

social support family, immigration, health, housing, legal, emergency shelter, child care, education, employment, cultural, citizenship and youth services. She also said that, this gathering of the finest women and men in our community allows us the opportunity to recognize the outstanding services and accomplishments of outstanding members of our community.

They deserve our best wishes and congratulations. In addition to Dr. Mason, other awardees include: Club El Pacifico, Inc., Ms. Petrona Pet Honeywell, Ms. Gloria A. Spencer Morgan, The Rev. Frank Elcock and Mr. William Ben Townsend.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the men and women of the Peace Corps, which celebrates its 45th Anniversary this year.

Since its creation in 1961, over 180,000 men and women—including several of our colleagues in Congress—have served in the Peace Corps.

These Peace Corps Volunteers have made a difference in a very concrete and personal way. Over the last 45 years, these dedicated volunteers—through their talent, hard work, and dedication—have shown people in 138 countries the very best face of America.

From agriculture to business development to HIV/AIDS prevention, the Peace Corps is a vital, vibrant organization that promotes mutual trust, cooperation, and understanding between Americans and the countries in which they serve.

And course, I can't stand up here and talk about the Peace Corps without noting that the Director of the Peace Corps, Mr. Gaddi Vasquez, is a long-time resident of Orange County, California. I want to express my thanks to him and to all Peace Corps participants, for their hard work, their sacrifice, and their spirit.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL SHAWN T. LASSWELL, JR.

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Shawn T. Lasswell Jr. who died on April 23, 2006 while in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and defending America.

Corporal Lasswell, who was assigned to C Troop, 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, died in Taji, Iraq when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle. Lasswell, who grew up in Alton, Illinois was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Corporal Shawn T. Lasswell Jr. Corporal Lasswell made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

RECOGNIZING ETHAN STOCKDALE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ethan Stockdale, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ethan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ethan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ethan Stockdale for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO RON ZIMMERMAN

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Ron Zimmerman of Connersville, Indiana. He died this week in Afghanistan when a suicide bomber hit his vehicle while he was working as contractor on a U.S. State Department police training project.

Ron was working in Herat, Afghanistan, near the border with Iran and Turkmenistan. Among other things, he was training local police forces in methods of combating the illicit drug trade of opium poppies. He was in a convoy going to work to continue these training efforts when the vehicle he was traveling in was attacked by a suicide car bomber. He had been in Afghanistan since early April of this year.

Ron graduated from Connersville High School. Before going overseas, Ron served in the Fayette County Sheriff's Department, volunteered as a local firefighter, and most recently worked as a police officer in Brookville, Indiana. He left the police force in December 2004 to become a contractor. Prior to going to Afghanistan, he had worked for 1 year as a contractor training police forces in Kosovo.

Ron's courage and selfless dedication to others are shown through his willingness to travel to dangerous areas of the world in an effort to help those areas become safer and more secure. His wife Marla stated, "He was the type of person that felt like he had to do what he had to do. He was a very giving person."

I offer my deepest condolences to his wife, Marla; his two daughters, Mel Walker and Cheyenne Zimmerman, his son, Matt Walker, and all other family and friends who loved and admired this fine man.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NANCY L. JOHNSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 172 I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JAMES KELLY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of James Kelly, who died Saturday, May 12, 2006.

James served the city of North Las Vegas for decades in a number of different capacities. He was a Justice of the Peace for 24 years, a former city council member, past President of the North Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce, and a past President of the Nevada Judges Association. James lived in North Las Vegas since 1959 and was very community-minded. He quietly led a life of public service.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of James Kelly. His long and distinguished record of public service is admirable and should serve as an example to us all. He will be greatly missed by the city of North Las Vegas.

RECOGNIZING CHARLES K. LIGHT II FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles K. Light II, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 397, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Charles has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Charles has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Charles K. Light II for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

STRONG WOMEN STAND TALL

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, the week of May 14 thru 20, 2006 is designated by the Department of Health and Human Services as

National Women's Health Week, an effort to raise awareness about women can take to improve their health.

One disease that disproportionately affects women is osteoporosis. Often called a "silent disease" because bone loss occurs without symptoms, bones become fragile and are more likely to break with age.

Osteoporosis is a major public health threat for millions of Americans. Ten million individuals are estimated to already have the disease and almost 34 million are at risk of developing osteoporosis. Eighty percent of those affected by osteoporosis are women.

One program that is helping to spread awareness about osteoporosis is Strong Women Stand Tall—a new program to motivate women to join together and take action to protect their bone health. Friday, March 12, 2006 was declared as "Fuchsia Friday" to show solidarity among women and to raise awareness of bone health.

When women take even the simplest steps to improve their health, the results can be significant. It is important to action to find out your risk for developing osteoporosis. We need to stay informed and take responsible actions to improve our health.

Reducing our risk for this disease is a life-long process—it is never too early or too late to protect bone health. Women must recognize their risk for osteoporosis, educate themselves about how to stay strong and healthy, and empower other women to take charge of their bone health. I encourage all women to see their physician and have an osteoporosis screening.

DENOUNCING ANTI-IMMIGRANT HATE MESSAGES

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, its been 4 years since 9-11, yet the Republicans in Congress and this President have failed to secure our borders and protect this country against future terrorist attacks.

Americans want and deserve better.

The country is depending on us to take action but this Administration and the Republicans in Congress have let us down over and over again.

The Democrats' plan offers real security that will protect America from harm.

It's time for Republicans to put politics aside and enact real reforms now.

It's time for Republicans to stop playing politics with our security.

Just take immigration reform, for example.

Instead of recognizing the need for real, comprehensive reform Republicans have used th border security issue to play on people's fears and exploit the debate for their political gain.

They've hijacked the debate to incite xenophobia in the minds of the American people!

I want my colleagues to be aware that this rhetoric can provoke extremists to commit violence against immigrants.

Remember that words have consequences and set the tone for public debate.

Unfortunately, all over America racists are taking advantage of the immigration debate to voice their message of hate.

And they are using the media—which our Constitution protects—to do so.

Several years ago, I founded the Congressional Sex and Violence in the Media Caucus because I was disturbed by the messages our children were receiving.

As co-chair of this caucus, I have led the effort to help parents protect their kids from harmful and inappropriate content such as graphic sex and violence.

Now we must be on the lookout for racist content in the media.

On March 29, 2006, a New Jersey radio talk show host Hal Turner exclaimed, ". . . It is time to fight. To kill such invaders. . . If you don't fight AND don't support those of us who do, when we're done with them, we can come for you."

I recently learned about a racist game distributed freely on the Internet called "Border Patrol" that encourages Players to shoot at Immigrants as they cross into the United States.

The game first surfaced in 2002, but has come up once again amid the immigration debate.

This is obscene and crosses the line!

For years, White supremacists have used the Internet to get their messages out to as many people as possible.

But the use of computer video games is new.

They are deliberately targeting our children and recruiting them into their hate groups!

The fact that the national immigration debate is fueling their efforts is downright scary.

It just takes one individual with hate in his heart to act on these notions!

Border Patrol is one of several racist computer games that hate groups are currently for sale or download on the Internet.

Other games like "Ethnic Cleansing," "DriveBy 2" and "African Detroit Cop" were created to further racist, anti-Semitic or homophobic opinions.

Already, the National Alliance, a violent neo-Nazi group, is selling "Ethnic Cleansing" and is promising to market and sell similar games.

As the issue of comprehensive immigration reform has moved to the forefront of national policy debate, these hate-messages have grown more radical.

As the Aryan Nation's Web site puts it, "We now have another game animal to add to our list of available targets for our favorite pastime, hunting, and we'll declare permanent OPEN SEASON on these dirty wetbacks! From what I've heard through the grapevine the Skinheads and Klans across the country are more than prepared for this type of action. I say let's play by state and see which state can claim the most kills and let the jewsmedia whores keep score!"

This is a big real concern especially as the debate continues.

These extremist groups are going to gain momentum.

A report by the Anti-Defamation League shows that hate groups have organized numerous assaults against immigrants within this month alone.

As members of Congress, our first responsibility is the security of every American and of that means securing our borders.

But the outcome of this debate will speak volumes about how we embrace diversity in our communities and welcome foreigners in our society.

We cannot have this debate at the expense of the safety of immigrants in our communities.

I understand that not everyone in Congress agrees with a more inclusive vision of the American family.

But regardless of your position on immigration and border policy, I call on you to join me in condemning all the extremists who are hijacking this debate for their hateful agendas.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FIRST SERGEANT CARLOS N. SAENZ

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of First Sergeant Carlos N. Saenz, who died on May 5, 2006 in Baghdad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and defending America.

Sergeant Saenz was assigned to the 490th Civil Affairs Battalion, 321st Civil Affairs Brigade, U.S. Army Reserves, died when an improvised explosive device detonated near his military vehicle. Sergeant Saenz, who resided in Las Vegas, Nevada, was laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of First Sergeant Carlos N. Saenz. Sergeant Saenz made the ultimate sacrifice for his country while fighting the War on Terror and defending democracy and freedom.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTOPHER ADAM ROTH FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Christopher Adam Roth, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 98, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Christopher has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Christopher has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Christopher Adam Roth for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

BIOFUEL ACT OF 2006

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and address an oversight that occurred on legislation that I recently introduced in the House of Representatives. For