

you doing?" I will always appreciate all of the support and friendship he has given me over the years.

David is survived by his wife of 54 years, Carmen; daughter Debby Galvan; sons Jeff and Randy; grandchildren Leanne, Jason, Erick, Joshua, Lauren, and Jack; sister Mary Valdez; and brother Joseph.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to a wonderful man. Let us celebrate the life he lived and the example he led.

Although he is no longer with us, David's legacy and spirit will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he has touched.

The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family and I are with his family at this time.

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INTRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC CONVERSION ACT OF 2007

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2007*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I am again introducing the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion Act (NDECA), as I have done since 1994, after working with the residents who were responsible for a ballot initiative passed by D.C. voters in 1993. NDECA will require the United States to disable and dismantle its nuclear weapons when all other nations possessing nuclear weapons enact laws to do the same. NDECA further provides that when U.S. nuclear weapons are dismantled, the resources for supporting nuclear weapon programs would be used for our growing human and infrastructure needs, such as housing, health care, Social Security and the environment.

Tragically, instead of nuclear disarmament, nations around the world have increased in efforts to seek or acquire nuclear capability. Last week, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1737 (2006) under Article 41 of the Charter's Chapter VIII, imposing sanctions on Iran for failure to halt uranium enrichment and mandating that Iran cease all sensitive nuclear activities. China's acquisition of nuclear weapons particularly underscores the dangerous spread of these weapons as a potent destabilizing force in world affairs. North Korea, at least in part in response to early aggressive talk by this administration responded in a dangerously paranoid fashion by announcing that it is expanding its nuclear capabilities, and today few doubt that North Korea has acquired a nuclear device. The North Korean threat has become so serious that the Administration recently reversed course and agreed to freeze North Korea's nuclear program in exchange for 50,000 tons of heavy fuel oil. India and Pakistan have moved back from the precipice of several years ago but each remains poised with nuclear weapons.

The invasion of Iraq and the resistance of the Administration to end the war have cost the United States much of its leadership on the nuclear proliferation and other urgent international issues. This country would be non-credible in dissuading other nations who aspire to become or remain nuclear powers if we ourselves took greater initiative in dismantling

our own nuclear weapons program. We moved in the right direction when the Senate ratified the Moscow Treaty in 2003, which provides that by 2012 both the U.S. and Russia will reduce their long-range warheads two-thirds from approximately 6,000 warheads each to 2,200. However, the Administration has failed to build on this effort. According to a recent study, *Securing The Bomb: An Agenda for Action* (May, 2004; prepared by the Belfer Center, Harvard University Kennedy School of Government): Total nuclear-threat-reduction spending remains less than one quarter of one percent of the U.S. military budget. Indeed, on average, the Bush administration requests for nuclear-threat-reduction spending over FY 2002—2005 have been less, in real terms, than the last Clinton administration request, made long before the 9/11 attacks ever occurred. Instead, the Administration has moved to increase the country's nuclear capacity.

However, the problem today even more complicated than nuclear disarmament by nation states. The greatest threat today is from inadequately defended and guarded sites in many countries where there is enough material to make nuclear weapons and many opportunities for terrorists or nations without weapons to secure nuclear materials. Astonishingly, because of the absence of presidential leadership, less nuclear material was seized in the two years following the 9/11 attacks than in the 2 years immediately preceding the attacks (*Securing The Bomb: An Agenda for Action*, May 2004).

In my work on the Homeland Security Committee, I know that threats from nuclear proliferation and available nuclear material are more dangerous in the post 9/11 era than in 1994, when I first introduced the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion Act. It is more urgent than ever to begin closing down nuclear capability here and around the world.

Today our country has 45 million people still without health insurance, a long list of other urgent domestic needs put on the back burner following the invasion of Iraq and large tax cuts to wealthy people and corporations, an economy burdened with a dangerous deficit, and millions of Americans pushed back into poverty during the last four years. As the only nation that has used nuclear weapons in war and still possesses the largest arsenal, the U.S. has an obligation to begin the arduous process of leading the world in the transfer of nuclear weapons funds to urgent domestic needs.

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RECOGNIZING THE COATESVILLE VARSITY MEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM FOR ITS UNDEFEATED 2006 SEASON

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2007*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the coaching staff and talented members of the varsity men's cross-country team at Coatesville High School in Coatesville, PA, on their highly successful and championship 2006 season.

The 7 varsity members of the Coatesville cross-country team won the Ches-Mont

League, the Steel City Invitational, and the Pennsylvania Division I championships. The team then went on to earn an invitation to the prestigious Nike Team Nationals in Portland, OR, where they outraced more than 39 other teams from around the country on their way to an undefeated season and a national title.

Led by Head Coach Keith Andrew and Assistant Coach Dave Lapp, the team has made the Coatesville Area School District and its communities very proud of their dedication, hard work and determination to win. The 7 members of the team deserving of recognition are: seniors Kyle Dawson, Owen Dawson, Tom Pannulla, Jason Leonard, and Sean Ward; junior Andrew Mahoney; and sophomore Chris Rosato. These terrific young men have brought great honor, respect and distinction to their school, communities and families and are most deserving of this body's recognition.

So I ask, Madam Speaker, that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Coatesville varsity men's cross-country team for their outstanding season. They worked extremely hard and deserve all that they have achieved.

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IN REMEMBRANCE OF SERGEANT ALESSANDRO CARONARO

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 29, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Marine Sergeant Alessandro Carbonaro. He served his country tirelessly until his death on May 10, 2006. The loss of this young, dedicated hero is felt by not only those who knew him, but also those who have been touched by the life that he led.

Sgt. Carbonaro was raised in Bethesda, Maryland, the only child of Fulvio and Gilda Carbonaro. He was a private, headstrong, and independent child who held his family dear. Over the years, Sgt. Carbonaro developed a passion for music, history, and writing. After graduating from Sandy Spring Friends School, Sgt. Carbonaro shocked his family and friends by volunteering to join the United States Marine Corps. He told his parents that he felt a strong sense of duty to his country and wanted to live the life that he envisioned.

Sgt. Carbonaro enlisted in the Marine Corps during the summer of 1998. He initially committed himself to five years of active duty. After September 11, 2001, however, his resolve strengthened and he felt an obligation to reenlist. Sgt. Carbonaro set his sights on the elite Marines Reconnaissance Unit, a status obtained by fewer than one in five who attempts it. By September 2004, he had been deployed to Iraq with the 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion. Sgt. Carbonaro was eventually awarded the Purple Heart.

Upon completion of his first deployment, Sgt. Carbonaro returned to Maryland and married Gilda Maria Arroyo on May 28, 2005. In March 2006, he returned to Iraq and was chosen to lead a unit of younger Marines. Sgt. Carbonaro did not regard these men as soldiers, but as brothers. His moral and physical strength made him the backbone of the unit. On May 1, 2006, when his unit's vehicles hit