

examples of civic duty. As volunteers, they are vital to the Westport community.

The WVEMS volunteers come from all walks of life. Some of them run their own businesses, some are students. They have busy lives, yet they make time because they feel the need to give something back. Some are seniors who worked hard all their life and deserve to sit back and simply relax, yet they go out and volunteer their time and energy for a greater cause.

Over the years, the many awards and distinctions from local, State and national organizations—the Veterans of Foreign Wars, designation as a Connecticut Treasure and National Gold Award for Volunteer Corps from EMS Publications just to name a few—illustrate the selfless dedication with which they help countless individuals in need.

For two and a half decades WVEMS has gone above and beyond the call of duty to provide exceptional service, providing over half a million volunteer hours to date. Their efforts have formed a truly remarkable tradition. Fifteen of the founding members of the WVEMS are still with the Service, regularly putting in time to help others. Each one of them has been designated an American Red Cross Unsung Hero. Today, I want to sing their praise: Edward and Elizabeth Audley; Patricia Audley; Sharon Barnett; Russel M. Blair; Susan DeWitt; Michael Feigin; Richard Frazier; Neil Harding; Thomas M. Keenan; Kathleen Todd; Alan Yoder; Isabel Blair; Alan Stolz; Nettie Skinner; and Pasquale Salvo—you are heroes!

Two other members have been with the WVEMS for a quarter century, and I would like to commend them for their dedication over the years: Jay Paretzky and April Anne Yoder.

I would also like to include all the other active members of the WVEMS: William Puterbaugh; Norman Coltin; Sandra McPherson; Jeffrey T. Lea; Andrew Diniz; Loretta S. Harsche; Marge Costa; Christine A. Evans; Todd M. Smith; Mark A. Blake; Anthony F. Santo; Donald E. Smith III; Thomas F. Burrows; Martha M. McGorry; Elizabeth Slattery; Chris VanDeusen; Diane Salvo; Benjamin Frimmer; Barbara F. Wood; Barbara Babash; Arlene M. Healy; Amy Smith; Linda Canterbury; Albert Bassett; Mary Jane Cross; KC Duffy; Linda Green; Carole Grob; Dorothy Harris; Gordon Joseloff; Chris Sanders; Whitney Cusa; James Flint; Nicole Donovan; Toni Cribari; Mary Minard; Terrence Blake; Michele Brewster; Michael Falbo; Cheryl Jones; Michael Quan; Rico Tiberio; Sylvia Lempit; Susannah Kehl; AnnaLiisa Joseloff; James Hinckley; Nanci Jenkins; David Heinmiller; Rainy Broomfield; Ronald Carkner; Donna Patchen; Robert Redman; Olivia Weeks; Courtenay Quinn; Joseph Devermann; Linda Gale; Jean Marie Wiesen; Nancy Strong; Gregory Coghlan; Paul Resnick; Barbra Utting; Adam Sappern; Nancy Fusaro; Wendy Hill; Megan Watson; Kristin Ancona; Kathryn Min; William Min; Susan Parks; Jamie Talbot; Michael Rickard; Marc Hartog; Michael Engelskirger; Craig Kupson; Elizabeth Jennings; Glenn Eisen; Angela Chichila; Anna Dowdle; Ashley Hawley; Andrea Hoboken; Dustin Schur; Jackie Stenson; Carol Boas; Yannick Passemart; Kerry Volmar; Michael Wilmot; Danielle Faul; David Bodach; Christin Giordano; Zack Klomberg; Jordan Kunkes; Alma Loya; Whitney Riggio; Kimber Roberts; Alicia Wong; Karen Bizzak; Margaret Russell;

Richard Arriaga; Carol Dixon; Gabrielle O'Halloran; Daniel Rappaport; Dora Sweet; Lois Benfield; Adele Donohue; Susan Shewchuk; Nancy Toll; Pamela Nenham; Matthew Rees; Richard Celotto; John Sommers; Caroline Andrew; James Gray; Stephanie Howson; Rebecca Kamins; Kaitlyn Mello; Elizabeth Parks; Christian Renne; Rob Stewart; Emma Trucks; Christina Voonasis; Maryanne Boyle; Robert Dowling; Yashasvi Jhangiani; Maribeth Nixon; and Steve Brothers.

Your service is outstanding!

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HONORING THE 2004 PROVIDENCIA  
AWARD RECIPIENT, MR. PATRICK  
ROONEY, SR.

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**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House the achievements of Patrick Rooney, Sr., a constituent of mine from Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, in receiving the prestigious 2004 Providencia Award from the Palm Beach County Convention and Visitors Bureau.

May 2004, being National Tourism Month, is the perfect time to honor Pat, who owns and operates the Palm Beach Kennel Club in West Palm Beach and three Irish restaurants called "Rooney's Public House" located at the Palm Beach International Airport, West Palm Beach and Jupiter's Abacca. I am a patron of those restaurants and can testify to the quality of food and service and to the vibrancy they bring to the surrounding communities.

The Providencia Award was named after the coconut-laden Spanish ship that sank off the shore of Palm Beach in 1878, washing ashore its cargo bringing Coconut Palms to the island and inspiring the name "Palm Beach." Each year, it is awarded to an individual or entity that has made an exceptional contribution to the County's \$2 billion tourism industry. Past recipients include Burt Reynolds, Chris Evert, Jack Nicklaus, Alex Dreyfoos, The Breakers, The Boca Raton Resort and others. This year it belongs to Pat Rooney, who is being honored for his contributions.

Mr. Speaker, in my South Florida Congressional District, home of fervent Miami Dolphin fans, we forgive and overlook Pat's strong allegiance to the Pittsburgh Steelers, which his family owns. We focus rather on the tremendous impact Pat has on our community. Pat serves on the Economic Council, and the Palm Beach County Attractions Association. The Hanley Hazelden Foundation, Boys and Girls Club of Palm Beach, Greyhound Adoption League, Lynn University, and the American Red Cross have also benefited from his generous philanthropy.

Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Mac McLaughlin and his team for selecting another great honoree this year. To Pat Rooney, congratulations on this important recognition and I wish you good health and continued success, except when it comes to the AFC Conference Championship.

H. CON. RES. 352

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 20, 2004*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 352 and to recognize the great contributions of people of Indian origin to the United States and to strengthen our bilateral relationship with the people of India.

For decades, people of Indian origin have immigrated to the United States. They have made extraordinary contributions to our Nation, from advancements in science and technology to business development, philanthropy, literature and the arts. Their contributions have helped make the United States a more diverse and prosperous country.

In Minnesota, people of Indian origin have made their presence felt throughout our communities and neighborhoods. Small and large Indian businesses have flourished in Minnesota. Groups like the India Association of Minnesota, the Asian Pacific Policy Roundtable and CAIR Minnesota have worked very hard to promote a strong, bilateral relationship between India and the United States, raising greater awareness toward human rights and regional reform. Other organizations, like the Indo-American Association of Minnesota, have taken the lead in promoting arts, cultural, spiritual and classical music as well as entertainment. Our colleges and universities have also expanded educational exchanges and opportunities between Minnesota and India, fostering new relationships and promoting greater cooperation between our two countries.

Minnesota has also seen a rise in new and exciting Indian-American leaders, including State Senator Satveer Chaudhry, elected in 2000 and representing Senate District 50 in my Congressional District. Senator Chaudhry is the highest-ranking Indian-American elected official in the country. As a friend and a former colleague, Senator Chaudhry's leadership has ensured that Indian-American families in Minnesota, as well as all the families in his district, are well represented.

Again, I support H. Con. Res. 352 and I urge passage of this important legislation. Minnesota has benefited greatly from its Indian-American community and I look forward to strengthening our relationship with our Indian friends and neighbors in the future.

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CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. CON.  
RES. 95, CONCURRENT RESOLU-  
TION ON THE BUDGET FOR FIS-  
CAL YEAR 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 19, 2004*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the budget resolution lays out the framework for next year's Federal Government revenues, spending and borrowing. It is clearly a roadmap for continuing fiscal mismanagement and misplaced priorities.

The budget allows for further tax cuts, which primarily benefit those least in need, while increasing the nation's debt limit to over \$8 trillion. The projected \$367 billion deficit for 2005