

To add insult to injury, the Washington Post reported on July 3, 2004, on page A9, that the White House has only spent \$366 million of the \$18.4 billion that it got Congress and the Republican Leadership to appropriate for Iraqi reconstruction. Why the Cheney-Bush White House won't now spend the money that it insisted it needed is anybody's guess. But this is money that could and should have gone to reinvestment in America rather than into Iraq in the first place. Instead, it lies unused and serving no purpose.

Under the Constitution, as my dear friend Senator BYRD has noted so many times, it is the responsibility of the Congress to decide how federal funds should be spent; it is not the White House's role. Yet, this White House has insisted on investing in Iraq rather than America, and it has gotten its way even if it doesn't know what it wants to do with the money.

States like my home state of West Virginia have been waiting for far too long now to see just what, if anything, they could expect to receive from the federal government in order to finance important highway and transit projects, to focus on congestion mitigation, and to provide good-paying jobs that are sorely needed in this uncertain job market.

Mr. Speaker, I have an editorial from a distinguished newspaper in my district, the Bluefield Daily Telegraph, which I would like to submit for the record to accompany my remarks. This insightful viewpoint from yesterday's paper demonstrates quite clearly the problems with which we are saddling the states due to Congressional inaction. The article reads as follows:

FUNDING SETBACK: HOUSE DELAYS HIGHWAY, STREETScape WORK

Not only did the U.S. House's extension of the federal highway funding bill last week cause a slow down on financing new or continued construction on I-73/74 through the West Virginia coalfields area, it also causes problems for existing programs that rely on the bill.

One such project is the downtown Streetscape project in Bluefield.

The program is ready for Phase II, a refurbishing of Chicory Square between Bland and Federal streets.

The city earlier received funding for an extensive project in downtown that involved sidewalk replacement, new lighting and the installation of high-tech communications infrastructure. Phase I got underway in 2003.

City officials said the Coal Heritage Authority has three projects that can't be started until a new highway bill is approved.

Bluefield officials were hoping for a smooth transition between the first two phases of the downtown Streetscape project with the passage of a new six-year federal highway administration spending bill.

But, for the fourth time, the majority party in the House has decided to use its power to delay consideration and passage of the bill.

Needing even more funding, the King Coal Highway Association, which joins Tolsia Highway in the I-73/74 project through the southern coalfield counties from Huntington to Bluefield, is awaiting millions of dollars to carry through with work already planned on the \$2 billion undertaking. They had hoped to be able to move forward with those projects this summer.

Most political observers think there will be no action on the new federal spending act until after the November presidential election. That means communities like Blue-

field, Kimball, Mount Hope and all those anticipating construction jobs for I-73/74 have lost a year in financing.

Maybe voters should find out which Representatives are holding up the bill and remember them in November.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TOM SHARP

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 7, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the achievements of Tom Sharp of Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Tom has played an important role in the community as exemplified through his work as a businessman and a civic leader. It is my pleasure to recognize his efforts before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Tom grew up in a rural community in Monte Vista, Colorado. After law school, he tried city life when he worked as a clerk for a judge, but found living in the city unfulfilling. He soon moved to Steamboat Springs, finding the smaller community provided an environment more conducive to his lifestyle. Tom has since ascended forty of Colorado's 14,000 foot mountains locally named "Fourteeners." He is also an avid skier.

Reaching the summit of mountains is thematic in Tom's life. He pursues challenges in his business and personal life, the same way he climbs the mountains. The goal is the top, and he will reach it. One of his most notable contributions to the community is his work in water law. Starting in 1977, he served on the board of directors for the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District. Recently, he expanded his role in water rights statewide by assuming the Governor appointed position on the Colorado Water Conservation Board. Tom has never taken his civic responsibility lightly. He served on the local school board, the local county board for Habitat for Humanity, and other local boards for local businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the work Tim Sharp has done for the community. It is under the leadership of people like Tom that a small town builds a strong cohesive community. His work is commendable and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JACK SMITH

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 7, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise and recognize the dedication of Jack Smith of Rifle, Colorado to our youth as a teacher and coach at Rifle High School over the past forty-five years. Jack has been instrumental in shaping the lives of student-athletes in his community. I am honored to recognize his accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Born in Cotopaxi, Colorado, Jack graduated from Florence High School. He went on to serve this nation in the United States Marine Corps, and, following his military service, graduated from Western State College and went into teaching. He has amassed an impressive

record of accomplishments in his time, as a teacher and a coach. He first began as a full time teacher and assistant basketball and football coach in 1960 at Rifle High School. Over his time spent coaching, Jack served as a head or assistant coach, coaching both boys and girls in five different sports. Now, he stays active in the education of our youth, serving as an assistant coach for the girl's basketball team.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Jack Smith for his work as a coach and a teacher at Rifle High School. Teachers and coaches play a very important role in developing our next generation's leaders. Jack's passion for coaching demonstrates a tremendous commitment to the future of our nation's youth. I thank Jack for his service to the community and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

HONORING MANATAWNY MANOR

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Manatawny Manor in recognition of 30 years of dedicated service to the senior citizens of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

On July 8, 1974, Manatawny Manor opened its doors to provide care for senior citizens in need. It was founded by two notable men: Thomas Natoli and Frank Genuardi. These men created Manatawny Manor with a vision of providing unsurpassed service to the senior citizens of Chester County. Originally, Manatawny Manor was a one-story structure with 99 beds and five nursing staff members. On its first night of operation, there was only one resident. Since then, the numbers of citizens that Manatawny Manor has cared for has greatly increased. In the past thirty years, Manatawny Manor has provided and cared for over 4,897 residents.

Just four years after Manatawny Manor opened, substantial improvements were made to the facility. In 1978, a 107 bed personal care unit opened and, in 1986, an adult day care facility was added. The day care facility made more services available to senior citizens and can accommodate up to 28 clients.

Increased need for bed capacity in 1989 and 1996 led to renovation projects that expanded upon the original building, bringing the number of beds to 133. These additions and improvements were not focused solely on bed space, but also on improvements in the administrative offices, and the Rehabilitation Services Department.

In 1998, Manatawny Manor was purchased by the Lutheran Home at Topton, thus becoming a part of Lutheran Services Northeast. On January 1, 2000, through the affiliation of Lutheran Services Northeast and Tressler Lutheran Services, Manatawny Manor became a facility of the Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries. Diakon is a private, non-profit charitable organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries has sought to provide the very best in long-term care through continuing care retirement communities, assisted living services, special care for those with dementia or Alzheimer's disease, short and long-term care skilled nursing, and outpatient rehabilitation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing Manatawny Manor and Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries for 30 years of exceptional long term care and service to the people of Chester County, Pennsylvania.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THOMAS
PETERSON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and memory of Thomas Peters of Durango, Colorado. Thomas passed away after a long fight with kidney disease at the age of fifty-nine. He proudly served our country and worked hard to maintain his own business. As his family and community mourn his passing, I think it is appropriate to recognize his life and legacy before this body of Congress and this nation.

At the ripe age of ten, Thomas first began his long career as a Durango businessman. Preparing him to take over, Thomas's father started grooming him as a young employee in the family business, Peterson Office Supply. In 1971, his father passed away and Thomas assumed control of the family business. Leaving his business legacy behind, Thomas's presence as a business leader and longstanding staple of the Durango community will be sorely missed.

A proud citizen, Thomas served our country with honor for twenty-three years as a member of the National Guard. He retired from service in 1988 as a First Sergeant. In addition to his service, he spent thirty-years as a committed member of the Elks Lodge. As a leader in the community, Thomas was a trustee for the Elks Lodge.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise and recognize the life of Thomas Peterson today. The Durango community will remember Thomas for his big heart and willingness to give to others. As a loyal and trusting individual, he demonstrated the strengths of America's smaller communities. I would like to express my deepest regrets and extend my sympathy to the family and friends of Thomas Peterson.

A TRIBUTE TO STEVEN RUFFIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Steven Ruffin in recognition of his tireless efforts to strengthen the community through his work as a member of the New York City Police Department.

Steven Ruffin was born and raised in the Bedford Stuyvesant community in Brooklyn. He is the oldest of four children. His interests include jazz, Afro-centric art, sports and working with the community.

He was appointed to the New York City Police Department on January 21, 1985 and was assigned to the Neighborhood Stabilization Unit, where he performed foot patrol within the 73rd, 75th and the 81st precincts.

In January 1985, Officer Ruffin was assigned to the 79th precinct. He performed patrol duties there for ten years. Later, in 1995, he was assigned as the Explorer/Auxiliary Coordinator, making him responsible for the supervision of the Explorer and Auxiliary members.

For the past four years, Officer Ruffin's experience and expertise has resulted in improved community relations. He has accomplished this by developing a prosperous partnership between the community and the 79th precinct, which has been instrumental in closing the gap between the community and police. He encourages his fellow officers to become more involved and concerned with the neighborhood in the area they serve and protect.

Officer Ruffin has also successfully collaborated with local officials, neighborhood organizations, schools, and churches in Bedford Stuyvesant to strengthen the community. He has also played an active role in organizing youth programs, parades, demonstrations, rallies, and various events. For all of his contributions, Officer Ruffin has received numerous awards for his community service.

Mr. Speaker, Steven Ruffin has dedicated both his professional and personal life to strengthening the community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

CHESTER GRAY

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 8, 2004

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Chester Gray of Cleveland, Ohio.

Chester Gray, born on April 1, 1912, in Cleveland, Ohio, was one of two sons born to Morgan J. Gray and Elandra Holt Gray. Morgan, a Pullman Porter, originally from London, Ontario, and Elandra, daughter of a Canadian Baptist minister, raised their sons in an "upper poor" but loving home. Throughout his life Chester valued advice he received from his mother, "Be yourself, and be somebody." He also shared his parent's belief in the efficacy of education.

After graduating from Cleveland's East High School, Chester wanted to attend Fisk University, however his father advised him to stay home. A friend took him to meet the Jesuits, and soon he was riding the streetcar to the college at West 30th Street. So began his lifetime association with his alma mater John Carroll University. Chester enjoyed sharing memories about John Carroll where he was one part of the trio of young black men who were the first men of color to attend the University.

Chester, "Chet" had a life filled with many interests. As a youngster he ice skated with his buddies at the old Elysium or played sandlot football. At John Carroll he played the French Horn and was a member of the university's first marching band. "Chet" dreamed of attending medical school after earning his bachelor in Philosophy, however money was short so, he ventured in other directions: He worked at the Cedar Branch YMCA, volunteered at Karamu House, joined the National

Youth Administration and before long arrived at the Ohio Bureau of Employment, a destination that was to direct his future as a prolific public servant and consummate community citizen.

Chester Gray was a brave man. In 1965 he was the lone Black man who was part of a three-man team of officials who traveled into the heart of Klu Klux Klan territory in Birmingham, Alabama. Their mission was to end job discrimination in the local steel mill. The officials endured insults, threats and possible physical harm, but they got their job done. They told the employers they'd have to follow minority guidelines mandated by the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Thus began a new era in employment.

Reflecting on his years and training at John Carroll University "Chet" gave evidence of his quick humor. Describing sitting through the daily Mass conducted in Latin he said, "There was an equality of ignorance. None of us knew what the hell was going on." He also noted that the skills he learned in critical thinking and understanding people were tolls that served him throughout his life.

Perhaps one of the most profound life lessons Chester carried away from John Carroll was "The bedrock of the Jesuit philosophy of doing good for others. Do the best you can for yourself, but also do something to make life better." He spent his life practicing the philosophy and had Ninety-Two glorious years of taking small and giant steps to make life better for his community.

LET THE WORK I'VE DONE SPEAK FOR ME

May the work I've done speak for me. When I'm resting in my grave, there is nothing that can be said. May the work I've done, speak for me. May the life I've lived speak for me. May the service I gave speak for me. When I've done the best I can, and my friends don't understand, may the service I gave speak for me. The works I've done seemed so small. Sometimes they seemed like nothing at all. But when I stand before my God. I want to hear Him say "Well Done." May the work I've done speak for me.

National Youth Administration, youth supervisor and state supervisor of recreation and community affairs

Chief of Minority Group Services, Ohio Bureau of Employment Service

American Red Cross, Military Welfare Branch

Deputy director of operations, Ohio Civil Rights Commission

Staff Director of Equal Employment Opportunity Program for Cleveland district contact management office of U.S. Air Force Director, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for Ohio

Elected to John Carroll University board of trustees

Consultant, Cleveland Board of Education Interim executive director for Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority

Appointed to John Carroll University board of regents

Inspiration and Consultant for "Forever JCU", the first ever alumni of color event

Former Board member Fairhill Center for Aging

Guest Lecturer: Michigan State University, Western Reserve University and numerous public and private organizations

Member and Former Trustee, Mt. Zion Congregational Church

Member of: Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., Tau Boule of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity and past President of Cleveland City Club

"Service is the rent we pay to be living. It is the very purpose of life and not something you do in your spare time"

—MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN.