

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL SHEILA
C. MIDDLETON

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of our Virgin Islands' heroines—Corporal Sheila Christina Middleton.

Born in Far Rockaway, Queens, she moved with her family to St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands in 1996.

After graduating the Virgin Islands Police Academy in 1981 she served the department as a patrol officer for 9 years. That was before she found her true calling—working with the children and youth of the Virgin Islands.

Sheila understood and loved our children, and they loved and respected her in return. Her emphasis in criminal justice was prevention, and she knew that effort had to begin as early in their lives as possible.

She was the D.A.R.E. coordinator for the territory. She taught the children about the negative effects of drugs and alcohol on their bodies and their lives. She counted among her greatest rewards the smiles on their faces, after they had completed their courses and marched to receive their certificates at the annual D.A.R.E. graduations.

Her passion for this work emanated from her deep religious faith. She was a devout member of Speak the Word Ministries from whose congregation and worship she also renewed her strength and received guidance. They and her family were her "rock."

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, I had the privilege of working with Corporal Middleton. She was as fine an officer and human being as you would ever want to know.

She left us early, but she gave much during her relatively short life. We are grateful for her life and service to the Virgin Islands community. Our children and our entire community call her blessed.

A TRIBUTE TO SUNIL ANAND

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sunil Anand, a distinguished member of the business community. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

A native of India, Sunil Anand is a successful Certified Public Accountant and entrepreneur performing specialty services to the non-profit sector. He has consulted for numerous Headstart and day care centers, senior citizen programs, mental health programs, homeless prevention programs, AIDS and

drug-addiction prevention programs, teenage pregnancy prevention programs, and low-income housing programs.

Mr. Anand is a much sought-after consultant because he is very familiar with federal, state and city rules and regulations for funding agency financial reporting procedures. He has conducted certified audits including A-133, reviewed and prepared financial statements including cash flow analysis and other related statements for various non-profit government funded organizations.

A full service accounting professional, Mr. Anand has established internal control systems including budgetary controls, structural policies and procedures with respect to the cycle of the entity's activities (external financial reporting), financial statement captions (cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables and accrued liabilities), accompanying systems (cash receipts, disbursements, payroll and general ledger) and inventory controls. Additionally, Mr. Anand has provided financial and administrative management to the real estate industry; his service to the industry included purchase and sales of apartment buildings (residential and commercial), multiple dwellings, condominiums, and single-family residences.

In 1968, Mr. Anand graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Delhi University in India. In 1971, he received Professional Accounting and Auditing Training (equivalent P.A.) from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. In 1973, he completed an IBM System 360—Programming, System Design and Analysis Internship Program at New York University and in the same year he completed an M.B.A.—C.P.A. Program at Long Island University in New York. In 1984, Mr. Anand became a New York State Licensed Real Estate Broker and Notary Public.

Mr. Anand is a member of several professional organizations including: Association of MBA Executives; National Association of Accountants; National Society of Public Accountants; National Society of Tax Professionals; and the American Institute of Professional Bookkeepers.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Sunil Anand as he offers his talents and philanthropic services for the betterment of our local community.

Mr. Speaker, Sunil Anand's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

BANKER ALLEY TO RETIRE AFTER
50 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Mr. Dale Alley of Hutto and Round

Rock, TX, for his retirement after 50 years in the community banking profession. Achieving 50 years in the community banking profession is a rare honor and Dale should be commended for having reached this milestone. On June 25, 2006, Dale will retire with grateful acknowledgment from his communities, customers, and friends. He leaves behind a legacy of tireless service, active community participation, and positive impact on local economies.

As community banks are merged and acquired at a rapid rate, it is important to note that there are still bankers who participate fully in their communities and strengthen those communities by their dedication to service and goodwill; Dale Alley is such a banker. Community bankers fuel the engine of small businesses and literally built Texas communities from the ground up. Dale Alley leaves a dynamic blueprint and a commendable legacy for those assuming his positions at Union State Bank and the other institutions where he has served.

In 1956, a young man nervous with anticipation walked into First State Bank in Denton, TX, for his first day of employment. He wasn't sure where this initial job might take him, but he knew that he wanted to be involved in the banking industry. Now, 50 years later, that same man is putting the finishing touches on a brilliant career in community banking.

Dale began his employment with First State Bank in Denton, TX, in 1956. During the next two decades, he worked both as an administrative assistant in the Texas State Banking Department and an executive vice president and loan officer with Farmers State Bank in Round Rock. Over the course of his distinguished career, Dale served as president and board chairman of the Hutto State Bank, which he opened in 1986. As president and board chairman, he achieved his ultimate goal of becoming the chief managing officer.

After the sale of that bank, Dale was approached by B.M. Beck, president and chairman of Union State Bank, in regards to opening a Union State Bank Branch in Round Rock. Dale accepted the offer and operated a service-oriented and profitable banking branch. In 2003, Dale accepted the position of executive vice president and chief lending officer for all five Union State Bank locations in Central Texas. Over the course of his career, Dale consistently emphasized the importance of customer service and making his clients feel appreciated.

Dale's career path has been filled with success, but he would tell you his proudest accomplishments come from the impact he has made on his community. In fact, Dale recently wrote, "My favorite part of working in the banking industry for 50 years has been the satisfaction gained from being a community banker and experiencing the economic growth and vitality resulting from the bank's activities." The efforts of Dale and his fellow community bankers are essential to the success of communities throughout America.

Small businesses come to community banks for financial help because they know and trust

• 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.

the banker they are working with. In turn, community banks realize their success revolves around the overall growth of the community. It's a reciprocal relationship in which the small business and the community bank depend on each other for future growth; neither can be successful without the other. Independent Community Bankers of America, ICBA, Chairman Terry Jorde explained the relationship well when he said, "Each of our nearly 5,000 bank members is a shining example of how community banks are still joined at the hip to our communities."

In addition to his many work contributions and other honors, Dale was responsible for establishing the Hutto Chamber of Commerce and also served on the Hutto School Board for many years. Having had the opportunity to witness firsthand his contributions to the Hutto and Round Rock communities, I am certain his impact will continue to be felt after his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself, my constituents, Union State Bank, and the communities of Round Rock, Hutto, Georgetown, Florence, Liberty Hill, and Killeen, I would like to thank Dale for 50 years of distinguished service to the banking industry and the communities throughout Central Texas. Although his daily presence at Union State Bank will be sorely missed, I look forward to his continued contributions to the banking industry. I thank Dale for his service and friendship, and wish him the utmost happiness and success in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, on June 19, 2006, I missed the following rollcall votes due to my flight being delayed: rollcall vote No. 289, final passage of H.R. 5540 and rollcall vote No. 290, final passage of H.R. 5504.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" to rollcall vote No. 289 and "yes" to rollcall vote No. 290.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MERRILL WORCESTER FOR HIS GENEROUS HOLIDAY CONTRIBUTIONS TO ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to rise today to extend my congratulations to Mr. Merrill Worcester, an American who believes in paying homage to the memory of veterans who gave all in the name of freedom.

As the owner of the Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington, Maine, Mr. Worcester oversees the workings of his holiday decoration company. Thirteen years ago, he could think of nothing better to do with his surplus of over 4,000 Christmas wreaths than bring them to Arlington National Cemetery. Mr. Worcester

had visited Arlington at the age of 12 and dreamed of somehow honoring fallen soldiers.

Each year since 1993, Mr. Worcester has brought trucks holding over 5,000 Christmas wreaths to Arlington and has joined with hundreds of volunteers from all walks of military and civilian life in placing the wreaths on the headstones. The wreathlaying event continues to be one that carries a great message of thanks and gratitude to those who gave their lives as well as a reminder to their families during the holidays that they will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the U.S. Congress, I would like to offer my sincere thanks to a man who truly understands the nature of giving and works to continually commemorate the giving of the ultimate sacrifice—life—in order to achieve freedom.

IN HONOR OF JEAN JOSEPH
SIBILLY 1889-1997

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, each year in mid-July, the French Community on St. Thomas, in my District, observes French Heritage Week, commemorating the storming of the Bastille on July 14, 1789 which marked the beginning of the French Revolution, with a week of French flavored activities.

This year, the French Heritage Week Committee is posthumously honoring Jean Joseph Sibilly, patriarch of the French community of Estate Elizabeth on St. Thomas.

I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor and acknowledge the innumerable contributions this great visionary made to the Virgin Islands in general and his community in particular.

Jean Joseph Sibilly was born on the French Caribbean island of St. Barthelemy on January 5, 1889, but grew up and received his education on the island of Guadeloupe. Trained in agriculture and animal husbandry, he emigrated to St. Thomas in 1912 and established residence on the north side of the island, an area predominantly occupied by other French immigrants.

At age 23, this agricultural entrepreneur purchased Estate Elizabeth and a few years later another 268 acres with 12 other north side families in nearby Estate Lerkenlund to be used for farming. This area has had a long legacy as until recently the French north side farmers were still the primary source for fresh produce.

He was a self taught skilled engineer and builder credited for planning and supervising the road system on the north side of St. Thomas, the construction of numerous homes and public buildings, and was legendary for his ability to draw a straight line without the aid of conventional instruments.

Above all else, he was a humanitarian and community leader. His generosity is exemplified by the large tracks of land he donated to the Catholic Church and the local government. The community's Catholic Church, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, and adjacent cemetery, as well as an elementary school, were made possible through his philanthropy. Not a politician or elected official, he was however influential

in local elections and served as the guardian of good government in the particular interest of the people of the north side of the island.

On March 9, 1973, the Tenth Legislature of the Virgin Islands approved Resolution 3395 which renamed the Robert Herrick Elementary School the Joseph Sibilly Elementary School in honor of his great community spirit, generous donations, and good deeds.

A devout Roman Catholic, his religious beliefs were reflected in his daily life. In recognition of his humanitarian spirit, The Virgin Islands Daily News on his passing wrote, "Joseph Sibilly was in a sense an Old Testament man, a patriarch with vision and strength and generosity. He left for all of us a valuable legacy, the knowledge that ultimately a man serves himself best when he serves others".

Jean Joseph Sibilly's generosity, considerateness, wisdom, foresight, pride in and love for his fellow man deserve our recognition honor today.

A TRIBUTE TO SANG SU YI

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sang Su Yi, a distinguished member of the business and civic communities. It behooves us to pay tribute to this outstanding leader and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing his impressive accomplishments.

Sang Su Yi was born in Kobe, Japan in 1933 and returned to South Korea right after World War II in 1946. During the Korean Civil War, he served at the supply base in the U.S. Marine Corps Headquarters Division. At the end of the Korean Civil War, Sang Su Yi returned to high school.

Sang Su Yi started his career as a reporter after receiving his bachelor's degree at the University of Han Yang. In 1963, he also served in seventh division of the U.S. Infantry in Korea. In 1973, when he was offered a job from the Carnival Cruise Line in Miami, FL, Sang Su Yi decided to enter the new world of the United States of America. In 1976, he came to New York City and started his small business. In 1984, Sang Su Yi's wife and children immigrated from Seoul, Korea and joined him in New York City. Since coming to New York City, Sang Su Yi has enhanced his spiritual life. He attends Full Gospel New York Church and has served in various positions. He completed the Bible College with his wife and he is serving the Lord as a deacon in the church. Currently, Sang Su Yi is the president of the World Mission of Korean Folk Praise. His Folk Praise team, which includes his wife, traveled to many countries to help missionaries to build schools and hospitals in Central and South America.

Additionally, Sang Su Yi is the chairperson of the board of trustees of the Korean Traditional Music Institute of New York. The Korean Traditional Music team has performed more than 1,800 times over last 20 years. They have performed in Washington, DC, Long Island University, Lincoln Center, at the U.N., World Hunger events, museums, local schools, nursing homes, prisons, and almost every parade and major event in New York

and New Jersey. Sang Su Yi has received numerous awards including from the chairperson of the New York Korean Association, the president of the Long Island Korean Association, a mayor from Guatemala City, a couple of outstanding performance awards from Seoul Korea and a leadership award from Full Gospel New York Church.

Sang Su Yi, his wife and his praise team stand ready to travel beyond the United States to support the missionaries around the world wherever help and encouragement are needed.

Sang Su Yi has been married for 48 years; he and his wife have four children and nine grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that it is incumbent on this body to recognize the accomplishments of Sang Su Yi, as he offers his talents and services for the betterment of our local and global communities.

Mr. Speaker, Sang Su Yi's selfless service has continuously demonstrated a level of altruistic dedication that makes him most worthy of our recognition today.

LTG METZ TO GIVE UP COMMAND
OF III CORPS

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, in May 2006 LTG Thomas F. Metz relinquished command of the III U.S. Corps in Fort Hood, TX. This successful and decorated general has had an illustrious career and will be missed at Fort Hood.

After his graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the infantry. His career has taken him to locations throughout the world including Germany, Italy, and Iraq, with such varied positions as assistant professor at West Point and Combined Joint Task Force 7 commander in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He assumed the post at Fort Hood in February 2003. Since then, he deployed the III Corps to Iraq in January 2004 and was commanding the Multi-National Corps—Iraq until May 2006. He will now continue to serve our country at Fort Monroe as U.S. Army Training Doctrine commanding general.

In his career, Lieutenant General Metz has been awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal with two Service Stars, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with Numeral 3, Expert Infantry Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab, and Belgium Brevet "A" Commando.

He and his wife, Pam, have been and remain good friends of mine and my wife, Erika. Pam has been an active part of the community of Fort Hood and the families on base will not soon forget them.

I had the honor to visit Lieutenant General Metz and the Fort Hood soldiers under his command during a recent trip to Iraq. I saw firsthand the powerful leadership he dem-

onstrates and the strong support he enjoys. Lieutenant General Metz is the pride of the United States Army and will be dearly missed at Fort Hood.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, on June 16, 2006, I missed the following rollcall vote: rollcall vote No. 288, Final Passage of H. Res. 861.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" to rollcall vote No. 288.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed roll call Votes Nos. 289–291 on June 19, 2006. These were suspension votes on H.R. 5540, H.R. 5504, and H. Res. 826. Due to plane delays, my travel to Washington, DC was not completed until following the conclusion of votes this evening.

I respectfully request that it be entered into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that if present, I would have voted rollcall vote No. 289, the "Sergeant Jacob Dan Dones Post Office Designation Act," "yea"; rollcall vote No. 290, the "Larry Winn, Jr. Post Office Building Designation Act," "yea"; and rollcall vote No. 291 Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Youth Sports Week should be established," "yea."

RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE (REPUBLICANS STALL BILL THAT WOULD BOOST SALARIES)

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, workers across this country are increasingly being asked to do more with less. As prices rise on housing, health care, energy and education, the millions of Americans who work full time and make minimum wage are slipping farther and farther into poverty.

The minimum wage in this country has not been raised since 1997 and is now at its lowest level in 50 years when adjusted for inflation. Making only \$5.15 an hour, a full-time minimum wage employee will earn only \$10,700 annually. This is far from enough to make ends meet—especially for the 75 percent who are responsible at least half of their family's income. Raising children on a middle-class income is hard enough—imagine trying to do it on one-third of that amount.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats believe that the minimum wage should be a living wage. No American who works full-time, all year, should

live in poverty, unable to support their family. Last week, Democrats were successful in inserting a minimum wage increase into the Labor-H-H-S appropriations bill. But now the Republican leadership is stalling a floor vote. It is time for real action to move hard working Americans out of poverty. Seven million Americans deserve a raise today.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND REINICK

HON. BOB BEAUPREZ

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. BEAUPREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a remarkable gentleman from my district. Raymond Reinick was born in Kersey, CO in 1924. Growing up on his family's farm, he learned the value of hard work and developed a strong sense of pride in his country.

Raymond answered the call to duty when America entered WWII, joining the Navy and serving in the Pacific Theater aboard the USS *Fond Du Lac* as a Signalman Second Class. Having received the WWII Victory Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal and the Philippine Liberation Medal, Raymond was honorably discharged from the Navy and returned home to work on the family farm.

Not long after Raymond returned from the war, he married Bernadette and began a family. Raymond worked as a stationary engineer for Union Pacific Railroad for almost 40 years, supporting his wife and four children.

Raymond passed away in 2003 and was buried at Fort Logan National Cemetery along side his comrades from the war.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to stand before this body of Congress and recognize Raymond Reinick's loyal service to our grateful Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to official business, I missed rollcall votes 290 and 291 on Monday, June 19, 2006. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both votes. Rollcall vote 290 was a vote to pass H.R. 5504, legislation to designate a post office in Mission, Kansas for Larry Winn, Jr. Rollcall vote 291 was a vote to pass H. Res. 826, a resolution expressing support for the creation of a National Youth Sports Week.

THE STUTTERING FOUNDATION

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring the attention of the House to an article I recently read about Tiger Woods in The Stuttering Foundation's summer newsletter. I stuttered as a child and I think it's important for

kids to know that they can overcome this complex disorder. Tiger Woods is an excellent example of the many people who have led successful productive lives despite struggling with stuttering as a child.

TIGER WINS AT GOLF—AND STUTTERING

Top-ranked golfer Tiger Woods tells CBS's 60 Minutes that it takes hard work and a competitive spirit to overcome childhood stuttering.

"The words got lost, you know, somewhere between the brain and the mouth. And it was very difficult, but I fought through it. I went to a school to try and get over that, and I just would work my tail off," Woods told the news program in April.

"The parallels between speech performance and sports performance are striking," said Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation, "and Tiger Woods is the latest example of how the many hours of practice and hard work to win in sports are no different from those long hours spent in therapy for stuttering."

NBA Hall of Famer and sports commentator Bill Walton dealt with stuttering just like he did basketball. "I thought about the fundamentals of the game and how to start with the basics like the ability to mechanically duplicate moves on a basketball court. And then I just applied that to speaking."

Chicago Bulls' legend Bob Love notes that "countless hours of work taught me to manage moments of difficult speech."

In a recent interview, Denver Nuggets' star Kenyon Martin said of his stuttering, "How I got through it was just by working hard at it."

U.S. Open golf champion Ken Venturi adds, "I have had to work through the years to overcome stuttering and to speak more easily and fluently." Venturi compares moving smoothly through speech to moving gracefully through a golf stroke.

"Tiger Woods is the perfect role model for all school-age children who struggle with this complex disorder," said Fraser. The Foundation offers free resources at www.stutteringhelp.org where Tiger joins a long list of celebrities who stutter.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, on June 19, 2006, I was unavoidably detained because of travel delays and missed the following rollcall votes:

1. Rollcall vote No. 289: the Sergeant Jacob Dan Donos Post Office Designation Act;
2. Rollcall vote No. 290: the Larry Winn, Jr., Post Office Designation Act; and
3. Rollcall vote No. 291: Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Youth Sports Week should be established.

Had I been present I would have voted "yea" to rollcall vote No. 289, "yea" to rollcall vote No. 290, and "yea" to rollcall vote No. 291.

**TRIBUTE TO FRANK AND MARY'S
SUB SHOP**

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker after 22 years of service and smiles, Frank and Mary's Sub Shop—a popular eatery in my childhood neighborhood of Wooster Square—has closed its doors. A family owned and operated business opened by my dear friends Frank and Mary Florenzano, Frank and Mary's fast became a local landmark and a must stop for New Haven visitors.

The dream of Frank Florenzano, Frank and Mary's has been located at the end of Wooster Street, New Haven's most predominant Italian-American neighborhood for over two decades. One of Wooster Street's greatest attractions to residents and visitors alike are the numerous Italian-American restaurants that line the street. From Sally's and Pepe's pizza houses, to Libby's Ice Cream and Consiglio's, to Tre Scalini and Frank and Mary's, Wooster Street is home to the very best of Italian cuisine. Open daily from 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Frank and Mary's always had a steady stream of customers—many times with lines out the doors and onto the sidewalk. One of its most famous customers was lifestyle icon Martha Stewart whose order of eggplant with grilled onions, peppers, and mushrooms became one of the most popular menu items. Known for its variety of hot and cold subs made fresh daily—especially the steak and cheese, eggplant and grilled veggies, and meatball—Frank and Mary's quickly became a New Haven institution, leaving an indelible mark on our community which will always be remembered by friends and customers.

I am also pleased to have this opportunity to extend a special note of thanks to Mary Florenzano and her family for their many years of special friendship to myself and my family. Frank and Mary's has been one of my mother, Luisa's, favorite lunch spots for many years and, like so many others in this Italian-American neighborhood, she will be sure to reminisce about the great food, conversation, and atmosphere that Frank and Mary's always offered.

Frank and Mary's was more than a great sub shop; it was the dream of Frank Florenzano and represented the very spirit of the American dream. Together, the Florenzanos made that dream a reality. Owned and operated by the Florenzano family since its opening, Mary, her daughter Lori, and niece Nicole have worked hard to keep Frank's dream alive since his passing in 2003. Though this local treasure will be missed, it is with my heart-felt congratulations that I rise today to extend my very best wishes to Mary Florenzano and her family for many more years of health and happiness. I have no doubt that they will enjoy great success no matter what their future endeavors may be.

**DECLARING THAT THE UNITED
STATES WILL PREVAIL IN THE
GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR**

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 16, 2006

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pledge my unwavering support of our troops, and of our efforts to fight terrorism around the world.

However, I rise in strong opposition to the Bush administration's handling of the war and reconstruction in Iraq, as well as the Republican controlled Congress's inadequate oversight of the administration's policies.

The International Relations Committee, on which I sit, has held only two hearings this year regarding Iraq—a woefully insufficient number.

The committee and this Congress should be functioning more like the bipartisan Truman Commission did in the 1940s—a pro-troop, pro-taxpayer, pro-American committee that conducted serious and meaningful oversight to ensure that our troops were supported and our tax dollars used wisely.

That commission focused on two things: first, prewar and ongoing day-to-day operations of World War II "with a view toward exposing deficiencies so that corrective action could be applied"; second, it focused on post-war activities, including investigations of excess profits, fraud, mismanagement, and inefficiencies.

It is irresponsible for this Congress to not investigate the President's lack of an exit strategy, and the fraud, waste, and abuse of U.S. tax dollars.

Mr. Speaker, it is not only our constitutional obligation to provide real and meaningful oversight into the Bush administration's policies in Iraq, it is our patriotic duty to question the President's mishandling of this war and reconstruction.

**RECOGNITION OF JOE GESSLER
AND HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO
AMERICA'S NATIONAL DEFENSE**

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, the strength of America is found in the commitment of the service men and women defending our liberties, and the lifelong dedication of American engineers and scientists developing the technologies upon which these brave warriors depend. Today I have the opportunity to recognize Joe Gessler, one of these unsung engineers, who at the age of 82, is finally taking a well deserved retirement as America's oldest active thermal battery engineer.

For over half a century, Joe Gessler has quietly made a profound contribution to our nation's defense through development of the battery technology that has become an essential component in a vast array of modern defense systems. Receiving his bachelors degree in chemistry and math from Loyola College in 1945 and his masters in chemical engineering from Johns Hopkins, Joe immediately

entered the thermal battery business at its infancy, joining Catalyst Research, a division of Mine Safety Appliances (MSA), in 1948.

Catalyst Research had just been challenged by the National Bureau of Standards to develop a battery that could sit inertly on a shelf for years, and when needed, be instantaneously turned on without requiring any mechanical activation. Thermal batteries were the answer. Joe was part of the team that in the early 1950's provided the first thermal batteries for the U.S. Navy. Over the next decade, Joe helped refine this technology for use by our other services. In 1964, Joe went to the U.K. to start up a new MSA thermal battery factory in Scotland meeting the needs of our NATO allies.

Joe Gessler's contribution goes beyond engineering; he has been both a teacher and mentor. As the production and engineering manager at Catalyst Research, Joe had a direct and future impact on his current employer, Saft America. Three of the engineers he trained met him for lunch one day to announce they had decided to go out on their own and form KDI Score Thermal Batteries, which was eventually acquired by Saft.

Joe himself joined Saft in 1983 where he shared his expertise until his "first" retirement in 1990. But retirement for Joe Gessler meant he only worked 40 hours a week as a "part-time" employee. In the 16 years since then, Joe was instrumental in ramping up Saft's battery production for Operation Desert Storm and applying his vast knowledge of battery technology and production to help grow Saft America's Cockeysville facility to where it is today, the largest supplier of advanced lithium ion battery systems to America's Armed Forces.

Whatever the challenge, at an age when most men are content playing golf or sitting in a club house, Joe Gessler puts in a full 40 hours every week generating amazing results with the same positive "can do" attitude he had on the day he graduated college.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me today in recognizing Joe Gessler for over 58 years of dedication and contributions to the defense of the United States through superior technology, and congratulates him on his retirement as America's oldest thermal battery engineer.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, due to a combination of mechanical problems suffered by US Airways and inclement weather in the Washington, DC, area, I arrived at the Capitol yesterday later than I anticipated. For this reason, I missed the following three recorded votes on June 19:

1. H.R. 5540—Sergeant Jacob Dan Dones Post Office Designation Act—had I been present, I would have voted "aye";

2. H.R. 5504—Larry Winn, Jr. Post Office Building Designation Act—had I been present, I would have voted "aye"; and

3. H. Res. 826—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Youth Sports Week should be established—had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO KERRY DUMBAUGH

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kerry Dumbaugh for becoming the Butler Distinguished Graduate for 2006. Having demonstrated a great degree of ability and knowledge in her field, it is my hope that she will continue to share this and grow in prosperity.

Graduating from Butler High School located in Pennsylvania's third Congressional District in 1970, Dumbaugh started out at Eastman School of Music as a piano performance major. Although she had been a piano student since she was 7 years old, she soon discovered that this was not the course she wished to pursue. She decided to transfer to Wittenberg University to study music, yet after meeting an enthusiastic professor, she was convinced to add Eastern Asian Studies to her "repertoire." After her time there, she attended the University of Pennsylvania, where she earned her master's in Chinese Studies and International Relations. Thus began her political career. Working as a legislative correspondent, assistant, and director for various United States Congressmen, she enjoyed her experience, yet felt that there was more.

When a position at the Congressional Research Service, CRS, opened, Dumbaugh seized the opportunity. She went on to earn a master's in National Security Studies from the U.S. National War College. Utilizing her knowledge about Eastern Asia, with the CRS, she provides information and analysis about the developments in Hong Kong, Taiwan, and China to U.S. Congressmen. She analyzes the political, military, economic, and security developments as well as the implications of U.S. foreign policy. She has authored over 100 articles; and since 1992, she has moderated the China Forum, a public policy TV program about China.

The Distinguished Graduate award is given to a Butler graduate each year. Kerry Dumbaugh will be the 27th recipient and the 5th woman to receive it. She is a model of excellence in academia and politics, as well as for women. Her intelligence has served to aid in furthering American policy abroad. Due to her many accomplishments, Dumbaugh deserves commendation.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join with me in congratulating Kerry Dumbaugh and her family on her receiving the Butler Distinguished Graduate Award for 2006 and in wishing her continued success in all her endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO GLORIA GARNER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Gloria Garner, a 38-year veteran of the Knoxville Area Urban League. Her efforts will be long remembered and continually missed.

Gloria spent her 38 years of service with the goal of helping others help themselves. She is

a great example of how individuals in our communities can make a difference in the lives of others.

I commend Gloria Garner for all that she has done for the men, women, and children of Knoxville. I wish her all the best in her future life, and am hopeful that others will stand in to follow in her path.

I would also like to include in the RECORD a June 16, 2006 article in the Knoxville News-Sentinel about Gloria's retirement and career for all of my colleagues, constituents and readers of the record, so that they can more fully understand her dedication.

HEART OF THE URBAN LEAGUE; GLORIA GARNER RETIRES AFTER 38 YEARS WITH KNOXVILLE AFFILIATE

(By Chandra Harris)

A walking encyclopedia chock-full of Knoxville Area Urban League facts, Gloria Garner is clearing out her bookshelves.

Retiring after 38 years with the league, Garner doesn't need a book to recount the history of the league because she is the history of the league.

The vice president of community affairs has held every position there is and was at the league since starting there months after its inception in 1968.

A handful of moves for the Urban League came before settling at East Fifth Avenue. But Garner was never moved to leave.

And four presidents came and went. Garner stepped in as interim director while the search was on for the next president.

When money was tight and staff was short, Garner's smile and tenacity remained steadfast through 40-plus-hour weeks.

She held onto the words of the national president from 1961-1971, Whitney M. Young, Jr.: "Every man is our brother, and every man's burden our own."

"Where poverty exists, all are poorer. Where hate flourishes, all are corrupted. Where injustice reigns, all are unequal."

Garner said she stood in then and will continue to stand in to bridge the gap of social and economic development in minority communities.

Even as she is dusting off her desk and packing up, she is still telling strangers and friends alike that they need to join the Knoxville affiliate of the National Urban League.

"Once an Urban Leaguer, always an Urban Leaguer," she said during a celebratory reception in her honor Thursday night at the University Club.

While she may no longer have an office to call her own come next Thursday, her official last day, Garner said, "I will still be around helping wherever I can."

"When you have a passion for what you do, you want to work hard."

The on-time Head Start teacher who dreamt of becoming a nurse or joining the military still found a way to help people.

"There are people in jobs today that I had a hand in, and that's a good feeling," Garner said.

"The Urban League is my family and I was busy helping people," said the mother of five adult children when asked why her tenure was such a long one.

Without her insight through the years, there wouldn't have been a foundation of the league, Ernest Fulton and Douglas Upton said.

Fulton and Upton both worked with Garner in the early days of the league.

"She has a way with people," Upton said. "She connects with people."

And that was apparent Thursday night as dozens, including Knoxville Mayor Bill Haslam and Vice Mayor and former Urban

League President Mark Brown, offered encouragement and shed a few tears.

"We can't fill her shoes," said Phyllis Nichols, league president and CEO.

Life after checking into the Urban League some mornings at 7 for Garner will be filled with lunch dates, "some good movies and relaxing travels," she said.

Grandson Kody Willis summed it up: "That's my granny and she's a star."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE OF JOSEPH VALENZANO, JR.

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Joseph Valenzano's tremendous commitment to public service and his outstanding contributions on behalf of the disability community. Later this week, Joe, who is a constituent of New Jersey's Fifth District, will be honored for his work in Chester, NJ, by the International Brain Research Foundation.

Joe Valenzano has spent more than 30 years in publishing and communications, most recently as president, CEO, publisher, and editor in chief of EP Global Communications, Inc., which publishes *Exceptional Parent Magazine*. This publication provides both practical advice and emotional support to the parents of children and adults with disabilities and special health needs. The magazine provides a forum for parents, health care professionals, and education specialists to work together as a community for the betterment of the disability community.

Under Joe's direction and vision, *Exceptional Parent* magazine has been a pivotal player in important discussions, such as use of restraints and aversive punishments, expanded universal newborn screening, the use of people first language among journalists, end of life issues, and more. *Exceptional Parent* has led the fight to support the frontline workforce of professionals who provide care and assistance to those with special needs and to promote the use of tandem mass spectrometry to screen for over 60 inborn metabolism errors in newborns. And *Exceptional Parent* has worked with the Department of Defense to deliver reliable, accurate information to more than 150,000 military families around the globe to help them care for their children with special needs and disabilities.

It is the dedication of individuals like Joe Valenzano that gives hope to so many parents when they first embark upon the path of raising a child with special needs and provides sustenance to those parents who have already spent years in loving care of children with special needs. I applaud Joe for his efforts and join the International Brain Research Foundation for honoring this lifetime of work.

CONGRATULATING EAST HIGH SCHOOL ON PLACING THIRD AT NATIONAL COMPETITION ON THE CONSTITUTION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to announce that East High School from Denver, CO, placed third in the national finals competition of "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution." From April 29 to May 1, 2006, approximately 1,200 students from across the country participated in the 19th annual We the People competition—the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. The We the People program is administered by the Center for Civic Education and funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress.

The We the People national finals are a 3-day academic competition that simulates a congressional hearing in which the students "testify" before a panel of judges on constitutional topics. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles as they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues.

In Colorado, I have made a priority of dispatching my staff to serve as "judges" in competitions at all levels within my district and throughout the State. Through them I can attest to the skill, intellect and diligence that characterize the East High School team. Congratulations to the members of the East High School team: Michelle Buchanan, Darien Combs, Lila Creighton, Paula Davis, Joshua Figueroa, Sophia Galleher, Rose Green, Jonathon Hammond, Meghan Harrington, Kathryn Havranek, Than Hedman, Collin Hornsby, Noah Hubbell, Mackenzie Jacobs, Elizabeth Kochevar, Clay Lemar, Zach Levek, Christopher Linsmayer, Elise Mann, Gabe Mann, Logan McHenry, Tyler McNamara, Sarah McNaughton, Zena Price-Broncucia, Rachel Romer, Claire Sanderson, Cary Shapiro, Amy Stanesco, Amy Steinhoff, Alex Stevens, Zachary Susel, Elizabeth Trower, and Will VanTreuren. I also wish to commend the teacher of the class, Ms. Edna Sutton, who was responsible for preparing the class for the national finals competition. Also worthy of special recognition are Ms. Jackie Johnson, the State coordinator, and Mr. Loyal Darr, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in my district.

I am an unequivocal supporter of the We the People program. Nothing is more important to a healthy democracy than a civically educated and informed citizenry. East High School's team is a shining example of the bright future of tomorrow's leaders. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues in the House, please join me in congratulating these young constitutional experts for their outstanding achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes due to a delayed flight. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows on June 19, 2006:

Rollcall vote 289, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5540—to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 217 Southeast 2nd Street in Dimmitt, Texas, as the "Sergeant Jacob Dan Dones Post Office", I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 290, on motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 5504—to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6029 Broadmoor Street in Mission, Kansas, as the "Larry Winn, Jr. Post Office Building", I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 291, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 826—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Youth Sports Week should be established, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO MR. MARTY BERGER

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and contributions of Mr. Marty Berger, who died June 18, 2006.

A board member of the Action Alliance of Senior Citizens of Greater Philadelphia and president of the Pennsylvania Alliance for Retired Americans, Mr. Berger was a man of action. In fact, he was a dynamic 77-year-old man of action who inspired hundreds of labor, civil rights, women's rights and senior citizen activists.

Because of Mr. Berger's efforts, senior citizens throughout Philadelphia and across Pennsylvania are coming together in increasing numbers in a common effort to address their own needs and influence the legislative process to affect social, political and economic change.

All who knew him are saddened by the passing of Mr. Berger. But, I and those he worked so hard to empower will continue to struggle to make a better world for our senior citizens so they can live out their final years with justice and dignity.

More than ever seniors need a powerful voice: to demand affordable, quality, and accessible health care for all senior citizens; to protect Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid; and to ensure social and economic justice and full civil rights for our most vulnerable citizens. Mr. Berger's passing represents the loss of a powerful and committed voice, but his legacy of dedication continues, and it is for these reasons that I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues rise to honor him.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SAFE
CLIMATE ACT

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join 12 of my colleagues in introducing the Safe Climate Act. Global warming is the greatest environmental challenge of our time, and we have a short window in which to act to prevent profound changes to the climate system. Unless we seize the opportunity to act now, our legacy to our children and grandchildren will be an unstable and dangerous planet.

There are different approaches that can be taken to climate legislation. Some bills seek a symbolic recognition of the problem. Others are premised on what may be politically achievable in the near terms.

The Safe Climate Act is drafted on a different premise: It reflects what the science tells us we need to do to protect our children and future generations from irreversible and catastrophic global warming. The bill has aggressive requirements to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. But the reality is, these are the reductions that scientists say we need to achieve to preserve a safe climate for future generations.

The science clearly tells us what we need to do—we must reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, starting now and continuing over the next few decades. To achieve this, we have to grow our economy into a new and cleaner future. It's simply too late for legislative baby steps.

I have been working to address the threat of global warming for many years. At first, the scientists' warnings about global warming came like a few early drops of rain. We knew that our activities were emitting large quantities of greenhouse gases. And we knew that greenhouse gases trap the sun's heat and warm the planet. When scientists found steadily rising quantities of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, they hypothesized that our activities could warm the planet, with unknown but potentially troubling consequences.

Over the years, these scattered warnings grew to a stream, then to a rushing river of danger signals. Over 10 years ago, the science and the threat of global warming were clear. That's why I introduced the Global Climate Protection Act of 1992, which would have frozen U.S. emissions of carbon dioxide at 1990 levels. But Congress failed to act.

Now the river of warnings has become a flooding torrent. We can no longer ignore the evidence of global warming. We're now just starting to experience some results of climate change. And they are not good.

Eight of the ten warmest years on record have occurred in the last decade. As the earth warms, its ice is melting. From the glaciers in Glacier National Park, to the snows of Kilimanjaro and the Larson B ice-shelf in Antarctica, ice that has been here since the last ice age is disappearing or already gone. The permafrost supporting towns and roads in Alaska is melting rapidly, and the summer sea ice in the Arctic Ocean is diminishing each year. These are changes we can see with our own eyes.

The seasons are changing—maple sugar producers in Vermont are tapping trees earlier,

plants are flowering earlier, and birds are migrating earlier. These changes are happening across the globe. And with warmer weather come bugs that are no longer being killed by the winter cold, such as the beetles that are destroying forests across the Southwest and Alaska.

The scientists have long predicted that as the oceans warm, rainfall episodes, storms, and hurricanes will become more intense. Last year broke hurricane records, and America experienced the devastating results of just a few such storms with Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. The scientists have been proven right about global warming, over and over again, across the planet. We should start listening to them.

Now they are telling us that we have about 10 years to act to avoid being locked into irreversible global warming on a scale that will transform the planet. The scientists have identified a global temperature rise of just 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit as enough to produce undeniably dangerous consequences, such as 20 feet or more of sea level rise, which would flood large parts of Florida and New York City, as well as huge population centers in other countries. And scientists have calculated the quantity of atmospheric greenhouse gases that would very likely cause such a temperature rise. The nations of the world must keep greenhouse gases below that level to avoid irreversible dangerous global warming.

The United States emits more greenhouse gases than any other country in the world—about 20 percent of the total worldwide. We simply cannot avoid catastrophic global warming without substantial cuts in U.S. emissions. Of course, every nation will have to do its part. According to the best science, under any plausible scenario of future international actions to stabilize the climate, the United States will eventually need to reduce its emissions by about 80 percent.

Fortunately, we have some time to get there, as long as we start reducing our total emissions now. And that's what the Safe Climate Act does. It caps U.S. emissions in 2010, and then gradually reduces them by just 2 percent per year until 2020. This gives us 15 years to deploy the cleaner technologies that we already have but aren't using much, such as hybrid vehicles and wind power. After 2020, emissions must fall under the legislation by roughly 5 percent per year, as more advanced technologies, such as biofuels from waste materials and capturing carbon dioxide from power plants, become widely available.

The Safe Climate Act reduces emissions through a flexible, market-based emissions trading program, as well as complementary requirements for cleaner cars and more electricity from renewable energy and efficiency. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy would oversee these programs nationally, while states would retain their authority to act on the State level. In effect, the Safe Climate Act sets the targets and then unleashes market forces and American ingenuity to solve the problem.

This sounds ambitious, and it is. But it is also completely doable, once we decide to act. Look at what we've already achieved. In just over 30 years, from the passage of the Clean Air Act in 1970 to 2002, we reduced air pollution from automobiles by over 60 percent. We achieved these reductions even as the total number of vehicle miles traveled increased by 160 percent and GDP grew by 166 percent.

From 1990 to 1996, in just 6 years, we ended production of key chemicals destroying the earth's protective tropospheric ozone layer and shifted to substitutes. Those chemicals had been widely used throughout the economy in applications from air conditioning and refrigeration to solvents and fire suppression.

In each case, entrenched industries told Congress that changes of these magnitudes would be impossible to achieve without massive economic dislocation. And in each case, they were wrong.

We've ignored the threat of global warming for almost too long, but we still have an opportunity if we act now. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this critically important bill, and I urge the committee of jurisdiction to consider it without further delay. We must face and overcome the challenge of global warming, and the Safe Climate Act is the way to do it.

TRIBUTE TO SONDR A FROHLICH

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Sondra Frohlich, who is celebrating her retirement from her position as executive director of the Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce. Sondra has overseen the Sherman Oaks Chamber since 1997 and has been an active leader in the community for over 40 years.

Sondra has been a dynamic force on the Sherman Oaks Chamber. During her tenure as executive director, the chamber experienced a 100-member net increase and expanded its involvement in business and community improvements. She was one of the founders of the Village at Sherman Oaks Business Improvement Districts, which has blossomed into one of the valley's most recognized destinations for shopping. She was also the incorporator of the Sherman Oaks Business Improvement District to the State of California.

Ms. Frohlich has enjoyed many other accomplishments in her position as executive director of the chamber. She was responsible for the expansion of the Sherman Oaks Street Fair through her engagement of professional management. She coordinated the chamber fight for business tax relief and worker's compensation reforms. She won national recognition for excellence of the chamber's website.

Outside of her work with the Sherman Oaks Chamber, Ms. Frohlich has been very involved in the larger San Fernando Valley community. A true leader, she has served as president of the San Fernando Valley Business and Professional Association, the Northridge Republican Women's Club, and twice has led the Rotary Club of Studio City-Sherman Oaks. She is currently the secretary of the Mid-Valley Community Police Council, a support group to the Van Nuys division of the Los Angeles Police Department, as well as a member of the Board of Directors of the Circle of Care Foundation.

Sondra Frohlich is an outstanding community leader and activist. Her commitment to the San Fernando Valley is impressive, and her leadership is evident. Even with her imminent

retirement, she will continue to make a difference. Ms. Frohlich may be retiring from the Chamber of Commerce, but she is not retiring from involvement in the life and growth of the valley.

Ms. Frohlich has been a distinguished leader, and I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting and honoring her for all of her outstanding accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF DR. RICHARD
ELSTER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tremendous public career of Dr. Richard Elster who will retire this year from his post as the Naval Postgraduate School's provost and academic dean.

As many of my colleagues know, the Naval Postgraduate School, NPS, located in Monterey, CA, is this Nation's premier institution for graduate level military education and research. While its name points to its origins as a Navy facility, NPS in fact graduates masters and Ph.D. candidates from every U.S. military service and many allied foreign militaries. It also houses a pioneer program to research and grant masters degrees in homeland security.

Dr. Elster has been associated with NPS since 1969, when he joined the faculty as an assistant professor. Since then he has at various times served at NPS as an associate professor, professor, chairman of the Department of Administrative Sciences, dean of instruction, and finally the provost and academic dean position from which he is retiring. In the last 10 years, under Dr. Elster's tenure in this last position, NPS has seen a burst of activity, not only in the areas mentioned above but in many small ways that make it a key component of our Nation's security. Under Dr. Elster's leadership, much of the academic work of NPS students and faculty responds directly to real world defense mission needs. It's a marriage of top notch academics and military mission that no other institution in the U.S., or the world for that matter, can duplicate.

Considered on its own, Dr. Elster's academic career sets a remarkable standard of achievement. However, interspersed through his time at NPS, Dr. Elster served in several high ranking Pentagon positions. Starting in 1975 as a special advisor to the Secretary of Defense for Manpower and reserve affairs, Dr. Elster also held positions as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Resource Management and Support. This record of service reflects both Dr. Elster's keen intelligence and leadership qualities, but also his absolute dedication to public service. The combination of these qualities and his achievements in national security management and in the classroom allow Dr. Elster to leave more than several lifetimes of achievement upon his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, it is easy to say that Dr. Elster's retirement from NPS will leave a void

that will be hard to fill. That much is obvious. What is also apparent to me and many others is that he has over these past 30 years set so powerful an example that there are many men and women in public service today who can fill that role by virtue of Dr. Elster's example. It is my privilege to share with Dr. Elster the thanks of this House on the occasion of this retirement and to offer him and his family our best wishes on his life and work to come.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
DAVID "DOOVY" KIRSCHENBAUM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in joyful remembrance of the life and work of David "Doovy" Kirschenbaum, an extraordinary man whose life was dedicated to family, friends and community. Mr. Kirschenbaum exemplified the purest meaning of the word "father," and his caring, nurturing, dedication and commitment to others enriched the lives of countless individuals.

Doovy was a successful attorney and a staunch advocate for those who could not defend themselves. He built a large law practice with the daily assistance of members of his family. As his life touched the lives of more and more individuals, his influence widened. His wisdom and advice was soon sought after by officials from every rank and branch of government. Doovy's reputation became that of a kind, wise man, who, with just a twinkling of his eye could provide down-to-earth, practical advice. His possessed a philosophic mind, understood deeply the human condition, and always communicated great optimism and love. His commitment to and participation in Cleveland's Jewish community was central to his passion for social and economic justice.

Doovy pushed himself in all of his endeavors. He was constantly building his physical strength. He was an excellent skier and golfer, but a gentle competitor, who understood that life, like sports, was played not just to win but for the love of the game. His enthusiasm and joy for living were contagious. His friendship was consistently sought after by others, as his magnetic character easily drew people to him. His interest in public service led him to an appointment on the Cleveland Port Authority, where he presided over the growth of the great ports along the Great Lakes. His business interests also included health care, where he took pride in helping many families extend the quality of life of their loved ones in superior nursing facilities.

Doovy's greatest achievement in life was always his family. He was a loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather, who with his beloved wife Elise, took great pride in the lives, growth and accomplishments of each of their six children. Together, Doovy and Elise built a family and a life of love that touched the lives of countless people in numerous and permanent ways.

When Doovy reached his 70th birthday, hundreds of his friends traveled to Cleveland from all around America to celebrate his diamond year. When they entered the Kirschenbaum home, Doovy presented them with a small booklet of his philosophical obser-

ations entitled: "It's Still All About Nothing." Today, in honoring his memory, we understand why his life meant everything to so many people. We know why this wise man, this advocate of the people, this gentle loving soul will be missed long into the future, not only by those in his large, extended family who shared his life, but by everyone whose life he ever touched.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of my dear friend, David "Doovy" Kirschenbaum. Please also join me as I offer my deepest condolences to his wife Elise; to his daughters, Amy, Lynn, and Jo; to his son Dan; to the memory of his daughters, Susan and Gail; to his 22 grandchildren; to his 3 great-grandchildren, and to his extended family members and many friends. Although he will be greatly missed, his life was lived with great joy and love that he freely extended to his family, friends and to our community. Doovy's limitless kindness, generosity, humor and love consistently framed his life and embraced the lives of others, and his spirit live on within the hearts of his family and friends, today, and for all time, and he will never be forgotten.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I was unable to participate in votes on the floor of the House of Representatives on June 19, 2006. I was absent to attend a Veterans' Affairs Committee hearing in South Dakota. I submit this statement today to establish for the record how I would have voted had I been present for these votes.

On June 19, 2006, the House of Representatives held three votes.

The first vote was on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to the H.R. 5540, to designate the Sergeant Jacob Dan Dones Post Office. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

The second vote was on motion to suspend the rules and agree to the H.R. 5504, to designate the Larry Winn, Jr. Post Office Building. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

The third vote was on a motion to suspend the rules and agree to the H. Res. 826, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a National Youth Sports Week should be established. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

TRIBUTE TO ROSITA FERNANDEZ,
SAN ANTONIO'S FIRST LADY OF
SONG

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rosita Fernandez, a San Antonio icon and a giant in Tejano music. In a career spanning six decades, she was one of

the first Latinas to cross over into Anglo American mainstream media and appeared in television shows, radio broadcasts and major studio movies, Rosita performed for Pope John Paul II, Prince Charles and five U.S. Presidents including President Carter for his inauguration.

She introduced Mexican culture to a wider audience and was an ambassador for Latino cultures. First Lady Lady Bird Johnson named her "San Antonio's First Lady of Song," yet in San Antonio, we knew her as "Rosita" and were very proud that she represented our community.

She began singing at the age of 9 shortly after her family made their way from Monterrey, Mexico, to San Antonio. Rosita adapted to each new mode of entertainment. In the 1920's, she performed throughout south Texas with her uncles in the "Trio San Miguel." As radio grew more popular, Rosita began broadcasting on a W.O.A.I. program, As W.O.A.I. moved into television, so did Rosita as she appeared in the station's first broadcast. Thereafter, Rosita performed in a weekly series. Yet, she made recording the foundation of her career and cut hundreds of records over the duration of her career. Her recordings will perpetuate her brilliance and be a lasting contribution to American culture.

Rosita was a pioneer in popularizing a number of styles including canciones romanticas and the bolero, a hybrid style that fused African and Hispanic styles. At a time when the ranchera style was ascendent, Rosita breathed new life into canciones romanticas, which entailed complex orchestral arrangements.

Rosita achieved success on the silver screen. She appeared opposite John Wayne in "The Alamo," and played the lead in Disney's 1963 film, "Sancho, The Homing Steer," which was based on J. Frank Dobie's true story. But, at a time, when most Americans did not have first hand experience with Latinos, figures like Rosita or Desi Arnaz began to change perceptions and biases against our community. Rosita was the consummate cultural ambassador for San Antonio and Latinos throughout America.

Beginning in the 1950's, Rosita performed at the Arneson River Theater every year during the "Fiesta Noche del Rio." San Antonio could look forward to a summer full of their beloved Rosita performing at the beautiful amphitheater on the Riverwalk in La Villita. It was there during the 1968 Hemisfair that Rosita performed for 40 ambassadors. She became so inseparable from that place that San Antonio named an adjacent bridge for her and many said that this bridge symbolized the way Rosita brought Mexican and American cultures together.

She began a much deserved retirement in 1982 that concluded her performing career but began her philanthropic career. Rosita sang for numerous causes and charities and appeared at a wide range of locales to do so. Among the causes she supported were the Brooke Army Medical Center's Burn Unit, the March of Dimes, and churches. Yet, the cause she worked hardest to promote was that of education. After spending her life bridging cultures and educating America about Latinos, it is fitting that she chose to focus her talents on helping others cross the bridge from ignorance to knowledge.

San Antonio suffered a great loss and my thoughts and prayers go out to her husband and her family.

TRIBUTE TO PROJECT GRAD
NEWARK

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to acknowledge Project GRAD Newark as it hosts its sixth annual scholars celebration on Monday, June 19, 2006. Project GRAD has every right to be proud of its accomplishments and a celebration is indeed in order.

Project GRAD Newark was established in 1998 to provide support and an educationally enriched opportunity for Malcolm X Shabazz High School and eight schools that feed students to it. The objectives of Project GRAD Newark are to raise the level of academic performance in mathematics and literacy; to have students believe in their ability to achieve; to have all students aspire to graduate from high school and pursue a college education and to have students strive to receive the \$6,000 Project GRAD scholarship. Fortunately for the students of Newark, Project GRAD Newark expanded to include Central High School and its six feeder schools in 2000.

In both instances, the leadership of the Newark Public Schools assessed key indicators of progress and determined these two feeder groups were lowest in the district. These schools needed the GRAD reform initiative to support them with research-based programs, services and resources.

Project GRAD Newark is the first expansion site for the model that was developed in Houston, TX, in 1993. With initial support from Lucent Technologies Foundation and the Ford Foundation, the Newark Public Schools entered into partnership and launched Project GRAD Newark.

Today, 16 schools serving over 8,500 students, 485 teachers and 50 administrators constitute the Project GRAD Newark family. All can share in the joy of the improvements in each of the schools. On-time graduation rates at Central High School have doubled since it became a GRAD school. At Malcolm X Shabazz, the on-time graduation rate has improved by 20 percent compared to the years before it became a GRAD high school.

This year 109 students, 60 from Malcolm X Shabazz and 49 from Central, will graduate with the \$6,000 Project GRAD Newark Scholarship as they go off to college this fall. At a time when the City of Newark is struggling to reduce crime in the streets and help young people have hope and focus for a bright future, these students are taking full advantage of the opportunities Project GRAD Newark provides. Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in congratulating these students on their achievements and all those associated with the Project GRAD Newark program in helping to facilitate this significant program.

CONGRATULATING IMMANUEL ST. JOSEPH'S MAYO HEALTH SYSTEM HOSPITAL

HON. GIL GUTKNECHT

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Joseph's Mayo Health System Hospital of Mankato, Minnesota, on receiving the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's Above and Beyond award.

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, ESGR, was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component members and their civilian employers. Their mission is to continuously gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve. Local and national representatives stand ready to help employers understand Federal laws that affect the call-up of their employees. The Above and Beyond Award recognizes those who have gone beyond what Federal law requires for supporting activated Guard employees.

Minnesota businesses that employ Guard members are an essential link in family support for deployed service members. The State of Minnesota is recognized as a leader among those employing Guard and Reserve members and received the 2004 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

Immanuel St. Joseph's Mayo Health System Hospital, ISJ-MHS Hospital, one of 475 companies nominated for the Above and Beyond Award, was nominated by Chief Master Sgt. Dennis of Mankato, Minnesota.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Immanuel St. Joseph's Mayo Health System Hospital for receiving the Above and Beyond Award from the National Committee for Employer Support of Guard and Reserve and commend them for the extraordinary services provided to those who serve our country.

KAREN HOSPITAL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, a few months ago, there was an historic moment that was, sadly, underreported by the news media in this county and in much of the rest of the world. It is only recently that I came to learn of it and I wish to bring it to the attention of this House.

On March 31, outside of Nairobi, Kenya, there was a dedication ceremony for the Karen Hospital, which is the first full-service hospital opened in Kenya since the colonial era, before that country became an independent state within the community of nations.

Karen Hospital is located in the Nairobi suburb of Karen, which many will recognize as the setting for the movie, "Out of Africa," which told the story of author Isak Dinesen, who used the pen name Karen Blixen, and who lived and worked in Kenya and wrote about that country and her love for it.

The opening of Karen Hospital has important implications for health care in Kenya and throughout East Africa. This state-of-the-art facility will provide opportunities for teaching health-care professionals—not just doctors, but nurses, administrators, orderlies, and others—who will bring their knowledge and skills into cities and villages across the region.

When Karen Hospital was opened formally, its chief executive officer, Dr. Betty Gikonyo—who received her medical education in the United States—made a speech, in the presence of President Mwai Kibaki, that reflected the pride and hard work of bringing this hospital from a mere conception to a full-fledged operating unit serving the people of Kenya.

Mr. Speaker, if there is no objection, I would like to place excerpts of the address by Dr. Gikonyo in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Such a historic occasion deserves to be paid much more attention than it has so far received.

EXCERPTS FROM A SPEECH BY DR. BETTY GIKONYO, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, THE KAREN HOSPITAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2006

We have gathered here to celebrate a special day, which will form a milestone in the history of The Karen Hospital. 21 years ago a dream was born, nurtured over the years and now realized. Over the last 10 years we have gone through a process of feasibility studies, consultation, intense planning resulting in a business plan for the Karen Hospital. The search for a financier was not an easy one and it took us over 5 years to convince financial institutions that a medical business is a viable option. We kept on knocking at their doors. Nevertheless some doors were open. We received some offers from both regional and local banks. In consultation with our financial advisers opted for a loan in Kenya Shillings that could finance the two major components of the project which are including building and acquisition of medical equipment. Your Excellency Sir, please, allow us to thank the Kenya Commercial Bank, for believing in our vision and trusting the business plan of a local investor. Kenya Commercial Bank took the risk and proudly partnered with us in undertaking a project of this magnitude. To the KCB Board of Directors and Management Asanteni Sana. You have worked closely with in the formation of this project to see it conclude successfully.

Medical equipment are an expensive undertaking and we wish to recognize Philips Medical Systems Netherlands and Fresenius Renal Supplies of Germany who entered into equipment financing credit plans to enable us to equip the hospital with ultra modern state of the art equipment in all departments as Your Excellency has had an opportunity to see.

This has been achieved through hardwork, commitment and consistency of purpose by a team of financial consultants, medical consultants, hospital engineers and building and civil engineers and a dedicated contractor and sub-contractors. By following the clearly laid out rules we were able to import clear all equipment in good time for installation.

The hospital building comprises of 4 floors each with four wings thoughtfully planned to ensure all services are accessed with minimum effort and maximum convenience to our patients and staff. . . .

The Karen Hospital is a world class ultra modern health facility bringing quality healthcare not only to Kenyans but also to Eastern and Central Africa but beyond.

The 102 bed hospital serves patients with general ailments alongside specialized medical and surgical interventions. It has the newest ultra modern state-of-the art equipment, cardiac diagnosis, interventions and

surgery, intensive care, kidney dialysis, Laparoscopic surgery, video Endoscopy and physiotherapy. . . .

[A] Hospital is however not made of building and equipment. Our most important resource is the highly trained and experienced personnel in all departments. Through competitive selection of the best qualified personnel Karen Hospital has been manned by the best Kenya can offer in all our departments both medical and non-medical. This includes our permanent staff as well highly experienced team of medical consultants who form the large panel of over 100 admitting doctors of different areas of specialization.

Your Excellency Sir, I am happy to inform you that we have been able to attend to 634 patients in our Accident and Emergency department. Some with major injuries including bullet assault cases and road traffic accidents. Additionally we have performed a number of surgeries, endoscopies and cardiac catheterizations and as you have seen a full wing of inpatients with varying ailments ranging from major surgeries to medical conditions are recuperating in our Sagana Ward. This confirms that Kenyans have already come to know, trust and use this facility in the last one month. We look forward to a full house in 6 months time. The performance so far has been very impressive and we are encouraged and grateful for the support Kenyans have given this facility at its inception. . . .

The City of Nairobi has been the hub of specialized medical services for the entire country as well as for the Eastern and Central Africa region. Indeed this has been realized in the month of March, as we have admitted referred patients from Tanzania (Daresalam), DRC Congo, Sudan (Khartoum), and Burundi (Bujumbura).

Referrals from the region not only is testimony to the high standard medical services available in Kenya but also affords us an opportunity to boost our inflow of foreign currency to enhance our economic growth. This is an area that can be expanded further by the establishment of highly specialized medical services in the private sector that would see greater number of referral from this population of over 100 million that forms the Eastern Africa community. We at The Karen Hospital has addressed this very specifically by incorporating in our hospital a cardiology program that spans from diagnosis to interventional non-invasive procedures and to heart surgery. We believe that more patients will be diverted from the exodus that sees patient travel to India, South Africa and Europe to seek some of these specialized services. As a new centre of medical excellence, we plan to market our services effervescently to the region and make Kenya a preferred destination for medical services. . . .

This will provide a forum for many to channel their energies, experiences, resources and to harness these positively towards our mission statement. I believe that many of us are cognizant of the benefits that come along with the integrated teaching and referral facility globally.

We at The Karen Hospital wish to compliment and be active participants in the implementation of the government policy of providing promotive, preventive and curative services. We believe there is room for the private sector to provide specialist tertiary medical institutions to compliment those existing in the government and indeed these are not in competition but rather in partnership. More facilities like Karen Hospital are needed in our countries especially in cities Like Mombasa Kisumu and Eldoret and also in the East African cities.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Management, Staff of The Karen Hospital, may

once again, thank you for joining us during this auspicious occasion.

In closing, allow me to quote Our Mentor and Teacher Dr. Sam Mwinzi, a renowned neurologist who is with us today and had this immortalized in our visitors book when he visited Karen Hospital, "May the portals of this magnificent edifice forever remain open and overflowing with those that seek better health as well as those that have the gift of giving it".

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRYTANI CAIPA

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brytani Caipa for her efforts to protect teens on Internet.

Brytani joined a national effort to protect teens from internet predators by putting together a public service announcement. Brytani's public service announcement focused on protecting our First Amendment rights, while at the same time protecting our children. Her hard work paid off, as her public service announcement placed second nationally in a contest run through the Take Charge Program, and it is currently airing on numerous radio stations.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Brytani Caipa for her efforts to educate teens on Internet safety and protect them from Internet predators. I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, THE JUDICIARY, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5576) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to express my disappointment over the exclusion of section 206 as well as this amendment from the FY07 TTHUD bill.

Rep. Tiahrt's amendment—of which neither provision has any negative impact on or shuts down any current IRS program or service—would prevent the IRS from using taxpayer dollars to develop programs such as return-free tax filing systems, interactive tax filing systems and web portals.

These systems would overextend the IRS, expanding it beyond and diluting its core mission of tax collection and regulation. The costs

of developing, implementing and maintaining them would total billions of dollars. All this is even more strikingly troublesome given a recent Wall Street Journal poll that found that 70% of Americans don't want the IRS preparing their taxes anyway.

I share the sentiments of the American people. As far as I'm concerned, having the IRS prepare your taxes is a little like sending your dog to the butcher to pick up your order—it doesn't serve your best interest.

Despite the assurances of Secretary Snow and Commissioner Everson, there is currently nothing in statute that stops the IRS from developing and implementing a return-free tax filing system. Yet we already have a program in place that serves the purpose of these costly systems.

It is called the Free File Alliance—of which my home state of New York is a member and it assists people who otherwise cannot afford tax preparation or e-filing. The Free File Alliance is a private sector program, and provides free preparation services to poor and low-income families, and since its inception in 2002 it has provided 15.3 million free Federal tax returns.

Now, the Free File Alliance is not a perfect system yet, and it is still in need of additional oversight and reform. However, its existence means that the infrastructure for such systems is already in place, making the costly development of virtually identical IRS programs unnecessary.

CONGRATULATING ARCHER DANIELS MIDLAND

HON. GIL GUTKNECHT

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Archer Daniels Midland of Mankato, Minnesota, on receiving the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve's Above and Beyond award.

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve component members and their civilian employers. Their mission is to continuously gain and maintain active support from all public and private employers for the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve. Local and national representatives stand ready to help employers understand Federal laws that affect the call-up of their employees. The Above and Beyond award recognizes those who have gone beyond what Federal law requires for supporting activated Guard employees.

Minnesota businesses that employ Guard members are an essential link in family support for deployed service members. The state of Minnesota is recognized as a leader among those employing Guard and Reserve members and received the 2004 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award.

Archer Daniels Midland (ADM) was nominated by Sgt. Dave Bonnifield who has been mobilized twice with the Army Guard. ADM has been extremely supportive by providing pay differential and continuous support to Sgt. Bonnifield's family. Archer Daniels Midland was one of 475 companies nominated for the Above and Beyond award.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Archer Daniels Midland for receiving the Above and Beyond Award from the National Committee for Employer Support of Guard and Reserve and commend them for the extraordinary services provided to those who serve our country.

THE DEMOCRATIC PACIFIC UNION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on May 14, 2005, the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II, the Democratic Pacific Union was formally inaugurated in Taipei, Taiwan. Notable guests at the ceremony included presidents of Taiwan, Costa Rica and Guatemala, as well as vice presidents of Taiwan, Nicaragua and Palau. The goals of the union are to integrate resources in the pan-Pacific region for joint development and regional cooperation and to promote democracy, peace and prosperity among DPU member democracies.

Since May of 2005, the union has established a Secretariat, published its first quarterly, planned West Pacific regional meetings, formed a Pacific economic advisory group, and initiated the Pacific Congressional Caucus project. The project seeks to bring congressional and parliamentary members of DPU together to promote exchange and cooperation among lawmakers throughout DPU member countries. The Taiwan Chapter of the Pacific Congressional Caucus was inaugurated on May 20, 2006 and convened by the Speaker of Taiwan's Legislature Yuan.

The Taiwan Chapter of the Pacific Congressional Caucus will sponsor a symposium on congressional reforms this August 12–14 in Taipei, Taiwan. Legislative members of the DPU members states and U.S. Members of Congress are cordially invited to attend this symposium either as participants or observers. I hope that my colleagues will find time to attend this very important event in Taipei and lend our encouragement and support to the Pacific Congressional Caucus.

I salute the Democratic Pacific Union, its goals, achievements, and initiatives which included a training program on hazard mitigation on typhoon-related disasters held May 8–12, 2006 in Taiwan; a 2006 fellowship and scholarship program providing funds for students from DPU member states to attend universities in Taiwan; invitation of distinguished women from member states to attend meetings in Taiwan to identify, and address problems women face in the Pacific region; invitation of political experts to observe elections in Taiwan; and establishment of the Pacific Center for Disaster Reduction in Taipei.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WEN HUI TAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Wen Hui Tan for being named the Ne-

vada State winner in the 19th annual National Peace Essay Contest sponsored by the United States Institute for Peace.

Approximately 4,000 students from across the United States wrote essays for this year's topic, "Controlling the Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons." This contest challenges students to consider some of the most pressing issues confronting international peace and our country's security. This year's topic of nuclear proliferation could not be more timely, and it is also a challenge that the international community will confront for decades to come. Wen's essay, titled "Nuclear Proliferation: Two Superpowers and Iraq," won at the Nevada State level, earning Wen a \$1,000 college scholarship and a chance to compete at the national level.

Wen is currently a student at Coronado High School in Henderson, NV. Her passions include volunteering in the children's department of a local library, graphic design, eating foreign cuisine, chemistry, and traveling. With a myriad of interests, she has aspirations of pursuing higher education at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in hopes to train for her future careers as a linguist, pediatric surgeon, and paleontologist.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Wen Hui Tan for being the Nevada State winner of the 19th annual National Peace Essay Contest sponsored by the United States Institute for Peace. I commend her success and wish her the best of luck at the national competition and in all of her future endeavors.

TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, THE JUDICIARY, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 13, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5576) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes:

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Chairman, I thank you for your leadership on this bill. I am proud to serve as the Vice-Chairman of this Subcommittee. I want to echo the words of my friend, Mr. REHBERG, because Amtrak is an essential service in my Congressional District and home state of New York.

We have had this debate every year, and we go through this process in each of those years. Last year in particular, we fought possibly the toughest battle in years for passenger rail. We were threatened with vetoes, unless some Amtrak reforms were enacted. So what did we do? We enacted reform. One year later, we have seen evidence these reforms are working.

Yet, here we are today with a proposal to fund Amtrak at \$900 million. This allocation is-

a shutdown number for Amtrak, and it would come at the worst possible time to shut down Amtrak.

This is because we have seen evidence these reforms are working. We required Amtrak put in place a new business plan. We required Amtrak to institute new service contracts and plans. For instance, they had to

adopt more efficient accounting procedures. We also demanded they restructure their dining services, which was a big money loser.

The Department of Transportation Inspector General just issued a report on Amtrak business practices. According to this April 6th report, Amtrak has saved \$19 million from Octo-

ber 2005 through February 2006, thanks to these reforms. This is better than expected.

Amtrak is saving money because of the institution of these new reform plans that we demanded of them. To now shut them down would go back on our word. They lived up to their end of the deal, now we must live up to ours.