disguise the cost of current and proposed tax cuts.

The mischief begins with the one-year curb on the so-called alternative minimum tax that the House approved Wednesday. If enacted, it will shield about 9 million individuals and families at a cost of \$17.8 billion to the Treasury. The AMT is a parallel tax system originally designed to prevent the wealthy from avoiding all income taxes. But because it was not indexed for inflation, middle-class taxpayers are falling within its limits. Indexing the tax makes sense, but not on top of the more reckless cuts already passed.

Now Congress seeks to have it both ways by relying on one-year extensions. It pretends at budget time that hundreds of billions of AMT dollars will be available over the next decade. Then it can turn around and extend AMT relief for another year.

The "marriage penalty" produces another sleight of hand. A tax code quirk often penalizes married couples when both spouses

work. Once again, relief is good in theory but lawmakers aren't honest about lost revenue. By pretending the AMT will be in effect, they assume for budgeting purposes that about half of the tax cuts the AMT is intended to provide for married couples will be canceled out. Dizzying as well as deceptive.

The congressional Joint Committee on Taxation estimates that if, as is likely, the AMT is curbed each year, the bill the House passed April 28 for marriage relief would cost \$204 billion over 10 years, not \$105 billion.

If Congress rolled back the parts of the tax cuts that benefit the most wealthy, changes to the AMT and marriage penalty could be considered, but cuts already enacted reduce federal taxes of households with incomes above \$1 million an average of \$123,600 in 2004. Over the next decade, interest payments on tax-cut debt will amount to all that the government spends on the departments of Education, Homeland Security, Interior, Justice and State.

The longer that lawmakers budget by fakery, the more they will inundate future generations with trillions in debt. Whom will those generations blame?

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4279, PROVIDING FOR DISPOSITION OF UNUSED HEALTH BENEFITS IN CAFETERIA PLANS AND FLEXIBLE SPENDING ARRANGEMENTS; H.R. 4280, HELP EFFICIENT, ACCESSIBLE, LOW-COST, TIMELY HEALTHCARE (HEALTH) ACT OF 2004; AND H.R. 4281, SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH FAIRNESS ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, the rising cost of health care is running out of control. With these flexible savings accounts it allows employers to pay for health care not covered by their health plans. It is only right that left over funds be rolled over into next years accounts. I support this bill to help people pay for their health care coverage.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4275, PERMANENT EXTENSION OF 10-PERCENT INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RATE BRACKET

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2004

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this modified, closed rule, and thank my friend and colleague from the Rules Committee, Mr. SESSIONS, for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, this is a fair and traditional rule for legislation that amends the Internal Revenue Code, and I am pleased that the House will have the opportunity to consider the merits of the underlying legislation, H.R. 4275, as well as an amendment in the nature of a substitute from the Ranking Member of the Ways and Means Committee, Mr. RANGEL.

Mr. Speaker, this rule before the House, H. Res. 637, will give Members of the House an opportunity to consider legislation that will spur economic growth and save taxpayers money by providing tax relief for working Americans.

I also want to commend Mr. SESSIONS, my friend and colleague on the Rules Committee, for introducing this important legislation. H.R. 4275 would permanently preserve the 10-percent income tax bracket, which was created in the 2001 Bush tax cut in order to reduce the burden on working Americans. As a result of this tax relief, currently, the first \$7,000 of individuals and \$14,000 of couples' taxable income is taxed at 10-percent instead of 15-percent.

If we fail to enact H.R. 4275, tax brackets will revert to their pre-2001 levels at the end of this year. For example, the ten percent bracket's income limits would return to \$6,000 for individuals and \$12,000 for couples in 2005, causing 73 million working Americans to pay higher taxes next year.

Additionally, the ten percent bracket would disappear completely after 2010, and taxpayers could face an average tax increase of \$2,400 over the next decade.

Lastly, over 24 million low-income workers will be pushed into a higher tax bracket. Therefore, compared to 2004 levels, many individuals and businesses will face higher federal taxes if we fail to enact H.R. 4275.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this rule so that we may proceed to debate the underlying legislation.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, this week, we honor the dedicated service of law enforcement officers across America as law enforcement officers and their families will participate in the 16th Annual Candlelight Vigil at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial located in Washington, DC and other events that recognize and honor the work and sacrifice of officers throughout the country. The memorial is a monument of remembrance that has the names of 14,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty engraved on its surface.

In my home state of Utah, we are particularly fortunate to have a number of dedicated individuals working to protect our citizens.

These days, we all tend to focus on the armed forces, which are obviously a critical element of national defense. But it is also important to remember those on the front lines here at home. Local law enforcement officers need Congress' help to ensure that our streets stay safe for law-abiding citizens. That's why I support both the COPS grants and Byrne grants. I think that one of the best things the federal government can do for local law enforcement is to provide the tools for police officers to best carry out their duties.

Every single day, acts of heroism and valor are performed by police officers across our nation. We have made tremendous progress

in terms of crime prevention and crime solving, but we need to remember that there are only so many available law enforcement officers at a given time. As our society grows, the demands placed on these individuals have also increased tremendously.

The falling crime rate has largely benefited urban and suburban areas, so it is important to remember our rural constituencies also need our help in fighting crime. Officer safety and the ability to investigate major crimes are often compromised by a lack of resources in rural areas. One of the local police chiefs in a small town in my district recently told me that his main concern at home is not Al Qaeda infiltrating the town—it's making sure that the middle school down the streets is drug free and safe.

I truly thank the members of law enforcement across this nation for their service and I commit to working in support of both homeland security and domestic security.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE
TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
VIETNAM HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 613, recognizing Vietnam Human Rights Day. This resolution marks the tenth anniversary of the day the Manifesto of the Nonviolent Movement for Human Rights in Vietnam was announced. This landmark document was written in 1994 by the great human rights leader Dr. Nguyen Dan Que, who called for an end to human rights violations in Vietnam.

Dr. Que is one of the most prominent advocates for democracy, freedom and human rights in Vietnam. He has remained in Vietnam since 1975, after the fall of Saigon and the departure of the last American troops. Even in the face of significant peril, Dr. Que defied the communist regime by speaking out in defense of human dignity and the rights of all Vietnamese people. He has been imprisoned intermittently for the past 20 years, and remains under constant supervision and subject to frequent harassment by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. He continues his struggle in order to focus the world's attention to the thousands of his countrymen and fellow dissidents who are also harassed, tortured or imprisoned for openly criticizing the government.

One such dissident is Father Thaddeus Nguyen Ly, a Roman Catholic priest who was invited to testify before the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom in 2001. Although he was denied permission to leave his country to testify in person, his statement cited several specific actions taken by the Government of Vietnam that violated religious freedom and which he described as "extremely cruel." He called for a "non violent and persistent campaign" to achieve full religious freedom for all people in Vietnam.

The Vietnamese government imprisoned Father Ly on the basis of that testimony. He was branded a traitor for "slandering" the Communist party, and "distorting" the religious pol-

icy of the government. Father Ly was arrested and tried without the benefit of counsel. In a trial that lasted only a single day, he was convicted of all charges and sentenced to fifteen years in prison and an additional five years of administrative probation. Father Ly's nephews were also imprisoned, further demonstrating this case of egregious oppression of human rights and its devastating impact on Father Ly's family.

Mr. Speaker, it has been ten years since the United States ended its trade embargo with Vietnam and normalized relations with Hanoi under the policy known as "constructive engagement," which has proven effective with our previously closed societies in which human rights violations were prevalent. While the U.S. continues to open diplomatic relations with Vietnam, we must continue to advance constructive engagement to ensure a more open, democratic and prosperous Vietnamese society. It is our responsibility to promote greater freedom of speech and religion and greater respect for basic human rights in Vietnam.

Mr. Speaker, human rights shall always remain a firm pillar of U.S. foreign policy. Accordingly, I thank the gentleman from Virginia for introducing this important resolution and I urge my colleagues to support it.

RECOGNIZING THE VETERANS WHO
SERVED DURING WORLD WAR II,
THE AMERICANS WHO SUP-
PORTED THE WAR, AND CELE-
BRATING THE COMPLETION OF
THE NATIONAL WORLD WAR II
MEMORIAL

SPEECH OF

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 11, 2004

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 409, which recognizes the 16,000,000 Americans who served in the armed forces during World War II and the millions more who supported them at home. As the dedication of the National World War II Memorial and the 60th anniversary of D-Day approach, our country will rightfully be thinking of those Americans who bravely gave or risked their lives to a great cause.

I remain in awe of this generation, of men who accepted the call to travel around the world to spend years fighting in the Asian and Pacific theaters, and of women who kept the country running by assuming jobs in factories, growing victory gardens, and serving overseas in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps and other capacities.

It has been my good fortune to spend some time with veterans and their families in my home district of western Wisconsin, and I always enjoy hearing their stories of wartime. In fact, it was the experience of listening to my uncle, a World War II veteran, that inspired me to introduce legislation creating The Veterans Oral History Project. Almost four years after becoming public law, the Veterans History Project at the Library of Congress has collected 16,000 stories and is working at a feverish pace to collect more everyday. This living legacy is testament to the millions of Americans who sacrificed so much during World War II.

Now, almost 60 years after the end of the war, a monument has at last been built in our nation's capital that pays tribute to the generation that fought and won World War II. The monument, set in the middle of the National Mall between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument, will remind all visitors to the city that World War II was the defining event of the 20th Century and the seminal point for what is often and aptly called "the Greatest Generation."

THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN
SUDAN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Sudan today.

Sudan is the ninth largest country in the world and Africa's largest. The wars of Sudan have killed more people than in Kosovo, Bosnia, Rwanda and Somalia combined, most of them civilians. For the best part of 50 years, peace has eluded the people of Southern Sudan.

Southern Sudan has not only been neglected by Northern Sudan, it has also been neglected by the world.

It is estimated that more than 3 million people have been uprooted from their homes and the numbers of dead are unknown.

Destruction of homes, huts, crops and agricultural areas, wells, shops and entire villages are systematically taking place. Women report that they would be kidnapped and raped if they went any further than one and one-half kilometers away from their camp to collect wood or to tend to their vegetables.

These actions have resulted in a dire human rights and humanitarian crisis.

Neighboring governments have generously received Sudanese refugees. It is estimated that over 110,000 Sudanese refugees are in Chad; 223,000 are in Uganda; 88,000 are in Ethiopia; 69,000 in Democratic Republic of the Congo and 60,000 are in Kenya.

Women arrive in refugee camps already greatly traumatized by hardship and loss. They may have walked for months through hostile territory, living on wild fruits and drinking water from puddles. Often the weaker members of their family, particularly, their children, have died along the way.

In a Kenyan refugee camp, a Southern Sudanese woman says, "We flee the Sudan and our problems follow us. The security is fine but it's an alien environment—hot and windy, no grass or rain or water. We get homesick for familiar surroundings. Most people who came here have died even though there's a hospital. The place where they bury people is full. Now they have started another one."

Mr. Speaker, the United States must do everything in its power to encourage the government of the Sudan to end this abuse.

Although this current conflict was initiated by rebel forces, the government of the Sudan has a legal responsibility to protect all its citizens and uphold the law.

We must act immediately to prevent the recurrence of the human rights that have already taken place and act swiftly to restore

the Southern Sudanese's survival, security and human dignity. In doing so, we not only honor them, we bring honor to America.

RECOGNIZING DR. LEE L.
HUNTSMAN

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Lee L. Huntsman, who will soon complete his term as president of the University of Washington. I want to acknowledge his service to the State of Washington, to the students, faculty and staff of the University, and to the Nation.

Research universities like the University of Washington are essential to the economic, cultural and educational vitality of the United States. The University of Washington is unquestionably one of the great research and educational institutions in this country. The University of Washington plays a key role in carrying out the scientific and research agenda set by Congress. Over the last 8 years Dr. Huntsman has provided key leadership as provost and president, helping the UW establish itself as one of the most innovative and entrepreneurial universities in America.

Dr. Huntsman took the helm of this great educational enterprise and helped to move it forward. His integrity, intellect and incisive thinking have given the Regents an opportunity to continue their work and have enlightened and inspired the efforts of the entire community of the University of Washington. We are grateful to Dr. Huntsman for answering the call to public service and for doing so in such a principled and congenial way.

INTRODUCTION—WEATHER AND
OCEANS RESOURCES REALIGN-
MENT ACT

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be here today to introduce an important piece of conservation legislation, the Weather and Oceans Resources Realignment Act. This bill will transfer the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the Department of the Interior.

An issue to which I have devoted a great deal of time and one that I feel is very important is the protection of the diverse range of fish stocks that inhabit our world's oceans, many of which are very close to disappearing forever. The National Marine Fisheries Service, the agency tasked with the protection of these species has failed to do so. I have never been able to comprehend why the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is housed within the Department of Commerce, which has nothing to do with the protection of our natural resources. For this reason, I have introduced this legislation, which simply moves NOAA to a more appropriate agency, Interior.

Given the release of now three studies essentially stating that what I have been talking

about is likely to happen, I am more convinced than ever that we need to take aggressive action immediately. Many of our oceans' fish stocks are now reportedly 90 percent depleted, meaning only 10 percent of the stocks that once existed remain. And many of these stocks are in grave danger of extinction if we proceed down the same path we are on now—that is, continue to study these stocks and do little to mitigate the damage that has already been done.

The U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, created from my Oceans Act of 2000, released its report in April of this year, with many of the same findings. We need to take immediate aggressive steps to prevent the disappearance of these fish species, before it's too late. These studies should be a wake-up call that the process through which our world's fisheries is managed is broken and needs to be fixed.

The National Marine Fisheries Service has demonstrated repeatedly they are incapable of doing the job they have been tasked with as the primary federal agency responsible for monitoring and protecting our Nation's fisheries. To place them within the Department of the Interior would serve to strengthen the two agencies goals of resources conservation.

This is an issue that resonates with anyone who has ever been to the beach in States like New Jersey, or watched a television program involving the deep blue sea. And given that 50 percent of the population of the United States lives within 100 miles of a coast, there are many who are personally affected by this issue. We have a unique opportunity to do something amazing and I think we owe it these wonderful resources that are our oceans to do all we can to bring them back to a healthy and sustainable level, for future generations.

HONORING LULA BELL HOUSTON

HON. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. SPRATT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Lula Bell Houston of Davidson, North Carolina. Ms. Houston retired in May 2004 from Davidson College, my alma mater, after 57 years of service in the college laundry. The significance of this milestone in the Davidson community is matched only by the devotion that Ms. Houston has brought to her job everyday for over half a century.

Born in 1923 (just three years after the current laundry building was constructed), Ms. Houston worked for a year in Davidson's dining service from 1943–44. She spent the next few years raising a family, but returned in 1947 to work at the college laundry. She has been there ever since, waking up every weekday morning at 4:15 a.m., to ensure that she would be there for the 6:30 a.m. start of the work day. Ms. Houston originally took the job as a means of supporting herself and her two young children after her first husband left them, but the students have kept her here long after her children have grown up and had kids of their own.

The biggest legacy that Ms. Houston leaves the college and the town of Davidson is her warm personality and loving nature. She was

always ready with a hug and a smile to all who came to drop off their laundry. Student after student shared stories and memories about Ms. Houston and all spoke of the genuine love in her voice when she greets them and how she has been like a grandmother to them all. The college has figured that she has cared for the laundry of all but 1,226 of the college's 19,731 living alumni—a lot of surrogate grandchildren.

Davidson College honored Ms. Houston in the best way possible, naming the laundry building after her. The Town of Davidson commemorated that sunny day of April 29, 2004 by declaring it "Lula Bell Houston Day." At Spring Convocation the day before, the Omicron Delta Kappa honorary leadership fraternity presented Ms. Houston with its Staff Appreciation Award, and in 2002, the SAE fraternity presented Ms. Houston with \$500, a dozen roses, and a trophy recognizing her as "The Spirit of Davidson."

As an article featured on the college's website puts it, "Few retirees in local history have been so royally heralded." Ms. Houston deserves every bit of that recognition for her long and tireless service to the college and her part in the lives of thousands of Davidson students over the years. I join my fellow Davidson alumni and other members of the Davidson community past and present in commending Ms. Lula Bell Houston and celebrating her achievement.

I submit for the RECORD a news article with more about Ms. Houston.

[From the Davidson, Apr. 30, 2004]

CAMPUS HONORS RETIREMENT OF "SPIRIT OF
DAVIDSON" IN LAUNDRY'S NEW NAME

(By Leslie Hempson)

As if fifty-seven years of work weren't enough, in a sense Lula Bell Houston will never leave her job now. That's because the college on Thursday afternoon affixed her name forever to the laundry building, naming it in her honor.

Hundreds of well-wishers turned out to honor the eighty-year-old Houston at her retirement party, and cheered when President Robert Vagt made the surprise announcement of the building's new name. In praising her loyalty to Davidson and irrepressible good cheer, Vagt called her "a biological mother to four children, but a mom to all who needed her."

"This is a grand moment in the history of Davidson College," he said.

When asked to respond, Houston could find few words. "What can I say? What can I say?" she asked. "I just want to thank everyone for being here, for letting me see your beautiful faces. I love all of you."

Few retirees in local history have been so royally heralded. In a whirlwind twenty-four hours that capped her long career sorting student clothes and folding sheets, President Vagt also read a proclamation from the Town of Davidson declaring "Lula Bell Houston Day," and the student membership of the Omicron Delta Kappa honorary campus leadership fraternity presented her with its Staff Appreciation Award at Spring Convocation.

Alumni and current students turned out at the retirement party to honor the woman who greeted them with a smile on their regular trips to the laundry. Joey Harris '02, former student body president, took a day off his job in a Congressional office and drove from Washington to attend. "I couldn't miss it," he said. "Ms. Lula Bell has been a good friend over the years, and we still keep in touch. There's no other place I'd rather be right now than here."

McKinley Glover '04 said, "I've known Ms. Houston since I was a freshman, and she's always shown a genuine interest in people's feelings. She's about the sweetest lady I've ever met."

Born in 1923, Houston worked for year in Davidson's dining service in 1943-44. She spent the next few years in New York City and Washington, but The Lula Bell Houston Laundry has been her home-away-from-home since 1948. She has cared for the clothing of all but 1,226 of the college's 19,731 living alumni. Even more valuable than her laundry services, Houston has bestowed grace and affection on students, offering them that same comfort of being in a home-away-from-home.

A retirement tribute to her stated, "Lula Bell has been greeting anyone and everyone with a warm smile and a kind word and a hug. Students drop off their dirty clothes, and leave with their spirits lifted and a reminder that there's more to life than their next test or paper. They know someone is working tirelessly and without complaint to take care of them, someone who doesn't care what their grades are, whether or not they won their last game, or how their love life is going. They know Miss Lula Bell's unconditional love."

One former Davidson student, lonely and discouraged far away from his home in Nicaragua, wrote her a letter thanking her for her kindness. Even though he graduated years ago, he still keeps in touch, and called her a few weeks ago to wish her a happy Easter.

Another former student, Matthew Arbuckle '02, organized his SAE fraternity brothers two years ago to show their appreciation by giving her \$500, a dozen roses and a trophy recognizing her as "The Spirit of Davidson." That trophy is proudly displayed in front of the cubby in which she keeps her keys and papers, next to a few small seashells and a list of laundry employees that dates back to the 1950s.

What few students know is that Houston's work has provided a refuge in a life that has not been easy.

Houston began working in a time when racial discrimination was still prevalent in the South, and a black woman had very limited job prospects. After her first husband left her in 1947, she took the \$12 a week job at the laundry to support herself and two young children. Houston had watched her mother, Rosa Potts, provide for a family without the help of a husband, and knew what to do. Her mother had risen at the crack of dawn to milk the cow, clean the house, and prepare breakfast for her two children before going off to a day job. Houston was determined to work just as hard.

She has always waked at 4:15 and arrived at the laundry by 6 a.m., assuring that she would be on time for the 6:30 a.m. start of the work day. When her children were young, she brought them to the laundry with her. They played amidst the washers and driers with children of other workers until it was time to go home. Davidson's laundry has always encouraged that feeling of family, and Houston's association with generations of students has reinforced it. "The sense of being family makes the time fly by," she said. "My family gets bigger with the bunches of clothes coming in. Students come in with smiles on their faces and hope in their eyes."

In 1959 she married Arthur Houston, with whom she raised two more children. She continued to work at the laundry, and he worked at two jobs, until 1988 when Arthur died of a heart attack. She has suffered more

losses recently, with the death of a brother from Lou Gehrig's Disease five or six years ago, and the death of her mother three years ago.

It was hard for Houston to keep going after the deaths of her brother and mother, but work has always been a salve for her wounds. She likes the predictability of her laundry duties, her co-workers, and the students. Church, and particularly church music, has also been a constant solace. She has been a member of Gethsemane Baptist Church for seventy-eight years, attending services and Sunday school every weekend, and spending three hours on Saturday mornings practicing with the church choir. In addition to the choir, she is a member of the Gethsemane Baptist Church Gospel Singers, a group that performs at churches all across the region and has even appeared on television a couple of times.

Houston said her immediate plans for retirement are to finish thoroughly cleaning her house. She said she might also take a little break to visit relatives in Las Vegas and Baltimore, and maybe take a trip back to New York. She has also always wanted to learn how to play the piano.

Co-workers have been urging her to retire for years. They tell her to hurry up and leave so that she'll have a chance to enjoy some of her life before it's too late. But even as she planned her retirement, Houston was already talking about returning to work part-time at the laundry. She insists, "I am enjoying what I'm doing. I am enjoying my life."

THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN SUDAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, the humanitarian crisis in Sudan must not be overshadowed by current world events. We must address the ethnic cleansing and refugee situation with urgency, not just with words but with action. There is a moral obligation to pressure the Sudanese government to end the atrocities in western Sudan and ensure adequate humanitarian aid reaches the refugees in Chad. As the world remembers the 10th anniversary of the genocide in Rwanda, we cannot allow this to happen again.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND LEGACY OF BARBARA KENNELLY

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, next Monday the Post Office on Weston Street in Hartford, CT will be renamed in honor of one of Connecticut's most dedicated public servants, Barbara Kennelly. This gesture is a small but lasting tribute to an extraordinary woman who has fully devoted herself to the cause of public service for her city, her state, and her nation.

Considering her roots, Barbara's twenty three years of service to Connecticut should

come as no surprise. Born Barbara Ann Bailey, she grew up in one of Connecticut's most well-known and influential families. Her father, John Bailey, was chairman of the state Democratic Party, and later served as Chairman of the Democratic National Committee under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. Her mother was active in democratic state politics and her brother served as the chief state attorney for Connecticut. She grew up surrounded by those who dedicated their lives to public service, and Barbara learned well from their example.

Following in her family's footsteps, Barbara was elected to the Hartford City Council in 1975. After serving four years on the council, Barbara was elected Secretary of the State of Connecticut. Continuing her service on behalf of the people of her beloved state, she was elected to Congress in a special election in 1982.

On her arrival in Washington, Barbara quickly rose through the ranks and earned the respect of members from both sides of the aisle. Her seventeen-year record in the House clearly reflects her strong commitment to the needs of working families in Connecticut and the nation. She fought hard for legislation to enforce child support collection, provide tax credits to the working poor and extend health care coverage to uninsured children. While known for her willingness to compromise, she never forgot the needs of the people she represented.

During her time in Congress, Barbara broke the ground that finally brought women into the House leadership. Clearly demonstrating a capacity for pragmatic and dynamic leadership, Barbara was appointed as the third woman in history to serve on the House Ways and Means Committee and the first woman to chair a subcommittee of the House Intelligence Committee. In August 1991, Barbara served as Chief Deputy Majority Whip under Speaker Tom Foley, a post in which she served until her election as Vice Chair of the Democratic Caucus in 1994. With her historic ascension to this post, her colleagues made Barbara the chamber's fourth highest-ranking member, and the first and only woman at that time in the elected leadership.

Again heeding the call to serve the people of Connecticut, Barbara accepted the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 1998. Although her run for the governorship was unsuccessful, Barbara was not only to simply fade away into the background.

Reflecting her service as Ranking Democrat on the Social Security subcommittee, President Clinton appointed her Associate Commissioner of the Social Security Administration in 1999. Today, she works tirelessly on behalf of our nation's seniors as President of the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare.

I am truly honored to present the district she so ably served for seventeen years. While Barbara's legacy is so much larger than the bricks and mortar of a post office, it is a lasting tribute to a woman who dedicated her life in service of the people of Connecticut for nearly a quarter of a century.

Barbara's is a presence sorely missed in this chamber, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the legacy and ongoing service of this truly extraordinary public servant.

RECOGNITION OF MR. EDWARD
REILLY, JR. AND HIS SERVICE
TO THE NEPTUNE TOWNSHIP
DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor an exemplary individual, as well as a dear friend, Mr. Edward Reilly, Jr., It seems only fitting that Mr. Reilly be honored by the Neptune Township

Democratic Organization, in recognition of his many years of selfless dedication to family and community.

In 1964, Edward and his loving wife Betty became Monmouth County Democratic Committeepersons or District Leaders. Today, eight U.S. Presidents later, Edward continues to serve, having taken on the additional responsibility of Neptune Township Democratic Municipal Chairman. Edward and Betty are also the proud parents of 10 children.

A recipient of a Purple Heart and various other awards for his bravery and service in the U.S. Army during World War II, Edward Reilly has applied that same level of commitment to

his local community. He has been involved in the legal profession for many years, serving as counsel to the Neptune Township Committee, and Assistant County Counsel for the County of Monmouth. In addition, he is a past commander of the American Legion in Newark.

My Speaker, Edward Reilly's entire life has been dedicated to the democratic process and serving this Nation and his community with honor and dignity. I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a good friend and a respected public servant.