

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENTIAL
SCHOLARS OF PINE CREST
SCHOOL

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. SHAW. I rise today to recognize and honor the dedication and ambition of three recent graduates of Pine Crest School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Kyle Mahowald, Andrew Malcolm, and Caitlin McAuliffe have each been recognized as National Presidential Scholars. The Presidential Scholars program was introduced by Executive Order in 1964 as a means of applauding the efforts of the Nation's top high school graduates. This year, only 141 winners were chosen from a candidate pool of over 2,700. With three, Pine Crest has the most honorees of any school in the Nation. I am confident that this achievement foreshadows what their bright futures may hold.

The efforts of these students extend far beyond the classroom. Kyle, Andrew, and Caitlin have reached out to their fellow peers, taking leadership roles in various student organizations and serving as mentors for younger students. Additionally, they have reached out to their communities, giving countless hours from their busy schedules to raise money for various worthy causes. Kyle Mahowald even became the youngest person to compose the Sunday crossword puzzle for the New York Times.

The educators and parents of Pine Crest School play a critical role in the success of all of their students. I commend Raymond Sessman, Anthony Jaswinski, and Gordon Ivanoski for their dedication and guidance to these three students. Only with the support of truly caring teachers can future generations of American students hope to reach their dreams.

On behalf of Florida's 22nd District, I wish to recognize Kyle Mahowald, Andrew Malcolm, and Caitlin McAuliffe for their admirable efforts and wish them the best of luck in their studies at Harvard, Princeton, and Yale, respectively. Their accomplishments are a shining example to all of South Florida's students and students across the Nation.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND BETTY
ANN DONEGAN FOR THEIR OUT-
STANDING SERVICE TO THE
COMMUNITY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join Harbor Health Services and the many family, friends, and community members who have gathered to

pay tribute to two outstanding members of the Branford community and my good friends, John and Betty Ann Donegan. John and Betty Ann have dedicated a lifetime to public and community service—making all the difference throughout the Branford community.

As Harbor Health Services celebrates its 25th Anniversary, it is only fitting that they should honor Betty Ann who, as a charter board member, helped give life to this outstanding organization. Since its inception, Harbor Health Services has provided invaluable programs and services to those with behavioral health needs and has become a leader in quality care and service. Through her efforts and guidance on the Board, Betty Ann's involvement with the organization has helped to make it the success it is today. However, it is not just for her good work with this agency that she is being honored.

Both John and Betty Ann have devoted countless hours to the Branford community. Every community should be so fortunate as to have a couple who so willingly give of themselves to make a difference in the lives of others. Betty Ann's reputation as an active and dynamic volunteer is only further enhanced when you consider the innumerable contributions she has made. Whether chairing benefits for the Branford Volunteer Service Center, the celebration of the reopening of the James Blackstone Memorial Library, or the Branford Festival, it seems that Betty Ann is always available to lend a helping hand to ensure that these community events are a success.

John has also demonstrated a unique commitment to public and community service. He has represented Branford residents as a member of the Representative Town Meeting, served on the Branford Board of Education, and has for many years served as the town's Judge of Probate. In addition to his public service, John has also devoted much of his time to community organizations. For 25 years he served as Secretary of the Branford Community Foundation, he is the immediate past president of the Pine Orchard Yacht and Country Club and has served as volunteer counsel for the Branford Volunteer Service Center. Through all of these efforts, John has quietly enriched the community, improving the quality of life for all of its residents.

On a more personal note, I must also thank John and Betty Ann for their many years of special friendship. When I first ran for Congress in 1989, the Donegans were some of the very first to support my efforts. Even during a horrible blizzard, they opened up their home to introduce me to the Branford community. They are true friends and I am certainly fortunate to have their support and encouragement.

Their dedication and commitment to public and community service is unparalleled. John and Betty Ann reflect all that community leaders should be. I am certainly proud to call them my friends. I am pleased to stand today and join all of those gathered in extending my deepest thanks and appreciation to John and Betty Ann Donegan as they are so fittingly

honored by Harbor Health Services with their Community Service Award. There are few who have demonstrated such generosity and compassion. They have left an indelible mark on the Branford community—a legacy that has touched the lives of thousands.

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
DARTMOUTH STUDENTS HAVE
ENTERED THIS YEAR'S DEPART-
MENT OF ENERGY SOLAR DE-
CATHLON

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of a gifted group of students from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth who have designed and built an entry at this year's Department of Energy Solar Decathlon.

The Solar Decathlon brings 18 college and university teams to participate in this innovative solar competition to design, build, and operate the most attractive and energy-efficient solar-powered home. Student teams built their solar houses on their respective campuses and will transport them to the National Mall in Washington, DC, where they will form a solar village on the National Mall.

The solar village is open to the public October 7–16, 2005. The teams' solar houses are open for touring every day except October 12, when they are closed for competition purposes. An overall winner will be announced on October 14.

I especially wanted to note that after the competition the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth Solar Decathlon Team will be donating their solar home to Habitat For Humanity where it will be permanently installed in Northeast DC as a Habitat-provided home. I'm proud to have the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth in my district and to represent these bright young people who have worked so hard to draw attention to the benefits of alternative energy.

CONGRATULATING PASQUALE
CASTAGNA AS RHODE ISLAND'S
2005 OUTSTANDING OLDER WORK-
ER

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Pasquale Castagna, recently honored as Rhode Island's 2005 Outstanding Older Worker. Mr. Castagna, at the age of 84, continues to manage the Grandview Bed and Breakfast in Westerly, RI, and still finds the time to give back to his community through service and dedication.

• 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.

A World War II veteran and committed public servant, Pat Castagna began working for the bed and breakfast 18 years ago, after spending 34 years as a community postman for the U.S. Postal Service. He was honored in that position in 1973 for "recognition of efforts beyond the call of duty in bringing credit to the postal service."

Now property manager of the Grandview Bed and Breakfast, Pat has kept the house, grounds, and office running smoothly. His work has contributed to making Grandview one of the best in the area, winner of the 1998 Bed and Breakfast Excellence Award from the South County Tourism Council.

After 84 years, Pat still finds time not only to continue performing his job, but to contribute to the community as well. He was cited for most consecutive years of community service for his work on the Westerly Town Council, helping plan the Columbus Day Celebration for 25 years and serving as a member of a committee to memorialize those who died serving our country.

The Outstanding Older Worker award reflects the characteristics of "leadership, learning, mentoring, and community service," and was created by Experience Works to honor America's senior workforce. The importance of this segment of the workforce should never be underestimated, and Rhode Island is proud to have people like Mr. Castagna still hard at work in our community. On behalf of my home State, I would like to thank Mr. Castagna and all older workers for their dedication to their jobs, and I would like to wish them all great success in the future.

RECOGNIZING PRESIDENTIAL
FREEDOM SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the outstanding dedication to community service displayed by ten high school students who were recently awarded the Presidential Freedom Scholarship.

This year's recipients are Maruan Almada of Fort Lauderdale, Jenna Ali of Deerfield Beach, Charity Lamerson of Boynton Beach, Monique Shepherd and Edwin Morales of Boca Raton, Shaina McGehe of West Palm Beach, Aaron Grossman of Royal Palm Beach, Jarrod Matthei of Pompano Beach, Joshua Miller of Parkland, and Stacey Blase of Palm Beach Gardens.

These ten fine young individuals have taken a leadership role in local community service projects and devoted significant time and energy to improving our district. They have each contributed more than 100 hours of service in the last 12 months alone.

Mr. Speaker, today we recognize these ten Freedom Scholarship recipients for their tireless efforts and leadership in working to improve the lives of others in our community. I wish these fine young men and women the best of luck in their future endeavors, with full confidence that their dedication to service will continue to both improve lives and inspire others.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF ROBERT F.
NOLAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to rise today to join family, friends, and community members in extending my sincere thanks and appreciation to my good friend, Chief Robert F. Nolan, who is celebrating his retirement after thirty-four years of dedicated service. His retirement marks the end of a distinguished career in law enforcement with the Hamden Police Department.

Recent times have brought a renewed public respect for our Nation's law enforcement officials and the very real dangers they face. From the tragic events of Columbine to the devastating attacks of September 11th to the catastrophic destruction of Hurricane Katrina, the skill, dedication and commitment of our law enforcement officials has been tested. From these tragedies lessons have been learned and higher expectations have been made for those who dedicate their lives to protecting our communities. In these times, we have looked to our police officers for guidance and reassurance.

Chief Nolan began his career as a patrol officer with the Hamden Police Department in 1971. In his over three decades of service with the Department, he served in many positions with the utmost of distinction and integrity. Throughout his career, Chief Nolan has always dedicated himself to ensuring the protection and safety of the Hamden community. Attending countless training exercises, workshops, forums, with both local and federal agencies, the Chief always availed himself of the most advanced law enforcement training available. His unparalleled leadership and dedication to law enforcement earned him the appointment of Chief, a rank which he has held for the last seven years.

I have perhaps never been so proud of our law enforcement officials than in the days immediately following September 11th. Chief Nolan along with twenty-two of his officers went to New York City to assist authorities at the police command center. It has been through outstanding efforts like these that the Chief has earned the respect and esteem of his Department, the citizens of Hamden, and all that have had the opportunity to work with him. Every community should be so fortunate.

With all of his work at the Department and in the community, Chief Nolan still made time to be of great assistance to myself and my staff. He has been an invaluable resource to us all and I want to extend my deepest thanks and sincere appreciation for all of his many years of support and friendship.

Chief Robert F. Nolan has demonstrated an unparalleled commitment and has left an indelible mark on the Town of Hamden—he will be missed. As he celebrates his retirement, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join his wife, Shirley; daughters, Dawn and Robyn; his three grandchildren, family, friends, and colleagues in wishing him the very best for many more years of health and happiness.

AVTEX BOILER HOUSE IMPLOSION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, September 19, 2005, was an historic day for Warren County in Virginia's 10th District. On that Monday, the largest and last major building in the American Viscose (Avtex) plant complex on Kendrick Lane in Front Royal, next to the South Fork of the Shenandoah River, was imploded. The site is now being prepared for redevelopment as a 165-acre technology-oriented business park, 240-acre nature conservancy park, and 35-acre community soccer complex.

The event marked the end of an era for the Front Royal and Warren County area which began over six decades ago. From 1940 to 1989, the Avtex plant was a hub for this community, employing more than 2,500 people manufacturing rayon, polyester and polypropylene fibers for the defense, space and commercial industries. But its closure in 1989, not only eliminated a great number of jobs, it left the site unsuitable for reuse.

Following its closure, the facility was identified by the Environmental Protection Agency as a Superfund site. However, before the EPA could begin its work on cleaning up the site, asbestos and lead-contaminated buildings had to be removed. Since 2000, the Army Corp of Engineers has been partnering with the Environmental Protection Agency, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Economic Development Authority of Front Royal and Warren County and the FMC Corporation, a former owner of the site, in the Avtex cleanup efforts. These partners have done an amazing job of cleaning up this site and preparing for a new use.

Clean-up can be very costly. That's why securing federal assistance for the effort has been a priority for Senator JOHN WARNER of Virginia and myself for many years. However, the initial funding of \$12 million ended up being insufficient to cover the full cost of demolishing the buildings and removing the asbestos. In 2003, Senator WARNER and I were able to help provide an additional \$11 million in federal funds to finish the effort. It would have been unacceptable to leave the project half-done.

Monday was a very emotional day for many who had dedicated years of service to our nation at the Avtex site. While the occasion was tinged with sadness for many former Avtex employees who were on hand for Monday's ceremony, they are hopeful that their former work site can once again be an economic center for the region.

Former Avtex employees were recognized for their contributions over the years with yellow ribbons. Louise Bowers, an 83-year-old town resident, worked at the rayon plant for 46 years, over half of her life. Her father, the late Noah Martin, had a part in the history of this site having hauled sand used in the construction of the plant.

Mrs. Bowers went to work there in 1940, one of 19 young women hired that day. During World War II, she wound motors for the spinning room. She ended up in the "double-deck" or the lower part of the plant, where the syrup-like viscose liquid was poured through platinum "jets" or thimbles, forming tiny filaments

of rayon yam. She said the men worked upstairs and the women worked downstairs.

It was through her job at Avtex that Louise met her husband, John C. Bowers. He worked at Avtex for 39 years. Much of his work was in the "staple" department, where sheets of fluffy rayon were baled. Like his wife, it was a bittersweet moment to see the boiler house imploded.

For Lloyd W. Ebaugh Sr., 92, of Woodstock, his work at Avtex over 32 years provided a good living for him and his wife, Catherine, to raise their twin daughters. Avtex was the lifeblood for other communities from Winchester to Woodstock to Edinburg to Luray, across the mountain, all around. It was the major industry in the area. His wife was saddened by Monday's implosion noting that "it represented the end of a lot of things, wonderful and good things."

Also on hand for Monday's implosion was William K. Sine, 76, of Front Royal, who earned his living at Avtex for more than 29 years. His was the next to the last shift worked before the plant closed for good on November 9, 1989. "It was a good experience," Mr. Sine said. "I know a lot of the guys I worked with up there, most of them are dead now."

The implosion of the last significant remaining building was a milestone for everyone involved—the town, the county, the Economic Development Authority, and all the federal partners. As the U.S. representative for this area, I was pleased to be able to participate in this historic occasion—the end of the Avtex plant but the birth of a new economic generator for the people of Front Royal, Warren County and the surrounding areas. The people of Warren County are to be commended for their resolve to see this project through to its completion.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH
ANNIVERSARY OF PUBLIX

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 75th Anniversary of Publix supermarkets.

Publix was founded by George W. Jenkins in 1930 in Winter Haven, Florida. Since then, Publix has more than 125,000 associates in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee. With more than 800 stores, it is one of the fastest growing employee-owned Fortune 500 companies.

In 1940, George Jenkins mortgaged an orange grove he had acquired during the Depression for a down payment on his dream store—Florida's first supermarket. He built his "food palace" of marble, glass and stucco, and equipped it with innovations never seen before in a grocery store. Such innovations included air conditioning, fluorescent lighting, electric eye doors and frozen food cases. People from all over traveled hundreds of miles to partake in the Publix experience.

In 1951, to help build and supply the stores, a 125,000-square-foot warehouse and headquarters complex was completed in Lakeland. Five years later, Publix recorded its first million-dollar profit year.

George Jenkins' reputation grew along with the business and he was elected president of the Super Market Institute in 1961. In 1970, Publix achieved another high mark, recording nearly \$500 million in sales, a figure that would double in four short years. In 1979, Publix had a record-breaking year with 15 new store openings.

Publix turned 50 in 1980, and celebrated by kicking off a decade of technological innovation. In keeping with the company's affinity for using technology to make shopping more pleasurable, Publix introduced checkout scanning statewide.

Publix marked another milestone in 1991 when the company crossed the state line to open a store in Savannah, Georgia. It was named in the top ten Best Companies to Work for in America in 1993, and is consistently recognized in the grocery business for superior quality and customer service by an American Customer Index survey.

The company has received numerous awards during its 75 year history including Diversistar Award for excelling in promoting workplace diversity practices; named by Child magazine as one of the Top 10 Family-Friendly Supermarkets; "Outstanding Business" award for recycling efforts from Recycle Today, Inc.; and the Governor's Business Diversification Award for Business Expansion.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Florida's 22nd District, I wish to commend the efforts of the Publix CEO, Charlie Jenkins, Jr. and everyone at Publix for their mission to provide quality food and their continued efforts to offer excellent customer service.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
FREDERICK DOUGLAS "FRITZ"
POLLARD

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Frederick Douglas "Fritz" Pollard. This past August, Fritz, a native Hoosier, was inducted into the National Football League Hall of Fame alongside gridiron legends Dan Marino, Steve Young, and Benny Friedman. Fritz Pollard was a pioneer for African-American athletes in the NFL during the pre-civil rights era of the 20th century.

Fritz Pollard was born in Chicago in 1894; the son of a former soldier in the Union army. Upon his high school graduation, Pollard attended Northwestern, Dartmouth, and Harvard universities prior to his enrollment at Brown University in 1915.

As a young freshman halfback, Pollard led the Brown football team to victory over Harvard and Yale with Pollard producing 531 yards of total offense and six touchdowns in just two games. As a tribute to his success on the field, Pollard was named the first African-American All American running back in 1916. Pollard also became the first African-American to play in the Rose Bowl that same season. Pollard was later recognized for his stellar college career in 1954 when he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

Pollard's professional football career began in 1921 on the early Akron Pros roster. He later went on to play for the Milwaukee Bad-

gers, the Hammond Pros, and the Providence Steam Roller.

In the NFL, Pollard electrified the game while enduring the hatred of crowds because of his race and the indignities of dressing and eating in isolation from his teammates due to Jim Crow laws and customs. He often suited up for football games in seclusion at a nearby cigar store or in automobiles. While on the field, Pollard always had to remain alert for flying rocks and at times even needed to be escorted from the field for his safety. This was in addition to the acts of discrimination he faced at hotels and restaurants.

Beginning in 1934, the NFL banned African-American players until 1946. Pollard fought this segregation by forming independent African-American touring football teams: the Chicago Black Hawks and most notably the New York Brown Bomber, to showcase African-American talent to the fans and to the NFL.

Fritz Pollard's talents extended far beyond the football field. He owned a coal company, ran a weekly newspaper, formed his own New York-based public relations firm, founded F. D. Pollard & Co., one of the nation's first Black run securities firms, a talent agency, headed a movie studio in Harlem, and produced the first black motion picture.

Today, Hoosiers still pay tribute to Pollard for the trail that he blazed for equality. The Indiana Black Expo, Inc.'s Circle City Classic football game annually showcases the talents of collegiate football players, coaches, musicians, administrators, faculty, staff and boosters to ensure that the name Fritz Pollard and his legacy are not forgotten. Frederick Douglas "Fritz" Pollard didn't live his life to make a living, but rather to make a difference. Pollard forged a trail followed by the 69 percent of today's NFL players who are African-American and the just over 70 percent of the NFL's players from other racial and ethnic minority groups. Pollard charted the course followed by the six African-American Head Coaches currently in the NFL, the 11 coordinators and the upwards of 170 minority Assistant Coaches.

Frederick Douglas "Fritz" Pollard's induction to the NFL Hall of Fame shed a light on the early history of the NFL and Pollard's pioneering roles as the first African-American coach. To this day we in Indiana are proud to have called him our own.

TRIBUTE TO THE WORCESTER
WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Worcester Women's History Project. During their 10 years of exceptional service, the Worcester Women's History Project has raised awareness of the important and vital role of women in the history of Worcester and our Nation.

The Worcester Women's History Project, since its creation in 1994, has raised awareness of the importance of Worcester, site of the first National Woman's Rights Convention in 1850. In conjunction with that goal, the Worcester Women's History Foundation has educated the local community on the rich history of women and their courage in organizing

against oppression and slavery. The WWHP is devoted to ensuring the recognition and incorporation of women's contributions to the historical record. Dedication to the discovery of connections between past and present—for the benefit of the future—is displayed in the scholarships and workshops that the WWHP continuously supports and funds.

The Project is particularly committed to spreading awareness concerning Worcester's central role in the history of the women's rights movement, and remains devoted to the ideal put forth in the 1850 Convention that there should be "equality under the law, without distinction of sex or color" or ethnicity.

The Worcester Women's History Project works to reveal the past in order to ensure a brighter future for all. They believe that acknowledging women's contributions is fundamental to the growth and education of the Worcester community and the Nation at large. I am grateful to the WWHP for their contribution to my community and ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this exemplary organization.

TRIBUTE TO THE SOUTHEAST
MISSOURIAN

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Southeast Missourian, a newspaper in Cape Girardeau, MO, for 100 years of service to Southern Missouri. Next week, the year-long celebration marking the centennial of the newspaper will come to a close. I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to the staff of the Southeast Missourian, past and present, for their hard work and dedication as they advance the mission of the paper.

It is only fitting, given the newspaper's long history of political coverage, that this great anniversary be commemorated in the House of Representatives. The Southeast Missourian has never been a small-town newspaper, but it has never lost its small-town sensibilities, either. During the 100-year existence of the paper, its reporters and editors have covered 2 World Wars, catastrophic floods and journeys to the moon. The paper has also covered these events from a local perspective: the native sons who went to war in the uniform of our Nation, the impact of the Mississippi River on local lives and economies, and the members of our community who have achieved great things—like traveling to space. At its heart, the newspaper business is about public service, and the Southeast Missourian has served our community well.

On October 3, 1904, two brothers named George and Fred Naeter completed their journey down the Mississippi River to Cape Girardeau and published the first edition of the Southeast Missourian. They had fallen in love with Cape Girardeau, the City of Roses. Over the years, many more people have fallen in love with the city, and the Southeast Missourian has helped deliver the beauty, the good works, the public services and the patriotic spirit of the people to doorstep just like mine every morning.

In a world where the news is increasingly dominated by bad news, it is refreshing and

important to have a newspaper that looks for the good in our communities and in our Nation—making it a daily point to bring those events before the public eye. Another challenge arises in the information age, in which the Internet and 24-hour news offer constant update and interpretation of the news. Still, the Southeast Missourian does what other media cannot: deliver thorough, thoughtful and reliable news coverage right on schedule, every day.

The hardworking men and women of the Southeast Missourian bring their balanced approach to the newspaper's office each morning. Publisher Jon K. Rust and Rust Communications chairman Gary Rust view the paper as a public trust. The public has good reason to trust in the Southeast Missourian, a long-standing institution of Cape Girardeau. Once again, I congratulate everyone who has advanced the mission of the newspaper in Southeast Missouri and worked so hard to bring the news of the day to our residents.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 2123, SCHOOL READINESS
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise to say that I will be voting against H.R. 2123. Since its creation in 1965, Head Start has served more than 18.5 million low-income children and has focused and redefined its approach to assisting disadvantaged children in their social, physical and educational growth. While I wholeheartedly support Head Start programs, the legislation under consideration today contains several provisions that would negatively affect these programs.

The bill as amended contains two major flaws. First, the bill contains increased education requirements for Head Start teachers, but does not provide funds to assist teachers with the costs associated with these new requirements. Second, organizations receiving Federal dollars should not be able to discriminate on the basis of religion for employment purposes. The underlying Head Start Act specifically stated that hiring and firing decisions could not be made on the basis of religion, but this provision has been eliminated in this bill.

The bill does include some positive aspects, such as maintaining the Federal to local funding structure, expanding set-asides to migrant and American Indian populations, and increasing outreach to homeless families and foster children. I hope these provisions are retained and the bill is further improved during consideration in the Senate and by a subsequent conference committee before the legislation is enacted.

TRIBUTE TO PETER UCCELLI, JR.

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Peter Uccelli, Jr., who died on

Thursday, September 22, 2005, at the age of 84, in California.

Pete Uccelli was born and raised in South San Francisco and served our Nation with the Army Corps of Engineers in the Philippines during World War II. He moved to Redwood City in 1949, and in 1954, purchased property that became Pete's Harbor. In 1973, he and his wife Paula opened the Harbor House Restaurant.

I had the privilege and pleasure of working with Pete Uccelli during my tenure on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors and I've always been proud to call him my friend. He was a kind and generous man who was deeply devoted to his community and extraordinarily generous to individuals and organizations. The list of community groups that benefited from his largesse is long and broad, a reflection of his big heart.

Pete was the beloved husband of Paula, loving father of Richard, Sharon and Patricia, father-in-law of Debra and Ron, grandfather of Stephanie, Rhonda, Dot, Veronica and Michelle, and great-grandfather of Becky, Ryan and Ariana Rose. He was the dear brother of Alice Marsili and Norma Falletti and also leaves behind many loving nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our sympathy to Paula Uccelli and the entire Uccelli family. Pete Uccelli was a national treasure, someone who loved his community and his country abashedly and gave all of himself to make them better. He will always be missed but never be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID
BRUBECK AND THE DUKE
ELLINGTON JAZZ FESTIVAL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on the occasion of the First Annual Duke Ellington Jazz Festival, to pay tribute to one of our Nation's great jazz musicians, Dave Brubeck, for his contributions to American jazz music. On September 30, 2004, Congress passed H. Con. Res. 501 paying tribute to the festival's namesake, Duke Ellington, a DC native and a celebrated American musical genius. I am proud that from September 28 through October 3, 2005, the Nation's Capital will honor Ellington with the first annual Duke Ellington Jazz Festival in the District of Columbia. Special recognition for Dave Brubeck will be among the opening activities of the festival.

We inaugurate our jazz festival in the city of Washington as New Orleans, the great city that gave birth to jazz, has been overwhelmed by flood and hurricane. We know that New Orleans will overcome and will rise to reclaim its people, its culture, and its precious jazz heritage and leadership.

Dave Brubeck stands as one of jazz music's living legends, and he is equally distinguished as a composer and pianist. Mr. Brubeck began his musical studies at the College of the Pacific, earning his degree in 1942. Shortly thereafter he entered the United States Army, where he served honorably in General George Patton's 3rd Army during World War II. Near the end of the war Mr. Brubeck played

in an Army band that he himself integrated, one of the first integrated units of any type in the entire military.

After his military service, Dave Brubeck returned to school to study music, enrolling at Mills College in Oakland, CA. There he studied under the distinguished composer Darius Milhaud, and upon graduation, Mr. Brubeck formed the Dave Brubeck Octet. He later gained great notoriety after forming the Dave Brubeck Quartet.

By 1954 Mr. Brubeck's popularity was such that his picture appeared on the cover of Time Magazine, and his recordings were being played throughout the world. His album "Time Out" and the hits "Take Five" and "Blue Rondo a la Turk" "went gold," a rare feat for an instrumental jazz recording.

Subsequent world tours by the Quartet, including several for the U.S. State Department, made Brubeck one of America's foremost goodwill ambassadors. He entertained world leaders at the Reagan-Gorbachev Summit in Moscow in 1988; he has performed before eight U.S. presidents, princes, kings, heads of state and Pope John Paul II. Always expanding jazz horizons, the Dave Brubeck Quartet performed, and in 1959 recorded, with Leonard Bernstein and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. An early experimenter in combining jazz with symphony orchestras, Brubeck continues to appear as composer-performer in concerts of his choral and symphonic orchestral compositions. He celebrated his 80th birthday with the London Symphony Orchestra, performing an all-Brubeck program.

Mr. Brubeck has received many honors, including a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, the Down Beat Hall of Fame, the Jazz Institute Hall of Fame at Rutgers University, the American Eagle Award from the National Music Council, the Gerard Manley Hopkins Award from Fairfield University, the Connecticut Arts Award, Helwig Distinguished Artist Award, and honorary doctorates from six American universities, one from the University of Duisburg in Germany and Nottingham University in England. Early this year he received the Benny Carter Award from the Association of Jazz Societies. The French Government has cited him for his contribution to the arts. In 1999, the National Endowment of the Arts honored Mr. Brubeck as an NEA Jazz Master.

He has recently received the Smithsonian Medal and awards from the Music Educators National Conference, the National Music Teachers Association and Columbia University Teachers College. The State of California presented him with its first Golden State award. The University of the Pacific has honored him with the establishment of the Brubeck Institute that is dedicated to the promulgation of contemporary music of all styles, with an emphasis on jazz and improvisation.

Duke Ellington himself was a great influence on Dave Brubeck, and Mr. Brubeck even performed onstage with the maestro at one point during his career. Among his many accomplishments, Dave Brubeck is credited with bringing an enthusiasm for jazz music to college campuses and an entire generation of young Americans. As a sign of his talents, Mr. Brubeck has been a performer at the White House two times, in 1964 and 1981. His passion for his music continues to this day, as he is still touring and releasing songs.

For his many accomplishments, I join jazz supporters in the Nation's Capital and the

Congress in paying tribute to David Brubeck on the occasion of the First Annual Duke Ellington Jazz Festival in the District of Columbia.

COMMENDATION FOR THE GUAM
LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Guam's Little League Baseball Team for their victories in the Pacific Regional Tournament in Fukuoka, Japan and their subsequent advancement to the Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA.

I would like to recognize all of the coaches and players for their extraordinary effort: Coaches Shon Muna, Eddie Muna, and Tom Duenas; Eric Alcantara, 12, of Mangilao, attending Untalan Middle School, son of Gerard and Joan Alcantara; Calvert Alokoa, 12, of Mangilao, attending Untalan Middle School, son of Arou and Cil Alokoa; Gerald Borja, 12, of Barrigada, attending Untalan Middle School, son of Gerard and Darlene Borja; Valiant Borja, 11, of Barrigada, attending Untalan Middle School, son of the late Harold and Audre Borja; Joseph Duenas, 11, of Dededo, attending Untalan Middle School, son of Tommy and Joann Duenas; Chad Fernandez, 11, of Barrigada, attending Untalan Middle School, son of Wayne and Doreen Fernandez; Sean Manley, 12, of Mangilao, attending Untalan Middle School, son of Albert Manley and Sinfrosa Longa; Ryan McIntosh, 11, of Mangilao, attending San Vicente School, son of Bob McIntosh and Lucille Ryder; Scott Perez, 12, of Sinajana, attending Agueda Johnston Middle School, son of Frank Camacho and Margaret Perez; Byron Quenga, 12, of Yona, attending Inarajan Middle School, son of Bill Quenga and Jacalyn Taisacan; Alomar Rdialul, 12, of Mangilao, attending Untalan Middle School, son of Albert and Madeleine Rdialul; Trae Santos, 12, of Barrigada, attending Untalan Middle School, son of Tim and Carmen Santon; Jeremy Tajjeron, 12, of Yona, attending Inarajan Middle School, son of Bill and Marie Quenga. These young men displayed outstanding teamwork, skill, spirit, and sportsmanship and showcased the talent of our island.

Our team is a source of pride year after year, with our entire island rallying around them whenever they compete. In 2001, the Guam Little League team had a spectacular run in which they went undefeated in regional play and continued their streak in the World Series against Mexico, Canada, and Europe; and advancing to the international semifinal. In 2002, they again advanced to the international semifinals after another outstanding performance. They once more reached the World Series in 2003, after going undefeated in the regional tournament.

The 2005 Guam team went undefeated against teams from Indonesia, the Philippines, the CNMI, and New Zealand in regional play. They advanced to the Little League World Series representing the Pacific and faced teams from Russia, Canada, and Mexico. During the Little League World Series Guam swept their pool, defeating Russia 6-2; Canada 5-0; and

Mexico 5-3. After winning their pool, Guam went on to play Curacao in the international semi-finals. Although Guam did not advance to the finals, effort inspires us and their record in tournament play is outstanding.

Our entire island community congratulates the Guam Little League Central-East all stars who represented the Pacific. They are an inspiration for us all and we are very proud of their effort and accomplishments.

HONORING NORTH INTERMEDIATE
CENTER OF EDUCATION AT WA-
BASH COMMUNITY SCHOOL DIS-
TRICT #348

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the North Intermediate Center of Education at Wabash Community School District #348 in Mt. Carmel, Illinois for their participation in International Walk to School Day on October 5, 2005.

Through their participation in International Walk to School Day, approximately 100 students from the North Intermediate Center of Education will learn about health, pedestrian safety, and physical activity, and will gain a sense of neighborhood and concern for the environment. These students will be joining students from all 50 States and 36 countries around the world in this exercise.

I am pleased to congratulate the students and teachers at the North Intermediate Center of Education for their participation in International Walk to School Day. I wish them much success in this endeavor.

HONORING JUDGE HORACE
WHEATLEY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and achievements of Alameda County Superior Court Judge Horace Wheatley of Oakland, California. Serving Alameda County on the bench for almost 25 years, Judge Wheatley has been known throughout his career for his unfaltering sense of social justice, and for his unwavering commitment to our young people. Today our community comes together to celebrate his career and achievements on the occasion of his retirement in Oakland, California.

Judge Wheatley was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and raised in San Francisco's historic Fillmore district. After graduating from the "old" Lowell High School in 1957, he went to College of the Pacific, now known as University of the Pacific, later transferring to Howard University in Washington, DC, where he continued his record as a champion debater. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 had not yet been enacted during his time in college, making some of the challenges he faced in school extend far beyond the realm of academics. When he competed in the National Collegiate Debate Tournament at the University of Oklahoma in

1961, the open and unabated racial discrimination that prevailed in some parts of the country was so severe that the southern colleges who were competing were instructed to walk out of any round in which an African American was competing. Undeterred, Judge Wheatley went on not only to win the tournament, but to be awarded the Pi Kappa Delta gold debate key for his outstanding performance. Following his studies at Howard, Judge Wheatley returned to the University of the Pacific in 1960, where he graduated with a degree in Sociology and Psychology.

Following a successful law school career at Willamette University in Oregon, where he won the school's Moot Court Competition and served as a teaching assistant before earning his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree, Judge Wheatley began serving as Deputy Attorney General for the State of California in 1965. He later went into private practice in Oakland, where he engaged in general litigation practice and was one of the lead attorneys in a precedent-setting class-action lawsuit against the savings and loan industry. In 1972, he became General Counsel for the California Teachers Association, representing the organization's 300,000 members in several noteworthy cases which resulted in precedent-setting rulings in favor of public school teachers' rights and benefits.

Judge Wheatley was appointed as a Judge of the Alameda County Municipal Court on July 1, 1981 by California Governor Edmond G. "Jerry" Brown, Jr., and was elevated to the Alameda County Superior Court when all of the courts in Alameda County were unified in 1998. Known for his tendency to give many young defendants the choice to "Go to school or go to jail," Judge Wheatley's career on the bench has been marked by his steadfast commitment to serving the young people in our community who are most in need of guidance.

Judge Wheatley's outstanding dedication and accomplishments have not only impacted countless young lives, but have also been recognized by a number of the professional organizations of which he is a member. He has not only been inducted into the Charles Houston Bar Association's Hall of Fame, but has also received its "Judicial Excellence Award." In addition, he received the Bernard S. Jefferson Award from the California Association of Black Lawyers as its Judge of the Year in 2001, and has also been named the Lend-A-Hand Foundation's "Man of the Year." This past August, he was inducted into the National Bar Association's Hall of Fame in recognition of having practiced law for over 40 years and made significant contributions to the cause of justice. In addition, he was also given the A. Leon Higginbotham Memorial Award by the Young Lawyers Division of the National Bar Association in recognition of his intellectual accomplishments, professional achievements and community contributions.

Today Judge Wheatley's family, friends and colleagues come together to celebrate the impact of his life and work not only on the innumerable lives, particularly young lives, he has touched here in Alameda County, but the lasting effects his rulings and his commitment to true justice have had and will continue to have on our legal system. On behalf of the 9th Congressional District of California, I salute and thank Judge Horace Wheatley for his invaluable contributions to the people of Alameda County, the 9th Congressional District, the State of California and our entire country.

CELEBRATING HISCOCK &
BARCLAY'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hiscock & Barclay, a legal institution in the State of New York.

In 1855 founding partners and brothers L. Harris and Frank Hiscock opened a two-man law office in Tully, NY.

H. Douglas Barclay later became a partner in the firm, now known as Hiscock & Barclay. Mr. Barclay dedicated 40 years to the practice and has also served his fellow citizens as a 20-year member of the New York State Senate, his country as a President George H.W. Bush appointee as director of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation and was named United States Ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador by current President Bush.

Throughout the years Hiscock & Barclay's team has grown to 160 attorneys working in offices in Syracuse, Buffalo, Rochester, Albany and New York City. The firm's attorneys have held various auxiliary roles including: former general counsels of New York State's Department of Environmental Conservation, Department of Social Services and Health Planning Commission; a nationally syndicated media commentator; district attorneys and Court of Appeals judges; New York State and Federal Representatives; a former NFL football player; the former general counsel of a North American trade association; and a World War II prisoner of war.

In the last century and a half, Hiscock & Barclay has evolved from a practice dedicated to railroad, banking and manufacturing law, to one that now covers 26 practice areas ranging from construction and environmental law, to labor, real estate and international business services.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize Hiscock & Barclay, a firm with a long tradition of commitment to defending the law, upon this, their 150th anniversary.

ELEPHANT APPRECIATION DAY
SEPTEMBER 22, 2005

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw the House of Representative's attention to September 22 as Elephant Appreciation Day, a day designated to pay tribute to one of the most iconic members of the animal kingdom.

Elephants have always generated a special and unique affection from young and old alike. One need only ask the millions of Americans who visit zoos and circuses each year to learn that for most, the elephants are by far the biggest attraction, both figuratively and literally.

While we admire their strength, we also recognize their vulnerability as highly endangered species, challenged by fragmented habitats and scarce resources in their natural range.

Asian elephants, in particular, have had a long, rich history living and working with humans, however, today there are fewer than 35,000 remaining in the world. Although ivory poaching is a factor in Asia, the primary threat to Asian elephants is the loss of habitat and the resulting conflicts with an ever-expanding human population. Most experts agree that the future survival of this species relies on several factors: habitat preservation, public conservation education and successful captive breeding.

Today I would like to talk about one of the success stories in the fight to save the Asian elephant—one which takes place right in my backyard in Polk County, FL—home to the largest and most genetically diverse population of Asian elephants in North America.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Center for Elephant Conservation or CEC. The Ringling Bros. CEC is a state of the art facility dedicated to the research, reproduction and retirement of Asian elephants and reflects the commitment and stewardship of Ringling Bros. and the Feld family to the future survival of this magnificent species.

Located on over 200 acres of central Florida wilderness, the Ringling Bros. CEC is home to dozens of Asian elephants, as well as the most successful breeding program outside of Asia. With 18 young elephants born in the past decade, the Ringling Bros. program accounts for over 40 percent of Asian elephant births in North America during this same time period.

In addition, the CEC is a focal point for researchers from around the world who come for the unique opportunity to study elephant reproductive and behavioral science in a hands-on setting. Information gleaned from our Florida herd is applied to wild and managed populations in Asia in an effort to promote better conservation, preservation and husbandry.

Ringling Bros.'s commitment to conservation and the future of this beloved circus icon goes beyond its work at the CEC. Ringling Bros. is also committed to educating its patrons about the challenges facing Asian elephants in the wild and the need to support conservation efforts. In addition, Ringling Bros. is an active member of the International Elephant Foundation, providing financial support and technical, hands on expertise. Ringling Bros.'s elephant managers and veterinarians have participated in workshops and symposia in Thailand, India and Sumatra and have worked side by side with their Asian counterparts in elephant camps and wildlife parks.

According to Jack Hanna, director emeritus of the Columbus Zoo, "[a] concerted effort to save the Asian elephant is imperative. Zoos are doing their best with the resources they have, but most can't afford to maintain a large breeding group of elephants. The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Center for Elephant Conservation is dedicated to saving the Asian elephant and has both the resources and the commitment to succeed."

Thanks to this commitment, Elephant Appreciation Day of 2005 finds the fate of the world's Asian elephants a little more secure. I urge my colleagues to continue their efforts in support of this trend through continued funding for the Asian and African Elephant Conservation Acts.

I want to congratulate Kenneth Feld and Ringling Bros. on the occasion of the 10 anniversary of the Center for Elephant Conservation and I invite my colleagues to come and visit this unique and inspiring facility.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS AT
FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Denton County organization Friends of the Family for celebrating its 25th anniversary. This is a great accomplishment, and I am proud to have an establishment such as this in the 26th Congressional District of Texas.

Friends of the Family is an organization that works to provide crisis intervention, safe shelter, counseling, support services, and advocacy for all those impacted by domestic violence or sexual assault. The organization also facilitates community awareness and involvement through education, information, and violence prevention programs.

From a starting budget of \$10,000 in 1980 to this year's \$1.5 million budget, the organization has grown a great deal in 25 years. With the program employing licensed professional counselors, social workers and psychologists, instead of relying solely on volunteers, they now serve about 7,000 people annually.

Congratulations to Denton County's Friends of the Family on their anniversary. Twenty-five years of service is a milestone to be celebrated.

IN HONOR OF THE CLEVELAND
INDIANS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Major League Baseball's Cleveland Indians Organization, in partnership with the Hispanic Community Services Coalition as they unite in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month and Viva Cleveland!

Viva Cleveland!, a joyous event, will be held at Jacobs Field on September 16th and will showcase the Parade of Flags representing 21 Latino nations, and carried aloft by youth of Hispanic heritage. The Parade of Flags promises to reflect the diverse, rich and colorful fabric that comprises the brilliant mosaic of our Cleveland community.

The players, administrators and fans of the Cleveland Indians organization carry on a century-old legacy of community outreach focused on cultural and charitable causes throughout northeast Ohio. Their individual and collective service continues to provide an array of life-enriching programs for baseball fans of all ages. The vital programs implemented by the Cleveland Indians and in partnership with other community agencies, serves to elevate the quality of life for countless families and individuals throughout our community. The

Cleveland Indians' support of the young people of our region is offered through three programs: Educational, Recreational and Humanitarian. These programs provide the necessary support and guidance to assist our youth in attaining their educational and professional goals, and also promotes strength in character by fostering self-confidence.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of the Cleveland Indians Organization, as they partnership with the Hispanic Community Services Coalition to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and Viva Cleveland! Their collective and individual efforts serves to celebrate our diversity and provides humanitarian assistance where needed, thereby enhancing the lives of countless people, and bolstering the spirit of the City of Cleveland, and far beyond.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF "LIGHTS ON AFTER-
SCHOOL!"

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.J. Res. 66, a bill supporting the goals and ideal of "Lights On After-school," a national celebration of after-school programs.

While my district of El Paso, Texas is fortunate to be served by several excellent after-school programs, I am here to say we need more.

As more families have two parents who work every day—and single parents struggle to balance the duties of providing for their kids and caring for them—more children are left without supervision after school. The After-school Alliance estimates there are 14.3 million of these children across America.

Without available after-school programs, many of these children will be left to wander the streets between 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., the time of day when juvenile crime is most likely to occur and children are most likely to experiment with drugs, alcohol, and cigarettes. Or they might just sit in front of the television or video game console all afternoon.

By creating more after-school programs—at schools, community centers, and faith-based organizations—we provide children a fun and productive place to go after school. Also, parents have peace of mind knowing their kids are safe and are thus better able to focus on their jobs.

Mr. Speaker, the American people support after-school programs, and so should we. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting "Lights on Afterschool" and the movement for more afterschool programs in America.

NORTH TEXANS EMBRACE A VIC-
TIM AND NURTURE A SURVIVOR

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I want to tell America about a very special girl named

Aurica and the very special people who are helping her.

In April, 2005, Congresswoman DEBORAH PRYCE led a Congressional delegation on a fact-finding mission to Albania, Moldova, Italy and Greece. Congresswoman THELMA DRAKE and I accompanied Ms. PRYCE to see the effects of the growing epidemic of sex trafficking in women and children. Our finding? That sex trafficking is a real and growing threat to women and children everywhere. Our solution? To fight for the rights of these precious victims one person at a time.

It was during our trip to Moldova, that I first met Aurica. What an amazing young woman. We were visiting a shelter housing girls—most in their teens—who had been victims of sex trafficking. These women had been brought back to their homeland and were being taken care of with the hopes they could in some way return to normal lives after their horrendous experiences.

We had spoken with these women and were leaving when the director of the program said there was one young woman who was unable to join the group. She was bedridden and very ill, but was willing to meet with us. Thus began our adventure. What we saw was a beautiful 19-year old with haunted eyes—unable to walk, unable to eat, unable to leave her bed.

Aurica had left her country to go to Turkey to work in a shop, hoping to send money home to her family to help support them. While she was there, she was kidnapped and placed in a building with others like herself who had been tricked and kidnapped to become sex slaves. In her desperation to avoid the plight she heard from others, she climbed out of a window in the dead of night. But it was late and she was tired. At the sixth floor, she lost her grip and fell to the ground. When she was found, her back was broken, and her leg, and her pelvis were broken. After being treated at the hospital, she was taken to a prison. The iron walls of confinement did little to improve her condition.

Her doctors and her family secured her release from Turkey. She was brought home and was treated at the International Organization for Migration. And it was here, amid the dark clouds of pain and suffering, that I saw Aurica's sunlight. And so she was so brave, so tough, and yet so in need of so much help. She needed surgery. But the surgery would have been difficult if not impossible in her country. We talked to her. We could see the pain on her face. Yet we could also see the courage in her eyes.

It has been said that every journey begins with a single step. That April day, I decided to do my part to fight sex trafficking by saving at least one person—Aurica. And we embarked on a journey to give her the health care she deserved, desired, and desperately needed. The first step was a phone call. Pedro Nosnik is a specialist in neurology and internal medicine. I explained to Dr. Nosnik what had happened to Aurica and asked a simple question: Can you help? Dr. Nosnik set us up with Dr. Ralph Raushbaum of the Texas Back Institute in Plano, the largest spine specialty clinic in the United States. TBI physicians, led by Dr. Barton Sachs, volunteered to treat Aurica at no expense. This type of care would normally cost more than \$200,000.

The next step was getting her to the hospital. Before the treatment, we had to deal with the issue of travel. Her condition ruled out

a flight on a commercial airline. She would need to fly on a plane equipped for patients. Once more, Americans were there to donate their services. Rod Crane, the CEO of MedFlight of Ohio offered to transport Aurica on an air ambulance. Normally, this would cost \$80,000. But Rod agreed to pay for the flight and for a doctor to travel with Aurica.

The next step was the actual surgery and recovery. Once Aurica got to Dallas, she got the treatment she needed. But the road wasn't easy. She underwent surgery at TBI. Dr. Barton Sachs led a team of physicians during the initial delicate spinal surgery and aftercare. This team included William Struthers, M.D., Anesthesiologist, Ted Wen, M.D., Radiologist, Nayan Patel, M.D., Physiatrist, John Josephs, M.D., General Surgeon, Stephen Rubin, D.O., Anesthesiologist, Son Do, M.D., Gastroenterologist, Mike Gross, M.D., Urologist, James Montgomery, M.D., Anesthesiologist, Andrew R. Block, Ph.D., Psychologist, Michael Blackmon, M.D., Intensive Care Specialist, and Mark McQuaid, M.D., General Vascular Surgeon. This was followed by a second surgery under the care of Dr. Alan Jones at Parkland Hospital in Dallas. After that, she spent three weeks recovering at the highly-acclaimed Zale Lipshy Center located on the UT Southwestern campus. All donated.

Finally, Aurica's journey took her to four months of recovery in outpatient physical therapy. Since she needed a place to stay, we contacted David Tesmer, Vice President for Government and Community Affairs at Texas Health Resources. He offered the services of Presbyterian Village North in Dallas, one of the best assisted-living facilities in the state. At Presbyterian Village, both the President, Ron Bergstrom, and the lead nurse, Becky Williams, made every effort to give Aurica every comfort. When Aurica arrived, she was given a fully furnished room. And today, thanks to the love of so many, Aurica is on the way to a full recovery.

What a journey this has been. This is the story of a very special woman and the very special people who have helped with her recovery. From time to time we hear critics complain about what is wrong with America. This story shows us what is right with America. We are still a nation that is great because our people are good. And not just the ones I named. There are still others.

Like The Kula Group for donating more than \$30,000 in time and expenses; the Texas Back Institute's Physical Therapy division, which donated all of the outpatient physical therapy; Doug Hawthorne, CEO of Texas Health Resources; Jim Boswell and Leslie Baker from Presbyterian Hospital of Plano; the nursing and physical therapy staff at the Zale Lipshy Center; Linda Caram of SBC Communications; The Daniel Dawn Smalley Foundation; AmeriSuites in Plano; Father Dimitru and Gladiola Paun; and everyone else at Presbyterian Hospital of Plano, Parkland Hospital, and Presbyterian Village North.

Thanks for making an effort to make a difference. You have shown the nation and the world that America's generosity knows no boundaries, no barriers, no limits. We will always speak for the voiceless, stand with the helpless, and fight for the powerless.

IN HONOR OF CLIFF LEE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mr. Cliff Lee, dedicated family man, community activist and Major League baseball player with the Cleveland Indians, whose grace and spirit on the ball field equals his grace and energy off the field.

Mr. Lee's deep sense of helping others is framed by sincerity and humbleness, and has not gone unnoticed by others. In honor of his exceptional service to the people of the Cleveland community, Mr. Lee has been selected as the recipient of the prestigious 2005 John Hancock Roberto Clemente Man of the Year Award.

Mr. Lee continues to dedicate his personal time and talents in vital service on behalf of those families and individuals in need of assistance, with a personal focus on the children of our community. From his regular visits to the children at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House, to his dedication and focus on behalf of Cleveland's Providence House, Mr. Lee is an exceptional role model to the young and old alike, here in Cleveland and across this Nation, and his life personifies all that is good in humanity, reflecting compassion, giving and heart.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in tribute and recognition of Mr. Cliff Lee as he is honored as the recipient of Major League Baseball's 2005 John Hancock Roberto Clemente Man of the Year Award. Mr. Lee's continued concern for others and vibrant spirit of volunteerism, with a special focus on the children of our community, serves to raise their spirits above the struggle and into the light of promise, strength, hope and possibility—thereby uplifting our entire community.

SUPPORTING GOLD STAR
MOTHERS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 21, 2005

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.J. Res. 61. In 1936, Congress designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mothers Day. This resolution, of which I am a cosponsor, expresses the support of this House for the goals and ideals of Gold Star Mothers Day.

The American Gold Star Mothers are a group of mothers who have lost sons and daughters who served in the armed services. The group also assists veterans and their dependents in submitting claims to the Veterans Affairs Department.

The Gold Star Mothers are a true representation of the many levels of service and sacrifice that exists in the defense of our country. Like many members across the country, the Gold Star Mothers in my district of El Paso, Texas, remind us of the never-ending bond between families. They remind us of the sac-

rifice that families of veterans make as they endure the fears and concerns of having loved ones overseas, and the loss of loved ones who never return.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues and this House to swiftly pass the resolution before us.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF JACOB LEE

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Jacob R. Lee, Jr. from the Air Force.

Chief Master Sergeant Jacob R. Lee, Jr. enlisted in the Air Force in Albany, NY, coming on active duty in September of 1978. During his 27-year meteorological career, Chief Lee had 13 assignments, including four overseas.

Chief Lee worked in many different jobs in the weather career field, beginning as an observer at a six person unit. He went on to serve as the noncommissioned officer in charge of six different weather stations around the world.

His career culminated with Chief Lee's selection to the very pinnacle of the weather career field as the chief of enlisted matters at the Pentagon. As Chief, Jacob will finish his long and distinguished service to our Nation.

In recognition of his outstanding performance, Chief Lee has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal on four occasions and has been the recipient of four Air Force Commendation Medals as well.

Chief Lee is married to his wife Kathy, a math teacher, and has three children; Amanda, Benjamin and Casey.

Mr. Speaker, I know that his colleagues and his family wish Chief Lee well as he begins his retirement.

HONORING JUDGE MABEL M.
JASPER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of The Honorable Judge Mabel M. Jasper, for her exceptional accomplishments within our educational and legal system, and for serving as an inspiration and role model in Cleveland, Ohio, and far beyond.

Her unwavering integrity and strong work ethic were childhood gifts instilled by family. At age 10, Judge Jasper's family moved from Alabama to Cleveland, where she excelled academically and graduated from Glenville High School early at the age of sixteen. By age nineteen, Judge Jasper had earned a Bachelor's degree in education from Kent State University. She was hired as a substitute teacher at John Burroughs Elementary School and was soon promoted to full-time teacher. Throughout her twenty-year teaching career, Judge Jasper imbued a sense of wonder, confidence and inspiration within her young students. Ready to embark on a new journey, she enrolled in the Cleveland-Marshall College

of Law in 1973 and graduated three years later with a Juris Doctor degree.

Throughout her noteworthy career as an attorney, Judge Jasper worked in private practice and served as general counsel for a local financial institution. She became the assistant attorney general and trial attorney for the Bureau of Worker's Compensation. Judge Jasper served for four years as a magistrate with the Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations Court before being elected as Judge with the Cleveland Municipal Court in 1987. She was re-elected to the bench for two more consecutive terms, in 1993 and 1999. Beyond her dedication to her family and profession, Judge Jasper continues to offer her time and talents as an active leader within her neighborhood, her church and within several civic organizations.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in tribute and recognition of Judge Mabel M. Jasper, as she is being honored on September 16, 2005, by colleagues and friends to celebrate her significant contributions to the Cleveland community, framed by tenacity, integrity and excellence. As a distinguished judge and attorney, Judge Jasper's brilliant legacy will continue to inspire us all, and will serve as a beacon of possibility for people of all races, lighting a clear path along which goals are attained and where others will follow. I wish Judge Mabel M. Jasper continued health, happiness and peace as she journeys onward from this day.

HONORING THE 216TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 216th Anniversary of the United States Marshals Service (USMS), our nation's oldest federal law enforcement agency.

The Judiciary Act of 1789 created the United States Marshals Service. That same year, President George Washington appointed the first thirteen U.S. Marshals. At that time the Service's primary mission was to support the federal courts; however, U.S. Marshals and Deputy U.S. Marshals also performed a myriad of duties such as executing warrants, distributing presidential proclamations, registering enemy aliens in time of war, controlling riots, conducting the national census, collecting commerce statistics, and protecting the President. Many of these responsibilities have changed over the past 216 years, yet the Service's dedication to integrity and justice has remained constant.

Today, the USMS provides for the custody and transportation of federal prisoners, ensures protection for witnesses, and manages the maintenance and disposal of seized and forfeited properties. Also of great importance is the Service's fugitive apprehension mission. The USMS apprehends more federal fugitives than all other federal law enforcement agencies combined. State and local law enforcement agencies nationwide have found the Service to be an invaluable fugitive apprehension resource. U.S. Marshals and Deputy U.S. Marshals carry out complex and life-threatening missions daily, striving to maintain the integrity of the American judicial process.

Over the years, the USMS has earned its reputation as one of the most versatile and effective law enforcement agencies in the world. The 4,500 men and women of the U.S. Marshals Service are justly proud of their history. I too am proud, and wish to commend the United States Marshals Service and thank them for their contributions to the law enforcement community and to our nation.

THE GOLDEN POPPY AWARD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the annual selection of The Golden Poppy Award in California. The Golden Poppy Award is given annually by the California State Parks Foundation to individuals or organizations that have made a significant contribution to protecting, enhancing, and advocating for California's state parks. This year's recipient of the Golden Poppy Award is Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A.

Support of our state parks means support of our environment. This company has developed its own "Toyota Earth Charter." In it, Toyota outlines its goal of growing as a company in a way that is in harmony with the environment, including achieving zero emissions throughout all areas of business activities. To that end the company pledges to build close and cooperative relationships with a wide spectrum of individuals and organizations involved in environmental preservation, including governments, local municipalities, and related companies and industries.

One such example of the company's interest in a clean environment is its development of a high-mileage, low-emissions gas-electric hybrid vehicle, the Prius. The technology behind the Prius has made Toyota a leader in environment friendly hybrid technology today.

In keeping with the spirit of their Earth Charter, Toyota supports a wide range of projects, and awarded a major grant to the California State Parks Foundation for its "Coast Alive!" program. "Coast Alive!" underwrites workshops to middle school teachers that enable them to lead their classes on field studies at nearby State Parks. Armed with this knowledge, their students study the fragile marine ecology of our coastline, experience its beauty, and come to understand the importance of restoring and preserving it as a valuable resource. With the generous donation from Toyota, the Foundation will be able to create interactive, multi-media materials for this program.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the California State Parks family in congratulating Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A. on earning the Golden Poppy Award, the symbol of the Golden State.

IN HONOR OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month—a celebra-

tion of Americans of Hispanic heritage and their significant, collective and individual contribution to our community and to our nation.

Hosting one of the events this year is the Cleveland Public Library. The Cleveland Public Library and regional branches continue their commitment to promoting our diverse community, richly infused with Hispanic culture and language. As part of the Library's 2005 Strategic Plan, new and permanent resources of Spanish Language collections is now underway, along with the implementation of a Spanish language website.

Hispanic Heritage Month is reflective of the five hundred-year history of Hispanic culture and contribution to America. Hispanic Americans have contributed immeasurably to all areas of our culture—from medicine, law and business, to education, music and the fine arts. Hispanic Americans in our community and in communities across the country are life-saving doctors and nurses, veterans, inspiring professors, dedicated teachers, committed elected officials, fair-minded judges, and hardworking factory employees. Americans of Hispanic heritage continue to bring energy, innovation, and a real sense of social justice to America, while retaining the cultural traditions of their homeland for all citizens to enjoy.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, and join me in expressing my gratitude for the outstanding contributions made by Hispanic Americans. Their journey to America, fraught with significant obstacles and strife, paved the way for a better life for their children and future generations, and signifies what it means to be an American. Within our diversity we find strength. Within our traditions we find unity. Because of their journey, and the journey of people from all points of the world, we are stronger as a community, more unified as a nation, and better as people.

STERLING HEIGHTS' FIRE FIGHTERS UNION ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, September 30, 2005 the Sterling Heights' Fire Fighters Union will host their Annual Dinner-Dance, honoring their 2005 retirees. This yearly event honors Sterling Heights firefighters for their dedication to their community and recognizes their commendable contributions to the city. I am pleased to be associated with this fine organization and to call many of them my friends.

I rise today to pay tribute to the careers of three retiring firefighters. Tom Kropf was appointed as a Sterling Heights firefighter on May 21, 1979. He was licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician in December 1980. Upon his completion of the maiden medic program in December 1991, he was promoted to firefighter ALS (Advanced Life Support) on June 19, 1992. He has been promoted three times: Lieutenant on March 30, 1995, Fire Inspector on January 3, 1996, and Fire Marshal on May 21, 2003. Throughout his tenure, he has received many awards and recognitions.

Mr. Kropf was Employee of the Month in February 1987 and Firefighter of the Year in 1999. He received a citation for performing lifesaving efforts on June 2, 1998 and the Fire Chief's Award in March 2002.

Bill Kreston earned his Bachelor's degree in math from Eastern Michigan University in 1972. First employed by the Hamtramck Fire Department, Mr. Kreston was hired by the Sterling Heights Fire Department in 1986. He received a Meritorious Unit Citation for freeing a pinned victim from a serious auto accident in 1990. He has also received numerous safe driver awards. On July 27, 1992, Mr. Kreston was promoted to Fire Equipment Operator; on July 2, 1997, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant; and to the rank of Fire Inspector on January 9, 2003.

Fred Campau was appointed as a Sterling Heights Firefighter on January 21, 1980. He was a member of the maiden medic course and pioneered the way for future Advanced Life Support students. He has received many distinctions, including 5-year Safe Driver Awards, Perfect Attendance Award and the Fire Chief Award in January 2002. Throughout his career, Mr. Campau has been promoted to Fire Lieutenant on October 17, 1995 and Fire Inspector on August 31, 1998.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these three heroes, who have dedicated themselves to the community with valor, commitment and honor.

A TRIBUTE TO POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Polytechnic University upon the extremely momentous occasion of its Sesquicentennial celebration. It is a privilege to represent Polytechnic University in the United States House of Representatives and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing its illustrious history and impressive accomplishments.

Founded in 1854 for "the higher education of lads and young men," Brooklyn Collegiate and Polytechnic Institute welcomed its first class of 265 students at 99 Livingston Street on September 10, 1855. The Institute thrived, and by the close of the 19th century, it was a full-fledged school of engineering with a new name—Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn.

By its 100th birthday in 1954, Polytechnic had outgrown its campus in varied downtown Brooklyn locations. In 1957, it moved to a centralized location at 333 Jay Street, former home to the American Safety Razor Factory. In 1973, Polytechnic merged with the New York University School of Engineering and Science and was renamed Polytechnic Institute of New York. In 1985, the Institute was granted university status by the New York State Board of Regents and officially renamed Polytechnic University.

Over the next 17 years, the University experienced the greatest transformation in its history. Polytechnic spearheaded the creation of MetroTech Center, a 16-acre, \$1-billion university-corporate park in Brooklyn, NY, which was built around its existing campus. The Univer-

sity updated its facilities and built a new home in 1992, for its Bern Dibner Library of Science and Technology and its Center for Advanced Technology in Telecommunications.

Mr. Speaker, Polytechnic University is an extremely prestigious institution, which has dedicated itself to producing students who are prepared to change and embrace the ever-increasing technological world. Under the leadership of its new President, Jerry MacArthur Hultin, I am confident that Polytechnic University will continue to teach and challenge its students to be among our nation's brightest.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent upon this body to recognize the prestigious accomplishments of Polytechnic University and join the university in celebrating 150 years of dedicated service to the people of the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE HURON RIVER VFW POST 4434 ON ITS 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Huron River Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4434, whose members have valiantly defended our Nation against all enemies and, often, all odds.

As they transitioned back to their loved ones and civilian life, the Huron River Veterans of Foreign Wars continued their distinguished service to our country through their dedicated community service projects, including the support of local veteran's services and the propagation of patriotism education for local youth. Truly, the members of the Huron River Veterans of Foreign Wars have provided a stellar example of service above self, and have championed the cause of liberty and equality within our Nation and our world. May their heroism and altruism ever be remembered as an inspiration to every generation of Americans.

In conclusion, then, Mr. Speaker, let us all extend our enduring gratitude to the Huron River Veterans of Foreign War Post 4434. It is the least we can do for those who have done so much for us.

IN HONOR OF ELLIE MAPSON, JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Ellie Mapson, Jr., community leader, activist, artist, dedicated family man and friend and mentor to many, as he is being honored by the West Park Community Coalition, Inc., for his grace, focus and tireless efforts in raising our Westside community into the light of possibility for everyone.

Mr. Mapson's steadfast commitment to his community mirrors his unwavering focus on family and faith. Mr. Mapson's wife of 47 years, Maggie, their children, Daryl, Kimberly and Dana; the loving memory of David; and their four grandchildren remain central to his

life. Mr. Mapson and his family are long-time members of the Second Calvary Baptist Church and the West Park Community Coalition, where he also serves on the Board of Directors. Mr. Mapson has devoted countless hours at his church as layman, program vice-president, past chairman of the board and Sunday school teacher. He also led the effort to develop a college scholarship program for member families.

Mr. Mapson is known as a local historian and ironically, his own life became part of Cleveland history. In 1972, Ellie Mapson Jr. became the first African American to run for Cleveland City Council in a seat located west of the Cuyahoga River. He finished second out of five candidates. He went on to serve as president of the predominantly white West Park Community Council, and he was also the first African American member of the West Park Kiwanis Club and eventually served as its president.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Ellie Mapson, Jr., whose integrity, warmth, faith and concern for others continues to pave the way for strength and renewal throughout our Westside community. Mr. Mapson's professional talents and spirit of volunteerism have fortified all aspects of the West Park Community Coalition, Inc. and the Second Calvary Baptist Church. His activism on behalf of our entire community offers light, hope and the promise of a better day for people of the Westside, and for our entire Cleveland community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD votes I would have cast had I been present on the legislative days of September 21, September 22 and September 28 of 2005 for Roll Call votes 478 through 493. On Wednesday, September 21, I underwent surgery for a detached retina and this was the reason for my absence.

If I were present I would have voted "Aye" on Roll Call vote 478, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 479, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 480, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 481, "No" on Roll Call vote 482, "No" on Roll Call vote 483, "No" on Roll Call vote 484, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 485, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 486, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 487, "No" on Roll Call vote 488, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 489, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 490, "No" on Roll Call vote 491, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 492, "Aye" on Roll Call vote 493. "Aye" on Roll Call vote 494, "No" on Roll Call vote 495, and "Aye" on Roll Call vote 496.

TRIBUTE TO PROJECT BACKPACK

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker it is with great pleasure that I rise to commend the founders of Project Backpack for their inventive and inspiring efforts to help the children affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Project Backpack was begun by Jacqueline, Melissa, and Jenna Kantor, three young sisters from Bethesda, Maryland. These sisters came up with an idea to collect donations of backpacks, toys and school supplies to be sent out to the thousands of children who were left homeless in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. Inspired by the concept of "kids helping kids," Project Backpack has been tremendously successful.

Joined by Sodexo USA and other charitable organizations, Project Backpack has set a local goal of 10,000 backpacks and a national goal of 100,000. I encourage people throughout the United States to participate in this worthy project.

I applaud Jacqueline, Melissa, and Jenna in their continued efforts to help the children affected by Hurricane Katrina.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on September 27, 2005. Had I been able to, I would have voted "yea" on H.J. Res. 66 (Rollcall vote 494); "yea" on H.R. 438 (Rollcall vote 495) and "yea" on H. Con. Res. 209 (Rollcall vote 496).

COMMEMORATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAKE HIGHLANDS REPUBLICAN WOMEN

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Lake Highlands Republican Women. In December of 1980, the Lake Highlands Republican Women were formed, based on the guiding principle of the National Federation of Republican Women, "to foster and encourage loyalty to the Republican Party and the ideals for which it stands."

For the past 30 years, the Lake Highlands Republican Women have worked hard to promote the principles of the Grand Old Party and to elect Republican leaders from the Courthouse to the White House.

The Lake Highlands Republican Women are truly helping make our community and our country a better place to live. The Lake Highlands Republican Women continue to strengthen the Republican Party through candidate recruitment, training and election activities as well as advocating the GOP common sense conservative philosophy of faith, family, free enterprise, and freedom.

Today, I would like to honor the Lake Highlands Republican Women and their leaders, including: Patti Clapp (1981–1982), Jan Patterson (1983–1984, 1993), Lee Dewbre (1985–1986), Fredda Horton (1987–1988), Libby Swaim (1989–1990), Linda Russell (1991–1992), Annabelle Ward (1994–1995), Jill Mellinger (1996–2001), Suzy Pollok (1997), Deborah Brown (1998–1999), Kathi Drew (2000), Elaine Travis, (2002), Glee Huebner

(2003–2004), and Gloria Gibeau (2005). These strong Republican women embody the energy, vision and values of our party.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WOOD STOVE REPLACEMENT ACT OF 2005

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the Wood Stove Replacement Act of 2005. I am joined in the introduction by Representative MELISSA HART.

Quite simply, our bill would provide a tax credit of \$500 for individuals and families who replace their old, dirty, uncertified wood stoves with new, EPA-compliant, clean-burning wood stoves or fireplace inserts.

As America's cities and counties struggle to come into compliance with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, smaller and more diverse sources of pollution are regulated. The primary air pollution problem in many areas of the country, including Pittsburgh, is particulate matter. Particulate matter, or soot, is caused by burning fuels such as coal, as well as wood.

On December 17, 2004, the EPA designated nearly two hundred and fifty counties in the U.S. as out of compliance with federal air quality standards for "fine particulates" (particles under 2.5 microns in diameter). EPA has concluded that wood smoke from residential wood combustion appliances, fireplaces and wood stoves, is a significant contributor to fine particulate pollution in many of the designated counties.

In 1986, EPA established a New Source Performance Standard, or NSPS, that imposed strict limits on the wood smoke that can be emitted from wood burning stoves, and it implemented a program for certifying the performance of wood stoves that comply with the standard. EPA-certified wood stoves reduce wood smoke emissions by as much as 90 percent. According to the EPA, "certified wood stoves burn more cleanly and efficiently, save [. . .] money, reduce the risk of fire, and improve air quality inside and outside [the] home."

It is estimated that there are as many as 10 million old, uncertified, pre-NSPS wood stoves still in use in American homes. Fourteen thousand of them are in my area in Pittsburgh. Many of the uncertified wood stoves still in use today were purchased at the height of the fossil-fuel crisis in the 1970s. Many were installed in lower income, rural residences with ample access to free or low-cost wood fuel. The installed cost of new, certified stoves can be as high as \$2,000 to \$3,000, which is out of reach for many users of the old, uncertified units. To encourage users of old, dirty-burning units to trade up to new certified stoves, strong incentives must be provided. Local regulations prohibiting the use of uncertified woodstoves are politically unpalatable unless financial assistance is provided to enable homeowners to abide by such prohibitions and keep their families warm in the winter with low-cost, renewable wood fuel.

According to the EPA, "Helping areas of the country reduce pollution and meet national air

quality standards for fine particles is our top priority . . . By combining local programs like clean wood stove installation with tough new federal regulations on power plants, cars, trucks and diesel equipment, we can dramatically reduce fine particle pollution and improve public health across the country."

Our legislation to provide a federal tax credit for the replacement of uncertified wood stoves is an important way to reach consumers who otherwise may never replace their old stoves. This credit would only be available to consumers who live in areas designated as out of compliance with the fine particle and total particulate standards. A \$500 tax credit would give consumers living in poor air quality areas an immediate incentive and necessary financial assistance to remove their old stove now. By using the cleaner stoves, consumers will save on fuel costs by burning one-third less wood and reduce fine particle pollution in their area thereby improving their health and the health of their families and neighbors.

The need to encourage consumers to burn cleaner, more efficient woodstoves is an urgent matter. The record-high costs predicted for home heating this winter will likely push many consumers to choose more affordable wood heating. With nearly 10 million old, conventional, dirty wood stoves still in use today, it is imperative that consumers have an incentive to change out their old appliances for clean, more efficient, and EPA-certified wood stoves.

Representative HART and I are introducing this bill to coincide with an EPA event in Pittsburgh on September 29. That will be National Wood Stove Change-Out Day, where EPA encourages owners of old stoves to trade them in for new, certified units. The incentives in this bill should help accomplish this goal.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution to recognize the goals and ideals of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

This week we will also be considering legislation that will reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. It is my hope that we will strengthen and improve measures to ensure safe homes and communities for children and families.

Congress must continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and the devastating effects violence has on too many of our American families. We must also ensure that the organizations working to end domestic violence in our communities have the resources they need to provide services to the survivors of family violence, sexual assault, and stalking. These families and organizations deserve our commitment.

In my own State of Minnesota, VAWA funding went to programs and services for battered women and their children. Some of those projects in my own District include:

The St. Paul based Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services, which provides legal

advocacy services to young Native American women in collaboration with the Ain Dah Yung Center.

Breaking Free in St. Paul: A transitional housing program for women of color escaping prostitution.

St. Paul-based Minnesota Coalition of Battered Women, which links battered women's programs across the state to help fulfill the goals of VAWA, including legal assistance; training for police, prosecutors, and court officers; and protection for battered women and their children.

Other projects in Minnesota include:

The Domestic Abuse Intervention Project in Duluth—a comprehensive review of the criminal justice and civil court response to battered women.

The Women's Rural Advocacy Program in Southwest Minnesota, which purchases and implementation of digital cameras and printers for improved prosecution of domestic violence cases.

Migrant Health Services in Crookston, which provides domestic violence and sexual assault services to Hispanic migrant farm workers in the Red River Valley.

In addition to the lives saved by improved responses to violence against women, VAWA has saved our country nearly \$15 billion in social costs, such as savings in the judicial and health care systems.

The month of October also marks the anniversary of a great loss to the domestic violence community—the untimely deaths of Paul and Sheila Wellstone. Not only were Paul and Sheila tireless advocates for abused women and children, they were also instrumental framers of VAWA. The Wellstones are greatly missed by Minnesotans and people throughout our Nation.

It is in recognition of those who continue the legacy of a commitment to ending domestic violence in homes and communities across our Nation, and in honor of survivors of domestic violence, that I stand today in support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 2123, SCHOOL READINESS
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to oppose the Boustany amendment and all the explicit discrimination it represents.

Mr. BOUSTANY's proposal fundamentally changes Head Start hiring and firing protections provided for Head Start teachers and staff by Federal Equal Employment Opportunity laws. If this amendment passes, this would be the first time Congress has acted on the House Floor to specifically repeal civil rights protections established to combat discrimination.

The amendment is a blatant attack on civil rights. And, it is offensive to Americans who value equal rights and justice, and to the many of us who are strong people of faith.

This amendment would allow faith-based organizations that receive Federal Head Start

dollars to discriminate in the hiring and firing of Head Start employees simply based on religion. These changes could also affect Head Start parents who might serve as volunteers or advisory board members for their children's Head Start program.

And these acts of discrimination would be paid for with U.S. taxpayer dollars!

In addition, this amendment changes Federal Equal Employment Opportunity laws in the Head Start Act. The effects of these changes on the rights of women and people with disabilities are unclear. Certainly the questions surrounding this possible reduction in rights should be answered before we undo hard-fought civil rights protections.

Let us be clear. Faith-based organizations currently are providing Head Start services. I support faith-based organizations. Their missions and their work are valued by all of us. This amendment provides no additional opportunities to faith-based Head Start providers. It simply provides them the explicit right to discriminate based on religion using taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, Head Start is a program intended to reduce barriers and to provide increased opportunities and equality for low-income children and their families. It is shameful that some of my colleagues are acting today to reduce opportunities and increase barriers for Head Start families.

I urge my colleagues—don't give discrimination a Head Start. Oppose this dangerous amendment.

MAUDELLÉ SHIREK POST OFFICE
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that on September 27, 2005, I voted "yea" on H.R. 438 (rollcall No. 495), which designates the United States Postal Service facility located at 2000 Allston Way in Berkeley, California, as the "Maudelle Shirek Post Office Building."

Ms. Maudelle Shirek was the former vice-mayor of the City of Berkeley and Member of Berkeley City Council from 1984 to 2004, between the ages of 73 and 93. She was one of California's longest serving elected officials.

For 60 years, Ms. Shirek has been campaigning for fair housing and civil rights for all Americans, especially the poor. Ms. Shirek helped found two Berkeley seniors centers. Until her health started slowing her down, Ms. Shirek helped deliver meals to shut-in seniors and did all the grocery shopping for lunches at the New Light Senior Center. In addition, Ms. Shirek received a Special Recognition Award in 1997 from the Cooperative Center Federal Credit Union for 55 years of tireless work in the credit union movement.

Before voting on H.R. 438, I was fully aware of the aforementioned efforts and achievements during Ms. Shirek's life. I found them reason to name a Post Office after her.

However, after I voted "yea" on H.R. 438, I was informed of Ms. Shirek's active support for the release of Mumia Abu-Jamal, a man convicted of killing a Philadelphia police offi-

cer. Upon learning this, I could not, in good faith, support H.R. 438. Had I known this prior to voting on H.R. 438, I would have voted "nay."

CINDY SHEEHAN: PEACE MOM AND
PATRIOT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cindy Sheehan the "Peace Mom" from Vacaville, California, whose 24 year-old son Casey was killed in Sadr City, Iraq on April 4, 2004. Referred to by some as, the "Rosa Parks" of the peace and justice movement, she was arrested today in front of the White House while calling on President Bush to end the War in Iraq.

Cindy had traveled to Washington from Crawford, Texas where, intent on a face-to-face meeting with President Bush, she gained national attention by camping outside the Texas White House during the President's summer vacation. The site was called Camp Casey in honor of her son.

Cindy Sheehan wanted to ask President Bush: What is the "noble cause" that my son Casey died for?

Like millions of people in this country, Cindy Sheehan knew there were no weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, the citizens in the United States had never been in "imminent danger" from Saddam Hussein and Iraq had no connection to 9/11 as the President had claimed. As a mother she felt she had the right to ask the President to meet with her to explain why her son had been sent on a fraudulent mission. After all, he had the time for a bicycle ride with Lance Armstrong. She felt he should make the time to meet with her.

The President refused to meet with Cindy, but sent two high level White House officials in his place. Explaining this substitution, President Bush stated that he had to go on with his "normal life" and that the American people wanted him to do that. Cindy announced she would not leave Crawford until Mr. Bush met with her or left for Washington DC.

As Cindy Sheehan waited in the broiling Texas sun, people began to come to Crawford to be with her. They wanted to support her and to send a message to the President that they, too, wanted an explanation for the war. Thousands came from across the country; some stayed a few hours, others, a few days.

When authorities ordered her to move Camp Casey, a local landowner gave her space on his ranch for an even larger encampment. White crosses with the names of the soldiers killed were planted in the ground. The boots Casey was wearing when he died were placed with his cross as were the boots of other soldiers whose crosses were at Camp Casey.

After President Bush finally left his ranch a few days short of his planned five week vacation, four groups of Cindy's supporters—Gold Star Families for Peace, Military Families Speak Out, Iraq Vets Against the War and Veterans for Peace—left Camp Casey on a "Bring Them Home Tour" from Crawford, TX to Washington, DC.

The Veterans for Peace sent a bus to Covington, KY, to deliver supplies to victims of

Hurricane Katrina. Three other buses filled with representatives of each group toured the central, southern and northern States and met in Washington on September 22nd to prepare for the peace march on September 24, 2005.

An estimated 300,000 people participated in the demonstration. Cindy spoke to the crowd who welcomed her as a hero. I called Cindy the "Rosa Parks" of this peace movement. Like the woman who sparked the civil rights movement, Cindy is the one person who has come forth to inspire others to do more than they believed themselves capable of doing. On that day when our grandchildren ask what we were doing during the Iraq War, we will be able to say: We spoke out and stood up in support of Cindy Sheehan.

HIGHER EDUCATION EXTENSION
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF
HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madame Speaker, I rise today in support of the temporary 3-month extension of the Higher Education Act.

I would prefer to rise today to express my support for a bill that expands access for students to college and fulfills the Federal government's promises to make college more affordable for the millions of students attending our nation's colleges and universities.

Unfortunately, that is not the bill before us today. It is my hope, however, that the Republican leadership will use this time provided by the extension to improve their plan to reauthorize the Higher Education Act—H.R. 609.

The Republican bill that passed out of the House Education and the Workforce Committee on a strictly partisan vote balances the massive deficit created by enormous tax breaks to America's most fortunate and the war in Iraq on the backs of students—who continue to face increased tuition costs across the nation. H.R. 609 cuts nearly \$9 billion from the Federal student loan program, with Republican plans to cut an additional \$2 billion in order to balance their misguided budget. This cut is the largest cut to student financial aid in the history of Federal student financial aid.

The Reauthorization of the Higher Education Act should be an opportunity to enhance access for our nation's low and moderate income students and first generation students to a higher education. Instead of finding ways to increase college affordability and fund student financial aid during this reauthorization, Republicans have been focused on finding ways to open up more Federal dollars for for-profit education institutions, while finding ways to usurp college campus autonomy. Instead of increasing access, millions of students will see the cost of a college education increase significantly because of provisions found in H.R. 609.

In committee, I voted to support the Democratic amendment to reauthorize the Higher Education Act, which would have increased access and enhance affordability for all students—all without raising taxes. The Democratic plan would have increased Pell Grants and would have maintained the promise Con-

gress made in 2002 to cap the interest rate on student loans at 6.8 percent.

The tax cuts proposed by President George W. Bush and the House Republican budget, forces college students to bear the weight of irresponsible fiscal policies.

Today, this temporary extension is necessary, but I will continue to work to ensure that students will not be forced to pay for this enormous deficit now through financial aid cuts and in the future as taxpayers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Ms. SCHWARTZ of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize that on September 27, 2005, I voted "yea" on H.R. 438 (rollcall 495), which designates the United States Postal Service facility located at 2000 Allston Way in Berkeley, California, as the "Maudelle Shirek Post Office Building."

Before voting on H.R. 438, many of my colleagues discussed Ms. Shirek's efforts on behalf of her community. At the time, I found them reason to support H.R. 438. However, after I voted "yea" on H.R. 438, I was informed of Ms. Shirek's active support for the release of Mumia Abu-Jamal—the same man who killed Daniel Faulkner, a Philadelphia police officer.

Had I known of Ms. Shirek's statements regarding Mumia Abu-Jamal prior to voting on H.R. 438, please let the RECORD reflect that I would not only have voted "nay" on passage of this bill, but I also would have urged my colleagues to join me in opposition.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF "LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL!"

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2005

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Resolution 66, supporting the goals and ideals of 'Lights On Afterschool!', a national celebration of after-school programs. Passage of this bill will not only recognize this celebration, but also reaffirm the United States Congress' continuing commitment to providing our children after-school programs.

The "Lights On Afterschool!" celebration was started in October of 2000 and was hosted in over 1,000 communities across the nation. The goal of the program at its inception was to call attention to the importance of after-school programs for America's communities. Last year, 7,500 communities celebrated Lights On Afterschool! events. This October, the Afterschool Alliance, the founding organization, expects 1 million Americans to participate in "Lights On Afterschool!"

In this time of political pressure for budget cuts, "Lights On Afterschool!" seeks to celebrate the importance of after-school programs to American Society, and assert the need for

even more programs. The worth of after-school programming is not lost on the American public. Nine in ten Americans think children need organized activities or a program to go to after school where they have learning opportunities. Nine in ten also support funding for after-school programs in low-income neighborhoods.

The "Lights On Afterschool!" program calls for expanding after-school opportunities so that every child who needs a program has access to one. This is not only a good idea on paper, but a good idea in practice. Teens who participate in after-school programs are three times less likely to try drugs, and less likely to smoke or drink. Teens who do not attend after-school programs are three times more likely to skip class. Students who participate in after-school programs have better grades, are more likely to attend college, and reach higher levels of achievement. The benefit of these programs also extends to the tens of millions of parents of school aged children, who, with the help of these programs, were better able to balance family and work life.

It seems like a simple decision to support the "Lights On" program, but budget-tightening is forcing many programs to cut back or even close. There is a tremendous unmet demand for after-school programs. Today, millions of children have no adult supervision after school. Mayors surveyed in 86 cities reported that only one-third of the children needing after school care were receiving it. Over two-thirds of principals whose children lack after-school programs claim a lack of funding as the reason for not having sufficient programming.

The "Lights On Afterschool!" program is scheduled next month on the 20th of October. Supporting this program—and after-school programs in general—should be a high priority for this country and this congress.

I support H.J. Res. 66 for the foregoing reasons, and I urge my colleagues to follow suit.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 2123, SCHOOL READINESS
ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my sincere disappointment in the Committee on Rules decision to report a restrictive rule for consideration of the bill before us today, the reauthorization of Head Start, the future of our children.

Several common-sense amendments that were offered to strengthen this bill were not ruled in order. Not surprising, most of them were Democratic amendments. Instead, several amendments that were ruled in order will weaken Head Start and the opportunity for our children to succeed.

In committee, there was bipartisan support for adding "faith-based" language into the Head Start Act, even though faith-based institutions currently participate in providing Head Start programs. We were happy to do this in committee; I was happy to do so, along with my colleagues, because the Federal Equal

Opportunity Employment laws are spelled out clearly in the bill, which do not allow for discrimination in hiring.

But there was another amendment that was not ruled in order—my amendment. My amendment would have protected the privacy of our faith-based organizations and the integrity of our tax dollars. The amendment that I offered in the Committee on Rules would have simply required faith-based organizations to create a separate bank account, a separate bank account in which to receive Federal dollars for the Head Start program—distinct and from the private dollars that a religious organization collects to advance their religious mission.

Why do we need to do that? Well, first, we need to protect Federal tax dollars from being used improperly; and, secondly, we need to protect the privacy of faith-based organizations' accounting books for their religious mission. With the commingling of funds, if fraud is suspected, a faith-based organization would have to open up all of their books for inspection. My amendment would have required separate accounts, therefore, protecting the church's mission and the Federal education mission of Head Start.

Mr. Chairman, let me quote from the *Covenant Companion*, a Christian publication, which I submit for the RECORD, as well as one other publication that speaks to this issue.

From the *Covenant*: "Churches are particularly vulnerable to embezzlement because of the high-level of trust given to employees and volunteers that lack the sophistication, fiscal controls, and oversight."

My amendment simply would have been a preemptive strike against financial abuse that we know will happen because it has already occurred. For example, this past summer,

\$800,000 was stolen from a Federal Head Start program run by a church.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to reject this rule. We need a new rule, one that will protect the taxpayers, one that will protect faith-based organizations, and one that will prevent discrimination.

ADDICTION, TREATMENT AND RECOVERY

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support of the 16th annual celebration of recovery month. All people are affected by addiction in some way, and it is important to celebrate those who beat addictive diseases and are now in recovery. Most people who know very little about the dangers of addiction suppose they could identify an addict if they saw one. Surprisingly, addiction can confront any person in any family, and this makes the joys of recovery all the more important. One mother whose daughter received treatment at Narcanon Arrowhead in my district said:

"I am the mother of five beautiful, intelligent and talented children. I gave up a lucrative and rewarding profession so that I could spend my life raising my children. I wanted to be part of every moment of their lives. As every mother does, I made plans. Those plans were for my spouse and myself and of course, our children. We want them to be healthy, educated and successful.

Six months ago, my days, hours, weeks were consumed with finding a solution to my daughter's drug addiction, which seemed an impossible task. My daughter fought her addiction and lost since she was 13 years old. It all began by harmless experimentation with marijuana and alcohol but she then fell into the drug trap battling an addiction to every drug available today.

As her addiction grew worse and worse my husband and I feared the day when we would get the call that she had landed in jail, or worse—she had died. Thankfully that call never came. In July of 2001 we gave her an ultimatum—either she seek treatment or we could no longer have anything to do with her. For 2 months after she was "out there" doing whatever she could to get high. I have never been that scared in my life. In August she finally agreed to go into treatment.

Thanks to the Narcanon Program my daughter has been clean for over six months. She is happy and functioning and for the first time in a long time, she is stable. I never want any parent to go through the nightmare that I went through with my child and there are millions of us going through it right now. I am writing this to tell you that there is hope. Today I can honestly say that I have my daughter back."

Stories like the one from this mother give me hope. I have hope for the treatment and recovery of the growing number of citizens in Oklahoma addicted to methamphetamines. Although the problem is daunting, with enough support and understanding addiction can be beaten! I appreciate what this month celebrates, and I am proud to share a success story from my home state.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 29, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 30

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of John Hillen, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs, Barry F. Lowenkron, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, both of the Department of State, and Kent R. Hill, of Virginia, and Jacqueline Ellen Schafer, of the District of Columbia, both to be Assistant Administrator, United States Agency for International Development.

SD-419

OCTOBER 5

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 1057, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend that Act.

SR-485

10:30 a.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine preparing for and meeting the needs of older Americans during a disaster.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the status of efforts to reduce greenhouse gases relating to the Kyoto Protocol.

SD-406

Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

OCTOBER 6

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. military strategy and operations in Iraq.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the implementation of the Exon-Florio provision by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), Department of the Treasury, which seeks to serve U.S. investment policy through reviews that protect national security while maintaining the credibility of open investment policy.

SD-538

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine Hurricanes Katrina and Rita's effects on energy in-

frastructure and that status of recovery efforts in the Gulf Coast region.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending judicial nominations.

SD-226

Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

3 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 1025, to amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the construction of the Cheney division, Wichita Federal reclamation project, Kansas" to authorize the Equus Beds Division of the Wichita Project, S. 1498, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution facilities to the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, S. 1529, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the city of Yuma, Arizona, S. 1578, to reauthorize the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin endangered fish recovery implementation programs, and S. 1760, to authorize early repayment of obligations to the Bureau of Reclamation within Rogue River Valley Irrigation District or within Medford Irrigation District.

SD-366

OCTOBER 20

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Indian water rights settlement policy effects on the Duck Valley Reservation proposed settlement agreement.

SR-485