

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY Mr. Speaker, on September 8, 2005, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes numbered 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, and 464. Rollcall vote 458 was on ordering the Previous Question for a bill providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules. Rollcall vote 459 was on agreeing to the Resolution providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules. Rollcall vote 460 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3673, a bill to further Emergency Supplemental Appropriations, Hurricane Katrina, 2005. Rollcall vote 461 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3669, a bill to temporarily increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for carrying out the national flood insurance program. Rollcall vote 462 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3668, a bill to provide the Secretary of Education with waiver authority for students who are eligible for Federal student grant assistance who are adversely affected by a major disaster. Rollcall vote 463 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 428, a bill expressing the sincere gratitude of the House of Representatives to the foreign individuals, organizations, and governments that have offered material assistance and other forms of support to those who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina. Rollcall vote 464 was on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 427, a bill relating to the terrorist attacks against the United States on September 11, 2001.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 458 and 459 and "yea" on rollcall votes 460, 461, 462, 463, and 464.

HONORING MR. HYMAN BOOKBINDER: INDEFATIGABLE BATTLE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mrs. CAPPS. I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Hyman Bookbinder, one of our nation's leading advocates for human rights and equality.

The terrible stories and photographs coming out of Louisiana and Mississippi remind us that, among other things, there still is a race divide in America. This is not to say that the response to the disaster was dictated by racial considerations. But it is to say that sadly no accident that the segment of the population that bore much of the brunt of the suffering was predominantly poor and black.

At the same time, we can say with some pride that our country has made significant

progress toward a more just society. It's far from enough but giant strides have been made, particularly in the area of social equality.

An article in Sunday's Washington Post reminded us that these advances did not just happen. They happened because heroes among us made them happen. I have attached a copy of the article for my colleagues.

The article tells the story about the successful 1960 effort to integrate Glen Echo Park, an amusement park in Montgomery County, Maryland, just outside the District line. Glen Echo was a fabulous place of swimming pools, dance halls, carousels, a roller coaster and other summer time amusements. It was so popular that a DC trolley from the Capitol Hill area—and neighborhoods east—was constantly full with kids heading northwest and up MacArthur Boulevard to this delightful recreation spot.

But not African American kids. They were allowed on the trolleys but banned from the park. And the ban was enforced by the Montgomery County police.

In 1960, a group of courageous Howard University students—Dion Diamond, Michael Proctor, and Gwendolyn Britt (now a Maryland state senator)—decided to test the race policy by riding the merry-go-round. They were abused and kicked out.

So they turned to ask for help from the prosperous white Bannockburn community living near the park. And, almost immediately, a movement erupted. Hyman Bookbinder, an AFL-CIO official, and long-time lobbyist for civil rights and Jewish causes, used his organizing and public relations skills to force the owners of Glen Echo Park to back down. Bookie, as everyone calls him, was later an aide to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson. Esther Delaplaine organized the mothers and Ida Leivick, a teacher at the local school, worked with her colleagues. Finally the Supreme Court stepped in and forced Glen Echo either to open up or shut down.

The Howard/Bannockburn coalition had prevailed.

This past Saturday, the people who made it happen gathered at Glen Echo to commemorate a moment in time when all things seemed possible in America.

They still are. We just need more people who are willing to stick their necks out the way these Howard University students and suburbanites did in 1960.

I particularly want to salute Hyman Bookbinder. He is now 89 and over the past sixty-five years, he has been at the forefront of the struggle for human rights, not just down the street in Montgomery County but throughout the world. I've been in the House of Representatives for eight years but I have heard about Bookie's years as a civil rights lobbyist when he was known as the 101st Senator. When people were suffering, he was here fighting, pushing, and cajoling to make things better.

He has helped change this country.

To put it simply, we need more people like Bookie. Thankfully he is still here, always

fighting the good fight and living the Biblical injunction: "Justice, justice, you shall pursue."

[From washingtonpost.com, Sept. 11, 2005]

MARKING A PARK'S SOCIAL REVOLUTION

(by Ann E. Marimow)

The last time Dion Diamond walked through the gates of Glen Echo Amusement Park, he was ushered out after two minutes. The last time Michael Proctor tried to ride the merry-go-round there, he was arrested.

That was in 1960, when blacks were not allowed to swim in the park's famed Crystal Pool, with its slide and fountain, and also could not ride on the roller coaster.

On Saturday, the two civil rights activists returned for the first time to mark the anniversary of the picket lines that led to the desegregation of the park and ultimately to a U.S. Supreme Court case.

"I was never in here for more than a couple minutes," said Diamond, 64, laughing and shaking his head in disbelief as he looked out at the same carousel, with its ornate woodcarved horses and cheerful organ music.

Even though the park's private owners quietly opened the gates to all in 1961, Proctor had never returned.

"I told my kids about it," the Hughesville doctor said. "But way down deep, there were some negative feelings."

The effort to integrate Glen Echo Park, in the summer of 1960, came after the first sit-ins at segregated lunch counters in North Carolina and during student protests throughout the region.

But Glen Echo Park was notable because of the support the protesters, black Howard University students, received from white residents of the nearby Bannockburn neighborhood, some of whom were experienced labor leaders. They walked side by side for five weeks that summer—and they came together again yesterday.

Browsing a collage of black-and-white photos and yellowed newspaper clippings, they recalled some of the most dramatic moments when Proctor and four other members of the D.C. Non-Violent Action Group were arrested for refusing to get off the merry-go-round.

In 1964, the Supreme Court ruled that the Montgomery County deputies had improperly enforced private segregation.

Outside the park gates in 1960, the students brought a sense of fearlessness and enthusiasm. Stay-at-home mothers from Bannockburn were the reliable foot soldiers on the picket line, and the labor leaders brought political connections and organizing strategies.

Esther Delaplaine, who lived five blocks from the park, mobilized fellow mothers. She recalled the intense pain and frustration of the time. "We could ride the merry-go-round, but [black students] got arrested," said Delaplaine, 81.

Her daughter Rocky led yesterday's gathering of 300 people in an emotional rendition of "O Freedom," a song that was sung on the picket line.

Hyman Bookbinder, then an AFL-CIO lobbyist for civil rights, was joined yesterday by his daughter and granddaughter. "The movement wasn't only for us old-timers. It was for our families," said Bookbinder, 89. "This event is a reminder."

For some involved in the sit-ins and picket lines, it was too painful to return. Those who attended said it was as if they were transported in time.

• 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.

Seeing the trolley car parked in front of the gates, Tina Clarke said she felt like a teenager again, as she was when she protested with the county chapter of the NAACP. She said she still could feel the spit on her cheek from a white male heckler that stained the white collar of her blouse.

"There is no time frame on when pain and suffering should end," said Clarke, 67, African American liaison for Montgomery County Executive Douglas M. Duncan (D).

Clarke said she had to explain to friends and relatives who questioned her decision to return to the park that it is now an arts and cultural center operated by a nonprofit partnership with lands managed by the National Park Service.

"It's not just my history; it's our history," she said. "It's part of what helped us get to where we are today. If none of these things happened, where would we be?"

But the park is a troubling memory for some who were children at the time. When Vernon Ricks drives past the park from his home in Potomac, he remembers riding the trolley car to the entrance on Sundays. From the windows, he could see the neon lights, the merry-go-round and the wooden roller coaster, but he could not enter. He attended the gathering because his wife, Janet, wanted to "start the healing of a scar," she said.

"To me, it is still a symbol of segregation," said Ricks, 66. "I'm still not happy to be here."

Later, he added, "Don't say I'm coming back."

Taking her husband's hand, Janet Ricks said, "Yes, you are. Yes, you are."

HONORING NORTH OAKLAND MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of North Oakland Missionary Baptist Church of Oakland, California on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Organized between 1904 and 1905, the church was originally known as Richard Clark Memorial and then as North Oakland Church of Christ before adopting its current name. North Oakland's congregation began as a small handful of faithful community residents that met at members' homes and other locations before pooling their resources to build the first church on Alden Street. Reverend J.A. Dennis was designated as the first pastor of North Oakland in 1905, and remained there until 1908.

Throughout the twentieth century and into the twenty-first, North Oakland has been guided by a number of visionary leaders who have implemented a wide variety of forward-thinking, community-enriching programs.

Under the leadership of Dr. G.C. Coleman from 1913 until 1942, North Oakland was institution where members of the black community, particularly those returning from World War I, could become active in community service efforts. Dr. Coleman regularly wrote local newspapers to articulate the need for improvement in job prospects and housing for African Americans, and made North Oakland an active force in the community throughout the 1930s. Dr. Coleman was also instrumental in the creation of the organization now known as the St.

John Missionary Baptist Association of Northern California and Nevada. Since 1910, North Oakland has sent numerous messengers and delegates to the association's conventions, where Dr. Coleman served as Moderator for more than 20 years.

Following the passing of Dr. Coleman, Dr. Ansel O. Bell was elected pastor in 1942. During the war years the church membership grew significantly, and under Reverend Bell's tenure that number reached more than one thousand, an increase which necessitated the construction of a new church in 1960.

Reverend Bell was succeeded in 1967 by Reverend C.B. Murray. During his 15-year tenure, Reverend Murray presided over several structural improvements to the church, merged the Senior, Men's and Women's Choirs into one, and started "The Voice of Africa," a North Oakland initiative that resulted in church missions to Haiti and Liberia. He was well known throughout local, State, and national faith organizations, and also served as the First Vice-Moderator of the St. John Missionary Baptist Association of California until his death in 1982.

After the interim pastorate of Reverend Sylvester Rutledge from 1982 until 1984, Dr. Lloyd C. Blue served as North Oakland's pastor from 1984 until 1990. Upon his retirement, Reverend Rutledge again served as interim pastor, and was selected in 1991 as the pastor of North Oakland Missionary Baptist Church, a capacity in which he continues to serve today. Reverend Rutledge came to North Oakland in 1964, under the pastorate of the late Reverend Bell. He served as Associate Sunday School Teacher in the Young Adult Class and also served as a teacher in the Children's Class. Selected as a candidate for deaconship in 1966 and ordained in 1968, Reverend Rutledge has served North Oakland and our community with distinction for over 4 decades.

In recent years, North Oakland has remained at the forefront of community building and improvement efforts throughout the City of Oakland. Most notably, North Oakland recently celebrated the opening of Sylvester Rutledge Manor, a 65-unit affordable apartment complex for low-income seniors that the church developed in partnership with Oakland Community Housing, Inc. This development, completed in July 2003, is located directly adjacent to the church property and is an important step forward in the ongoing struggle to secure affordable housing for all people in our community. Through this effort, the North Oakland Missionary Baptist Church Family is once again letting its light shine on what is often-times a gloomy reality for many, and continues to lift us all up through its unflinching devotion to its members and our community. They have been given a heart of wisdom and knowledge by which their loving kindness and compassion have transcended beyond their walls.

During the month of September 2005, North Oakland Missionary Baptist Church will be celebrating its centennial anniversary in Oakland, California. Throughout the last century, North Oakland's members and leaders have worked tirelessly to provide support and guidance for countless individuals. As members and friends from throughout our community and beyond gather for the series of celebrations that will mark this historic occasion, it is my pleasure to add my voice to theirs in thanking North Oakland Missionary Baptist

Church for its years of dedicated service to the 9th Congressional District, to the Bay Area and to our entire country.

HIKING AND CAMPING IN SAWTOOTH NATIONAL RECREATION AREA AND WHITE CLOUD MOUNTAINS

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, last month I had the pleasure of hiking and camping in Idaho's rugged Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA) and White Cloud Mountains. In part, my trip was a tour of areas that would become wilderness and lands that would be released from wilderness study as part of my bill, H.R. 3603, the Central Idaho Economic Development and Recreation Act (CIEDRA).

The beauty of the mountains and lakes that I viewed is difficult to describe. From the solitude of Castle Lake to the majestic views from Baker Lake towards Castle and Merriam Peaks, it is difficult not to be in awe of the Boulder-White Clouds.

I would like to thank the United States Forest Service for making this trip possible. In particular, Ed Cannady, Sawtooth National Forest Recreation Manager who did an exceptional job in planning and guiding us on the trip. It was also a pleasure to have the Supervisor of the Sawtooth National Forest, Ruth Monahan, the SNRA Area Ranger, Sara Baldwin, and the Deputy SNRA Deputy Area Ranger, Joe Harper join us on our trip. These folks represent the Forest Service very well.

Finally, I want to thank Debra Peters, SNF Trail Maintenance Foreman and Raina Phillips, SNF Wilderness Ranger for packing us in. Those young women showed a lot of experience in working with pack stock, and it's great to see the Forest Service employs such talented stock hands.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to future trips into the Boulder-White Clouds and will continue to work on CIEDRA so that all Americans can enjoy the area for all forms of recreation.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 2, 2005

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, for those of us not on the Gulf Coast, it is impossible to comprehend the experience of those whose lives have been upended by the brute force of Hurricane Katrina. New Orleans and much of the Gulf Coast are a disaster area—bodies float in floodwaters that still rise unchecked, power is out, looters steal without fear, and violence is widespread. Our Nation grieves with the residents and survivors and we will stand with them during the long road to recovery.

Hurricane Katrina appears to be headed for the history books as one of the worst national disasters ever to hit the United States. Yet the deeper tragedy is not just how large a toll this storm will eventually take, but how avoidable it all could have been.

The devastation wrought on the Gulf tonight is the result of two terrible disasters. The first was the fury of nature. The other is the unnecessary consequence of this government's inexcusable failure to prepare for the inevitable.

The primary function of a government is to ensure the safety of its citizens. This Congress and this Administration have failed to do so in the most incompetent and willfully negligent way imaginable.

This hurricane was not a surprise. For decades meteorologists, State and local officials, Army engineers, academics, and, yes, FEMA have warned that a Category Four or Five hurricane hitting New Orleans was among the top three most likely major disasters to affect the United States and that we must be prepared. The most recent analysis was conducted just last year, where a computer simulation of the fictional "Hurricane Pam" pounded New Orleans much as Katrina did, pushing the waters of Lake Pontchartrain through the levees flooding the city and stranding 300,000 poor and African-American New Orleanians.

The day before Katrina reached land, FEMA's own director, Michael Brown, raised the possibility of the levees being breached. On August 28th, Brown told CNN that "we knew from experience, based back in the '40s and even in the late 1800s, if a Category Four or Five hurricane were to strike New Orleans just right, the flooding would be devastating. It could be catastrophic." And yet the President said just yesterday that "I don't think anybody anticipated the breach of the levees."

Plans to prepare for this catastrophe had been developed at FEMA as early as the 1990s when President Clinton's FEMA Director, James Lee Witt, laid out a plan for coping with a nightmare scenario in New Orleans that included pre-positioning hospital ships and pumps to handle the catastrophe. Why this was not done is just the beginning of the laundry list of problems with the response to this disaster. Command and control has still not been established. There are FEMA personnel on site and they can do nothing as they await instructions from the bureaucracy in Washington. When will someone take control? The Gulf Coast desperately needs a leader to emerge at FEMA who can direct its operation. Why has this taken so long?

Lurking just below the surface is another set of troubling questions: What if this had been a terrorist attack? Is our emergency response capability so weak that a levee breach, or power outages, or debris can incapacitate an entire region? President Bush has pledged repeatedly since 9/11, now over 4 years ago, that he would keep our country safe. Is this the best this Administration can do? Do our citizens not deserve all the protection and support this government can provide?

The reality is that this country is woefully unprepared to respond to a major domestic disaster in this country because FEMA has been systematically dismantled over the past 5 years by incompetent leaders, anti-government ideology, budget cuts, and bureaucratic red tape.

FEMA's current problems essentially began with the creation of the Department of Home-

land Security, which demoted FEMA from cabinet-level status and reduced it to one of 22 organizations under the umbrella of the Secretary of Homeland Security. Next, its mission was reprioritized and its budget cut, taking the emphasis off of responding to natural disasters while the upper ranks of management were filled by patronage hires, five out of eight having had no emergency preparedness experience. At the same time, FEMA's professional staff was becoming increasingly demoralized. By this week, nine out of ten regional director positions were vacant, as were three out of five disaster response director positions. This brain drain left an agency without the proper leadership, resources, or influence in government to cope with a major catastrophe.

Responsibility, however, does not rest solely with the Bush Administration. This Congress has been a willing co-conspirator in the degradation of FEMA's capabilities.

Since 2001, many Federal disaster mitigation programs have fallen to budgetary pressures. FEMA's Project Impact, a model mitigation program, has been canceled outright. Federal funding of post-disaster mitigation efforts designed to protect people and property from the next disaster has been cut in half, and now communities across the country must compete for pre-disaster mitigation dollars.

In 2003, Congress approved a White House proposal to cut FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program in half. Previously, the Federal government was committed to investing 15 percent of the recovery costs of a disaster toward mitigating future problems. Under the Bush formula, only 7.5 percent are given. Experts say that such post-disaster mitigation efforts are the best way to minimize future losses.

In 2004 alone, Congress cut FEMA's budget by \$170 million.

And FEMA is not the only agency to feel the effects of budget cuts. Bush's 2005 budget proposal called for a 13 percent reduction in the Army Corps of Engineers' budget, down to \$4 billion from \$4.6 billion in fiscal 2004 and the New Orleans Corp of Engineers was to lose \$71.2 million out of its budget, the largest cut in its history. This is the very agency responsible for the New Orleans levee system. Assistant Secretary of the Army Michael Parker was even fired for accusing the Bush Administration of failing to adequately fund the Corp of Engineers before Katrina struck.

Natural disasters are a fact of life in this country. Hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes are just some of the eventualities that will inevitably occur and need to be dealt with. Over the past decade, FEMA has responded to more than 500 such disasters with varying degrees of effectiveness. But Katrina has provided its first major test since September 11. The repercussions of the failure of that test are staggering.

Going forward, I believe we need to create a bipartisan, national commission, similar to the 9/11 Commission, to provide an objective look at what went wrong and to make recommendations to repair what is clearly a broken system. Doing so is essential to restoring the confidence of the American people in our government's ability to respond to a crisis on American soil and to keep them safe. The people of the Gulf Coast have demanded answers to their questions and we owe them that.

There is also much more to be said about what this catastrophe has to reveal about the

problems of race and class in America. It is in some way illustrative of this Administration's neglect of the less fortunate that those in the worst situations after this storm are the poorest and most disenfranchised populations—precisely the people this Administration's policies have, at best, callously ignored.

But social justice is a conversation for a later time. For now, we must focus on the immediate task at hand. Our duty is to do everything we can for the victims of this disaster and to rebuild the Gulf Coast. We begin tonight with this modest appropriation of \$10.5 billion. Hundreds of billions more are certain to follow. The money will pay for the finest clean up possible, but, in the end, it will not change the reality that things did not have to happen this way.

CONGRATULATING TOM ENGIBOUS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Tom Engibous, this year's recipient of the American Electronics Association's Medal of Achievement Award.

Since 1959, the Medal of Achievement has been presented annually for significant contributions to the advancement of the high-tech industry and for distinguished service to the community, the industry and humankind. Mr. Engibous is fortunate enough to join the select group of high-tech leaders who have received this honor by becoming the fifty-first recipient of the coveted award.

Tom Engibous is the chairman, president and chief executive officer of Texas Instruments Incorporated. While serving in previous roles at TI, Mr. Engibous helped transform the company from a broad-based conglomerate to a semiconductor company. His strategic focus and ability to quickly execute on the elements needed to reconfigure the company laid the foundation for the TI of today—a semiconductor leader in signal processing technology that has gained widespread recognition among customers, the financial community and the general public.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Tom Engibous for receiving the highest award given by the American Electronics Association. His contributions to the technology industry and service to the community should inspire us all.

TRIBUTE TO SIMEON TERRY, NATIONAL MINORITY BUSINESS ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize today, Simeon O. Terry, Minority Business Enterprise Program Administrator for Austin Commercial L.P. in Dallas, who received the National Minority Business Advocate Award from the Minority Business Development Agency of the U.S. Department of Commerce on September 12, 2005.

Simeon Terry received this honor, in part, for his work as Minority Business Enterprise Program Administrator for Austin Commercial L.P. which is headquartered in my district. He is well known for his efforts to build minority business enterprises (MBE) that promote the inclusion of minority and women entrepreneurs in the Dallas business community while enhancing growth opportunities for minorities and women.

Simeon's background consists of a degree in Industrial & Safety Engineering and over 15 years in the construction industry. He has spent 7 years in the residential construction industry as a Safety Manager, Project Manager, and Operations Manager. In each position he had the opportunity to procure contracts with MBE firms both in specific construction scopes and supplies.

During his term as a Project Manager, over 80 percent of his contracts were established with MBE firms. Simeon also spent 3 years as a Surety Support Program Manager Consultant where he assisted MBE firms in becoming "bond ready", ultimately achieving bonding which would allow them to pursue various construction projects as prime contractors.

He also facilitated safety workshops for small MBE firms and provided consulting to review or establish their in-house safety programs to ensure that they had met the required safety programs for commercial construction. Simeon has consulted on numerous housing development projects in Dallas for non-profit organizations. He assisted local MBE contractors with project management and project administration duties such as estimating, scheduling, document control, certified payroll and project inspection.

Simeon is actively involved in his church where he teaches youth Bible Study, and plays the bass guitar for several choirs. He is also an active member of the National Society of Black Engineers, the National Society of Black MBAs, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, this Nation's small business community needs more giving individuals like Simeon Terry. His work has contributed much to making Dallas a better place to live for everyone.

I am proud to represent him in the U.S. House of Representatives and wanted to bring his many accomplishments to the attention of my colleagues.

JEWISH COMMUNITY SUPPORT
FOR ISRAEL'S DISENGAGEMENT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, just before we adjourned, the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston issued a very thoughtful statement in support of the disengagement by Israel from the Gaza Strip, and the dismantling by the Israeli Government of Israeli settlements in that area.

Mr. Speaker, this was a very wrenching process for many in Israel, and the willingness of the Government of Israel—supported by a majority of the people of Israel—to engage in this withdrawal with all of its difficult emotional strains speaks highly of that country's willingness to take steps for peace.

The withdrawal from Gaza should not be the last action taken in this process, but it is unreasonable to expect that they will be able to take further actions in the absence of a showing by the Palestinian Authority of its willingness and ability to respond in kind to this disengagement.

The statement of the JCRC is a first rate statement of what should be done going forward, and it is an appropriate expression of support of a majority of the Jewish Community of Greater Boston for a peace process that is thoughtful, balanced and prudent. I ask that this important statement be printed here.

JEWISH COMMUNITY EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR
ISRAEL'S DISENGAGEMENT PLAN

Nancy K. Kaufman, Executive Director and Susan A. Calechman, President of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston issued the following statement today regarding Israel's plans to disengage from the Gaza Strip and communities in northern Samaria.

The JCRC fully supports Prime Minister Sharon and the government of Israel as they begin implementation of the Gaza disengagement plan. Israel's vigorous democracy is taking bold and courageous risks in an effort to protect her security and to renew the process of resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We also support the Israeli government's effort to resolve the conflict through a negotiated two-state solution as expressed in the Road Map. Final borders and other final status issues must be left to the parties themselves to negotiate in a peace process free from violence and the threat of violence.

Disengagement will only lead to a peaceful outcome if there is a commitment on the part of the Palestinian leadership to put an end to terrorism. We call upon the Palestinian Authority (PA) to disarm the terrorist groups and their infrastructure. This includes removal of existing stockpiles of weapons and preventing such stockpiles from being rebuilt; preventing the smuggling of weapons; closing of clandestine weapons manufacturing and preventing attacks, especially during the disengagement process. The future of peace, and the stability of the PA itself, is fully dependent on it taking this action.

We recognize the profound sacrifices being made by the families who are being relocated, some after living in their homes for nearly 30 years. The loss of their homes, synagogues, farms, businesses and schools is an immense sacrifice which should be recognized with efforts made to bridge any gaps that develop among Israelis as a result of this effort.

We condemn the rhetoric of a tiny extremist fringe that promotes violence as a response to policies undertaken by the democratically elected Israeli government. At the same time, the rights of free speech and lawful dissent which are basic and indispensable in a democratic society must be protected. It is critically important that those with differing views of the peace process condemn explicit hate speech, venomous language, and threatening words. It is also important that discussion among all the conflicting viewpoints be created to promote an atmosphere in which differences can be expressed with civility and respect.

We call on the U.S. government to continue its work with Israeli and Palestinian leaders to ensure that all commitments are met and that a resolution to this conflict leads to a secure peace for both sides.

HONORING STEPHANIE FOTI BELLIAN FOR HER EXTENSIVE COMMUNITY SERVICE AND DEDICATION TO THE PEOPLE OF CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this article is from the obituary section of the Jamestown Post Journal.

STEPHANIE BELLIAN

AUG. 30.—Stephanie Foti Bellian, 36, of 38 West Virginia Blvd., died Sunday (Aug. 28, 2005) in her home.

She was born March 28, 1969, the daughter of Sebastian "Busty" Foti and the late Shirley Walz Foti.

She was a 1987 graduate of Jamestown High School, attended Jamestown Community College, graduate from the University at Fredonia in 1991 and earned her master's degree from St. Bonaventure University. She was assistant director of continuing education at Jamestown Community College where she also taught psychology.

Active in the community, she was involved with the Chautauqua Leadership Network, Society for Human Resource Management, and the Great Empire Zone Board of Directors. She was also involved with the Southern Tier West Human Resource Committee, the Girl Scouts of Southwestern New York Policy Committee and volunteered with Hospice of Chautauqua County.

She will be sadly missed by her sister-in-law, Karen Foti, her nephew, Nicholas Foti and her brother-in-law, Joe Samaritano.

Besides her father of Jamestown, she is survived by a brother, Scott J. Foti of West Seneca; a sister, Stacey Samaritano of Hamburg; and her paternal grandmother, Josephine Foti of Jamestown.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Thursday in St. James Catholic Church. The Rev. Robert Stolinski, parochial vicar, will be celebrant. Burial will be in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Friends will be received from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in the Hubert Funeral Home where a Christian Burial Service will be held at 8:30 p.m.

Memorials may be made to the Humane Society, 2825 Strunk Road; or Hospice of Chautauqua County, 4840 West Lake Road, Mayville, N.Y., 14757.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of this amazing woman.

HONORING LEROY E. LYON, JR.

HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to remember and honor an outstanding citizen, Mr. LeRoy E. Lyon, Jr., from Granite Bay, California. Following a lifetime of dedication to God, family, and community, he died of a heart attack in his home Sunday, July 17, 2005. He was 84 years old.

LeRoy was born on Dec. 4, 1920, in Anaheim, California. His father, LeRoy, Sr., was a respected orange grower who served on the Orange County Board of Supervisors. This heritage led him to a career in public service as well.

In 1942, he earned a bachelor's degree in geology at the University of Southern California, USC. He then went to work for the U.S. Geological Survey in Washington, DC, where he met the love of his life, the former Martha Seymour. In April 1944, they were married, beginning a journey together that lasted 61 years.

A month after their wedding, LeRoy joined the U.S. Navy as an officer. He served as an intelligence specialist in the Pacific during the final months of World War II. In early 1946, he was reassigned to Key West, and after his discharge, he returned to USC to study law. He received his juris doctorate degree in 1949. After passing the State Bar of California exam on his first try, he became a general practitioner in Santa Ana.

Mr. Speaker, after the Korean War began, LeRoy was recalled to active duty in 1951. In Korea, he served with Vice Admiral C. Turner Joy's staff for the initial truce talks. Interestingly, he was still on active duty as a Navy lieutenant at Miramar Naval Air Station in the San Diego area when he was elected to the California State Assembly in 1952. In the legislature, he championed right-to-work laws, believing it to be the way to increase dignity and empowerment for individual workers.

Following his brief tenure as a legislator, he applied his legal mind, legislative know-how, and professional contacts to advocate on behalf of the California Railroad Association. He represented the organization both in Washington and Sacramento, also serving as general counsel. After 20 years, he became a lobbyist representing several clients with the firm of A.E. Davis & Co. until his retirement in 1990.

Surpassing his contributions to his country through military and political service, LeRoy was known as a humble, caring father and husband. He upheld the tenants of his Christian faith with honor. In short, my friend LeRoy was a good man.

He is survived by his wife, Martha "Marty" Lyon of Granite Bay; daughters Sylvia Foster of Hillsboro, Ore., Janet White of Colfax and Rebekah Lawson of Forest Hill; a brother, the Rev. W. DeWitt Lyon of Fullerton; 11 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by a son, Ted Lyon, in 2003.

Today, I join with LeRoy E. Lyon Jr.'s family, friends, and community to commemorate his life of committed service, good citizenship, and uncommon decency. May he rest in peace.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. CLAIR M.
CARLIN OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the life and work of community leader Attorney Clair M. Carlin of Youngstown, Ohio. His life was marked by distinguished service to his country, the state of Ohio, and the Youngstown area.

Mr. Carlin was born on April 20, 1947 in Sharon, Pennsylvania to Charles W. and Caroline Vukasich Carlin. While acquiring his Bachelor of Science degree in Economics

from The Ohio State University in 1969, Mr. Carlin served as a Second Lieutenant in Ohio State's ROTC program. In 1972, he graduated from the U.S. Army Signal Officer Basic Course at Fort Gordon and simultaneously obtained a law degree from the Moritz College of Law at The Ohio State University. Mr. Carlin subsequently attended the Military Police Officers Advance Course in 1979 as well as the Command and General Staff College in 1980. Until 1982, he served in the Army National Guard.

Throughout his career, Mr. Carlin held many distinguished positions including Special Counsel for the city of Youngstown and the Ohio Office of Attorney General, Hearing Examiner for the Ohio Department of Taxation, State Director of Catholic War Veterans, and Law Director for the City of Newton Falls. Additionally, Mr. Carlin served as the President of the Ohio Academy of Trial Lawyers and was the Governor of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He was also a member of the American Bar Association, the Ohio State Bar Association, and was President of the Mahoning County Bar Association.

Finally, Mr. Carlin contributed greatly to his community. He was an active member of the Mahoning County Volunteer Services Agency Board of Directors, the Ohio Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and the American Legion Post in Poland, Ohio. Mr. Carlin's proudest personal achievement, however, was attaining the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Carlin was a loving husband to his wife, Pamela Rodehaver, and a caring father to his children Elizabeth, Alexander, and Eric. So today, I wish to honor Mr. Clair Carlin whose life's work prevails as a model for all.

TRIBUTE TO COL CHARLES S.
SERIO, MSC, USA, PH.D., ON HIS
RETIREMENT AS BRIGADE COM-
MANDER OF THE UNIFORMED
SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE
HEALTH SERVICES

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to thank Charles S. Serio, COL, MSC, USA, Ph.D, Brigade Commander of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, USUHS for his tremendous service to our country. On September 7, 2005, Colonel Serio marked the end of eight years of service at USUHS, and concluded a 37-year career of Federal service.

Colonel Serio was born on August 26, 1946, and graduated from his home-state University of Mississippi with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Biology, in 1969. He earned his Master Degree in 1973 and completed his Doctoral Degree in Immunology in 1975. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Among his numerous awards and decorations are the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Army Superior Unit Award, the National Defense Service

Award, and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. Colonel Serio has also earned the following badges, which denote operational expertise: Airborne, Air Assault, Expert Field Medical, and German Troop Proficiency Duty, Gold.

He was awarded the "A" Proficiency Designator in Immunology by the Army Surgeon General, the highest award given in recognition of professional accomplishment by the United States Army Medical Department. He was also selected as a member of the "Order of the Military Medical Merit," which denotes distinguished service as recognized by the senior leadership of the Army Medical Department. Colonel Serio is the author of numerous scientific publications in immunology and radiobiology in both national and international journals.

His career includes positions of responsibility such as: the Detachment Commander, 330th General Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee; Clinical Laboratory Officer and Bacteriologist with the 326th Medical Detachment, 801st General Hospital, Chicago, Illinois; Chief of the Immunology Branch, William Beaumont Army Medical Center, El Paso, Texas; Microbiology Consultant to the Commanding General, 7th MEDCOM; Staff Officer and Manager of Science and Technology, Medical Research and Material Command, Fort Detrick, Maryland; and, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, United States Military Academy, West Point, New York.

In June of 1997, Colonel Serio was selected to serve as the 4th Brigade Commander at USUHS. As the Brigade Commander, Colonel Serio was recognized as the senior officer of the University with responsibility for command of over 1,000 members of the USUHS Brigade, representing the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, and Public Health Service. Colonel Serio served as the senior military advisor to the President of USUHS for 8 years. During his service as the USUHS Brigade Commander, he became an invaluable asset as a role model, teacher and mentor to over 1,500 uniformed medical, nursing, and graduate students. Colonel Serio provided lectures to the USUHS medical and nursing students in pathophysiology, immunology, biological warfare, and military leadership. He created a recognized Brigade command structure and curriculum in support of the USUHS mission, implemented military unique and significant programs and internationally recognized field training exercises, annually coordinated the USUHS graduation ceremonies, monitored the USUHS strategic goal on military leadership development, and annually exceeded the University's goals in the Combined Federal Campaigns.

His longstanding role as a soldier, scientist, educator, and leader in both undergraduate and graduate education has supported and ensured medical readiness during more than one global conflict. USUHS is recognized as the most cost-effective and qualified source for the recruitment and development of uniformed officers who will hold significant leadership and operational positions throughout the Military Health System. Colonel Serio can be assured that his influence and leadership have greatly assisted the future patients and command officers who will be served by the

uniquely trained USUHS graduates—physicians, advanced practice nurses, and scientists. The University fulfills a critical core requirement for medical readiness in the Department of Defense; and, Colonel Serio has greatly contributed to the preparation of dedicated, career-oriented uniformed officers who will care for those who are sent into harm's way.

I take this opportunity to thank COL Charles Serio for his tremendous dedication and love for our Nation and wish him well as he retires to begin his next demanding career as a grandfather to his five grandchildren along with his three daughters, Shanna, Jada and Tara, and his wife, the former Belva L. McCormick.

STATEMENT ON HURRICANE
KATRINA

HON. CYNTHIA MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, On September 2, 2005, I made the following statement at a press conference in Atlanta, GA and I submit it for the RECORD.

I thank the Mayor and my colleagues for convening this press conference to express solidarity in our concern for the plight of Katrina's victims. The message today is that while we are watching this tragedy unfold, we are not sitting idly by.

The Office of the Fourth Congressional District has adopted Baton Rouge Mosque #65 which is housing 100 New Orleans residents. They need dry goods, food, and hygiene kits. Anyone interested in helping us help these 100 people, please bring donations to our Congressional office as soon as possible.

As we open our hearts, pocketbooks, and homes to Katrina's victims, it is now imperative that the Government do its part.

To see it coming is not enough. The Administration appears flat-footed as its actions have not been fast enough and remain slower than most Americans can comprehend. A responsive government would:

1. Maximize the use of U.S. Customs air assets to drop badly needed food and supplies to the people. Sadly, I have been told by an investigative journalist that precious Customs air assets are available, but are not being used to ferry badly-needed food, radios, and supplies. We dropped food in Afghanistan, certainly we can drop food in the United States.

2. Tell the people what they can expect from their leadership in authority. Clear lines of authority should have been established and the people informed of what the government was going to do to alleviate their suffering. Much of the confusion and chaos we are witnessing is due to ineffective communication of the plan of action to the people in the affected areas.

3. Preposition necessities. It is clear that the Administration failed to preposition hospital ships, pumps, and supplies, in the face of a Category 5 hurricane barreling toward the Gulf States. The Administration is just now mobilizing to satisfy the massive and desperate need. And sadly, 40 percent of the Mississippi National Guard are in Iraq; 35 percent of the Louisiana National Guard are in Iraq; for Florida, the figure is 25 percent; Alabama has 23 percent of its Guard stationed in Iraq.

4. Be careful of the language used. What media bright light decided to term the New

Orleans residents as "refugees"? It is insulting and should be stopped immediately. And, how dare anyone talk down to a devastated population while Bunnatine Greenhouse sits busted from her job because she dared to pull the plug on Halliburton's looting of the U.S. Treasury of billions of dollars. The President asks for patience and lends Katrina's victims his thoughts and prayers. That is not enough given the magnitude of the problem. And FEMA should not now tell victims to take responsibility, but must instead deal with its own responsibility to care for a devastated population. And finally, talk from Speaker Hastert and others questioning the value of rebuilding the City of New Orleans should be arrested immediately.

5. Recalibrate its values and priorities. New Orleans is not just a home for hundreds of thousands; its ports form the heart of America's domestic and international commerce, and our oil and gas nerve center. Shame on this Administration for slashing money to protect New Orleans and shifting it to Halliburton and Iraq. Shame on this Administration for not curtailing our dependency on overconsumption of oil; and for not recognizing global warming. Shame on this Administration for failing to take care of the American people.

6. Offer maximum assistance to people in need. Houston's Astrodome has already reached its capacity. Atlanta has the capacity to give and a desire to share.

Thank you.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 3169 AND H.R.
3668

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 3169, the Pell Grant Hurricane and Disaster Relief Act, and H.R. 3668, the Student Grant Hurricane and Disaster Relief Act, introduced by my colleagues, Congressmen KELLER and JINDAL, respectively.

H.R. 3169 would waive Pell grant repayment requirements for students that were impacted by natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina. Mr. KELLER, who serves with me on the 21st Century Competitiveness Subcommittee on Education and the Workforce, has been advocating for this change in the law since his State of Florida was hit by four hurricanes last year, and he saw how students' lives were impacted by the devastation wrought by the hurricanes.

The Pell Grant Hurricane and Disaster Relief Act will ensure that Hurricane Katrina does not derail the educational dreams of our neediest students. I am pleased to co-sponsor this bill and appreciate its speedy consideration by our leadership.

H.R. 3668 complements Mr. KELLER's bill by waiving repayment requirements for other Federal student grant aid programs that were affected by a natural disaster. I know that this is a difficult time for Mr. JINDAL, his family, and his constituents whose homes have been destroyed and their families scattered across the country. I applaud Congressman JINDAL for his leadership on this bill, and for his ongoing courage and strength throughout this difficult time.

This legislation is the right thing to do because it helps increase assistance and flexibility for students and families impacted by

Hurricane Katrina. Students affected by this devastating natural disaster will be able to focus on rebuilding their lives without an additional burden on their backs.

In the coming days and weeks, I will continue to work with my colleagues and with the administration and governmental agencies to examine the areas that have been impacted by this terrible tragedy and what additional flexibility and assistance we may be able to provide to help restore normalcy to students and their families.

I thank Mr. KELLER and Mr. JINDAL for their leadership on these bills, and I gladly support their efforts.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 25TH
ANNIVERSARY SILVER JUBILEE
OF THE DOELGER SENIOR CENTER
OF DALY CITY

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to recognize the Doelger Senior Center of Daly City, California, located in my Congressional district, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary silver jubilee. Serving the elderly of Daly City, Doelger Senior Center enhances the quality of life and promotes wellness by providing social, educational and health services to all adults, ages fifty and older.

In 1978, seniors had the vision of a senior center in Daly City. After 16 months of campaigning by wearing orange buttons, their hope for a center became a reality when Daly City and Thelma Doelger purchased a "released" school site, Abraham Lincoln School. Mrs. Doelger offered to share the cost of the school in memory of her late husband Henry, who had created the Westlake planned community. Following a year of fundraising and planning, move-in began at the new Doelger Senior Center. On November 1, 1980, Mayor Anthony Giammona dedicated the building and Edward M. King of Doelger Enterprises presented the building to the City of Daly City.

Through its 25 years of service to the community, many members of the Doelger Senior Center have played an influential role in its successful and continual service to Daly City elders. President Emeritus Edward King founded the center along with board members Alfred Belotz and William Crocker. Beverly di Gregorio and Richard Slater also served on the board of founding directors.

Today, Doelger Senior Center provides and delivers 50,000 meals to Lincoln Community Center and the homebound. Additionally, the center offers more than 100 different classes and programs. Both the young and the old enjoy center-sponsored activities, such as the Pre-independence party on July 3rd.

Mr. Speaker, the Doelger Senior Center remains a vigorous, expanding, and exciting community organization. The Doelger Senior Center continuously stands as a community of care, entertainment, friendship, support, and education. I urge all my colleagues to join me in commending the Doelger Senior Center on the occasion of their 25th anniversary and wish its members continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY OF SISTER EILEEN DUFFY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Sister Mary Eileen Duffy, in celebration of the joyous occasion of her 60th Jubilee Anniversary, reflecting a ministry in faith, service and concern for others throughout our Cleveland community.

Sister Eileen taught at St. Joseph Academy and Nazareth High School. In addition to her dedication to teaching, she served as a community administrator and Pastoral Associate at St. Leo the Great Church and St. Colman Church. Sister Eileen also served diligently on the Diocesan Pastoral Council, Commission on Catholic Community Action, the Interfaith Commission and the Sisters' Senate. In 1972, Sister Eileen was elected as director for the Northwest Deanery.

Inspired by a true calling of spiritual and humanitarian duty, Sister Eileen began her ministry with a strong foundation in education. She inspired that quest for knowledge and awareness in others, especially her students, and consistently touched the lives of countless children within our community. Her dedication, leadership and unwavering faith continues to strengthen and empower families and individuals throughout our community.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the 60th Jubilee Anniversary of Sister Eileen Duffy. Her strength in leadership, energetic spirit and commitment to helping others, from our children to our elderly, has served to lift the spirits of countless individuals, and continues to radiate faith, hope and light throughout our entire community.

LOCAL SCOUTS TO THE RESCUE

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, organizations like the Boy Scouts embody the spirit of our Nation—giving to others, selfless sacrifice, and patriotism.

A group of young men in my district recently demonstrated the highest ideals of our nation when faced with a difficult situation. The Scout pledge includes a promise to “help people at all times” and these young men demonstrated that. They didn’t stop to help in order to get attention, but to do what was right, to do to others as they would have done to them. And the result was a heroic effort that saved lives.

While on their way away from a Scout camp on their night off, these young men witnessed an accident on the road just behind them, and instead of leaving it to someone else to help and heading on to dinner, they stopped to help.

One of the cars involved was already on fire when the Scouts jumped into action, as some of the young men began directing traffic around the scene as others began rescuing children from the burning car. They stabilized

the injured children, assessed the immediate injuries, and worked to find a fire extinguisher to get control of the fire.

When paramedics and other first responders from Pike County arrived, they worked hand-in-hand with the Scouts in taking control of the scene. The Scouts also assisted in clearing an area for a LifeFlight helicopter to land to transport the most seriously injured.

These young men, Chris Henry, Paul Hutchens, Neal Wilson, George Boggs, Zack Deckner, and Joseph Fernander, demonstrated the highest ideals of American and Boy Scout values by stopping to help those in need. They sacrificed their time, and used their skills bravely, and saved lives.

Although tragically, Mrs. Christy Redenz and her 5-year-old daughter died at the scene, the Scouts’ quick action and training resulted in the other children being safely airlifted to local hospitals.

Many people in this life look for opportunities to be heroes, to be something great; but the greatest heroes are those who accomplish great things while doing their duty in the small things.

These young men are true heroes, and I am honored to bring their actions to the attention of this House. President Reagan once said something that is very appropriate in this situation—“Some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they’ve made a difference . . .” In the case of these brave young men, they don’t have that problem.

Mr. Speaker, the light of the United States of America will continue to burn brightly as long as we have young men like these surrounding all of us and leading the way.

IN HONOR OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CLEVELAND JOB CORPS CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor, recognition and celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Cleveland Job Corps Center of Cleveland, Ohio. For four decades, the Center has served as a vital source of education and vocational opportunity for thousands of at-risk young adults throughout the Cleveland community.

The core mission and committed work carried out daily by the staff of the Cleveland Jobs Corps Center continues to offer a foundation of strength and assistance that supports, educates and guides thousands of young lives away from the shadows of struggle and despair and onto a pathway of personal independence, accomplishment, and the promise of a better life.

The dedicated staff members and administrators of the Cleveland Job Corps Center assist young persons in attaining their GED; offer intensive trade and vocational training; and instill a sense of empowerment, self-confidence, personal responsibility and team interaction within each young person. These significant life goals and practical educational and job training programs hold the promise of career achievement and societal contribution as each young person is shown the way and given the tools to succeed.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the staff, leaders, and especially the students of the Cleveland Job Corps Center, past and present. The Center continues to serve as an invaluable source of educational and vocational opportunities for countless teens and young adults throughout the Cleveland community. Moreover, the Center provides these young people with a sense of self-worth and accomplishment, and offers them the personal power to dream, to hope and to take control of their own destiny. The Cleveland Job Corps Center continues to elevate the life of every student into the light of possibility and achievement, thereby uplifting our entire community.

H.R. 3673

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3673, the Second Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act to Meet Immediate Needs Arising From the Consequences of Hurricane Katrina, 2005.

Along with the other members of the House, I have been shocked and saddened to watch the devastation that has been caused by the Hurricane in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. I have also been encouraged by the heroic efforts both of private individuals and our military in saving the lives of many people, and evacuating those who simply could not get out of the affected areas.

This has also been a time for Americans to draw together—donations to private relief agencies are more than \$500 million in just the first week after the tragedy, and organizations like the Red Cross and Salvation Army have been right at the forefront in providing relief to the people affected.

I strongly supported the efforts of Congress in allocating the initial \$10 billion in immediate relief to keep the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Army Corps of Engineers functioning to assist in the immediate aftermath of the hurricane and flooding. However, I rise in opposition to this \$51.8 billion relief package. I do not oppose all funding for the emergency, but one of my major concerns with the government response to disasters in general is the tendency to throw money at problems with very little accountability on how that money is being spent.

The \$51.8 billion we are about to spend is nearly three times the entire annual State budget of my home State of Georgia, the ninth-largest State in the country with a population of 8.8 million people, and will be spent in about five weeks from what we are being told. According to the Office of Management and Budget, we are spending money at a rate of \$2 billion a day, and yet we in the Congress do not have many details at all on how that money is being spent.

I strongly support continued government funding of relief work in the affected areas, but the legislation we are considering is sorely lacking in effective accountability. The legislation allocates funds to Federal agencies with barely any explanation, except for one thing we know—that not a dime of the \$51.8 billion will be spent on reconstruction in the affected

areas. The funding is only for immediate response over and above the \$10 billion we are already spending. This legislation holds no one responsible, and I cannot in good conscience allow such a tremendous amount of taxpayer's money to be spent without holding someone accountable for its disbursement. The legislation does provide for the inspector general to oversee the funding, but even that is after-the-fact as the money is being spent.

The more than \$60 billion Congress will have allocated after this legislation passes is enough to give every family of four affected by the hurricane a cash payment of \$120,000, and yet none of that \$60 billion will be spent to actually rebuild anything in New Orleans, Mississippi, or Alabama.

We need time to absorb information about what is happening. We know more today than we did yesterday, and we will know more tomorrow than what we know today. We do not need more knee-jerk reactions of spending money to fix problems. There are only three ways to pay for hurricane relief—raising taxes, which will stifle the economy; cutting Federal spending to offset the money; and passing the cost along to our children and grandchildren by increasing the deficit. We need to carefully consider this spending, and work diligently to ensure that the funds are being spent wisely.

I have personally donated to the Red Cross and Salvation Army, as has my staff, and I will continue to support relief efforts. I would prefer that the votes in Congress on spending these disaster dollars take place in \$10 billion installments, where we can see how effectively the money is being used. This is an extremely difficult time, and I applaud the leadership both of our President and other government agencies, along with the military, who have acted so decisively and effectively to alleviate suffering.

We are a great nation, and we will continue to be great and rise above the challenges we face. May God continue to bless America.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 95TH ANNIVERSARY OF ASBESTOS WORKERS' UNION LOCAL NO. 3

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I call our colleagues' attention to Asbestos Workers' Union Local No. 3 from Cleveland, which is celebrating its 95th anniversary on September 24, 2005. Members of Local No. 3 can trace the beginnings of their union back to the earliest day of the modern industrial era with the sudden expansion of steam power around 1880, creating the need for the insulation industry.

An attempt to form a national bond between insulators came in 1900, when the Salamander Association of New York sent out an appeal to related crafts in other cities to form a "National Organization of Pipe and Boiler Covers." This appeal struck a chord of solidarity and two years later the officers and members of the Pipe Covers Union affiliated with the National Building Trades Council of America and invited other pipe coverer unions and related trades to join them. The appeal for unity was sent to Cleveland, as well as other targeted cities such as New York, Chicago,

Boston, Detroit, and Washington, DC. In all, seven local unions from around the country responded and this resulted in the birth of the foundation for an international union. The interested locals met for their first convention on July 7, 1902, where they drafted and approved a constitution and elected Thomas Kennedy of Chicago as their first president. They chose "The National Association of Heat, Frost and General Insulators and Asbestos Workers of America" as the name for the international union and on September 22nd of that year the American Federation of Labor issued an official charter designating the asbestos workers as a national union.

The group met again in October 1904 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to adopt a constitution and issue local numbers: St. Louis, Missouri No. 1, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania No. 2, Cleveland, Ohio No. 3, Buffalo, New York No. 4, Chicago, Illinois No. 5, Boston, Massachusetts No. 6, and Seattle, Washington No. 7. The charter issued to Local No. 3 in 1910 contained the names of these Clevelanders: Thomas Richards, James Wiley, Phil Frigge, M.O. Taitle, Harry Jacoby, Archie Budd, Harry Morris, Harry Graff, and George Davis. James Dalton, Al Dalton, and Thomas O'Neil of Local No. 3 became officers of the International Association.

Over the years Local No. 3 has fought for better wages, safer working conditions on construction sites, and benefits. Local No. 3 has established funds to help with medical expenses, retirement, apprenticeship and training. At its 95th anniversary and going into its second century, Local No. 3's goals remain to make a member's life safer, more productive, and more prosperous, to work to meet the needs of its members, and to educate new members that there is strength and prosperity in solidarity. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Asbestos Workers' Union Local No. 3 as its officers and members celebrate their 95th anniversary.

RECOGNITION OF 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLEO PARKER ROBINSON DANCE STUDIO

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 35th anniversary of Cleo Parker Robinson Dance and its founder, Cleo Parker Robinson. Cleo Parker Robinson uses dance as a bridge to unite diverse communities and overcome cultural, age, class, and language barriers. A night watching a Cleo Parker Robinson Dance performance is simply unforgettable, making it a well-known gem in the Colorado arts community.

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance has been an essential part of the Colorado arts community since its inception in 1970. The organization includes a professional company, a year-round dance school, an International Summer Dance Institute, and a Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Theater. In addition, CPRD created two programs, Season of Schools and Project Self Discovery, which focus on introducing dance to low-income and at-risk students. Season of Schools serves Denver Public Schools students and students from surrounding school

districts with performances and workshops, introducing students to dance as an outlet of expression. Project Self Discovery, funded through a government grant, provides intensive dance study to at-risk youth as an alternative to gangs, drugs and delinquency.

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance has spent the last 35 years working to strengthen communities in some of Denver's poorest neighborhoods. Cleo Parker Robinson utilizes the power of dance to find the commonalities that unify communities. Her leadership and dedication shows that with hard work we can continue to move towards a society that flourishes from our cultural diversity.

I want to commend Cleo Parker Robinson Dance for its accomplishments over the past 35 years and for continuing to bring beautiful, unique and innovative forms of dance to eager audiences around the world.

IN HONOR OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY OF SISTER AUDREY KOCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Sister Audrey Koch, Pastoral Associate at St. Coleman's Church, on the joyous occasion of her Golden Jubilee Anniversary, reflecting a life-long commitment to educating, inspiring and guiding the youth of our community; and reflecting an unwavering dedication of service on behalf of the most vulnerable of our society.

Sister Audrey's significant work embodies the teaching profession, social community action endeavors and civic leadership. She taught for 24 years at Cleveland area schools, including St. Ignatius Elementary School, St. Agnes, St. Thomas Aquinas and St. John in Lorain. She also served for 4 years as Principal of St. Coleman School.

While at St. Coleman's, Sister Audrey directed numerous programs with the Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) and taught in the CYO's preschool. She also taught theology at St. Joseph Academy. In 1991, she embarked on a new ministry through her work with the Catholic Charities Office of Disability Ministry at St. Augustine Parish. In 2003, she returned to St. Coleman Parish as a Pastoral Associate.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the 50th Golden Jubilee Anniversary of Sister Audrey Koch. The compassionate leadership and service, reflecting faith, hope and kindness, that Sister Audrey continues to offer to others, young and old, is immeasurable in its impact upon the lives of so many, from the very young to our senior citizens. Sister Audrey's steadfast commitment to healing the lives of others continues to strengthen lives of the people of St. Coleman's parish and continues to serve as a beacon of light and hope throughout our entire community.

H.R. 3673—SECOND EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment for the Federal government's delayed response to Hurricane Katrina. I am extremely concerned about the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) director Michael Brown and call for his resignation.

Brown and his senior leadership team have demonstrated a stunning level of ineptitude that made the disaster of Katrina and the loss of life and property much worse than it had to be. This tragic event has made clear that the FEMA team is not up to the job of protecting Americans from either natural disasters or from any possible terrorist attack. Security is a paramount concern to me and Americans deserve a competent and able emergency management agency. Now that it is proven that this team is incapable, we can't afford to wait to replace Director Brown.

I also strongly disagree with the suggestion—made by many in the Administration and the majority—that Americans shouldn't "point fingers" or play the "blame game" as the relief effort continues. Thousands of lives are at stake right now. We are also spending billions of public dollars on the recovery and those resources must be spent effectively and efficiently. We need an experienced team now to implement the government's plan for repairing the southeast region, not after a lengthy review process. While I support that broader review, one thing is immediately clear: The director of FEMA is plainly not up to the important job at hand.

Consider the following critically important facts.

Despite days of warning, FEMA did virtually nothing to prepare for the impact of Katrina. Director Brown reportedly waited 5 hours after Katrina struck before he proposed to Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Secretary Michael Chertoff that he send 1,000 Homeland Security workers into the region to support rescuers. Even then, his letter gave personnel 2 full days to arrive on the scene to begin offering assistance. It was 5 agonizing days before FEMA and DHS showed up in any significant numbers with adequate supplies to help the tens of thousands of people in New Orleans.

Equally disturbing are the efforts of FEMA and others in the Administration to explain away these inexcusable actions. Claims have been made that local leaders in Louisiana did not ask for help and that the Federal government could not have foreseen that the levees around New Orleans would be breached in the event of a significant hurricane.

The utter absurdity of these claims makes it even clearer that we need new leadership at FEMA if Americans are to have any confidence that the agency will wisely and effectively deal with the continuing crisis in the Gulf Coast, much less prepare for future natural disasters or terrorist attacks.

First, locals did ask for help before the storm hit and FEMA assumed responsibility for dealing with the fallout from Katrina. Louisiana's Governor Kathleen Blanco declared a State of emergency for Louisiana on August 26th and on August 27th, she requested Federal support. On that same day, and acting on your authorization, Director Brown responded to Blanco's request for assistance and declared that FEMA would "mobilize equipment and resources necessary to protect public health and safety by assisting law enforcement with evacuations, establishing shelters, supporting emergency medical needs, meeting immediate lifesaving and life-sustaining human needs and protecting property, in addition to other emergency protective measures."

Second, the coming disaster was clear. Max Mayfield, the Director of the National Hurricane Center has confirmed that both Director Brown and Secretary Chertoff listened to his agency's briefing on Katrina's likely impact. Mayfield made repeated warnings about the hurricane and was quoted by the New Orleans Times-Picayune as saying, "We were briefing them (FEMA and DHS) way before landfall. It's not like this was a surprise. We had in the advisories that the levee could be topped." It is alarming that, given this knowledge, FEMA thought it was appropriate to sit back and wait instead of aggressively preparing for the disaster.

Third, the vulnerability of the levees was well established. Last year, FEMA conducted a simulation involving the potential evacuation of New Orleans as a result of a Hurricane. For my years experts had been predicting that the levees could be breached by a hurricane and that the results would be disastrous, costing thousands of lives and billions of dollars. In 2001, the Army Corps of Engineers conducted a study and found that the levees in the region needed to be updated, raised, and the pumping systems modernized. In the event of a category 4 or 5 hurricane, like Hurricane Katrina, the levees would fail and the cities within the levees would be at risk of flooding.

Perhaps most troubling, Federal officials knew from news reports and from Mayor Ray Nagin's comments that tens of thousands of New Orleans residents would not be able to respond to the call to evacuate. Despite this understanding, no action was taken to accommodate those who could not evacuate their city.

I am deeply troubled by what this failure of leadership could portend for another disaster or attack. Some of FEMA's top positions have been staffed with individuals who have ample political and campaign experience, but virtually no understanding of how to prepare for and respond to a disaster of any magnitude. We expect State and local responders to be well trained and qualified. The same must be true of FEMA's leaders. There is no doubt that a new and better skilled leadership team at FEMA is required in order to best protect our Nation.

The tragic events caused by Hurricane Katrina have left hundreds of thousands of Americans with shattered homes and families and without food and water. I am committed to joining together to provide relief and to save as many lives as possible.

I have seen the compassion of Americans as volunteers, donations and financial assistance has flowed into the southeast region. We must now do our part to repair the damaged

region and assist in rebuilding the lives of many of our citizens. I look forward to working with the Administration and my colleagues in Congress to help the people in this devastated region.

IN HONOR OF UNITED STATES
CONGRESSMAN BARNEY FRANK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of Congressman BARNEY FRANK, as he is honored by the Cleveland Stonewall Democrats for his significant service on behalf of the citizens of the 4th Congressional District of Massachusetts.

Since being elected to the United States Congress in 1981, Congressman FRANK has blazed a courageous road fortified by civil rights and human rights for every American, regardless of their differences. His candor, compassion and convictions have consistently given a voice to the oppressed and vulnerable of our society and his work continues to raise the level of grace and dignity for all Americans by casting the pall of ignorance and discrimination into the light of truth and justice.

A highly regarded and respected attorney, activist and public servant, Congressman FRANK's constituency in Massachusetts has demonstrated their overwhelming faith and admiration for him by voting him back in office twelve times. He is the Senior Democrat on the Financial Services Committee and has worked tirelessly on behalf of vital issues that affect the well being of our society, including gay rights, health care, education, preservation of the arts and the steadfast protection of our civil liberties.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of my friend and colleague, Congressman BARNEY FRANK, for his immeasurable service and courageous leadership on behalf of the citizens of our country. Congressman FRANK's steadfast advocacy and unwavering focus on human rights is framed by excellence, heart, integrity and personal wisdom. Congressman FRANK continues to raise our society into the light of tolerance and truth, thereby elevating the lives of countless Americans into the realm of hope for a better tomorrow, and peace and justice for all, in the 4th District of Massachusetts and across our Nation.

CELEBRATING JOHN D. LEE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, on September 15, John D. Lee, the President of the Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley, will be honored for 35 years of service. He is only the second President in the organization's 60-year history.

John went to work for the Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley as a Facility Director on September 16, 1970. He was later promoted to Assistant Executive Director and then to President and CEO.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley has experienced amazing growth under his leadership. When John became President 26 years ago, it was operating only two Boys Clubs. Since then, he has led the organization through a merger with the Girls Club in 1990 and has overseen an expansion that now provides care and supervises activities for 7,845 members annually in 19 Club facilities in five East Tennessee counties (Knox, Blount, Scott, Loudon, and Fentress). The Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley employs a staff of 275 people and provides over 460,000 hot meals annually.

John's excellent leadership and service has not gone unnoticed either. In 1985, he received the Robert M. Sykes Award for Professional Excellence. In 1994, the U.S. Department of Justice presented him with the Directors Community Leadership Award.

The parent organization of the Boys & Girls Club is also very appreciative of John's work. On May 23, 2000, he received the Boys & Girls Clubs of America Service to Youth Award and Service Bar for 30 years of service to the Boys & Girls Club Movement, and in 2002, he received the Boys & Girls Clubs of America National Professional Service Award for Service to the National Movement.

John was born in Charleston, South Carolina, and is a graduate of Samford University. He has been a fine husband to his wife, Phyllis, and a great father to his three children, Amanda, Maria and Phillip.

The Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley is a leader in youth development and has touched the lives of countless young people throughout John's tenure. I have come to know John Lee well over the years, and I can assure you that he is a fine human being who has made East Tennessee a much better place to live.

Mr. Speaker, this great Nation owes a debt of gratitude to John D. Lee for his outstanding service as President of the Boys & Girls Club of the Tennessee Valley.

IN HONOR OF CHORBISHOP
BERNARD C. KHACHAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Chorbishop Bernard C. Khachan, upon the occasion of his retirement that follows 45 years of service, faith, ministry and leadership within the Maronite Catholic Church.

Chorbishop Khachan was ordained a Maronite Catholic Priest in Lebanon in 1960. In 1965, he journeyed to South America to serve for one year. After his ministry there was complete, he returned to Lebanon. During that time, leadership in Rome had established the first Maronite Diocese in the United States. Chorbishop Khachan was soon asked to serve as Pastor of a Maronite parish in a region of Pennsylvania where his relatives lived. With grace, dignity and an open heart, Chorbishop Khachan accepted the challenge of his new country. While always holding Lebanon alive in his life and close to his heart, Chorbishop Khachan also proudly embraced his new home in America. In 1972, Chorbishop

Khachan became a citizen of the United States. In 1987, he was appointed Pastor of St. Maron Church of Cleveland, Ohio, where he served with kindness, guidance, support and compassion for the past eighteen years.

Chorbishop Khachan's vision, concern for others and focus on uplifting our community has had a significant effect on countless members of the parish and on residents who live in the surrounding neighborhoods. His focus on restoring Maronite traditions and culture have succeeded, along with his successful restoration of the church building, social hall, parking lot and surrounding grounds. Chorbishop Khachan's insight and focus have served to increase the number of parishioners from 500 families to 1,300 families—a remarkable achievement.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Chorbishop Bernard C. Khachan, upon his retirement that highlights 45 years in faithful service to others. Though he will be greatly missed, his gifts of faith, leadership, guidance and compassion will forever illuminate hope and faith within St. Maron parish community of Cleveland. We wish him an abundance of health, happiness and peace as his journey guides him back to Lebanon.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SYSTEMS
AND ELECTRONICS, INC.

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Systems & Electronics, Inc. (SEI) Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) Paint Optimization Team as the recipients of the 2005 Missouri Team Quality Award (MTQA). SEI's West Plains, Missouri unit is a leader in defense systems and technology. The FMTV Paint Optimization Team is based at SEI's manufacturing facility in my Congressional District, and this team was instrumental in the development of protective armor placed on vehicles for the protection of Army personnel in Iraq.

The MTQA is awarded annually to teams which address and meet six standards: selecting the opportunity for a team, establishing and developing the team, measuring and analyzing the current situation, developing improvements, implementing improvements, and monitoring progress. The FMTV Paint Optimization Team successfully met each standard set forth and excelled in their production of protective armor.

The MTQA Recipient Awards Banquet and Presentation will occur at the Excellence in Missouri Conference in November, at which time the team will be officially recognized for their excellence in teamwork. Again, I send my warmest congratulations to SEI and the FMTV Paint Optimization Team, and I wish them continued success as they work to provide proven armor solutions to our men and women in uniform, both at home and abroad.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
ELSIE FRANK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Elsie Frank, loving mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, dedicated public servant, community activist, and dear friend and mentor to many. Her passing marks a great loss for her family and friends, and also for the people of Boston, whom she served and inspired with the highest level of commitment, concern, integrity and honor.

The great care and love that Mrs. Frank showered on her family extended throughout Boston where she carried the torch of advocacy on behalf of many social justice issues, including issues affecting gay teens and gay adults, and concerns faced by the elderly of our society. An inspirational and well-known leader in Boston's Back Bay neighborhood, Mrs. Frank dedicated her time and talents in bolstering the strength of several gay advocacy groups, and senior advocacy groups as well. She worked with PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), tirelessly lobbying state legislators to reinstate funding in support of PFLAG's Safe Schools program—a critical program that serves to educate, support and protect the well-being of gay teens in schools. In 2003, Mrs. Frank was honored with PFLAG's Voice of Truth Award.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Elsie Frank, whose boundless joy for life served as a source of inspiration, protection and hope for Boston citizens of all ages. I extend my deepest condolences to her children, Barney, Ann, Doris and David; to her six grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren; and also to her extended family and many friends. Mrs. Frank's immeasurable heart and focus on human rights has forever touched the lives of countless individuals, young and old, gay and straight, and her unbridled spirit and vital work will soar forever in the hearts of those who knew and loved her well, especially her family, friends and the people of Boston's Back Bay.

A TRIBUTE TO KRISTIN YOUNG

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kristin Young. After more than a decade of service to the House of Representatives, she is moving home to Connecticut. She spent the last four and a half years working in my office, currently serving as my Director of Administration.

I am very appreciative of all of Kristin's hard work over the years. I have been fortunate to have one of the most talented, committed and effective staffers on Capitol Hill handling my schedule and greeting constituents with a smile each working day.

Kristin's strong work ethic was invaluable in making sure I was able get the people's work done and meet and greet as many constituents as possible. Kristin's demonstrated ability

to get things done led me to ask her to assume additional responsibilities when the need arose. She always had a very full agenda, but she cheerfully took on any new task and made many valuable improvements in the office.

My wife Diana and I feel Kristin's departure is a personal loss for us and the residents of Virginia's 7th District, and we will miss her and her son Dylan greatly. I am very proud of the great and unselfish work Kristin Young has done on behalf of the citizens of Virginia. I am most proud to join many, many others in calling her a friend. I know that I reflect the feelings of all of her fellow staff members in wishing her continued success and happiness.

IN HONOR OF THE GOLDEN JUBILEE ANNIVERSARY OF SISTER ANN KILBANE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Sister Ann Kilbane, Pastoral Life Coordinator at St. Colman's Church, on the joyous occasion of her Golden Jubilee Anniversary, a ministry of faith that reflects a legacy of leadership, activism, instruction and unwavering service to others.

Sister Ann, who is celebrating her 50th Golden Jubilee Anniversary, currently serves as the Pastoral Life Coordinator for St. Colman Church. She began her vocation in service to others as an educator, teaching at several area schools, including St. Thomas Aquinas, St. Rose, St. Joseph Academy, Our Lady of Angels and St. Clement. From 1967 to 1977, Sister Ann held the position of treasurer for St. Joseph Parish.

During that time, Sister Ann earned a Master's degree and led the effort to establish an outreach center for the people of the St. Colman neighborhood. "Mission in the City" continues to focus on the needs of families and individuals in this west side neighborhood. Sister Ann also served as business manager for St. Joseph Academy and finance coordinator for NETWORK in Washington, DC. She returned to St. Colman in 1994 as finance coordinator and was named Parish Life Coordinator in 1999.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the 50th Golden Jubilee Anniversary of Sister Ann Kilbane. Her vision, leadership, expertise and compassion for others continues to uplift the lives of countless families and individuals with the St. Colman Parish community, and her concern and activism continues to shine light, faith and the hope for a better day within the lives of those who are in greatest need, and throughout our entire community.

LEXINGTON LIONS CLUB 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, the Lexington, Missouri, Lions Club will celebrate its 75th an-

niversary by hosting a reception and dinner this weekend. As a Lexington Lions Club member since 1957, I know how much this organization has given to our community and I want to congratulate the Club on the achievement of this milestone.

The Lexington Lions Club was organized in 1930, with Warren Sherman Sr. serving as its first president. Members of the Club have been active in promoting the Lions organization throughout Missouri, sponsoring new clubs in the cities of Odessa, Wellington, Hardin, Richmond, Buckner, and Henrietta. The Club hosted the Missouri State Lions Convention in May 1936, and over the years, six members of the Lexington club have served as District Governors for the State of Missouri.

Over the last 75 years, the Lexington Lions Club has made countless contributions to the community, many of which focus on improving the lives of young people. The Club has sponsored Boy Scout Troop 318 for over 60 years and provides scholarship awards to Lexington High School graduates. The Club sponsors a band student at the Missouri Lions All-State Band and sponsors a student at Missouri Boys State. In addition to supporting participation in the Missouri Lions All-Star Football and Basketball programs, the Club purchased the basketball scoreboard for the Lexington High School.

The Lexington Lions Club has also worked on important community betterment projects. In the 1950s, the Club purchased property for Lions Club Park in Lexington. In August 1973, the Club donated 62 acres of land to be used as a park by the City of Lexington and donated grounds for the Little League baseball field and for the swimming pool. The Club donated 457 street markers for the City of Lexington and participates in the Adopt-A-Highway program.

Lions Clubs are recognized worldwide for their service to the blind and the visually impaired. The Lexington Lions Club provides sustaining financial support to the Missouri Lions Eye Research Foundation, the Leader Dog Program, and to the Lions Club International Foundation. As part of its mission to help others see, the Club provides eyeglasses to needy students and has collected many thousands of pairs of eyeglasses donated for those in need.

The men and women who serve their communities through membership in local service organizations contribute so much to their neighbors and epitomize the spirit of community that makes our Nation great. The Lexington Lions Club has achieved an enormous amount since its founding in 1930, and I know the members of this body join me in congratulating the Lexington Lions Club on its anniversary and wish the Club continued success in the years ahead.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF U.S. MARINE LANCE CORPORAL JEFFREY ALLEN BOSKOVITCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of United States Marine Corporal Jeffrey Allen Boskovitch, who

bravely and selflessly heeded the call to duty and made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our country.

Family, friends and service to others framed Corporal Boskovitch's life. He gained personal strength and faith from those who knew him best and loved him most, especially his mother and father, Katherine and James; his fiancé, Shelley Tevis; his brother and sister, Brian and Kimberly; his stepbrothers and sisters, Brian, Michael, Amanda, Austin, Amy and Abby; and his stepparents, Steve and Vicki.

Corporal Boskovitch's energetic spirit and expansive heart easily drew others to him. His steadfast focus on serving the public and his leadership abilities were evidenced throughout his life. He was a 1999 graduate of Normandy High School and a 2001 graduate and Class President of the Tri-C Police Academy of Parma. Corporal Boskovitch held his unit in Iraq, the servicemen and servicewomen of the 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, as closely connected to his heart as family. He declined a promotion in order to stay with his military unit.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Lance Corporal Jeffrey Boskovitch. I extend my deepest condolences to his family members and many friends. The ultimate sacrifice, significant service and true heart that framed the life of Corporal Boskovitch will live forever in the memories and hearts of all those who knew and loved him best—his family and friends. And his legacy of service and courage will be honored and remembered by the Cleveland community and by our entire Nation, today and for all time.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF U.S. MARINE LANCE CORPORAL EDWARD AUGUST "AUGIE" SCHROEDER II

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of United States Marine Corporal Edward August "Augie" Schroeder II, who courageously and selflessly heeded the call to duty and made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of our country.

Family, friends and service to others framed Corporal Schroeder's life. He gained personal strength and faith from those who knew him best and loved him most, especially his mother and father, Rosemary and Paul, and his sister, Amanda.

A kind soul who possessed an offbeat sense of humor and tangible joy for life, Corporal Schroeder was always willing to go the extra mile for anyone in need. His commitment to helping others was reflected in his work as an Emergency Medical Technician, lifeguard and Boy Scout counselor. Corporal Schroeder reveled in the role of team player and reflected a true sense of connectedness to others throughout his life, as is clearly evidenced throughout his involvement as part of the 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Lance Corporal Edward August "Augie" Schroeder II. I extend my deepest condolences to his mother, Rosemary Palmer; his father, Paul Schroeder; his

sister, Amanda Schroeder; and to his extended family members and many friends.

The significant sacrifice, service, bravery, joy and energy that framed the life of Corporal Schroeder will live on as a legacy and testament to all that is good in humanity, and his life will forever be honored and remembered by the Cleveland community, and will always be held close within the hearts and minds of all whom loved him well and knew him best—his family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT PERVEZ
MUSHARRAF OF PAKISTAN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, President Pervez Musharraf is, quite literally, the "Indispensable Man" in Pakistan politics today—and promises to be one of the most significant and pivotal figures in Pakistan's history.

President Musharraf has transformed Pakistan into a reliable friend of the United States in the global war on terror. Unlike some other friends and putative allies of the United States, Pakistan has sealed its commitment to fight terrorism with the blood of its military forces; over 200 Pakistani soldiers have been killed in combat with al Qaeda, Taliban and other extremists in Pakistan's Northwest Territories in the last two years.

Pakistani authorities have also captured or killed hundreds of foreign terrorists and extremists. The United States has officially designated Pakistan a "major non-NATO ally" in recognition of the importance of Pakistan to the security interests of the United States. President Musharraf himself has survived two assassination attempts by al Qaeda, yet he has refused to back down.

Mr. Speaker, if anyone had any doubts that President Musharraf is a man of vision, they need look no further than the recent and unprecedented meeting between the Israeli and Pakistani foreign ministers in Turkey. This momentous event could well usher in a new era of cooperation and friendship between these two states. All of us should welcome this farsighted action by the Pakistani President. This action, taken in the wake of Israel's disengagement from Gaza, sends a strong signal to the entire Muslim world: It is time for all Muslim-majority states—not only Egypt, Jordan, Turkey and a very few others—to deal openly with Israel and to recognize it. They can make no greater contribution to Middle East peace.

Also, there is now the very real possibility that India and Pakistan may finally begin to put over a half-century of animosity and distrust behind them. This is due in no small measure to the efforts of President Musharraf.

No other figure in Pakistan commands the world-wide respect that its President does, Mr. Speaker. He is moving Pakistan forward to what I hope will be a stable democracy, a peaceful and prosperous country and a reliable and valued partner of the United States in bringing stability, security and peace to the region. All this, if it comes to pass, will be due in large part to the leadership and vision of President Pervez Musharraf.

A TRIBUTE TO THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY AND THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas Jefferson University and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital on the occasion of its Annual Awards Gala. Jefferson hospital has provided the best in health care services to countless citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The university and hospital have improved the lives of people in our region and across the nation through their research and educational programs. I applaud this remarkable institution as it leads the way to better lives in the 21st century.

It's hard to think of Jefferson without being reminded of the extraordinary contributions of two people who will be honored at the Gala this year: Dorrance H. Hamilton, who will receive the Award of Merit, and Dr. Francis E. Rosato who will receive the Achievement Award in Medicine. I give them my congratulations and my very best wishes. They and Jefferson are to be commended for a job well done, and for providing inspiration to all of us. I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to congratulate these exceptional individuals.

DR. BYRON P. STEELE II

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Byron P. Steele II for his contributions to our community that have led to the dedication of a high school in his name.

Dr. Steele is a native Texan with a love for horses, ranching, fishing, and hunting. He has spent his entire life in the greater San Antonio area, devoting nearly his entire career to the teaching community and the students of Texas.

In August 1957, Dr. Steele began that teaching career at Collins Garden Elementary School, in the San Antonio Independent School District. While teaching, Dr. Steele worked toward his Master of Education Degree at night.

From 1965 to 1968, Dr. Steele directed the Bexar County Head Start Program, designed to provide low-income preschoolers with a comprehensive program to meet all their needs. Dr. Steele is one of the pioneers of this program, which largely owes its success to these early designers.

Dr. Steele then returned to public education and became a principal at the elementary, junior high school, and high school levels. He then went on to earn his doctorate before becoming the superintendent of Malone ISD, then Devine ISD, and finally the Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD, where he remained for eighteen years.

At the request of the community, and as a tribute to his devotion to the students of Texas

and the SCUCISD, the school board has decided to name the school district's second high school after Dr. Steele.

One can never underestimate the value and importance of our teachers and schools, which guide our children from a very young age into adulthood. I am honored to come here today to recognize Dr. Steele's contributions to our community, and I offer Steele High School my best wishes as it begins to carry on the legacy of this great Texan.

TRIBUTE TO TERENCE LIONEL
MARTIN OF RICHMOND, CA

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to a true hero, Terence Lionel Martin, of Richmond, California, and call attention to the valiant actions that led to his tragic death on August 23, 2005.

Raised in Richmond, Terence was known throughout the community as a born leader, a "peacemaker" and a "problem solver." The son of Clara and Lonnie Martin, Terence, known as Terry by his friends, followed his parents' career path to work with the West Contra Costa School District. He had been a valued employee for 22 years and an esteemed member of our community.

It was his natural "peacemaker" instinct that he acted upon while driving home from work one day this past August. Mr. Martin spotted a young man beating his pregnant, sixteen-year-old girlfriend. Without regard for his own safety, Mr. Martin pulled over, demanded the young man stop and offered his assistance to the young woman. The young man pulled out a gun and shot and killed Terence, just blocks away from his workplace. The community was shaken by this senseless killing and is poorer for this loss. In Terence's name, I ask my colleagues to join me in recommitting ourselves to the principles of peace and safety on our city streets.

Terence Martin is survived by his parents, his sister Sharon Johnson, his young daughter Brittney Martin, his extended family, and many treasured friends. To all of Terence's family and friends, I offer my sincere condolences and hope that you are comforted by knowing that he died trying to make a difference, that he was truly respected and loved by so many and that he will not be forgotten.

A TRIBUTE TO LARRY MAGID AND
HIS STAFF AT ELECTRIC FAC-
TORY CONCERTS

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Magid and his staff at Electric Factory Concerts. On July 2, 2005 Larry Magid and his staff at Electric Factory Concerts produced the U.S. portion of LIVE 8, a concert to help eliminate poverty in Africa. Over a million people gathered on Philadelphia's Benjamin Franklin Parkway, to watch

the largest global concert ever; seen by over 3 billion people in over 130 countries. Electric Factory Concerts also produced the original LIVE AID concert in 1985, held at Philadelphia's JFK Stadium.

Of the 9 shows happening in 9 countries on July 2nd, 2005 (U.K., Japan, Russia, South Africa, Canada, Germany, France, Italy, U.S.)—the U.S. show in Philadelphia held the largest crowd.

Larry Magid and his staff at Electric Factory Concerts were instrumental in every aspect of this show's phenomenal success. Magid pulled together an extraordinary effort to make sure LIVE 8 played Philadelphia, especially as other Northeast cities vied to have the show.

Once the date and location were set, EFC had only six and a half weeks to plan and coordinate the largest show in Philadelphia's history. Magid and his staff, especially Adam Spivak, John Stevenson and Jim Sutcliffe, were vital to making this truly historic show a rousing success for both Philadelphia and the world. For this, Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and commend these men for all of their hard work in the creation of such an amazing production.

CELEBRATING THE LONE STAR
CIRCLE OF LIFE BIKE TOUR

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Lone Star Circle of Life Bike Tour for 7 years of successful service to the people of San Antonio, Texas.

The Lone Star Circle of Life Bike Tour is an annual event which promotes the gift of life. Twelve cyclists spread the message of blood, marrow, organ, and tissue donation throughout the community as they ride.

With the help of Texas donor centers, the twelve cyclists not only change lives but save lives too. Each participant rides over 500 miles in a 6 day period in honor of someone needing a transplant.

Each non-professional rider is chosen in the spring specifically by a committee made up of the tour director, tour captain, a bone marrow coordinator, and a former participant. The rider not only must be physically capable to ride the entire tour, but their life must have been touched by a donation, meaning the rider or someone from their family has made a donation or received one.

Several stops are made along the way to honor recipients, donors, and their families. The stops also give community members the opportunity to learn about blood, marrow, organ, and tissue donation. This gives the community the chance to speak with someone who has experienced a donation.

The tour brings communities together and recognizes the importance of being a donor, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to recognize this event here today.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR ULRIK
FEDERSPIEL

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending and bidding farewell to Ambassador Ulrik Federspiel, Denmark's Ambassador to the United States since May 2000. Throughout his remarkable career, Ambassador Federspiel has worked tirelessly to strengthen the already close relationship between the United States and Denmark. Indeed, the Danes are fortunate to have had such an illustrious representative in Washington, and the United States has had no better friend and ally in the Diplomatic Corps here in Washington than Ambassador Federspiel.

Mr. Federspiel began his career in the Danish Foreign Service in 1971 and was immediately assigned to the prestigious European Community office within the Foreign Ministry. As we all know, Denmark became a member of the EC in 1973.

His outstanding contributions on EC matters earned him the post in London as First Secretary of Political Affairs from 1973 to 1977. During this time he worked in cooperation with several African states in the process of democratizing countries including Zimbabwe, Angola and Namibia. Mr. Federspiel was especially active in supporting the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. As a result, he was personally invited to the inauguration of President Nelson Mandela in 1993 and became a consultant to the modern integrated South African administration.

In 1981, Ambassador Federspiel returned to Copenhagen to become Special Assistant to the Permanent Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a post he held until he arrived in Washington to serve as Deputy Chief of Mission at the Danish Embassy in 1984. He quickly developed a reputation in Washington as a quick study with an imposing intellect combined with a personable, friendly demeanor. Ambassador Federspiel came to understand that not only does Denmark have a critical role to play in European matters, but, for a small country, Denmark could "punch above its weight" on transatlantic economic and political issues.

As State Secretary for Foreign Affairs from 1991–93, Ulrik Federspiel worked to support independence for the Baltic states, who were emerging from the dark years of Soviet occupation. Denmark was the first country in the world to recognize the three former Soviet countries of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

From 1993 to 1997 Ambassador Federspiel's outstanding record brought the notice of the most senior members of the Danish government and he was asked to serve as Chief of Staff to the Prime Minister. At the European Union summit in June 1993 under the Danish presidency, Mr. Federspiel drafted the portion of the Copenhagen Criteria that set standards for EU membership. Ambassador Federspiel became a staunch proponent of NATO expansion and has since taken a leading role in the process. Among his other accomplishments while in the Prime Minister's Office, he played an important role in the Danish decision to play an active part in Bosnia, having the largest contingency of ground

troops there per capita, and the only country to have heavy armor, namely ten tanks.

Mr. Speaker, upon arriving in the United States in 2000, Ambassador Federspiel became actively engaged in solving trade disputes between the EU, Denmark and the United States. His diplomatic skills were effective in resolving high-profile trade disputes, including the carousel sanctions and the import ban on pork. Mutually beneficial trade has been expanded between the U.S. and Denmark through close cooperation between the former U.S. Ambassador in Copenhagen Richard N. Swett and Ulrik Federspiel.

Mr. Speaker, Ambassador Federspiel has brought his dynamism and passion to many political and humanitarian issues. Since completing his military service in the Royal Danish Navy in Greenland in 1962–63, he has taken a keen interest in Greenland and its population. In 1984, when he became Deputy Chief of Mission to the Danish Embassy in Washington, D.C., the relationship between Greenland, the United States and Denmark became one of his priorities. The Ambassador has played an instrumental role in furthering the interests of the Home Rule Government and that of the Danish realm and has worked in close cooperation with the U.S. government, especially on Thule Air Base. He was deeply involved in the 2002–2004 negotiations leading to the so-called Igaliku-agreement between the U.S., Greenland and Denmark that paved the way for upgrading the Thule radar to be used in the Missile Defense System. The island and the base are strategic elements for defense and security preparedness for both the U.S. and Europe.

Ambassador Federspiel is also an accomplished academic. He graduated from the University of Aarhus in political science in 1970 and completed a year of post-graduate studies at the University of Pennsylvania, earning an MA in 1971. He has been a visiting lecturer at George Washington University and the University of Copenhagen, and he also has served on the governing board of the University of Copenhagen.

His interest in supporting academic excellence has continued. He is an Honorary Trustee of the Crown Prince Frederick Fund for Harvard University that supports two scholarships annually for exemplary Danish university students. Ambassador Federspiel currently sits on the advisory board of Humanity in Action (HIA), a unique educational program between Denmark, the United States, the Netherlands, Germany and France. The HIA program provides the opportunity for outstanding university students to intensively study human rights and democratic values, as well as to hold an internship with the U.S. Congress.

Ambassador Federspiel's commitment to working for others is undoubtedly a result of his and his family's experiences growing up in war-torn Europe. During the Nazi occupation of Denmark, Ambassador Federspiel's father, Per Federspiel, was imprisoned for a year due to his involvement in the rescue of the Jews in October 1943. Needless to say, Ambassador Federspiel has proven himself to be a strong and consistent supporter of the State of Israel.

After the horrible events of September 11th, Ambassador Federspiel and the Danish people were among the first to support the American people and the cause of freedom. As a

NATO member, Denmark is one of the strongest supporters of the United States in its campaign against terrorism. It still has soldiers and its air force present in Afghanistan. From day one in 2003 Denmark took part in the coalition's efforts in Iraq with combat troops. It still has 531 combat troops and now has an embassy and an Ambassador in Baghdad. Ambassador Federspiel has worked tirelessly with the Danish government's major role in the reconstruction of Iraq.

Ambassador Federspiel has also been very much involved in other areas of the Middle East. During the Danish EU presidency in 2002, Denmark worked closely with the EU in drafting the Road Map for peace in the Arab-Israeli dispute. Furthermore, since early 2003 Ambassador Federspiel has worked to promote his government's ideas about reform, democracy and security in the Broader Middle East and North Africa (BMENA). Denmark and the U.S. are now seen as the parents of this idea that is generally accepted by the EU, G8 and BMENA countries.

He has seen the importance in strengthening inter-parliamentarian relations and has helped to build and support the Congressional Friends of Denmark. As a result of this important work, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly U.S. House of Representatives delegation will participate in bilateral meetings with the Danish parliament in November.

Ambassador Federspiel has also strengthened the economic relations between the U.S. and Denmark, and direct investments in both countries have increased over the last years. In the transatlantic dispute over lifting the EU's weapon embargo towards China, Ambassador Federspiel played a crucial role in postponing the lifting of the embargo indefinitely. Denmark is a consistent defender of the human rights of the Chinese people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Ambassador Federspiel for his outstanding service and uncompromising dedication to furthering the friendship between our two great countries, and to wish him well in his future endeavors.

RECOGNITION OF PETE
MATTIVIV'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I submit recognition in honor of Pete Mattivi of New Castle, Colorado on the occasion of his 100th birthday. Since his earliest days, Pete has been dedicated to helping his community. He is well loved and respected by all who know him. With wishes for many more years of happiness and health, I congratulate Pete by submitting into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following Glenwood Springs Post Independent article, dated September 12, 2005:

With a twinkle in his eyes and a smile on his face, Pete Mattivi, of New Castle, credits "wine, women and song" with reaching his 100th birthday.

But on a more serious note, he says it's friends, family and his creator that allowed him to see his centennial year on Sept. 8, 2005.

A birthday celebration held Sunday afternoon for Mattivi in Burning Mountain Park

drew a huge crowd and a long line of people who wanted to congratulate him and wish him well.

With music by "Heart of the Rockies" and a buffet of birthday cake and ice cream, Mattivi sat in a folding chair, his cane over his legs as friends lined up to speak to him.

Some were old friends, in wheelchairs and walkers, and some were newer friends who knew of the illustrious Mattivi, although they might not have met him before.

"You are so wonderful—everybody loves you," said longtime New Castle resident Rosie Ferrin.

"One hundred years old—you look great," another well-wisher admired.

"I feel that way, too!" Mattivi smiled and agreed.

Some shared old memories they had with Mattivi.

Liz Lewis, of Rifle, recalled when she was a school bus driver in the 1970s and on a field trip with the kids while Mattivi recounted the history of Marble for the students.

"It was one of the most interesting trips I'd ever been on," Lewis said.

Mattivi has long been a well-known figure in the small town that currently has a population of about 3,000.

Born in 1905, he was raised in Crystal and lived in Marble, Salida and Glenwood Springs before settling in New Castle in 1929. There, he helped his brother, Matt, open a small service station in town, which was booming at that time.

In 1931, he married Opal Woos and the two operated the Mattivi Motor Company at 298 W. Main St. It was later the Three Rivers Repair/Phillips 66 station. Mattivi retired from the business in 1982. Opal Mattivi passed away in August 2000.

Mattivi was also a former longtime mayor of New Castle, serving from 1954 to 1969, and from 1974 to 1981. He was a Garfield County Commissioner from 1957 to 1977 and served 10 years on the Re-2 school board.

"Can we have your autograph?" asked Karen Wentzel, the wife of current mayor Bill Wentzel, when it was her turn in line as she showed Mattivi a collage she had of his past birthdays.

Mattivi graciously signed his name.

For years, Mattivi was known for his beautiful flower gardens at his home on Main Street, just across the street from where his daughter, Pam Bunn, now owns and operates the New Castle Cafe.

"He comes in for breakfast every morning at 8:30 on the dot," Bunn said with a laugh. "He also comes to the senior lunch and dinners."

Mattivi sold a portion of his property on the west side in 1997 but continues to garden the rest.

And even at 100, he is still active, riding his scooter across the street to the cafe and tending to his yard.

Mattivi has no big secrets to making it to the big 1-0-0.

"I live day by day," Mattivi said earnestly. "The next thing you know, you're 100. People have been good to me, and my creator has been good to me. I've just followed what was given to me."

NATIONAL ADDICTION RECOVERY
MONTH

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate National Addiction Recovery Month this

September, I would be honored to have Congress join me in celebrating those who commit their time and effort to addiction recovery.

Last year, over 19 million Americans used illicit drugs. Fifty-five million had engaged in binge drinking, and over 16 million are considered heavy drinkers. These numbers are more than just statistics. If you take the time to examine them, they are in fact quite staggering. Imagine if the entire populations of New York and Los Angeles combined were all illicit drug users. Imagine if the entire population of Florida were heavy drinkers. That's how prevalent the problem is. The impact is felt not only by individuals and their families, but by society as well. Addiction costs our society and economy billions of dollars each year, in health care costs, property damage, and lost productivity. It also costs lives, and causes immense amounts of grief and pain. Each one of those millions of Americans has a story, and we should ensure that each one of them has the chance to tell their story to an addiction counselor, in hopes that they will receive the necessary treatment and care. Addiction is a disease, as serious and as deadly as many others. Alcohol and drug addiction are very serious, and very destructive. No one is immune from addiction, as it afflicts people of all ages, all races, all classes, and all professions.

As with any serious disease, the treatment for addiction relies on great amounts of research and advances in health sciences. The National Institutes of Health is a leader in this regard, and many of its 27 institutes have committed funds to research on addiction, including research on how addiction takes over the brain, the body, and the central nervous system. Two institutes in particular at NIH focus only on this issue of critical importance: The National Institute on Drug Abuse, and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. For many decades, these two institutes have been making tremendous strides in the fight against addiction. Congress spends billions of dollars each year on addiction research, and these institutes have justified our faith and commitment to this issue.

Too often, problems in our society carry with them a certain stigma. Addiction is one such problem. Thousands, if not millions, of people do not seek treatment for addiction because of a misunderstanding of their condition, both on their behalf and on society's behalf. NIDA and NIAAA have both sought to understand this stigma, and bring it to an end. Led by Dr. Nora Volkow and Dr. T.K. Li, respectively, NIDA and NIAAA are constantly making progress to improve our understanding and treatment of addiction. Addiction is a disease, and must be attacked as such. Our fight against it must be aggressive and unyielding. Both NIDA and NIAAA fund scientists all over the country, who in turn will one day unlock the mysteries of addiction and its impact on individuals and society.

NIDA and NIAAA provide the ammunition for the troops on the front lines battling this disease. I am referring of course to the addiction counselors, who must daily encounter the difficult task of prevention, intervention, and treatment. These foot-soldiers in our war against addiction need all of the support we can give them. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we can show our support for them through our strong support for NIDA, NIAAA, and the other NIH institutes committed to solving the enigma of addiction.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the priceless contributions of NIDA, NIAAA, and addiction counselors, and giving them our gratitude. Congress has shown strong support for this issue in the past in several ways—through legislation, through funding for the National Institutes of Health and the CDC, and through displaying a constant awareness of the gravity of this issue. Yet we are far from victory, and must continue our steadfast fight against drug and alcohol addiction. We look forward to the day when addiction to drugs and alcohol are eradicated, and these wonderful professionals can take their final bow. Until then, their hard work should be recognized and, more importantly, honored and appreciated.

REMARKS ON HURRICANE
KATRINA

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, with a heavy heart, I rise today in solidarity with my fellow Americans who suffered the devastation of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. We deeply mourn the loss of life. We share the pain of those who are suffering physically and emotionally from this trauma. And we also mourn the loss of some of our faith in government to respond in full measure to people in need.

In the past few days I have received scores of calls and e-mails from my constituents in Wisconsin expressing their support for the victims of the devastation and also their outrage at the slow and inefficient federal response to that tragedy.

Wisconsinites are deeply ashamed of the images of abandonment and neglect they saw on TV and desperate to help in rescue efforts. My heart goes out to the victims of Hurricane Katrina and to those family members here in Wisconsin and across the country waiting for word from their loved ones. While Americans are reaching into their wallets to support private relief efforts, there should be no doubt that the federal government must provide the leadership to ultimately meet the challenges of this situation.

Particularly disturbing is that we have spent more than \$36.7 billion dollars since the September 11th terrorist attacks planning for a response to a disaster of epic proportions. Now we've had one. Given the response of the Department of Homeland Security to this disaster, every aspect of that Department's performance and capability is now called into question and the security of every American hangs in the balance. Wisconsinites are not alone in calling for a government investigation into this catastrophic failure and an immediate overhaul of the system so that such a failure never again occurs.

Congress has now sent more than \$62 billion in federal disaster relief to help save and aid hurricane victims and I supported this authorization of money. But money, alone, will not solve the problems we face.

The response to this disaster showed us many things, among them that our social safety net has been badly neglected. It showed us also that we have been inadequate stewards of the environment.

Whether it's our failure to fight poverty and provide health care to all in America; or our failure to make proper and adequate investments in infrastructure (including our emergency communications infrastructure); or our failure to protect the natural buffers, our coastal wetlands and barrier island which serve as Mother Nature's shock absorbers; or our failure to listen to scientists long warning us of climate change; or our failure to embark upon a path that decreases (rather than increases) our dependence on finite resources so that future generations won't experience the fear and anxiety that grips all of our constituents when fuel becomes unaffordable.

All of this was revealed stunningly in recent days. Let us not ignore what was exposed to us. This time, let's seize the opportunity to work toward the common good; to help those with the least, not just those with the most; and to make good on the social compact.

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, we have the opportunity to reclaim the promise of America. Failure is not an option.

THE U.S. MERCHANT MARINE: WE
DELIVER THE GOODS!

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, when I introduced H.R. 23, the "Belated Thank You to the Merchant Mariners of World War II Act" the positive response was overwhelming. Many of these Merchant Mariners have shared their harrowing, 60-year-old stories and experiences with me, and each personal account strengthens my resolve to see that these brave heroes are treated with respect by the U.S. government.

In my ongoing fight to correct the injustice being done to the U.S. Merchant Marines—men who have yet to be given full benefits as World War II veterans—I would like to submit the following article from *The American Legion* by Dan Allsup, a freelance writer from the St. Louis area, entitled, "We Deliver the Goods":

It's not that Bob Bodine wanted to avoid the World War II draft in 1943. He just didn't think being an Army infantryman sounded like a whole lot of fun.

Bodine tried to join the Army Air Corps but failed the vision test. He talked to a Navy aviation recruiter, but the Navy was bringing on 17-year-olds at the time. Bodine was too old at 18.

"What else is there?" he asked the recruiter. "Well, there's the Merchant Marine, but they've got a hell of a casualty rate," the recruiter said.

Bodine, now 80, recalls the conversation. "What does a teenager care about casualty statistics? I always liked boats, so the Merchant Marine sounded pretty good to me."

He secured a slot at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, NY. In his second year, Bodine sailed off on a required 9-month cruise to the Mediterranean. It didn't take long for him to realize that if he was trying to avoid the draft, he could have taken an easier route. Bodine was a crewmember aboard the USS *Fleming*, which was hauling a dozen P-51 aircraft and a huge load of vehicle and aviation fuel to the troops. The *Fleming* was part of a 110-ship convoy. While it escaped the war unscathed, 50 of her sister ships were sunk by German U-boats and floating mines.

Bodine is one of the more than 243,000 civilian volunteer mariners who served aboard ships that provided the greatest seafight in history. Critical to the war effort, the U.S. merchant fleet delivered troops, supplies, ammunition and equipment all over the world. It took part in every invasion from Normandy to Okinawa, often becoming sitting-duck targets for enemy submarines, mines, bombers and kamikaze pilots. Fighting was especially fierce in the Atlantic, where "wolf packs" of German submarines and deadly U-boats prowled the ocean destroying Merchant Marine ships in an attempt to isolate Great Britain. Closer to home, enemy submarines sank hundreds of ships off the eastern coast of the United States.

In the first 6 months of 1942, German U-boats alone sank more than 400 U.S. merchant ships. Because no official history has been written of the Merchant Marine in World War II, casualty numbers vary from source to source. It is believed, however, that about 9,300 mariners were killed during the war, and more than 1,500 of their ships were sunk. Fortunately, because most Merchant Marine ships traveled in convoys, many of the mariners aboard wounded vessels were fished from the sea by nearby ships. About 600 mariners were prisoners of war and another 11,000 were injured.

Susan Clark, public-affairs officer for the U.S. Maritime Administration—the Federal agency most involved with the Merchant Marine—said that other than the U.S. Marines, mariners had a higher death rate than any other branch of the service during the war. (Some mariners may take exception to that statistic. A web site for Merchant Marine veterans says their death rate was 1 in 26 and the Marine Corps was 1 in 34.)

President Franklin Roosevelt summed up the war contributions of the U.S. Merchant Marine: "The (mariners) have written one of its most brilliant chapters. They have delivered the goods when and where needed in every theater of operations and across every ocean in the biggest, the most difficult and most dangerous job ever taken."

Despite their losses and their importance to the war effort, surviving mariners weren't met with parades and flags when they returned home. They weren't considered veterans. They couldn't take advantage of the GI Bill, small business loans or medical care for disabilities. Officially, they were civilians. If they were lucky, they received a thank you letter and a lapel pin from the President. After years of fighting the system and a long court battle, some World War II mariners finally received limited veteran status on Jan. 19, 1988.

Sixty years after he last hung up his Merchant Marine uniform, Bodine and many of his Academy classmates still can't believe they weren't considered members of the U.S. Armed Forces during the war. "I didn't know otherwise until I realized that I wasn't eligible for the GI Bill or any other veterans benefits," he said.

Although some bitterness about the lack of recognition remains, the Merchant Marine sails on today. After the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, 29 Merchant Marine Academy students operated a fleet of boats into New York Harbor, transporting firefighters and other emergency workers, along with food and medical supplies.

Today, more than 8,000 mariners serve in the Military Sealift Command, most of them working in support of the Iraqi war. An average vessel moves the equivalent of about 300 C-17 cargo aircraft, freeing up aircraft for other critical missions.

From the Revolutionary War to Operation Iraqi Freedom, the U.S. Merchant Marine has delivered the goods.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNM-LOS
ALAMOS

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 25th anniversary of the Los Alamos branch of the University of New Mexico. Nestled in the mountains, this bustling center of science and education is a mainstay in the community of Los Alamos. Initially a graduate studies center for science, engineering and management, UNM-Los Alamos has evolved into a state-of-the-art facility offering a broad base of educational programs.

UNM-LA offers a variety of associate's degrees and certificates, as well as courses that transfer toward a bachelor's degree. Small, personalized classes taught by dedicated instructors give students the attention normally associated with liberal arts colleges. Affordability is also a key factor at UNM-LA as lower division classes cost students a mere 25 percent of the main campus tuition rate.

Student success is the main focus at UNM-LA where a range of classes are offered on many educational levels to students from diverse backgrounds. UNM-LA provides Adult Basic Education, GED training, English as a Second Language instruction and a tutorial center to supplement the classroom experience. In addition to the core curriculum, upper division classes are available to graduate students through the UNM Extended University at UNM-LA.

In partnership with the Los Alamos National Laboratory, UNM-LA provides the most current computer training to Lab and contract employees. Responsive to current need, these classes enable employees to build necessary skills for career advancement within the Lab. Several science and technology programs prepare students for work at the Lab and many UNM-LA graduates find employment at LANL.

Approximately 2,500 students attend UNM-LA each year with campus housing available to those who wish to live in the beautiful Los Alamos area. Campus life includes student government, music, art and a Student Center with numerous activities. The natural beauty and recreation opportunities surrounding the campus make UNM-LA an ideal setting for living and learning.

UNM-LA further enriches the community by hosting events such as concerts, art exhibits and lectures on campus throughout the year. Several satellite locations in neighboring communities give access to students outside the main campus area. UNM-LA is also involved in the administration of two small business development centers in Los Alamos and Sandoval counties.

Mr. Speaker, UNM-LA has brought quality higher learning to the dynamic Los Alamos area. Serving Northern New Mexico for 25 years now, UNM-LA has provided well-rounded educational and life experiences to thousands of students. Graduates of UNM-LA have no doubt taken with them a strong ethic of learning and a stronger sense of community as well.

EXPRESSING CONCERN FOR
HURRICANE KATRINA VICTIMS

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Our thoughts are with all those who have been stranded by the storm, separated from their family and friends, and have suffered from tremendous personal and emotional losses. Worst of all is that it was the least among us—the poor, elderly, and infirm—who appeared to suffer the most. Television broadcasts beamed poignant images of those that could not leave, who were now forced to survive in an inhabitable city seemingly overcome with the presence of death and overtaken by depravity.

Adding to our grief and inflaming our outrage is that the Federal Government was woefully unprepared for this disaster. As the world watched, we responded in a way that was completely unacceptable. Despite assurance by FEMA Director Michael Brown that his organization was taking steps to ensure that disaster teams could respond within 12 hours and that disaster relief supplies could be delivered anywhere in the country in 24 hours, stranded residents in New Orleans reportedly went 4 days without deliveries of food and water. Inaction, mismanagement, and the inability to put the appropriate personnel and resources in the right place at the right time exacerbated an already grave natural disaster.

The scope of the tragedy we have seen in the Gulf Coast was not only anticipated but could have been minimized if the appropriate steps were taken. Multiple studies had identified the potentially devastating effects of a hurricane striking New Orleans. The Army Corps of Engineers requested funds for critical reinforcements to the levees in New Orleans but those calls have been unanswered. Further, as has been widely reported, since its transfer to the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA has been significantly diminished and undervalued.

However, after these sorrowful pictures that now seem so permanently seared on our conscience begin to fade, after the appropriate investigations occur on what went so tragically wrong, and after the devastated areas start to rebuild, we must take more from Hurricane Katrina than how to better plan, prepare, and respond for a potential natural disaster. We must finally begin to recognize and remember that the Federal Government can help Americans live better lives. For too long now, the Federal Government has catered to those who can well take care of themselves. It's about time we started to care and demonstrate compassion for those being left behind not just in New Orleans but throughout America.

RELATING TO THE TERRORIST AT-
TACKS AGAINST THE UNITED
STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2005

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, as our nation continues to deliver relief to the victims of Hurricane Katrina, we pause to remember the victims of an earlier American tragedy on the fourth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

While grasping to comprehend the enormity of the natural disaster that has befallen the Gulf Coast region, Americans to this day still struggle to make sense of the terrorists' ruthlessness, their hatred of our core values of liberty, democracy and equality, as well as their capacity for the horrific atrocities they carried out against innocent men, women and children 4 years ago today.

As we remember our loss on September 11th, we are also reminded of the strength of the human spirit when other crises arrived. Since the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, we have witnessed a world united in action and sharing a common goal of helping those most in need in the aftermath of tragedy, including the tsunami in Southern Asia, the terrorist attacks in Spain and England, and now in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Our Nation continues to heal from September 11, 2001, but with firm resolve, we have moved forward to rebuild—never bowing to terrorist demands or allowing an unwelcome sense of vulnerability to permeate our lives. With even greater respect and admiration for our first responders, medical professionals and other heroes across our Nation, we honor their valor and sacrifices as they ease mankind's suffering and elevate humanity to new heights.

On this day, Mr. Speaker, we will always remember and honor the Americans lost at the hands of terrorist attackers. This year, once again, we extend our deepest sympathies to their families, friends, and loved ones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, on September 6, I was surveying damage from Hurricane Katrina in Louisiana and failed to cast recorded votes on rollcall votes 454 and 455. Had I cast my votes, I would have voted "yes" on both.

Last week, I traveled to Louisiana with a constituent who is the president and founder of Heart to Heart International, Dr. Gary Morsch. Heart to Heart International, a Kansas-based humanitarian organization that serves the needs of the poor and provides aid to those most affected by natural disasters, has established a forward distribution center in Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, to distribute aid to the refugees of Hurricane Katrina. A team organized by Heart to Heart International traveled to this forward distribution site to deliver

aid, determine assignments for possible future teams, and prepare to receive future shipments to deliver to agencies sheltering refugees.

I deeply appreciate the work of private relief organizations like Heart to Heart International that play a critical role in the public-private response to natural disasters. While private organizations do their part for disaster relief, government at every level needs to work together to plan for inevitable natural disasters and coordinate relief efforts. I will continue working within Congress to ensure that the federal government's response to future disasters, whether natural or man-made, is as efficient and timely as possible.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES OF
NATION TO VICTIMS OF HURRI-
CANE KATRINA

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the tragedy that has resulted from Hurricane Katrina. Like our colleagues and so many Americans, I watched with sadness as this massive storm approached the coast and threatened to wreak unprecedented destruction on anything that stood in its path.

Over the hours that followed, we learned that entire communities along the Gulf of Mexico coast had literally been devastated, homes and businesses had been destroyed, churches and schools were in ruins, and floodwaters continued to rise in New Orleans. While the physical damage was restricted to the Gulf Coast region itself, we all recognized immediately that Hurricane Katrina was a national catastrophe that would touch millions and have long-term effects on us all.

The people of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama need strong leadership in Washington right now. The Federal Government can and will stand strong to do all we can until the flood waters recede, homes are rebuilt, families and communities are reunited and normalcy returns. However, it will require the time and efforts of us all.

The American people have responded with overwhelming generosity. Citizens from Tennessee and elsewhere across the country have donated their time, goods and money to help in every possible way with the relief effort. Many communities in our State have shown again how we earned our nickname "The Volunteer State," and I know many other communities have also proven their kindness, welcoming with open arms those who have literally lost everything and been forced from their homes. There are countless stories of families, churches and schools opening their doors and taking in these newly found homeless. I am proud of my fellow Tennesseans and our fellow Americans in showing such support for those who need help.

Our Nation continues to face unprecedented threats on physical, emotional and economic fronts, and we will fight those battles together. Federal, State and local officials, private industry and charitable organizations must work together to fight these battles and start the process of rebuilding our communities, and I

hope our Nation will be stronger. Mr. Speaker, we have watched a terrible disaster unfold, but I am certain Americans will stand together and meet these challenges with the American spirit that has helped us through so many tough times before.

ACE AND TJ RALLY THEIR
LISTENERS

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, America is heartbroken by the loss of life and property Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama have experienced due to Hurricane Katrina. It is the largest natural disaster in the history of our country. As the people in the effected areas are suffering and have called for help, citizens across the country have heard their cries and have responded.

All across America citizens are organizing drives to help people in the Gulf States. They are giving money, gathering supplies, and working to make sure people displaced from these areas find shelter. I would like to recognize one such effort in my hometown of Charlotte, NC.

Charlotte has 2 very popular radio disc jockey's—Ace and TJ. They are two of Louisiana's favorite sons, and in the wake of disaster that has effected their home State, and areas around it, they organized one of the Nation's fastest and largest private responses to the disaster in the Gulf.

Ace and TJ decided they would do a donation drive for victims of Hurricane Katrina, asked their listeners to "give to the Gulf." They asked listeners to donate money and supplies such as water, canned goods, generators, diapers, and baby wipes for the victims. Their radio listener family responded to their call in large numbers.

Ace, TJ, Madden, Yankee Pete, Ryan, and the local radio station Kiss 95.1 FM began their donation drive on Monday, August 29, 2005, at noon. The response was so overwhelming that they continued to air their efforts until midnight that night.

Ace and TJ, over local 400 volunteers, and local businesses all pulled together and worked for more than 4 straight days for hurricane victims. They took in the supplies and loaded them onto tractor trailer trucks. Local restaurants even chipped in by contributing food for the volunteers, and businesses contributed supplies and expertise on how to properly load the supplies. The whole Charlotte community pulled together for this effort.

I would also like to point out that their listeners in Chattanooga, Tennessee, Beckley and Bluefield, West Virginia, and Birmingham, Alabama, also contributed money and supplies to their effort.

When Ace and TJ first started this drive they thought they would try to load up one tractor trailer, and get about \$50,000 to contribute to hurricane victims. I am happy to say that Ace and TJ's radio listeners went above and beyond their first estimates. The listeners poured our their hearts and have contributed almost \$500,000, and filled up 26 18-wheeler tractor trailers trucks full of supplies.

Then, if getting the money and supplies weren't enough, they personally ensured that

the supplies were driven down to Cenla, Louisiana, so they could be used immediately by the evacuees from the Gulf area.

Mr. Speaker, we should not forget the efforts of people like Ace and TJ and their volunteers, because in times like these we need to recognize them to remind us of what it is to love thy neighbor. I am proud of the compassion and generosity of the people I represent in the Charlotte area. I am also very proud and grateful to Ace and TJ and their radio team for pulling the community together and giving to those in need. And as we continue to help those in need, let us not forget the people who are really helping our fellow citizens. It is not the governments, it is the good people across our country like Ace and TJ.

ANNIVERSARY OF AWB

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 13, 2005

Mrs. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, one year ago today, Congress allowed the Federal ban on assault weapons to expire without a floor vote.

The ban was allowed to die despite the support of two-thirds of the American people and the support of nearly every police organization in the country.

And although he did nothing to help, President Bush even said he supported the ban.

But Congress refused to listen to common sense and allowed weapons such as AK-47s and TEC-9s to be available throughout the United States.

Since then, the NRA and its allies in Congress have pursued a radical agenda to weaken our gun laws.

In July, the other body passed legislation giving the gun industry unprecedented protections from negligence lawsuits.

This legislation will see that negligence goes unpunished. It will also give the industry no incentive to pursue safety innovations for their products.

Had these protections been in place for the auto industry 40 years ago, cars wouldn't have seat belts, air bags, antilock brakes.

The NRA says this law will prevent frivolous lawsuits against the gun industry, but it is a problem that doesn't exist.

Over the past 10 years, over 10 million lawsuits have been filed in the U.S. Only 57 have involved the gun industry. And only 12 of those have been ruled frivolous by judges.

The current system works, frivolous lawsuits against the gun industry are not coming to trial.

Also, the NRA has begun a lobbying campaign to convince state legislatures to overturn workplace gun bans.

Whether it is at a daycare center, school, church, or hazardous materials plant, the NRA wants employees to come to work armed. Again, it defies common sense.

Guns are already the third greatest hazard in the workforce and 17 Americans die on the job because of guns each week.

Instead of dismissing irresponsible business practices and allowing guns in daycare centers, Congress should focus on legislation that keeps guns out of the hands of criminals and terrorists.

I have introduced legislation to improve the National Instant Background Check System or NICS. NICS is the database used to make sure potential gun buyers are legally permitted to own firearms.

But the system is only as good as the information States provide. Twenty-five States have entered less than sixty percent of their felony convictions into the NICS database.

In 13 States, domestic violence restraining orders are not entered into NICS.

My bill would require States and Federal agencies to provide the FBI with all relevant records necessary to conduct effective background checks.

The bill establishes a nationwide grant program to allow State law enforcement agencies

to update and transmit records for inclusion in NICS.

Another step towards reducing the threat of gun violence is to include individuals on Federal terrorist watch lists in the NICS system.

Earlier this year, the United States Government Accounting Office issued a report revealing 44 instances of persons listed on Federal terrorist watch lists attempting to purchase firearms during a 4-month period in 2004.

Thirty-five of these transactions resulted in the successful purchase of a firearm.

Our current laws allow our enemies in the War on Terror to arm themselves within our borders.

I have introduced legislation to place persons on the Transportation Security Administration's No Fly List into the NICS system.

If we do not trust an individual to board a plane, common sense dictates that we should not allow them to buy guns.

Both sides of the gun issue have a vested interest in reducing gun violence.

In 2002 alone, guns killed 30,000 Americans. Studies show gun violence costs our health care system more than \$100 billion per year.

Mr. Speaker, we can work together to achieve common sense solutions to gun violence without infringing on anybody's 2nd Amendment Rights.