

world community needs to remain vigilant for other forms of cancer that may begin to emerge now that the 20-year latency period has ended.

We need to remember that the half-life of radioactive cesium is 30 years. Thousands of children are still being exposed to dangerously high levels of radionuclides in contaminated areas of southern Belarus and northern Ukraine, as well as far-flung areas in Scandinavia and Eastern Europe that also suffered from radioactive fallout. There is still much that remains to be done to overcome the devastating effects of Chernobyl, and it is important for the international community—both governments and nongovernmental organizations—to remember that Chernobyl is not just a Ukrainian, Belarusian or Russian problem. The fallout will require continued international attention and commitment.

I also want to take this opportunity to commend the work of nongovernmental organizations that devote considerable time and effort in helping the victims of Chernobyl. One such organization is the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund, which has worked tirelessly to provide state-of-the-art medical technology, physician training and humanitarian aid to give Ukrainian children a fighting chance to overcome cancer and leukemia.

Finally, I welcome the resolution's support for continued U.S. assistance to the Chernobyl Shelter Fund, the Shelter Implementation Plan, and other efforts to mitigate the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster. We need to do everything possible to protect people and the environment from the large quantity of radioactive remains of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant even as we work to assist the victims of the world's worst nuclear disaster.

IN RECOGNITION OF AVONDALE
CUB SCOUT PACK 67

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the young men of Avondale Pack 67 in Alexander City, Alabama, and also to den leader Laurie Carter for their work to preserve the memory of the crew of an Air Force aircraft which was lost in their community over a decade ago.

April 17 marks the 11th anniversary of the crash of an Air Force C-21 jet which was en route from Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland to Randolph Air Force Base in Texas. The C-21 was transporting eight personnel including Air Force Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, the Honorable Clark G. Fiester, and Major General Glenn A. Proffitt, II, when it suffered mechanical problems. The plane attempted to land at T.C. Russell Field in Alexander City.

Tragically, the aircraft lost altitude and went down in a wooded area south of the airport, taking the lives of all aboard. A statement released from the Secretary of the Air Force at the time noted that, "Two of the Air Force's senior leaders were on board the plane."

The families of the victims of that tragedy left a small memorial on the site of the crash to remember their loved ones. But the site,

which is heavily wooded, was grown over until the scouts of Pack 67 intervened. On March 18 the scouts of Pack 67, hiked to the site of the memorial, cleared the brush and trimmed the trees that had covered it. They placed small U.S. flags for each of the eight Air Force personnel who lost their lives that day in 1995.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to personally salute the young men of Pack 67 and their leader, Laurie Carter, for not only doing a good deed, but for honoring the memory of these fallen heroes. We can all learn from the example of these community-spirited scouts.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. FRANCES
STURGIS

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a great individual and community leader, Mrs. Frances Sturgis, and to thank her for her contributions to the greater Waco Community, Texas and the country. On April 8, 2006 Mrs. Sturgis will be joined by friends and supporters to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Keep Waco Beautiful, which Mrs. Sturgis started in 1980.

Mrs. Sturgis began alone working to clean up and beautify Waco. Her vision and work has grown the small Beautification Committee of Waco into Keep Waco Beautiful, one of the most successful beautification groups in the country. From humble beginnings Mrs. Sturgis has guided Keep Waco Beautiful to where it is today, over 11,000 volunteers in an established and well recognized institution in the Waco Community. She was also instrumental in the founding of Keep McLennan County Beautiful and has served the State of Texas as President of Keep Texas Beautiful.

One cannot travel anywhere in Waco, Texas without seeing the legacy of Frances Sturgis. From Indian Springs Park and Heritage Square to Miss Nellie's Pretty Place and University Parks Drive the impact of her contributions to our community are evident. Over the past 25 years Keep Waco Beautiful has spearheaded over one hundred environmental and beautification projects in the Greater Waco community, and established numerous programs that have become an annual part of the lives of the citizens of Waco.

Mrs. Sturgis's service has reflected her deep commitment to the community and has indeed made Waco, Texas a cleaner, healthier, safer and more beautiful place to live and raise a family.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Mrs. Frances Sturgis and offer my heartfelt appreciation for a life dedicated to service of the community.

TRIBUTE TO NORMAN BORLAUG

HON. MARK R. KENNEDY

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. KENNEDY of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an individual whose contributions have unquestionably made the world

a far better place. Through a career in scientific research that has spanned half a century, Dr. Norman Borlaug has distinguished himself and is in a class of his own.

Dr. Borlaug grew up on a farm in Cresco, Iowa, and attended the University of Minnesota in my home state where he went on to earn his doctorate in plant pathology in 1942.

In 1944 Dr. Borlaug participated in a project to boost wheat production that began in Mexico and spread as far as India and Pakistan. This project sparked the Green Revolution that literally saved hundreds of millions of lives. In recognition of these efforts, Dr. Borlaug was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970. To this day, he is the only person to have received the Award in either the agriculture or food production fields.

Since then, Dr. Borlaug continued in his work throughout Africa, where maize, sorghum and wheat yields have experienced significant increases, helping to curb starvation and malnutrition.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all Minnesotans, I would like to congratulate Dr. Borlaug on his distinguished career and remarkable contributions. His legacy and service will continue to benefit our society for generations to come.

I would like to thank my good friend Representative TOM LATHAM of Iowa for his leadership on this matter.

A TRIBUTE TO PENNY LYNDELLA
WILLOUGHBY-PARKER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Penny Lyndella Willoughby-Parker. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing her accomplishments.

Penny was born in Farmville, North Carolina. However, since age 9 Penny has resided in New York City. Since childhood, Penny has been a person that has strived to live by God's golden rule of "Do Unto Others as You Would Have Them Do Unto You." Penny's genuine love and concern for people as a whole, but especially those that were less fortunate than her inspired Penny to work with people living with mental illness.

Penny worked at Manhattan Psychiatric Center for 13 years, specializing in Psychiatric Rehabilitation. In this capacity, Penny helped to prepare people to successfully return to their family, friends and society to live productive lives.

Oftentimes while reading her patients' charts, Penny would learn that their problems began when they were children. As Penny sat at her desk reading the charts she would often become filled with sadness and say, "Oh God! I wish I had met Jane or John when they were children. Perhaps I could have helped them with their various problems and prevented them from ending up in a mental institution."

God heard Penny's sighs! God saw Penny's tears! And He has Anointed and Appointed her to teach Wisdom to his children. Penny's Mission Statement from God is "to train up a child according to Proverbs 22:6 and to help all children to fully develop Spiritually, Academically, Socially and Culturally which is exceedingly, abundantly, above and beyond what is called "Average".

Penny is the proud mother of two sons, Chinyelu and Cory, but God has given her as He did Abraham and Sarah, innumerable sons and daughters that are spread throughout the world. You will never hear Penny say she did anything special or take credit for the overwhelming successful outcomes of her students' achievements whom she affectionately refers to as her "Power Angels". But, you will hear Penny say, "To God Be the Glory!!!"

Mr. Speaker, Penny Lyndella Willoughby-Parker's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes her worthy of our recognition today.

PATIENT ASSISTANCE DAY: HELPING LOW INCOME AMERICANS GET THE HEALTH CARE THEY NEED

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patient Assistance Day. Today, millions of Americans lack health insurance and cannot access medicines that they need to treat their illnesses. While the government looks for practical ways to help the 45 million uninsured citizens, there are private-sector programs in place that are helping millions of Americans.

One such program is the Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA), a national clearinghouse that links uninsured and underinsured people to patient assistance programs that offer drugs for free or nearly free. America's pharmaceutical research companies, along with 1,300 community and patient organizations, launched the PPA in April 2005. Since then, the PPA has helped more than 1.8 million patients, but millions more stand to benefit.

As the PPA commemorates its 1-year anniversary on April 5, 2006, it will celebrate the first annual Patient Assistance Day, which will include educational activities throughout the country designed to raise awareness of and help educate the public about patient assistance programs.

This private-sector program has been successful in helping uninsured Americans get the medicines they need. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the work of the Partnership for Prescription Assistance and observing April 5th as Patient Assistance Day.

PROCLAIMING APRIL 5, 2006 PATIENT ASSISTANCE DAY

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about a program that I have brought to my district many of times to help my constituents access affordable drugs.

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance (PPA) is a national clearinghouse that links uninsured and underinsured people to patient

assistant programs that offer drugs for free or nearly free. America's pharmaceutical research companies, along with 1,300 community and patient organizations launched the PPA in April 2005 and have since helped almost 2 million patients, including over 48,000 in my home state of Louisiana.

Today, the PPA commemorates its 1-year anniversary (April 5, 2006), and with that celebration, the first annual Patient Assistance Day.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize this significant achievement of the PPA in addressing the uninsured issue by meeting a real need of patients everywhere. I applaud the efforts of biopharmaceutical research companies, health care providers, patient advocacy organizations, and community groups all across the United States. The PPA has visited the 7th Congressional District to provide information at many of my town hall meetings, as well as other health events. The response to their presence has been overwhelming. I am committed to helping my constituents and all Americans in need access life-saving medicines. In that spirit, I ask my colleagues to join me today in proclaiming "April 5, Patient Assistance Day. Surely, millions more stand to benefit from this program and we should do our part in helping to connect patients in need.

I also submit for the RECORD a success story about the PPA's effort in Southwest Louisiana.

[From the Southwest Daily News, Feb. 15, 2006]

(By Mary Ann Dutton)

Help is Here Express is a traveling education center sponsored by America's Pharmaceutical Research Companies, in partnership with the Calcasieu Community Clinic and the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families. The bright orange bus rolled into Sulphur on Tuesday to educate uninsured and underinsured patients about prescription assistance. Originally scheduled to be at Sulphur City Hall from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., the staff said they would stay until everyone was helped.

Help is Here Express is part of the Partnership for Prescription Assistance, a growing national program that brings prescription assistance to the uninsured and underinsured. According to Partners for Prescription Assistance (PPA) Consultant Cheron Brylski, the PPA was birthed by former Louisiana Congressman Billy Tauzin. While battling cancer, Tauzin realized that he would not have survived without the drugs used in his treatment. Understanding that many cancer patients are unable to afford the drugs that could help them, Tauzin made it a personal goal to get an assistance program started.

"The Partnership for Prescription Assistance is changing thousands of lives everyday," said PhRMA President and CEO Tauzin. "No one is helped by a medicine that sits on the shelf and is out of reach financially. The Partnership for Prescription Assistance is matching the people of Louisiana who are uninsured or underinsured to patient assistance programs that may help them get the medicines they need for free or nearly free. We will keep coming back to Louisiana as long as there are people who need our help."

The Help is Here Express was developed as a way to take the Partnership for Prescription Assistance program on the road, bringing help directly to the people who need it most. In Louisiana alone there have been 26,218 searches and 16,842 matches through the use of the computer terminals and mobile telephones on the bus.

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America spokesman Jeff Trewhitt said the Help is Here Express offers help to anyone who is having trouble affording their prescription medicine. Since its launch last April in Baton Rouge, the program has matched more than 1.3 million patients nationally, and more than 44,000 right here in Louisiana.

"There are millions of patients who qualify for assistance and don't know about the program," said Trewhitt. "There are 475 patient assistance plans so we are bringing our education program to reach and inform the masses."

If you were unable to visit the Help is Here Express yesterday, the same services are available by telephone or on the internet. "Many prefer the privacy of their own home," said Trewhitt. "This is possible by calling 1-888-4PPA-NOW (1-888-477-2669) or the user-friendly website www.pparxla.org." Trewhitt suggested that applicants have the names of current medicines available when calling.

An interesting tidbit shared by Trewhitt is that the Help is Here Express bus used to be the touring bus of country singers Brooks and Dunn.

The Help is Here Express is scheduled to be in Lafayette at the Acadiana Outreach Center, 2125 S. Buchanan Street on Feb. 16th at 9:30 a.m.

IN HONOR OF CALEB FOOTE LAW PROFESSOR AND PACIFIST ORGANIZER

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2006

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor one of America's great teachers and scholars of law and an inspirational figure for everyone who believes in the creative spirit of non-violence, Mr. Caleb Foote, who passed away on March 4, 2006.

Caleb Foote began his life journey in Massachusetts. He was born in Cambridge in 1917, graduated from Harvard in 1939, and earned his master's degree in 1941. He was raised on Quaker beliefs and held deep principles that rejected the use of violence. During the period of World War II he was sent to prison for those beliefs when he refused to serve in the military or to perform alternative service in support of war. After completing his prison sentence, he spoke out against the internment of Japanese-Americans, working with photographer Dorothy Lange to produce a pamphlet on the subject in 1943. He was forced to serve a second term in prison for continuing to refuse the draft, but he was pardoned by no one less than President Harry S. Truman.

In the 1950s, Mr. Foote went back to college and earned his law degree. For the remainder of his career, he taught law and became a leading champion for the rights of the poor, the young, minorities, and the disenfranchised within the criminal justice system. Even after he retired, he continued his research and exposed the failures of the juvenile justice system in California.

America has lost a champion of justice and a man of principle. I extend my condolences to all the members of Caleb Foote's family and his community of friends, who knew him not as a symbol, but as a husband, a father, a grandfather, a friend, and a colleague.