with others, has found an appreciative audience beyond Georgia as he has carried the eternal message to others.

His commitment to family has led him and his wife, Teresa, to home school their sons James, Jonathon, and Jushua.

His and Teresa's concern for their son's education is worth the immense commitment of time and energy required of them.

Last, it is always good politically to find myself in the company of such a respected public person who is more conservative than me.

Dr. Merritt is truly committed to faith, family, and freedom and it is my good fortune to call him friend.

THE CRIMINAL WELFARE PREVENTION ACT

(Mr. CLEMENT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I, along with Congressmen HERGER and SHAW, introduced bipartisan legislation to address the problem of prisoners receiving Social Security and SSI benefits while incarcerated, a violation of public law and a huge waste of taxpayer money.

I originally became aware of this issue last month when an inmate in my district who had been convicted of selling drugs in prison bailed himself out of jail with a Social Security check he was still receiving from the Social Security Administration. This legislation will begin to address the primary problem—the reporting of criminals to the Social Security Administration.

In a time when we are working tirelessly to eliminate Government waste, to ensure the viability of the Social Security Program, and to provide benefits for those who truly need them, surely we all agree that we don't need to be paying prisoners for their drug habits and bail money.

I call on my House colleagues to cosponsor H.R. 2320 and end this flagrant abuse of taxpayer money.

NATIONAL DYSTONIA AWARENESS WEEK

(Mrs. MORELLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring to the attention of my colleagues National Dystonia Awareness Week, which will be commemorated nationwide September 16–23.

Dystonia is a neurological movement disorder that can take many forms—all of which are frequently misdiagnosed or even undiagnosed. It is characterized by involuntary muscular contractions which force certain parts of the body into abnormal, often painful movements or positions. Approximately 200,000 Americans suffer from dystonia, yet only about 5 percent of these individuals have obtained accurate diagnoses and proper treatment. Dystonia is a condition that fundamentally impacts the lives of nearly a quarter of a million Americans and their families, yet we have very little understanding of the condition, or of how we can ameliorate it.

The National Institutes of Health, through its researchers at NINDS, has increasingly recognized the importance of dystonia research, and I am pleased that the Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor-HHS has continued to urge continued NIH action in this area. It is my hope that, together with scientists and doctors across the Nation, our experts at NIH will be able to shed considerable insight into the mystery of dystonia.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to recognize the diligent efforts of one of my constituents, Ms. Nancy Aldrich, who has worked tirelessly to bring the issue of dystonia to the Congress' attention. With the efforts of Ms. Aldrich and many individuals like her, we will one day put dystonia behind us.

FRENCH COLONIALISM IN TAHITI IN THE EVE OF THE 21ST CENTURY

(Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, despite international pleading, protests, and appeals, France resumed nuclear testing in the South Pacific on September 5, 1995, at Morurua Atoll, exploding a nuclear bomb 10 times more powerful than the bomb dropped on Hiroshima. Sixty miles away, 3 days before, on the island of Tureia, Tahitian children splashed and played in the ocean waves, unaware that a man named Chirac would forever mar their innocent way of life.

Chirac's decision to promote nuclear proliferation, at the expense of a peaceful people, is a chilling commentary on man's inhumanity to man. If fact, it is an atrocity, a crime against humanity, not unlike the French Government's earlier decision to forcibly deport 75,000 of its own French citizens to Nazi concentration camps where it is said that only 1,000 of those deported survived.

France's resumption of nuclear testing, especially in waters other than its own, is nothing less than a classic example of rancid colonialism; an old world ideology politicized by dominant cultures as a means to marginalize, oppress, and make expendable the lives of some 200,000 Polynesian Tahitians. Every enlightened French citizen should be ashamed that such atrocity reigns in the hands of its current leader, President Chirac.

THE LOST BATTALION

(Mrs. SEASTRAND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SEASTRAND. Mr. Speaker, there they go again, the desperate leaders of the Lost Battalion of the Democrat Left, riding off today on another mean-spirited mission to misinform and terrorize the elderly.

What a pitiful sight it is to see the leaders of a party once entrusted with 40 consecutive years of control of this Congress now cowering and running away from the fight to save Medicare from bankruptcy.

Afraid to point the way with a plan of their own, they're content simply to point a misdirected finger of blame.

Surely, these so-called leaders don't speak for the dwindling membership of the Democrat caucus, the men and women whose loyalty belongs to the people who elected them to serve, to face the tough problems and find answers, not run and hide from the truth and blindly follow the Lost Battalion of the Left down the path of political retreat.

To those Members, we offer our hand and welcome you to join us in a mission worthy of this institution—a mission to ensure a comprehensive, secure, affordable health insurance plan for every retired American now and in the future.

THE BIG DAY IS FINALLY HERE

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, well, the big day is finally here and all of America is happy. The time is here. After months of being Medi-scared to level with the American people and tell them how much their pockets are going to be picked to provide the same level of health care, Mr. Speaker, today is the day that has finally been announced by the Republicans as the day they will unveil the details of their Medicare plan. The Speaker has put out notice on national TV that we would finally get the details of how deep into the pockets of our senior citizens they are going to reach in order to provide a tax break for the privileged few.

The Republican bright lights, and some of the not so bright lights, were all assembled. All the luminaries were gathered. And what details were provided? Absolutely none.

Mr. Speaker, after all this waiting, after all this attention to the great performance, it is as if they forgot the words to the song. Now we know absolutely nothing more than we did before, and that is only that it is going to cost American seniors billions of dollars to pay for this tax break for the privileged few.

JOIN TOGETHER TO SAVE MEDICARE

(Mr. HAYWORTH asked and was given permission to address the House