

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO DR. ANDREW MESSENGER, A TRUE FRIEND OF LIBERTY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a friend and patriot, Dr. Andrew L. Messenger, of Riverdale, Michigan.

As a physician, I know Dr. Messenger is the type of doctor all of us would want to have to take care of us. He is capable, loves his work, genuinely cares about his patients, and is always available if someone needs him. In fact, he loves being a doctor so much that he did not retire until this past year at age 83.

Every day he would wake up early to be at the office by 6:45 a.m. He knew that many of his working patients preferred to come in early so he made himself available. Dr. Messenger felt that if he as a doctor was unavailable, he was worthless.

Dr. Messenger also applied this principle to being a father. Leaving the house early in the morning allowed him to spend time with his family in the evenings. Most nights and weekends were spent hunting, fishing, playing at the local playground, and attending athletic events with his six children.

When Dr. Messenger returned home from work, the whole family would sit around the dinner table and discuss personal and newsworthy events of the day. After dinner was done and homework finished, Dr. Messenger would take the kids out to play. Baseball and going to the park were two of the Messenger family's favorite after dinner activities.

His personal involvement in the lives of his children paid off. He has six successful children, three of whom are doctors.

Dr. Messenger lives by the principals of honesty, hard work, and caring for his fellow man, and took great care to instill these same principles into his children.

After raising a family and running a respected practice, Dr. Messenger continues to make a difference not only in his local community and across the United States through his generous support of the Leadership Institute.

When most men embrace the rewards retirement offers, Dr. Messenger pushes on to make a difference in the lives of his countrymen. Dr. Messenger's support of the Leadership Institute gives young people and working professionals the practical tools necessary to advance liberty and protect freedom. Too often freedom has few friends on our college campuses, in our state houses, and in our capitol. Dr. Messenger is providing everyday citizens with the resources necessary to defend the dream of limited government George Washington and the rest of our founding fathers created when they wrote our constitution.

Clearly, Dr. Messenger has not only contributed to society by raising six successful children, he has made provisions for future gen-

erations through investing in the long-term mission of the Leadership Institute.

Thank you, Dr. Messenger, for investing in the lives of the future leaders of this country through your faithful and generous support of the Leadership Institute.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House on Tuesday, April 5th due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way:

H. Res. 108: Commemorating the life of the late Zurab Zhvania, Prime Minister of Georgia, "yea."

H. Res. 120: Commending the outstanding efforts by members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development in response to the earthquake and tsunami of December 26, 2004, "yea."

H. Con. Res. 34: Honoring the life and contributions of Yogi Bhajan, a leader of Sikhs, and expressing condolences to the Sikh community on his passing, "yea."

COMMENTING ON THE ONGOING DISPUTE BETWEEN THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC OF GREECE AND THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, in 1991, the former nation of Yugoslavia dissolved into a number of independent nation-states, including the Republic of Macedonia. However, international recognition of Macedonia's independence from Yugoslavia was significantly delayed in large part by Greece's objection to the new state's use of what it considered to be a Hellenic name and symbols.

Greece even went so far as to impose a trade blockade against Macedonia, citing unfounded concerns of potential border destabilization within the region and fears of Macedonian territorial expansion. The Greek government even persuaded the United Nations Security Council to pass United Nations Security Council Resolution 845 in 1993, which proclaimed that for all intents and purposes the Republic of Macedonia would be referred to as the "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia," pending the outcome of negotiations between Greece and Macedonia on a permanent name.

Greece finally lifted its trade blockade against Macedonia in 1995, and the two coun-

tries have since agreed to normalize relations. Although inexplicable, even after 12 long years of discussion and debate between the representatives of Greece and Macedonia, and a host of international mediators, differences over Macedonia's official name remain.

Recently, last November, the United States joined 108 other nations in officially recognizing the constitutional name of the Republic of Macedonia. America's official recognition of the Republic of Macedonia should be seen as a clear message to both sides that this dispute over the name has simply gone on too long.

A new, accelerated round of discussions between officials from Greece and Macedonia—mediated by United States diplomat and United Nations mediator Matthew Nimitz—is scheduled to start before the end of April. For the good of bilateral relations, as well as broader regional stability, I urge both sides, Greek and Macedonian, to work together in a spirit of friendship and open-mindedness with UN envoy Matthew Nimitz, and ultimately conclude this emotionally-embroiled dispute in a mutually acceptable, desirable, and expedient way.

Mr. Speaker, Greece and Macedonia have more to gain by settling this dispute and working together to bring the people and governments of the region into the larger community of nations than they do by continuing this destabilizing dispute. I hope that both sides will seize this opportunity to do the right thing at the April talks and work together to bring this matter to a peaceful conclusion.

RECOGNIZING BAY CITY UNIFICATION ANNIVERSARY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to rise before you today, and to ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to join me in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the unification of Bay City, Michigan. This momentous occasion will be marked by a series of events to take place on Sunday, April 10, 2005.

In 1857, a village, made up of land once used as a campground for the Chippewa Indians, was formed east of the Saginaw River. In 1865, this village, known as Bay City, was formally incorporated as a city. The years that followed saw other villages established in the area, including several to the west of the river. In 1877, three of these communities—Banks, Salzburg, and Wenona, consolidated and formed West Bay City. The two communities coexisted and thrived with separate mayors, city councils, police and fire departments, schools, public utilities, and city services, until a campaign to unite the two began, with the hopes that a larger city would increase revenue and promote expansion.

After several consolidation referenda, as well as actions on the part of the Michigan

• 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.

Legislature, the concept of a united Bay City became reality on April 10, 1905, when a common council, consisting of 34 aldermen from 17 wards in the combined city convened and made history.

Mr. Speaker, in the 100 years since the unification of Bay City and West Bay City, we have seen a town rise from a collection of small lumber villages to one of Michigan's largest and most vibrant cities. The shipyards and sawmills of the past have given way to worldwide corporations that create opportunities each day. Bay City's rich heritage is seen in its renowned architecture and diverse history. For generations, the kind hearts and friendly manner of the residents have made Bay City a warm welcoming community. They are the true nucleus of the city.

I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of Mr. Robert Belleman, City Manager, for his vision in recognizing the need to acknowledge this milestone in Bay City's history. I am proud to call him my colleague, my constituent, and my friend.

Mr. Speaker, once again I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bay City, Michigan on the 100th anniversary of its unification.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF BEXAR COUNTY JUDGE
KEITH BAKER

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Judge Keith Baker for his long standing career of service to his country and community.

A Vietnam veteran who had served at Cam Ranh Bay and Chu Lai, Mr. Baker is no stranger to dedicated commitment and sacrifice for his country. During his stay at Chu Lai, Keith Baker worked at the Adjutant 27th Surgical Hospital. He helped to serve our troops where his assistance was greatly needed.

Having started a distinguished law career in the field of law in 1973, Keith Baker has over 30 years experience serving the needs of our citizens. He has also authored numerous articles for the American Bankruptcy Institute Journal. Mr. Baker additionally serves as Trustee to numerous community organizations, including the Texas Military Institute, the Texas Bar Foundation, the North San Antonio Chamber of Commerce, and the San Antonio Manufacturers Association.

Judge Baker was first elected in Bexar County as Justice of the Peace in 1982. A dedicated civil servant, Judge Baker works hard for our communities. He specializes in misdemeanor criminal cases, civil cases involving our businesses, consumer cases, and tort.

Mr. Speaker, Judge Keith Baker is an exemplary public servant. I am proud to have the opportunity to thank him here today for all he has done for his fellow Texans.

VISA DENIAL TO INDIAN OFFICIAL
LEADS TO BURNING OF PEPSI
PLANT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as you know, the United States government denied a visa to Narendra Modi, Chief Minister of Gujarat, due to the state government's complicity in the massacre of Muslims there and his insensitive statements about minorities. His visa was revoked under the law that prohibits those responsible for violations of religious freedom from getting visas. This was the right thing to do, and I salute those who made this decision.

According to the March 25 issue of India-West, the denial of a visa to Mr. Modi was met with attacks from the Indian government. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who, as a Sikh, is a member of a religious minority himself, complained in Parliament that "we do not believe it is appropriate . . . to make a subjective judgment question a constitutional authority in India." The Foreign Ministry said that the denial of Mr. Modi's visa "is uncalled for and displays lack of courtesy and sensitivity toward a constitutionally elected chief minister of a state of India." Of course, they completely neglected to mention Mr. Modi's lack of courtesy and sensitivity towards the 2,000 to 5,000 Muslims killed in the riots that his government helped organize. India's Human Rights Commission held Mt. Modi and his government responsible for the massacre.

The Indian government officially stated that the decision showed "a lack of courtesy and sensitivity" and that their "sovereignty" was violated by the decision. This is the standard argument of tyrants. It is the argument countries like Red China make when they are criticized.

On March 19 in New Delhi, India-West reported, fanatical Hindu nationalist fundamentalists affiliated with the militant organization Bajrang Dal rioted against the United States because Mr. Modi was denied his visa. They barged into a Pepsi-Cola warehouse, smashed bottles of Pepsi, and set fire to the building. The warehouse was partially burned. About a dozen workers fled. The rioters also ransacked a nearby Pepsi office. Another group protested the U.S. consulate in Bombay. They carried signs reading "Down With the United States." Some Bajrang Dal members tried to enter the visa application center in Ahmedabad. Modi himself said, "Let us pledge to work for such a day that an American would have to stand in line for entry into Gujarat." He accused the United States of trying to "impose its laws on other countries." He urged India to deny visas to American officials.

Mr. Speaker, this is just the latest chapter in India's ongoing repression of its minorities, which has been well documented in this House over the years, and its virulent hatred of America. Why do we spend our time, energy, and money supporting such a country?

The time has come to hold India's feet to the fire. Denying Mr. Modi a visa was simply a small first step, and a good one. We must do more. The time has come to stop our aid and trade with India until all people enjoy the full flower of human rights and to support self-determination for all the peoples and nations

seeking their freedom through a free and fair plebiscite. The essence of democracy is the right to self-determination. As the world's oldest and strongest democracy, it is up to the United States to take these measures in support of freedom for all.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the India-West article of March 25 into the RECORD at this time.

[From the India-West, Mar. 25, 2005]

PEPSI WAREHOUSE BURNED IN VISA DENIAL
UPROAR—Continued from page A1

The riots were sparked by the burning of a train coach by Muslims in Godhra, killing 59 Hindu kar sevaks.

Modi was denied a diplomatic visa to travel to the United States and his existing tourist/business visa was revoked under the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act that bars people responsible for violations of religious freedom from getting a visa.

Modi had been scheduled to address a gathering of Indian American groups and motel owners in New York, Florida and in New Jersey.

India slammed the decision, saying it showed a "lack of courtesy and sensitivity," and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh criticized the American decision in Parliament.

"The American government has been clearly informed . . . we do not believe that it is appropriate to use allegations or anything less than due legal process to make a subjective judgment to question a constitutional authority in India," Singh told the Rajya Sabha.

Responding to opposition leader Jaswant Singh's submission that the decision was unacceptable, Manmohan Singh said, "We agree that this is not a matter of partisan politics, but rather a matter of concern over a point of principle. Our prompt and firm response clearly shows our principled stand in this matter."

Earlier, Indian officials summoned Ambassador Mulford's deputy Robert Blake "to lodge a strong protest."

"This action . . . is uncalled for and displays lack of courtesy and sensitivity toward a constitutionally elected chief minister of a state of India," the Foreign Ministry said in a statement, expressing the government's "deep concern and regret."

The U.S. stood by its decision after a review sought by India. Mulford, who was out of town when the news broke March 18, said the U.S. decision was aimed at Modi alone, and not Gujaratis. He also denied it would affect ties with India.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Adam Erel said the U.S. response was based on a finding by India's National Human Rights Commission that held Modi's government responsible for the 2002 Hindu-Muslim violence in the state, India's worst in a decade.

The decision led to widespread uproar in parts of Gujarat. A day after the decision, nearly 150 Bajrang Dal activists barged into the warehouse of U.S.-based PepsiCo in the Surat, smashed bottles and set fire to the place, said Dharmesh Joshi, a witness. The warehouse was partially burned.

A witness said about a dozen workers at the warehouse fled during the attack and firefighters doused the flames.

The protesters also ransacked a nearby PepsiCo office and demonstrated outside the American consulate in Mumbai. Some carried placards reading: "Down with the United States," "Boycott the U.S. goods and the Americans."

Up to 150 Bajrang Dal activists also tried to enter the U.S. visa application center in Ahmedabad but were turned back by police.

Modi called the U.S. decision “an insult to India and its Constitution.” In a public address in Ahmedabad, he lashed out at the United States.

“A man from Gujarat was thrown out of a train in South Africa. This led to a movement that overthrew the British Empire,” Modi thundered, in a reference to Mahatma Gandhi. “Let us pledge to work for such a day that an American would have to stand in line for entry into Gujarat,” he added.

“The United States can’t impose its laws on other countries. In the same way, India should deny visas to U.S. officials as a protest against Washington’s policies in Iraq,” Modi said.

“On what basis has the U.S. decided this?” Modi asked. “Where has the U.S. got its information from? The American government should know that every state in India is ruled by the Constitution and no one can violate that. No court has indicted the Gujarat government or the CM of complicity in the incidents that took place in the state.”

If the Pakistani president and the Bangladesh prime minister could visit the U.S., two countries in which minorities have suffered, Modi said he could be admitted too.

TRIBUTE TO SHERMAN W. DREISESZUN

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sherman W. Dreiseszun, of Leewood, Kansas, who on May 14, 2005, at Kehilath Israel Synagogue of Overland Park, Kansas, will celebrate his Second Bar Mitzvah.

On May 25, 1935, at Voliner Synagogue of Overland Park, Sherman W. Dreiseszun, the son of Sam and Bertha Dreiseszun, was called to the Torah to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah and take his place as an adult in the Jewish Community.

The Old Testament defines a person’s life as three score and ten (seventy years). Since the age of Bar Mitzvah is thirteen, when a man has the good fortune to reach his eighty-third birthday, he has earned the right to celebrate his Second Bar Mitzvah.

Sherman’s commitment to Judaism and to Kehilath Israel Synagogue was deeply rooted in the promise he made during his service in World War II. Sherman was a waist gunner in the Air Force, and the plane to which he was assigned was forced to ditch in the Atlantic. While in the ocean, hoping to be rescued, Sherman pledged that if he was saved from that peril, he would commit himself to Judaism, his Synagogue, and to the Jewish community.

Sherman made good on that promise, first by becoming the youngest President of Kehilath Israel to ever hold that position in 1959 and 1960, and then being re-elected President in 1978 for an additional term. He has worked for and led numerous organizations, reaching out to improve individual lives in the Jewish community. Sherman’s dynamic work on behalf of Kehilath Israel, the Jewish community and the overall Kansas City community has created a new face for the entire metropolitan landscape.

Sherman has been the backbone and the lifeline for Kehilath Israel Synagogue. To show

the respect that the congregation has for Sherman, he has been designated as Honorary President for Life.

On July 7, 1946, Sherman married Irene Friedman. Irene and Sherman will be celebrating their 59th wedding anniversary this summer. Irene also will be celebrating her 80th birthday on August 25, 2005.

Irene and Sherman are the parents of the late Barbara Dreiseszun, the late Richard Dreiseszun; daughter-in-law Gail Dreiseszun of Shawnee Mission, Kansas; and of daughter and son-in-law Helone and Marshall Abrams of Denver, Colorado. Their grandchildren Brooke and James Levy and Erica and Evan Fisher all reside in New York City.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for this opportunity to pay public tribute to Sherman W. Dreiseszun, who has been the backbone and the lifeline of both his Synagogue and his community at large. I congratulate him on his upcoming Second Bar Mitzvah and congratulate him and Irene on their upcoming 59th anniversary.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF ZURAB ZHVANIA, PRIME MINISTER OF THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

SPEECH OF

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 108, commemorating the life of the late Prime Minister of the Republic of Georgia, Zurab Zhvania. I commend my colleagues, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. WEXLER, for introducing this resolution and I am proud to be a cosponsor. I want to thank them for providing us an opportunity to recognize the life and contributions of Prime Minister Zhvania to the cause of freedom.

Mr. Speaker, on February 3 of this year, the Republic of Georgia suffered a tremendous loss with the untimely passing of their Prime Minister, Zurab Zhvania. An academic and unlikely political hero, Zhvania was elected to the Georgian national parliament in 1992, after the collapse of the Soviet Union. His passion and his eloquence brought him to the attention of Eduard Shevardnadze, and eventually to the office of Speaker of the Georgian Parliament. A champion of democracy and freedom of the press, Zhvania distanced himself from Shevardnadze and joined a party of young reformers who brought about the Rose Revolution in 2003. As the Prime Minister, Zhvania led the economic and social reform efforts that have transformed the lives of the Georgian people.

His visionary leadership in guiding the Republic of Georgia as it reached independence, his commitment to the development of core democratic values, and his tremendous courage in the face of adversity, will make the late Prime Minister Zurab Zhvania a towering figure in the history of the independent Republic of Georgia.

IN HONOR OF SIBLINGS DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute Siblings Day, a day to honor our brothers and sisters for the many ways in which they enhance our lives. This celebration gives us the opportunity to show our appreciation for our siblings, much like Mother’s Day and Father’s Day are celebrated. Siblings Day was founded by my constituent, Claudia Evart. Ms. Evart has worked tirelessly to promote the observance of Sibling’s Day on April 10th.

Siblings make important contributions to our lives, and often, when our parents have passed away, siblings are our only remaining family. Siblings Day helps us remember the integral role brothers and sisters play in our lives, and it also provides an opportunity to remember siblings who we have lost at an early age.

April 10th marks the birthday of Claudia’s sister, Lisette, who died tragically in 1972 at age 19 in a car accident that also killed their father. An additional tragedy struck in 1987, when Ms. Evart’s older brother, Alan, died in an accident at his home. He was 36 years old.

According to the Siblings Day Foundation, Siblings Day was recently marked in 22 states (Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin); the governor of each of these states proclaimed the 10th of April to be Siblings Day.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the importance of family by saluting the contributions of siblings. I applaud the work of Claudia Evart, who has created a loving tribute to her deceased siblings through her work to establish Siblings Day. Her dedication should serve as an inspiration to us all.

IN CELEBRATION OF NCAA DIVISION II MEN’S BASKETBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, along with my colleague, Representative ERIC CANTOR, I rise with great pride to call attention to a group of young students who have distinguished themselves, their school, their community, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Virginia Union University Panthers men’s basketball team had a remarkable season and we believe the Panthers deserve formal recognition for their accomplishments. On March 26, 2005, the Virginia Union University Panthers won the NCAA Division II Men’s Basketball National Championship. The Panthers completed their 2005 season with an impressive 30–4 record.

To quote from Virginia Union’s hometown newspaper, the Richmond Times-Dispatch, “Those [Virginia Union’s] starters, none over

6–6 or heavier than 223 pounds, carried the Panthers all year past bigger, stronger opponents. . . . It is perhaps the most belabored sports cliché, but when the Panthers looked at each other, they saw a whole greater than the sum of its parts.”

En route to their championship victory in Grand Forks, North Dakota, the Panthers won their second straight CIAA Championship on Saturday, March 5, 2005. Their remarkable season carries on the tradition of championship basketball at Virginia Union, which now has 15 CIAA Championships and three National Championships.

Founded in 1865, Virginia Union University is an Historically Black University dedicated to providing educational equity to African-Americans. Virginia Union welcomes diversity among its faculty and staff as well as its student body. In its founding days, Virginia Union’s academic missions and social visions were ahead of their time. Now, more than a century later, Virginia Union University is still an innovating and inspiring place for college students and scholar athletes.

My colleague ERIC CANTOR and I would like to extend our enthusiastic congratulations to the Virginia Union University players and their families, Coach Robbins and the rest of his coaching staff, Virginia Union alumni, and the entire Virginia Union community for their remarkable accomplishment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call No. 91, had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF HAYS COUNTY SHERIFF DON MONTAGUE

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the important achievements of Hays County Sheriff Don Montague, of my Congressional District.

Don Montague was elected Hays County Sheriff in 1996, and was re-elected in 2000. As a fourth generation Hays County resident, he began his law enforcement career in 1967 when he joined the Highway Patrol and he rose quickly through the ranks of Hays Counties finest. He has served prior posts as a Patrol Officer, Field Deputy, Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Captain. Sheriff Montague was instrumental in forming and commanding the Hays County Drug Task Force.

Under Sheriff Montague’s administration, the sheriff’s department has evolved into a thriving, highly successful, and professional organization with unprecedented personnel and equipment growth. He currently holds a Master Proficiency Certificate and Instructors License with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officers Standards and Education.

Sheriff Montague is a man who believes in the value of community involvement and intervention. He is a past director of the Sheriffs Association of Texas, a past President of the Texas Capital Area Law Enforcement Association, a past President Hays County Criminal Justice Association, a member of the Texas Crime Prevention Association, and member of the Texas Narcotics Officers Association. Don Montague is an example of proactive law enforcement in our communities.

Along with his many contributions to the people of Hays County, Sheriff Don Montague has been married to his lovely wife, Harpie, for 36 years and has 3 children and 5 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Montague has enriched the community with his vision and I am proud to have this opportunity to thank him.

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT RODRIGUEZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Robert Rodriguez who is being honored at the Brooklyn Caribe Lions Club dinner dance as “Mortgage Broker of the Year.”

Robert is a successful mortgage broker who was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico. His father, Higinio Rodriguez, was working for the Brooklyn Navy Yard many years ago when he sent for his wife, Rafaela Santos-Rodriguez and family, including a very young Robert who was three years old.

Robert attended Brooklyn College, majored in psychology and later obtained his real estate mortgage and insurance broker’s licenses. He also served in the U.S. Marine Corps and received an Honorable Discharge.

Among many enterprises, he opened up Sunset Park Real Estate in 1980. It became a very successful and inspirational real estate firm in an up and coming neighborhood. In 1987, he became a founding member and President of the Fifth Avenue Merchants Association in 1987. Later, he was instrumental in converting that association to The Business Improvement District of Sunset Park. During this period, he became (and continues to be) a member of The Bay Ridge Board of Realtor and a member of the New York Association of Mortgage Brokers. Presently, he is President and sole owner of Dinero Mortgage & Funding Corp. located in Sunset Park. By helping people obtain a mortgage, Robert has personally helped many minorities in accomplishing their dreams of obtaining a home for themselves and their loved ones.

Robert is married to Julie Cardinale Rodriguez, a Loan Officer for Countrywide Mortgage. He has three children, Lisa, Robert Jr. and Shelly along with seven grandchildren. Robert is a wonderful example of how hard work and perseverance can lead to success. May this award inspire and encourage him to continue the important work he has already begun.

Mr. Speaker, Robert Rodriguez has been a leader in his community by building a successful business and helping his fellow community members realize their dream of homeownership. As such, he is more than worthy of re-

ceiving our recognition today and the award of Mortgage Broker of the Year. Thus, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

TRIBUTE TO KANSAS CITY, KANSAS, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, DR. RAY DANIELS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Ray Daniels, superintendent of the Kansas City, Kansas, school system, who is retiring after a distinguished career as an educator and administrator.

As superintendent of the Kansas City, Kansas, Public Schools for the last eight years, Dr. Ray Daniels has been called “the model for what superintendents could and should be.” He has devoted his entire professional career to the Kansas City school district.

This distinguished career began at Northwest Junior High School in 1965 where he worked as an English teacher and head boys’ basketball coach. He later joined the faculty at Wyandotte High School and served as head track coach. Dr. Daniels worked his way up as an assistant principal at Wyandotte in 1973 and became Director of Personnel for the school district in 1976. He was named Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Services in 1980.

When appointed superintendent in March 1998, Dr. Daniels immediately worked to close the achievement gap for minority students and students living in poverty, and to correct low student achievement, high dropout rates, unsafe schools, and poor attendance. He is recognized as being ahead of the curve, implementing reforms in his district long before the trend of stronger accountability became popular across the country. Dr. Daniels’ efforts have paid dividends for Kansas City schools and our community. His district continues to see significant progress in reading and math achievement.

He has provided leadership and served on numerous community organizations including the KCK Area Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Wyandotte County, Heart of America Family Services, Cancer Action, the Wyandotte Health Foundation, Metropolitan Lutheran Ministries, and the Downtown KCK Kiwanis Club.

Dr. Daniels has earned the respect and trust of the community as he has led his district in becoming one of the most successful examples of urban school reform in America. The Kansas Association of School Administrators named Dr. Daniels the 2005 Kansas Superintendent of the Year and he was a candidate for the National Superintendent of the Year honor. Dr. Daniels was also named “Educator of the Year” by Young Audiences.

There is probably not a tougher job than serving as a superintendent of an urban school district and not a better person for the job these last eight years than Dr. Ray Daniels.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens and parents of Kansas City, Kansas, I say to Dr. Ray Daniels: thank you for your service to our community and our children. You will be missed!

HONORING THE LIFE AND
CONTRIBUTIONS OF YOGI BHAJAN

SPEECH OF

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 34, honoring the life and contributions of Yogi Bhanjan. Yogi Bhanjan was an extraordinary man of compassion, wisdom and kindness whose teachings have provided immeasurable benefits spiritually, culturally and politically to millions here in the United States and around the world. A master of Kundalini yoga, his love of humanity was so strong that he violated the tradition of secrecy surrounding this practice to bring the healing power of yoga to the troubled American youth of the 1960's by providing a healthy alternative to the drug culture.

Yogi Bhanjan worked tirelessly throughout his life to spread the message that "it is our birthright to be happy, healthy, and holy." He established a Sikh Ministry in the West and motivated thousands to embrace the Sikh way of life. He founded 3HO Superhealth, a drug rehabilitation program based on yogic wisdom and modern technology, a program that has now expanded worldwide. His books, the organizations he founded, and the thousands of teachers he trained will serve as his legacy.

One overriding message of Yogi Bhanjan's teaching is that we are all one people—Sikhs, Christians, Jews, Buddhists—and in my opinion his life stands as a shining example of how an unconditional love of humanity can contribute greatly to the health and well-being of us all.

Mr. Speaker, Yogi Bhanjan requested before his death that his passing be a time of celebration of his going home. I am proud to join my colleagues here in celebrating the life and contributions of Yogi Bhanjan, and celebrate his going home.

RECOGNIZING JULIA HOLT AS
WINNER OF THE 2005 SAFETY
EDUCATION HERO AWARD

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Julia Holt on being awarded the 2005 Safety Education Hero Award. The public safety education she provides to children has proven to be life-saving. She is a true hero in our community and is helping train our young people to be heroes, too.

As Public Education Officer with the Dickson Fire Department, Ms. Holt teaches fire safety lessons at six elementary schools to kids ranging from kindergarten to sixth grade. Although she has only served in that capacity for three years, Ms. Holt was named Tennessee's Fire Educator of the Year in 2004.

In February, 2004, Ms. Holt's Fire safety lessons were put to the test when seven-year-old Dustin Stephens got too close to a living room wall heater and his clothes ignited. Fortunately, Dustin's brothers Ryan and Justin were able to use what Ryan had learned the

week before in Ms. Holt's class. The firefighters responding to their call said Justin's life was saved because of the boys' quick action and their exceptional training.

Ms. Holt is an extraordinary public servant, and she has proven her commitment to ensuring that all children have proper training to respond to emergencies like the one Dustin and his brothers faced. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me today in thanking Ms. Holt for all she does in our community and congratulating her on receiving this distinguished award.

ENDING TAX BREAKS FOR
DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2005

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today we are introducing a bill to end government subsidies for private clubs that discriminate against Americans based on sex, race, or color. The Ending Tax Breaks for Discrimination Act of 2005 makes it illegal to deduct expenses at clubs with discriminatory membership policies. We think it's wrong for corporations to write off big expenditures for entertainment, meetings and advertising at clubs that keep women out on America's dollar. Men play and women pay.

I am joined by my distinguished colleague, Representative BRAD SHERMAN from California. In the early '90s Mr. SHERMAN, as a member of the California tax board, implemented legislation similar to this Act. Since then, other states have followed. The time for the federal government to take a stand and end government-subsidized discrimination is long overdue.

Right now, conventions and meetings are considered legitimate business deductions for corporate income tax purposes, including those held at private clubs that discriminate. Half the price of a business lunch is deductible. But if you're a woman, you subsidize one half of a man's lunch with your taxes, even though you can't join the club.

Augusta and other clubs on par with it are already way out of bounds by discriminating. For taxpayers to have to foot the bill for business conducted under these discriminatory conditions is obscene. This is something that comes into focus every Masters Week, but people need to know they are subsidizing discrimination every day of the year.

Members of these clubs profit—either indirectly through career opportunities and board appointments, or directly through tax deductions. Women can't get these same financial gains—just because they're women. Men get the membership, the deal, the deduction, and women get the bill. Ending Tax Breaks for Discrimination Act of 2005 would put a stop to that. It ends deductions for advertising, travel, accommodation and meals associated with these clubs, and it requires discriminatory clubs to print right on their receipts, "not tax deductible".

This bill is not an attack on deductions for big business. Legitimate tax deductions should continue, but when these deductions support clubs that bar Americans from becoming equal partners, equal players, and equal earners—just because of their sex or race—they are

NOT legitimate. The time for discrimination is over.

TRIBUTE TO WOODSIDE HIGH
SCHOOL WOLVERINES

HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, along with my colleague, Representative JO ANN DAVIS, I rise with great pride to call attention to a group of young students who have distinguished themselves, their school, their community, and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Woodside High School Wolverines boy's basketball team had a remarkable season and we believe the Wolverines deserve formal recognition for their accomplishments. On March 12, 2005, Woodside won its second consecutive Group AAA Boy's Basketball State Championship at the Virginia Commonwealth University Siegel Center in Richmond. The Wolverines completed the 2005 season with a truly impressive record of 30–2.

Established in 1996, Woodside High School is a magnet school specializing in the performing arts. Students must meet rigorous academic requirements, take responsibility for academic progress, behavior and attendance, and they are expected to participate in school and community activities. The Woodside drive for excellence has now been extended into the field of athletics.

With their 2004 and 2005 championship seasons, Woodside has established a new tradition of championship basketball in Newport News. This year the Wolverines were Peninsula District Season and Tournament Champions, and the Eastern Region Champion. Two-time Coach of the Year, John Richardson, has compiled a 59–5 record over the last two years. The Virginia High School Coaches Association also awarded Player of the Year honors to Woodside senior guard, Calvin Baker.

My colleague JO ANN DAVIS and I would like to extend our enthusiastic congratulations to the Woodside High School players and their families, Coach Richardson and the rest of his coaching staff, Woodside High alumni, and the entire Woodside High community for their remarkable accomplishment.

HONORING JIN LEE

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jin Lee for his recent appointment to the Northeastern Illinois University's Board of Trustees. Jin Lee has been an outstanding citizen of the Fifth Congressional District, and he will be a tremendous asset to Northeastern Illinois University as a member of its Board of Trustees.

Prior to this appointment, Mr. Lee's distinguished career included management positions with Ace Young Company, Daewoo International America Corporation, and Lorenzo Import-Export Company. He was also

the Executive Director of the Chicago Korean American Chamber of Commerce and remains a prominent member of the City of Chicago's Human Relations Task Force. In addition, he served on the Asian American Advisory Councils for both the Illinois Secretary of State and the Illinois State Treasurer. Since 1997, Jin Lee has also served as the director of business planning and development for the Albany Park Community Center.

Hard work and determination were the hallmarks of Mr. Lee's early life. When he was 14 years old and without a working knowledge of English, he moved with his family to the United States from South Korea. He quickly mastered the language and subsequently earned a Bachelors degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Mr. Lee's reputation for hard work and determination are widely recognized and respected. He has received numerous honors and awards including Loyola University Chicago's Leadership Certificate, the Illinois Secretary of State's Certificate of Application, and membership in the Asian American Hall of Fame.

As he begins his 4-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees for Northeastern Illinois University, I am confident that Jin Lee will continue to serve the people of the Chicago area with steadfast dedication, just as he has proven in years past.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois and indeed the entire city of Chicago, I thank Jin Lee for his many outstanding contributions to our community. I wish him continued success as he begins a new challenge and extend my heartfelt congratulations on his appointment to the Northeastern Illinois University Board of Trustees. I am proud to represent Mr. Lee and Northeastern Illinois University in the Fifth Congressional district and am confident both he and the university will find their partnership to be mutually productive and rewarding over the next four years and beyond.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF BISHOP SAMUEL EDWARD
IGLEHART

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bishop Samuel Edward Iglehart for his unparalleled dedication to his community, church, and family.

It is rare to find many people who have gone through life so humbly helping others. However Bishop Samuel Edward Iglehart is one of them. Ordained at the age of 31, Bishop Iglehart has gained a great familiarity with the people of his church and community. Whether it is a fellow officer of the church or a small child in need of assistance, serving humanity is always a top priority for Bishop Iglehart. This priority can be seen in the everyday mission of his church, the Childless Memorial Church of God in Christ. Future goals and milestones Bishop Iglehart plans to implement for the Memorial Church consist of providing a daycare and Christian Academy for children, a learning center for adults, and a Christian book store.

Memorial Church has not been the only medium for Bishop Iglehart to serve the community. He is a life-time member of the NAACP and a strong supporter of the United Negro College Fund. For his active community involvement, Bishop Iglehart was inducted into the "Who's Who Society of Outstanding Church Leaders" in May of 1989.

Besides his commitment to the community Bishop Iglehart dearly loves and is dedicated to his family. His wife Glorious Cosey Iglehart and their six children have a very special bond that can stand the test of time.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be given the time to pay reverence to the lifetime of service of Bishop Samuel Edward Iglehart and his lifetime of service.

A TRIBUTE TO THE ESPINAL
FAMILY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the Espinal Family who are being honored at the Brooklyn Caribe Lions Club dinner dance as "Outstanding Family of the Year."

Jose and Agueda Espinal are the parents of this family, and together, they have raised thirteen children in the community of Sunset Park, Brooklyn, New York. Jose and Agueda immigrated from the Dominican Republic in 1977. They hoped to provide a better life and education for their family. Their children are Carmen, Pablo, Pedro, Maria, Julio, Esteban, Andres, Ceferino, Carlos, Bienvenido, Rafael, Mary Carmen and Juan Martin.

All the members of the Espinal Family have established very successful community based businesses. The majority of the children and grandchildren are professionals with degrees in business administration. They are also well known for their generosity to churches, civic and community organizations, which serve the less fortunate and infirm. This distinguished family is an inspiration and a role model to everyone in the community.

May this award inspire and encourage them to continue the important work that they have already begun. The wonderful example of dedication to their fellow community members and commitment to the important value of family has surely made them worthy of this honor.

Mr. Speaker, by raising thirteen successful children and still finding time and money to assist others, the Espinal Family has been a shining example to the community. As such, they are more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and the award of Outstanding Family of the Year. Thus, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

FIFTH ANNUAL MOVERS AND
SHAKERS AWARDS OF THE VOL-
UNTEER CENTER OF JOHNSON
COUNTY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note an important event in the Third Congressional District of Kansas. On April 18, 2005, the Volunteer Center of Johnson County in Overland Park, Kansas, will honor outstanding youth volunteers. Seventy-one young people have been nominated by school personnel and nonprofit organizations for their dedication and service to the community. Youth volunteerism continues to grow and be a strong force in Johnson County. These 71 youths exemplify the true meaning of volunteerism and giving back to their community. It is my honor to recognize each student volunteer, their school, their age, number of hours volunteered, and their hometown by listing them in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Molly Allison-Gallimore, Home School, 15, 500+, Spring Hill, KS.

Kirsten Amble, Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, 17, 150, Shawnee, KS.

Brett Beyer, Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, 18, 350, Lake Quivira, KS.

Cheryl Bornheimer, Shawnee Mission West High School, 18, 100, Shawnee Mission, KS.

Brea Buchanan, Olathe East High School, 16, 217, Olathe, KS.

Jessie Bullock, Notre Dame de Sion, 16, 130, Stilwell, KS.

Meghan Burrow, Shawnee Mission South High School, 18, Gold, Overland Park, KS.

Clayton Calder, Olathe South High School, 18, 284, Olathe, KS.

Jenna Christensen, Shawnee Mission North High School, 16, 70, Overland Park, KS.

Jill Christensen, Shawnee Mission North High School, 14, Bronze, Overland Park, KS.

Brittany Clark, Mill Valley High School, 17, 200, Shawnee, KS.

Michael Cobb, Blue Valley High School, 18, 240, Stilwell, KS.

Michelle Cook, Shawnee Mission West High School, 17, 120, Lenexa, KS.

Christopher Connell, Shawnee Mission West High School, 15, Silver, Lenexa, KS.

David Dolginow, Pembroke Hill, 18, 100, Shawnee Mission, KS.

Marissa Dorau, Shawnee Mission West High School, 18, 90, Shawnee Mission, KS.

Morgan Fasbinder, Blue Valley Northwest High School, 17, 50, Overland Park, KS.

Kate Garrett, Shawnee Mission West High School, 16, Gold, Lenexa, KS.

Kevin Garrett, Westridge Middle School, 13, Bronze, Lenexa, KS.

James Geary, Blue Valley Middle School, 12, 63, Overland Park, KS.

Lindsey Gerber, Oregon Trail Junior High, 14, 250, Olathe, KS.

Josh Gordon, Blue Valley North High School, 17, 110, Leawood, KS.

Maggie Gremminger, Mill Valley High School, 17, 165, Shawnee, KS.

Luke Hays, Oxford Middle School, 12, 81, Overland Park, KS.

Kristen Heath, Mill Valley High School, 17, 110, Shawnee, KS.

Samantha Hewitt, Shawnee Mission West High School, 17, 350, Lenexa, KS.

Bethany Hileman, Oxford Middle School, 12, 68, Overland Park, KS.

Mallory Howlett, Shawnee Mission Northwest High School, 18, 300, Shawnee, KS.

Ellen Jorgenson, Shawnee Mission North High School, 17, 150, Shawnee, KS.

Adam Kenne, Gardner-Edgerton High School, 16, 110, Gardner, KS.

Becky Kenton, Mill Valley High School, 18, 225, Shawnee, KS.

Hunter Kiely, Blue Valley West High School, 16, 150, Overland Park, KS.

Jenny Kim, Shawnee Mission South High School, 17, 120, Overland Park, KS.

Danielle Kopp, St. Thomas Aquinas, 15, 92, Leawood, KS.

Kelly Kutchko, Shawnee Mission North High School, 16, 75, Merriam, KS.

Andrew Lacy, Blue Valley Northwest High School, 18, 200, Overland Park, KS.

Max Lehman, Blue Valley High School, 16, 250, Leawood, KS.

Ethan Levine, Pleasant Ridge Middle School, 14, 250, Overland Park, KS.

Emily Limpic, Shawnee Mission East High School, 17, 75, Shawnee Mission, KS.

Blake Lindsay, Olathe South High School, 18, 100, Olathe, KS.

John Liu, Blue Valley High School, 16, 262, Overland Park, KS.

Magdalena May, Olathe North High School, 15, 300, Olathe, KS.

Greg May, Olathe North High School, 17, 300, Olathe, KS.

Emily Minion, Blue Valley West High School, 18, 155, Overland Park, KS.

Jennifer Moore, Shawnee Mission North High School, 17, 150, Overland Park, KS.

Josh Morgan, Gardner-Edgerton High School, 16, 135, Olathe, KS.

Kate Motter, Shawnee Mission West High School, 17, 300, Shawnee Mission, KS.

Rhea Muchalla, Shawnee Mission North High School, 17, 50, Shawnee, KS.

Caroline Mueller, St. Thomas Aquinas, 15, 75, Leawood, KS.

Katheryn Mueller, St. Thomas Aquinas, 17, 100, Leawood, KS.

Lindsay Murphy, Olathe South High School, 18, 265, Olathe, KS.

Katie Murray, Blue Valley North High School, 17, 325, Leawood, KS.

Kasey Nelson, St. Thomas Aquinas, 18, 100, Overland Park, KS.

Hannah Oberkrom, Shawnee Mission West High School, 18, 90, Shawnee, KS.

Miranda Oley, Pioneer Trail Junior High, 14, 10, Olathe, KS.

Jessica Pohl, Blue Valley Northwest High School, 100, 100, Overland Park, KS.

Justin Pohl, Blue Valley Northwest High School, 75, 75, Overland Park, KS.

Ashley Racca, Olathe North High School, 18, 100+, Olathe, KS.

Justice Randolph, Shawnee Mission South High School, 16, 100, Overland Park, KS.

Jennifer Ray, Spring Hill High School, 17, 80, Olathe, KS.

Kelly Regan, Blue Valley West High School, 15, 100, Overland Park, KS.

Brendan Reilly, St. Thomas Aquinas, 18, 200, Overland Park, KS.

Chris Rhodes, Spring Hill High School, 17, 300, Spring Hill, KS.

Cassie Rhodes, Spring Hill Middle School, 14, 200, Spring Hill, KS.

Amber Lynn Roan, Shawnee Mission North High School, 17, 158, Shawnee, KS.

Amy Schneider, Olathe South High School, 18, 165, Olathe, KS.

Amanda Sherraden, Olathe South High School, 18, 159, Olathe, KS.

Stephen Stahl, Home School, 16, 110, Overland Park, KS.

Jonathan Stahl, Home School, 16, 110, Overland Park, KS.

Nate White, Home School, 16, 175, Leawood, KS.

Mary Zima, Notre Dame de Sion, 17, 60, Leawood, KS.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND TSUNAMI RELIEF, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1268) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes:

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Chairman, while I will support the bill before the House today, I will do so with deep and serious reservations.

In October of 2002, I cast an important vote to deny the President authorization to send American troops into Iraq to strike unilaterally. I thought then, and I know now, that his actions were not the best course for our nation.

One year later in October of 2003, I made yet another testing decision to oppose legislation, which on the one hand allocated \$87 billion to support American operations in Iraq but on the other hand lacked accountability for these taxpayer dollars and placed the mounting cost of rebuilding Iraq and Afghanistan squarely on the shoulders of our children and grandchildren.

The apprehensions I had then about sending America's sons and daughters into harm's way in Iraq and about signing a blank check for this military adventure, have now materialized. Congress is now attempting to address the glaring consequences of an ill-advised, preemptive and unilateral military action through this third emergency supplemental appropriation of \$81.4 billion. To date—and I say "to date" because there is no end in sight—President Bush has directed over \$275 billion of taxpayers' monies away from schools, healthcare, Social Security, and the like to pay for his decision to go to war in Iraq.

Today we know that President Bush's premise for commencing a war against Iraq—the alleged weapons of mass destruction possessed by Saddam Hussein—was not true.

The Bush Administration's confident prediction of a quick and easy victory followed by a quick return home for our troops has become a nightmare. And now the Administration refuses to commit to a time-table for the withdrawal of our troops from Iraq.

The Bush Administration's estimate that reconstruction in Iraq would cost between \$1 and \$2 billion and could be financed by Iraqi oil revenues has now turned into a reconstruction quagmire. We hear more about military contractor Halliburton's billing excesses and contract abuses than about any re-built school or hospital.

In terms of accountability, the Inspector General has reported that almost \$9 billion in funds designated for reconstruction efforts have been mishandled and remain unaccounted for. The FY 2005 Defense Appropriations Act passed in July of 2004 instructed the Department of Defense to submit two accountability reports to Congress, one by October 31, 2004 and the other by January 1, 2005. In these reports, the Pentagon must provide a comprehensive review of all military oper-

ations, including reconstruction and military readiness, and provide detailed cost estimates for these operations. Congress has yet to receive either report or any concrete information about the future costs of this war.

I still do not believe that our troops should have been in Iraq under these conditions, facing these obstacles virtually alone, fighting battles for which the Pentagon did not properly plan or prepare. But with over 150,000 of America's brave men and women still in Iraq, it would be difficult to cast a vote against providing the much-needed funds that this supplemental provides to them. Far too many of our soldiers have died and remain in harm's way because of their superiors' miscalculations. As long as our troops remain in harm's way, it is our duty to provide them all of the equipment, tools, vehicles, weapons, and benefits that they need and deserve to protect themselves and give democracy a chance in Iraq.

Democrats have fought hard to include accountability measures in this legislation, to extract from it extraneous and unnecessary projects, and to focus America's precious taxpayer dollars on resources for our nation's veterans and troops. This bill, unlike previous Bush Administration requests, allocates the dollars for armor and equipment that our troops on the ground need if they must patrol the streets and roads of Iraq. Democrats also fought hard to cure deficiencies in the bill which put at risk increased death benefits and life insurance for the families of our fallen soldiers.

Unfortunately, despite \$9 billion of unaccounted funds, an amendment by Mr. TIERNEY of Massachusetts that would have provided \$5 million to establish a select committee to investigate reconstruction efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan was defeated by my Republican colleagues. The Bush Administration, it seems, will continue to spend money without adequate oversight and accountability.

Additionally, the bill includes funding for extraneous non-emergency projects that would more properly be addressed through the regular appropriations process. While some of these projects were removed on the House floor through the amendment process, funding for unrelated military construction and \$4.6 billion for an Army "transformation" plan remain.

Most blatant of all the extraneous provisions are those of H.R. 418, the REAL ID Act, which the Republican procedural rule has allowed to be attached to this supplemental following its passage. The immigration policies of our nation deserve a proper and thorough debate, and legislation that provides emergency funding for our troops, for humanitarian aid, and for foreign assistance is not the appropriate vehicle to enact the sweeping, controversial immigration policy embodied in HR 418.

I will support H.R. 1268 because of the critical funds and resources that it provides to our troops and their families. However, as this bill moves forward I will work with my colleagues to ensure that my concerns are addressed in the final version of the bill that comes back for final approval after joint House and Senate consideration. I do not foreclose the possibility of voting against the final version of this legislation should it come back in a form departing further from its core purpose of focusing on our men and women in uniform. These are the tough decisions, and they must be made in the best interest of the American people.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF HAYS COUNTY COMMISSIONER
WILL CONLEY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hays County Commissioner Will Conley for his contributions to the community.

Will Conley was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana and then went on to attend high school in Houston, Texas. After graduating from high school, Conley spent one year ranching and outfitting in Uvalde, Texas before attending Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. During his college tenure, Conley was involved in the Student Body Council, South West Texas Ducks Unlimited and Pi Sigma Alpha. Conley graduated in 2000 with a degree in Political Science and a minor in Business.

After receiving his bachelor's degree, Will demonstrated his entrepreneurship abilities when he founded Conley Enterprise Incorporated and the environmentally conscious business of Conley Carwash and Detail. It was working with Conley Carwash and Detail that Will's concern for the environment shown through with the company's policy of recycling 85 percent of the water used for operations. Over the years, Conley's companies have received numerous awards for environmental-soundness such as the Water Efficiency Achievement Award.

After producing great results as an entrepreneur, Conley became the youngest elected County Commissioner of Hays County in 2004. As County Commissioner, Conley has promised to work for the improvement of Hays County by focusing on economic development and instilling a more fiscally responsible policy when it comes to the appropriating of tax payer's dollars. During his short time in office, he has already shown the results he has been known for; he has improved road conditions, extended park development and done so much for the better of Hays County.

Mr. Speaker, Will Conley has a rare youthful spirit that is dedicated to improving Hays County's quality of life for its citizens and I feel greatly privileged to recognize his accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND DOCTOR
WILLIAM RAYMOND WHITAKER,
JR.

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Reverend Doctor William Raymond Whitaker, Jr., in recognition of his dedication to his church and community.

Reverend Doctor William Raymond Whitaker, Jr., was born in Newport News, Virginia on November 12, 1959. The Whitaker family moved shortly thereafter to Brooklyn, New York. Dr. Whitaker is a product of the Bedford Stuyvesant Tompkins Project community. He attended Carter G. Woodson Public School 23, Mark Hopkins Junior High School

33, Fort Hamilton High School and graduated from the former Eastern District High School. Furthering his education, he attended Adelphi Academy, majoring in Business. Pastor Whitaker obtained his Bachelor of Theology degree from Community Bible Institute in Brooklyn in May 1999 and his Master of Theology from Chelsea University in London, England, where he graduated with the highest academic distinction, *summa cum laude*, in May 2004. On October 4, 2004, the Hope for All Bible College bestowed upon Reverend Whitaker the Honorary Doctorate of Divinity degree.

Dr. Whitaker was called to the Ministry at the young age of 16 and preached his initial sermon in October 1976 under the leadership of Reverend Joseph Stiff, Jr., of Bethel Church of God in Christ. He served faithfully as an usher, choir member and Sunday school student. In June 1985, he was licensed by Greater Free Gift and ordained in November 1986. On December 13, 1994, Rev. Whitaker was called by the Lord to serve as Pastor of the Greater Free Gift Baptist Church and since then, the ministry has and continues to multiply. He preaches the Word of God in a manner that can be applied to everyday life.

Dr. Whitaker answered yet another call on his life, which was to establish the Greater Free Gift Bible Institute where he diligently shares his knowledge and wisdom as president and teacher. Under the leadership of this great visionary, hundreds have been blessed, encouraged, inspired and delivered. He continues to lead the Greater Free Gift Baptist Church to make even greater strides in its growth and development, including the formation of the Drama and Dance Ministry and "Serenity on Stockton Street." Rev. Whitaker's sole desire is to help people reach their ultimate potential spirituality by developing a personal relationship with God.

In addition to being dynamic preacher and teacher, Pastor Whitaker is a world-renowned vocalist. He has recorded songs with legendary gospel artists such as "The Godfather of Gospel" Elder Timothy Wright and performed throughout the world including in Paris, France. His commitment to the community is evident by his service as the Former Chair of Evangelism for the Eastern Region of the Progressive National Baptist Convention and his involvement in the National Baptist Convention Housing Staff USA, Inc. He is the former Vice-Chairman of the Board of Trustees, former Director of the Music Department of the New York Missionary Baptist Association as well as the former Ecumenical Director to Congressman ED TOWNS. Additional community affiliations include Central Brooklyn Churches, Police Benevolent Association, 303 Vernon Board of Managers and AIDS Awareness seminar (graduate of ARRIVE where he received his license as counselor). He also serves as a mentor to the students at IS 33.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Doctor William Raymond Whitaker, Jr., has dedicated his life to his church and 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.

PASSING OF FRED T. KOREMATSU

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my fellow California Representatives MIKE HONDA, BARBARA LEE, DORIS MATSUI, and PETE STARK, I rise today to pay tribute to a true champion of the civil rights movement, Fred Korematsu. Mr. Korematsu passed away on March 30, 2005 at the age of 86.

As a Japanese American facing internment during World War II, Fred Korematsu challenged government authorities by standing up for his rights as an American citizen and refusing to back down. He has earned a place in American history among our most determined fighters for justice. We will miss him greatly.

Born in Oakland, California in 1919 to Japanese immigrants, Fred Korematsu's early life was similar to many other hard-working Americans. He held a job as a welder in the San Francisco shipyards and had dreams of getting married and starting a family. Two months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, however, his dreams were suddenly taken away.

Under baseless fears of Japanese American disloyalty, Executive Order 9066 was signed, authorizing the removal of more than 120,000 Americans of Japanese descent from their homes along the West Coast to guarded camps in the interior of the United States. It displaced families and uprooted entire communities.

On May 30, 1942, Fred Korematsu was jailed for evading authorities. He was sent to Topaz Internment Camp in Utah for 2 years. He bravely filed a lawsuit against the U.S. government, and took his case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. The Supreme Court, however, unjustly declared that the internment of Japanese Americans was necessary in a time of war and that allegations of racism by the government were unfounded. Mr. Korematsu, though, did not give up, and, 40 years later, he was vindicated in a ruling by the Federal District Court in San Francisco.

Mr. Korematsu's dedication to protect civil rights did not end with his own exoneration. His courage prompted lawmakers to right the wrongs committed against Japanese Americans during World War II, and in 1988, an official apology and reparations were issued by the government. His work was recognized in 1998 when President Clinton awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks, Mr. Korematsu continued to fight the backlash against Arab, Muslim, and Middle Eastern communities, recounting his own struggle against discrimination.

Today, we honor Fred Korematsu for his courage and recognize him as a symbol of justice, determination, and the true American spirit. His passing leaves the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities with a profound sense of loss.

I hope it is a comfort to his family and friends that so many people share their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

COMMEMORATING THE GREEK
REVOLUTION OF 1821

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the Greek Revolution of 1821, which marked the beginning of a protracted struggle fought and eventually on by a people firmly committed to achieving freedom for themselves and liberation for their country.

It is a day that bears personal significance to—and instills pride in—generations of Greek Americans, who still feel a strong sense of nationalism toward Greece even though they or their ancestors may have moved away long ago.

Furthermore, irrespective of ethnicity, I believe it is a day of particular importance to all Americans, as we share a special kinship with the people of Greece. Whenever we promote democracy, civil liberties, and the principles of self-determination, we pay testament to our countries' shared values.

Mr. Speaker, on this occasion, I also rise to welcome the honorable Mayor of Messina, Messina, Greece, Christos Christopoulos, to the City of Peabody. On March 23, 2005, in a gesture of solidarity, Mayor Christopoulos and Peabody's Mayor Michael Bonfanti signed a sister-city pact. I extend my congratulations to the mayors, the Saint Vasilios Greek Orthodox Church community, and all Greek Americans of Peabody, many of whom descend from Messina, on this important event.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF ALDERWOMAN HILDA
CALVILLO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alderwoman Hilda Calvillo for her public service to the city of Charlotte, Texas.

Hilda Calvillo was born, raised, and educated in the city of Charlotte. As an active participant in local events, she understands the specific needs of her community.

As the first woman to ever be elected, Mrs. Calvillo has served in her city as Alderwoman since 1999. She spends much of her time working in school functions and focusing on local community projects. Having graduated from local schools, she works passionately to ensure that quality education is kept a priority.

Also working to keep our communities beautiful, Hilda Calvillo has recently been instrumental in the recent building of a Charlotte city park.

Hilda Calvillo lives in Charlotte with her husband. She has three children and two grandchildren. Mrs. Calvillo and her family enjoy sports and spending time with the rest of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply proud to have this opportunity to recognize Alderwoman Hilda Calvillo of Charlotte for her dedicated public service.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF ALDERMAN BUDDY LEE
DAUGHTRY

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize alderman Buddy Lee Daughtry for his public service to the city of Charlotte, Texas.

Buddy Lee Daughtry is a hard working alderman in the City of Charlotte. Raised on a small farm, Mr. Daughtry is a family man who continues to help his parents whenever the need arises. While in high school he won numerous awards in science, and later graduated from Charlotte ISD.

Working for the prison system, Buddy Lee Daughtry works tirelessly to keep our streets safe. He has served the city of Charlotte as Alderman for the past eight years and has been involved in numerous local programs. It is important to recognize the contributions of citizens like Buddy Lee Daughtry. Their hard work has vastly improved our local communities.

Buddy Lee Daughtry lives with his wife Karen in Charlotte and enjoys spending time with his family. Their daughter studies at A&M Commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply proud to have this opportunity to recognize Alderman Buddy Lee Daughtry of Charlotte for his dedicated public service.

SIKHS ABOUT TO CELEBRATE
VAISAKHI DAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, April 13, which is the birthday of Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, is Vaisakhi Day for the Sikhs. I wish all the Sikhs around the world a happy Vaisakhi Day.

Vaisakhi Day is the anniversary of the day in 1699 when Guru Gobind Singh, the last of the ten Sikh Gurus, created the Khalsa Panth. At that time, he said, "I give sovereignty to the humble Sikhs." Yet over 300 years later, they still struggle for that sovereignty while they suffer under severe repression from "the world's largest democracy."

More than 250,000 Sikhs have been murdered at the hands of the Indian government, according to figures compiled by the Punjab State Magistracy. The Movement Against State Repression reports that 52,268 Sikhs are being held as political prisoners under the repressive TADA law. How can this happen in a democracy?

Sikhs have an opportunity this Vaisakhi Day to reclaim their sovereignty. In January, 35 Sikhs were arrested for simply raising the Sikh flag and making speeches in support of Khalistan, the Sikh homeland that declared its independence on October 7, 1987. Political leaders are coming out for Khalistan. All of India's efforts to suppress the Sikhs sovereignty movement have just given it new life.

What can we do to support this worthy cause? We should stop our aid and trade with

India as long as it continues to kill ethnic minorities, hold political prisoners, and engage in other wholesale violations of the most basic human rights. We should go on record in support of self-determination in the form of a free and fair plebiscite on independence in Khalistan, in Kashmir, in Nagaland, and wherever the people are seeking freedom. These measures will help bring a new glow of freedom to all people in the subcontinent.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to place the Council of Khalistan's Vaisakhi Day message into the RECORD for the information of my colleagues.

VAISAKHI DAY SHOULD BE CELEBRATED IN
FREEDOM

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family and friends and all Sikhs a Happy Vaisakhi Day. As you know, Vaisakhi Day is the anniversary of the founding of the Khalsa. On Vaisakhi Day in 1699, Guru Gobind Singh baptized the Sikhs and required them to keep the five Ks. He made the Sikhs into saints and soldiers, giving the blessing "In grieb Sikhin ko deon Patshahi" ("I give sovereignty to the humble Sikhs.") Just two years after his departure from this earthly plane in 1708, the Sikhs established our own independent state in Punjab.

Today we struggle to regain the sovereignty that Guru Gobind Singh bestowed upon us over 300 years ago. Yet the Jathedar of the Akal Takht, Joginder Singh Vedanti, was quoted as saying that "We don't want a separate territory." Does Jathedar Vedanti, like every other Sikh, pray "Raj Kare Ga Khalsa" ("the Khalsa shall rule") every morning and evening? Has he forgotten our heritage of freedom? How can the spiritual leader of the Sikh religion deny the Sikh Nation's legitimate aspiration for freedom and sovereignty? Is he not stung by the words of one of his predecessors, former AkalTakht Jathedar Professor Darshan Singh, who said, "If a Sikh is not a Khalistani, he is not a Sikh"? Is Akal Takht occupied by a person who does not believe in Sikh values and Sikh aspirations?

The flame of freedom continues to burn brightly in the heart of the Sikh Nation. No force can suppress it. On Republic Day, Sikh leaders raised the Sikh flag in Amritsar and made speeches in support of Khalistan. 35 Sikhs were arrested for raising the Kesri Nishan. Eleven of them continue to be held and they have been denied bail. Is this the freedom that Guru Gobind Singh bestowed upon us? Is this the "glow of freedom" that Nehru promised us when Master Tara Singh and the Sikh leaders of the time chose to take our share with India?

Punjab's Chief Minister, Captain Amarinder Singh, was declared a hero of the Sikh Nation for asserting Punjab's sovereignty and preserving Punjab's natural resource, its river water, for the use of Punjab farmers by cancelling Punjab's water agreements. In so doing, Amarinder Singh and the Legislative Assembly explicitly declared the sovereignty of the state of Punjab. In December former Member of Parliament Simranjit Singh Mann again reverted to public support of Khalistan. He pledged that his party will lead a peaceful movement to liberate Khalistan. Obviously, Mr. Mann is aware of the rising support of our cause. Mann joins Sardar Atinder Pal Singh, Sardar D.S. Gill of the International Human Rights Organization, and other Sikh leaders in Punjab in supporting freedom for Khalistan openly. Jagjit Singh, President of Dal Khalsa, was quoted in the Deccan Herald as saying that "the Indian government can never suppress the movement. Sikh aspirations can only be met when they have a separate state." There is no other choice for the

Sikh nation but a sovereign, independent Khalistan. Every Sikh leader must come out openly for Khalistan. We salute those Sikh leaders in Punjab who have done so.

Any organization that sincerely supports Khalistan deserves the support of the Sikh Nation. However, the Sikh Nation needs leadership that is honest, sincere, consistent, and dedicated to the cause of Sikh freedom. Leaders like Dr. Jagjit Singh Chohan, Harchand Singh Longowal, Didar Bains, Ganga Singh Dhillon, the Akali Dal leadership, and others who were complicit in the attack on the Golden Temple cannot be trusted by the Sikh Nation. The evidence against them is clear in Chakravayuh: Web of Indian Secularism. The Sikh Nation cannot believe that these leaders will not betray the cause of Khalistan, just as they betrayed the Sikh Nation in 1984. We must be careful if we are to continue to move the cause of freedom for Khalistan forward in 2005 as we did in 2004.

The Akali Dal conspired with the Indian government in 1984 to invade the Golden Temple to murder Sant Bhindranwale and 20,000 other Sikh during June 1984 in Punjab. Even the Pope spoke out strongly against this invasion and desecration of our most sacred shrine. How can these so-called Sikh leaders connive with the people who carried it out? If Sikhs will not even protect the sanctity of the Golden Temple, how can the Sikh Nation survive as a nation?

The Akali Dal has lost all its credibility. The Badal government was so corrupt openly and no Akali leader would come forward and tell Badal and his wife to stop this unparalleled corruption.

If Jathedar Vedanti opposes freedom and sovereignty for the Sikh Nation, then he is not fit to sit in Akal Takht, in the seat of the Khalsa Panth. The Sikh Nation should have a Jathedar who is committed to sovereignty.

The Council of Khalistan has stood strongly and consistently for liberating our homeland, Khalistan, from Indian occupation. For over 18 years we have led this fight while others were trying to divert the resources and the attention of the Sikh Nation away from the issue of freedom in a sovereign, independent Khalistan. Khalistan is the only way that Sikhs will be able to live in freedom, peace, prosperity, and dignity. It is time to start a Shantmai Morcha to liberate Khalistan from Indian occupation.

The Akal Takht Sahib and Darbar Sahib are under the control of the Indian government, the same Indian government that has murdered more than a quarter of a million Sikhs in the past twenty years. The Jathedar of the Akal Takht and the head granthi of Darbar Sahib toe the line that the Indian government tells them. They are not appointed by the Khalsa Panth. Otherwise they would behave like a real Jathedar, Jathedar Gurdev Singh Kaunke, rather than like Indian government puppet Jathedar Aroor Singh, who gave a Siropa to General Dyer for the massacre of Sikhs and others at Jallianwala Bagh. These institutions will remain under the control of the Indian regime until we free the Sikh homeland, Punjab, Khalistan, from Indian occupation and oppression and sever our relations with the New Delhi government.

The Sikhs in Punjab have suffered enormous repression at the hands of the Indian regime in the last 25 years. Over 50,000 Sikh youth were picked up from their houses, tortured, murdered in police custody, then secretly cremated as "unidentified bodies." Their remains were never even given to their families! Another 52,268 are being held as political prisoners. Some have been in illegal custody since 1984! Even now, the capital of Punjab, Chandigarh, has not been handed

over to Punjab, but remains a Union Territory. How can Sikhs have any freedom living under a government that would do these things?

Sikhs will never get any justice from Delhi. The leaders in Delhi are only interested in imposing Hindu sovereignty over all the minorities to advance their own careers and their own power. Ever since independence, India has mistreated the Sikh Nation, starting with Patel's memo labelling Sikhs "a criminal tribe." What a shame for Home Minister Patel and the Indian government to issue this memorandum when the Sikh Nation gave over 80 percent of the sacrifices to free India.

How can Sikhs continue to live in such a country? There is no place for Sikhs in supposedly secular, supposedly democratic India. Let us make Viasakhi Day a day of freedom. Let us dedicate ourselves this Vaisakhi Day to living up to the blessing of Guru Gobind Singh. Let us take the occasion of Vaisakhi Day to begin to shake ourselves loose from the yoke of Indian oppression and liberate our homeland, Khalistan, so that all Sikhs may live lives of prosperity, freedom, and dignity.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. BETH
FREEMAN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished public servant of Alabama's Third Congressional District.

Mrs. Beth Freeman, hired just two months after she turned 18, has worked for the people of Alabama for more than 30 years. Over her career she has progressed from answering phones and clipping newspaper articles to handling nearly every issue addressed by the Federal government, from military affairs to Social Security.

She has been a faithful and non-partisan public servant, having served with the four most recent officials representing this office, including the late Congressman Bill Nichols; Congressman Glenn Browder; and then-Congressman Riley.

While I have only known 'Ms. Beth' since taking office in 2002, in that short time I have developed a deep appreciation for her hard work and dedication to the people of Alabama. Families and seniors across this district have called upon her expertise for years, and relied upon her persistence to get their problems solved. She will be missed here in this office, and across East Alabama.

Beth, on behalf of the citizens of Alabama's Third Congressional District, thank you for your service to our state. We wish you all the best in your retirement.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE
HON. HOWELL HEFLIN

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I

rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Senator Howell Heflin was a devoted family man and dedicated public servant throughout his entire life, someone who devoted nearly a quarter-century in public service to the residents of Alabama.

Born on June 19, 1921, the son of Reverend and Mrs. Marvin Heflin, Senator Heflin was a native of Poulan, Georgia, and spent his childhood moving from one Alabama community to another before his family settled in Colbert County. He was a 1942 graduate of Birmingham-Southern College. Within a short time following his graduation, he joined the United States Marine Corps and served during World War II in the Pacific Theater of Operations. He was wounded twice during his service and was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action before being discharged in 1946. Following the completion of his military obligations, he enrolled in the law school at the University of Alabama and graduated from that institution in 1948.

From 1948 until 1970, Senator Heflin worked as a prosecuting attorney in the City of Tusculumbia before winning election as Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court. For the next six years, he served with distinction on the court and is known for many accomplishments during that time, including implementing large reforms of the state court system that eliminated years of backlogged cases. He earned so much respect for his work as Chief Justice that, even after having been elected to the United States Senate, friends, colleagues, and admirers continued to refer to him as "The Judge."

First elected to the Senate in 1978, Senator Heflin served with distinction for 18 years and ably represented the interests of all Alabamians. During his three terms, he served most notably as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and as both chairman and vice chairman of the Senate Ethics Committee, a position he held for 12 years. Additionally, he served as a member of that body's Agriculture Committee and was a strong and able advocate for the interests of Alabama's agricultural community.

During his three terms in Congress, Senator Heflin developed a reputation of working with his colleagues to find common ground on numerous issues, and always with the best interests of his constituents at heart. Many times, he put partisanship aside to support issues for which he saw great benefit, but which others were actively working to oppose. And while his personal views tended towards the conservative end of the spectrum on defense and financial matters, he was more progressive on social issues. In fact, two African-American federal judges from Alabama, U.W. Clemon of Birmingham and Myron Thompson of Montgomery, were both championed by Senator Heflin.

In an article appearing in the Mobile Register following the senator's death, former Alabama Congressman Sonny Callahan was quoted as saying, "He was always there for us when we needed him. We had common goals for Alabama and worked towards those goals." Perhaps these words more than many others spoken in the days following his passing are an accurate summation of the tremendous work completed during his long career and of the faith and trust he in turn earned from his constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated public servant and long-time advocate for the state of Alabama, a man whose significant impact and dedication to the needs and interests of his constituents will be felt for many years to come. Senator Heflin will be deeply missed by his family—his wife, Elizabeth Ann Heflin, his son, Tom Heflin, and his two grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind. Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

FALL RIVER HERALD NEWS
SALUTES CDBG

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, 23 years ago, when Congressional Districts in Massachusetts were changed, one of the first issues I worked on involving the newer parts of my district concerned the Community Development Block Grant Program for the City of Fall River. Working with then Mayor Carlton Viveiros, I was successful in preserving parts of the CDBG Program in Fall River that were being threatened by legislative changes. And in the years since then, Fall River has continued to be a national exemplar of how this program works for the benefit of our constituents.

On Friday, April 1, the newspaper of Fall River, the Herald News, ran an excellent editorial, which testifies both to the value of the CDBG Program nationally, and to the good work that people have done administering it in Fall River. As the editorial eloquently pointed out, "Allowing a community's water mains to decay does nothing to foster self-reliance. An 80-year-old widow on a small pension, living alone, will probably not be lured from the paths of righteousness if she receives some help paying her heating bills." As the Herald News notes, CDBG funds in Fall River "are a good example of tax money being put to a variety of concrete uses that directly benefit people." Given that we are now in a national debate on this program in response to the President's proposal substantially to reduce it and reorganize it, I ask that the very thoughtful editorial by the Fall River Herald News be printed here.

The most common (and often misguided) gripe about government is that you pay your taxes and you never see your money at work.

In fact, it is popular to believe that government spends its entire budget on "pork barrel" projects of the "how do butterflies fly" variety.

This kind of thinking is so enshrined in the American consciousness that no one really believes government ever does anything useful with taxpayer dollars.

That's not true.

Witness the Community Development Block Grant Program. That program brings about \$5 million to Fall River every year. That \$5 million is not spent on pork.

Money from CDBG funding puts police officers on foot beats, helps poor elderly people pay their utilities and has helped relined miles of city water pipes.

Does that sound like pork to you?

At a recent press conference, Fall River Mayor Edward M. Lambert Jr. spoke strongly about the need to preserve the CDBG program.

Lambert said the program is threatened by an initiative aimed at rolling a number of similar programs together, cutting funding and handing control over to the Department of Commerce. The Department of Housing and Urban Development has always administered CDBG programs.

Frankly, any threat to CDBG money is a threat to Fall River.

Of course, numerous people will say that the cutting of another "entitlement" program is a good thing, that "self-reliance" needs to be encouraged.

It's difficult to see what these people mean. Allowing a community's water mains to decay does nothing to foster self-reliance. An 80-year-old widow on a small pension, living alone, will probably not be lured from the paths of righteousness if she receives some help paying her heating bills.

In Fall River, Community Development Block Grants are a good example of tax money being put to a variety of concrete uses that directly benefit people.

That kind of government program deserves to continue on a steady course.

HUMANITARIAN FOOD AND
MEDICINE EXPORT ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation that will remove current, and prohibit future, embargoes on the export of food, medicine, or medical devices. Embargoes on these items, as we have seen time and time again, do not have the desired policy effect on the targeted country. In fact, they only punish the innocent and most vulnerable people in these countries. Does anyone believe that denying the people of a foreign country food or medicine because of our quarrel with their leader will make them more sympathetic toward the United States? We are fond of talking about "humanitarian" treatment in foreign countries. But it is our policy of embargoing the export of food and medicine to certain countries that is most un-humanitarian. We need to practice what we preach.

Also, it is very important to remember the harm we do to our own citizens when we deny them the right to sell their products to whoever they like. It is not very humanitarian to deny our own citizens the right to their livelihood because our political leadership does not get along with the political leadership of another country.

Mr. Speaker, we do ourselves no favors in denying our citizens the right to export the essentials for life to citizens abroad. And we do no real harm to leaders abroad, who actually benefit by our sanction policies, as they provide a convenient scapegoat for their own economic failures. The fact is that trade promotes peace. Forcibly cutting off trade relations with another country promotes militarism and conflict.

I hope my colleagues will join me by co-sponsoring this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE AND THEIR PRESIDENT, VIKTOR YUSHCHENKO

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the Ukrainian people and their President, Viktor Yushchenko. President Yushchenko's election last fall marked a powerful triumph of popular will over the forces of fraud and repression. Mr. Yushchenko's vision of the Ukraine, shared in his address to Congress this week, is an inspiration to freedom loving men and women in Eastern Europe and across the globe.

Through the power of peaceful protest, the government of the Ukraine embraced the forces of freedom last fall, conducting free elections for the first time in over eight decades. The world watched as nearly 80 percent of eligible Ukrainian voters turned out to cast ballots on December 26, 2004. This remarkable participation is a measure of the collective courage of the Ukraine people, many of whom voted despite threats to their personal safety and employment.

President Yushchenko himself carries visual scars, a tangible badge of his own strength and resolute determination in the struggle for freedom. He has demonstrated enormous grace and selflessness in his perseverance. He is well known as a man of high integrity who surely, with the cooperation of global allies, will work hard to reject the corrupt political forces that sought to block him from public office.

We in this Chamber have pledged our support for the Ukraine through resolutions, words, and deeds. It is an honor to welcome President Yushchenko to the United States. I look forward to working with him and the good people of the Ukraine during this exciting moment in their nation's history.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Greek-Americans on the occasion of Greek Independence Day, and wish all people of Greek descent across the globe, peace, happiness and prosperity. In the same spirit of friendship and brotherhood, I ask all of my Greek friends to use this joyous occasion to renew their commitment to peace by doing all that they can to facilitate and promote the end of the long-standing stalemate on the beautiful Mediterranean island, Cyprus.

Recent remarks made by Greek Foreign Minister Petros Molyviatis with regards to Greece's support for the resumption of negotiations on the Cyprus question along the lines of the United Nations' Plan for a settlement (the "Annan Plan") are deeply encouraging, and should be supported by the international community and the United States. Greece's role in facilitating negotiations under U.N. auspices and convincing the Greek Cypriot side,

under the leadership of President Tassos Papadopoulos, to return to the negotiating table cannot be understated.

Now, the time is right for peace and reconciliation on the island. The Turkish Cypriots have already declared that they are ready and willing to sit down and discuss the "Annan Plan"—a plan they overwhelmingly supported in the referendum held on April 24, 2004—with their Greek Cypriot counterparts. I fervently hope, Mr. Speaker, that all sides will seize the opportunity of Greek Independence Day to come together in a spirit of friendship and cooperation to achieve the final and lasting peace that has so long eluded the people of Cyprus.

HONORING SOJOURNER TRUTH
AWARDEES

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Flint Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., who on Saturday, April 9, will hold their 44th annual Sojourner Truth Founder's Day Awards Luncheon. During this ceremony, awards will be presented to nine deserving recipients.

The Sojourner Truth Awards are given each year by the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., as a reminder of the endless effort which freedom demands of those who would be free and to recall the fact that slavery comes in many forms: enveloping the spirit as well as the body. In this regard, the Club annually acknowledges those members of the community who have shown to represent these ideals with dignity and distinction.

One such award is the Club's Frederick Douglass Award, which this year will be given to the Honorable Archie L. Hayman, Chief Judge of the 7th District Circuit Court in Genesee County. A lifelong resident of Flint, Judge Hayman received degrees from C.S. Mott Community College and the University of Michigan-Flint, before receiving his Juris Doctorate in 1985 from Detroit College of Law. After stints at General Motors and his own private practice, Judge Hayman was elected to the bench of the 68th District Court in 1995, and was appointed to the Circuit Court one year later by former Governor John Engler. Judge Hayman has consistently shown a willingness to improve the community, as evidenced by his involvement with the Michigan Civil Rights Commission, NAACP, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Flint, and many others.

The next award is the Positive Image Award, and its recipient is Mrs. Mancine Broome. Mrs. Broome is known throughout the City of Flint as one of its most ardent community activists. In the political arena, she was an integral part in successful campaigns to elect her late husband, Sylvester, to the Genesee County Board of Commissioners. Other campaigns followed, as did several citywide activities designed to enhance community spirit. Mrs. Broome has often been found as an active member or leader of groups including the Greater Flint Afro-American Hall of Fame, Zeta Amicae Auxiliary of Zeta Phi Beta Soror-

ity, Bishop Airport Authority, and the National Association of Media Women. In addition to her long history of activism, Mrs. Broome has worked with Flint Community Schools as Supervisor of Graphic Arts and Printing Services for 38 years.

The Club Appreciation Award goes to Ms. Gloria J. Coles. In 1984, Ms. Coles moved to Flint to become Director of the Flint Public Library, a position she held for 20 years, until her recent retirement. As Director, Ms. Coles led her staff in establishing the Library as a community focal point, a central location for enriching lectures and programs, and a hub for technological advances. During her tenure, Ms. Coles was appointed to the Board of Trustees of the State Library of Michigan, and in 1991, served as Board President. She also chaired Michigan's White House Conference Committees in hopes of setting a federal agenda for our nation's libraries. Ms. Coles has also been active with the Fairwinds Girl Scout Council, the United Way, and the Michigan Humanities Council.

Alexandria Poole, a senior at Grand Blanc High School, and Otis Wiley, a senior at Carman-Ainsworth High School, have been selected to receive this year's Youth Achievement and Academic Award. Miss Poole is a multi-talented young woman who balances a 3.902 grade point average with activities such as singing, playing and tutoring piano and viola, and studying Mandarin Chinese and Japanese. Mr. Wiley has excelled in the classroom, where he earned a 3.423 grade point average, and also on the athletic front. During his high school career, Mr. Wiley made it to the State Finals in three sports: football, basketball, and track and field, and has been honored for his efforts on local, state, and national levels. Despite his hectic schedule, Mr. Wiley still finds time to volunteer for various church and community projects.

Also being honored during the ceremony are the winners of the Flint Club's Essay Contest: Miss Diamond Nelson (1st Place), Miss Breeanna Walker (2nd Place), and Miss Michelle A. Cochran (3rd Place).

Last, but certainly not least, the Sojourner Truth Award itself this year will go to Ms. Pamela Loving, President and CEO of Career Alliance, Inc. Serving in this position since 1997, Ms. Loving oversees a multi-service organization that provides workforce development strategies and assistance for residents of Genesee and Shiawassee Counties from all walks of life. Each day, 800–1,000 people utilize Career Alliance's services in hopes of learning and/or developing skills that will enable them to increase their effectiveness in the workforce. Ms. Loving draws on extensive experience in the private, public, and corporate sectors to achieve her goals. She is a tireless advocate for promoting civic and community awareness, and improving the quality of life for all those she comes into contact with. Currently Ms. Loving serves as Co-Chair for Governor Jennifer Granholm's Community Challenge, as well as the Board of Directors for the Focus Council, Mission of Peace Housing Development Agency, Flint District Public Library, and Hamilton Community Health Network. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the YWCA Nina Mills Award, and the Jewish Federation Senator Donald Rieggle Award, among many others. Ms. Loving is a true role model and is deserving of the highest respect.

Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club's longstanding commitment to community service, and their mission to seek answers toward critical issues in the areas of health, education, employment, and economic development. These awardees have exemplified the highest of qualities, and I ask my colleagues in the 109th Congress to please join me in congratulating them all.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP BILLY
BASKIN—PASTOR, TEACHER AND
COMMUNITY LEADER

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to pay tribute to Bishop Billy Baskin, one of the preeminent religious leaders of our community. On Sunday, April 10, 2005 beginning at 7 p.m., he will be honored at Miami's New Birth Baptist Church Cathedral of Faith International during a special appreciation service defined by the theme: "Adding Years to Your Life—Adding Life to Your Years." Bishop Victor T. Curry, the Pastor of New Birth Church Cathedral, will lead other members of Miami's clergy and countless admirers throughout Miami-Dade County, in lauding this honoree portrayed as The Man, The Mandate and the Ministry.

Having founded Miami's New Way Fellowship Praise & Worship Center in 1975, Bishop Baskin truly evokes the genuine leadership of a Good Shepherd who attends to his flock in many ways, and the whole week long. As pastor and teacher, he exudes the knowledge and caring of a religious visionary who goes about empowering his congregation with his sermons. He has been a source of inspiration and a mentor to a host of other religious leaders who are now leading other congregations throughout South Florida and beyond.

Throughout the longevity of his pastorate, he has truly persevered in showing us the Way, the Truth and the Life that only his knowledge and experience could expound. As he continues to be involved with our faith-community, Bishop Baskin is never oblivious of the needs and concerns of others, particularly the less fortunate among us. It is his tireless consecration to his ministry that defines the measure of his consummate commitment to serve ". . . the least of these."

His timely and resilient leadership at the New Way Fellowship Praise & Worship Center for some thirty years is genuinely commendable. As a respected community leader, he has indeed earned our deepest respects and utmost admiration.

This is the legacy of Bishop Billy Baskin. I am truly privileged in thanking him for his many years of service. My honor in sharing his friendship is only exceeded by my gratitude for everything that has sacrificed on our community's behalf as he continues to teach us to live by the noble ethic of serving the community.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BAY CITY

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in my district that is celebrating its 100th anniversary as a city. Sunday, the residents of Bay City, Michigan celebrate their history that 100 years ago was the result of a true tale of two cities. Much of this history is documented in two excellent articles in the Bay City Times by local reporter Tim Younkman.

Like many of the towns in my district, it was the lumber industry that brought people, commerce, growth and prosperity to the Saginaw Bay area to found the village of Bay City at the mouth of the Saginaw River in 1857. It later became a city in 1865 but was known as the "East Side" because on the opposite side of the river, the "West Side" was comprised of three small communities.

In the late 1800's, the Bay City area was nationally known for being a boom town. The success of the lumber mills attracted pioneers and early entrepreneurs from the far reaches, including New York City. One pioneer in particular, Henry Sage, teamed with local businessman, John McGraw, to build the world's largest sawmill, which is now known as Veterans Memorial Park.

Sage was also credited with creating one of the three West Side communities known as Wenona. In 1877, Wenona consolidated with the community of Banks, named after the Civil War General Nathaniel Banks, and the community of Salzberg, the region of Germany where local settlers came from in the old country, to form West Bay City.

At the turn of the 20th century, lumber tycoon Spencer Fisher and shipbuilder James Davidson worked with local West Bay City families to campaign for the consolidation of the east and west communities into one community to promote more business growth. However, West Bay City Mayor C.J. Barnett, who feared an East side political take-over, opposed the idea. While East Bay City politicians supported the move, East Side business owners feared a rise in property taxes due to the poor financial health of the communities across the river.

A dual city vote in 1903 on the proposal lead to a stale mate when East Side voted in favor and West Side voted against. The measure was then taken to the Michigan Legislature to create a combined city charter to incorporate these municipalities into a unified Bay City. Governor Aaron Bliss signed the single city charter into law in June of 1903. However, in a surprise move by the West Side City Council voted to pass costly community improvement projects onto the united Bay City so the East Side voters retracted the deal and ended the consolidation effort.

To make the retraction effective, the State Legislature passed a law rescinding the consolidation charter and awaited then Governor Fred Warner's signature for completion.

Businessmen still in favor of consolidation lobbied for a veto and those opposed to the consolidation urged the Governor to sign. Governor Warner met with both sides for one hour on February 16, 1905 before departing Lansing for a meeting. Four hours later, he

wired back to Lansing saying, "I have decided to veto bill. You can make this known." While some were unhappy with the decision, both sides greeted the Governor's veto, which unified Bay City, with marching bands, banners and a celebration upon their return to Bay City. The newly elected Mayor Gustav Hine held the first meeting of the Bay City Council on April 10, 2005.

In a recent letter from current Mayor Robert Katt and Deputy City Manager/City Clerk Dana Muscott to local clergy on upcoming centennial events, they stated, "it took an act of the State Legislature to force the merger of the two Bay City's. But unified we were. And unified we remain. And that is worth celebrating."

While other cities have struggled after the early lumber boom, Bay City has persevered through innovation and maintained their prosperity. In a city of over 36,000 people and resting at the junction of I-75 and US 10, Bay City now benefits from large auto, chemical and sugar manufacturers. As a leading recreational port, a city that loves to celebrate its famous waterways is particularly proud of two Tall Ships events that bring historic sailing ships to their shores. I can personally attest to the broadly shared opinion that Bay City is a warm and welcoming community which is proud of their history and how far they have prospered together.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Bay City and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century.

HONORING DON MORRIS

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay public tribute to a remarkable individual from my home district. Don Morris, a legendary High School basketball coach in Breckinridge and Hardin County, KY, was recently inducted into the Dawahares/Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame. His induction honors his 21 years of coaching success; winning an impressive 353 games and leading two teams to the state championship game.

Most people know about Kentucky's love of basketball and the commitment many make every season to win. Coach Morris' athletic achievements epitomize a work ethic and commitment to succeed worthy of the Hall of Fame. But it was the lessons Don Morris instilled in his players about life's priorities, impressions countless young men took far off the court and applied many years after High School, that remain the true measure of his legacy.

A master of the sport, he always conducted himself in the highest standard, expecting both athletic and personal excellence from those he led. Each year, Morris shared with his team a simple message; "Church, home, school and ball and in that order." It was a priority list that has endured in the hearts and minds of hundreds of former players.

I would like to recognize Don Morris today, before the entire U.S. House of Representatives, for his many achievements as a coach.

His unique dedication to the development and well-being of student-athletes and the communities they now serve make him an outstanding citizen, worthy of our collective honor and respect.

IN HONOR OF CALICO ROCK, AR'S
100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today on behalf of Congress to honor the town of Calico Rock, AR on its 100th Anniversary.

Located in a strikingly beautiful section deep in the Ozarks and directly on the banks of the famous White River, Calico Rock affects all who visit it.

Calico Rock has grown from its roots as an important river port on the Upper White River as early as the first half of the 1800s. Legend says the town was named when an early explorer of the White River Valley saw the limestone bluff and called it "The Calico Rocks" because it resembled the calico fabric used to make women's dresses.

Today, Calico Rock is a picture of rural American community with good schools, a hospital, an historic downtown area and world-renown fishing. More importantly, Calico Rock is a place where "community" is not merely a term tossed around on the political stump, but a living, breathing entity acting as an umbrella of protection in the turbulent storm of these times.

Calico Rock lives up to a moral standard based on helping those in need and celebrating life's victories as a neighborhood, a congregation and a society.

On behalf of the Congress, I congratulate Calico Rock on their 100th Anniversary. The community that has been built during that time is a model society should take note of. Calico Rock has shown Arkansas and the entire country that a growing Rural America does not mean abandoning the ideals and values that make a group of people a community.

NATIONAL TARTAN DAY

HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of National Tartan Day, which is celebrated every year on April 6.

National Tartan Day was created with the passage of Senate Resolution 155 on March 20, 1998. April 6th was chosen as the date because the Declaration of Arbroath, the Scottish Declaration of Independence, was signed on April 6, 1320.

On March 9, 2005, the House of Representatives approved House Resolution 41, which expressed the sense of the House of Representatives that April 6 be established as National Tartan Day to recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish-Americans.

National Tartan Day is a time to remember the major role that Scottish Americans have

played in this country throughout the course of history. Almost half of the signers of the Declaration of Independence were of Scottish descent, as were Governors in nine of the original 13 states.

Scottish Americans have made invaluable contributions to America in the fields of science, medicine, government, literature, media, and architecture. Today in America more than 200 organizations honor Scottish heritage in the United States.

On this day, let us remember the contributions Scottish-Americans have made to our country and the loyalty and commitment they have shown to the United States throughout the history of our nation.

IN MEMORY OF JOHNNIE COCHRAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise with much sadness, to mourn the passing of a great American, and one of my dear friends, Johnnie Cochran. At a time like this, I find myself very conflicted. On one hand I am deeply saddened by the loss of my dear friend and confidant, a man who I admired and respected before I came to know him well, and over the most recent years of our friendship as we worked together on the redevelopment of Harlem through the Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone, which Johnnie chaired, he is a man I would come to love.

On the other hand, I feel great pride and gratefulness in the fact that I had the opportunity to experience his friendship. Johnnie was one of the greatest legal crusaders of our generation, and hands down, one of the best lawyers I have ever known. Johnnie had a personality that could light up a room. Even his opponents had to acknowledge his charm.

He argued a case with a style and flare that many had never seen in a courtroom. Indeed, most may never see a persona quite like his again. However, Johnnie always remained true to himself. In the legal profession, lawyers often wear a mask. They adopt a sort of legal alter ego. Johnnie won cases being himself, and that is why he was able to connect with jurors, and the public at large, time and time again.

As we all know, Johnnie became recognized the world over through his participation in the OJ Simpson case. But anyone who knows the work of Johnnie Cochran knows that the case was simply a feather in his cap, just one more achievement in a remarkable career.

Anyone who looks beyond the surface would see that Johnnie was not about celebrity clients, he was about seeking justice for those who had been denied it. In his portfolio of clients, one does find the OJ's and P. Diddy's of the world, but much more than them you find the little guy: the accused person with no money, no voice, and no hope, and then you find Johnnie right there fighting for them. That was the Johnnie that I knew, and that is the Johnnie that everyone should know.

Johnnie Cochran was born in Shreveport, Louisiana in 1937, the grandson of a sharecropper. His family would move west to California in the late 1940's, where his determined father would work his way up from a shipyard

pipe fitter, to an insurance broker for California's leading Black-owned insurance company. The family would eventually settle in Los Angeles where Johnnie would spend the rest of his adolescence.

Although his family's migration to California removed him from the Jim Crow South, the repressive form of segregation and discrimination that Johnnie witnessed as a young child in Louisiana never left him. Instead it instilled in him a deep seated commitment to seek justice for all people.

Johnnie grew up wanting to be a lawyer, and he would see his dream through to fulfillment. After graduating from UCLA, he earned a degree from Loyola Law School in 1962. In the fall of 1961, during his last year in law school, he became the first Black law clerk in the Office of the City Attorney. In early 1963, he became a Deputy City Attorney.

Though he enjoyed his work, he came to realize that most of the people he was prosecuting were Black men who had been severely beaten by police authorities during their arrests. He soon came to believe that something was gravely wrong with the way the justice system related to African American citizens, and he set out to do something about it.

He would leave the City Attorney's office in the late 60's to set up his own practice. He would there begin his crusade of defending those who had been the victims of police brutality and misconduct, who in most cases happened to be minorities.

Along the way he obtained justice for dozens of every day people, who had nowhere else to turn. He would also be the first attorney to get the city of Los Angeles to financially compensate victims of police misconduct. Without question, Johnnie's personal crusade against police violence brought about changes in the law enforcement systems of both Los Angeles and the entire United States.

Johnnie's preoccupation with justice was not confined to situations where the victimization was based on race; he wanted to see justice done in every case. In 1992 he represented Reginald O. Denny, the white truck driver who was brutally beaten by a mob during the Los Angeles Riots. Johnnie argued that the LAPD's reluctance to enter the riot zone cost many people their lives, and put citizens like Denny in harm's way. Indeed, many argued that the riots would never have escalated to the level they did if police had responded sooner.

Though everyone speaks of OJ, as far as Johnnie was concerned, it was the case of Geronimo Pratt that was most meaningful and important to him. He defended Pratt in 1972, but lost the case due to police and prosecutorial misconduct. However, he never gave up on Pratt.

Though he had been elevated to celebrity status, representing rich and famous clients, he never wavered in his quest to get Pratt's conviction overturned. He would ultimately prevail. Pratt's murder conviction was overturned in May 1997. Johnnie also got the state to compensate Pratt \$4.5 million, for the 27 years he wrongly spent behind bars.

Many people were opposed to the legal arguments that Johnnie used in the OJ case, regarding police corruption and misconduct. However, Johnnie was ultimately proven right in the late 1990's when the LAPD was rocked by a department wide corruption scandal.

So systemic were the problems in the LA Police Department that the U.S. Department of

Justice would have to take over the department for some time. This exemplifies why Johnnie was so important. In his quest for justice, he revealed to society serious problems that they were unable or unwilling to address on their own. This is why we will miss him so. We in the Harlem community will especially miss the leadership and contributor he gave to us in his final years.

In this time of loss however, I am heartened by two things. First is the fact that Johnnie's family is still here with us. His wife Dale has been Johnnie's loving and dedicated partner through all the highs and lows. Indeed, her love may have been the only thing that could render Johnnie defenseless, which was no easy task. He loved his children Jonathan, Tiffany, and Melodie dearly, and seeing them grow and become successful adults made him prouder than any victory he ever achieved in court.

The other thing that heartens me at this time is the knowledge that Johnnie's legacy grows every day. In Los Angeles and in cities around the country, Johnnie has become something of a mythic hero, a sort of legal Robin Hood, and a real role model. Kids across America now not only dream of being like Michael Jordan, or Puff Daddy, they dream of becoming successful lawyers, and being like Johnnie.

There are several young people working in my office right now. One is a lawyer already, and many others aspire to become one. There is no question in my mind that Johnnie in some way has something to do with that. In the end, the unseen influence Johnnie has had on the next generation of passionate advocates may be his greatest legacy.

Johnnie, we will never forget you, and I know we will all meet again. In the meantime, we will continue the fight, for as long as justice reigns, so too, will your spirit live.

HONORING THE LIFE AND
CONTRIBUTIONS OF YOGI BHAJAN

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Yogi Bhanjan, a leader, and friend to me, the State of New Mexico and many others ranging from America to his native country of India. Yogi died peacefully in his sleep at age 75 surrounded by his family in Espanola, New Mexico.

Upon his arrival to America in the 1960's, Yogi immigrated to northern New Mexico and founded the Sikh Dharma in Espanola.

By 1971 Sikh Dharma was officially recognized as a religion in America due to Yogi's determined efforts. Through Yogi Bhanjan's non-profit 3H, Healthy, Happy, Holy Organization, he touched the lives of millions throughout the world.

Yogi's name has been a staple throughout New Mexico for decades through his many business endeavors throughout the State. Among his many businesses, Akal Security, founded in 1980 by the Sikh Dharma, now thrives in multiple States and throughout the country by providing security to numerous military installations as well as private corporations throughout the world.

Over 200 books have been written based on his teachings, as well as CD's, videos, paintings, and sculptures. Yogi wrote over 30 books including *The Teachings of Yogi Bhaian*, *Furmaan Khalsa*, *Masters Touch*, and *Mind and Its 81 Facets*.

Yogi Bhajan believed "It is a birthright to be healthy, happy, and holy" and lived his life accordingly. He will be missed but Yogi Bhajan left a legacy in New Mexico, America, and the world that will not be forgotten.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Greek people and their successful struggle for independence from Ottoman occupation that began nearly 184 years ago.

The Greek intellectual exploration into the meaning of civics and citizenship sparked questions about government that are still being asked throughout the world. Greek curiosity nurtured great thinkers such as Plato and Socrates who spent their lives examining the role between the individual and the state. They posed questions like "what is the meaning of justice?" and "what is the ideal republic?" These timeless questions are still being asked in nations that are searching for a more just government and are being tested in democracies around the world.

When establishing our democratic nation, our founding fathers drew a great deal from the ancient Greeks. Our Democratic system, that is founded on the principals of popular representation, was introduced by the ancient Athenians who were the first to create a civilization based on the rule of the people. Our founding fathers continued the Greek tradition of debating how best to govern and pursued a government that would provide liberty and justice for all. Our dual experiments in democratic government will forever link the United States and Greece.

While our founding fathers relied heavily on the teachings of ancient Greeks, the Greeks based their independence movement beginning in 1821 on our fight for freedom from the British. The Greeks used our struggle for independence as inspiration during their fight from Ottoman rule. Through perseverance and determination the Greeks were able to break from tyranny and bring democracy back to its origins.

Not only can we trace our democratic government to Greece, but also the foundation of science. As some of the first philosophers, the Greeks explored the fields of mathematics, logic, astronomy, physics and biology. The Greeks focused on thinking and understanding, rather than the practical use of their findings in science. Through Aristotle's concept of a posteriori we base the foundations for the modern scientific method. The Greeks taught us that only through experimentation can one truly understand the surrounding world. Our basic understanding of the Earth came from the studies of Ancient Greeks as they questioned the sun, the moons and the stars.

Without the early studies of the Greeks, our current world would be much different. On this

184th anniversary of Greek independence and as a member of the Hellenic Caucus, I rise to honor the Greeks on their everlasting input in our society.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 184th anniversary of Greek Independence Day.

On March 25, 1821, the people of Greece launched a long, but successful revolt against 400 years of oppressive rule by the Ottoman Turks. Greece's eight year struggle for independence is a testament to the strength of the human spirit in its pursuit of freedom.

As Americans, we share with the Greeks their longstanding commitment to democracy and the rule of law. Our Nation's founding principles of freedom and democracy were influenced by ancient Greek philosophers just as the Greek revolution of 1821 was inspired by the American fight for freedom in 1776.

Our common struggles against totalitarianism and fascism have forged a bond between our nations. Greece has stood by the United States throughout modern history's major world conflicts, including World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, and now, the war on terror.

Last summer, the Olympic Games returned to their ancient birthplace. Greece accommodated more than 10,000 athletes from 202 countries. Greece proudly displayed its culture and civilization, and hosted people of all nationalities to participate in noble athletic competition.

I am proud to represent a large and active Greek-American community in my congressional district. I have worked with my constituents to support the return of the Elgin marbles, U.S. participation in negotiations over Cyprus, the inclusion of Greece in the Visa Waiver Pilot Program, and the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to His All Holiness Patriarch Bartholomew.

I congratulate the people of Greece on their Nation's 184th anniversary of independence and freedom.

HONORING DELEGATE JAMES H. DILLARD

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Delegate James H. Dillard for over 21 years of dedicated service to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Delegate Dillard has served as Delegate to the Virginia General Assembly from 1972-1977 and then again from 1980-2005. Delegate Dillard represents the 41st District in central Fairfax County. He served in the United States Navy from 1955 to 1957 and received a B.A. from The College of William and Mary and a M.A. in Political Science from The American University.

Delegate Dillard previously served as a Fairfax County teacher and principal and began his political career as a member of the Fairfax Education Association by working to establish a living wage for teachers in the 1960's. His strong interest in education led him to be one of the original architects of the Virginia Standards of Learning. Additionally, he was chief sponsor of legislation placing a guidance counselor in every elementary school, and has been recognized as National Legislator of the Year by the Guidance Counselors Association.

As Chairman of the Natural Resources subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, Delegate Dillard initiated the largest growth in parks and conservation activities in Virginia's history. Delegate Dillard was the author and chief sponsor of the Virginia Soil and Siltation Act which protects streams and waterways from pollutants. He has also worked behind the scenes to ensure the development of the Leesylvania State Park sailing marina, one of the finest facilities of its kind on the Potomac River and has been recognized as Legislator of the Year by the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my best wishes to Delegate Dillard on his retirement from the General Assembly. Through his long and distinguished career Delegate Dillard has touched the lives of countless Virginians. While I know that he will be greatly missed, his retirement is well deserved. I call upon my colleagues to join me in honoring Delegate Dillard and his wife Joyce. I wish them the best of luck in all future endeavors.

HONORING MR. MAX FISHER

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, today I join the people of my Congressional District, as well as thousands around the country and the world, in honoring the passing of a truly great individual Mr. Max Fisher. On March 3, 2005, Max Fisher passed away at the age of 96.

Max Fisher, a resident of Franklin, Michigan, was an internationally known philanthropist, businessman, advisor, and diplomat, and universally recognized as a driving force for positive change in the United States and the world.

The son of Jewish Russian immigrants Velvil and Malka Fisch, Max was born in Pittsburgh in 1908. He attended Ohio State University on a football scholarship and graduated in 1930 with a degree in business administration. After graduating from college Max Fisher moved to the Detroit area where he became an extremely successful businessman and real estate land developer.

Max Fisher played a unique role in U.S.-Israel relations. This role has been described by many, including in the 1992 biography, *Quiet Diplomat*, by Peter Golden. Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger wrote in his memoirs that Max Fisher provided an important service as an informal liaison between the White House and the American Jewish leadership under Presidents Nixon and Ford.

Max Fisher also served as the head of a variety of nonprofit and charitable Jewish organizations including United Jewish Appeal, the

Republican Jewish Coalition, the Jewish Welfare Federation, the Jewish Agency, Council of Jewish Federations, United Israel Appeal, the American Jewish Committee, and the National Jewish Coalition.

Max was a self-made man who spent much of his life raising money for philanthropic and political endeavors and remained an active supporter of charitable and civic organizations. He was a major benefactor of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, gave generously to Ohio State's College of Business, and helped found Detroit Renaissance, a nonprofit business roundtable aimed at improving conditions in the city and region.

Max also held 13 honorary degrees from educational institutions.

Max Fisher is survived by his wife, Marjorie Fisher; daughters and sons-in-law, Jane and D. Larry Sherman, Mary Fisher, Julie and Peter Cummings, Marjorie Fisher; son and daughter-in-law, Phillip and Lauren Fisher; 2 sisters; 19 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

Max was a humble man of strong principle, who consistently focused on doing what was right, without seeking fame or prestige. His optimism and positive mental attitude continually motivated those around him to overcome the challenges before them.

Therefore, I express my deepest condolences to his family, friends and admirers. And I also join in honoring Max Fisher for his diplomatic contributions, exceptional philanthropic achievements, boundless generosity, unwavering principle and integrity, and achieving great financial success while maintaining admirable humility.

HONORING THE HEROIC ACTIONS
OF THE 106TH AIR RESCUE WING

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the heroic actions of the members of the 106th Air Rescue Wing. Over the past few days, the Northeast experienced torrential downpours causing massive flooding throughout Sussex County, New Jersey. The rain became so terrible that it washed out the only road connecting tiny Mashpacong Island to the mainland, stranding five residents. In response, Langley Air Force Base scrambled two Pave Hawk helicopters from the Air National Guard's 106th Rescue Wing, which is based at Gabreski Air Force Base in Westhampton, New York. Fortunately, the 106th was able to respond in time; not only did they rescue the five residents, they also rescued one nearby individual on his roof, along with a dog and a cat.

This is the most recent heroic rescue in the storied history of the 106th, and I am proud to commend the men and women of this unit for their selfless dedication to duty and the protection of those in need. The exploits of the members of the 106th were made famous following their actions depicted in the book "The Perfect Storm". More recently, during our ongoing conflict in Iraq, the pararescue specialists of the 106th played an integral role in rescuing two downed soldiers flying on the CH-47 Chinook helicopter that was shot down west of Baghdad in November of 2003.

As the only rescue unit of its kind in the Northeast, the 106th has once again proven its unique value to the safety and security of our region and our nation. Mr. Speaker, the 106th has proven its worth time and time again. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the brave men and women of the 106th Air Rescue Wing. I hope we can show that gratitude by letting them continue to serve and protect our nation.

HONORING BRAD PARKHURST

HON. JEB BRADLEY

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BRADLEY of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Brad Parkhurst upon his retirement from Public Service of New Hampshire after 32 years of service.

Brad Parkhurst has had a long, distinguished career in public service. Public Service of New Hampshire (PSNH) is the Granite State's largest electric utility company and has over 1,200 employees. Brad stands out among them as a recipient of the PSNH Volunteer of the Year Award in 2001 and the PSNH Humanitarian Award in 2004. He received these and numerous other awards for his many contributions to PSNH.

Brad Parkhurst's commitment to the betterment of his community extends far beyond his work at PSNH. He has held many appointed and volunteer positions throughout his hometown of Merrimack, NH. Brad presently serves on the Merrimack Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and served as President of the Chamber from 2001 to 2003.

For the past 25 years, Brad has been an active member of the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of New Hampshire. Brad was the first-ever inductee into the Association's "Hall of Fame" in 2003 in recognition of his lifetime achievement in providing significant and lasting contributions to the New Hampshire housing industry.

Brad Parkhurst's service has transcended the borders of New Hampshire and the United States. Brad serves as Chair of the Riverside Christian Church Missionary Efforts program. Brad has led several teams to West Africa in efforts to provide medical, educational and nutritional aid to impoverished people. On his missions, Brad and his teams have also rehabilitated a children's orphanage, constructed a new home, and renovated a local church, school and library.

Brad has left a truly lasting impression on those he has touched with his work. I am honored to represent concerned and conscientious citizens like Brad in the U.S. House of Representatives. I wish Brad the best of luck in his well-deserved retirement.

VERMONT STUDENTS WORK TO
END SWEATSHOP LABOR

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to celebrate the remarkable work done by the young

Vermonters who participate in the Child Labor Education and Action group at Brattleboro Union High School. CLEA is a student-run group dedicated to community education around issues of sweatshop labor in the developing world. It examines the dark and inhumane side of globalization, doing extensive research and traveling to amass the real story on what globalization means for low-income workers who toil in third-world sweatshops. The students then take what they learn and share it with their community in a variety of ways. They have also organized student groups throughout Vermont to address the problems with global sweatshops.

Four years ago, over 20 CLEA members traveled to Guatemala to build a school. Last year, 13 CLEA members went to Nicaragua to learn about the effect of international trade policies on labor conditions in that country. Let me cite a brief report from one of those travelers, Sarah Maceda-Maciel:

When our plane touched down in Managua, our bags might have been stuffed with light cotton shirts and water bottles, but our heads were filled with numbers like 90,000—the number of Nicaraguan children who are not in school. Or 70 percent, the amount of Nicaraguans who live on less than two dollars a day. Or 6 billion dollars, the sum that Nicaragua has accumulated in foreign debt.

We found the harsh realities of life in the third world. There is something profoundly different between knowing that children are hungry and learning that eight year old children sniff glue to dull the knife of starvation. There is something profoundly different between knowing that maternity leave is not offered in sweatshops and learning that pregnant women are forced to work so hard that they end up having miscarriages in factory bathrooms.

The students returned from their trip determined to make a difference in how Americans view the harsh realities occasioned by free trade. In the words of Katherine Nopper, another CLEA member, "Within our school we hope to engage and inform our classmates on the issues of child labor, free trade, fair trade, and what it means to be part of a sweat-free campaign. And we will continue to present our message to other area schools."

This past year CLEA students have helped with the publication of a remarkable book, *Challenging Child Labor: Education and Youth Action to Stop the Exploitation of Children*. Several of the contributors are present and former CLEA members; other contributors include Senator TOM HARKIN, Charles Kernaghan of the National Labor Committee, Kailash Satyarthi of the Global March Against Child Labor, and Upala Devi Banerjee of the U.N. Development Fund for Women.

I admire the work CLEA does, and am continually impressed, year in and year out, by the dedication of these young people to making the world a better place. They see the whole world as their province; they also realize that speaking to their peers in school, speaking to the larger community in southern Vermont, is part of the struggle to create a world in which justice has a higher value than profit. These students represent what is best about American youth, just as their advisor, Tim Kipp, represents what is best about American teachers.

Combining learning with service, the international with the local, passion for justice with the willingness to work hard to achieve justice, the members of CLEA serve as a model, a

shining beacon, for what high school students can accomplish.

TURKEY AND THE ARMENIAN
GENOCIDE

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, as reported by Reuters recently, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan is ready for a "political settling of accounts with history" provided that historians would prepare an unbiased study of claims that millions of Armenians were the victims of genocide under Ottoman rule during the First World War.

That accounting has already been done. A March 7, 2000 public declaration by 126 Holocaust Scholars affirmed the incontestable fact of the Armenian Genocide and urged Western democracies to officially recognize it.

This declaration by foremost scholars from around the world was adopted at the Thirtieth Anniversary of the Scholar's Conference on the Holocaust convening at St. Joseph University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 3-7, 2000. The petitioners, among whom is Nobel Laureate for Peace Elie Wiesel, also called upon Western democracies to urge the government and parliament of Turkey to finally come to terms with this dark chapter of Ottoman-Turkish history and to recognize the Armenian Genocide. According to this renowned gathering, Turkish acknowledgment would provide an invaluable impetus to that nation's democratization.

As part of the groundbreaking conference held in September 2000 by the Library of Congress and the Armenian National Institute in cooperation with the U.S. Holocaust Museum, the prestigious Cambridge University Press, early in 2004, released a vital new publication—"America and the Armenian Genocide of 1915." This edition covers all facets of the leading U.S. response to the Armenian Genocide, which encompassed the first international human rights movement in American history. Oxford University's Sir Martin Gilbert, Cambridge University's Jay Winter and more than a dozen American academics were among the participants in that landmark conference. In a keynote address, Sir Martin recalled that Rafael Lemkin, who developed the concept of genocide, derived the word itself from the atrocities inflicted on the Armenians.

Prime Minister Erdogan's apparent willingness for a political settling of accounts with history should be treated as an important opportunity for those who have been urging Turkey to come to terms with its Ottoman past. If Turkey is prepared to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide, then its leaders can proceed immediately to direct dialogue with its counterparts in Armenia to define a common vision for the future.

I also urge the government of Turkey to: decriminalize speech within Turkey, destroy all monuments, museums and public references to the specious notion that the Armenian minority committed genocide against the majority Turks, end denial within Turkey, specifically within textbooks and reference books, officially condemn any attacks against all Turks that acknowledge the facts of history, and end the

global campaign of threats against any nation that is in the process of affirming the Armenian Genocide.

By so doing, Turkey will begin the vital process of preparing its citizens for a more complete and honest assessment of the final acts of the Ottoman Turkish state. Facing history squarely will liberate Turkey.

THE UNITED STATES MUST CON-
TINUE TO STAND WITH UKRAINE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today in this chamber we heard a compelling voice for the power of freedom and democracy in President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine. Just a few months ago, the Ukrainian people stood up for genuine liberty in their country by peacefully demanding free and fair elections in what has become known as the Orange Revolution.

I am proud that the United States stood with the hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians that demonstrated for democracy in the streets of Kiev. I will never forget last November 24th, when I joined nearly 1,500 Ukrainian-Americans from around the country at a demonstration in support of fair elections outside Ukraine's Embassy in Washington.

The Orange Revolution marked an important milestone in the history of Ukraine. President Yushchenko today addressed forcefully both the lessons of the past and fervent hopes for the future. Now that this peaceful revolution has been dramatically launched, we must stand with the people of Ukraine as they work to strengthen their democratic institutions and to make their country more prosperous. The U.S. should do more, not less, to help build a democratic and prosperous society in Ukraine.

In particular, we must end trade restrictions that were enacted for a different Ukraine at a different time. To achieve this result, I introduced H.R. 1170, a bill to extend permanent normal trade relations to Ukraine. The U.S. must work promptly for the admission of Ukraine to the WTO.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate President Yushchenko on his election and the Ukrainian people for their determination to decide the future of their country. I urge the House of Representatives to make sure that the United States continues to stand with Ukraine as a friend and ally.

IN HONOR OF DR. JAMES POOLE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. James A. Poole, a longtime contributor to the Pacific Grove community. Dr. Poole served as a Navy Dentist at the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA and established a general dentistry practice in Pacific Grove. He was voted "Best Dentist" by Monterey Peninsula residents.

Born in Portland, Oregon, Dr. Poole attended Oregon State University as a member

of Phi Theta Delta. He obtained his degree in dentistry from the University of Oregon School of Dentistry.

Dr. Poole served in Vietnam as both a medical and dental officer for the United States Navy where he received the Rear Admiral's Citation for outstanding care and emergency service for the ship and field personnel. Dr. Poole also bravely established Military Outreach Programs in the form of dental clinics on nearby islands where he attended to the needs of local nationals.

"Painless Poole," as he was known by the Monterey Peninsula clients of his general practice office, also enjoyed hiking, camping, whitewater rafting, skiing and mountain climbing.

Dr. Poole died on March 19th after an admirable and courageous fight following an emergency surgery to correct a dissecting aortic aneurysm. He was an inspiration to family, physicians and hospital staff.

A TRIBUTE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to bring before this Congress the following outstanding young people who have voluntarily served orphans, public school children, college students, juvenile delinquents, and needy families under the official invitation and authority of government agencies in Russia, Mongolia, Romania, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and China. The excellent character demonstrated by these young people, as well as their commitment to the principles upon which our Nation was founded, have not only attracted the attention of leaders, parents, the media, and students, but it has also brought honor to the United States of America and to the Lord Jesus Christ whom they serve.

Adams, Grant (OK); Aguilar, Nikki (CA); Allen, Jessica (TX); Allen, Rebekah (KS); Alspaugh, Alissa (OK); Alspaugh, Julie (OK); Altman, Rachel (OH); Alvarez, Humberto (MEX); Anders, Erin (MD); Atherton, Tiffany (KS); Backus, Pamela (AR); Baggott, Jessica (NY); Bair, Aileen (IL); Bair, Robert (IL); Baker, Rachel (OK); Ballmann, Christie Ruth (TX); Ballmann, Karyn (TX); Bartlow, Jeremy (TX); Bartlow, Joshua (TX).

Bavido, Bonnie Jean (OK); Bean, Amy (CA); Beaulieu, Anna (MN); Becker, Jeremy (MS); Becker, Johanna (MS); Behrens, Katherine (MI); Bell, Elaine (TX); Bell, Lauren (TX); Bell, Mike (TX); Bender, Anthony (CA); Bender, Patty M (CA); Bender, Steven (CA); Bohlen, Daniel (MI); Bollinger, Chiree (MO); Bourne, Clifford (PA); Bourne, Daniel (PA); Bourne, William (PA); Boyd, Hannah (TX); Boyd, Rachel (MI).

Brook, Nolan (VA); Brown, Kathryn (CA); Brubaker, David (PA); Brubaker, Emily (PA); Brubaker, Jeni (PA); Brubaker, Leon (PA); Brubaker, Luke (PA); Brubaker, Mary (PA); Brubaker, Nathan (PA); Burge, Everett (AR); Burnett, Lydia (CAN); Bushatz, Luke (OH); Busse, Jenece (MO); Canterbury, Debra (FL); Carlisle, Jeshua (MO); Cato, Cheryl (LA); Cato, David (LA); Cato, Timothy (LA); Cavanaugh, Daniel (IL).

Cavanaugh, Micah (KY); Chen, Anna (NY); Chen, Faith (NY); Chen, Grace (NY); Chen,

Karen (NY); Chen, Stephen (NY); Chen, Timothy (NY); Cheney, Bailey (GA); Cheney, Erin (GA); Cheney, Linda L (GA); Cheney, Ted E (GA); Cheng, Shiopei (MD); Cheng, Shiowei (MD); Childers, Michelle (GA); Childers, Zachary (GA); Christiansen, Chad (MN); Christiansen, Marlys (MN); Christiansen, Norm (MN); Christiansen, Nate (MN).

Cook, Bethany (SC); Cook, Joshua (SC); Cook, Kristi (SC); Cooper, Jennifer (TX); Coppersmith, Nathan (MI); Copu, Beny (IL); Copu, Carmen (IL); Copu, Joy (IL); Copu, Paul (IL); Copu, Stefana (IL); Copu, Peter (IL); Copu, Rebecca (IL); Copu, Robert (IL); Copu, Valen (IL); Copu, William (IL).

Cox, Daniel (NC); Craig, Micah (TX); Crawford, Amy (SC); Daniel, Susan (GA); Davis, Elizabeth (VA); Davis, Kelsey (VA); DeBoer, Stephen (IL); DeLuca, Lydia (TX); DeLuca, Sarah (TX); DeMasie, Laura (IL); Dick, Argyll (OK); Dick, Janel (OK); Dicus, Melinda (CA); Diedrich, Abigail (MD); Doolittle, Amy (CA).

Drescher, Jennifer (AZ); Dudley, Wesley (OH); Dumitru, Roxy (OR); DuMont, Brenda (WA); Eby, Benjamin (CAN); Eddy, Jonathan (FL); Elam, Timothy (TX); Engle, Gracia (IN); Erickson, Janice (MN); Erickson, Jennifer (MN); Estes, Autumn (FL); Fagala, Adam (OK); Fagala, Jessica (OK); Fahrenbruck, Corrie (OK); Fahrenbruck, Kathleen (OK).

Fahrenbruck, Kenton (OK); Fahrenbruck, Michelle (OK); Feig, Joel (WI); Feig, Nathaniel (WI); Felber, Britton (IL); Ferguson, Sarah (TX); Fernandez, David (CA); Fisher, Sarah (RI); Fite, Joshua (AR); Florance, James (CA); Ford, Jeremy (CO); Ford, Nathan (CO); Fox, Elizabeth (CA); Fox, Ruth (CA); Francis, Joshua (GA).

Freidel, Marie (IL); Furrow, Christina (WA); Garabedian, Krikor (CAN); Garner, Lisa (IL); Garner, Mary (IL); Garske, Emily (FL); Gay, Carissa (OR); Gay, Charles (OR); Gay, Daniel (OR); Gay, Julie (OR); Gay, Patrick (OR); Gilley, Rebekah (NC); Gillson, Kennan (MN); Gillson, Rowan (IL); Glasgow, Anneliese (OH).

Glick, Amos Lee (PA); Glick, Elizabeth (PA); Goodwin, Joshua (CT); Gothard, Bill (IL); Greer, Sean (IN); Grindall, Rachel (WA); Gunther, Margaret (MD); Hargrove, Sarah (OH); Hartstrom, Melissa (CA); Havlik, Grace (MN); Hawkins, Anna (WI); Hawkins, Jonathan (OR); Hawkins, Susan (OR); Haynes, Esther (TX); Henderson, Johanna (FL).

Hendon, John Caleb (AL); Hesterberg, Beau (TX); Hiebsch, Chase (KS); Hollingshead, Jerin (CA); Hordyk, Jaclyn (CAN); Houser, Galen (CA); Hullinger, Jennifer (IL); Hulsey, Sarah (TX); Hutanu, Aniela (OR); Hutanu, Simona (OR); Hutson, Kristin (MO); Hynes, Jonathan (VA); Isitt, Gabriel (OR); Jacob, Benjamin (VA); Jacobsen, Elizabeth (CA).

Jefferies, Megan (MI); Jenkins, Christopher (MO); Jernigan, Ginger (FL); Jessup, Jeremiah (MI); Johnson, Alanna (MI); Johnson, Juliana (PA); Jones, Landon (MO); Jones, Priscilla (VA); Jones, Tara (TN); Jordan, Azzan (NZ); Jordan, Grace (NZ); Jordan, Barry (NZ); Jordan, Lois (NZ); Jorgensen, Andrew (PA); Joyner, Sara (NC).

Kaessner, Jennifer (CO); Kallberg, Luke (IL); Kallberg, Naomi (IL); Karam, Rachel (FL); Keller, Daniel (FL); Keller, Joseph (CA); Keller, Kristen (CA); Keller, Priscilla (FL); Kilby, Alison (IL); Kilby, Elisa (IL); Klassen, Jonathan (TX); Klick, Sarah (KS); Klopfenstein, Carissa (IL); Klueber, Stephen (OH); Konen, Lindsey (WI).

Ladd, Vern (WI); Lang, Ryan (IL); Larum, Elizabeth (VA); Lavoie, Jeremi (CAN); Lehman, Regina (PA); Leigh, Daniel (MS); Leigh, Sarah Catherine (MS); Lewis, Mai (WI); Liljenberg, Zachary (WA); Llewellyn, Margaret (MD); Long, Elizabeth (TX); Loverde, Derek (NY); Maduzia, James (CA);

Mancillas, Gonzalo (MEX); Mancillas, Yolanda (MEX).

Marble, Emily (VA); Marble, Harrison (VA); Martens, Brooke (MI); Martin, Joseph (PA); Martin, Rebekah (PA); Matchak, Caleb (CA); Matchak, Jacob (CA); Matchak, Joel (CA); Matchak, Nathan (CA); Matchak, Sarah (CA); Mathison, Jodi (MN); Mattix, George (IL); Mazur, Isaac (ID); McAtee, Jo Ann (OK); McAtee, Lawrence (OK).

McCloy, Jenny (TX); McCloy, Mike (TX); McCray, Dr. Kevin (AR); McCray, Elizabeth (AR); McCray, Ellianna (AR); McCray, Emily (AR); McCray, James (AR); McCray, Jason (AR); McCray, Jo (AR); McCray, Melissa (AR); McCray, Mitch (AR); McCray, Virginia (AR); McCurdy, Terry (GA); McDonald, Caleb (TX); McDonald, Jessica (WI).

McEndarfer, Benjamin (OK); McGregor, Benjamin (OK); McGregor, Megan (MO); McNab, Mathieu (CO); McOlin, Erin (TX); Means, Laura (MI); Means, Mary Ann (MD); Mecklin, Leslie (TN); Medina, Jonathan (CA); Melvin, Bryce (FL); Mendenhall, Breanna (MN); Meng, Stephen (NC); Messick, Rebekah (TX); Meyer, Jennifer (IL); Michell, Matt (OR).

Millard, Hannah (OR); Millard, Sarah (OR); Miller, Amber (TX); Miller, Heidi (IL); Miller, Katie (IL); Miller, Rachel (MT); Moody, Christina (IL); Moore, Claire (PA); Mosher, Dale (IL); Muir, Caitlin (OR); Myrick, Rebekah (AL); Nance, Dana (AR); Navar, Francisco (MEX); Neu, Daniel (KS); Neu, Nicole (WI).

Newhook, Trevor (PA); Nisly, Katrina (CAN); Norvell, Clemencia (AR); Norvell, Joseph (AR); Norvell, Robert (AR); Novotny, Amanda (FL); Pallock, Melissa (IL); Pallock, Vanessa (IL); Papp, Josephine (CAN); Payne, Nikolai (IA); Payne, Tara (IA); Pell, Elizabeth (NC); Pell, Katy (NC); Perkins, Catherine (LA); Perkins, Sarah (LA).

Pettman, Evelyn (VA); Pettman, Timothy (VA); Pharris, Erik (TX); Pharris, Kenneth (TX); Pharris, Sacha (TX); Pharris, Susana (TX); Pintilie, David (CO); Pittman, Shepherd (FL); Plattner, Tessa (AUS); Pleus, Gene (FL); Pleus, Ruthann (FL); Ploski, Philip (MI); Policastro, Lauren (WI); Polson, Holly (TX); Popescu, Benjamin (OR).

Popescu, Timothy (OR); Rayla, Lindsey (IN); Reimer, Beth (CAN); Reimer, Brian (TX); Reimer, Joshua (CAN); Reimer, Kate (CAN); Reimer, Randall (CAN); Reinagel, Silas (CA); Richmond, Kezia (OR); Richmond, Priscilla (OR); Risma, Jordan (CO); Roberts, Nicholas (NM); Robertson, Aaron (AL); Robertson, Adam (AL); Robertson, Alan (AL).

Robertson, Amy (AL); Robertson, Andrew (AL); Robertson, Anthony (AL); Robertson, Ashley (AL); Robertson, Autumn (AL); Robertson, Avery (AL); Robertson, Linda (AL); Robertson, Michael (AL); Rogers, Christopher (WA); Roseberry, David (CA); Roseberry, John (CA); Ross, Charles (GA); Ross, Jeddiah (GA); Ross, Mary (GA); Ross, Rebecca (GA).

Roth, Philip (IL); Rupp, Phillip Michael (OH); Salazar, Carla (MEX); Sanborn, Diane (FL); Scheiman, Rebekah (WI); Searle, Daniel (CA); Searle, Shawn (CA); Searle, Shawn (CA); Sellin, Dexter (KS); Sellin, Tammy (KS); Senn, Amanda (LA); Shafer, Laura (AR); Shank, Alisha (CA); Shank, Jennifer (CA); Shepherd, Amanda (TN).

Shepherd, Courtney (TN); Sherrer, Katherine (NC); Sherwin, Todd (CO); Shrock, Leisel (OR); Sias, Marlon David (MN); Silverman, Nathaniel (FL); Smillie, Brian (CO); Smillie, David (CO); Smillie, John (CO); Smith, Amy (ME); Smith, Joshua (CA); Snyder, Joel (AL); Sondergaard, Ron (CA); Spiker, Kristin (MO); Spillers, Daniel (LA).

St. Clair, Elizabeth (LA); Staddon III, Don (WV); Stallings, Grayson (CO); Stedje, Lauree Beth (TX); Steed, Bethany L (CO); Steinbach, Jeff (CA); Stewart, Andrew (OH);

Stewart, Lucas (OH); Stewart, Timothy (OH); Storm, Emily (IL); Stutzman, Julie (OH); Sullivan, Andrei (NC); Sullivan, John (NC); Sullivan, Roslyn (NC); Sullivan, Sarah (NC).

Sullivan, Tom (NC); Swicegood, Rebekah (AR); Talbott, Claire (NC); Tanner, Justin (TX); Thomas, Whitney (AL); Thompson, Troy (CA); Thompson, William Edward (FL); Thornton, Will (GA); Tillotson, Vanessa (NE); Toader, Adrian (WA); Trimble, Sean (AK); Trutza, Ruth (IL); Tucker, Charlotte (LA); Tucker, David (LA).

Tucker, Rebecca (LA); Tucker, Robert (LA); Tucker, Stephen (LA); Tudorica, Crina (RO); Uecker, Laura (IL); Van Ry, Sheralee (WA); Van Til, Hilko (FL); Vanderhorst, Daniel (KS); Vaughan, Rachel (CA); Visser, Ronald (IN); Wagler, Maria (KS); Wagler, Vanya (KS); Wagley, Christine (LA); Wagley, Elizabeth (LA); Wagley, Lisa (LA).

Waller, David (WI); Waller, Derrick (WI); Waller, Rachele (WI); Warfield, Albion (CA); Wassenaar, Katie (TN); Westrom, Angela (IL); Westrom, Brittany (IL); Westrom, Chris (IL); Westrom, Heather (IL); Westrom, Jim (IL); Westrom, Kimberly (IL); Westrom, Matthew (IL); Westrom, Michelle (IL); Werner, Lauren (OK); Westfal, Stephanie (WY).

Weston, Jennifer (CA); Weston, Kevin (CA); White, Tiffany Brook (MS); Whitten, Jon (IN); Whitten, Josiah (IN); Wilkes, Joshua (VA); Williams, Arnah (VA); Williams, Cheri (CA); Williams, Elizabeth (AUS); Williams, Holly (CA); Williams, Jamie (IL); Williams, Richard (AUS); Winkler, Matthew (TX); Winsted, Rachel (GA); Wishart, Christy (CO); Witt, Jesse (MO); Wolfley, Audra (OK); Woodfield, Julia (MD); Yamane, Jamie (WA); Yoder, Byron (TX).

RECOGNIZING GREEK CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE WORLD

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, our Western Civilization reflects the contributions of many peoples, cultures, and nations. One vital source that gave much toward the depth and richness of our culture is ancient Greece.

One of the great legacies of the city-states of Greece is the practice of self determination or democracy, the rule of the people. Many of the functions of our government are drawn from the Greek political system. Similarly, Greece greatly influenced the development of one of our major religions demonstrated through the word *christos*, or Jesus Christ. The Letters to the Corinthians and Thessalonians are essential parts of the New Testament.

In countless high schools and colleges throughout the nation, students study the Iliad, a poem originating nearly 3,000 years ago. Modern philosophy still revolves around the thoughts and discussions of Plato and Aristotle. Also, early Greeks developed many of the mathematical disciplines that make our world add up. And, just this past summer the world met in the glory of athletic competition, the modern Olympics, another gift of the Greeks.

I cannot imagine what our society would look like without the rich contributions of the Hellenistic age—architecture, literature, science, and art—but I am sure that it would be more drab and impoverished. In fact, the

early roots of Western Civilization trace back to Greece, from where it grew out across the European continent and later across the Atlantic Ocean to the Western Hemisphere.

Unfortunately, modern shortcuts such as the English language and 21st century culture are undermining the Greek language and traditions. As the incubators of so many wonders, the Greek language and the Greek culture deserve to be preserved and celebrated. This is essential for the benefit of the current generation and the enrichment of future generations.

I have had the honor of meeting an individual dedicated to preserving the Hellenic spirit, Captain Panayotis Tsakos. He undertook this mission of love by creating the Maria Tsakos Foundation, which is devoted to honoring the various aspects of ancient, modern, and contemporary Greek culture. The Foundation provides multifaceted activities that teach the Greek language, dances, and literature. So far, more than 3,000 students have learned the language and culture. In addition, the Foundation provides scholarships for study in Greece and supports charities that uphold Greek traditions.

I appreciate this opportunity to share this information with my colleagues, and to commend Captain Tsakos for his dedication to preserving the richness of the Hellenic world.

RECOGNIZING THE JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY PROGRAM

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a small Federal program that is often overlooked as a way to provide employment opportunities for people with disabilities. The Javits-Wagner-O'Day program, often referred to as JWOD, provides more than 36,000 Americans, who are blind or who have other disabilities, with the job skills and training necessary to earn good wages and benefits as well as greater independence and quality of life. The JWOD program empowers people with disabilities who traditionally face an unemployment rate of 70 percent and rely heavily on social support programs, such as welfare and SSI.

By employing people with disabilities, the Javits-Wagner-O'Day program is able to increase independence and self esteem by helping these individuals enjoy full participation in their community and market their JWOD skills into other public/private sector jobs.

Everyday, the National Industries for the Blind and NISH are creating new employment opportunities for people with disabilities, along with local nonprofit organizations in my home district of central Illinois. Demonstrating an excellent federal-private sector partnership, NISH National Industries for the Blind and local nonprofits, such as the Community Workshop & Training Center, Inc., in my state, enhance opportunities for economic and personal independence of people with disabilities by creating, sustaining, and improving employment.

This year, the Community Workshop & Training Center Inc. will be celebrating 45 years of proudly providing employment opportunities and residential support for individuals

with disabilities, enriching their quality of life, promoting social change and optimizing their potential for independence. They have been proudly participating in the JWOD program since 1991 by providing the janitorial services to the U.S. Federal Courthouse, including my office in Peoria, Illinois. In that time, 49 individuals have been involved, and David Rinaldi, William Wolf, Tom Sledge, Mary Kuebler and Tom Sieks are currently benefiting from the program.

On behalf of people with disabilities, I rise to salute the important contributions of JWOD and Community Workshop & Training Center, Inc. to central Illinois and its citizens. I hereby commend all persons who are committed to enhancing employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

SERVICES FOR ENDING LONG-TERM HOMELESSNESS ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I'm very pleased to join my colleague Representative DEBORAH PRYCE in introducing the Services for Ending Long-Term Homelessness Act (SELHA). This legislation establishes a grant program that would be administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration for services related to housing for people who have experienced chronic homelessness and who also have disabling health conditions such as mental illness.

The Department of Health and Human Services currently operates grant programs for homeless individuals but none of them are specifically focused on services such as mental health services, substance abuse treatment, health education, money management, parental skills training, and general health care, coordinated with permanent supportive housing.

Chronically homeless individuals need more than housing. In order to truly help, the federal government needs to provide grants that will enable communities to coordinate and deliver health care-related services to these individuals. Without these services, it will continue to be very hard to end the root causes of chronic homelessness.

SELHA specifically: Establishes a grant program for services in supportive housing within the Department of Health and Human Services (RRS) and administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA);

Defines "chronically homeless" as an individual or family who is currently homeless, has been homeless continuously for at least one year or has been homeless on at least four separate occasions in the last three years, and has a head of household with a disabling condition.

Make states, cities, public, or nonprofit entities eligible to apply for the grants.

Gives priority to applicants that target funds to individuals or families that are homeless for longer than one year, frequently use the ER, or interact regularly with law enforcement.

Funds services including mental health services, substance abuse treatment, referrals for primary health care and dental services,

health education, money management, and parental skills training.

Requires initial grant awardees to provide \$1 for every \$3 of federal money.

Requires renewal grant awardees to provide \$1 for every \$1 of federal money.

Permits 20 percent of the grant awardees' matching funds to come from other federal grants such as the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant. This provision will encourage collaboration with existing programs and access for homeless people to existing mainstream health and human services systems, while assisting the grant awardees in achieving their match.

Establishes initial grant terms of 3-5 years and renewal grant terms of up to 5 years. (To encourage long-term program success and stability for permanent supportive housing projects and formerly homeless tenants, renewal grant awardees only compete against each other and have priority status for additional funding.)

Chronic homelessness is a dreadful but solvable problem. In my District, the most recent one-day survey (February 27, 2004) in Santa Clara County identified over 7,000 homeless individuals, with over 1,000 defined as chronic. In San Mateo County, over 1,730 individuals are homeless, with approximately 650 defined as chronic.

Chronic homelessness is very costly to emergency rooms, psychiatric hospitals, VA hospitals and the criminal justice system. This legislation will provide more resources to reduce these costly expenditures, while simultaneously permitting individuals with complex health needs to be housed and begin their journey to a productive life.

I urge all my colleagues in the House to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY SPECIALIST KEITH "MATT" MAUPIN

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, Saturday, April 9, 2005 marks a tragic one-year anniversary for Army Specialist Keith "Matt" Maupin and America. Spc. Maupin, better known as Matt to his friends, went missing one year ago and is the only American soldier to be unaccounted for. His courage and valor are unquestioned and our prayers are with his family and friends as they wait daily for word on his whereabouts. The community of Batavia, OH has not forgotten their brave soldier, but we must all remember Matt and pray for his safe return.

Our brave men and women fighting on the front lines in Afghanistan, Iraq and throughout the world sacrifice so much. Beyond their own personal safety, they also sacrifice seeing their wives, husbands, parents and friends. They miss their children's first steps, soccer games and special moments. There is no way to repay the debt we owe them. But we can do the next best thing and honor them through actions. Tell them and their families how grateful we are for their sacrifice and most importantly, bring all of our troops home.

On Saturday, April 9, 2005 lets take a moment to remember Spc. Maupin and all of our American heroes.

SOCIAL SECURITY AND THE 2006
BUSH BUDGET

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to the Bush Administration's 2006 budget which will in essence short-change the American people. It fails to include the cost of the war in Iraq, increases the cost of health care for our veterans, and cuts billions in education, health care, housing, and environmental programs, while adding more than \$4 trillion to the deficit in the next 10 years.

What is more amazing is that while the President has made the privatization of Social Security his top priority, he has failed to provide any details for his proposed program. Most notably, the budget omits the cost of the proposed privatization which according to independent experts will cost more than \$4 trillion in the first 20 years. Additionally, his budget continues the raid on the Social Security Trust Fund, borrowing and spending all of the money from the Social Security Trust Fund over the next five years.

The President's failure to provide a clear and honest accounting of the difficult trade-offs between increases in the debt, benefit cuts, and tax increases necessary to fund the White House's privatization proposal is another attempt to pull the wool over the eyes of the Americans. But, Mr. President, I want you to know that the American public is not fooled by this false rhetoric.

So today I want to speak on behalf of the over 160,000 people in my district and the more than 48 million people across this country who currently rely on Social Security benefits. These are not just retired Americans, but also people with disabilities and those who have lost a parent. Many of them are seniors who without their Social Security benefits, nearly half would be living in poverty. Instead of privatizing and enacting a plan that will gamble benefits in the stock market we should be working on a plan to make Social Security solvent for the long term. We owe it to the American people who have worked all their lives and paid into this program to strengthen, not weaken Social Security. And we deserve better than this reckless and irresponsible budget.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE OHIO AIR NATIONAL GUARD 180TH FIGHTER WING ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BASE

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to the men and women, both past and present, who serve the Ohio Air National Guard's 180th Fighter Wing in Swanton, Ohio.

In 1955, the 112th Bombardment Squadron moved from the Akron-Canton Airport to To-

ledo and became a Fighter Interceptor Squadron. Soon after, the base became a Tactical Fighter Squadron and was activated for the Berlin Crisis. Then in 1962, the squadron became part of the newly formed 180th Tactical Fighter Group. After earning the Air Force Outstanding Unit distinction in both 1985 and 1990, members of the base were deployed to Panama during Operation Just Cause and Iraq for both Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm.

Today, the 180th Fighter Wing is equipped with F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft and continues to be a tactical asset to the National Guard. Members have served in Operations Provide Comfort and Operation Northern Watch over Iraq in 1996, 1998, and 1999. Additionally, the brave men and women of the 180th were some of the first to scramble jets in defense of our Nation on September 11th.

Because its central location places the 180th Fighter Wing within a 30 minute flight time to nearly 50 million Americans, the base has been a vital force in American airpower for the past 50 years. The men and women who have served our area have benefited from the excellent quality of life in Northwest Ohio, and we in Northwest Ohio have benefited from their service. Many of my constituents have served honorably as members of the 180th Fighter Wing and earned numerous distinctions. In addition, the airmen of the 180th have contributed to our community through programs such as the "Homeless Awareness" project, the "Adopt-A-School" program and the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the men and women of the Ohio Air National Guard's 180th Fighter Wing in Swanton, Ohio. Their dedication to duty and contribution to air power has proven the airmen of the 180th Fighter Wing to be American heroes. Today, we pay respect to 50 years of dedicated service to Northwest Ohio and look forward to a future in which our children and grandchildren grow up under the protections provided by these great patriots.

TRIBUTE TO MANUEL HERNANDEZ

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Representative JIM COSTA, to pay tribute today to Manuel Hernandez, a long-time community activist in Visalia, California, who died February 25th at the age of 91.

Mr. Hernandez was affectionately known as the "Godfather of North Visalia," where he mentored many up and coming leaders in the large Latino community.

He was born in 1913 in Torreón, in the Coahuila state of northern Mexico. His family moved to the United States in the 1920s. He worked in the fields earning a living by picking cotton, oranges, peaches and other crops for as little as 15 cents an hour.

Later, he worked cleaning up after construction crews. He became a carpenter and took certification courses at College of the Sequoias to become a construction supervisor.

In the 1960s, he was involved in the formation of Self-Help Enterprises, helping low-in-

come families build and own homes. As a longtime member of the Self-Help board and during his service with a long list of organizations and citizens advisory committees, including the Tulare County Grand Jury, he was an advocate for Visalia's less fortunate.

Hundreds gathered at his funeral in March, and as his hearse drove to the cemetery, children stood on the sidewalk and saluted him.

Once again, we urge our colleagues to join us in applauding his many years of selfless dedication to the community he loved. His legacy of hard work, compassion, and cooperation stands as an example for us all.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL AND STATE FUNDED IN-HOME CARE OF THE ELDERLY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support of Federal and State funded in-home care for the elderly. This legislation highlights the inadequacies seniors face with electing in-home care. By increasing financial assistance for in-home care, establishing fee payment guidelines, implementing better schooling for in-home aides, and assembling a supervisory board of care givers, we can help ensure the quality of care elderly receive in-home is as adequate as hospitalized attention.

Mr. Speaker, this is an important resolution for three crucial reasons. First, it endorses the efforts of the elderly to remain independent and sustain their viability during the last years of their life. Supporting studies show that seniors who receive in-home care have greater life expectancies than seniors who are moved from everything that is familiar to them and placed in nursing homes. Second, this resolution promotes the expansion of employment opportunities in the nursing and in-home care industries. By implementing government funded in-home care to equal that of nursing home care, more seniors will elect to be nursed at home, which in turn increases job opportunities. Finally, this resolution encourages the establishment of better treatment and guidelines for students and schools who train certified nurse assistants and home health aides. Through adoption of uniformly high standards, we can ensure our seniors have access to qualified professionals when selecting in-home care. Each of these important ambitions are achievable through raising the quality of in-home care.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation. As Members of Congress, we have a great opportunity to make a positive impact on this issue, an issue that is of concern to many of our grandparents, parents, and will be of concern to us. I look forward to working with my colleagues and moving this resolution forward.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to return to Washington from my congressional district due to illness on April 5, 2005, and missed Rollcall vote numbers 91–93. Had I been present I would have voted “aye” on all three votes:

Rollcall Vote Number 91: H. Res. 108—Commemorating the life of the late Zurab Zhvania;

Rollcall Vote Number 92: H. Res. 120—Commending the efforts of the Armed Forces and civilian employees in response to the earthquake and tsunami of December 26, 2004; and

Rollcall Vote Number 93: H. Con. Res. 34—Honoring the life and contributions of Yogi Bajan.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RURAL ACCESS TO BROADBAND SERVICES ACT OF 2005

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to expand broadband access into rural areas so that millions of Americans in this country are not left behind in our increasingly information-dependent society. I am introducing this bill with my colleague from Colorado, Rep. JOHN SALAZAR, and I greatly appreciate his support.

History has shown us that improvements in information-sharing have resulted in increased productivity, a better-educated society, and the growth of technology. The development and mainstream use of the Internet has changed how we conduct business and how we provide community services, and has revolutionized information sharing throughout the world.

The benefits the Internet has provided are invaluable. However, access to this technology has created a divide between haves and have-nots in our country. High speed broadband Internet is commonplace in most urban and suburban areas. Yet although nearly a quarter of the nation's population lives in rural America, rural access to broadband is either nonexistent or extremely costly.

Many rurally based industries are dependent on the rapid transfers of information. Being able to utilize broadband technologies would increase their productivity, efficiency, and in turn, profits. For example, accurate and timely weather predictions allow farmers to better gauge the necessary rate of fertilizer application necessary or use of irrigation to maximize their crop yield. Broadband technologies make in-depth predictions of temperature and rainfall accessible by any farmer throughout the world.

Hospitals are dependent on being able to send and receive information in order to save lives. However, many rural hospitals can barely afford to provide basic health services to their patients, let alone pay for access to broadband technology if it is even available.

Schools in rural areas are also at a disadvantage without access to the Internet. As students leave these schools to study at universities or to compete in the workforce, they start at a disadvantage to other students who have been educated from kindergarten with constant access to the information available online.

Comparisons have been drawn between broadband and the rural electrification. It took assistance from government and industry to bring electricity to rural areas in the 1930s. That kind of assistance is what is needed today to bridge the digital divide. Congress passed legislation in 2002 establishing a grant and loan program within the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) to help fund broadband deployment in rural areas. But the broadband program is oversubscribed and underfunded. The president's FY06 request is down 34% from FY05 levels of \$545 million.

We need to push for funding for the RUS broadband program, but that isn't enough. Providing access to broadband technologies in rural America is an expensive endeavor for telecommunication companies. The cost of establishing a network to rural areas is hard to recover simply through subscriber fees. Most companies require an incentive before making such an investment. My bill, similar to the bill my colleague from Colorado, Senator SALAZAR, recently introduced, provides that necessary incentive.

First, my bill provides a tax incentive for companies that invest in broadband access in rural regions of our country. Specifically, broadband providers can expense the cost of equipment for, installation of, or connection to broadband services in the first year of service. It also encourages the development of “next generation” technology, typically more expensive, through the same type of incentive.

My bill also supports research in technologies that enhance broadband service and provide more effective and less expensive service to rural areas. It directs the National Science Foundation to conduct research into both the availability and access of broadband technologies. Research into advanced technologies that can provide telephone, cable television, and Internet service will enable the same equipment to provide these services and hopefully reduce costs in the process, allowing increased access.

Finally, my bill creates an office in the Department of Commerce to coordinate federal resources relating to rural broadband access. In the past, several agencies have been involved with the development and deployment of broadband. This office will provide a central point within the government to monitor this effort and reduce overlap within other agencies.

I believe this is important legislation that will provide rural regions the tools they need to increase economic opportunity and improve their quality of life. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO JEANNINE McLAUGHLIN

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeannine McLaughlin for her unyielding

patriotism and support of our great country. Our Nation is fortunate to have people like Jeannine who support our country in unique, but very important ways.

During the summer on 2004, while building a new home in LaGrange, Illinois, Jeannine committed an extraordinary patriotic act: she asked for her house to be built only with products made from American companies.

Throughout the design and building process, Jeannine put forth an extreme amount of time and energy in researching even the minutest details of her home; all in hopes of realizing her American dream home. From the locks on her doors, to the tiles on her bathroom floors, Jeannine assured that all that could be made by American companies in America was used in her home.

Jeannine sacrificed time and money for her American-made home. She endured a ten percent increase in the building costs of her home. Even the smallest fixtures in the house were at times double the cost of those from international competitors. As the labor of her dreams are realized, Jeannine McLaughlin now looks at her home with pride as she knows her home is as American made as any home can be.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jeannine McLaughlin for her unparalleled dedication to our country. We wish her well in her new, truly American home.

TRIBUTE TO SENATOR HOWELL HEFLIN

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, with profound sadness, I rise today to honor the life of former U.S. Senator Howell Heflin. Senator Heflin served in the U.S. Senate on behalf of the State of Alabama for 18 years. He was a nationally known and popular Senator, who fought tirelessly for the people of Alabama. He passed away on March 31, 2005 at the age of 83.

Before his election to the Senate, Senator Heflin was Chief Justice of the Alabama State Supreme Court. As Chief Justice, he was the lead author of the Alabama Judicial Code, which reformed Alabama's outdated legal system. His grass roots efforts established a model for future constitutional reform not only in Alabama but across the nation.

During his time in the Senate he was known for his sharp wit and deep understanding of the issues being addressed by Congress. He had an innate ability to describe difficult and complex subjects in such a way that most anyone could understand and form an opinion on them.

Senator Heflin was a strong advocate for civil rights, the Marshall Space Flight Center, Redstone Arsenal, the Tennessee Valley Authority, and southern agriculture along with many others. His work helped lay the foundation for the new technological economy of North Alabama.

Senator Heflin was respectfully referred to by his colleagues as “The Judge,” because of his position as Chief Justice and his long tenure as Chairman of the Senate Ethics Committee. It was said that he ruled over the

Chamber with an iron fist and demanded his fellow Senators live up to higher standards.

Mr. Speaker, Senator Heflin commanded respect from his colleagues, and made the least among us feel as important as anyone else. He was a friend to me during and after his time in Washington. He will be missed by all who knew him.

On behalf of everyone in North Alabama, I respectfully rise to honor and pay tribute to a great American leader.

FREEDOM FOR THE PEOPLE OF
TIBET

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with indignation over the situation in Tibet. In 1949, Tibet was invaded and occupied by The People's Republic of China. In the course of the invasion and occupation, an estimated 87,000 Tibetans were arrested, deported to labor camps, or killed.

The situation has not much improved over the past sixty years. Tibetan freedom of choice is still not tolerated by the People's Republic of China and harsh punishments await any who diverge from Chinese mandates.

Each year thousands of innocent people are thrown in prison or killed under a corrupt and cruel system. Even peaceful opposition is met with exacting penalties. In fact, Buddhist monks and nuns are regularly shipped to detention for exercising their religion.

The people of Tibet live in constant fear they will be imprisoned, tortured, or killed for peacefully expressing their political and religious beliefs, or in the best case scenario, they will simply disappear in the dark of the night.

We must help the Dali Lama and the people of Tibet in their quest to live free from oppression. We must all work towards a peaceful resolution to this situation so not one more Tibetan is carried off by the night.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARY ELLEN
SHEETS OF LANSING, MICHIGAN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Mary Ellen Sheets of Lansing, Michigan, who recently was named Entrepreneur of the Year by the International Franchise Association.

Mary Ellen Sheets, founder/CEO of Two Men And A Truck, is the first businesswoman to be honored with this prestigious award which has an illustrious honor roll of recipients, including Tom Monaghan, founder of Domino's Pizza Inc., and J. Willard Marriott of the Marriott Corp., as well as leaders in other franchise organizations such as Subway, Jiffy Lube International, Pizza Hut Inc., and Holiday Inn Inc.

Mary Ellen's teenaged sons started a moving business with a pickup truck in the early 1980s. After the boys left for college, cus-

tomers kept calling so in 1985, this creative mother paid \$350 for an old moving truck and officially opened Two Men And A Truck.

When she first sketched the now-famous company logo, a simple graphic of two stick men in a truck cab to catch readers' attention, Mary Ellen never guessed it would lead to such phenomenal entrepreneurial success. From that simple beginning, her business was catapulted into a vibrant, growing franchised company with 152 locations in 26 states.

While becoming a successful entrepreneur, Mary Ellen Sheets never forgets about her community. This very successful businesswoman also makes time to serve on the boards of Lansing Community College, Michigan Freedom Foundation, Michigan Law Abuse Watch, and Edward Sparrow Hospital. She chaired the 2004 United Way Campaign in Lansing, and has been recognized numerous times, including as one of Michigan's Top 25 Women Business Owners, and Lansing Business Person of the Year.

Mary Ellen Sheets epitomizes the American dream. She rose from a small beginning to become a very successful businessperson who believes in giving back to her community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this very special woman and community leader, who is truly deserving of our respect and admiration.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL ROGERS

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Mr. Paul Rogers, who recently passed away following an extended illness. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends, and community. The following is a brief biography of Brother Rogers and some of the accomplishments of his long and fruitful life:

Born and raised in Birmingham, Alabama. His father, Andy W. Rogers, was a Deacon at the West End Church and Trustee for the purchase of the Central building in 1941. The Rogers family were charter members at Central (McMinnville). It was here Paul received his early training and encouragement to enter the ministry.

Upon receiving his baccalaureate degree from David Lipscomb University in Nashville and master's degree from Harding Graduate School of Religion in Searcy, AR, he embarked on a long and fruitful career in the ministry. Brother Roger's first sermon was delivered at Central Church of Christ in Birmingham. He began preaching in November, 1952 every Sunday at the Old Jefferson Church of Christ in Smyrna, Tennessee and preached there until graduation from Lipscomb in 1956. He worked as Associate Minister at Church Street Church in Lewisburg, Tennessee 8 months in 1956 and moved to Centerville Church of Christ in January 1957.

Brother Rogers was the Minister of the Centerville Church of Christ, Centerville, Tennessee for more than 48 years. No preacher in the fellowship of Churches of Christ has a longer tenure at his congregation and at no rural church quite as large as the Centerville church according to Jim McInteer, president of

21 st Century Publishing, a book publisher affiliated with the Churches of Christ. In these years, worship attendance has grown from 350 to 700; annual contribution from \$19,000 to \$600,000.

The congregation has built a new church building, new church camp valued at \$1,000,000; off-street parking for 300 cars; \$200,000 Outreach Center for benevolence and senior citizens work; a 75-unit, \$2,500,000 apartment complex, Tulipwood for senior citizens, and a new \$1,200,000 Educational and Fellowship Complex recently constructed. He has also conducted over 800 funeral services in Hickman County, Tennessee.

He was the first president of the Centerville Elementary PTA, past Chairman of Hickman County Library Board, served on Bluegrass Regional Library Board, chairman of Centerville Beautiful Commission, former President of Centerville Kiwanis Club, served on City Industrial Board, served on the Board of Trustees at Clover Bottom Developmental Center for the Retarded in Nashville, Tennessee, and served on Board of First Farmers and Merchants Bank, Centerville, Tennessee. Brother Rogers was awarded Honorary Membership in Hickman County Jaycees for service to the community, selected as Alumnus of the Year in 1975 at Harding Graduate School of Religion, voted Centerville Man of the Year for 1978, selected as Alumnus of the Decade at David Lipscomb College in 1982, received the Distinguished Christian Service Award from Harding University 1988, honored by Tennessee State Legislature in 1983 for long ministry and service in Centerville, honored by Tennessee House of Representatives in 1992, honored in 1997 by Tennessee State Senate on 40th Anniversary with the Centerville Church for the longest full-time tenure among churches of Christ in Tennessee history, selected in December 1999 by the Gospel Advocate as one of "100 Trailblazers of the 20th Century" among Churches of Christ, and in 2004 received the Lifetime Achievement Award from Hickman County Chamber of Commerce to name a few.

Brother has given lectures at David Lipscomb University, Faulkner University, Freed-Hardeman University, Abilene Christian University, Oklahoma Christian University, Harding University, Harding Graduate School of Religion, Western Christian College, Blue Ridge Encampment, Training for Service Series in Chattanooga, North Alabama Training for Service Series in Florence, Alabama, Training for Service Series in Memphis, Training Series in Evansville, Indiana. Yosemite Bible Encampment, Yellowstone Bible Encampment. He served on the Board of David Lipscomb University 1986-2003 and was secretary of the Johnson Scholarship Foundation at David Lipscomb University.

His minister includes; touring Israel and studying archaeology there in 1969, working on the London, England Campaign in 1963, and preached in India in 1975. He also traveled and preached behind the Iron Curtain in 1977, made three trips to the Holy Land, and frequent mission trips to the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Brother Rogers was the author of the following books and booklets: My God and My Service; My God and My Marriage; Things Surely Believed Among Us (4th printing in 2004); Let the Earth Hear His Voice; When Freedom is Gone; Comments on Revelation;

Building Up The Church In A Small Town; God Give Us Christian Homes. His most recent books are I Have Much People In This City (depicting 125-year history of the Centerville Church); and These Forty Years (a biography of his ministry with the Centerville Church).

He accomplished all these things in life while at the same time being a loving husband to the former Judy Johns and father to four children and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Paul Rogers today. His dedication and selflessness to his community are examples to all who wish to lead. All the honors and awards that Brother Rogers has received in his life still do not do justice to recognize the contribution this man has made to his community and the world. Paul will be missed very much by all who knew him.

TRIBUTE TO MARY RITA TAMAYO

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Rita Tamayo for her service to troubled young people in Sonoma County. Ms. Tamayo passed away in July of 2003 at the age of 85. On April 17, 2005, Social Advocates for Youth in Sonoma County will announce the new transitional housing facility in Santa Rosa—the Tamayo House—to commemorate Mary and Jose Tamayo's contributions to the community. The Tamayo House will provide 24 young men and women, who are aging out of the foster care system, with a place to live.

Born in 1918 in Kansas to Mexican immigrant parents, Mary was raised a devout Catholic. She moved with her husband, Jose, from Nebraska to California in 1977 to open a family owned Mexican restaurant. Husband and wife co-founded the restaurant La Tortilla Factory Mexicantessan.

Not only did Mary provide employment opportunities and support youth organizations, but she also encouraged teenagers to complete their education. Her biggest regret in life was never finishing high school, but she made sure her five sons graduated from college.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor Mary Tamayo, whose kindness and generosity exemplify the best that a person has to offer. Her commitment to Sonoma County's youth population is an inspiration to immigrant families and to all of us who care about our community. She is already missed, but the opening of Tamayo House will keep her memory alive for generations to come.

BROOKLYN CENTER LIONS CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVING MINNESOTANS

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Brooklyn Center, Minnesota, Lions Club, which has served the great City of

Brooklyn Center and all of Minnesota for 50 years with extraordinary excellence.

The Brooklyn Center Lions Club rose from humble beginnings a half century ago, with early membership in the single digits, scrap drive projects and the purchase of a single pair of eyeglasses for a needy child. The Lions Club has now grown to over 70 members, who organize projects that shape the community and better the lives of thousands of people.

Membership has been strong and growing over the past 50 years, but only Lion Larry Roen remains as an original charter member. Congratulations Lion Roen!

Mr. Speaker, the Brooklyn Center Lions Club also has the distinction of producing five District 5M5 Governors over the last 50 years: Frank Erwin, Bill Legler, Richard Risley, Thomas Shinnick and Orlander "Ole" Nelson, each of whom represented the finest Lions Club tradition of public service to help those in need.

The Lions gave generously 36 years ago when they built beautiful Lions Park in Brooklyn Center. Their generosity didn't stop there, as they later added a fantastic picnic shelter to the park.

Through the Quest Youth Outreach program, which emphasizes drug abuse prevention, community service, education, environment, health, recreation and service-learning, the Brooklyn Center Lions have reached out to three school districts with their important public service.

Mr. Speaker, the Brooklyn Center Lions serve people through many important programs like Campaign Sight First, Hearing Dog and Leader Dog. The Brooklyn Center Lions are also active in the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank and the Children's Eye Clinic and Hearing Foundation. Additionally, the Lions sponsor the Earle Brown Days Parade, one of the largest parades in Minnesota, as well as numerous Halloween parties. The Brooklyn Center Lions are also active in Boy and Girl Scouts.

Deeply involved in diabetes research, the Brooklyn Center Lions, with the help of other 5M5 District Clubs, have raised \$20,000 for this important cause.

Mr. Speaker, in keeping with the true spirit of the Lions' motto, "We Serve," the Brooklyn Center Lions have served the people of Brooklyn Center very well for 50 years. We thank them for their service, which they have performed with pride and distinction. Congratulations, Brooklyn Center Lions, on your 50 years of service!

IN HONOR OF HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES OF NORTHERN DELAWARE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Housing Opportunities of Northern Delaware, Inc., an organization that has served on the front lines of the battle for fairness in housing. Through their advocacy for equal opportunities in the sale, rental, or leasing of housing, they have made invaluable contributions to my district. On April 4, 2005, Housing Opportunities

of Northern Delaware will enjoy their 22nd Annual Proclamation Ceremony, marking their continued commitment to a housing environment devoid of discrimination.

For 37 years, millions of Americans have achieved the dream of home ownership under the auspices of the Federal Housing Act. With April 2005 designated as Fair Housing Month, I believe this recognition is especially appropriate, and ask that we continue to follow in the footsteps of this landmark legislation.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I applaud the efforts of Housing Opportunities of Northern Delaware, Inc. and commend the cause which they hold so dear.

HONORING POLLY ANN GONZALEZ

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, on March 28, 2005, my community of southern Nevada lost one of its most outstanding citizens. Polly Ann Gonzalez was taken from us in a highway accident, a tragic event that shocked the community. Southern Nevadans by the thousands have expressed their sense of loss and their loving memories of Polly through their e-mails of condolence, their attendance at memorial services, and their contributions in support of Polly's daughters, Sabrina and Gabriella.

The passing of Polly Gonzalez is a heart-rending instance of the good dying young, far too young. In her mere 43 years, Polly attained the highest levels of accomplishment, both as a newswoman and as an advocate for people in need.

Polly first earned the reputation as a top-notch television investigative reporter in northern California, exposing the social and economic injustices faced by agricultural workers and by revealing the growing threat of gang violence, among other important stories she brought to light. Honored with an Emmy Award, Polly moved on to Las Vegas, where she quickly established herself as one of the area's most popular, admired, and energetic television news anchors.

Polly's passion for bringing truth to the public through her reporting was matched by her commitment to public service. She established herself as a most effective advocate for the advancement of the Latino community and for the less advantaged. She went beyond the call of duty to be involved in community organizations and events, accepting myriad requests for her time, her talent, and her energy to support the people of the Las Vegas area.

As was stated on KLAS-TV8, where Polly worked for 10 years, she "always was . . . standing up for people whose voices might not have carried as much weight as hers." She was a preeminent role model for young women, whom she showed, "if they put their mind to it they could accomplish anything."

Polly's passing has brought an overwhelming and nearly unprecedented outpouring of emotion from those who knew her personally or knew her only through her newscasts. I join all southern Nevadans in mourning the loss of a great friend, a great newswoman, and a great contributor to the building of a community with opportunity for all. I miss you, Polly, and I thank you, my

friend, for the treasured moments I shared with you, for your soaring spirit, and for the marvelous work you accomplished.

THE CIVIL LIBERTIES
RESTORATION ACT

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am joined by my colleague BILL DELAHUNT (D-MA) in introducing the Civil Liberties Restoration Act.

Three and a half years ago, following the attacks of Sept. 11th, the Attorney General asked Congress for a long list of new powers he felt were necessary to protect the United States from future terrorist attacks. Six weeks later, Congress granted those powers in the USA PATRIOT Act.

I voted for the PATRIOT Act in 2001 because I felt that a number of its provisions provided essential tools to fight terrorism. I did so expecting that Congress would undertake diligent oversight of the Attorney General's use of the tools we provided. Unfortunately, that has not been the case.

The Civil Liberties Restoration Act (CLRA) is our effort to return oversight to our legal system and restore the kind of checks and balances that are the foundation of our government.

Since we enacted the PATRIOT Act almost, there has been tremendous public debate about its breadth and implications on due process and privacy. I do believe that there are some misperceptions about the law and its effects, but I also believe that many of the concerns raised are legitimate and worthy of review by Congress.

The CLRA does not repeal any part of the PATRIOT Act, nor does it in any way impede the ability of agencies to share information. Instead, it inserts safeguards in a number of PATRIOT provisions.

The bill addresses two pieces of the PATRIOT Act in particular. First, it ensures that when the Attorney General asks a business or a library for personal records, he must have reason to believe that the person to whom the records pertain is an agent of a foreign power. Second, the bill would make clear that evidence gained in secret searches under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) cannot be used against a defendant in a criminal proceeding without providing, at the very least, a summary of that evidence to the defendant's lawyers. One of my biggest concerns when we passed the PATRIOT Act was that the changes we made in FISA would encourage law enforcement to circumvent the protections of the 4th Amendment by conducting searches for criminal investigations through FISA authority rather than establishing probable cause. This provision in the CLRA does not take away any of the powers we provided in the PATRIOT Act. It simply requires that if the government wants to bring the fruits of a secret search into a criminal courtroom it must share the information with the defendant under existing special procedures for classified information.

The Civil Liberties Restoration Act deals with more than the PATRIOT Act. It also ad-

resses a number of unilateral policy actions taken by Attorney General Ashcroft both before and after enactment of the PATRIOT Act without consultation with or input from the Congress. For example, the Administration has undertaken the 'mining' of data from public and non-public databases. Left unchecked, the use of these mining technologies threatens the privacy of every American. The CLRA requires that any federal agency that initiates a data-mining program must report to Congress within 90 days so that the privacy implications of that program can be monitored.

The Attorney General unilaterally instituted a number of policies dealing with detention of noncitizens that we address. For example, the AG ordered blanket closure of immigration court hearings and prolonged detention of individuals without charges. The CLRA would permit those court hearings to be closed to protect national security on a case by-case basis and requires that individuals be charged within 48 hours, unless they are certified as a threat to national security by the AG as mandated under the Patriot Act.

The CLRA also addresses the special tracking program (known as NSEERS) created by the Attorney General, which requires men aged 16 and over from certain countries to be fingerprinted, photographed and interrogated for no specific cause. This program creates a culture of fear and suspicion in immigrant communities that discourages cooperation with antiterrorism efforts. The CLRA terminates this program and provides a process by which those individuals unjustly detained could proceed with interrupted immigration petitions. This is the only provision of the CLRA that eliminates a program outright, but this program has already been partially repealed by the Department of Homeland Security and largely replaced by the US VISIT system.

When I voted for the PATRIOT Act, I understood that my vote carried with it a duty to undertake active oversight of the powers granted by the bill and carefully monitor their use. When Congress passed this law, Mr. Speaker, we included a sunset provision that would require us to reconsider and evaluate the policies we adopted. This afternoon, the House Judiciary Committee held its first hearing to consider these sunset provisions, and we heard testimony from Attorney General Alberto Gonzales asking that we make the sunset provisions of the PATRIOT Act permanent.

In light of the many policies implemented unilaterally by this Administration since passage of the PATRIOT Act, our review of this Congress must go beyond just the sunset provisions in order to fulfill our duty of oversight. The review started today by the House Judiciary Committee must encompass the whole of our anti-terrorism policies. Congress should continue to examine whether the policies pursued by the Attorney General are the most effective methods to protect our nation from terrorists, whether they represent an efficient allocation of our homeland security resources, and whether they are consistent with the foundations of our democracy.

Fortunately, the 9/11 Commission laid out a standard by which we can evaluate our current policies. First, Congress should not renew any provision unless the government can show, "(a) that the power actually materially enhances security and (b) that there is adequate supervision of the executive's use of the powers to ensure protection of civil liberties."

Second, the Commission advises that "if the power is granted, there must be adequate guidelines and oversight to properly confine its use." This is the standard that we ought to apply across the board. It is the standard that Mr. Delahunt and I applied in drafting this legislation.

It is my hope Mr. Speaker, that this standard will guide us in our work and that we will enjoy an active debate on these issues and this legislation.

GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today and join the millions of my fellow Americans in commemorating Greek Independence Day which, on March 25th celebrated the 184th anniversary of the rebellion and the struggle of the Greek people against the Ottoman Empire.

What makes Greek Independence Day so special here in America is that it reminds us of the strong principles and bonds that the U.S. and Greece share. In looking into the struggles of our two nations, we realize how much our struggles have in common, and how much each country has been influenced by the other.

Greece and the United States are bound by an absolute commitment to the democratic ideals of justice and freedom and continue to be strong allies. By commemorating Greek Independence Day, we also celebrate the strength and the resolve of the human spirit that has been the inspiration of us all.

I am very pleased to place into the record a statement made on this 184th anniversary of Greek independence written by one of my constituents, Constantinos Nicolaou.

The greatness of the human spirit, regardless of any efforts to suppress it, will always rise against tyranny and oppression and will start revolutions where heroism will pay any price, even the ultimate sacrifice of life, in order to gain freedom and independence.

Every time we commemorate heroism such as the one exhibited by the Greeks on March 25, 1821 and during the ensuing struggle for their freedom, we cannot help but think of our great founding fathers, who were so much influenced by the ancient Greeks in their struggles for freedom and the creation of what had become the freest, most democratic country in history, the United States of America.

Thomas Jefferson looked to the ancient Greek philosophers and their teachings as an inspiration in trying to create a fair, strong, democratic state. And it was not accidental that many of the Greek leaders of the 1821 revolution, turned to America for inspiration as they were embarking in their struggle for freedom.

Both nations were faced with seemingly insurmountable struggles, rising against empires to claim their rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Both nations became triumphant at the end, because of their love of freedom. The great American Patriot, Patrick Henry, proclaimed, Give me liberty or give me death." The Greek patriots went to battle proclaiming, "Eleftheria I Thanatos" —liberty or death.

As with the American Revolution, the Greek revolution is filled with stories of heroism and sacrifice. News of such heroism and sacrifice met with strong feelings of support by the American public and by their politicians, including President James Monroe and John Quincy Adams, who expressed their support for the Greek revolution through their annual messages to congress. Henry Clay, our secretary of state in 1825, was very vocal in his support of Greece's fight for independence. Daniel Webster, more often than not, influenced his colleagues in looking into the Greek struggle with sympathetic interests.

It is, of course, no surprise that our Founding Fathers and other prominent Americans were supportive of the Greek struggle for independence. As mentioned, they themselves had been inspired by the ancient Greeks. Thomas Jefferson, of all the Founding Fathers, had a particular affinity for Greece, not only because of its classical republican philosophy but also because of his studies of the origins of languages. He expressed that affinity many times, as in a letter to John Brazier on August 24, 1819. In that letter, Thomas Jefferson address "Mr. Pickering's Memoir of the Modern Greek," and the Memoirs review by Brazier. He tells Brazier, "I had been much pleased with the memoir, and was much also with your review of it. I have little hope indeed of recovery of the ancient pronunciation of the finest of human languages, but still I rejoice to the attention the subject seems to excite with you, because it is evidence that our country begins to have a taste for something more than merely as much Greek as will pass a candidate for clerical ordination . . . Among the values of classical learning, I estimate the luxury of learning the Greek and Roman authors in all the beauties of their originals. And why should not this innocent and elegant luxury take its preeminent stand ahead of all those addressed merely to the senses? I think myself more indebted to my father for this that for all other luxuries his cares and affections have placed within my reach."

Jefferson expressed his empathies with Greece revolting against its Ottoman rulers. In an 1823 letter to Adamantios Coray, the Greek patriot and scholar that he had met in Paris years earlier, he stated:

. . . You have certainly began at the right end towards preparing them [the Greek people] for the great object they are now contending for, by improving their minds and qualifying them for self-government. For this they will owe you lasting honors. Nothing is more likely to forward this object than a study of the fine models of science left by their ancestors; to whom we also are all indebted for the lights which originally led ourselves out of Gothic darkness.

No people sympathize more feelingly than ours with the suffering of your countrymen; none offer more sincere and ardent prayers to heaven for their success. And nothing indeed but the fundamental principle of our government never to entangle us with the broils of Europe could restrain our generous youth from taking some part in this holy cause. Possessing ourselves the combined blessing of liberty and order, we wish the same to other countries, and to none more than yours, which she first of civilized nations presented examples of what man should be.

The ties that bind America and Greece go, of course, far beyond their parallel and noble struggles for freedom. The philosophical and

cultural connections, although little known to the public at large, could not be stronger or better assimilated. Such connections were born almost at the same time with the birth of our nation, if not before. In his excellent study of "Lincoln at Gettysburg," Gary Wills tells us:

America as a second Athens was an idea whose moment had come in the nineteenth century . . . In the early 19th century, an era that became known as America's Greek Revival was taking shape. Archaeological discoveries in Greece at the time brought the ancient democracy to mind just as modern Greece began its struggle for freedom from the Turks.

Edward Everett, President of Harvard, founder of Mount Auburn, congressman, Massachusetts's governor, minister to the Court of St. James's in London, senator, secretary of state and principal speaker at Gettysburg years later, was the leader of the Greek Revival. Harvard established its new chair of ancient Greek studies for him. While studying in Germany, Everett went to Greece, "to walk over the battlefields where the first democracy of the West won its freedom." He returned to America convinced that a new Athens was rising here. His appearances, "prompted rallies for Greek independence"—a favorite cause of Everett.

Everett's prestige influenced others, including historian George Bancroft, whose "main interest was Greek history." . . . Bancroft was ahead of the wave of histories that would glorify Periclean Athens in Victorian England. Direct democracy, a flawed system in republican theory, was rehabilitated, for its usefulness in the parliamentary reform movement, by British historians like George Grote. In America, a similar motion toward government by the people, not just for the republic, was signaled by an enthusiasm for Greek symbols. Bancroft became a Jacksonian Democrat when he began to apply historical skills formed on the Attic democracy to America's development. Walter Savage Landor recognized what was happening in America when he dedicated the second volume of his *Pericles and Aspasia* to President Andrew Jackson.'

Greece and the United States, bound by their absolute commitment to freedom and justice, have always been the strongest of the allies. Greece stood by us and fought with us in every single war or conflict since we both gained our freedom. And we always stood by Greece, and although at times we appeared to have forgotten how loyal and valuable the Greeks had been to us, our ultimate commitment to their freedom and wellbeing never wavered.

And as we commemorate and fight to free all people, let us remember that some other friends of ours are still agonizing and asking for our help in fighting forces of evil still occupying their land and their homes. The people of the Republic of Cyprus, Greeks and Turks and all others, should be given more active support by our great nation in their efforts to reunite the island and get rid of the occupying forces. U.S. leadership is essential, and now it is the time that we should remember that the Cypriot people are where we had been, and they are striving for what we have earned long time ago, that is, their right to freedom, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

It is essential that American leadership urges Turkish and Turkish Cypriot leaders towards peace. These are the two sides that hold in their hands, to the largest extent, the peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem. A solution that undoubtedly will benefit all the peo-

ple of Cyprus, but it will also benefit the nations of Greece and Turkey, will stabilize the region, and will strengthen the bonds and relationships between the United States and the countries involved in the conflict.

As we commemorate Greek Independence Day, we are celebrating the strength and the resolve of the human spirit as well as man's unbending will in the pursuit of freedom. The people of ancient Greece gave us values and ethics and showed us how to fight for freedom and democracy. Our country, more than any other country, shares those values and ethics, and in days such as this we reaffirm our common democratic heritage with the Greek people. The commemoration and celebration remind us also that we should stay forever vigilant in fighting for and protecting our freedom and our democracy, least we loose the right to determine our lives and our future.

Dionisios Solomos was the great poet who transformed in his poetry the unparalleled struggle and the sacrifices of Hellenism in the pursuit of Freedom. The Revolution so much influenced his poetry that he is considered the national poet of Greece. One of his most inspired poems, Hymn to Liberty, has almost become synonymous to that Revolution and it became Greece's National Anthem. The poem was published in 1825, along with translations in Italian, French and English.

The Revolution would have never been the same without Solomos. The enthusiasm of the fighters, as well as the international sympathy among the Philhellenes would have definitely been smaller without the Hymn to Liberty.

Probably nowhere has Solomos's vision of Liberty depicted better than here, in the United States. Here, in the Rotunda of our own Capital Hill, we see a most wonderful painting of Liberty, with the sword in hand chasing her enemies, exactly the way Solomos envisioned her in his Hymn to Liberty. This figure was painted by another son of Greece, one who really grasped Solomos's vision of Liberty, Constantino Brumidi.

And as a tribute to the United States, Solomos envisions our country rejoicing in seeing Greece fighting for Freedom. He describes the American feelings this way:

Most heartily was gladdened
George Washington's brave land:
For the iron bonds remembered,
Her old slavery's cruel brand.

We live today in a great, free country. Our country became great, and will always be so, because the spirit and the morals that we share with Greece, as so eloquently expressed by Solomos, will always be with us.

TRIBUTE TO MARY NELL PORTER

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a Missourian who has devoted countless hours promoting the arts in my hometown of Columbia, Missouri. She is in every sense a true Renaissance woman. Mr. Speaker, I am referring to Mary Nell Porter.

After graduating from Chillicothe Business College, Mary Nell moved to Washington, D.C. to support her country in the effort that yielded victory in World War II. It was during this time

that Mary Nell began what would become a lifetime commitment to volunteerism. Her unwavering support for fellow Americans is reflected in her activities that included volunteering her time at recruiting stations and at Cardinal Spellman's Foundling Home in New York.

At the end of World War II, she moved to New York City, where she defied the limits that hindered the progress of women in the workforce. By rising to positions of authority and respect in prominent companies such as American Cynamid and Alexander's Department Store, Mary Nell served as an inspiration to countless women who made the decision to pursue a professional career.

Upon her return to Missouri, Mary Nell continued her pursuit of knowledge and graduated from the University of Missouri-Columbia with a degree in Business Administration. Since that time, she has focused her efforts on a passion for music and joined the Women's Symphony League, Friends of Music of the University of Missouri, the University of Missouri's Arts & Sciences Alum Association Board and later served on the Missouri Symphony Society Board of Directors.

Mary Nell's time, energy and generous spirit have been invaluable to the Missouri Symphony Society as well as the Missouri Theatre. She has been critical in the creation of a thriving arts community in my hometown of Columbia. I am eternally grateful for her devotion to our community, and it is my pleasure to share Mary Nell Porter's accomplishment and valuable contributions with my colleagues.

THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION
ON AN OPEN SOCIETY WITH SECURITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I reintroduce the United States Commission on an Open Society and Security Act, expressing an idea I began working on when the first signs of the closing of parts of our open society appeared after the Oklahoma City bombing tragedy, well before 9/11. This bill has grown more urgent as increasing varieties of security throughout the country have proliferated without any thought about their effect on common freedoms and ordinary access. The bill I introduce today would begin a systematic investigation that takes full account of the importance of maintaining our democratic traditions while responding adequately to the real and substantial threats terrorism poses.

To be useful in accomplishing its difficult mission, the commission would be composed not only of military and security experts, but for the first time, they would be at the same table with experts from such fields as business, architecture, technology, law, city planning, art, engineering, philosophy, history, sociology, and psychology. To date, questions of security most often have been left almost exclusively to security and military experts. They are indispensable participants, but these experts cannot alone resolve all the new and unprecedented issues raised by terrorism in an open society. In order to strike the balance required by our democratic traditions, a cross

cutting group needs to be working together at the same table.

For years now before our eyes, parts of our open society have gradually been closed down because of terrorism and fear of terrorism—whether checkpoints at the Capital even when there are no alerts or applications of technology without regard to their effects on privacy. However, particularly following the unprecedented terrorist attack on our country, Americans have a right to expect additional and increased security adequate to protect citizens against this new frightening threat. People expect government to be committed and smart enough to undertake this awesome new responsibility without depriving them of their personal liberty. These years in our history will long be remembered by the rise of terrorism in the world and in this country. As a result, American society faces new and unprecedented challenges. We must provide ever-higher levels of security for our people and public spaces while maintaining a free and open democratic society. As yet, our country has no systematic process or strategy for meeting these challenges.

When we have been faced with unprecedented and perplexing issues in the past, we have had the good sense to investigate them deeply and to move to resolve them. Examples include the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission), the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (also known as the Silberman Robb Commission) and the Kerner Commission following riotous uprisings that swept American cities in the 1960's and 1970's.

The important difference in the Commission proposed by this bill is that it seeks to act before a crisis in basic freedoms gradually takes hold and becomes entrenched. Because global terrorism is likely to be long lasting, we can not afford to allow the proliferation of security that most often requires no advance civilian oversight or analysis of alternatives and repercussions on freedom and commerce.

With only existing tools and thinking, we have been left to muddle through, using blunt 19th century approaches, such as crude blockades and other denials of access, or risking the right to privacy using applications of the latest technology with little attention to privacy. The threat of terrorism to our democratic society is too serious to be left to ad hoc problem-solving. Such approaches are often as inadequate as they are menacing.

We can do better, but only if we recognize and then come to grips with the complexities associated with maintaining a society of free and open access in a world characterized by unprecedented terrorism. The place to begin is with a high-level presidential commission of wise men and women expert in a broad spectrum of disciplines who can help chart the new course that will be required to protect both our people and our precious democratic institutions and traditions.

THE SAFETY OF SILICONE BREAST IMPLANTS

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, April 6, 2005

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, in addition to my remarks today, I am also submitting a letter written by Dr. Scott Spear to the Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions Committee and the House Energy and Commerce Committee. In it, Dr. Spear, who is the President of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, brings to light an important health issue that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is currently debating: the safety of silicone gel-filled breast implants. The FDA's General and Plastic Surgery Devices Panel has scheduled an upcoming hearing that will focus primarily on the safety of these products for the American consumer. The information that Dr. Spear shares in his letter is important for us to take note of as this panel continues its work to make an informed, science-based decision on the safety of these implants. In addition, I am submitting for the RECORD a pamphlet entitled *Safety of Silicone Breast Implants* that reviews the long term studies that have been performed on silicone gel-filled breast implants. Taken along with Dr. Spear's letter, this brochure makes a compelling argument that in determining the very real and unquestionably important issue of determining the safety of these implants, we must set preconceived notions aside, and ensure that science dictates our actions. I urge my colleagues to review these two documents and I encourage you to join me in supporting the unbiased and open-minded work of the FDA panel as it determines the safety of silicone gel-filled breast implants for American consumers.

MARCH 4, 2005.

U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee, (Members and Health Legislative Assistants).

DEAR SENATORS: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is conducting an ongoing regulatory process regarding breast implants, which the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) fully supports. As physicians and patient advocates, we support sound science and have confidence that the FDA will review valid scientific data and make its decisions based on the best interests of patients. Moreover, we believe a strong post-market surveillance process will serve the best interests of our patients.

As part of this process, the FDA's General and Plastic Surgery Devices Panel will be conducting hearings on April 11-13 regarding the pre-market approval (PMA) applications of two manufacturers' silicone gel-filled breast implants. The FDA appointed panel represents areas of expertise and judgment relevant to the product under review including academicians in specific fields, such as from radiology, oncology, biostatistics, ethics, plastic surgery, general surgery and other disciplines. Each panelist is rigorously screened and cleared by the FDA in advance of their participation. Historically, panelists have been permitted to engage in educational activities promoting patient care. These activities have not been deemed conflicts of interest. Anti-breast implant advocates continue to raise this issue to discredit qualified and reputable clinicians.

As a matter of background, the FDA's General and Plastic Surgery Devices Panel conducted a similar hearing in October 2003. The

hearings were conducted in a highly open and transparent process, with more than 20 hours of public testimony and signification deliberation. Ultimately, the 2003 Advisory Panel recommended approval of the device with a number of conditions. The conditions outlined by the panel include development of a model informed consent form, patient education, surgeon education, patient follow-up and exams, annual reports to FDA, implant retrieval testing, a breast implant registry, and recommendation for removal of ruptured implants. In January 2004, the FDA decided to postpone action pending submission of additional manufacturer data outlined in a revised draft guidance to be addressed at this subsequent panel hearing.

Given the level of interest in the FDA's review of silicone breast implants, it is important that Members of Congress are provided accurate and science-based information concerning these medical devices.

PATIENT SAFETY

The ASPS believes that the FDA's scrutiny of this product is appropriate to ensure patient safety. We are not interested in supporting any device that is not proven safe. In 2000, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) issued an exhaustive report that reviewed and analyzed the scientific literature on silicone breast implants. The IOM concluded that there is no link between silicone breast implants and systemic disease. The primary safety issues for women who choose breast implants are local in nature and include the following complications: (1) Capsular contracture or tightening of natural scar tissue around the implant (contracture is unpredictable and, when severe, may require corrective surgery); (2) Implant rupture, which carries risk of additional surgery for replacement; and (3) Infections associated with breast implants, which are generally not common. The IOM report noted that while breast implants have improved over time, patient safety issues associated with local complications require additional research. The ASPS has supported and is supporting continued research in these and other areas.

Our clinical experience over 35 years with breast augmentation surgery shows an excellent track record and the demand for breast augmentation surgery has grown steadily with nearly 250,000 procedures performed in 2003. The ASPS believes that an important component of patient safety and satisfaction with breast augmentation depends on patients being fully informed about both the benefits and risks of the surgical procedure. Consequently, ASPS has developed a comprehensive document that covers all of the risks and potential complications in breast implant surgery for plastic surgeons to use when discussing the procedure with their patients.

CHOICE

Currently saline-filled breast implants, approved by the FDA in 2000, are the only implants available for general use in breast augmentation. Silicone gel-filled implants may only be used in clinical trials for reconstructive breast surgery and limited clinical trials for breast augmentation. The FDA's device approval process will determine whether requirements for safety and efficacy have been met and whether women should have additional choices regarding the type of implants they may select for breast surgery. The implant type that provides the best aesthetic outcome depends on a variety of individual patient factors. In all cases, patient safety and informed decision making should be primary considerations in selecting a particular type of implant.

Like other implantable medical devices, breast implants may not last a lifetime. Hundreds of thousands of women understand

this fact and still choose to undergo breast implant surgery. Current research shows that an overwhelming majority are happy with their decision.

HISTORY/SCIENCE

It is important to distinguish between anecdotal and scientific evidence with regard to breast implants. Anecdotal evidence and junk science do not provide valid contributions to the review and analysis of this device. Plastic surgeons actively support valid scientific research on the safety and efficacy of breast implants, as well as the psychological impact of breast augmentation. The following are select areas of scientific research that Congress should be aware of in relation to breast implants.

The National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine report, issued in 2000, found no scientific evidence of an association between silicone breast implants and disease; the report represents a comprehensive and unbiased review of breast implant safety by top experts in a variety of medical fields. *Safety of Silicone Breast Implants*, Institute of Medicine, National Academy Press, 2000.

Recent studies about suicide among Scandinavian women who have breast implants warrant further investigation. Suicide is a very complicated problem with many contributing factors; biological, genetic, social and cultural. It is important to note that the recent studies do not show a "cause and effect" relationship between breast implants and suicide. Plastic surgeons and the medical community in the U.S. have studied breast implants, breast augmentation patients, and breast reconstruction patients for more than 30 years with no indication of a relationship between breast implant surgery and suicide. Further investigation of this issue is appropriate. Mortality among augmentation mammoplasty patients. *Epidemiology*. 2001; 12:321-326. Total and cause specific mortality among Swedish women with cosmetic breast implants: prospective study. *Brit Med j*. 326:527-528, 2003.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) issued a report to Congress in May of 2003 on the status of its research on the long-term health effects of breast implants. The report stated that there was not sufficient evidence to support any relationship between breast implants and connective tissue disorders. The NIH report also cited a recent National Cancer Institute (NCI) finding that women with breast implants showed a slight decrease in the risk for breast cancer. *National Institutes of Health. Breast implants: status of research at the National Institutes of Health*, May 2003.

Since the Institute of Medicine report in 2000, numerous studies have been conducted which investigate the purported connection of breast implants to cancer. However, researchers have consistently found no persuasive evidence of causal association between breast implants and any type of cancer. *Breast Implants and Cancer: Causation, Delayed Detection and Survival*, May, 2001 *Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*.

In 2000, the Plastic Surgery Educational Foundation established the National Breast Implant Registry (NaBIR). It was founded to collect and analyze data regarding breast implant surgery to further understand the risks and benefits of this procedure. To date more than 21,000 women have registered with NaBIR and there are 316 surgical facilities entering data. We believe that NaBIR is quickly becoming a world standard for an electronic breast implant registry, as it is being considered in a number of European and Latin American countries. In December of 2002, the European Union mandated that participating countries implement breast implant registries by 2004; Denmark, Eng-

land, Finland, and Germany have already implemented programs. Australia and Brazil have also implemented registries.

The ASPS and its members support sound science and have been leaders in the research on the safety and efficacy of breast implant surgery. Our primary concern is the safety of our patients and we are strongly interested in the collection of accurate and reliable data pertaining to breast implants. We recently launched the medically-grounded online resource for women and other concerned parties, www.reastimplantsafety.org. We encourage you to visit the site for the latest information on breast implants and patient safety. We believe that the upcoming hearing of the FDA General and Plastic Surgery Devices panel will again be rigorous and the panel deliberations will be largely based on the findings of science, rather than emotion and anecdote.

The ASPS has offered to work with the FDA, public, and manufacturer in order to address many of the conditions attached to the panel's affirmative recommendation. Specifically, the panel recommended that the manufacturer work with professional organizations to create patient and surgeon education materials, a model informed consent form, and establish a breast implant registry and we are responding to that call. We hear stories every day of women whose lives have been dramatically improved with the use of this device. We are hopeful that the FDA's regulatory review process can continue moving toward a conclusion based on science.

Sincerely,

SCOTT L. SPEAR, MD,
ASPS President.

SAFETY OF SILICONE BREAST IMPLANTS

BACKGROUND

In October, 2003, the General and Plastic Surgery Devices Panel convened by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) concluded that there was a dearth of long-term safety data related to silicone breast implants. Contrary to this contention, there are in fact almost 100 published papers in the peer-reviewed biomedical literature assessing long-term effects of cosmetic breast implants, virtually all of which are reassuring in their lack of evidence for adverse effects.

Concerns about a link between silicone breast implants and various adverse health outcomes were initially raised in the 1980's and early 1990's by anecdotal case reports. However, as unanimously concluded by several independent expert review committees by the late 1990's,¹⁻⁵ these alleged health risks have not been supported by the numerous analytic epidemiologic studies of cosmetic breast implant recipients. Since publication of these independent reviews from various countries, including the United States, a large number of long-term cohort studies of connective tissue diseases, undefined connective tissue disease, cancer, neurologic disorders, mother-offspring effects and mortality have been published.⁶⁻³⁸

CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISEASE

More than 20 case-control and cohort investigations have been conducted in North America and Europe to evaluate the potential association between cosmetic silicone breast implants and the occurrence of CTDs. Initially, the primary concern was the occurrence of systemic sclerosis, although these epidemiologic studies have examined the occurrence of numerous other CTDs. The published case-control studies,³⁹⁻⁴⁹ and cohort studies,^{6,18,35,37,50-59} many of which have been large, long-term follow-up studies, have been remarkably consistent in finding no evidence

of an association between silicone breast implants and any individual CTD or all established CTDs combined. Moreover, meta-analyses, weight-of-the-evidence, and critical reviews have unanimously concluded that there is no evidence of an association between breast implants and any of the CTDs evaluated individually or combined.^{2-5,60-66}

"ATYPICAL:" CONNECTIVE TISSUE DISEASE

An association has also been hypothesized between silicone breast implants and some new "atypical" disease, which does not fulfill established diagnostic criteria for any known CTD and may bear some resemblance to fibromyalgia.⁶⁷ Those studies which did include undefined CTD as an outcome, many of which have been large, long-term follow-up studies, have been strikingly consistent in finding no convincing evidence of an association between silicone breast implants and atypical connective tissue or rheumatic disease.^{2,5,6,8,14,18,24,46,68}

FIBROMYALGIA

In 2001, Brown et al.³⁵ reported an excess of self-reported fibromyalgia among women who had ruptured implants with extracapsular silicone migration (extracapsular rupture) diagnosed by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). However, this elevated risk ratio cannot be meaningfully interpreted, due to the inappropriate use of a combined group of women with intracapsular rupture and women with intact implants as the comparison group.⁶⁸⁻⁷⁰ It is also noteworthy that the rates of fibromyalgia reported among women with intact implants or intracapsular ruptures in the study by Brown et al.³⁶ are remarkably high compared with the estimated prevalence rate of 3.4% for U.S. women⁷¹ and with similar or lower prevalence rates reported in many other countries,^{6,55,72-76} indicating a biased selection of women in that study.

Most recently, Holmich et al.¹⁸ explicitly tested the hypothesis of an increased risk of fibromyalgia by rupture status among 238 unselected women with cosmetic silicone breast implants. There was no excess of undefined CTD or other chronic inflammatory condition, including fibromyalgia. None of the women with extracapsular rupture reported fibromyalgia. Thus, the finding by Brown et al.³⁵ of a greater than two-fold excess of self-reported fibromyalgia among women with extracapsular rupture was not confirmed in the study by Holmich et al.,¹⁸ who concluded that implant rupture is not associated with fibromyalgia or other rheumatic conditions.

BREAST AND OTHER CANCERS

More than 10 epidemiologic studies, many of which have been large and able to assess long-term risks, have been conducted in Europe and North America to evaluate the potential association between cosmetic breast implants and the incidence of breast or other cancers, notably lung cancer, cancers of the cervix and vulva, leukemia, and multiple myeloma.^{17,23,24,32-34,77-83} Although the primary concern has been breast cancer risk, epidemiologic studies have been remarkably consistent in finding no evidence of increased risk for breast or other cancers among women with breast implants; in fact; in most studies the risk of breast cancer was below expectation.^{1,2,84,85} The rare reported excesses of lung and cervical cancer are likely due to confounding by lifestyle factors and/or reproductive characteristics. In fact only the cohort study by Brinton et al.,³⁴ which reported a significant excess of deaths from brain cancer, has reported an association with a cancer that is not a likely result of lifestyle factors such as smoking or other activities that are unrelated to implants. The extreme risk estimate for brain cancer

reported in this study, which suffers from several methodological shortcomings, is inconsistent with the overwhelming weight of the epidemiologic evidence and is biologically implausible.⁸⁶

BREAST CANCER DETECTION

Concern has been raised that the ability to detect early breast cancer is limited in women with breast implants. The hypothesis that breast implants may interfere with physical breast examination or mammographic visualization of breast tumors, leading to delays in breast cancer diagnosis and worse prognosis among women receiving implants, is based on the findings of a few early clinical studies.^{87,88} Many of them originating from the same clinic. However, the interpretation of these clinical case series is hampered by potential referral or ascertainment bias, small sample size and absence of a control group. The results of numerous analytic epidemiologic studies, which used control groups to provide comparison data, consistently show that women with breast implants do not in fact present with more advanced stages of breast cancer or experience shorter survival (the clinically relevant outcomes), thus indicating no delay in breast cancer detection following breast augmentation.^{19,32,71,89-97}

In a recently published large-scale study,⁹⁸ women receiving silicone gel implants for breast reconstruction after breast cancer had significantly lower mortality rates than those women who did not receive breast implants after cancer surgery. Thus, there is no evidence that silicone gel implants adversely affect survival following breast cancer.

NEUROLOGIC DISEASE

With respect to other outcomes, during the past six years, three large, population-based cohort studies have been conducted to evaluate risk for neurologic disease among women with cosmetic breast implants,^{9,28,99} and no association has been found.

OFFSPRING EFFECTS AND BREASTFEEDING

Similarly, three epidemiologic investigations,^{10,15,100} all population-based retrospective cohort studies, have examined health outcomes among children born to mothers with silicone breast implants, and none has found evidence of adverse health outcomes among the children. Concerns about possible contamination of breast milk with silicone compounds and of potential adverse health effects to infants who are breastfed by mothers with silicone breast implants are not supported by the scientific literature. In fact, the American Academy of Pediatrics¹⁰¹ policy statement on the transfer of drugs and other chemicals into human milk concluded that "The Committee on Drugs does not feel that the evidence currently justifies classifying silicone implants as a contraindication to breastfeeding." Similarly, the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences² concluded that "convincing evidence is available that silicon concentrations in breast milk are the same in mothers with and without breast implants, and thus there are no data to support transmission of silicone to infants in breast milk of mothers with implants."

RUPTURE INCIDENCE

There has been only one published study to date that directly examined the true incidence rate of breast implant rupture by repeated MRI.²¹ In a follow-up to their rupture prevalence study,¹² in which 271 women study had a baseline MRI in 1999, a repeat MRI was performed two years later and a rupture incidence analysis was performed based on 317 implants (in 186 women). The authors found an overall rupture incidence rate for definite ruptures of 5.3% per year. The rupture rate increased significantly with

implant age. For "third generation" implants (barrier-coated, low bleed implants available since 1988), the percentage of implants that remained intact was estimated as 98% at 5 years and 83%-85% at 10 years.²¹ Only one prospective study to date has been conducted to address the possible health implications of ruptured, in situ silicone breast implants.

In this unique study, Holmich et al.,²⁵ examined the possible health implications, including changes over time in MRI findings, serological markers, or self-reported breast symptoms, of untreated silicone breast implant ruptures. Sixty-four women with implant rupture diagnosed by MRI were followed for two years, and a second MRI was performed. A control group of women with no evidence of rupture on either MRI was used for comparison. The majority of women had no visible MRI changes of their ruptured implants. There was no increase in autoantibody levels, and no increase in reported breast hardness. Women did report a significant increase in non-specific breast changes compared with women in the control group. The authors concluded that, for most women, rupture is a harmless condition which does not appear to progress or to produce significant clinical symptoms.

LONG-TERM FOLLOW-UP

Over the past six years, the majority of the epidemiologic cohort studies were performed in Scandinavia, where unique nationwide databases and data-linking possibilities exist. Table 1 presents the average years of follow-up and the maximum years of follow-up for these cohort studies, by country:

TABLE 1

Country	Ave. yrs. of follow-up	Max. yrs. of follow-up
Denmark	9	23
Breiting et al. ²⁴	19	35
Finland	10	30
Sweden	11	29

These studies had, on average, a decade of follow-up and almost three decades of follow-up for the longest term implant recipients. In the recent Danish study by Breiting et al.,²⁴ the average years of follow-up was 19, with a maximum of 35 years. Thus, the large body of nationwide investigations originating in these populations belies the assertion that there is a dearth of data on long-term effects of silicone breast implants.

SUICIDE

Four mortality studies have reported elevated risks of suicide among women with cosmetic breast implants compared with the general population.^{20,29,30,34} Recently, however, the suicide excess has been shown to be related to pre-implant psychiatric disorders.³⁰

SUMMARY

In summary, after almost a decade of extensive epidemiologic research, the weight of the epidemiologic evidence is overwhelmingly reassuring that there are no long-term adverse effects associated with silicone breast implants.

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