

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO WEST GENESEE'S
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' LACROSSE
TEAM

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the West Genesee High School Boys' Lacrosse Team, which won the Class A state championship title.

The team won the Section Three championship in order to move on and become one of only 8 teams from around New York State to play in the state playoffs. In the state playoffs, they won their quarterfinal and semifinal games, placing them in the state final. The West Genesee team then traveled to Long Island, where they captured their third straight Class A championship title and ended their season with a record of 23 wins and only one loss.

Team captains Brian Stanton, Andrew Hanover, Tom Donahue, and Mike Malone led the state champion West Genesee Boys' Lacrosse Team made up of players Brian Griffin, Dave Osier, Joel Derrigo, Brian Cost, Jake Moulton, Mark Cometti, Josh Begley, Jeff Ryan, Alex Bily, Ben Mercado, Steve Prosonic, P.J. Motondo, Tim Spillett, Dan Balestra, Tim Griffin, Andrew Vecchio, Kevin Joy, Marc Cizenski, Tim Gearhart, Jaren Woepfel, Matt Pompo, Kevin Simon, Tom Collins, Chris Duffy, Sean Leahy, Shane McConnell, Jon Keuchler, Mark Keida, Jeff Cleland, Tom Geiss, and Dan McKeon. Head coach Mike Messere, and assistant coaches Bob Deegan and Dave Metz guided the team in their outstanding accomplishments.

I would like to express my congratulations to the team for such an outstanding achievement and wish them luck in their future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF AMBASSADOR C.J.
CHEN

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I join my colleagues in honoring a unique man and a graceful diplomat.

Ambassador Chen is returning to Taiwan after four years of exemplary service as the representative of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative office, the quasi embassy of the Republic of China. In fact, since joining his country's foreign service 37 years ago, Ambassador Chen has always been involved with the U.S.-Taiwan relations in his many job assignments both in Taiwan and in the United States. His diplomatic career mirrors very much the ups and downs of U.S.-Taiwan relations.

The nadir of U.S.-Taiwan relations came in 1979 when the Carter Administration severed

diplomatic ties with Taipei and recognized Beijing. C.J. Chen was then working in Taiwan's embassy in Washington. He spent days and nights negotiating and communicating with U.S. government officials and lawmakers in drafting the Taiwan Relations Act which became U.S. law on April 10, 1979. The TRA has enabled Taiwan to grow economically and politically in the last quarter of century.

In the subsequent years, in his many key roles in Taiwan's foreign ministry, C.J. made sure that the U.S. would play a role as balancer, stabilizer and facilitator in handling its relations with both Taiwan and the mainland. In addition, C.J. and other leaders in Taiwan have been successful in urging the U.S. to continue to provide Taiwan with the military sales necessary for Taiwan's self defense.

In the last 4 years, C.J., in his capacity as Taiwan's top diplomat in Washington, has further strengthened U.S.-Taiwan relations. U.S. confidence in Taiwan continues to rise and U.S.-Taiwan relations are now at its best since 1979. While there have been no major changes in the U.S. policy towards the two sides of the Taiwan Straits, U.S. tone towards Taiwan has markedly improved, since Taiwan is a democracy and democracies count for something.

In addition to the Bush administration's goodwill towards Taiwan, congressional support and friendship continues to grow, especially in the last 4 years. Since the inception of the 108th Congress, both the Senate and the House have introduced or passed a number of pro-Taiwan bills and resolutions such as Taiwan's participation in the WHO, a U.S.-Taiwan Free Trade Agreement, security in the Taiwan Strait, welcome for transits by Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian etc. All these achievements are directly attributable to the efforts of Ambassador C.J. Chen.

Mr. Speaker, C.J. and his wife Yolanda will be missed in Washington. I wish C.J. and Yolanda all the best and hope they will keep in touch with their many friends in Washington.

HONORING DR. CHARLOTTE GROFF

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the inspiring career of Dr. Charlotte Groff, of Berrien Springs, Michigan. A dedicated and selfless individual, Charlotte has enthusiastically educated students of St. Joseph and Coloma schools over the past 50 years.

Since 1954, Charlotte's contributions to our community have been tremendous. Over this time she has played a role in the development and success of countless students, and watched as these students grew into pillars of the communities of southwest Michigan and beyond.

Throughout her vast career, Charlotte has held many teaching positions and has taught

in diverse teaching capacities—all with great distinction. Charlotte has taught every summer in the Coloma migrant program since its inception in 1968—except for the 2 years she worked on a doctoral degree. Also, since 1975 she has been a reading specialist for children from disadvantaged homes.

As Charlotte retires this summer, she closes one chapter of her inspiring and remarkable legacy of educating our youth. I am confident that this retirement is far from being the end to Charlotte's teaching. The numerous lives that will be educated and touched by Charlotte will no doubt continue for many years to come. The passion that she has for teaching is everlasting and I wish her all the best in retirement. Charlotte will be truly missed in Coloma Community School and throughout southwest Michigan.

HEALTH, SAFETY, AND SECURITY
OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS
ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4060, the Health, Safety, and Security of Peace Corps Volunteers Act of 2004.

The Peace Corps represents our nation's enduring commitment to progress, opportunity, and expanded development—beginning at the grassroots level.

Since 1961, more than 170,000 Peace Corps Volunteers have served in 137 countries to promote the Peace Corps' mission of world peace and friendship.

Volunteers offer skills in education, healthcare, business, agriculture and the environment. They respond to the world's most challenging crises like poverty, hunger and HIV/AIDS. They are to be commended for their sacrifice, their hard work and their commitment to improving the lives of others.

Today, more than 7,500 Peace Corps Volunteers—young and old—serve in 71 countries around the world, including 25 volunteers from my Congressional District.

With an increase in volunteers comes a greater challenge for the Peace Corps to ensure the safety and security of all Volunteers. Expanding the Peace Corps' missions in Africa, the Middle East and other volatile regions increases the chance of criminal activities and requires the dedication of greater time, energy and resources toward safety issues.

H.R. 4060 takes a good step toward strengthening the Peace Corps and making sure all Volunteers are safe. The bill creates a Peace Corps Ombudsman to receive and inquire into complaints, questions, or concerns raised by current or former volunteers or employees of the Peace Corps. This legislation also establishes an Office of Safety and Security within the Peace Corps to help coordinate

• 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.

all security activities. These are important steps which I support.

I believe a Volunteer's safety is both the responsibility of the Peace Corps and the Volunteers themselves. Weeks of safety training and country background preclude any Volunteer's departure overseas and Volunteers are advised of the precautions necessary before integrating into some of the poorest and dis-paraged communities in the world. As Ambassador and Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, Tony Hall said, "You have to go into the service with your eyes open". Nonetheless, it is appropriate that the House International Relations Committee worked with the Peace Corps to address the needed improvements to security for Volunteers and the Peace Corps has begun implementing these changes.

As a member of the House International Relations Committee and a strong supporter of the Peace Corps, I urge passage of this legislation. We must do everything we can to ensure the mission of the Peace Corps is carried on and our Volunteers are protected.

SET A GOOD EXAMPLE CONTEST

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the community of Harlingen, Texas, where area children are recognized for doing good deeds in their homes, schools, and communities.

With school resources so overtaxed, our community has partnered with the Concerned Businessmen's Association of America to sponsor the Harlingen area's Set A Good Example Contest, offered to all children from the surrounding communities.

The original school contest was launched in 1982 to recognize schools supporting student-oriented programs that positively influence other students by promoting moral values such as honesty, trustworthiness, responsibility, competence, and fairness.

The Concerned Businessmen's Association of America is a non-profit educational organization incorporating successful business strategies to combat the social ills and problems that face young people.

We watch our children with new eyes every day, wondering what is going on inside their minds and what motivates them. The Harlingen community's parents, business people, educators, counselors—and most importantly, children themselves—are working together to ward off problems that are plaguing society today.

The best messenger for young people is other young people. There will never be one single answer to preparing our children to withstand the complex social issues they encounter each day. But future behavior, future understanding, will be based on the foundation our communities provide now.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the people of Harlingen, Former Mayor Connie De La Garza, and Mayor Rick Rodriguez for their efforts to be part of the solution to a problem that affects all of us in America. I thank them for leading the way to a better world for us all.

TRIBUTE TO ST. ELIAS
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRIS-
TIAN CHURCH

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church of Syracuse which celebrates its 75th anniversary this year.

The Church's history begins a hundred years ago when St. Raphael, who is considered the father of the Archdiocese St. Elias belongs to, was the first Orthodox bishop consecrated in the New World. At this time, immigrants from Middle Eastern countries such as Syria, Lebanon and Palestine settled in Syracuse and formed the nucleus of the Antiochian Orthodox community there. Until the formal formation of St. Elias, visiting clergymen came to the community to administer the various sacraments to the faithful settlers.

St. Elias Syrian Orthodox Church of Syracuse, the forerunner of St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church, was born November 10, 1929. First incorrectly incorporated as an Episcopal Church in 1930, this was corrected and reincorporated in 1960 and again reincorporated in 1988 when the Archdiocese changed its official name. The first home of the church was at 241 West Lafayette Street and the first permanently assigned Pastor was the Reverend John Khoury.

In 1939, a gathering which would become the social event of the year for the Arabic speaking community of Central New York and a tremendous fund-raiser was instituted. This event has turned into a successful Middle Eastern Festival bringing hundreds of people of Arabic and other backgrounds together to enjoy each other's company while becoming a large part of the St. Elias Parish Annual Budget when combined with the souvenir journal of the festival.

Over time the Church has evolved to include a Church School Program (1945), an English Liturgical Choir (1945), a Youth organization (1953), and the St. Elias Antiochian Orthodox Christian Women group (1966). In 1963, land was purchased on Onondaga Hill and the new St. Elias Church was consecrated on August 17, 1969 by Metropolitan Philip Saliba.

The founders of this parish established an ethnic church in the inception, in that most of the parishioners were of Arabic speaking background. However, St. Elias has become an American church made up of the melting pot that has made America. I congratulate the St. Elias parish on its 75th anniversary and wish the church continuing success.

HONORING THE 43RD ANNUAL
YMCA YOUTH GOVERNOR'S CON-
FERENCE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 43rd Annual YMCA Youth Governor's Conference scheduled to be held in

Washington next week. I am pleased to once again have the honor of being the Congressional sponsor for the Youth Governor's breakfast with my fellow colleagues in the House.

The YMCA Youth Governor's Conference brings together some of the most outstanding youth leaders in America. YMCA Youth and Government is a nation-wide program that allows thousands of teenagers to simulate state and national government.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally recognize each of this year's YMCA Youth Governors for their dedication and service to America's youth.

Grant Reid of Texas; Jason Hill of South Carolina; William Bloom of Alabama; Cori Trazwell of Arizona; Xavier Lopez-Ayala of California; Elizabeth Brittenham of Connecticut; Angelyn Tinsman of Delaware; Nithya Krishnam of Florida; Jess Morgan of Georgia; James Hess of Idaho; Dustin Herr of Illinois; Lisa Wanninger of Indiana; R.T. Lowry and David Padron of Kentucky; Patrick Coco of Louisiana; Ben Crockett of Maine; Allison Korycki of Maryland; Emily Sheehan of Massachusetts; Brandon Laventure and Shaundra Crittenden of Michigan; Zachary Skalko of Minnesota; Robert Goggins of Mississippi; Alex Ricke of Missouri; David Earl of New Jersey; Jackie Burns of Model United Nations; Jamie Brooks of New Mexico; Alex Bowerman of New York; Rob Stephens of North Carolina; Joshua Watkins of Oklahoma; Jakob Wilson of Oregon; Sara Gellatly of Pennsylvania; George Richardson and Patrick Fox of Tennessee; Matthew Sundquist of Virginia; Joseph Jenkins of Washington; Nathaniel Cole of the District of Columbia; and Loren Balhorn of Wisconsin.

I wish all of the 2004 Youth Governors a very successful conference here in Washington, and I encourage them to continue their sincere devotion to leadership and public service in this and their future endeavors.

HONORING MONSIGNOR SEARS

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the inspiring and passionate career of Monsignor Sears, of St. Joseph Parish of Michigan. For the past 20 years, Monsignor Sears has devotedly served the community of St. Joseph and beyond.

Since being assigned to St. Joseph Parish in 1984, Monsignor's contributions to our community have been remarkable. Monsignor has brought guidance, knowledge, and inspiration to all who had the blessed opportunity of meeting with or hearing one of his famous homilies. It is well-known that Monsignor always used story-telling and anecdotes as a way of teaching and inspiring his congregation. His ability to reach and move all those fortunate enough to cross his path has been well-known throughout Southwest Michigan for sometime now.

Highlights of Monsignor Sears' wonderful career include meeting with Mother Teresa in 1979, and speaking with Pope John Paul II during a visit to Rome. Locally, Monsignor was instrumental in starting the church's tithing in

1985—the church tithes about \$100,000 a year to various local and national needs. Although these accomplishments are extraordinary, Monsignor's greatest achievements may lie in his daily work and prayers with the parish staff and parishioners, as well as implementing influential local programs over the years.

There is no doubt that Monsignor Sears will be greatly missed as the pastor of St. Joseph Parish. However, knowing his passion for the community and devoutness to charity, Monsignor will continue his service to God and will continue to impact the communities of Southwest Michigan.

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF
WOMEN, SYMBOLIZED BY "ROSIE
THE RIVETER," WHO SERVED ON
THE HOMEFRONT DURING
WORLD WAR II

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 413 honoring the contributions of the more than 6 million American women, symbolized by "Rosie the Riveter," who served our country on the homefront during World War II and the changes to our society that came about because of them. I am extremely proud to join all 62 women Members of Congress as cosponsor on this legislation as well.

Today, we recognize the contributions to those who may not have faced enemy fire but were no less a part of our decisive victory in those dark times: the millions of Americans who across the Nation heeded a call to serve when their country needed them.

During World War II, this remarkable band of women picked up the rivet guns left on factory floors and shipyard docks by their departing husbands, boyfriends, sons and dads and those women started building the tanks, airplanes, and ships that America needed to win the war.

The legacy of Rosie the Riveter is the creation of opportunities to all Americans. For the first time in America, during World War II, women and minorities gained access to high-paying jobs in industry. Employee-sponsored health care and services such as child care for children of workers were developed during this time. I am proud to join my colleagues today in applauding the improvements in the workplace and our society during the Rosie the Riveter Era and in honoring these women for stepping forward when their country needed them.

TRIBUTE TO FRANCISCO
SALDIVAR

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a unique American patriot, Francisco Saldivar, a man who, after having spent over

40 years with the Brownsville Independent School District, has recently retired as principal of Yturria Elementary School.

Mr. Saldivar comes from an educator's background. His mother, a teacher from Mexico, helped make an early impression on his life-long desire to educate and give back to the community. To this end, Mr. Saldivar has served in a number of roles and duties within the school district, from teacher to administrator.

Mr. Saldivar spent over 12 years teaching fourth grade before becoming an assistant principal at Victoria Heights Elementary. Since then, he has also served as an assistant director of adult education as well as the principal of several elementary schools, most recently with Yturria.

With each new role he took on, Mr. Saldivar invariably displayed his selfless dedication to providing a well-rounded and worthwhile education. Indeed, as principal of Yturria Elementary, Mr. Saldivar still managed to take the time to help ease the transition of transfer students.

And after 6 years as principal of Yturria, Mr. Saldivar is finally retiring; and while he will certainly miss his old position, we will miss his commitment to our children's education even more.

There is no question that the education of our young people constitutes an important priority in our society. Education does more than simply impart knowledge; it prepares our children for the challenges they will meet in adulthood. Mr. Saldivar has worked with children for nearly half a century; he knows the problems they face, and has actively worked to alleviate them.

Our Nation is strengthened by dedication of educators like Mr. Saldivar in our school systems. The origins for our Nation's future will always lie within our youngest generations.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Principal Francisco Saldivar, for his indelible influence over the young minds in the Valley. His legacy is in the bright young minds he touched and shaped. We wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE LOCKHEED MARTIN
PLANT IN SYRACUSE, NEW
YORK

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the men and women of Lockheed Martin Plant in Syracuse, New York, which was recognized as one of the top ten plants in the United States by Industry Week magazine.

IndustryWeek looks to reward plants that are leading the nation in their efforts to develop competitiveness, increased customer satisfaction and an outstanding work environment. The 2,039 men and women employed at this Lockheed Martin plant were recognized for their accomplishments of \$650 million in sales and \$1.0 billion in backlog. Among these employees are 1,250 scientists and engineers and 350 manufacturing and support staff. The payroll for this honored Lockheed Martin plant in Syracuse is greater than \$108 million per year and has been in operation since 1948.

I would like to express my congratulations to the employees of the Lockheed Martin plant in Syracuse for receiving such an outstanding honor. They work very hard and deserve such recognition. I offer them my sincere congratulations.

IN HONOR OF BILL B. PASSMORE,
THE FATHER OF LAKE HIGH-
LANDS EDUCATION

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the father of Lake Highlands Education, Bill B. Passmore. I am proud to represent the Lake Highlands community in the 32nd Congressional District of Texas, and Mr. Passmore's commitment to education in the community has been long and distinguished. Mr. Passmore is being honored this Sunday afternoon, June 13, 2004 for his career achievements, and I congratulate him and his family on a lifetime of accomplishments.

After graduating from The University of Texas at Austin with a BBA degree in 1949, he taught for two years in Angleton High School before moving to Dallas. Mr. Passmore resumed his teaching career at Richardson High School in the fall of 1952. He taught business subjects for two years before being named the Business Manager and assistant to Superintendent J.J. Pearce for the 1954–55 school year.

Mr. Passmore was selected in 1955 as the principal to open the first school in the Lake Highlands area: Lake Highlands Elementary School. He was later named as the third principal to serve the school in 1976. Named principal of Richardson High School in 1956, he remained in that capacity for nine years.

When the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD) opened El Centro College as its first campus, Passmore was hired as the first of eight counselors for the college. During six years at El Centro, he left the counseling department to serve as Dean of the Evening School and later as the Associate Dean of Instruction. When the Richland College opened in 1972, he moved to the new campus to serve as Association Dean of Instruction until 1976 when he returned to the RISD as principal of Lake Highlands Elementary School.

In 1979, Mr. Passmore was again asked to serve as principal of a new school in the Lake Highlands area: Merriman Park Elementary. He retired from Merriman Park Elementary in 1989, and since that time has worked ten years for the University of North Texas on a part-time basis as a University Supervisor of Student Teachers.

During his professional career, Mr. Passmore earned his Master's Degree from the University of North Texas and some 36 hours of post-graduate credit from the University of Texas at Austin. He was a member of the Richardson Kiwanis Club for 12 years and served for one year as its president. He was a staff member or an administrator during the opening of seven new campuses in Angleton, Richardson, and DCCCD. Mr. Passmore's personal commitment to education and the Lake Highland's community have been exceptional

for several decades, and I congratulate him for his lifetime of public service.

TRIBUTE TO MR. KENNETH WENTS

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute today to a man who served his country with dignity, and lived his life with honor. Mr. Kenneth Wents of Hacienda Heights, California, will always be remembered for his courage and heart.

Mr. Wents led a full and exciting life. Even as a prisoner of war during World War II for forty-two months, he faced extraordinary challenges with determination and optimism.

Mr. Wents touched the lives of many, especially the generous volunteers of the Greater La Puente Valley Meals on Wheels, who valued him and appreciated his warm spirit.

Mr. Speaker, the life of Mr. Kenneth Wents has greatly impacted the lives of many in a positive way. It is my honor to join his family and friends in commemorating his legacy.

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF FLOWER MOUND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, heralded as the first Presbyterian church in Denton County, Flower Mound Presbyterian Church is celebrating its 150th Anniversary. I am proud to congratulate Flower Mound Presbyterian on this great accomplishment.

Flower Mound Presbyterian Church's main priority is to foster a sense of "family" within its membership and, at the same time, open its doors wide to welcome the community. They continue the church's rich legacy of religious service to Flower Mound residents.

The church has lovingly preserved its original furnishings and all of the cherished memories that go with them. Each Sunday, the sanctuary is flooded with music from an old-style piano donated years ago. The original pews still sit in their initial circular arrangement around the lectern which also dates back to the church's beginnings in 1854.

The church remembers its past with numerous photo albums depicting the congregation as it has grown in number and traditions through the years. Images of the church's steeple being constructed provide a visual representation of the changes the church has undergone over time.

The church's white clapboard building, located in the area formerly known as "the Long Prairie," witnessed Flower Mound's growth from a sleepy rural hamlet to a vibrant suburban community. Flower Mound Presbyterian Church will commemorate its 150 years by erecting a historical marker in its cemetery.

Congratulations to the congregation at Flower Mound Presbyterian Church on their anniversary. One hundred and fifty years of worship is a milestone to be celebrated.

HONORING THE MARIPOSA COUNTY COURTHOUSE ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mariposa County Courthouse on its 150 years of service to the needs of the community of Mariposa. The courthouse is holding numerous anniversary events throughout 2004 leading up to the actual anniversary.

Founded on September 8, 1850, the courthouse was built on land donated by Mr. John C. Fremont and cost a mere \$9,300 to construct. Throughout the last century and a half, the courthouse underwent several additions, including a clock tower in 1866, its first telephone in 1895, and electric lights in 1907. In 1958, the courthouse was officially recognized as a California State Landmark and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1977.

The court has operated continuously ever since it's opening in 1850, making it the oldest, active courthouse west of the Rocky Mountains. Today, the original clock keeps the residents of Mariposa on time, just as it had done for the last 100 years. In addition, the services of the court have expanded into seven departments, including criminal, family law, small claims and traffic.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere pleasure to congratulate and honor the residents of Mariposa for their preservation and dedication to the Mariposa County Courthouse for the last 150 years. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Mariposa County Courthouse many more years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, on June 8, 2004, during Rollcall votes 229 and 230 I was unavoidably detained. If I had been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall votes 229 and 230.

MR. ROBERT ERVIN TAYLOR, IN HONOR OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Robert Ervin Taylor in honor of his retirement as City Manager of Colonial Heights, Virginia for serving 20 years of dedicated service from 1984 to 2004.

In 1968, Mr. Taylor received his Bachelor of Science in History and Political Science from Appalachian State University. Upon the completion of his Master of Public Administration from the University of Tennessee in 1972, he became the Senior Administrative Analyst in

the Budget Office of the Finance Department for the City of Nashville-Davidson County. From 1973 to 1979, Mr. Taylor served as Assistant to the City Manager and Director of Personnel and Budget for the City of Suffolk, Virginia. He later served five years as City Manager for the City of Red Bank, Tennessee.

As City Manager for Colonial Heights, Mr. Robert Ervin Taylor has been responsible for the implementation of policies adopted by the City Council under the direction of five mayors and 22 council members. In addition, he has been in charge of enforcing all city laws and ordinances, the appointment and supervision of heads of 12 departments, and the preparation and execution of an annual \$38 million operating and \$3.5 million capital improvements budget.

With a penchant for community service and natural leadership, Mr. Taylor has served on several state, local and regional organizations. He has served as chairman of the Central Virginia Waste Management Authority and the South Central Wastewater Authority. Moreover, he was the Treasurer/Secretary of the Appomattox River Water Authority, and was on the Board of Directors for the Crater Planning District Commission and the Colonial Heights Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, he served as the President of the Colonial Heights Kiwanis Club.

Mr. Taylor has worked closely with the community to ensure the best quality of care for the citizens of Colonial Heights. He has been instrumental in carrying out the vision that has been set forth for the community; as such, the people have been able to rely on the dedicated and dependable service of Mr. Taylor.

Because of Mr. Taylor's resounding success, and his dedicated years of service the Colonial Heights community has benefited immensely from his leadership. He has consistently demonstrated a remarkable spirit of unity in his relations with other leaders in the community and an equal level of enthusiasm for serving the Colonial Heights area.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Mr. Robert Ervin Taylor for his loyal and dedicated service and the many contributions he has made to his community.

A TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR CHIEN-JEN CHEN

HON. STEVE CHABOT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to join my many colleagues in offering best wishes to our great friend, Ambassador Chien-Jen Chen of Taiwan as he finishes his tour of duty here in the United States and returns home.

C.J. Chen has a long and distinguished career in public service. A highly-respected academic, he still holds the position of Associate Professor at the Graduate School of Diplomacy at National Chengchi University.

Prior to his appointment as his nation's representative to the United States, Ambassador Chen served in the Legislative Yuan of the Republic of China, rising to the position as Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee. Immediately preceding his current assignment, he served as Taiwan's Foreign Affairs Minister.

I had the opportunity to attend a farewell reception for Ambassador Chen yesterday evening here in the Capitol—an event sponsored by the Majority and Minority Leaders of both the House and Senate. The bipartisan participation in the fond farewell was a great illustration of the wonderful friendships C.J. has nurtured while serving his country here in Washington.

As C.J. prepares to return to Taiwan, I want to offer my thanks to him for his professionalism and his friendship. The people of Taiwan should know that they have been ably served by an outstanding diplomat.

We will miss him and we wish him well.

HONORING THE 29TH ANNUAL
CAPITAL PRIDE FESTIVAL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the 29th Annual Capital Pride Festival, a celebration of the National Capital Area's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) communities, their families and friends.

Since its beginning in 1975, the Capital Pride Festival has grown from a small block party to a seven-day series of events. This year, the Pride Parade will be held on June 12th and will culminate in a Street Festival on Pennsylvania Avenue, attended by people of all backgrounds from the District and the region. To emphasize the universality of human rights and the importance of enacting congressional bills addressed to the human rights of the GLBT community, I have marched in the Pride parades since coming to Congress. I have seen the festival and parade grow bigger and better each year and with it the spread of support of equal rights for this community.

This year's theme of "Pride + Vote = Power" holds special meaning for the citizens of the District of Columbia and its GLBT community in particular. It has been nine years since the District of Columbia lost the first vote we ever won on the floor of the House of Representatives, the delegate vote in the Committee of the Whole. That vote was retracted when the Republicans assumed control of the House. Our city of nearly 600,000 residents, the only jurisdiction in the United States subject to "Taxation Without Representation," is entitled to that vote now and to the full voting representation that has always been our birthright.

American citizens who live in our nation's capital, have fought in every American war, including the present war in Iraq and Afghanistan, are taxed without full representation in the House and do not have any representatives in the Senate. The joy of the Capital Pride Festival contrasts with the lot of GLBT soldiers who have volunteered to protect our country with their lives and must serve in silence and without the open support of their chosen families and communities, neither asking nor telling.

Neither here nor elsewhere has Congress protected sexual orientation from discrimination in our country. Despite increasing reports of violence and physical abuse against Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Ameri-

cans, Congress has not enacted protections against hate crimes. Congress must pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. Congress must pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). Congress must pass the Permanent Partners Immigration Act. And Congress must pass the No Taxation Without Representation Act.

In June we will rejoice in the accomplishments of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community. We will also remember those who live on only in our hearts and prayers. As we gather to celebrate and reflect, we must continue the fight for full democracy in the District of Columbia and full civil rights for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender people in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in saluting the 29th Annual Capital Pride Festival, its presenter, Whitman-Walker Clinic, and the sponsors and volunteers whose dedicated and creative energy make the Capital Pride Festival possible.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WEST-
MINSTER CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Westminster Christian Academy in St. Louis, Missouri for winning the "Foundations of Democracy" unit award in the "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution" 2004 program. The "We the People" program is a competition on the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights in which students are challenged to apply their knowledge of constitutional principles and understanding of historical facts to contemporary situations. The program is designed to promote an understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizens in our constitutional democracy.

Westminster Christian Academy is an independent, coeducational, college preparatory school serving grades 7–12 located in St. Louis County. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate the individual members of Westminster's team for their outstanding performance in this year's competition: Britney Bennett, Chris Collum, Ryan Dabler, Jessica Degnan, J.D. Gustafson, Gerrod Heise, Nina Hiles, Rebecca Keffler, Angela Ludwinski, Lindsay McClure, Joeana Middleton, Neil Peterson, Katie Poland, Jennifer Reinwart, Amanda Rill, Jennifer Schaffner, Elizabeth Simon, Lily Strand, Steve Vitale, and their teacher, Ken Boesch.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 8, 2004, I was unavoidably detained and thus missed Rollcall No. 229 and No. 230. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Rollcall No. 229, expressing the profound regret and sorrow of the House of Represent-

atives on the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States of America, and "nay" on Rollcall No. 230, on approving the journal.

HONORING SALVATORE PUNZO ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIRE-
MENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join the many family, friends, and colleagues who have gathered to extend my best wishes to my good friend, Salvatore Punzo, as he celebrates his retirement after 35 years in education.

I have often spoke of our Nation's need for talented educators ready to help our children learn and grow. Sal has been just that kind of teacher and administrator. In a career that has spanned over three decades, he has touched the lives of thousands of our young people—helping them to build a strong foundation for their future success. We owe a debt of gratitude to teachers like Sal, who so willingly dedicate themselves to ensuring that our children have access to the best possible education.

Our teachers and school administrators spend many hours with our children, ensuring that they develop the tools and skills they will need as they continue their education and move into adulthood. Sal began his career in education as a teacher with the New Haven Public School system, where he spent the next 16 years in teaching grades three through five. In that time, he developed a strong reputation for his commitment to education and to meeting the needs of his students. After being appointed to a new administrator's mentoring program, he went on to serve as an assistant principal and finally, for nearly two decades, as the Principal of East Rock Magnet School.

After 17 years, Sal will now retire as the Principal of East Rock Magnet School—one of the most successful magnet schools in the State of Connecticut. Under his tenure, East Rock has blossomed—receiving numerous awards and recognitions, including being named a Vanguard School. In fact, just last year, I was honored to join Sal at East Rock to celebrate the success of the Model Laptop Program. This program, funded by one of only five such U.S. Department of Education grants in the country, tests the impact of introducing laptops in third through fifth grade classrooms. The success of East Rock, with this program and so many others, is remarkable and testament to Sal's leadership.

Salvatore Punzo has dedicated a lifetime to making a difference in the lives of children through education. We are so fortunate to have people like him working with our young people. Teacher, administrator, and advocate—he embodies all that an educator should be. I am proud to stand today and join his wife, Carmela; his children Sal and Michael; his five grandchildren, family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating Salvatore Punzo on the occasion of his retirement. My best wishes for many more years of health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ALLIED LANDING AT NOR-
MANDY DURING WORLD WAR II

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share with my colleagues a poem written by one of my constituents, Benedict Panzarella of Plainview, NY. Mr. Panzarella is an author, journalist and poet. He served as a U.S. Army Glider Crew member at the Invasion of Normandy on June 6, 1944. I was proud to present him recently with the Liberty Medal for his service and courage on that day. The events of D-Day inspired Mr. Panzarella's poem "Normandy."

NORMANDY

(By Benedict P. Panzarella)

Sleep tight tonight.
Pack your gear
Check it twice
The time is near
Tomorrow we go
On board the craft
to take us
We know not where.
THEY know the place
We are to land.
It's marked by them
on tables of sand.
With children's toys
They play their games
But this is war, WE
May go down in flames.
A ship of canvas
On tubes of steel
A motorless ship
Pulled by a rope.
A trailer load
Filled with life
(K Rations)
And death (Gas and ammo)
We pray the pilot
On this night
Will guide us true
On this fateful flight.
We fly in darkness
On this flimsy craft.
We reach our target
At last.
We know we're there.
We know for sure
Hitler's greetings
Are loud and clear.
The rope is cut!
The shaking stops.
We smoothly glide
Over tall tree tops.
We stop abruptly
As we hit some poles.
Planted by Rommell
To clip our wings.
We are here
For us
The battle
Has just begun.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for votes in this chamber on

June 8 and June 9, 2004. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 229, 230 and 231.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 228, "Condemning the crackdown on democracy protesters in Tiananmen Square, Beijing, in the People's Republic of China on the 15th anniversary of that tragic massacre," I regret that I was unavoidably detained and therefore unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

A SALUTE TO HARLAN AND JEFF
LEE AND JOSEPH T. EDMISTON

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute my good friends Harlan and Jeff Lee at The Lee Group and Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director, of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, who are being honored by the Westside Urban Forum on June 11, 2004.

Harlan and Jeff Lee are receiving the Westside Prize for successfully creating liveable urban communities in urban Los Angeles while protecting the neighborhoods and the environment. The Lee Group has been one of the premier real estate development companies and market leaders in Southern California for the past six decades. I have known first hand of their good work for many years. The Lee Group is at the forefront of the "Smart Growth" movement that seeks to link jobs, housing, and economic development in compact, livable environments to revitalize urban areas and preserve open space. Their projects serve as models for future development. They address housing needs, offer affordable ownership and provide senior and disabled rental housing without sacrificing aesthetics and financial feasibility.

For many years Harlan and Jeff have been recognized for their great vision, their social consciousness and their excellent taste. They have received many well deserved accolades. In 1998, they were selected by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to participate in Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing (PATH), a new housing initiative by President Clinton. On May 4, 1998, President Clinton attended the ground breaking for Village Green, a project of The Lee Group, to announce the national kickoff for the PATH program and designate Village Green as the first national PATH pilot site.

The first Westside Legacy Award is being presented to Joseph Edmiston and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC). His extraordinary vision and success has helped preserve, protect, restore and enhance significant open spaces in Southern California. I have known and worked with Joe for over two

decades and am pleased he has been chosen to receive this award. He helped enact the Santa Monica Comprehensive Plan which enabled me to introduce state legislation establishing the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy in 1979.

For the past twenty-four years, Joe, the staff, the board and volunteers of the SMMC have saved over 55,000 acres of land for public use. The SMMC has reclaimed land in Los Angeles' urban areas for innovative park use.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to my good friends and distinguished individuals, Harlan and Jeff Lee and Joe Edmiston for their outstanding contributions to our community.

CO-SPONSORSHIP OF H.R. 4061

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 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.

On May 5th the International Relations Committee filed House Report 108-479.

Because House rules prohibit the addition of 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. FRANK of Massachusetts is in support of my bill and should be considered by this body as a co-sponsor of H.R. 4061.

HONORING THE SHEDD AQUARIUM

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my best wishes to everyone associated with Chicago's John G. Shedd Aquarium on the occasion of its Gala 2004 Night Tide Tango.

Chicagoans are very proud to be home to the world's largest indoor aquarium. More than two million visitors who travel to our city to visit this lakefront treasure each year discover a diverse and contemporary institution dedicated to conservation, education and family fun.

The gala event, to be held on June 12, gives me the opportunity to commend so many committed Chicagoans who have dedicated countless hours ensuring that the aquarium remains one of our city's brightest gems.

I want to specifically recognize Chairman Stephen Byron Smith, Senior Vice Chairman Philip D. Block III, President and CEO Ted Beattie, and Gala Chairmen, Paula Epstein and Linda Mengelt. Each deserves high praise for devoting their time and energy to this undoubtedly worthwhile cause.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express my admiration for the museum's originality and innovation. Visitors can enjoy the

marine mammal pavilion featuring the crowd-pleasing beluga whales and Pacific white-sided dolphins, and I continue to be particularly impressed by the aquarium's emphasis on conservation and preservation.

The Shedd Aquarium has also developed some of the most innovative preservation projects in the nation. These include breeding programs for animals such as the Tahitian land snail, African cichlids fish and West Indian rock iguanas, and Project Seahorse, which is working for the longterm survival of wild populations of seahorses in the Philippines.

Most recently, the Shedd Aquarium opened the Wild Reef, an incredible exhibit with the most sharks in captivity anywhere on the planet. And we are looking forward to the new children's exhibit on sea stars.

The Shedd Aquarium is much more than one of our city's top tourist destinations—it is also a place where students can learn about the importance of saving our environment and where researchers spend countless hours trying to preserve marine life.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored on behalf of the Fifth District and indeed all of Chicago to call attention to all of the meaningful work occurring at the Shedd Aquarium at the time of its 2004 gala event. I offer my heartfelt thanks to those officers, leaders, scientists, researchers and staff members who have dedicated their lives to ensuring that one of Chicago's favorite institutions is also making its impact felt throughout the rest of the world.

HONORING CHIEF WARRANT
OFFICER 5 ERIC L. SNOW

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our great military servicemen, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Eric L. Snow, for his service to our country. CW5 Snow served the United States for 38 years and he will retire on June 11, 2004 whereupon he will reside in Las Vegas, Nevada. His service assignments have sent him to Vietnam, Panama, and Haiti. His dedicated exemplary service has earned him the Meritorious Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Viet Nam Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and a United Nations Medal.

As we celebrate our patriotic holidays such as Memorial Day and July 4, I reflect upon the many opportunities and privileges that we as citizens enjoy because of the sacrifices of our military men and women. I stand here today in honor of one such individual whose life has been dedicated to his country. It is my hope that we as Americans remember the sacrifices of these brave men and women, not only on patriotic holidays, but all year, as they serve to protect and preserve those essential freedoms we enjoy.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Snow has served his country with honor and I urge the House to join me in thanking him for his service to our country.

IN MEMORY OF ARNOLD PLANK

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, Arnold Plank was my wonderful friend. He was blessed with smarts, passion, vision and athletic prowess.

Arnold was among a handful of my constituents who captured my attention early in my political career. He made a huge difference to my life and my ability to serve the people of the 36th Congressional District. For him, education was an adventure and an opportunity. His special gift was his ability to share that passion with others.

He's left us much too early, and leaves a huge void. Somehow, running a 10K will be less fun and much harder without him. Just having him at my side seemed to make my feet feel a little lighter.

My thoughts and thanks are with Arnold's wife Janice, his daughters Rhonda and Lisa, and their four grandchildren. My thoughts are also with the school kids, parents and administrators who benefitted from knowing Arnold, and with those who, sadly, will miss an extraordinary opportunity to learn from him.

CONGRATULATING KRISTEN MURPHY ON WINNING THE PATRIOTISM ESSAY CONTEST

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Kristen Murphy and congratulate her on winning the top national award for the Fleet Reserve Patriotism Essay Contest.

As a typical 18-year-old from Pensacola, Florida, she usually joined the rest of her community celebrating America's most patriotic holiday, the 4th of July, by spending time with friends and family, and participating in traditional Pensacola events. Little did she know that one day soon, her father, Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Scott Murphy, would be deployed to Iraq. From that day forth, "patriotism" took on a whole new meaning to Kristen.

Starting out as a class assignment and 350 words later written on "What Patriotism Means to Me," she took home the top national award, earning more than \$20,000 in savings bonds from the Fleet Reserve Association.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to share with you Kristen's award winning essay.

"When I think of the word patriotism, many images and words come to mind. Over this past year, though, the actual meaning of the word has changed considerably for me. A year ago, patriotism simply meant hanging an American flag on our flagpole in the front yard and barbecuing out on the Fourth of July. Since my dad has been deployed and is now stationed overseas in the heat of battle, my perception of patriotism has changed drastically. Patriotism no longer means showing support for my country through waving a flag during a Fourth of July parade. It has now become a way of life.

A year ago, patriotism meant knowing that many nameless, faceless soldiers did their job to keep me free. It meant going to the Blue Angels show on the beach or showing support for my country through a bumper sticker or a ribbon attached to my car antenna. It meant knowing that I lived in a free country where I enjoyed more rights than most but not caring how I got those rights.

But now, that meaning has changed. Patriotism means knowing that my dad and others like him are fighting for our freedom, and it means being behind them 100 percent. It means honoring all those that have fought for this great country and knowing that I am free and safe because of them. It means realizing that without our brave soldiers and courageous leaders, we would not be the great country that we are today. It means living life every day knowing that thousands of men like my dad are the only reason why I can get up every morning and know I am free. Patriotism now means being truly proud that I was born and live in the greatest country in the world and that I am protected because of the greatest military in the world. Patriotism now means being truly proud of my dad and knowing he is doing his job for me."

Mr. Speaker, these words are an inspiration to all who hear them. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate Miss Kristen Murphy on her national achievement and for sharing a glimpse of what patriotism means to her with the rest of our great Nation. May God bless all of our military men and women overseas and may God bless America.

CONGRATULATING REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT BADHAM

HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, this week, as we mourn the passing and commemorate the life of Ronald Reagan, we have another occasion for unabashed celebration. My predecessor in this office, Representative Robert Badham, who blazed trails for President Reagan in Sacramento and in Washington, celebrates his 75th birthday today.

Bob Badham won election to the California State Assembly at a remarkably young age, four years before Ronald Reagan won the governorship. He won election to the U.S. House of Representatives four years before Governor Reagan won the presidency. As soon as he arrived in Washington he was elected president of his incoming class of Members, and he remained a leader throughout his tenure here. From the 117 feet of his records held by the University of California at Irvine to the GOP records stored by the Policy Committee on the fourth floor of the Longworth House Office Building, Bob's name stands out as one of our party's most energetic spokesmen and most articulate advocates for our agenda; as an active litigant for electoral fairness; as an international diplomat supporting our critical security alliances; and as a Member of Congress who set a standard for constituent service and attention that I must work very hard to approach.

Most significantly, as Bob rose to becoming the ranking Member on the House Armed

Services Procurement Subcommittee, he helped President Reagan rebuild our military, and, through the policy of peace through strength, win the Cold War. As President Reagan headed back to California in 1989, Representative Badham chose to leave one of the most secure Congressional seats in the nation and to return to California as well. Needless to say, the career of our colleague, Duncan Hunter, and my own, were both advanced by Bob's decision that a quarter century in elected office was enough.

The people of southern California are fortunate that giving up elected office has not meant giving up public service to Bob Badham. Since his return to California, Bob has remained an active leader in Orange County. He and his wife, Anne, remain two of Orange County's most active and energetic citizens. They are among the kindest and most interesting people anyone will ever know.

Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join the people of Orange County, all of Bob's colleagues in the House of Representatives, and all of those who are fortunate to call Bob Badham a friend, in wishing him the happiest of birthdays on this, his 75th!

IN MEMORY OF LESLIE REIF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of my colleagues, Mr. STARK and Ms. LEE, and myself, to offer tribute to Leslie Reif, who died on February 7, 2004. Leslie Reif devoted himself in exceptional ways to service in the communities in which he lived and worked. He served the Oakland community by choosing a career in public education, and bringing his exceptional talents to first and fourth grade students at the Jefferson Elementary School in Oakland. Mr. Reif served the San Francisco community by demonstrating an abiding concern for others in his neighborhood of Bernal Heights, and at his faith community at the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco on Franklin Street.

At the Jefferson Elementary School, Leslie Reif wore many hats. He was a fourth grade classroom teacher, responsible for mathematics, English, writing, geography and other subjects. Beyond his classroom, Mr. Reif was the school coordinator for the Martin Luther King Oratorical Fest held each year in February. During the fest, classes perform poems, plays and music to honor the memory of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and to advance his goal of equality for all persons. For the last 2 years, Mr. Reifs class placed first at the Jefferson Elementary Fest and then went on to place second and win a medal at the regional competition encompassing all schools in Oakland.

Leslie Reif could always be counted on to help other teachers hang photographs and educational exhibits in their classrooms, be a sounding board for advice or just to lend a sympathetic ear when someone was having a bad day. Mr. Reif was also the Fourth Grade teacher representative on the Faculty Council, a group that handles issues that affect working conditions at the school.

Mostly, those who knew him described him as a caring individual and a tireless teacher. Mr. Reif typically arrived at school at 7:15 in the morning and often stayed late into the afternoon correcting papers, setting up the classroom for the next day, working on his lesson plan, directing extra-curricular activities or assisting other teachers with their own classroom projects.

There is perhaps no better testament to his contribution to the students at Jefferson Elementary than in their own words and those of other teachers who were his colleagues there. On the Monday morning following his death, the school placed a giant banner in the central corridor for students to express their feelings. That banner, large as it was (ten feet long and four feet tall), turned out to be too small. Within hours, it was filled with messages of sadness, loss, love and grief. Another banner was added. When that one filled up, yet a third was put out. By the next day, that one had been filled as well.

The messages are poignant and speak volumes about the respect and love that his students felt for him. Many of the messages were surrounded by hearts. For example, one elaborately decorated, bleeding heart contained the Spanish words for "Rest in Peace"—"Que en Paz descanse, Maestro, Reif" A few others: "I remember your kindness. I will miss you bunches." "I'm sad but have happy memories." "Dear Mr. Reif, I hope your family will never forget you." "You were a wonderful teacher. I miss you. I love you." "The school will be your home." "I miss you very much. You were my best teacher."

A Kindergarten class that barely knew Mr. Reif put up his picture and surrounded it with lighted candles in tribute. The students in his current class also wrote touching letters to Mr. Reifs family. Several referred to Mr. Reifs concern that his students not be the victims of violence, a real concern of his after he was held up at gunpoint one morning while parking near the school. Said one student, "He was helpful by telling us not to open the door because someone could come in and shoot us . . . that it would be better if someone shoots him than someone shoots us." Another student wrote to Mr. Reifs son, Daniel, "He was a really nice man. I bet he was a very good father." Many referred to the academic achievements they made under his direction, such as the ability to write properly composed letters, and to his efforts to teach them good manners.

Similarly, fellow teachers at the school are honoring Mr. Reifs achievements and contributions by having a plaque made up in his honor and memory, which will be placed on the lectern in the auditorium which is used at all school assemblies and the Martin Luther King Oratorical Fest. In addition, a scholarship fund has been established in his name by the Marcus A. Foster Educational Institute in co-sponsorship with the Oakland Education Association.

Mr. Speaker, Leslie Reif was the kind of teacher students remember 10 and 20 and even 40 years later, because he made a real difference in their young lives. He began each morning by having his students recite "The Happiness Formula," a statement written by a former colleague that promotes non-violence, high self-esteem and kindness to others. They

will remember him for his tireless dedication to excellence, his infectious optimism, and his deep caring for them and their achievements. He will be remembered as a man who loved working with children.

That public education became his vocation is not terribly surprising. When he was only 16, he was already teaching younger children to play chess, a particular talent of his, and tutoring public school students in New York City, where he grew up. He was, in fact, born in New York City, educated at Bowdoin College and Princeton University, from which he received his B.A. Cum Laude, and Columbia University's School of Journalism, from which he received a Masters Degree.

He moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1987, and had been a resident of San Francisco's Bernal Heights neighborhood since 1989. His was a friendly and familiar face to neighborhood residents, shopkeepers and others. He always had a warm greeting on the street or in a store and became involved in community events and activities. For example, when Mr. Reifs son, Daniel Reif, started attending kindergarten at the Paul Revere Elementary School 6 years ago, Mr. Reif volunteered extensively in school activities. He met and was mentored and inspired by the Principal of Paul Revere at the time, Randy Haves.

Not one to allow the inspiration of a great educator to go to waste, Mr. Reif had, within a year, obtained emergency teaching credentials to be a first grade classroom teacher at Jefferson Elementary in Oakland across the bay, and had gone back to school to gain his full teaching credentials. It was only the first step in his involvement at Jefferson Elementary.

Leslie Reif was a member of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of San Francisco, where a memorial service was held for him on February 11. More than 150 people attended, including several of his students and their parents. He is remembered by church members for his involvement in the Forums Committee and the children's Religious Education program.

Mr. Reif died of complications from an epileptic seizure. In the last decade, Mr. Reif had helped educate others about epilepsy, including working as a health educator for the former Epilepsy League of the East Bay, now the Epilepsy Foundation of Northern California. His death helps to illustrate how much more needs to be done to learn more about, to treat and ultimately to find a cure for this neurological disorder.

Finally, last but certainly not least, Leslie Reif was a loving husband to his wife, Millie Phillips, a devoted father to his son Daniel Reif, and an attentive and supporting stepfather to Ms. Phillips' son, Jeffrey Morgan. Mr. Reif was born to an Irish Catholic mother and a Czech Jewish father, who emigrated to the United States in 1940. It is not surprising that the term used most often by his friends to describe him is the Yiddish term "mensch." He was a kind, modest man who downplayed most of his own accomplishments, while working hard to encourage the success of others. That is the lasting legacy he leaves to his family, his school, our communities and our country.

H.R. 3619, THE EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I have agreed to become a co-sponsor of H.R. 3619, the Employee Free Choice Act, but not before considerable thought and deliberation. Among other things, this legislation gives workers the right to unionize and be recognized by the National Relations Labor Board (NLRB) when a majority of the workers sign a card circulated by union organizers. I continue to remain skeptical of any election system in which voters are not free to make their decisions in private. A simple card check system could arguably provide opportunities for group pressure and even coercion and I am convinced that the secret ballot process works best in most cases. However, I am disturbed by reports citing example after example of employers using heavy handed techniques to discourage workers from organizing a union shop in the first place and intimidating and even illegally firing workers who decide to join a union.

I am particularly troubled by a recent decision by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) that gives employers carte blanche to intimidate union organizers. In a 2-1 party line vote, the NLRB has decided that an employer may explicitly inform workers who are about to vote on whether to form a union that workers in two other facilities lost their jobs after they formed a union. It is my understanding that the regional NLRB director ruled against the employer, saying that the memo circulated by the employer "clearly implied" the union was responsible for the firings at the other two hotels and insinuated similar firings could happen if the workers voted for the union. However, the two NLRB Bush appointees overruled the regional director's decision and claimed the memo "did not exceed the bounds of permissible campaign statements." The Democratic appointee was the lone dissenter.

This decision sends a clear message to employers that just about anything goes when it comes to union busting. And the message is equally clear to unions: if you try to organize, you could be fired. This is an untenable situation and the Employee Free Choice Act is, therefore, an opportunity to try to equalize the playing field between union organizers, union busters, and now the NLRB. In short, Mr. Speaker, I have come to the reluctant conclusion that the NLRB under the Bush Administration is more interested in busting unions than in protecting workers' rights to form and join unions. In this atmosphere, a shot across the bow is needed and this legislation does that.

On balance, I would prefer a policy that energizes and funds the NLRB. But it is becoming increasingly clear that we may have to wait for a new Administration to provide this balanced leadership. Co-sponsorship of this legislation, even with its flaws, sends an important and necessary message to the Administration to clean up its act.

FREEDOM FOR JOSÉ UBALDO IZQUIERDO HERNÁNDEZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about José Ubaldo Izquierdo Hernández, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Izquierdo Hernández is a peaceful pro-democracy activist who has worked for basic human rights for the people of Cuba. As a correspondent for the Decorum Task Force and the operator of the private "Sebastian Arcos Bergnes" Library, he devoted his energies to depicting the true, decrepit, reality of totalitarian Cuba.

Because he bravely defied the communist regime as he worked to bring freedom to Cuba, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández was constantly harassed by the tyrant's thugs. According to Amnesty International, on March 8, 2002, he was arrested on his way to participate in an event connected with International Women's Day. His house was stoned the same night. Amnesty International also reports that on December 4, 2002, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández was threatened with imprisonment if he attended an event honoring the Virgin of Santa Barbara.

On March 18, as part of the unconscionable crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists in March 2003, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández was arrested. In a sham trial, he was subsequently sentenced to 16 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Reporters Without Borders reports that on June 27, 2003, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández fell down a stairway with no banister as prison guards escorted him to a courtyard. The fall resulted in head wounds and two wrist fractures. Let us be very clear, Mr. Izquierdo Hernández is suffering, and has suffered serious injury, in the infernal, inhuman, gulag, because he desires freedom for his country.

This week we mourn the passing of President Ronald Reagan, a man who knew that freedom is the birthright of all mankind. As we remember the President who made freedom and democracy for all the objective of U.S. foreign policy, let us not forget those, such as Mr. Izquierdo Hernández, who currently languish in the darkness of repression.

Mr. Speaker, it is categorically unacceptable that peaceful pro-democracy activists are locked in dark gulags because they believe that freedom is the essential right of man. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of José Ubaldo Izquierdo Hernández, and every prisoner of conscience throughout the world.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, on June 8 and 9, 2003, I was unable to be present for rollcall votes: 229 on H. Res. 663 expressing profound regret and sorrow on the death of President Ronald Wilson Reagan, 230 on approv-

ing the journal, and 231 on H. Res. 664, mourning the passing of President Reagan.

Due to technical difficulties with our mode of transportation, a number of colleagues and I were unable to return from the events commemorating the 60th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy, and the veterans that served there, in time to cast these votes. Had I been present I would have proudly voted "aye" on all three resolutions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, on June 8, 2004 I was unavoidably detained in France for the D-Day ceremonies and missed Rollcall "votes Nos. 229 and 230. Rollcall 229 was on agreeing to the resolution for H. Res. 663, expressing the profound regret and sorrow of the House of Representatives on the death of Ronald Wilson Reagan, former President of the United States of America. I also missed rollcall vote No. 230, approving the Journal. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both H. Res. 663 and approving the Journal. I would ask that my statement appear in the appropriate location in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HONORING KATIE WRIGHT FOR HER OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. DAVIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring attention and praise to one of my young constituents. Katie Wright, a soon to be sixth grader at Randolph Howell Elementary in Columbia, Tennessee, was recently named National Safety Patroller of the Year by AAA. This award is presented to those patrollers who demonstrate outstanding dedication to the program and community.

Katie, nominated by Ms. Paula Ensinger, the physical education teacher and safety program director at Randolph Howell was selected among thousands of nominees. After winning the regional competition, Katie was flown down to Universal Studios in Orlando, Florida where she competed against 32 other regional finalists. While in Orlando, Katie met many dignitaries including NASA astronauts.

AAA started the national school safety patrol in 1920. Today, the AAA School Safety Patrol is an organization of 500,000 boys and girls nationwide in 50,000 schools. Katie is following in the footsteps of former safety patrollers like Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton.

Katie should be proud of herself, as I am for her. She has demonstrated leadership qualities well beyond her age. I look for many good things to come from her as she matures and further distinguishes herself.

MOORESTOWN ECUMENICAL
NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT,
INC.

improve the lives of the residents of Burlington County.

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Moorestown Ecumenical Neighborhood Development, Inc. (MEND), a non-profit MR. organization celebrating its 35th anniversary of service to the low and moderate-income citizens who have been and still are in need of affordable housing in Burlington County, New Jersey.

The Federal Government has worked hand-in-hand with this organization, a significant contributor to the vitality, diversity and growth of southern New Jersey, helping it meet the region's affordable housing needs,

On October 15, 2004, MEND will celebrate its 35th Anniversary with a Gala Dinner Dance. This private, non-profit, faith-based corporation was founded in 1969 by 9 Moorestown churches to provide affordable rental and for-sale housing to low and moderate income individuals, families, senior citizens and the disabled.

The concerned people of MEND who strive to help their Burlington County neighbors are deserving of recognition for their selfless concern for those in need, and for their efforts to

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 75TH
BIRTHDAY OF THE CITY OF OAK-
LAND PARK

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the City of Oakland Park, Florida as its residents celebrate their city's 75th birthday.

Originally named Floranada, Oakland Park was incorporated with its current name in June of 1929. The official census of the time reported the budding town's population at only 562 residents. In those days, the town was so eager for growth that one could get a free lot in Oakland Park just by buying a 30-day subscription to Miami Movie Magazine; it was thought that the town would soon become a home for all the stars of the "Motion Pictures."

While the city has grown up a lot since the 20's, now boasting a population of over 30,000 residents, small town values have always been a fundamental part of living in Oakland Park. As late as the 1950's and 60's, residents always left their keys in the ignition, and only locked their houses during hurricanes to keep the doors from blowing off.

Even today, though these practices do not persist, the values they embody make Oakland Park a great place to live and work. This is perhaps owing to the many community related programs and activities the residents of Oakland Park have organized, all of which have grown and evolved along with the city. For example, the Oakland Park Recreation Center opened its doors in 1960 with only two part time employees supervising children's activities. Today, the center maintains a staff of over 50, who are in charge of overseeing the care and maintenance of all parks and athletic complexes. Beyond activities for children, citizens can now partake in a wide variety of activities, from youth T-ball, to adult tennis, to ceramics for seniors.

Today, Oakland Park continues to grow and thrive. Recently the city embarked on a \$19 million facelift plan to be completed in 2008. The redevelopment is designed to further the friendly "small town" atmosphere that has always belonged to Oakland Park. The primary goal of the plan is to compliment Oakland Park's already safe and attractive neighborhoods and good schools with all of the social, cultural, and business opportunities of a city.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the City of Oakland Park in the U.S. House of Representatives, and extend my best wishes to the Mayor, Commissioners, and residents of Oakland Park as they celebrate their first 75 years.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 10, 2004 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 14

3 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Thomas Pingar, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Intelligence and Research, Ralph Leo Boyce, Jr., of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Thailand, James R. Kunder, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and Suzanne Hale, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Micronesia.
SD-419

JUNE 15

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold an oversight hearing to examine pipeline safety.
SR-253
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the status report on the global partnership against weapons of mass destruction relating to the Sea Island G8 Summit.
SD-419
10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Alan Greenspan, of New York, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.
SD-538
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine crude oil supply, gasoline demands and the effects on prices.
SD-366
Finance
To hold hearings to examine U.S.-Australia and U.S.-Morocco free trade agreements.
SD-215
Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine current efforts to combat terrorism financing.
SD-342
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 1530, to provide compensation to the Lower Brule and Crow Creek Sioux Tribes of South Dakota for damage to tribal

land caused by Pick-Sloan projects along the Missouri River.
SR-485

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine S. 2324, to extend the deadline on the use of technology standards for the passports of visa waiver participants.
SD-226
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine substance abuse prevention and treatment services for adolescents.
SD-430

Aging
To hold hearings to examine certain measures to strengthen social security, focusing on what personal retirement accounts do for low-income workers.
SD-628

2:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the current situation in Sudan.
SD-419

4:30 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph D. Stafford III, of Florida, to be Ambassador to Gambia, Lewis W. Lucke, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Swaziland, and R. Niels Marquardt, of California, to be Ambassador to Cameroon, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to Equatorial Guinea.
SD-419

JUNE 16

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine S. 2281, to provide a clear and unambiguous structure for the jurisdictional and regulatory treatment for the offering or provision of voice-over-Internet-protocol applications.
SR-253
Foreign Relations
To hold a closed briefing on Pakistan counterterrorism cooperation.
S-407, Capitol

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider S.J. Res. 37, to acknowledge a long history of official deprivations and ill-conceived policies by the United States Government regarding Indian Tribes and offer an apology to all Native Peoples on behalf of the United States, S. 297, to provide reforms and resources to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to improve the Federal acknowledgement process, S. 1529, to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to include provisions relating to the payment and administration of gaming fees, S. 1696, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes, S. 1715, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide further self-governance by Indian tribes, S. 2172, to make technical amendments to the provisions of the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act relating to contract support costs, and S. 2277, to amend the Act of November 2, 1966 (80 Stat. 1112), to allow binding arbitration clauses to be included in all contracts affecting the land within the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Reserva-

tion, and motion to authorize the chairman to issue subpoenas in regards to tribal lobbying matters; to be followed by an oversight hearing to examine the No Child Left Behind Act (Public Law 107-110).
SR-485

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard A. Griffin, of Michigan, David W. McKeague, of Michigan, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, and Virginia Maria Hernandez Covington, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Florida.
SD-226

11:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SD-366

2 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Charles P. Ries, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to Greece, Tom C. Korologos, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to Belgium, and John Marshall Evans, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Armenia.
SD-419

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine S. 1996, to enhance and provide to the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Angostura Irrigation Project certain benefits of the Pick-Sloan Missouri River basin program.
SR-485

JUNE 17

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine measures to enhance border security.
SR-253

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (the "Cybercrime Convention" or the "Convention"), which was signed by the United States on November 23, 2001 (Treaty Doc. 108-11), United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (the "Convention"), as well as two supplementary protocols: (1) the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and (2) the Protocol Against Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, which were adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on November 15, 2000. The Convention and Protocols were signed by the United States on December 13, 2000, at Palermo, Italy (Treaty Doc. 108-16), Inter-American Convention Against Terrorism ("Convention") Adopted at the Thirty-second Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States ("OAS") Meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados, and signed by thirty countries, including the United States, on June 3, 2002 (Treaty Doc. 107-18), and Protocol of Amendment to the International Convention on the Simplification and Harmonization of Customs Procedures done at Brussels on June 26, 1999 (Treaty Doc. 108-6).
SD-419

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the regulation of the bond markets.
SD-538

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the Environmental Management Program of the Department of Energy and issues associated with accelerated cleanup.

SD-366

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Anne W. Patterson, of Virginia, to be Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Deputy Representative of the United States of America in the Security Council of the United Nations, and to be a Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and James B. Cunningham, of Pennsylvania, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Vienna Office of the United Nations, with the rank of Ambassador, and to be Representative of the United States of America to the

International Atomic Energy Agency, with the rank of Ambassador.

SD-419

JUNE 23

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine Indian tribal detention facilities.

SR-485

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

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

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POSTPONEMENTS

JUNE 16

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources
Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the grounding of multi-engine fire-retardant aircraft, steps the Forest Service and Department of the Interior have taken to provide alternative aerial support for initial attack and extended attack fire fighting operations in the short run, and the feasibility and desirability of designing and implementing an inspection process to allow the use of multi-engine fire-retardant aircraft in the future.

SD-366

JUNE 24

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine U.S. policy toward Southeast Europe, focusing on unfinished business in the Balkans.

SH-216