

these service providers strive to keep up with growing demands, public television stations must do the same.

Years ago, WSRE recognized the need for change and responded quickly. PBS as an organization continues to provide the core base of educational programming and services, but WSRE-TV takes that service to another level. They understand that with cable's niche program offerings that the role of public broadcasting must become more comprehensive, expanding into community outreach programs such as reading services for the blind, educational offerings and instructional courses transmitted over multi-casted digital channels, educational outreach activities such as the national teacher training institute to provide professional development for teachers, and also services that provide resources for daycare providers to help prepare children for school.

Telecommunications is rapidly changing every day. The possibilities are truly limitless. It gives me tremendous pride, both personally and as a member of the Congressional Public Broadcasting Caucus, to know that my public television station is not only keeping up; it's going above and beyond the basic services required of it.

Under Sandy Cesaretti Ray's dynamic leadership and ingenuity, WSRE-TV continues to achieve its mission, bringing high quality services to its viewers. The panhandle is very fortunate to have had such quality leadership here over the past 35 years. Playing such an important part in the life of our community, I want to thank them for their commitment to excellence, and my sincere gratitude to the Amoses for their generous, heartfelt gift.

**TIBET: 46TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
TIBETAN UPRISING DAY**

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, today is the 46th anniversary of the Tibetans who died opposing the Chinese occupation, and all Tibetans who suffered due to their religious, political or cultural beliefs or activities.

In 1949 communist China invaded Tibet. The Tibetan people rose up to revolt against Communist rule. In 1959 thousands of Tibetan refugees surrounded the compound of His Holiness the Dalai Lama out of fear he would be killed. In order to try to save his people the Dalai Lama fled to India. His people stayed and were attacked by the Chinese. Thousands of unarmed civilians were killed. During the 1959 uprising an estimated 87,000 Tibetans were killed, arrested, or deported to labor camps.

The harsh brutality still exists in Tibet today. The People's Republic of China does not tolerate Tibetan freedom in any form. Each year thousands of innocent people are imprisoned or put to death under a system plagued with corruption and secrecy. Many Buddhist monks and nuns are in detention for peacefully exercising their right to free expression, association and religion.

I have visited Tibet and I was shocked and saddened by the repression of the Tibetan people. They live in fear that they will be killed, will disappear or will be tortured for ex-

pressing their political and religious beliefs. The Chinese government routinely refuses to allow independent international human rights monitors, including the United Nations, to conduct an investigation into the human rights situation in Tibet.

As co-chair of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, I had the honor of meeting His Holiness the Dalai Lama in 2003. He is a man of great wisdom and vision who has the sole purpose for his people and his country to live free from oppression. He has worked for more than 40 years to promote self-determination for the Tibetan people. The United States stands with him and supports a negotiated settlement through dialogue.

Mr. Speaker, this day is to remind the world that the Tibetan people have been denied freedom for more than half a century. The clock is ticking for Tibet. I know one day we will be able to celebrate the anniversary of Tibetan Freedom Day.

**INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1220, VET-  
ERANS' COMPENSATION COST-  
OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF  
2005**

**HON. STEVE BUYER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce H.R. 1220, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2005.

Veterans' Affairs Committee Ranking Member LANE EVANS, as well as JEFF MILLER of Florida and SHELLEY BERKLEY, Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, respectively, join me as original cosponsors of the bill.

H.R. 1220 would provide a cost-of-living adjustment to veterans' benefits effective December 1, 2005. This would positively affect more than 2.9 million service-connected veterans and survivors of service-connected veterans. Additionally, the bill codifies the current disability compensation and dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) rates.

The VA Committee periodically reviews the service-connected disability compensation and DIC programs to ensure that the benefits provide reasonable and adequate compensation for disabled veterans and their families. Based on this review, Congress acts annually to provide a cost-of-living adjustment in compensation and DIC benefits.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has consistently provided increases in these rates for every fiscal year since 1976. The adjustment in cost-of-living is reflective of the economic changes annually. This is especially important to those veterans living on a fixed income. The Administration's fiscal year 2006 budget submission includes funding for a projected 2.3 percent increase.

In support of our veterans, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

**HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF BEXAR COUNTY COMMIS-  
SIONER LYLE LARSEN**

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions made to the 28th district by Bexar County Commissioner Lyle Larsen.

Commissioner Larsen's career has been highlighted by numerous political appointments beginning in 1991 when he was elected to the San Antonio City Council, and held this position until 1995. In 1996 he was elected by the constituents of Bexar County Precinct 3 to the seat of County Commissioner, which he holds to this day. In 2000 he was appointed by then Governor George W. Bush to the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission.

Bexar County Commissioner Lyle Larsen has fiercely worked with fellow county officials to improve the operation of Bexar County, by monitoring the procedures of department heads. As a member of the Commissioners Court he faces the demanding job of overseeing budgetary, tax, and revenue decisions for positions that are not regulated by elected officials.

It requires an immense knowledge of County Government to be able to govern such a vast territory, and Commissioner Larsen has demonstrated that he can quite eloquently oversee and govern Bexar County.

Commissioner Larsen has not only worked as a diligent officer for Bexar County residents, but has also made notable contributions during his time in public office, especially his work in criminal and juvenile area.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have had this opportunity to recognize the dedication and hard work of Bexar County Commissioner Lyle Larsen.

**IN MEMORY OF MR. JOHN  
CRIVELLO**

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 10, 2005*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John "Bricky" Crivello, who passed away at his home on March 4, 2005. All of us who knew John's lifelong devotion to fishermen's rights, his friends and family, and any official who had a say in the matter, will be remembered within the Monterey community.

Born in Monterey, CA in 1911, Bricky played football, baseball, basketball, golf and track at Monterey High School. During this period he was nicknamed "Bricky" because of his red hair—a name that would remain with him for the next 70 years. After high school Bricky was a fisherman for a short time, but soon joined the Monterey fishing industry. For more than 60 years, he worked as the business agent for the local branch of the International Fisherman's Union.

He was an advocate for more than 900 local fisherman during the industry's boom of the 1940's and 1950's. Although the industry shrank, Bricky remained working in the industry through his 80s. Because he represented