

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY,
GOVERNOR ELMER ANDERSON

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, today Governor Elmer L. Anderson is 90 years of age. My sincere best wishes and congratulations. While serving in public office, Elmer Anderson has had a profound impact shaping discourse as well as public, social and environmental policy in our state of Minnesota.

Elmer Anderson is a businessman, public official and citizen—a Minnesota 20th century renaissance man. Happy Birthday, Governor Anderson.

Mr. Speaker, I submit this June 17, 1999 St. Paul Pioneer Press article by Steve Dornfeld for the RECORD.

[From the Pioneer Press, June 17, 1999]

A MINNESOTA TREASURE
(Steven Dornfeld)

Former Gov. Elmer L. Anderson has had more careers than most of folks could manage in several lifetimes—politician, corporate CEO, newspaper publisher, farmer, philanthropist and civic leader. And he's been enormously successful at all of them.

But Anderson, who turns 90 today, will be remembered most for his high ideals his innovative mind and his selfless dedication to the public good throughout a life that spanned most of the 20th century. He is a genuine Minnesota treasure.

"It would be pretty hard to quarrel with the notion that Elmer Anderson is Minnesota's greatest living citizen," says Tom Swain, a long-time friend who headed Anderson's gubernatorial staff.

The people who know Anderson best tend to speak of him in superlatives.

"He's about the wisest, the most principled, the most visionary person I have ever met," says former U.S. Sen. Dave Durenberger, who handled community affairs for H.B. Fuller Co. when Anderson was CEO of the St. Paul adhesives manufacturing firm.

Russell Fridley, a leading Minnesota historian and former director of the Minnesota Historical Society, says Anderson "exemplifies the best of the citizen politician."

The former governor is more restrained in assessing his accomplishments. Several days ago, as he reflected on his long life, Anderson said, "I cannot help but have a great sense of appreciation and gratitude. I have been very lucky to have survived for so long and to have done well in a number of different areas.

"Everyone seems so kind and so indulgent as you grow old—and of course, all of your enemies die off," he added with a chuckle.

Anderson held public office for just 12 years—10 as a state senator and two as governor. He served in the Senate in the 1950s when it was dominated by rural conservatives who saw a very limited role for state government.

Then, as now, Anderson prided himself on being a "liberal Republican." Anderson

achieved the chairmanship of the Senate Public Welfare Committee, and championed mental health and child welfare programs.

Fridley recalls one legislative session in which the DFL-oriented Liberal Caucus captured control of the House, while the Republican-oriented Conservatives held the Senate. When the major appropriations bills emerged from committee, Fridley says, a leading House Liberal complained, "You know what Elmer Anderson did? He put \$10 million more into welfare than we did."

In 1960, Anderson won election as governor, defeating DFL incumbent Orville Freeman. But the term of governor was just two years at that time and his stint as Minnesota's chief executive was short-lived.

DFLers accused Anderson of rushing the completion of Interstate 35 so he could reap the political benefits. They charged that the rush job resulted in shoddy construction that would cost the state millions to repair. The charges ultimately proved to be false, but Anderson lost to DFL Lt. Gov. Karl Rolvaag by a scant 91 votes.

The close election triggered a protracted recount in which thousands of disputed ballots were examined, one by one. But the result did not change.

Many Anderson stalwarts wanted him "to appeal it all the way" to the Supreme Court, Swane recalls. But he says Anderson did not want to appear to be usurping the office and throw the state into political turmoil, so he "gulped hard" and accepted the outcome.

"In my early years, when I was a young politician, I used to think what a waste it was that Elmer could only serve two years as governor—that the state was deprived of all that talent," Durenberger says.

But Durenberger says he has come to see Anderson's defeat as Minnesota's "good fortune"—because it freed Anderson from the constraints of partisan politics and enabled the ex-governor to be the principal statesman and civic leader he has been for the last four decades.

After leaving public office, Anderson returned to H.B. Fuller and helped build it into a Fortune 500 company—one known for an employee- and customer-centered philosophy that would be ridiculed on Wall Street today.

"I always had a philosophy at Fuller that making a profit was not our No. 1 priority," Anderson says. He believed that if a business paid attention to its customers and generously rewarded employees who did their best, profits would follow.

But Anderson did not disappear from the political scene. He took the lead in pushing two major initiatives from his term as governor—the enactment of the so-called Taconite Amendment to help revitalize Minnesota's Iron Range, and the creation of Voyageurs National Park.

In later years, Anderson distinguished himself as chairman of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents, president of the Minnesota Historical Society, a leader in efforts to protect Minnesota's natural resources, a lover of books and a promoter of reading.

In 1976, after retiring from H.B. Fuller, Anderson fulfilled a life-long dream when he acquired two weekly newspapers in Princeton, merged them and began building a pub-

lishing enterprise. Today it has 25 community newspapers and 7 shoppers with \$30 million in annual sales and 475 employees.

Until recently, when he began working on his autobiography, Anderson produced two signed editorials a week for his newspapers that frequently were quoted by pundits and policymakers throughout the state.

While Anderson eyes and limbs are failing him, his mind is as nimble as ever—and he still is involved in projects like preserving endangered areas along the North Shore of Lake Superior. "I've always had projects and when I get involved in projects, I like to see them through," Anderson says.

Not long ago, Tom Swain arranged a get-acquainted luncheon between Anderson and new University of Minnesota President Mark Yudof. Swain, who was serving as a university vice president at the time, through the ex-governor and regents' chairman was someone Yudof should meet.

Swain figured the luncheon would be strictly a social occasion "But when we sat down, by golly, Elmer has his own agenda. He had four for five things he wanted Yudof to be aware of. His mind just never quits."

If Elmer Anderson has one shortcoming, it is this: the man simply does not know how to retire.

IN HONOR OF THE BANGLADESH
CULTURAL ALLIANCE OF THE
MIDWEST

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bangladesh Cultural Alliance of the Midwest on the occasion of the Tenth Annual Convention.

The BCAM was established in 1990 to unite the ethnic resident Bangladeshis of the Midwest region for preservation and promotion of Bangladeshi culture, and to promote friendship and greater understanding between the peoples of Bangladesh and America. So far seven states have taken pride in promoting this ideal. Every year BCAM organizes a cultural program that includes Bangladeshi dances, dramas and songs by participants from each state.

Bangladeshi cuisine, a fashion show, and special performances by prominent performing artists from Bangladesh are the highlights of the program. In addition, discussions on issues related to the role of ethnic Bangladeshis in the community are carried out in a friendly environment.

Promoting cultural diversity and tolerance of other cultures, BCAM is a wonderful example of how to protect cultural diversity while at the same time promoting harmony. I salute the Tenth Annual Convention of Bangladesh Cultural Alliance of the Midwest and commend its work on promoting cultural and religious diversity and tolerance among all the people in the United States.

• 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.

IN SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY
REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take a moment to address an issue of great importance: fair and equal access to capital and credit. The American dream of providing for one's family and achieving happiness and security is bolstered when one is able to own one's own home or business. Unfortunately, the American dream fades away when a financial institution discriminates and unfairly denies a loan to a hardworking, creditworthy American who happens to be a minority or live in a minority or working class neighborhood.

Fortunately, blatant discrimination in lending is declining, and homeownership and small business lending is on the rise. We can attribute much of this progress against so called "redlining" to the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA). Under CRA, federal banking agencies grade lending institutions on how well they meet the credit and capital needs of all the communities in which they are chartered and from which they take deposits. Community organizations, Mayors, religious leaders, and ordinary citizens have a right to offer their opinions regarding the CRA performance of lenders during CRA exams or when banks ask federal regulatory agencies for permission to merge with other lenders.

In my hometown of Seattle, Washington, CRA has helped to make the dream of homeownership a reality for hundreds of low-income families. CRA negotiations between banks and community groups have resulted in housing programs like Self Help, which allows families to use sweat-equity to help them purchase their homes. The Self Help program empowers traditionally underserved families to participate in the homebuying process. The program is also a unique tool for fostering community relations, as the families who eventually will become neighbors, begin to develop relationships with each other as they build their homes. Over the years, Self Help has worked with families to build over 500 homes, and CRA has been integral in financing this process.

CRA also helps to create new jobs for the community. In the state of Washington, CRA has been a wonderful instrument by which entrepreneurs work with banks to finance loans for small businesses. As a result, The Evergreen Community Development Association—Washington state's top Small Business Administration lender—reports that CRA has leveraged over \$360 million in the past five years for small business loans, and has created more than 5,000 jobs. Furthermore, CRA provides economic opportunities for individuals without spending a penny of taxpayer money. Thus, CRA works to put valuable money and resources back into the communities in which they are located.

As the House of Representatives considers legislation to reform financial institutions, I must emphasize that I oppose any attempts to weaken CRA and thus deny communities access to much-needed mortgages, consumer and/or small business loans, and basic financial assistance.

I urge my colleagues to stand firm and not undo the significant progress that we have

made in expanding economic opportunities for all segments of our society. As we consider H.R. 10, let's continue to make the American dream a reality for millions more Americans by strengthening and preserving the CRA and data disclosure laws.

IN HONOR OF THE CENTENNIAL
ANNIVERSARY OF E.J. ELECTRIC
INSTALLATION COMPANY IN THE
ONE HUNDRED YEAR ASSOCIATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to the E.J. Electric Installation Company in honor of their membership on this, their centennial anniversary, in the One Hundred Year Association of New York.

For a century, E.J. Electric Installation has been a leader in its field, growing from an era of paper and wood-line conduits and gas/electric lighting fixtures to one of the leading full-service electrical contractors in the world.

Jacques R. Mann, the first of three generations to run the company, joined E.J. Electric in 1912, going on to pioneer the electrification of the entertainment industry, including almost every large East Coast studio.

Jacques Mann designed and installed the Paramount Astoria motion picture studio, which was modernized 40 years later by his son and current E.J. Electric president, J. Robert Mann, Jr. The company's credits now include such renowned venues as the Rockefeller Center complex and the Metropolitan Opera House.

E.J. Electric was an important contributor to the World War II effort by introducing lightweight, pressed steel watertight panels and outlet boxes to the U.S. Navy, an innovation now used throughout the Navy. The Navy recognized E.J. Electric with five "E" awards.

Under Bob Mann's guidance, E.J. Electric is the expert electrical firm on installation of nationwide computerized airline reservation systems. The company is also a leader in design and installation of complicated and specialized electrical systems for hospitals and health care facilities.

Noteworthy communication installations include the Merrill Lynch primary data center at the World Financial Center, AT&T World Headquarters in Manhattan, and American Airlines, as well as installation and maintenance of all voice, data, audio, video, satellite, security, and fire safety systems for U.N. buildings in New York. New York City's 911 Police Command Center, utilizing advanced business communication expertise, the New York Public Library, and a \$10 million Telecommunications and Multimedia system for the United States Tennis Center are among E.J.'s credits. Important repowering projects include the Museum of Modern Art, NBC, CBS, Delta Airlines, Tower Airlines and British Airways at JFK Airport.

The tradition of hands-on leadership continues with the Mann family's third generation. Tony Mann oversaw the \$22 million expansion of the Long Island Railroad car repair facility, spread over 15 acres with one of the most ad-

vanced robotic systems in the world. He was also responsible for the intricate and sensitive Rockefeller University co-generation high tech laboratories and computer facilities. Continuing an E.J. Electric tradition, Tony Mann enjoys an excellent working relationship with Local 3 I.B.E.W. and the community. Tony sees value engineering as a principal strength of E.J., leading to cost savings for customers.

E.J. Electric Installation Co. is committed to early identification of advanced trends in equipment and systems design and industry ramifications of these innovations. The company brings to its projects the highest degree of service, professionalism, and technology.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring to your attention the century of outstanding work offered by the E.J. Electrical Installation Company.

WANTED: GOOD FATHERS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, fill it out, send it in. You never know. My dad's advice about junk-mail sweepstakes never led to any prize money, but I'm still cashing in on his simple lessons of life.

My brother, sister and I received many pearls of wisdom: Practice makes perfect. Stand attentive when the flag is raised. Respect your elders. Speak the truth. Fight the good fight, finish the race, keep the faith. Wait until you're married, and above all, never, ever wear street shoes on a gym floor (he taught physical education).

A public school teacher, he worked two jobs to put us through Catholic schools. No television or friends were permitted until homework was complete. "D's" were forbidden. "C's" warranted serious discussion. "B's" meant we could do better. "A's" were expected.

We had a big vegetable garden. Most summer evenings were spent pulling weeds, snapping beans, turning compost and listening to Dad's boyhood stories, like the one about his missing index finger, a camping trip, and an errant hatchet.

I can recall each encounter with Betsy, my Dad's paddle. "Bend over. This hurts me more than it hurts you." I never made the same mistake twice. Right and wrong were absolute.

American can't survive without dads like mine. Confronted with the recent horrifying news accounts of youth violence and broader moral indifference, the importance of devoted fathers couldn't be more apparent. June 20th was Father's Day, and this year's observance compels more reflection than ever.

Any sensible American, especially in the wake of April's Columbine massacre, has to be concerned about the status of our nation's youth. Children bereft of a fully engaged father suffer perilous disadvantage.

The magnitude of the anomaly shouldn't surprise anyone. Clerics and social scientists have long warned of the debilitating trends associated with divorce and single-parent households. Few families overcome the dysfunction of children disconnected from their fathers.

The cost is enormous. Seventy percent of men in prison, and an equal percentage of juveniles in long-term detention facilities, grew

up in fatherless homes. Children living without a father are more likely to have trouble in school, become an unwed parent or involved with gangs or drugs.

Nor are girls immune. Girls whose parents divorce may grow up deprived not experiencing the day-to-day interaction with an attentive, caring and loving adult man. A University of Michigan study of such girls concluded, " * * * parental divorce has been associated with lower self-esteem, precocious sexual activity, greater delinquent-like behavior, and more difficulty establishing gratifying, lasting adult heterosexual relationships."

In Colorado, children in single-parent families are nearly five times more likely to be poor than children in two-parent families. Over eighteen percent of Colorado's children do not live with their fathers.

Coupled with powerful destructive trends and obsessions, today's children are bombarded with evil temptations placing fatherless children at grave risk. Our society's preoccupation with death, sex, and instant gratification has led to a culture in decay trivializing human life itself, degrading the dignity of the human person, and leaving children most vulnerable.

There is still, however, abundant cause for optimism in the legions of great American fathers like mine. Those faithfully accepting the responsibility of fatherhood earn our respect and praise as heroes in today's culture war.

Truly, genuine fathers regard all children as gifts from God. Children are the sacred living outward expression of conjugal love between men and women.

Relying equivalently upon their mothers, all children deserve devoted fathers who strive to raise their children in God's likeness. Accordingly, all devoted fathers deserve our profound admiration on Fathers Day and every day.

May God bestow His richest blessings upon them all.

MARKING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF GLADYS TANTAQUIDGEON

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join every member of the Mohegan Tribe and countless residents across southeastern Connecticut in wishing a very happy 100th birthday to Gladys Tantaquidgeon. Gladys is an extraordinary figure in the history of the Mohegan Tribe and something of an institution in our area of Connecticut.

Gladys was born June 15, 1899 and has lived in southeastern Connecticut for the past fifty years. She is an accomplished author, anthropologist and historian. She is widely recognized for her work researching and chronicling herbal medicines used by Native American tribes up and down the east coast of the United States. She is most well known in our area for helping to found, and maintaining for so many years, the Tantaquidgeon Museum—the oldest Indian-run museum in America today. Along with her father and brother, Gladys founded the museum in 1931. Over more

than six decades, Gladys—often single-handedly—maintained and expanded the museum. Thanks to her hard work and dedication, thousands upon thousands of school children have learned about Native American and Mohegan history. I have attached an article about Gladys from the New London Day which I request be included following my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of residents across eastern Connecticut I want to thank Gladys Tantaquidgeon for a century of dedication to Native Americans across our country.

[From the New London Day, June 16, 1999]

CELEBRATING A LIFE LIVED FOR HER PEOPLE

(By Karen Kaplan)

Gladys Tantaquidgeon, one of Indian Country's most venerated members, a keeper of Mohegan tribal culture, longtime Mohegan Tribal Medicine Woman and a noted writer, curator and herbalist, celebrated her 100th birthday Tuesday with a gala party that gathered hundreds of friends, relatives, tribal members and dignitaries.

A crowd packed the tent set up late Tuesday morning on the grounds of Shantok, Village of Uncas, the former Fort Shantok State Park that is now part of the tribe's reservation.

Tantaquidgeon, wearing a powder blue suit and seated to the left of the podium at the front of the tent with her sister, Ruth, received gifts on a blanket set in front of her. Visitors said they were delighted to see Tantaquidgeon, as there had been a question of whether she would be well enough to attend.

Because of her frailty Tantaquidgeon came to the party for only an hour, and tribal officials did not permit visitors to get close. Tantaquidgeon is perhaps best known as curator of the Tantaquidgeon Indian Museum, the oldest Indian-operated museum in the country.

The Mohegan Tribal Council, led by tribal Chairman Roland J. Harris; the Mohegan Council of Elders, led by Carleton Eichelberg; and Chief G'Tinamong, Ralph Sturges, greeted Tantaquidgeon and guests upon their arrival and wished the guest of honor a happy birthday.

"These girls have been around a long time," said Sturges of the Tantaquidgeon sisters. "They're very, very close to the tribe and they helped me. . . . Gladys is a very steadfast friend of mine. Happy birthday, and we'll catch up to you someday, Gladys."

Led by M.C. Bethany Seidel, daughter of Tribal Vice Chairwoman Jayne Fawcett and sister of Tribal Historian Melissa Fawcett, everyone in the tent next read "Strawberry Moon," an original poem written in honor of the centenarian. Sidney J. Holbrook, Gov. John G. Rowland's co-chief of staff, read a proclamation from Rowland that declared Tuesday to be Gladys Tantaquidgeon Day in the state, prompting a huge roar and lengthy applause from the crowd. "This is a great day for a great lady and a great people," he said.

Kenneth Reels, Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Council chairman, greeted Tantaquidgeon and wished her a happy birthday before a brief talk.

"Thank you for all you've done for our people, thank you for preserving the heritage of the Pequot people (and) keeping our ways alive," he said, presenting her with an eagle feather. "The eagle climbs the highest, and also represents balance, integrity and honor. We give this feather to you because that's what you represent to us."

The Mashantuckets also gave Tantaquidgeon a large maroon-and-cream

quilt embroidered with the tribe's familiar fox-and-tree logo and different scenes from the Mashantucket Pequot reservation.

James A. Cunha Jr., tribal chief of the Paucatuck Eastern Pequots, greeted Tantaquidgeon and said he remembers his grandfather telling stories about her when he was young. Officials from other tribes also spoke, including the Narragansetts of Rhode Island; the Schaghticokes of central Connecticut; the Mashapee of Cape Cod and a representative from the Connecticut Indian Council.

Outside the ceremony, Harris said Tantaquidgeon exerted a tremendous, positive influence on him as he was growing up.

"If I learned anything, she taught me never to give up," he said. "You always do what's right. . . . The (Mohegan Tribal) nation is truly where it is because of her."

Jayne Fawcett, who lived with her aunts Gladys and Ruth while growing up during World War II, said she could not overestimate the role her aunt Gladys played in her life. Fawcett said Tantaquidgeon was a pioneer for women's rights and accomplishments long before they became a political issue.

Fawcett pointed out that Tantaquidgeon was the first American Indian to work for the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs, and also was the curator of the federal Museum of Natural History and ran the federal Indian Arts and Crafts Board.

"She was responsible for working with Indian people and helping them to bring back (their) traditions," Fawcett said.

"She was one of the ones who refused to ride in the back of the bus," Fawcett said. "She appeared on national radio in the '30s, and her book on natural herbal remedies has become a standard. She fought to preserve traditional ceremonies and to preserve our old stories and the meaning of our ancient symbols. These are some of the things I think she will be remembered for."

"This was being done at a time when women simply didn't do these things. Women didn't go to college, and they didn't strike out on their own, let alone minority women," Fawcett added. "The encouragement she's given to so many tribal members, to seek higher education, myself included, has helped strengthen us as a nation. Certainly she has served as a strong role model in that respect."

Fawcett said Tantaquidgeon's dedication to the Mohegan tribe and its culture and history was so complete that she never married.

"Everything was focused on preserving and teaching—not only Mohegans and (other) Indians but non-Indians as well—about Mohegans," Fawcett said. "All of us felt for awhile that we might have been on the brink of extinction, and this made her work even more important."

Tantaquidgeon, whose accomplishments were recognized last year in a book, "Remarkable Women of the 20th Century: 100 Portraits of Achievement," played a major role in the Mohegans' successful bid for federal recognition, a status that made it possible for them to build a casino. Letters and documents she stored in Tupperware containers under her bed have been credited as important pieces of history that helped the tribe obtain federal recognition.

After working with the BIA and the Indian Arts Board in the 1930s and '40s, she returned home in 1948 to help her family run the museum. She wrote a book, "Folk Medicine of the Delaware and Related Algonkian Indians," and has received numerous awards, including honorary doctorates from Yale University and the University of Connecticut.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JOHN
LAVOO

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and pay tribute to the memory of John LaVoo who died in Vietnam during an ill-fated combat mission. Mr. LaVoo will, at long last, be laid to rest on July 19, 1999, in Arlington Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

Mr. LaVoo was a native of Pueblo and a graduate of the United States Naval Academy. On September 19, 1968, John and his navigator, Robert Holt, were killed when their plane crashed in North Vietnam. LaVoo was declared missing and was believed to be dead by the Marines, and in his honor, his widow, Rosalie Rusovick, commissioned the fabrication of a memorial anchor.

Over the years, the memorial, which has hung in the Orman Street entryway of Tabor Lutheran Church, has served as a special place for family and friends, and in the absence of a gravesite, has provided them with some solace. The memorial serves as a constant reminder of the life and sacrifice of John LaVoo and none pass through without learning of the history behind the anchor.

Recently, the remains of Mr. LaVoo were discovered through DNA evidence, and now his courage and sacrifice shall be honored through burial in Arlington. Though John will finally be put to rest in Virginia, his spirit will always rest in Pueblo where the anchor hangs in his memory. It is with this that I wish to pay my respects to Mr. John LaVoo, and I would like to express my gratitude to the LaVoo family for John's strength, patriotism, and service for our country.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER ALBERT
JEROME

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to congratulate Father Albert Jerome of St. Ann's church in Nashville, Illinois who celebrated his 40th Anniversary of ordination. When speaking of how he maintains his positive outlook on the world today, Father Jerome said, ". . . the answer to stop becoming a pessimist is to have a sense of humor. It has really been the mark of the greatest men . . ."

Father Jerome has given and received a great deal of love to and from the dedicated members he has ministered for in his numerous stops over the past forty years. It would serve us all if he could minister for another forty years. However long his service is, it will be a service to the people of his ministry and the rest of the community.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING
GRADUATES OF P.S. 15. THE
PATRICK F. DALY SCHOOL

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating special graduates of the 12th Congressional District of New York. I am certain that this day marks the culmination of much effort and hard work which has lead and will lead them to continued success. In these times of uncertainty, limited resources, and random violence in our communities and schools, it is encouraging to know that they have overcome these obstacles and succeeded.

These students have learned that education is priceless. They understand that education is the tool to new opportunities and greater endeavors. Their success is not only a tribute to their strength but also to the support they have received from their parents and loved ones.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to support the education of the youth of America. With a solid education, today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders. And as we approach the new millennium, it is our responsibility to pave the road for this great Nation's future. Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I ask you to join me in congratulating the following outstanding students from P.S. 15, the Patrick F. Daly School: David Watson and Precious Scott.

TRIBUTE TO SADAKO OGATA

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute and honor the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and its Commissioner, Mrs. Sadako Ogata.

Mrs. Ogata as the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is responsible for protecting and finding solutions for refugees around the world. I would like to pay tribute to this organization today and to the work it is doing to help refugees around the world, but particularly the Kosovars.

Mrs. Ogata's organization is now working with more than 850,000 refugees from Kosovo, most of whom are in Albania and Macedonia, two small countries, who are struggling to aid these refugees despite their own substantial economic problems. UNHCR is the lead UN agency working throughout the countries of the former Yugoslavia. It has been hard pressed to raise the funds and find the staff and management skills, diplomatic support and logistical support needed to handle such an enormous undertaking as the Kosovo refugee emergency. The organization has had its problems. It depends on voluntary contributions to fund its programs and must respond to emergencies by moving staff from other duties to the latest crisis and unfortunately in refugee emergencies, no one is ever sure just how many people will be forced to

flee their homelands, or how long they will have to live under difficult conditions.

Recently, the UNHCR told donor governments that it still needed \$30 million to meet costs for the month of June (\$143 million required from March to June 30) and an additional \$246 million to continue its operations over the next 6 months.

UNHCR as an intergovernmental organization works with governments, other UN and international organizations and private voluntary organizations to aid the refugees. The U.S. has been one of UNHCR's major supporters both politically and financially. One of the important tasks that UNHCR must fulfill is to protect the lives and well being of refugees, particularly those who are vulnerable or at-risk because of physical or mental illness, insecurity, or separation from their families.

Despite all the big problems UNHCR faces in Kosovo, it can't forget the needs of individual families, like that of my constituents, the Halili family of San Leon, Texas whose relatives from Macedonia are safe today in Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the tremendous contributions of UNHCR and to its hard working staff and the NGO partners in Albania and Macedonia, and in Washington, who were willing to put in extra hours and deal with lots of paperwork and overcome many obstacles to speed the evacuation and the suffering of the Halili family.

IN TRIBUTE TO OLGA M. JONES,
RECIPIENT OF THE AWARD 1999
DISTINGUISHED WOMEN OF
NORTH CAROLINA

HON. EVA M. CLAYTON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mrs. CLAYTON. Mr. Speaker, one hundred and twenty-six women were nominated to receive an award for 1999 Distinguished Women Of the Year. Seven were selected. Among the seven is one of my constituents, Olga M. Jones.

A Native North Carolinian, Mrs. Jones attended public schools in our state and graduated from the Community Hospital School of Nursing. Later, she did post-graduate work at the University of Colorado and other institutions. In 1950, she became a Registered Nurse, launching a career that has taken her around the World, including Japan, Korea, Germany, Egypt and the Scandinavian Region. She has also traveled extensively, throughout the United States, including Alaska. And, currently she serves as Director of the Martin County Alzheimer's Group Respite Program in Williamston, North Carolina.

More than three decades of her nursing career was spent in the United States Army Nurse Corps, where she attained the rank of Colonel. Her experience with the Army and the opportunities she was afforded to travel helped cement her deep, unflinching commitment to health care and to a concern for others. She always knew she wanted to be a nurse, recounting how despite her mother's death when she was only five, the white nursing uniform that her mother wore remained etched in her mind.

Mr. Speaker, health care demands the most attentive and considerate among us, those who are faithful, loyal, and steadfast. It is a profession that requires individuals who are courteous, thoughtful and kind. Mrs. Olga M. Jones has reflected those qualities in all that she has done, over the years. She is an inspiration, a breath of fresh air, a pillar of strength, a tough lady with a tender heart. She has dared to be different, and she has made a difference.

One must gasp for air when reviewing all that Mrs. Jones has done. She has taught nursing classes. She has given instruction in nutrition. She has organized exercise classes. She has recruited many, many volunteers for community work. She has coordinated youth programs. She has organized blood drives. And, she is a member of numerous civic organizations. Despite all that she does, this loving wife and devoted mother keeps the proper priorities in perspective, reserving important time and effort to family and church. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in saluting, Mrs. Olga M. Jones, a 1999 Distinguished Woman of North Carolina.

IN HONOR OF ANTHONY C. REGO
AND DONNA KELLY REGO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Anthony C. Rego and Donna Kelly Rego, on the occasion of being honored with The John R. Cunin Lamplighter Humanitarian Award. This award is to honor philanthropic leaders whose involvement in business and community assists individuals and families in meeting their needs through programs of service and empowerment.

Anthony C. Rego is a dedicated businessman in the supermarket industry. As a teenager, he started his career in the supermarket industry by working in the family grocery business. He helped the family business grow from two supermarkets to ten stores by dedicating 25 years of his life in the Rego's Stop-n-Shop Supermarket chain. His motivation and hard work has granted him several awards such as, Cleveland Food Dealers Association "Retailer of the Year" Award in 1983, the "Leadership and Service Award" in 1989 from the Associated Grocery Manufacturers Representatives, and the Cleveland Food Dealers "Honor Award" in 1993. In 1997 Mr. Rego received the Ohio Grocers Association's "Industry Service Award."

Donna Kelly Rego presently serves as Chairperson of the MetroHealth System. For the past twenty-one years, Mrs. Rego has served as Pastoral Associate at St. Malachi Church and is presently engaged as an organization specialist working with religious and non-profit organizations. Also, Mrs. Rego is an educator and a certified pastoral Minister in the Diocese of Cleveland. Mrs. Rego currently chairs the Board of Trustees for the St. Malachi Center and serves as trustee for the Cleveland Health Network, the Center for Health Affairs, the Federation for Community Planning and the Benjamin Rose Center. She has received several awards such as: The Henry F. Meyers Award, Outstanding Women

of Achievement (Cleveland YWCA, 1992), Belle Sherwin Award (League to Woman Voters 1993), Crain's Women of Influence (1997).

I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in commending Anthony C. Rego and Donna Kelly Rego for their lifetime dedication, service, and leadership to their community. Their large circle of family and friends can be proud of the significant contribution these prominent individuals have made. Our community has certainly been rewarded by the true service and uncompromising dedication of Anthony C. Rego and Donna Kelly Rego.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TAMPON
SAFETY AND RESEARCH ACT OF
1999 AND THE ROBIN DANIELSON
ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year I introduced two important pieces of women's health legislation—H.R. 890, The Tampon Safety and Research Act of 1999, and H.R. 889, The Robin Danielson Act. The research and reporting called for in these bills will finally give women the accurate information they need to make informed decisions about their health as it relates to tampon use.

Why is the issue of tampon safety important? Because tampons are used by 73 million American women—that's 53% of American women and almost a third of the total population. A woman may use as many as 16,500 tampons in her lifetime. Given these numbers, shouldn't we be certain that these products are safe?

I introduced two tampon safety bills because there are two separate issues that must be addressed.

Why is The Tampon Safety and Research Act important? Because tampons and other related products often contain additives, synthetic fibers, and dioxin. Dioxin is a toxic by-product of the paper manufacturing process. Wood pulp, as well as the rayon used in nearly all tampons, undergo several production processes, including bleaching. The majority of pulp and paper producers use a chlorine bleaching method that results in the formation of dioxin and other contaminants. As a result, trace amounts of dioxin are present in most paper products, from toilet paper to tampons.

Dioxin is also found in varying levels throughout the environment, but are women being subjected to additional and potentially avoidable exposures to dioxin through tampon use? Let me put dioxin in perspective, because we only have to consult recent history to know of the potentially disastrous effects of this substance. Dioxin is a member of the organochlorine group, which includes the contaminants found in Agent Orange, the Vietnam War-era defoliant, and at Love Canal.

But let's consult the experts as well. According to a 1994 report issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, dioxin is a known cancer-causing agent in animals, as well as a probable human carcinogen. My bill is specifically concerned with the possible links between dioxin in tampons and ovarian, cervical, and breast cancers, as well as other potential hazards.

A 1996 EPA study has also linked dioxin exposure with increased risks for endometriosis, an often painful menstrual-related condition that is a leading cause of infertility. Further, the EPA has concluded that people with high exposure to dioxin may be at risk for other effects which could suppress the immune system, increase the risk of pelvic inflammatory disease, reduce fertility, and possibly interfere with normal fetal and childhood development.

The EPA conclusions regarding dioxin exposure are particularly alarming in light of a 1989 Food and Drug Administration report, which stated that "possible exposures from all other medical device sources would be dwarfed by the potential tampon exposure." Why? Because the average woman may use as many as 16,500 tampons during her lifetime. If dioxin is putting women at risk, could the long-term use of tampons increase that risk?

What makes these toxic residues in tampons even more disturbing is they come in direct contact with some of the most absorbent tissue in a woman's body. According to Dr. Philip Tierno, Jr., director of microbiology and immunology at New York University Medical Center, almost anything placed on this tissue—including trace amounts of dioxin—gets absorbed into the body.

According to researchers, dioxin is stored in fatty tissue—just like that found in the vagina. And women have more body fat than men, possibly allowing them to more efficiently store dioxin from all sources, not just tampons. Worse yet, the effects of dioxin are cumulative, and can be measured as much as 20 or 30 years after exposure. This accumulation is cause for particular concern, because a woman may be exposed to dioxin in tampons for approximately 55 years over the course of her reproductive life.

The question, of course, is why it is acceptable to have this toxic substance in tampons—despite the advice of an FDA scientist to the contrary. A 1989 agency document reported that "the most effective risk management strategy would be to assure that tampons, and menstrual pads for good measure, contain no dioxin." Why has there been far more testing on the possible health effects of chlorine-bleached coffee filters than on chlorine-bleached tampons and related products? My bill seeks to address this inadequacy, and finally give women the most accurate, up-to-date information available regarding this critical health concern.

Although the FDA currently requires tampon manufacturers to monitor dioxin levels in their finished products, the results are not available to the public. When I—as a Member of Congress—requested the information, the FDA told me it was proprietary and therefore could not be released. It should be noted the dioxin tests relied upon by the FDA are done by the manufacturers themselves, who, not surprisingly insist their products are safe. Some of my constituents have written to say that this is the equivalent of the fox guarding the henhouse.

How much dioxin exposure is considered safe for humans? And does the fact that tampons are in direct contact with absorbent tissue, and for extended periods of time, make whatever levels of dioxin tampons possess even more dangerous? Is this the equivalent of a ticking time bomb, capable of increasing women's risks for several life-threatening or fertility-threatening diseases? Unfortunately

there are no easy answers. We simply don't have instructive, persuasive evidence either way.

Many experts believe, however, if the slightest possibility exists that dioxin residues in tampons could harm women, the dioxin should simply be eliminated. I also believe we should err on the side of protecting women's health. Tampon manufacturers are not required to disclose ingredients to consumers, although many have taken the positive step of voluntarily disclosing this information. Unfortunately, women are still being forced to take the word of the industry-sponsored research that these products are completely safe.

I should also note that this is not the first time a Member of Congress has expressed concern about this issue. In 1992, the late Representative Ted Weiss of New York brought the issue up in a subcommittee hearing of the Committee on Government Operations. He did this after his staff had uncovered internal FDA documents which suggested the agency had not adequately investigated the danger of dioxin in tampons.

My bill, The Tampon Safety & Research Act (H.R. 890), would direct the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct research to determine the extent to which the presence of dioxin, synthetic fibers, and other additives in tampons and related menstruation products pose any health risks to women. An NIH study would provide American women with independent research, so they will not have to rely solely on research funded by tampon manufacturers.

The second bill I have introduced, The Robin Danielson Act, calls for a program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to track instances of Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS). This bill is named in memory of Robin Danielson, a 44 year-old mother of two who last year of TSS. This bill addresses the many potentially harmful additives in tampons, including chlorine compounds, absorbency enhancers, and synthetic fibers, as well as deodorants and fragrances. Most people are surprised to learn these additives are commonly found in these products.

Toxic Shock Syndrome is a rare bacterial illness which caused over 50 deaths between 1979 and 1980, when the link between tampons and TSS was first established. According to a 1994 study, of the Toxic Shock cases occurring in menstruating women, up to 99% were using tampons. Obviously Toxic Shock Syndrome is still a women's health concern, and its link to tampons has become more clear. We do not know enough about the potential risks associated with such additives. Independent research has already shown synthetic fiber additives in tampons amplify toxins, which are associated with Toxic Shock Syndrome.

Reporting of TSS to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is currently optional and uneven. No one knows the actual number of TSS occurrences or deaths. Because doctors do not report all cases of TSS and because local health departments are swamped with other higher-ranking concerns, Toxic Shock is greatly under-reported. My bill establishes a CDC program to implement mandatory collection of Toxic Shock Syndrome data.

I want to share an excerpt from a letter written to me by a TSS survivor addressing the importance of The Robin Danielson Act and TSS research: "I think women are mis-

informed about the dangers and risks that go with using tampons. I know that I remember hearing about it years ago but had always thought that tampons now were very safe to use. Apparently this is not true and many women today are dying from this disease and it goes unreported.

Women, like Robin Danielson, are still dying from this terrible disease. It is imperative that we are able to accurately inform women of the risk of Toxic Shock associated with tampon use, and that women are well aware of that risk. We know there is a dangerous link between tampon use and TSS. What we don't know is how prevalent the disease is among tampon users. The only means to determine the current risk of Toxic Shock and to raise awareness of the disease is to require systematic reporting through the CDC.

Currently, the CDC believes that women are at increased risk for developing Toxic Shock due to a false sense of security, believing that there is no longer a risk for developing the disease. To make matters worse, the diagnosis of Toxic Shock is difficult because the symptoms are flu-like and can be easily misdiagnosed or ignored. Knowing the continued risk for contracting Toxic Shock is the only way to raise awareness among women and their physicians. More knowledgeable women and physicians will recognize TSS symptoms earlier, diagnose Toxic Shock more readily, and prevent needless deaths.

The fact is, women do not have the information they need to make sound decisions about their health. For the sake of women's well-being, we need accurate, independent information. American women have a right to know about any potential hazards associated with tampons and other related products. It is only when women fully understand the consequences that they can make truly informed decisions about their reproductive health.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in this fight to get accurate health information to the women of America. Their future fertility, and perhaps their lives, may depend on it.

HONORING COLORADO BOYS
STATE TRACK 2A CHAMPIONS—
HOLYOKE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my heartiest congratulations to the Holyoke boys track team on their impressive State 2A Championship. These young men displayed an impressive combination of talent, determination, and teamwork to earn a share of the 2A State Championship.

The State 2A Championship is the highest achievement in high school track. The champions receive a coveted trophy which symbolizes more than just the team and its coach, Mr. Vann Manly. It also represents the staunch support of the runners' families, fellow students, school personnel and the community. From now on, these people can point to the 1999 boys track team with pride, and know they were part of a remarkable athletic endeavor. Indeed, visitors to Holyoke and the school will see a sign proclaiming the boys 2A

State Championship, and know something special had taken place there.

The Holyoke track team is a testament to the old adage that the team wins games, not individuals. Each team member should be proud of his own role. These individuals are the kind of people who lead by example and serve as role-models. With the increasing popularity of sports among young people, local athletes are heroes to the youth in their home towns. I admire the discipline and dedication these high schoolers have shown in successfully pursuing their dream.

The memories of this storied year will last a lifetime. I encourage all involved, but especially the Holyoke runners, to build on this experience by dreaming bigger dreams and achieving greater successes. I offer my best wishes to the team as they move forward from their State 2A Championship to future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF DONALD L.
ALFIERO

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great sorrow on the passing of Donald L. Alfiero of Norwich, Connecticut. Don was a friend to me and thousands in Norwich, a dedicated husband and a tireless public servant.

Don Alfiero worked hard day-in and day-out on behalf of everyone in Norwich. He served on several boards and commissions and was a senior member of the City Council. He recognized the importance of education and fought to ensure that the students in his community had the very best. Don Alfiero was more than a remarkable public servant, he was a great person. He was gregarious and outspoken, but compassionate above all else. I have attached an editorial from the Norwich Bulletin that describes Don well which I request be included following my statement.

Mr. Speaker, Don Alfiero's memory will live on and endure in Norwich. He will always be a model for those of us in public service.

[Editorial from the Norwich Bulletin]

LOSS OF DON ALFIERO STUNS AND DIMINISHES
NORWICH AND COUNCIL

Donald L. Alfiero died suddenly yesterday morning and his loss has stunned and saddened this city.

As husband, neighbor, alderman, volunteer—and simply a good guy—Don Alfiero touched a lot of people hereabouts and always for the better.

Don was 62, retired from Electric Boat, and the senior member of the Norwich City Council. A Democrat, Don represented Precinct 9. But you didn't have to be a Democrat or live in his precinct to call Don Alfiero a friend.

If ever there were anyone of whom it could be said led by example, Don Alfiero was that man. He was involved, he listened and—regardless of what others thought—Don always spoke his mind and did what he thought best. That didn't always win him great popularity; but for Don being popular was secondary to being right.

His service to the city was extensive. Don was vice chairman, then chairman of the Democratic Town Committee, and remained

active with it after that. He was a member of the Mohegan Park Advisory Committee, the Public Parking Commission, City Hall Renovations Committee and the Public Works and Capital Improvements Committee.

Don's and his wife Anna's commitment to education is well known. Anna is chairwoman of the Norwich Board of Education.

Lines on a resume do not adequately describe Don Alfiero. Though they had no children, Don was a grandfatherly kind of guy who loved his city and the people who live here.

It's appropriate to recall that shortly before he died, Don was on the radio with Johnny London, cheerleading for his city and summer festivals at Howard T. Brown Park.

Don Alfiero was a nice man, but more importantly he was a good man. His presence in this city will be missed.

Anna has our sympathy. Don has our prayers. The Norwich City Council has big shoes to fill.

TRIBUTE TO MEL TAKAKI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize one of Colorado's outstanding individuals, Mel Takaki. In doing so, I would like to pay tribute to an individual who, time and again, has exemplified the notion of public service and civic duty.

A resident of Pueblo, Colorado, Mel Takaki has taken an active role to better his community. Recently, Mr. Takaki, a Pueblo civic leader, was recognized with a "Distinguished Service Award" from the University of Colorado for his work in medicine and community service.

A graduate of the Northwestern Dental School, Mel Takaki has previously been honored by the University of Colorado as an honorary alumnus. He was nominated for the "Distinguished Service Award" by Dr. Robert Schrier, chairman of the CU Health Services Center in Denver, Colorado.

Mr. Takaki has worked to better the community of Pueblo in various capacities. He has cared for the citizens of Pueblo through his work as a dentist, and he has provided leadership as an economic-development leader and former City Council president. He is an outstanding citizen and great contributor, and for this I would like to express my gratitude and pay tribute to him for his extraordinary efforts.

TRIBUTE TO GERALDINE "GERRY" SCHNEIDER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to congratulate Geraldine "Gerry" Schneider on completing her general educational development certificate at Lewis and Clark Community College on June 10, 1999, at age 58. Ms. Schneider was born with cerebral palsy.

Despite this disability, Ms. Schneider diligently worked to learn the three R's. Her work at Lewis and Clark Community College that

began in 1994, has allowed her to become actively engaged in issues on disabilities as a resident of Godfrey, Illinois. She was appointed to the Illinois Planning Council on Development by former Governor Jim Edgar, and has moved out of nursing and group homes to live with a companion Raymond Boyle since her educational progress.

Her success can also be attributed to Support Systems Services; a nonprofit organization that provided the funds allowing Gerry to pay for her classes. I believe this is an excellent example of local service organizations caring about people, and helping dreams become realities. I commend both Geraldine Schneider and Support Systems Inc. for their efforts.

I want to congratulate Gerry, in particular, for receiving her hard-earned and much deserved GED. Her personal efforts to persevere and overcome adversity are an inspiration to us all.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING GRADUATES OF THE EL PUENTE ACADEMY

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating special graduates of the 12th Congressional District of New York. I am certain that this day marks the culmination of much effort and hard work which has lead and will lead them to continued success. In these times of uncertainty, limited resources, and random violence in our communities and schools, it is encouraging to know that they have overcome these obstacles and succeeded.

These students have learned that education is priceless. They understand that education is the tool to new opportunities and greater endeavors. Their success is not only a tribute to their strength but also to the support they have received from their parents and loved ones.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to support the education of the youth of America. With a solid education, today's youth will be tomorrow's leaders. And as we approach the new millennium, it is our responsibility to pave the road for this great Nation's future. Members of the U.S. House of Representatives I ask you to join me in congratulating the following outstanding students from the El Puente Academy: Lily Andugar, Indra Camo, Isable Espinal, Ana Hernandez, Evelyn Hernandez, Mia Hilton, Luis Johnson, Miriam Nunez, Maria Perez, Marvin Rodriguez, Luis Ramos, Gerson Santillana, Rodlofo Solis, Omar Torres, Jennifer Valentin, Octovio Vargas, Taiesah Vasquez, and Essany Velazquez.

INTRODUCTION OF ZERO CAPITAL GAINS PROPOSAL

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, Mr. MATSUI and I are introducing a bold proposal to zero out capital gains taxes for those who invest in our burgeoning high tech industry. We are joined by our colleagues on both sides of the aisle who are leaders in the effort to foster a healthy economic climate in which our nation's high tech companies can continue to thrive.

The American economy is moving quickly from one dominated by large corporations to one whose growth is fueled by emerging entrepreneurial high-growth companies. Entrepreneurial companies are today's leaders in job creation, technological innovation, and international competitiveness. America's future economic well-being lies in the hands of today's emerging companies and the central organizing principle for our nation's economic policy should be entrepreneurship.

Over the course of many years, a complex fabric of public policies have created the environment in which entrepreneurial firms compete. Due to the fact that the public policy needs of this community have not been articulated in a united fashion or widely understood by policy makers, however, the basic "building blocks" used to enhance economic growth have not been properly constructed. I rise today to begin to lay the foundation for this policy and ensure that the engine that drives this economy has access to the fuel it needs to thrive: capital.

Entrepreneurs are synonymous with jobs. In the last three years there has been over a million new jobs created in the high tech sector alone. More importantly, the average wage of a high tech job is \$53,000 per year, 77 percent higher than the private sector as a whole. By creating an environment for entrepreneurship to thrive, we also ensure that "spin off" companies develop to foster even greater job creation and technological development. Nowhere is this more clearly demonstrated than in the biotechnology and computer industries that have grown up in my home state of Washington.

The bill I am introducing today will ensure that these new capital-intensive small businesses will have the money they need to create innovative technologies and create jobs. By raising the Section 1202 definition of small business from \$50 million to \$300 million and raising the capital gains exclusion from 50% to 100% for both individuals and corporations, we can create a climate in which individual investors are rewarded for their risky investment and entrepreneurs have the tools they need to succeed.

Capital gains taxes are one of this nation's primary obstacles to job creation and technological innovation. Anything to reduce the effective or actual rate on capital gains taxes will help put more money in the hands of our nation's most enterprising citizens and lift the standard of living for everyone.

In addition to the capital gains provisions in the bill, I am also proposing to eliminate Incentive Stock Options from the calculation of

the individual Alternative Minimum Tax. Today's high tech employers are having a difficult time recruiting and retaining skilled professionals because of the incredibly high demand for people knowledgeable about computers. One of the principal ways employers can retain qualified employees is through Incentive Stock Options, which help supplement the employee's income while giving them an ownership role in the company. Unfortunately, the Alternative Minimum Tax is preventing many employees from receiving more compensation and, therefore, is limiting the use of ISOs as a retention tools. This bill will fix this problem to ensure that both employers and employees can continue to benefit from the economic boom being created by the high tech sector.

Over the course of the next year, I expect a healthy debate over tax policy. It is my hope that this bill will put the primary focus of this debate where it ought to be: removing incentives to economic freedom and entrepreneurship.

I urge my colleagues to support this effort.

A TRIBUTE TO PEGGY AND
FOSTER BURTON

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago, on June 18, 1949, Peggy and Foster Burton were married in Wheeling, West Virginia. Peggy is the daughter of Larry Gideon, a first generation American of Austrian immigrant parents and Blanch Van Kirk, whose American roots date to the 17th century New Amsterdam colony and Scotch-Irish settlement in Pennsylvania. Foster is descended largely from Scottish Highlanders with Scotch, English and Irish ancestors.

Foster Burton was born in Wheeling, West Virginia. He served three years in the United States Marine Corp before receiving an Honorable Discharge in 1946. Dr. Burton earned bachelor degrees in Civil Engineering and Industrial Management from Carnegie Tech. He then earned his Master of Business Administration from New York University and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Pittsburgh. Dr. Burton accepted a teaching position in my home state, at Arizona State University (ASU), where he served as a professor of the Del Webb School of Construction for 24 years.

Peggy Burton was born in Washington, Pennsylvania. Her family moved to Wheeling when she was fourteen. Mrs. Burton received both her Bachelors degree in Fine Arts and Master of Education degree from ASU while maintaining a household with three children. Mrs. Burton was the first official Director of the Tempe Historical Museum. She also served as the Exhibition Coordinator for ASU's Public Events Division.

Since their retirement, Peggy and Foster Burton's primary source of enjoyment has been their five grandchildren. Now their three children, Foster, Margaret (Meg) and Elizabeth, carry on their parent's legacy of service to Arizona.

In this day and age, it is rare to see couples with the fortitude to remain committed to each other and truly honor their wedding vows. The

Burton's dedication to their family, community and each other is an inspiration to all Americans. I know that my fellow members will join me in wishing them a sincere congratulations for their fifty years together.

MS. BILLIE RICHARDS AND
"BILLIE RICHARDS DAY"

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join the constituents of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, the resident of Dallas and my colleagues in the House of Representatives in taking great pleasure to proclaim June 24, 1999 as "Billie Richards Day."

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Richards has served the Dallas County commissioner's court as manager of the Dallas County Home Loan Counseling Center for more than ten years. She has demonstrated continued dedication to help those low to moderate income level households in reaching the American dream of home ownership. Her hard work has allowed many families to take part in a dream that would otherwise have been unattainable.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Richards accomplished a lot during her tenure as executive director of the Neighborhood Housing Services of Dallas, Inc. and the Bethlehem Community Center. Her public relations and managerial skills, as well as her commitment to serve others, are second to none.

Ms. Richards' educational credentials are impressive. She has utilized her creativity and social skills in her teaching position at Dunbar High School in Temple, Texas. Indeed, she has made it a priority to pass on her educational skills to others. In addition, she has received many awards in recognition of her commitment to community development. Her volunteer efforts have touched the lives of many.

On June 24, 1999, we should take a moment to look back at more than 30 years of great achievements that Billie Richards has given to the Dallas community.

Therefore, I ask that all citizens of Dallas join in celebrating June 24, 1999 as "Billie Richards Day."

CONGRATULATIONS TO COACH
RED HILL, ABRAHAM BALDWIN
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
NJCAA CHAMPIONS MEN'S TENNIS

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia for recently winning the National Junior College Athletic Association's men's tennis title. The Stallions had previously won the title in 1984, and have once again proven to be the best Junior College tennis team in the nation. Both national titles were won with the Stallions under the direction

of Coach Norman "Red" Hill. This year's title is especially sweet, as Coach Hill retired after thirty-four years of dedication to ABAC, and to its students.

Red Hill began his career at ABAC in 1965. During the past thirty-four years, Coach Hill has built a nationally recognized, well-respected program. Having recruited some 300 students from around the world to play tennis at ABAC, Coach Hill was much more than a coach. Sure, he was building a nationally recognized program, but he was also instilling character, integrity, and hard work in those whose lives he influenced.

Coach Hill has won more men's college tennis matches than any other coach in America. He led ABAC teams to national tournaments thirty-four consecutive times, won twenty-nine regional championships, has been ranked in the top five national rankings for the past five years, and has won two national championships.

Red became the fourth person in 1993 to be inducted into the NJCAA Men's Tennis Hall of Fame. The Georgia Sports Hall of Fame awarded Coach Hill with an Achievement in Sports Award; he has been designated as an Honorary Alumnus by ABAC's Alumni Association, and will retire with Emeritus status.

Mr. Speaker, Red Hill spent his career making a difference in the future of this country. Those thirty-four years contributed to the success of the many lives that Red influenced. Now, ending his career with another national championship, Coach Red Hill retires a legend. I commend Coach Hill and the ABAC Tennis program for their success.

GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House of Representatives had the opportunity to pass sensible gun safety laws to keep guns out of the hands of juveniles and criminals, and to make our communities safer—but we didn't.

When we debated the bill, I supported the McCarthy amendment because it contained common sense proposals that would have closed the gun show loophole, banned large capacity ammunition clips and required child safety locks on newly purchased handguns.

After that amendment was defeated, I voted against the final version of the gun bill because its background check provision would have given criminals the opportunity to buy guns at gun shows and it would have weakened our current background check laws. The final House bill would have made it easier for a criminal to purchase handguns, and that was unacceptable.

As I have gone door-to-door talking with people and visiting schools in my district, there is no doubt that people overwhelmingly support common sense laws to keep guns out of the hands of kids and criminals. My constituents don't care about politics. They care about whether their children are going to be safe when they are at school. And as a father of two children in public schools, I understand their concerns.

Those concerns were eloquently expressed in a letter I received from Tom Mauser, whose

son Daniel was one of the students murdered at Columbine High School. I am attaching his letter to this statement, and I urge all Members of the House—particularly the leadership of the Judiciary Committee—to review it carefully as we move toward a conference with the Senate on the Juvenile Justice legislation.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HEFLEY, MCINNIS, SCHAFFER and UDALL: I am Tom Mauser, father of Columbine High School victim Daniel Mauser. While I do not live in your district, as an advocate for common sense gun laws I have heard from people from all over Colorado through a web site I've set up in honor of my son (www.danielmauser.com). These people have expressed fear about the safety of their children. Many believe in common sense gun laws, and though they don't speak with the intensity of NRA members, I think their voices should also be heard.

I urge you to pass the Juvenile Justice bill now before the House with the gun control amendments as passed by the Senate intact. Please don't water them down, don't create more loopholes, and don't approve poison pills that would deter passage.

There are those who think I am singularly focused on gun control. No, in ALL of my public appearances I have clearly stated that there are many factors that are responsible for the tragedy at Columbine and other schools (lack of parental oversight, lack of value placed on human life, violence in the media, etc.) However, addressing these cultural factors will take time. Most must be addressed by families and communities, not Congress. One of the only major things Congress can do is to tighten loopholes and reduce children's access to guns. So the question is, will you show leadership to address this one action you can take? Or will you pretend that the status quo is okay?

I urge you once again to pass the Juvenile Justice bill with the gun control amendments passed by the Senate. If you are unwilling to do so, I ask you to ponder these questions: What useful purpose is there for the semi-automatic weapons like the one used to kill my son? Why do we need imported gun clips holding more than ten bullets, like the one used to kill my son? How many more school shootings or how many more gun deaths would there have to be before you would put aside concerns about 'bureaucratic burdens on gun owners' and vote against the NRA and for common sense gun laws? How many????

On my son's web site I will place your voting record on this issue. Just as the NRA pressures you and holds you accountable, so too will I. In just 12 days since it began, the web site has had well over 5,000 hits, and I expect more as time goes on. I hope you will honor Coloradans and our God by doing the RIGHT thing.

I encourage you to visit my son's web site (www.danielmauser.com) so you'll be reminded of the human costs of these tragic shootings. I welcome your response to this letter, as would the thousands of Coloradans logging on to the web site.

Sincerely,

TOM MAUSER.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOHN
FRANCIS KELLY, UNITED
STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. FLOYD SPENCE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exceptional United States Ma-

rines officer, Colonel John Francis Kelly. Next week, Colonel Kelly completes a highly successful four year tour as the Marine Corps' Liaison to this body. It is a pleasure for me to recognize a few of his many outstanding achievements.

A native of Brighton, Massachusetts, John Kelly initially served in the United States Merchant Marines until 1969. On September 10, 1970, John Kelly dedicated himself to the service of this Country by enlisting in the Marine Corps. Upon graduating from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island, South Carolina in November 1970, he was designated as a Rifleman and conducted training with the Infantry Training Regiment, until February 1971. Due to his exemplary performance, he was meritoriously promoted ahead of his peers to the grades of Private First Class, Lance Corporal, Corporal, and Sergeant. He was discharged from the Marine Corps in September 1972. Soon after graduating from the University of Massachusetts, Colonel Kelly was commissioned as a Marine Corps Second Lieutenant, in November 1975.

Then, Second Lieutenant Kelly reported to The Basic School in Quantico, Virginia, for six months of basic officer training. Upon his graduation from that school, John Kelly reported for duty with the Second Battalion, Second Marine Regiment, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, where he served as a Platoon Commander, a Rifle Company Executive Officer, an Assistant Operations Officer, and Commanding Officer of a rifle company. In November 1977, he was promoted to First Lieutenant. Subsequent non-Fleet Marine Force assignments from 1979 to 1984 included service as the Executive Officer for Marine Detachments, aboard the USS FORRESTAL and the USS INDEPENDENCE, and as the Ground Officer Assignment Monitor at Headquarters, United States Marine Corps, Washington, DC. During this time, he was promoted to Captain. He also graduated from Georgetown University in 1978, where he earned a Masters Degree in National Security Studies.

In June of 1984, Captain Kelly was assigned to the Third Battalion, Fourth Marine Regiment, and he commanded both Rifle and Weapons Companies. Upon being promoted to the rank of Major, John Kelly served as the Battalion's Operation Officer. In June 1987, Major Kelly was transferred to Quantico, Virginia, where he was initially assigned as the Section Head, Offensive Tactics at The Basic School. In April 1988, Major Kelly was assigned as the Officer in Charge and Chief Instructor at the Marine Corps Infantry Officer Course, also located at Quantico, Virginia. He held this position until August 1990, at which time he was reassigned as a student at Marine Corps Command and Staff College and later to the School for Advanced Warfighting. In June 1992, Major Kelly transferred to the First Marine Division, Camp Pendleton, California, and he assumed the duties as Commanding Officer of the First Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, where he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

John Kelly arrived for duty as the Marine Corps' Liaison Officer at the House of Representatives in June of 1995. In this capacity, he has been instrumental in providing the Congress with in-depth knowledge of the Marine Corps. Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, Colonel John Kelly has come to epitomize those qualities that we as a Nation have come

to expect from our Marines—absolutely impeccable integrity and character, as well as professionalism.

John Kelly was promoted to Colonel, at a ceremony in which I had the honor to participate, at the House of Representatives in July 1998. His personal awards include two Meritorious Service Medals, four Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medals and the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Mr. Speaker, John Kelly has served our Country with distinction for the past twenty-six years. As he continues to do so, I call upon my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to wish him, his lovely wife Karen, and their three children, John Jr., Robert, and Kathleen, much continued success in the future, as well as fair winds and following seas.

TRIBUTE TO WEST POINT GRADUATE RALPH WARE

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a young man dedicated to excellence in the service of his Country. On May 29, 1999, Cadet Captain Ralph Ware of Aurora, Colorado, Graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

The United States Military Academy is among the most prestigious military academies in all the world. The Academy selects only the best and brightest young people of our nation to serve and study at West Point for four years. Once admitted, the cadet must endure the most rigorous training, testing his mind, body and spirit on a daily basis. As the cadet meets each challenge, he is transformed into a new, multifaceted person, capable of serving his country in the face of any obstacle. This transformation culminates in graduation, where each cadet celebrates the achievements of the past and the possibilities of the future.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate Cadet Captain Ralph Ware and all of the East Point graduates. With confidence, I look forward to their leadership in America.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF DR. WILLIAM R. WILSON, JR.

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. William R. Wilson, Jr. upon receiving his Norwich Rotary Club's Native Son award for 1999. Dr. Wilson is a distinguished son of Norwich and an extraordinary humanitarian.

Dr. Wilson is a highly skilled cardiac surgeon specializing in pediatric cardiology. He is chief of cardiovascular surgery at The Children's Hospital, University Hospital and Clinics in Columbia, Missouri. Dr. Wilson has performed more than 120 heart transplants, including on the youngest Americans.

However, Dr. Wilson is more than just a surgeon, he is a humanitarian. He has traveled

across the world to use his skills to better the lives of people who live in nations which do not enjoy the medical care available in our great country. Thanks to Dr. Wilson, children around the globe have been given a precious gift—the opportunity to grow up healthy and happy. I have attached an editorial from the Norwich Bulletin commending Dr. Wilson which I request be included following my remarks.

Mr. Speaker, I join residents from Norwich in congratulating Dr. William Wilson, Jr. on receiving this prestigious award. He is a humanitarian, a tribute to his family and a great ambassador for our country.

DR. WILLIAM R. WILSON, JR. IS NATIVE SON
FOR 1999

William R. Wilson Jr., M.D., today will be awarded the Norwich Rotary Club's Native Son honor for 1999. Bill left Norwich many years ago, and since that departure he has distinguished himself both throughout this country and internationally as a cardiac surgeon and, specifically, a pediatric cardiac surgeon.

The son of Margaret Sullivan Wilson and the late W. Robert Wilson—and the brother of Margaret, known hereabouts as Peggy—Bill was born in Norwich in 1954 and grew up on Lincoln Avenue and Canterbury Turnpike.

During his early years here, Bill learned to golf and ski. He and his sister volunteered for Head Start, and Bill had stints locally with a bank and the American Ambulance Service.

His early learning took place at the John Mason and Samuel Huntington schools, Kelly Junior High and, finally, the Norwich Free Academy from which he graduated in 1972. While his curriculum vitae and individual honors are much too extensive to enumerate here, his education continued at Kenyon College, the University of Connecticut, the Medical Center Hospital of Vermont and Case Western Reserve University.

During his time in Kenyon, Bill served as a town volunteer firefighter. In the course of those duties, he responded to a horrific car accident where one person died at the scene, another at the hospital. That spurred his initial interest in medicine.

Bill's skill today—which includes surgery on infants and more than 125 heart transplants—takes brilliance, a steady hand and enormous dedication.

Bill was 35 before he finished training and went to work.

He has taught anatomy, been staff and chief physician, and today is chief of cardiovascular surgery at The Children's Hospital, University Hospital and Clinics in Columbia, Mo.

He's licensed in Vermont, Minnesota, Illinois, Ohio and Missouri. He's led medical missions to Peru and the Republic of Georgia in the former Soviet Union.

Today, when he's not saving or improving the quality of human lives, Bill and his wife, Joan, and their children Bobby, Brandon and Alaina make their home in Columbia, Mo.

With family, job and an occasional round of golf, the demands on Bill's time are considerable. And though today he calls Missouri home, he will always be a Norwich native, one of whom this community is enormously proud.

The Norwich Rotary Club has made a fine choice in selecting Dr. Wilson as 1999 Native Son. On behalf of the community, we extend our congratulations to a man who has made us very proud.

Well done, Bill, and welcome home.

TRIBUTE TO MR. FRAN GRADISAR

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize and honor Mr. Fran Gradisar. Later this month, Mr. Gradisar will retire after 39 years as a leading veterinarian in Pueblo, Colorado, and I would like to pay tribute to him for his hard work, dedication and service to citizens of Pueblo and their pets.

After graduating from high school, Mr. Gradisar was drafted and served two years in the Army. Searching for a career after completing his military service, Mr. Gradisar remembered his admiration of dogs and decided to become a veterinarian.

He enrolled at Colorado State University, was accepted to vet school and in 1960, he graduated and returned to Pueblo to work for Dr. Ed Eden for several years. After gaining valuable experience from Dr. Eden, Mr. Gradisar established his own practice which he has maintained since 1964.

His dedication to the health of animals has instilled in the owners of his patients a sense of trust which now brings the third generation of some families to his office. Mr. Gradisar has not only cared for the animals which have visited his office, but he has also volunteered time and services to the humane society.

Individuals such as Mr. Fran Gradisar, who contribute to the community in which they live, and set a good example for all, are a rare breed. Today, as Mr. Gradisar opens the page on a new chapter in his life, I would like to offer my gratitude for his work ethic and for the inspiration which he has provided. It is clear that Pueblo has benefitted greatly from his practice. I would like to congratulate him on a job well done, and wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE HEALTH COVERAGE FOR HEARING AIDS FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would provide coverage for hearing aids under the health benefits program for Federal employees.

Hearing loss is a health issue. If hearing loss is not treated, it can affect the general and psychological health of an individual. Studies show that people with hearing loss often suffer serious emotional and social consequences. Untreated hearing loss can lead to depression, anxiety, stress and chemical dependency which results in an increase in medical visits and hospital stays.

Many people feel that there is a stigma attached to hearing loss and try to hide it. This is especially true of employees who fear that they will be seen as less than competent in the workplace if they admit that they have a hearing loss.

Hearing loss affects about nine million Americans over the age of 65 and 10 million

Americans between 45 and 64. About three out of five older Americans and six out of seven middle-aged Americans with hearing loss do not wear a hearing aid. More than one-half of the non-users cite the cost as a reason for not wearing a hearing aid.

Hearing aids are a major uncovered health care expense. The average cost of a hearing aid in 1997 was \$971. By providing health care coverage, this legislation will ensure that federal employees and their families will be able to afford much-needed hearing aids.

There are a number of insurance policies that cover hearing aids. The California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) provides coverage for hearing tests and hearing evaluations, at no cost. This plan also covers up to \$1,000 every three years for hearing aids.

The State of Minnesota Employees Insurance provides coverage for hearing exams and up to 80 percent of the cost of a hearing aid for all its employees. And Hartford Insurance offers hearing testing and the full cost of two aids every five years.

Mr. Speaker, hearing loss is one of the most prevalent chronic conditions in America. We must address this serious problem by making hearing aids more affordable, so that hearing-impaired individuals and their families can improve the quality of their lives.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to say that I missed votes numbered 204–238 from June 14 to 18, 1999, as I was attending the inauguration ceremony of South African President Thabo Mbeki.

Under the authorization of Chairman BEN GILMAN of the House International Relations Committee, I was the sole representative of the U.S. Congress at the inauguration.

IN HONOR OF THE 150TH BIRTHDAY OF DAYTON, KENTUCKY

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and celebration of the 150th birthday of Dayton, Kentucky.

Dayton is a city that has overcome much adversity in its 150 years, including three major floods. Dayton's resilience can be traced to the strong work ethic of its people. The people of Dayton, including its government, business, and education leaders, have always had a "roll up your sleeves and get to work" attitude. It's that kind of work ethic that helped build America's great cities—big and small.

Earlier this month, I was honored to take part in Dayton's sesquicentennial parade to commemorate Dayton's many accomplishments and to celebrate this important milestone. And today, in the U.S. House of Representatives, I rise to congratulate the city of

Dayton. To the people of Dayton on the occasion of your city's sesquicentennial—Happy Birthday to you.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHERS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the ceaseless service of over 20 school teachers and principals upon their retirement from the Thompson School District in Loveland and Berthoud, Colorado. From first grade to twelfth grade, these hard working citizens have dedicated their lives to America's youth. Through education, these mentors selflessly helped students of all ages to believe in themselves and strive to achieve their goals. A majority of these teachers served the Thompson School District for at least 20 years, and others have dedicated as much as 30 years in the district. Their unrelenting work is truly a tribute to the Thompson School District and to American public schools.

Mr. Speaker, I hereby personally recognize each of these educators on behalf of the House of Representatives of the United States of America: Debra Biernat, Bonnie Bonewitz, Frances Clark, Carol Dormer, Nancy Erickson, Martha Grohusky, Cecilo Gutierrez, Wayne Gutowski, JoAnn Hanson, Vicki Hout, Eilyn Johnson, Marion Kolstoe, James McReynolds, Lee Parsons, Mary Peterson, Sandra Rorda, Terry Roulter, Charles Schoonover, Susan Schoonover, William Shields, William Speiser, James Spoon, Karen Storm, Valerie Trujillo, Mary Vogesser, and Joan Zuboy. These educators' devotion to children has earned the respect of their colleagues, parents, and students. I wish them a very fulfilling retirement and the best in all of their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO JANE QUINE, FORMER CONGRESSIONAL STAFFER; AKRON, OHIO, ACTIVIST

HON. TOM SAWYER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Speaker, with her lilting Milledgeville, Georgia, accent, Jane Quine became an improbable but highly effective political leader in Akron, Ohio, for 25 years. Jane Quine died at age 81 last Thursday in Jacksonville, Florida. She has left us with abundant memories of her leadership, her grace, and her seemingly boundless energy.

Mrs. Quine served twice as a congressional staffer. First, she worked for Rep. Carl Vinson during the build-up and height of World War II. This was where she met Akronite John Quine. Mr. Quine, on assignment to Vinson's Naval Affairs Committee, was persuasive enough not only to marry her, but to convince her to make Akron her home.

We didn't call it the "mommy track" back then, but Jane Quine did give up active politics for about two decades while she raised six

children. Then she returned to the political arena in 1970 as a campaign worker for John Seiberling, my predecessor in Congress. With Rep. Seiberling, she reprised her role as congressional staffer, becoming his District Director for several years.

Then she ran a number of key local campaigns, including my own campaigns for Mayor of Akron and for the U.S. House of Representatives. Unlike the smoke-filled rooms that local politics sometimes bring to mind, Jane Quine used her gracious home as the setting for countless meetings, both formal and informal, as she built a strong party network. She mentored, and some would say mothered, politicians from across the county. All along, the values she espoused were democratic, in the broadest sense of the word—duty, activism, inclusion, participation, service.

In 1986, Governor Richard Celeste appointed her to the University of Akron board of trustees, where she served through 1995. In 1990, Jane Quine became the first woman to chair the Summit County Democratic Party. She also served on the board of the Akron-Canton Regional Airport for most of the 1980's as it prepared for a period of unprecedented growth.

Those of us left behind in snowy Ohio regretted her leaving in 1995 for St. Augustine, Florida, where she immersed herself in still more worthy causes. Still, a whole generation of Akron's public officials found her departure left a distinct void in our lives, compounded by Thursday's sad news.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Tuesday's editorial from the Akron Beacon Journal, recounting Mrs. Quine's many contributions to the Akron area, by printed in the RECORD.

JANE QUINE: ALWAYS A DEMOCRAT, ALWAYS THERE FOR DEMOCRATS

If ever there was a person associated with polite politics, it was Jane Quine. A genteel, old-fashioned Southerner, Mrs. Quine believed that slash-and-burn campaigns did the practice of professional politics, which she loved, far more harm than good.

Mrs. Quine, who died last week in Florida at age 81, was the rock on which many local political careers were built. She was a mainstay of local Democratic politics for several decades, including service as the first female county Democratic chairman. A self-described "stamp-licker" for U.S. Rep. John Seiberling's first successful campaign, Mrs. Quine is credited either with launching political careers or helping to sustain them with wise counsel, vast energy and unwavering loyalty.

She couldn't resist the call to help Democrats. She became active in party politics in St. Augustine, Fla., where she moved in 1995. After all, she said, "There aren't many of us down here."

Her innate sense of right and wrong kept her involved. Politics requires two strong parties, and she was a true Democrat. She also believed in her duty to the community, serving on the boards of the University of Akron and the Akron-Canton Regional Airport.

If local politics has turned harsh, it may be because people such as Jane Quine aren't on the scene to give it a firm but far gentler push toward reason.

TRIBUTE TO MS. CECELIA B. HENDERSON, AREA DIRECTOR, THE LINKS, INCORPORATED "THE BIG APPLE CLUSTER"

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the accomplishments of Ms. Cecelia B. Henderson of The Links, Incorporated for her contributions to African Americans, especially the youth in eastern cities and communities, preparing them to meet the challenges in professions and fields where African Americans are few in number.

The first Links club was founded in November 1946 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with only nine members. The purpose of the organization at its inception was to foster friendship and render service to needy African-American families. The membership has grown to more than 10,500 today, with 270 chapters located in forty (40) US cities, Nassau, Bahamas, and in Frankfurt, Germany.

Today, The Links is a volunteer service organization of concerned, committed, and talented women who through service, linked in friendship, commits itself to enhancing the quality of life in the larger community. Because of the rich legacy of the organization, it has contributed over 15 million dollars to worthy causes through grants-in-aid, and through many effective initiatives within communities across the country. Through its participation in UNICEF, the organization is active abroad, in building elementary schools in South Africa, contributing to the construction of water wells elsewhere in Africa, and aiding the Caribbean Women's Health Association to improve the lives of Caribbean women and children.

Ms. Henderson has served as the Eastern Area Director of The Links for the past four years. She became a member of the Buffalo, New York, Chapter in 1974, and has held numerous leadership positions in the local chapter, and at the National Level.

In 1997, and again in 1999, under the leadership of Ms. Henderson, The Eastern Area Links presented a classroom-based educational program entitled, HeartPower to school districts in New York City and Philadelphia with a simple message, "you too can have a healthy heart, it's as easy as 1-2-3". This program fits with the overall theme which Ms. Henderson developed for the Eastern Area, "Serve up Success: Build Linkages . . . Empower the Black Family."

A retired educator with a long and commendable professional career in the Buffalo, New York, school system, Ms. Henderson has served the Links with her expertise in promoting health education.

As the community celebrates her years of leadership and service at the thirty-fifth Eastern Area Conference, I offer our congratulations to her as she is recognized for the differences that her efforts have made in cultivating the talents, and developing the abilities of the youth of today, with the potential of becoming local, national and world leaders of the twenty-first century.

UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
STUART EIZENSTAT DISCUSSES
RELATIONS WITH THE EURO-
PEAN UNION

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last week the Committee on International Relations held an excellent and timely hearing on the United States relationship with Europe and the European Union. This hearing was particularly timely as it was held on the eve of the G-7 Summit in Bonn, Germany, at which United States representatives, including our President, held critical discussions with our European allies and the European Union. This hearing was the first in a series of planned committee hearings on the transatlantic relationship and its importance to United States political, economic, and security interests.

Mr. Speaker, with total trade and investment between the United States and the European Union now in excess of \$1 trillion annually, the EU is already our largest single trading and investment partner. The EU is also the world's largest single market, and with the establishment of the new single European currency—the euro—this market will continue to be the most important market for American firms and the most important external market for the economic health of our nation.

While we tend to give greater attention to the economic and trade aspects of our relationship with the European Union, we must not ignore the growing importance of the political dimension of our relationship. The European Union is moving toward greater political involvement and it plays a key role in the coordination of member foreign policies, Mr. Speaker. The EU will play a critical role in the reconstruction of Southeastern Europe, it plays a vital role in encouraging the development of democratic political institutions, a civil society and a market economy in Central and Eastern Europe and in Russia. Furthermore, the EU has been a partner with us in encouraging political stability and economic prosperity in North Africa and the Middle East.

The principal administration witness at this important hearing of the Committee on International Relations, Mr. Speaker, was Under Secretary of State Stuart Eizenstat. He is the quintessential outstanding and extraordinary public servant in this city, who has demonstrated his commitment to the highest quality of public service in a variety of most important capacities as our ambassador to the European Union and in key sub-cabinet posts in three departments—the Department of Commerce, the Department of State, and now the President has nominated him to serve as Deputy Secretary of Treasury.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that a summary of the opening statement made by Secretary Eizenstat at our recent hearing be placed in the RECORD. This excellent statement reflects the best current American thinking about the issues of concern regarding the United States and our relationship with Europe and the European Union.

STATEMENT OF UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
STUART EIZENSTAT TO THE COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, JUNE 15, 1999

Mr. Chairman, I very much appreciate the statements that have been made by the

members of the Committee. It is an honor to be here with my good friend David Aaron, the Undersecretary for Trade at the Department of Commerce.

With the European Union, we share a commitment to the promotion of security, prosperity and democracy—not only in the Euro-Atlantic area but beyond it as well. It is no hyperbole to suggest that the relationship between the U.S. and the European Union may be the most important, influential and prosperous bilateral relationship of modern times. Two-way trade and investment flows are now some \$1 trillion annually, supporting more than 6 million jobs on both sides of the Atlantic. One in 12 industrial jobs in the United States is in a European owned factory, and European countries are the biggest foreign investors in 41 of our 50 U.S. states.

We have launched the Trans-Atlantic Economic Partnership, covering 10 broad areas to reduce existing trade barriers, improve regulatory cooperation, and establish a bilateral dialogue on multilateral trade issues in the WTO. We've agreed with the EU that the WTO should begin a new broad-based round of trade negotiations, following a structure that will yield results expeditiously in agriculture services and other areas. We've also agreed to seek permanent commitments by WTO members not to impose duties on electronic commerce transactions, an area where Secretary Aaron has had a particular impact.

REBUILDING SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

There is no more vivid example of our common values and goals than the work we are doing with the EU right now in the post-conflict reconstruction of Southeastern Europe. As the confrontation in Kosovo comes to an end, together we have a big job before us. Our joint aim is to build a solid foundation for a new era of peace and stability, helping a region that has been one of the continent's most violent, become instead part of the European mainstream.

We forged a new stability pact for the region. And we believe that just as we have born the lion's share of the military expenditures, it is only right that the European Union bear the lion's share of the reconstruction. And this is something that they themselves have indicated they wish to do.

ENLARGEMENT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

The 15 member EU is now about to undertake its largest enlargement ever. It will be one of the most important challenges facing Europe in the 21st Century. I would say to my dear friend, Congressman Lantos, that when he talks about great enterprises, this expansion will be a historic opportunity to further the peaceful integration of the continent, if it is done right.

The EU plans to spend, on its new members, between 2000 and 2006, the equivalent in 1999 dollars of what we spent on Western Europe through the Marshall plan. It will encourage cooperation, reinforce democracy, and reduce nationalistic and ethnic tensions. And if in the end it is successful, the European Union will be the largest single market in the world, with over 500 million citizens in an economy significantly larger than our own.

Thirteen countries have applied for EU membership so far. And the European Commission is in the middle of negotiations, with six of those 13, and another five are going through initial screening. The year 2003 is the likely earliest date for excision of the first wave of candidates, and frankly the balance of writs are for a later rather than an earlier date for enlargement.

Enlargement should be a net-plus for U.S. goods and services, to help the countries of Eastern and Central Europe. Nonetheless, we

will insure that our commercial and economic interests are not disadvantaged.

We are working both with the EU and its candidate states to prevent the erection of new barriers to trade as part of the enlargement process. The main problem concerns the interim period between now and ultimate excision. Because at excision, they will take the common external tariff of the European Union which is generally quite low. But in the interim, as tariff levels from EU products drop to zero in the candidate countries, they remain at higher levels for U.S. products to our disadvantage. We're working with the candidate countries to find suitable remedies. We're encouraging them to adopt the lower EU tariff schedules as soon as possible. Slovenia, for example, has begun to do this. The European Commission has agreed with our strategy, and excision candidates are beginning to respond.

Certainly we will be economic competitors, but with our combined strength together, we'll also be able to set a global agenda supporting democracy and open markets. We share, if I may say so, more values with Europe than we do with any other region.

Enlargement of the EU requires the candidate counties to conform their laws and practices to EU norms. It would almost be like saying that a new state coming into the United States has to conform of every page of the code of federal regulations. It is a mammoth job. It requires change not only in the candidate countries, but also on the part of the current member states as well.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY

The largest step is the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy, or the CAP. The EU has now agreed to put a ceiling on total expenditures over the next several years. But this cannot be done without reforming its agricultural subsidies.

Almost half of the EU's overall budget, over \$50 billion, is earmarked for agricultural subsidies. The European Commission's modest CAP reforms are inadequate to do the job. They will complicate the process of enlargement, and they do not go nearly far enough in terms of reducing the distorting effects of the CAP on the world trading system. Other countries, including developing countries will continue to be forced to pay for European farm inefficiencies by losing sales at home and in third markets.

THE AMSTERDAM TREATY/A COMMON FOREIGN
POLICY

Historically, every enlargement of the EU has been preceded by a deepening of the level of internal cooperation. They are already slow in many cases to respond to a crisis. This will be further complicated when they expand to 21 members. With the advent of the Amsterdam Treaty on May 1, we're witnessing a dramatic shift in power. The European Parliament now has a greatly enhanced role in EU decision-making, and will enjoy equal say or co-decision with the council administrators on more than two-thirds of all EU legislation.

The Amsterdam Treaty will also result, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, in major changes in ways the EU conducts its foreign policy. A new high representative for its common, foreign and security policy will give the EU greater visibility on the international scene. They have selected NATO Secretary General Javier Solana as the first High Representative for their common foreign and security policy. He has been an extraordinary Secretary General of NATO and we believe he will perform equally well at the EU and we look forward to working with him.

An EU with an effective foreign and security policy would be a power with shared values, and strong transatlantic ties with which

we could work globally to solve problems. The EU has also chosen former Italian Prime Minister Prodi as the next president of the European Commission. We have worked well with him before, and we have great confidence in him as well.

CURRENT TRADE ISSUES

We often let the immediacy of our current trade disputes blind us to the very real benefits that we both enjoy from access to each other's markets. But obviously there is a tough road ahead. And yet we can't allow our relationship to be defined solely by these disputes.

All too often, nevertheless, the EU takes actions, such as its unilateral hush kits regulation where Ambassador Aaron did such a fabulous job of at least temporarily diverting a problem. Or it's counterproductive response to the previous WTO panels on bananas and beef from exacerbating trade tensions. It's for that reason that we have suggested an early warning system to identify such problems before they burst into full-scale disputes.

We are indeed facing a tough set of trade disagreements, and we continue to hammer home the principle of fair and transparent trade rules: of the need for the EU to respect international commitments and WTO rulings, of abiding by scientific principles and not politics in making health, safety, and environmental decisions.

The need for a clear and rational trading principle may be greatest in the need of biotechnology. Within a few years, virtually 100 percent of our agricultural commodity exports will either be genetically modified organisms (GMO) or mixed with GMO products. And our trade in these products must be based on a framework based on fair and transparent procedures, which address safety on a scientific and not a political basis.

We, since 1994 approve some 20 GMO agricultural products. Since 1998, Europe has not approved any. There is no scientifically based governmental system to approve GMO products, therefore the European public is susceptible to ill-informed scare tactics. The EU approval process for GMOs is not transparent, not predictable, not based on scientific principles, and all too often susceptible to political interference.

We've been working to break this pattern of confrontation and indeed there are leaders in Europe who recognize that an EU regulatory system drawn up in accordance with its own international trade obligations would be a boon to both business and consumers. We have a new biotech-working group to address GMO issues.

The same can be said for beef hormones; where the European public is subjected to daily scare tactics which try to portray the hormone issue as a health and safety issue, when indeed there is broad scientific evidence that beef hormones are completely safe. There is no reason why American beef producers should pay the price for internal political calculations in Europe inconsistent with WTO principles.

To conclude, as we look toward the future, our goal is to work together to promote our goals of security, prosperity and democracy. Together we can accomplish more than either the U.S. or the EU can by acting alone.

WE MUST WORK TOGETHER WITH EUROPE

We want to work more effectively to deal with past breaking crises, to find ways of managing our disagreements before they get out of hand, and to expand areas of joint action and cooperation.

We are working on just that and the hopes that we can articulate a new vision at the June 21 U.S.-EU summit in Bonn through a new Bonn declaration. This would fit in with our larger goal of using 1999 for a series of

summits, NATO, OSCE and the U.S.-EU summit to strengthen the abiding European-Atlantic partnership which has been so important to maintain stability in Europe for the 20th Century, and to make sure it does the same for the 21st.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO IMPROVE MEDICARE'S SURETY BOND PROGRAM**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Congresswoman THURMAN and myself, I am today introducing legislation based on recommendations of the U.S. General Accounting Office to improve the operation of the Medicare home health agency, durable medical equipment, and certain rehabilitation providers' surety bond program.

Enacted as part of the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, the surety bond program was one of a series of anti-fraud, waste, and abuse provisions designed to crack down on the outrageous proliferation and increased utilization of questionable Medicare providers.

The General Accounting Office issued a report in January, 1999 (GAO/HEHS-99-03) entitled, "Medicare Home Health Agencies: Role of Surety Bonds in Increasing Scrutiny and Reducing Overpayments." The report focuses on problems in the surety bond provisions and makes a number of recommendations. Our bill addresses most of those recommendations.

While the BBA has had a huge impact in controlling the growth of spending and weeding out questionable and fraudulent providers, the surety bond program has had severe administrative problems. It needs simplification and needs to be focused on the start-up providers who have no track record and who may be the source of program abuse. Once a provider has proven that they are a reliable and dependable provider, continuing to require a surety bond just increases program costs. Our bill, therefore requires one surety bond for Medicare and Medicaid (not a separate bond for each program) for the two years of a provider's operations, and limits the size of the bond to \$50,000 (not the larger of \$50,000 or 15% of an agency's Medicare revenues) and makes it clear that orthotic and prosthetic providers including angioplastologists, are not meant to be covered by the surety bond requirement.

Mr. Speaker, we hope that this legislation can be enacted. It will reduce hassle and paperwork, while still helping weed out questionable home health and DME providers from starting in the Medicare program.

THE SAFE MOTHERHOOD MONITORING AND PREVENTION RESEARCH ACT OF 1999

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, let me tell you about my district. I represent 26 rural

counties in Southern Missouri. These counties are home to some of the most poverty stricken communities in the State. Most of them lack even basic health care services. And many lack decent roads and reliable phone service. Many people in these communities find themselves isolated from their extended family, their friends and their neighbors.

When I was starting my family more than 20 years ago, I was lucky to have my mother, my sister and my mother-in-law to help me through my pregnancies. I was lucky to be able to afford health insurance that covered prenatal care. I was lucky to have access to quality health care in Cape Girardeau. But many American women aren't so fortunate. And they fall through the cracks of our health system.

Many young mothers-to-be in my rural district are isolated from family and friends—and they live miles away from nurses and doctors. This isolation often prevents them from getting prenatal care and adds to the fears and uncertainties that come along with being a new or expectant mother.

Fortunately for some of the young women in rural Missouri, there are people like Sister Rita and Sister Ann looking out for them. Ten years ago, Sister Rita—a parish nurse and midwife serving in Missouri's poor "Lead Belt" and Ozark counties—quickly realized that many of the young women there weren't prepared for healthy pregnancies and births or for caring for their infants. So Sister Rita began to network and build relationships in her community. She branched out and worked with the St. Louis University Medical Center and with State and federal health programs. And she established the "Whole Kids Outreach" in Ellington, Missouri.

Sister Ann is now carrying on the incredible work started by Sister Rita. The Whole Kids Outreach program has grown to include a Resource Mothers Program—a program that educates women about healthy pregnancies and childbirth, promotes access to care, and provides home care visits. The most amazing thing about this program is that it is staffed by experienced moms from the community who are trained as childbirth educators. And these local moms help establish circles of support for expectant and new moms.

It's with great admiration that I mention the Whole Kids Outreach program, because despite its modest size, it has been of tremendous help to many mothers and infants in rural Missouri. The young women in rural Missouri are not alone. Women throughout our nation face great challenges in securing healthy pregnancies and healthy children.

Consider the following: At the turn of this century more American women died in childbirth than from any other cause except for tuberculosis. At the close of this century, after all of the medical advances made in this country, it's easy to assume that today pregnancy and childbirth are safer for American women and their babies.

But this is a false assumption.

The recently released CDC report makes it painfully clear that the promise of safe motherhood is eluding too many women. In fact, during the past 15 years alone, total maternal deaths have not declined one bit in our nation. Just think of it. Today, tuberculosis claims about one American life out of 1,000 a year. But 2-3 women out of 10,000 lose their lives each day due to pregnancy-related conditions.

And out of 1,000 live births in our country each year, 8 babies die. More infants die each year in the United States than in 24 other developed nations.

As a Member of Congress and as a mother of four daughters, this maternal and infant mortality rate is simply unacceptable. We've got to find out why safe motherhood is still out of reach for so many American women. I am very proud to join many of my esteemed colleagues—NITA LOWEY, SUE KELLEY, CYNTHIA MCKINNEY, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, and CAROLYN MALONEY—in introducing legislation today that will have a significant impact on the progress of maternal and infant health in this country.

In addition to introducing the Safe Motherhood Monitoring and Prevention Research Act, we would like to call on the Commerce Subcommittee on Health and Environment to hold oversight hearings on maternal and infant health and urge Congress as a whole to make this issue a national priority.

Our bill achieves 3 key goals, all necessary components to true progress in the enhancement of maternal and infant care.

First, it expands CDC's Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS) so that all 50 states will benefit from a public health monitoring system of pregnancy-risk related factors. Although the PRAMS program has received a lot of recognition for positively affecting maternal and infant health outcomes, currently only 18 states are benefiting from the success of PRAMS. Our bill also supports local and state efforts to collect data on mothers who experience serious complications during their pregnancy.

Second, our bill authorizes an increase in federal funding for preventive research, so we can identify basic health prevention activities to improve maternal health. This aspect of the bill builds upon the Birth Defects Prevention Act, which my colleague, Senator KIT BOND and I sponsored in the 105th Congress and which was signed into law last April.

The third and final component of our bill directs CDC to help states and localities create public education and prevention programs to prevent poor maternal outcomes for American women.

In addition, our bill emphasizes the need to expand existing prevention programs and pregnancy risk assessment systems to include those areas of the country where underserved and at-risk populations reside.

By looking at the list of original cosponsors of this bill, one is amazed at the very diverse groups of women legislators committed to this important piece of legislation. We're conservative and liberal. We're rural and urban. We're pro-life and pro-choice. And we're from multi-cultural backgrounds. But as a unique coalition of women, we're able to put aside our differences and come together on this common ground—on this precious ground—of the health and well-being of all mothers and infants in our nation. I urge all my colleagues to review the merits of the Safe Motherhood Monitoring and Prevention Research Act of 1999 and cosponsor this important piece of legislation.

REAUTHORIZE THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, recently in my home state of Illinois, the State Senate and the State House of Representatives adopted Senate Joint Resolution 39 urging the U.S. Congress to reauthorize the Older Americans Act for the upcoming fiscal year. I would like to commend the Illinois Legislature for their dedication to the elderly in their state and urge the 106th Congress to support the elderly of the country by reauthorizing the Older Americans Act. I enter into the RECORD Senate Joint Resolution No. 39.

Whereas, The Older Americans Act promotes the dignity and value of every older person age 60 and over (numbering 2,000,000 in Illinois) through an Aging Network led by the Illinois Department of Aging, 13 area agencies on aging, 233 community-based senior service agencies and 63 nutrition services agencies throughout Illinois; and

Whereas, The Older Americans Act is a successful federal program, with the U.S. Administration on Aging offering leadership in Washington D.C., the Illinois Department on Aging (the first state department on aging in the nation) at the State level, the area agencies on aging in 13 regions designated by the State covering all of Illinois, and community-based senior service agencies providing services in every community; and

Whereas, The Older Americans Act programs target resources and services to those in greatest economic and social need, promote the dignity and contributions of our senior citizens, support transportation services, provide home care, assist families and individuals with case management, guide those challenged by the legal system through legal assistance, provide for senior community service employment, offer information and assistance, establish multi-purpose senior centers as focal points on aging, serve congregate luncheon and home-delivered meals, provide health promotion and disease prevention activities, involve older persons in nutrition education, reach out to families with respite services for caregivers and small repair and home modifications, provide opportunities, education and services, connect people in shared housing, and advocate to public and private policy makers on the issues of importance to older persons; and

Whereas, The success of this aging network over the past 31 years is marked by the delivery of significant service to older persons in their own homes and community with the following services examples of that success:

(1) 374,538 recipients of access services, including 235,148 Information and Assistance Services clients and 68,493 recipients of Case Management Services;

(2) 53,450 recipients of in-home services, including 6,460,533 home-delivered meals to 41,305 elders;

(3) 185,520 recipients of community services, including 3,636,855 meals to 79,012 congregate meal participants at 647 nutrition sites and services delivered from 170 Senior Centers;

(4) 760 recipients of employment services, including 760 senior community service employment program participants; and

(5) 98,600 recipients of nursing home ombudsman services; and

Whereas, The organizations serving older persons employ professionals dedicated to of-

fering the highest level of service and caring workers who every day provide in-home care, rides, educational and social activities, shopping assistance, advice, and hope to those in greatest isolation and need; and

Whereas, The organizations serving older persons involve a multi-generational corps of volunteers who contribute the governance, planning, and delivery of services to older persons in their own communities through participation on boards and advisory councils and in the provision of clerical support, programming, and direct delivery of service to seniors; and

Whereas, The Older Americans Act programs in Illinois leverage local funding for aging services and encourage contributions from older persons; and

Whereas, The Older Americans Act programs are the foundation for the Illinois Community Care Program which reaches out to those with the lowest incomes and the greatest frailty to provide alternatives to long-term care, and the Illinois Elder Abuse and Neglect Interventions Program which assists families in the most difficult of domestic situations with investigation and practical interventions; and

Whereas, The Congress of the United States has not reauthorized the Older Americans Act since 1985 and only extends the program each year through level appropriations; and

Whereas, Expansion of the Older Americans Act is proposed in reauthorization legislation this year to offer family caregiver support, increased numbers of home-delivered meals, improved promotion of elder rights, consolidation of several programs and subtitles of the law; therefore be it

Resolved, by the Senate of the Ninety-First General Assembly of the State of Illinois, the House of Representatives concurring herein. That we urge the Congress of the United States of America to reauthorize the Older Americans Act this year; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be delivered to the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and each member of the Illinois congressional delegation.

Adopted by the Senate, May 26, 1999.

Concurred in by the House of Representatives, May 27, 1999.

HONORING JOHN MEISE

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, each year the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary sponsor the Voice of Democracy audio-essay scholarship competition. The program is now in its 52nd year and requires high school student entrants to write and record a three-to-five minute essay on an announced patriotic theme. This year's theme is "My Service to America", and over 80,000 students participate in the program nationwide.

It gives me great pleasure to announce that John Meise, a senior at Mount St. Joseph High School in Maryland's 7th Congressional District, has been named a National winner in the 1999 Voice of Democracy Program and recipient of the \$1,000 Ervin and Lorraine

Rothentbuhler Scholarship Award. He plans a career in medicine. John was sponsored by VFW Post 6484 in Woodlawn Maryland.

Following is Mr. Meise's submission.

Ever since July 4, 1776, the citizens of the United States of America has served their country in a myriad of ways. Such service, is what preserves the ideals for which we stand in the United States: "life, liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." These three are the most elemental principles on which our great country rests. Through service to America and our fellow citizens, we can guard those ideals from which our forefathers set forth in the declaration of independence.

The right, that we treasure most, is life. Human life is to be held in the highest regard because we believe that everyone is equal. Color, religion, and social standing do not provide a basis on which a person is to be judged. Since we are all citizens of the United States we are equal. Community service can help us to realize this fully.

During my sophomore and junior years of high school, I volunteered at the University of Maryland Hospital's Shock Trauma Center. I completed approximately two hundred hours of service there and I enjoyed every minute of it. Through the hospital I was able to help people that were in terrible predicaments. I offered by services to people on all rungs of the social ladder and through that I made an important personal discovery. I observed that social class did not pre-determine a person's disposition. Some the poorest patients I met were probably the most kind-hearted. Whether I was running a patient's blood to the lab for tests or feeding a paraplegic man his dinner, I knew I was helping someone important. I also knew that I was offering such service without expecting anything in return. I believe the satisfaction I received in my efforts at the hospital illustrates what the American character is all about. Through cooperation and helping others we actually provide a service to America itself in what we promote the basis morals and values which our society cannot progress.

As Americans, we hold liberty to be one of the most important aspects of our lives. We have the freedom to choose what we want to do. We may take this liberty for granted, but many people live in countries where they are not granted the freedoms that we use everyday. I feel that this freedom must be protected if we are to continue to live our lives the way we have always lived them.

Our armed forces are one of the instruments, which serve to protect this most precious liberty. I believe the best way for me to serve my country and protect such an ideal is by serving in the armed forces. Presently, I am applying to both the Naval Academy at Annapolis and the Military Academy at West Point in the hope that I may be granted an appointment to one of these institutions, so I might be allowed the opportunity to serve my country this way. I have aspired to serve in the military my entire life and I have been inspired by the many people who have served and by the many who have sacrificed their lives in their country's service.

A few years ago, I was an instructor at a Red Cross program for kids who did not know how to swim. We taught them the rudiments of water activity. I got a thrill seeing children, who had been previously afraid of the water, now able to swim and play in the water and enjoy it. This reminds me that the "pursuit of happiness" in this situation would be quite impossible without the help of the volunteers.

We willingly committed ourselves to helping the children pursue happiness. Once again, this shows how service is one of the

underlying factors in the American character.

While many different people give service in many different ways, these citizens ultimately provide a solid core around on which our country can rest. Everyone's individual service to others eventually unfolds to a single service to America: its preservation. Through volunteering our time, we maintain the very ideals for which the thirteen original colonies broke away from England, in service we continue and protect our freedom, our life, and our pursuit of happiness."

IN HONOR OF OUR NATION'S
VETERANS

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Memorial Day, on May 29, 1999, I had the honor of delivering the keynote address at the rededication and 50th anniversary celebration of the Lilly-Washington War Memorial in Lilly, Pennsylvania, a town of fewer than 2,000 people.

As part of the ceremony, we made special recognition of two individuals who made sacrifices in their own right in serving our country.

With my assistance, James A. Lego, Jr., of Gallitzin, Pennsylvania, was presented with the following medals that he had been awarded as a member of the 1st Infantry Division, 16th Regiment, but never received:

The Silver Star, on July 20, 1944.

The Bronze Star for Meritorious Service.

Two Purple Hearts for wounds received April 16, 1943 and July 14, 1944.

The Distinguished Unit Badge and two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Good Conduct Medal, Pre-Pearl Harbor Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Five Overseas Bars and the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Service Medal with one Silver Star and one Bronze Service Star.

We also unveiled a monument in recognition of the late Mrs. Esther McCabe, a native of Lilly, for her dedication to her country. In 1944 Mrs. McCabe was honored as "America's Number One War Mother" because 10 of her sons were serving in the military. Another son enlisted in 1945. We were honored to have present for the ceremony, two of her sons, Leo and James McCabe, who served in World War II.

In the summer of 1944, Leo McCabe was serving in the Army in Normandy after the D-Day invasion. On a very hot day in Arance, a German fighter plane came over the town and saw a number of gas trucks moving down the road. The Germans hit the lead truck with a rocket, causing it to ignite. While the driver of the truck was able to escape, a young boy who was with him was caught in the flames.

Leo McCabe left the crowd and ran into the flames, the only person willing to risk his life to save the boy. McCabe emerged from the truck with the boy in his arms and McCabe's own clothing on fire, as well as the boy's. McCabe carried the boy to a field, where the flames were extinguished. He then put the young man into a jeep to be rushed to a hospital. Leo McCabe saved the boy's life with this action.

Earlier this year, when asked to comment on his actions for a local newspaper reporter,

Leo McCabe said simply "That was no big deal," and when asked on May 29th to address the crowd at the ceremony, Leo McCabe chose not to make a comment and sat proudly with his family. When given the opportunity, Mrs. McCabe's other son who was present, James McCabe, did step up to the microphone, pointed his hand to his left, said "I worked at that mine over there," and then sat down.

Like thousands of Americans who were called upon to serve their country in World War II, these three men: James Lego, Leo McCabe, and James McCabe, answered that call and served their country proudly. After the war, they returned home, went to work in the steel mills or in the coal mines like James did, and life went on.

It was a distinct honor for me to be able to recognize on this occasion the sacrifices made by James Lego and the entire McCabe family in fighting for our freedom in World War II.

ADVANCES MADE IN FEDERAL
FOOD SAFETY LAW

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark an important anniversary. On this date last year, President Clinton signed the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105-185) into law. Among the many important programs that were created and improved by the bill, I am most proud of the advances made in federal food safety efforts.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform Congress of the progress made by the food safety Crisis Management Team created by the Agricultural Research bill. We all remember the terrible tragedy of the contaminated strawberries served by schools as part of the National School Lunch Program. Some of those contaminated strawberries were eaten by students in my district. Although local and federal officials did an excellent job of responding to the crisis, it became clear to me that there was a need for better coordination of existing federal resources to respond to food safety outbreaks. Shortly thereafter, I introduced the Safe Food Action Plan, H.R. 3148. My bill made food safety a priority for the federal government and created a food safety Rapid Response Team. After working closely with Agriculture Committee leadership, the Rapid Response Team provision was included in the final version of the Agricultural Research bill. I would like to include in the RECORD, a letter from Ranking Member STENHOLM thanking me for my contributions to the bill.

Since that time, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has instituted the Food Emergency Rapid Response and Evaluation Team (FERRET). The mission of FERRET is twofold. The team works together to facilitate a prompt, effective and coordinated USDA response to food safety emergencies. Furthermore, the team evaluates emergency episodes and uses what is learned from each crisis to improve long-term strategies to prevent future emergencies.

FERRET is chaired by the Under Secretary for Food Safety and its membership includes:

the Under Secretary for Food Nutrition and Consumer Services, the Under Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, the Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, USDA General Counsel, the USDA Inspector General and the Director of the Office of Communication.

During the past year, FERRET has met whenever levels of contaminants pose a threat to human health and safety. In just one year, FERRET has dramatically increased the pace at which USDA responds to public health problems. The new team ensures a swift response by USDA to contamination and provides a greater assurance to American consumers that their food is safe.

I am proud of the very positive accomplishments achieved by FERRET in just one year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their efforts. I look forward to working with FERRET on future food safety efforts.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
Washington, DC, June 23, 1999.

Hon. DEBBIE STABENOW,
*House of Representatives,
Longworth HOB, Washington, DC.*

DEAR DEBBIE: One year ago, President Clinton signed the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 into law (Pub. L. 105-185). On this anniversary, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your important contributions to this bill in the area of food safety.

A significant amount of debate on the bill focused on food safety concerns. Your input, based on the expertise of Michigan State University and the National Center for Food Safety and Toxicology research in your district, contributed significantly to the debate. I would particularly like to thank you for your contribution regarding the Food Safety Crisis Management Team.

Last year, you introduced the Safe Food Action Plan (H.R. 3148) to create a Food Safety Rapid Response team, at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), to respond to food safety disasters. Your bill helped focus the Committee's attention on this issue, resulting in the inclusion of a similar crisis management team in the final version of the Agriculture Research bill.

Through your efforts, the USDA has created the Food Emergency Rapid Response and Evaluation Team (FERRET). During the past year, the team has met whenever levels of contaminants in food threaten to pose a human health hazard. As you know, they have effectively handled a variety of problems ranging from arsenic in peanut butter to lead in baby food. This is an important tool for the USDA to have in the area of food safety.

Let me also thank you for your important contributions to the overall issue of food safety. I look forward to our continued friendship and to working together on the Agriculture Committee. With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,
CHARLES W. STENHOLM,
Ranking Member.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HECTOR
GODINEZ

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to a great man. We have lost Hector

Godinez to illness but his spirit will live on in Santa Ana.

Hector was born at the San Diego Mission in 1924. A year later, his family moved to Santa Ana and that became his home. Immediately after high school, he joined the military and served with distinction. The battles he fought in, including the invasion of France, led to the Allies' victory in Europe during World War II. He was revered for his service in General Patton's tank unit. His decorations include a bronze star and purple heart.

When Mr. Godinez came home from the war, he decided to continue his record of public service as a letter carrier. President Kennedy appointed him Postmaster of Santa Ana in 1960. His employment with the U.S. Postal Service spanned nearly half a century.

But I would do his memory a disservice if I neglected to mention the many other contributions Hector made to our community. As a founding member of the Santa Ana League of United Latin American Citizens, Mr. Godinez and his fellow activists are to be thanked for the landmark civil rights case *Mendez v. The Board of Education*, which safeguarded the Hispanic children of Orange County against discrimination in local schools.

Hector never stopped fighting, giving or learning. He held a number of degrees, including his Masters', which he received in 1980. His name will forever be associated with the long list of community organizations and boards on which he served.

He guided our citizens through decades of change in Southern California, both as a public servant and an activist. Our lives as Orange County residents are better for his life's work, and I salute him today.

IN MEMORY OF SUSAN YOACHUM

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I called to the attention of our colleagues the wonderful life and courageous death of Susan Yoachum. No one could better memorialize our loss than Susan's husband Michael Carlson, whose statement I am commending to our colleagues today.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle, June 22, 1999]

GRACE IN THE FACE OF FEAR—SUSAN YOACHUM MET HER DEATH FROM CANCER AS A HERO

(By Michael Carlson)

It was a public event when my wife, Susan Yoachum, died of breast cancer a year ago today. As political editor of *The Chronicle* and as a television commenter, she had become a familiar name and face. Her funeral was covered on television, San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown ordered city flags to fly at half-staff, and the White House sent a letter of condolence.

Susan's struggle with breast cancer had been no less public.

She had spoken and written movingly about her ordeal. She wanted to put a human face on a disease that is the No. 1 killer of American women ages 25-55. She hoped that by personalizing breast cancer, more might be done to prevent and cure it. And she wanted to spread the word that early detection—through monthly self-exams and regular

mammograms—can increase a woman's chance of survival.

My mourning was less public. And I was more private about my reaction to Susan's illness.

Recently, I decided to speak out about Susan and her fight with cancer at the invitation of The Breast Cancer Fund, a research, advocacy and patient-support charity that honored Susan at its annual "Heroes Tribute."

The idea of heroes and the nature of courage are topics that I have thought about a lot since Susan died.

The dictionary defines a hero as a person admired for their courage.

I admire Susan for the courage she showed in facing her own death. What she taught me about courage could be the first chapter of my own self-help book, "All I Need to Know About Living I Learned From How My Wife Chose to Die."

In addition to everything else she is and was to me, Susan is my personal hero.

She did not consider herself courageous and would have been bewildered at being called a hero.

She did not consider herself courageous and would have been bewildered at being called a hero. Two days after realizing her cancer had spread, Susan recorded a conversation with her sister-in-law in her journal: "Patti said last night that she told her friends that I was brave. It sounds so noble and grand that I loved the sound of it at once. Yet I don't feel brave." Susan told me she didn't feel brave because cancer and death scared her so much.

When she was first diagnosed with cancer in 1991, Susan wrote about her fear: "I have met younger women with breast cancer and older women with breast cancer. Some are mothers; some are grandmothers; some are executives; some are artists. They are black, white, Asian, Hispanic, rich, poor, bitter, hopeful—but there is one thing that all of us are, and that is sacred."

Susan was more blunt six years later when her cancer spread. "I'm scared out of my wits," she wrote in 1997. "It's the kind of fear that makes your blood run cold, the sort of fear that floods in when you lose sight of a child in a crowd."

Why do I call such a frightened person courageous?

Courage has nothing to do with being fearless.

"Usually we think that brave people have no fear. The truth is they are intimate with fear," writes Pema Chodron in "When Things Fall Apart." Courageous people are those who persevere in spite of and in the face of their deepest fears.

Susan was intimate with fear. Despite that, from 1991 and until her death in 1998, she lived her life with remarkable energy and spirit. She did more than just persevere. She celebrated life. She faced her illness by living as if each day was a gift. She believed that life was to be enjoyed today, now, before time ran out.

Susan enjoyed her life immensely and brought happiness to those around her. She fought for those things she thought important, including raising awareness about breast cancer. She continued to write about politics for as long as she could because she thought it was important and because it brought her joy. And Susan had fun. In her words, she inhaled life.

That took courage.

Although Susan did not consider herself courageous, she understood what she was doing and wrote about it: "How many times in therapy-kissed California have we heard that the only things we can control are our own responses to what befalls us?" Susan's response to her fear was "to make peace

with life and death" and "to make some peace with the cancer." "It is going to be with me every day," she wrote. "If living with cancer every single day is the price of living . . . it is worth it. I'll pay it."

"I've been paying it. I will continue to pay it."

Susan believed that having cancer demanded "that you try to grab all that you can from life—even more than you thought was there, even more than you thought you could."

"Breast cancer is a wake-up call: to cherish the laughter of children, to savor the fragrance of flowers and to feel the majesty of the ocean," Susan wrote. When you feel like you're on the cutting edge of life, the sky looks a little more blue, sunsets look a little more red, and the people you love seem a little more dear."

I now have met numerous women with breast cancer who know exactly what Susan meant. Those women have looked their own demons in the eye and have found the courage to celebrate life.

I admire their courage.

They are, as Susan was, heroes living among us.

IN CELEBRATION OF MS. KATHERINE DUNHAM'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the 90th birthday of Ms. Katherine Dunham of East St. Louis, Illinois. Besides being recognized as a Kennedy Center Honoree, as well as the recipient of over seventy international awards, Ms. Dunham has consistently used her abundance of talent and creative energy to enhance the fine arts and humanities in America and worldwide. While well known for her contributions in the areas of dance, poetry, musical composition, and choreography, Ms. Dunham has also worked to advance the causes of human rights and world peace. However, it can be argued that her greatest accomplishments have come through her 31 years of tireless educational efforts in behalf of the residents and especially the children of East St. Louis, Illinois.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Ms. Dunham has distinguished herself in both academic and artistic venues. A graduate of the University of Chicago, she is the author of "Dances of Haiti: Their Social Organization, Classification, Form and Function." Further, she has shared her intellect with us by writing several books, including *Dances of Haiti*, *Island Possessed*, and *A Touch of Innocence*. Ms. Dunham has been recognized for her academic accomplishments as the recipient of honorary degrees from many institutions of higher education, including Brown University, Howard University, and Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. Her contributions to the arts have come through various theater productions, motion pictures, operatic performances, and television presentations. Throughout Ms. Dunham's career, she has performed both nationally and internationally in major performances and famous venues, including Aida at New York's Metropolitan Opera House in 1964.

As an advocate for education of the arts and humanities among the citizens of East St.

Louis, Illinois, Ms. Dunham has proven her dedication to public service and community involvement for over three decades. Through the Katherine Dunham Centers for Arts and Humanities, she continues to provide cultural enrichment to both adults and children, while presenting opportunities for Master Artists to display and share with others their enormous talents and abilities. At age 90, she continues to develop new projects for the East St. Louis, Illinois community, including the soon to be completed African Artisanal Village on the campus of the Katherine Dunham Museum. A vision of Ms. Dunham and her late husband, John Pratt, this center will provide exposure to the arts of Africa, as well as a performing arts facility for the children of the Dunham Workshop and other visiting artists.

Mr. Speaker, the city of East St. Louis, Illinois is proud to be the direct beneficiary of both Ms. Dunham's philanthropy and hands on involvement in the artistic community. It is a pleasure for me to wish Ms. Dunham a happy and healthy 90th birthday, as I look forward to the exciting new programs she has planned for the City of East St. Louis.

COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. MATTHEW G. MARTINEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I want to take a minute this morning to discuss the Community Reinvestment Act. For years, the CRA program has had a tremendous positive impact on low- and middle-income individuals all across America. CRA has let countless citizens achieve the American Dream by enabling them to own a home or business.

Because of CRA, blatant discrimination in lending is declining. Banks are now held responsible for how they use the community's wealth and deposits. CRA has given hope to our inner cities and rural areas by enabling home ownership and small business opportunities to increase.

Not only is CRA good for working people, it's good for the banking industry. Banking officials have told me that, because of CRA, banks have tapped into a "new market" in low- and moderate-income communities.

In the greater Los Angeles region, including my district in East L.A., the Bank of America Community Development Bank and its affiliates have made more than \$3.2 billion in new community development loans, and more than \$650 million in low-income-housing tax credit investments.

But now CRA is under attack. I urge my colleagues to protect CRA by supporting the Gutierrez Amendment to the Financial Modernization Act.

HONORING THE DALLAS STARS—STANLEY CUP CHAMPIONS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the newest source of pride for north Texas—The Dallas Stars.

Although the city of Dallas is no stranger to winning championships, there was something especially exciting about watching the Stars with the Stanley Cup.

Hockey was a relatively unknown sport in north Texas when the Stars arrived from Minnesota in 1993.

But in the short 6 years since then, the Dallas Stars have developed a loyal following of fans, including myself. As a devoted fan of the Texas Rangers, the Dallas Cowboys, and the Dallas Mavericks I am proud to add the Dallas Stars to my list of hometown teams—Excuse me, Hometown "Championship" teams.

HONORING GLENN SCHATZ: AN EXEMPLARY YOUNG MAN

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the outstanding accomplishments of Glenn Schatz, a senior at University High in Tucson. Glenn has been named winner of the 1999 Tucson Citizen Student Athlete-of-the-Year Award, which is presented annually to a high school senior who excels in scholarship, leadership and extracurricular activities. I met Glenn when I appointed him to be a Congressional Page last spring, a job he approached with the same commitment and zeal as he has the rest of his academic career. A four-sport letterman who has managed to maintain a 3.92 grade point average, while at the same time participating in the school's marching, jazz, and concert bands. He served as president of the school's Distributive Education Club of America, the school chairman of the Young Republicans Club, and a recruiter for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Additionally, he has been named a Presidential Scholar Award semifinalist and a National Merit Scholarship finalist.

Glenn will be heading off to the United States Naval Academy in the fall, eventually to join the Navy's Judge Advocate General (JAG) corps. I have no doubt that Glenn has the intelligence, commitment, and ability to accomplish whatever goals he sets for his future. I congratulate him on his enormous accomplishments, and wish him all the good fortune in the future. I am enclosing an article from one of the newspapers in my district, which further details the accomplishments of this impressive young man.

IT'LL BE ANCHORS AWEIGH WHEN SUPERBUSY SENIOR LEAVES UNIVERSITY HIGH

Some students have a full plate in high school. University High senior Glenn Schatz goes back for seconds.

He has balanced a busy athletic schedule with the Rincon/University Rangers with his studies, his music, and on-campus and off-campus activities to post a 3.92 grade-point average.

An impressive list of achievements has made this four-sport letterman the winner of the 1999 Tucson Citizen Student Athlete-of-the-Year Award.

"You never expect to win this type of award," Schatz said. "There are so many quality nominees, it's a honor just to be nominated."

But Rangers football coach Jeff Green isn't surprised Schatz is this year's winner.

"He certainly deserves the award," Green said. "With all he's involved in, his grades,

his leadership on and off the field . . . the future is bright for this young man."

Some of his academic highlights are: Scoring a 1,590 out of 1,600 on his SAT, getting a perfect score on the verbal and missing just one math question; received a Congressional appointment from Jim Kolbe to the United States Naval Academy, which he will attend in the fall; a National Merit Scholarship finalist; recently named a Presidential Scholar Award semifinalist; awarded a Cornell University summer dean's scholarship; and won a Dow Jones Newspaper Fund writing award.

Out of the classroom, Schatz has: served a semester as a Congressional page in Washington; attended the Athletics In Public Service Forum in Washington; was selected by the Academy of Achievement for the Banquet of the Golden Plate, one of 400 students in the nation chosen; a member of the school's marching, jazz and concert bands; and served as president of the school's Distributive Education Club in America, school chairman of the Young Republicans Club and as a recruiter for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

"I like to keep busy," said Schatz, a budding master of understatement.

With only 22 players on the Rangers varsity roster football team last fall, Green kept the versatile Schatz busy at numerous positions on offense and defense.

"Because Glenn is quick to learn and such a good athlete, we played him at a lot of different positions," Green said. "On offense, we used him at fullback, tight end, wide receiver and flanker. On defense, we used him at linebacker, end, middle guard and tackle. He never complained. He was willing to do whatever it took to help us win. He showed his leadership abilities every day."

Prior to the football season, Green, in his first year as coach of the Rangers, didn't know what he had in the 6-foot-3, 215-pound Schatz. The senior missed spring practice because he was working as a Congressional page, and he missed most of the summer passing league because he was taking college courses at Cornell.

"I didn't expect Glenn to come back to us in great shape and wasn't expecting that much of him," Green admitted. "He was a pleasant surprise for us. He did a nice job in the brief time we had him for the passing league, but a passing league isn't football. I didn't know how tough he was, both physically and mentally, so I wasn't sure what he could give us."

But Schatz, who lettered three years in football, two in basketball, one in baseball and one in track, showed Green he could be an impact player and impressed the Navy football coaches, who would have offered Schatz a scholarship if he hadn't received a Congressional appointment.

"Can he play at Navy? I think he can because he's so versatile and because he can run well for his size," Green said. "At the next level it's difficult, but his goal is to make the traveling squad as a freshman, and I don't think there are too many goals that Glenn has ever missed."

Schatz already had planned to serve in the armed forces after graduating from college, intending to take ROTC.

"At the beginning of the year, the Naval Academy was a side thought for me," he said. "But the more I thought about it, the more it appealed to me, the way the system works, how everything has a set structure, because that fits my character.

"I have an uncle who went to West Point. My whole family has served in one capacity or another. It's always been part of my background and heritage."

Schatz hopes to become a lawyer and join the Navy's Judge Advocate General (JAG) corps.

"The nice thing is that the Navy will pay for graduate school and law school," he said. "Through ROTC, I would have only served four years, but coming out of the Academy, I think I'll advance pretty quickly, so now I'm thinking about making the Navy my career."

And perhaps later, a career in politics might come along. Schatz called his semester in Washington as a Congressional page "the best experience of my life" and said he might run for Congress some day.

"The experience of working with Congressman, people who control the way the country works, was wonderful," he said. "I worked in the Clerk's office and worked on the House floor. I interacted with all the Congressmen. I had to answer calls, take messages to the Congressmen. It was really something special."

As is the 1999 winner of the Citizen's Student Athlete-of-the-Year award.

ANDREWS HIGH SCHOOL CROWNED
1999 CLASS 4-A TEXAS BASEBALL
CHAMPIONS

HON. LARRY COMBEST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. COMBEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the community of Andrews, Texas in celebrating the Andrews High School baseball team's victory in the 1999 4-A State Championship. Their triumph on June 11 marks the first time that the Mustangs of Andrews High School have brought home the Texas state title, an accomplishment that is truly deserving of recognition and praise.

The Andrews High School baseball program has been built upon a firm foundation of hard work and sportsmanship. In its 22 years, Mustang baseball has steadily grown and developed into a force to be reckoned with in Texas athletics. The group of young men who claimed the state crown for Andrews displayed what can be accomplished when West Texas determination and teamwork take the field.

It is with pride that I recognize the members of the Andrews High School baseball team for their hard-fought victory, as well as the coaching staff, faculty, and fans that rallied behind them. Thanks to their tremendous efforts, a corner of West Texas is now home to the 1999 Class 4-A Texas High School Baseball Champions. I wholeheartedly extend my congratulations to the Andrews High School Mustangs, with every best wish for the seasons to come.

HONORING KATHERINE DUNHAM
UPON 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Katherine Dunham as she celebrates her 90th birthday.

Ms. Dunham has made immeasurable contributions to American art and culture. She is an accomplished writer and performer, with appearances in films, theatre, opera houses

and on television; however, she is probably best known for her work as a choreographer and dancer. Her choreography incorporates the ethnic and cultural dances she learned of during her travels to Africa and the Caribbean, as well as through her anthropological studies of these cultures.

In addition, Ms. Dunham has spent a significant portion of her life dedicated to the betterment of her community, East St. Louis. She founded the Performing Arts Training Center in East St. Louis to provide area youths with an artistic and culturally diverse activity.

Also in East St. Louis, the Katherine Dunham Museum provides others with the opportunity to share her cultural and artistic knowledge. The museum is expanding to include the African Artisanal Village, which will offer a performing center for children and the teaching of African Arts by Master Artisans, fulfilling one of Ms. Dunham's lifelong goals.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing a happy 90th birthday to Katherine Dunham, a truly remarkable woman.

MILLENNIUM CLASSROOMS ACT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 2308, the Millennium Classrooms Act, authored by my Californian colleague DUKE CUNNINGHAM.

The Millennium Classroom Act will provide increased tax relief to companies who donate computers especially those with Multi-Media capabilities, to schools and public libraries, particularly in low-income areas. In today's age, anyone entering the workplace needs to have an understanding of computers. This bill will make it easier for children to have the necessary education they deserve.

Our nation is facing many challenges as we enter the new millennium and I believe it is the responsibility of citizens and elected officials alike to find solutions to these problems. The Millennium Classrooms Act is a fine example of laws that promote cooperation between private sector businesses and their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Congressman CUNNINGHAM for authoring this bill. I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOBBY J.
ROBINSON

HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a distinguished law enforcement officer. Bobby J. Robinson, Vice President of the National DARE Officer's Association Board of Directors, was sworn in as President on June 10, 1999. Mr. Johnson's dedication to law enforcement and drug education has extended for over 17 years. As President of the Officer's Association, Mr. Johnson will lead over 35,000 officers and educators in DARE program classrooms across the United States and around the world. Their important message to

young people across this nation is to "Just Say No" to drugs.

Bobby Johnson's law enforcement career has moved him throughout Louisiana and across the nation. Beginning in 1982, Mr. Johnson worked for the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office in Shreveport, LA, serving in areas of corrections, patrol, public relation, and DARE; finally ending his 10 year tenure at the rank of Sergeant. In 1993, Bobby was recommended to be the Coordinator for the Louisiana DARE Training Center operated by the Red River Delta Law Enforcement Planning Council. After serving 6 years at this facility, the Louisiana DARE Officer's Association nominated Bobby for the office of 1st Vice President on the National DARE Officer's Association Board of Directors. Mr. Johnson won this election in Salt Lake City that would be a four year position on the board, progressing from 1st Vice President, to Vice President, to President, and concluding with Past President. Presently, the National DARE Officer's Association is holding their annual conference in Washington, DC between the 7th and 10th of July.

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education program is our nation's most prominent and visible attempt to educate young people to resist drug abuse. It reaches over 60% of elementary school children in the United States, and is far and away the most prevalent drug education program in use today.

Mr. Speaker, Bobby Johnson not only serves his country diligently, but also is a fine husband and proud father. He and his wife of 17 years, Kathy, have three beautiful daughters between the ages of 6 to 12.

I, along with his family, and all of the citizens of Louisiana, salute his accomplishments and his active leadership in educating the children of America to "Just Say No." Thank you Mr. Bobby Johnson.

THE CRUISE INDUSTRY

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to address an issue that is central to our nation's economy, the tourism industry. As co-chairman of the Congressional Travel and Tourism Caucus, I believe this issue is worth bringing to the attention of the American public. The issue I wish to discuss is the vital role which the cruise industry plays in relation to our nation's economy and tourism industry.

In regard to our nation's economy, the cruise industry has made significant contributions. With more than five million annual passengers, the industry is a major contributor to the overall U.S. economy. In 1997 in my home state of Florida, the cruise industry was responsible for direct spending of \$2.1 Billion dollars and generated almost 59,000 jobs.

Companies such as those outlined below are but a few examples of domestic U.S. companies that depend on the cruise industry as a steady and important source of income:

Tourism support services such as provided by Amadeus, Strategic Cruise Line Services, and Image Photo Services;

Purchases of ship equipments, and supplies from vendors such as General Hotel and Restaurant, Harbour Marine Systems, International

Paint, Mobil Aviation and Marine Sales and Ecolab;

Corporate Services provided by companies such as Maritime Telecommunications Services, the Berkely Group, Howard Snoweiss Design Group and J. Walter Thompson;

Ship repair and maintenance provided by companies across the country such as Atlantic Marine of Mobile, AL., Todd Pacific shipyards of Seattle, WA., Cascade General of Portland, OR., Unitour Ship Services of Long Beach, CA., and United States Marine Repair which owns San Diego Shipyard, San Francisco Drydock and Norshipco in Norfolk, VA.

Food and beverage purchases are made in a number of states from such familiar sources as Coca-Cola, Kraft, Heinz, Nabisco, J.R. Simplot, Fresh Point, Sysco, Ernest & Julio Gallo, and Anheuser Busch. Every week, just one cruise ship will purchase approximately 25,000 pounds of food from U.S. suppliers—everything from beef, pork, chicken, seafood, cheese and other dairy products, to vegetables and fruit.

The cruise industry provides employment for thousands of U.S. citizens aboard its ships, in shoreside corporate jobs, and with its extensive network of suppliers. Cruise lines and their direct suppliers are the largest employer of U.S. citizens in the maritime sector of the United States.

Furthermore, the cruise industry also plays a significant role in our domestic transportation and lodging industry. The cruise industry is America's largest private-sector purchaser of U.S. airline tickets, accounting for more than four million tickets purchased annually. Pre- and post-cruise packages include lodging at some of the nation's largest hotel chains including: Hyatt, Intercontinental, Wyndham and Sheraton.

In view of the cruise industry's contributions, I am proud to highlight some of the benefits which the tourism industry provides to our economy. It is with this thought in mind that I continue to advocate the importance of both the cruise and tourism industries. Support for the cruise and tourism industries will generate jobs and additional revenues for the United States. In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I wish to introduce several statistics for the record generated by a recent Price Waterhouse Cooper's economic analysis. I thank you for this time.

1997 CRUISE INDUSTRY ECONOMIC IMPACTS

DIRECT U.S. EXPENDITURES BY INDUSTRY—RESULTING FROM THE PASSENGER CRUISE INDUSTRY

	<i>Millions</i>
Air Travel	\$1,604
Food & Beverage	464
Financial Services	352
Business Services Including Advertising	351
Ship Maintenance and Repair	220
Other Transportation Services, Primarily Shore Tours	160
Petroleum Refining and Related Industries	143
Hotels and Lodging	124
Insurance	120
Entertainment	96
Other Durable Goods	78
Public Administration	67
Other Publishing and Printing	60
Nonresidential Construction	56
Fabricated Metal Products	55
Motor Vehicles and Parts	49
Other Communications	48
Retail Trade	40
Drugs, Soaps and Sundries	34

	<i>Millions</i>
Personal and Repair Services	22
Real Estate	19
Apparel and Other Finished Textile Products	19
All other industries	1,841
Total Direct Expenditures	6,150

Total Expenditures Resulting from the Cruise Industry 11,620

U.S. Job Impact of the North American Passenger Cruise Industry

	<i>Total Jobs</i>
Travel Agents, Shore Transportation & Other Transportation	\$26,465
Air Travel	25,702
Passenger Cruises	22,000
Business Services	18,451
Retail Trade	10,381
Hotels and Lodging	7,914
Wholesale Trade	7,619
Water Related Services, Primarily Ports	7,243
Membership and Misc. Services	5,894
Ship Maintenance and Repair	4,100
Food	3,714
Entertainment	3,525
Engineering & Management Services	2,486
Insurance	2,219
Banking	1,945
Construction	1,600
Fuel	473
Other Industries	24,702
Total	176,433

THE MURPHY-HARPST-VASHTI CAMPUSES

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I urge those in Washington who believe government is the solution to every problem to visit the Murphy-Harpst-Vashti (MHV) campuses in the state of Georgia. Located across our state, the MHV programs are making a positive difference in the lives of young people.

MHV focuses its efforts on at-risk children. In other words, they help to turn the lives of endangered children around, and help them to become productive members of society. Each of the MHV agencies reaches out to the communities where they are located, identifies children who may become problems in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods, and extend a helping hand to them.

In an era when many social workers, teachers, and parents respond to troubled children by handing them prescription drugs and sending them on their way, the comprehensive approach to troubled children taken by the Murphy-Harpst-Vashti campuses provides a welcome change. I commend them for their work.

COMMUNITY RENEWAL THROUGH COMMUNITY- AND FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBBIE STABENOW

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 1999

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep concern regarding H.

Res. 207, "Community Renewal through Community- and Faith-Based Organizations." While there are many statements in the resolution that I support, I oppose this legislation and was very concerned to see it pass on June 22, 1999. We have many wonderful faith-based organizations and nonprofits in Michigan who provide services to people in need. I believe they are an important part of our human service delivery system. My concern arises in this legislation with the language that would allow faith-based organizations receiving Federal funds for charitable services to require that beneficiaries of their services actively participate in religious practices or instruction. This, Mr. Speaker, crosses a very serious line drawn in our Constitution. This legislation violates our individual religious liberties protected by the First Amendment's separation of church and state.

Clearly, H. Res. 207, infringes upon the rights and freedoms guaranteed by our Constitution, and I deeply regret that it was passed by this House.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. ANNA ROBERTS
OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Mrs. Anna Roberts who made her heavenly transition on Wednesday, June 16, 1999 at the age of 93. Mrs. Roberts was the youngest of fourteen children born to the union of the late Elizabeth and William Martin in Atlanta, Georgia on October 17, 1905.

She united in Holy matrimony to Mr. Roy Roberts, Jr. in 1925. Shortly thereafter, Mrs. Roberts migrated to Chicago with her husband, as God blessed them to have five sons and a daughter. A devoted Christian woman, Mrs. Roberts was a member of the Roman Catholic Church, serving faithfully in the Holy Angels Church parish. She was preceded in death by her husband Roy, Sr., son, William Martin Roberts and daughter, Regina Roberts.

The biblical Greek name Anna is the equivalent of the Hebrew name Hannah which means favored and grace. Hannah was a favored and virtuous woman. And in this day and time, who can find a virtuous woman? One whose price is far above rubies and the heart of her husband is safely entrusted to her. A woman who willingly works with her hands, who with the fruit of her hands plants vineyards, with her hands she stretches out to the poor, with her hands she cares for the needy.

A woman who works through the night to feed her household. A woman whose strength and honor were her clothing. A woman whose mouth speaks and wisdom and tongue with kindness. A woman whose children call her blessed and most of all, a woman who fears the Lord. Annabell, as she was affectionately known, was such a woman. A loving, committed and dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, great-great grandmother, mother-in-law, godmother, aunt and friend. Indeed, she was a virtuous woman.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to pay tribute to the life and legacy of my constituent, Mrs. Anna Roberts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI'S NATIONAL TITLE

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the University of Miami's championship victory in the National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) College World Series. It is both an honor and a joy for me to recognize the Hurricanes on their triumphant season.

On Saturday, June 19th, the Miami Hurricanes defeated the Florida State Seminoles by a score of 6 to 5 to win this year's NCAA baseball championship. This is the third championship for Miami and it is a fitting end to a stellar, yet challenging, season in which the 'Canes won 50 games, while losing only 13.

The road to the championship was filled with adversity since the season's beginning as the Hurricanes lost three top hitters to the pros, and six more players to injuries. However, the team overcame these challenges with outstanding performances on Saturday by players such as Kevin Brown and Mike Neu, whose efforts were symbolic of their team's outstanding talent and hard work throughout the season.

Coach Jim Morris deserves a great deal of credit for winning his first national baseball title in six years with the University of Miami. Since 1994, he has led the Hurricanes to very successful seasons, each concluding with heart-wrenching losses in the College World Series. This past Saturday, Coach Morris's perseverance and dedication finally paid off. I wish to congratulate Coach Morris and the University of Miami baseball team for a well deserved victory, a victory of which the entire university and the south Florida community can be very proud.

POLISH WOMEN'S CLUB OF THREE RIVERS, MASSACHUSETTS CELEBRATES ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on Sunday, June 27th, 1999, the Polish Women's Club of Three Rivers, Massachusetts will celebrate its 75th anniversary.

Having the distinct pleasure of representing this community in the Congress, I take this opportunity to publicly congratulate the club's members on their 75 years of dedication and good work to their community. This anniversary is indeed a milestone; an achievement in which they should be proud.

I also take this opportunity to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD today the complete history of the Polish Women's Club of Three Rivers. May the many years of service and good work of the club forever be remembered as a part of our nation's history.

POLISH WOMEN'S CLUB OF THREE RIVERS, THREE RIVERS, MASSACHUSETTS, 1924-1999—HISTORY

On February 24, 1924, the Polish American Women's Citizens Political Club of Three

Rivers and Thorndike was formed. There were 59 charter members. On March 30, 1924, Miss Anna Rusek became the first president.

The purpose was:

1. To encourage women to become citizens and assist them in procuring citizenship papers by teaching them English and related subjects.

2. Take active part in politics and get proper recognition and positions on local, state, and federal level.

3. Support businesses owned by people of Polish extraction.

In 1933 we joined the Massachusetts Federation of Polish Women's Clubs, Inc. This affiliation enables us to further foster our Polish culture and we have gained much through the years in this association. We have hosted their conventions in 1952, 1969, 1979, 1984, and 1989. Our activities within the framework of the Federation includes District V which comprises the Western Massachusetts area. We are very actively and continuously involved in holding various offices and directing the activities of this unit.

On October 20, 1958, our name changed to the Polish Women's Club of Three Rivers. Our constitution was revised to foster our ethnic culture, encourage higher education, and exchange cultural ideals. This remains our purpose to this day.

On May 8, 1949, we observed our twenty-fifth anniversary; on April 27, 1974, our fiftieth; on October 27, 1979, our fifty-fifth; on October 27, 1984, our sixtieth; on October 28, 1989, our sixty-fifth; on October 22, 1994, our 70th, and on June 27, 1999, our 75th.

We also have held or still hold memberships in the United Polish American Organizations Council—Township of Palmer, Polish American Congress, and The Kosciuszko Foundation.

Monetary contributions have been made to numerous organizations, such as The Blind Children of Poland; Child's Wish Come True, Inc.; Kosciuszko Foundation Renovation Fund, Palmer Ambulance Service Inc.; Palmer Library; Polish American Congress for the Polish Room, Museum of Immigration at Ellis Island; Pope John Paul II's Guest House in Rome and Endowment Fund; Pope John Paul II Cultural Center—Washington, D.C., Saints Peter and Paul Church; Support of Solidarity in Poland; United Polish American Organizations Council—Township of Palmer; and Literacy Volunteers of America of Quabog Valley.

Observance of our 50th, 60th, 65th, and 70th anniversaries and the history of our club have been entered into the Congressional Record of the United States of America.

We contribute our time, talents, and money to various worthwhile projects and causes in a very positive manner. Again, these are too numerous to mention.

We have been able to develop and promote our Polish culture, receive scholarship grants for our daughters and members; have or children of Western Massachusetts take part in the statewide essay contests sponsored by the Federation; serve as executive officers and committee members in the various organizations we are affiliated with.

We have been and are actively participating in religious, civic, political and community affairs.

A scroll signed by members of our club was included on November 13, 1976, in the time capsule buried at that time as part of the commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of the Town of Palmer. The capsule will be re-opened in the year 2076.

Our membership today is 127-73 are 65 or over and 54 are under 65. Dues are \$2.50 a year. Members 65 years and over are exempt from payment. We follow the calendar year for our meetings, January through December, with no meetings June, July, and August. Meetings are held on the fourth

Wednesday of the month, at 7:00 p.m., at the St. Stanislaus Polish Home, Three Rivers.

In order to keep our treasury healthy we hold one big raffle a year during the winter. Our members are to be commended for their enthusiastic response for contributions of prizes and selling of our raffle tickets.

Past presidents: *Anna Rusek, *Mary Jajuga, *Sophie Zerdecki, *Nellie Motyka, *Anna Kulig, *Julie Midura, *Stephanie Kolbusz, Genevieve Janosz, and Edna Pytka. (* deceased)

Officers—Year 1999: Helen Grzywna, President; Debra A. Geoffron, Vice President; Betty Brozek, Treasurer; Sophie J. Valtelhas, Recording Secretary and Publicity; Phyllis Misiaszek, Financial Secretary; and Alice Pilch and Sophie Walulak, Auditors.

Helen Grzywna has been president for twenty-eight years and the club has progressed under her leadership in many projects and causes too numerous to mention.

The spirit that brought together in 1924 those fifty-nine courageous women is still carried on today. Teamwork is an important part of our organization and each member's contribution is highly valued. We are proud of our beginnings and of what we have accomplished since 1924 and as we commemorate this 75th anniversary we will continue our tradition of exemplary dedication and service to our religious, civic, political, and community establishments.

75TH ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

Our 75th anniversary will be celebrated on Sunday, June 27, 1999, starting with a Thanksgiving Mass at 11:00 a.m. in the Saints Peter and Paul Church in Three Rivers. Our pastor, Reverend Stefan J. Niemczyk, will be celebrant, assisted by Reverend Mr. Edward Tenczar, concelebrant. Immediately after Mass, we will gather at the church's Parish Center for a 1:00 p.m. dinner catered by Tony and Penny. President Helen Grzywna will welcome everyone and then turn the program over to Toastmistress Mary E. Rusiecki, past president of the Massachusetts Federation of Polish Women's Clubs, Inc., who will have the honor of introducing the head table, officers, past presidents, and guests. The invocation will be given by Reverend Stefan J. Niemczyk. Greetings and best wishes will be given by Patricia C. Donovan, Board of Selectmen, Town of Palmer; Richard E. Neal, Second Congressional District Representative in U.S. Congress; Stephen M. Brewer, our State Senator, Worcester, Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire District; Reed V. Hillman, Representative in General Court, First Hampden District; Pauline Dziembowski, President of the Massachusetts Federation of Polish Women's Clubs, Inc., and Christine Wurszt, Vice-president of District V, MFPWC. Principal Address will be by our member Suzanne Strempek-Shea. Author—Topic Our Counterpart 75 Years Ago. The St. Cecelia Choir under the direction of Michael Rheault, Organist and director of Music, at Saints Peter and Paul Church, will entertain us with their music. One of the songs they will sing is Polish Pride—Pope John Paul II (composed by Fred Brozek/music by Stephen Lebida). Barbara Marcinkiewicz will sing the American National Anthem and the Polish National Anthem to start our program and at the close of the program she will lead the audience in singing God Bless America and Boze Cos Polske. Reverend Mr. Edward Tenczar will give the benediction.

ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX REFORM

HON. J.D. HAYWORTH

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that will reform the alternative minimum tax (AMT) and mitigate its devastating impact on America's industries. My bill, which would help all types of businesses that are locked in the AMT, has attracted the support of firms in the mining, steel, oil and gas, paper, coal, building, and printing industries, among others.

The corporate AMT was conceived as a way of ensuring that companies with economic income also paid some income tax. Unfortunately, the AMT has a perverse effect on companies that make large capital investments in plants and equipment but suffer from low prices for their output. Frequently, these businesses make commodity products that have small profit margins and are subject to intense international competition. Start-up businesses and rapidly growing companies whose profit margins may be slim in relation to their investment are also affected by the AMT. Extractive industries are another example of those locked into the AMT. And companies in a loss position must routinely borrow money to pay their AMT, even though they have no economic income.

Once in the AMT, a corporation often has problems getting back into the "regular tax" and then using up the AMT credits accumulated during its time in the AMT. My legislation aims to end this vicious cycle by allowing companies that have AMT credits that are more than three years old to use their AMT credits to offset up to 50 percent of their tentative minimum tax. For firms that are currently of the AMT but carry AMT credit balances, the bill would increase the amount of credits they are able to use currently. Finally, for companies in an AMT loss position in the current and two prior years, the bill would permit a 10-year AMT loss carryback.

As Congress moves forward on tax relief legislation, it is imperative that we keep in mind the fiscal problems of our nation's basic industries. AMT relief is critical for long-term AMT taxpayers, and I urge my colleagues to join in this important and timely effort.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BINATIONAL GREAT LAKES-SEAWAY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 1999

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation, the Binational Great Lakes-Seaway Enhancement Act of 1999, to improve the competitiveness of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway system and restore its vitality.

This coming Sunday will mark the 40th anniversary of the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway. The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Seaway system is a vital transportation corridor for the United States. The Seaway connects the

Great Lakes with the Atlantic Ocean and makes it possible to ship manufactured products from our industrial Midwest and grains from the Upper Plains directly to overseas markets. Benefits of efficient operations of this transportation route are not limited to the Great Lakes region but extend throughout the United States. Congress recognized the broader impacts and, accordingly, designated the Great Lakes as America's fourth sea coast in 1970.

The Great Lakes region, and international markets, recognized the system's potential, as evidenced by the sharp rise in vessel and cargo traffic through the Seaway immediately after its opening in 1959. Unfortunately, that potential was never fulfilled. The upward trend in cargo traffic peaked around 1977-79. It then went into a long decline precipitated in part by a nationwide economic recession that hit the manufacturing sector particularly hard, and prolonged in part because of capacity constraints imposed by the Seaway.

Locks on the Seaway and the Great Lakes were built as long ago as 1895. New locks constructed for the Seaway between the mid- and late-1950s, as authorized by Congress in 1954, were built to the same size as those completed in 1932. Locks and connecting channels were limited to 27 feet of draft. Because vessel size had grown over time, Seaway facilities were too small on its opening day to serve the commercial fleet then in existence. Today, they are capable of accommodating no more than 30% of the world's commercial fleet. An undersized Seaway that denies large, specialized, and efficient vessels access to the system will prevent U.S. products, especially those from the Great Lakes region, from competing effectively in the global economy.

In addition to declining traffic, inadequate investment in Seaway infrastructure caused the mix of cargoes shipped through the system to be transformed from one that was diverse to one composed largely of low-value commodities. Although the trend of cargo tonnage through the system turned up once again in 1993, current cargo mix consists of essentially steel coming to the Great Lakes region from abroad, grains going overseas, and iron ore and coal moving from one port to another within the region. Since the last 1980's industrial manufacturing in the United States has recovered through investment in technology and corporate restructuring. Industrial production is flourishing once more in the Great Lakes region; Midwest economies are booming. Yet, only a small volume of high-value finished goods is shipped through the system. The Great Lakes region, therefore, is unable to fully participate in this resurgence of economic strength due to limitations in the Seaway's capacity.

For more than 2 years, I have been working closely with interested parties in the Great Lakes maritime transportation community and the infrastructure investment finance sector in the United States and Canada to develop a proposal to allow the Seaway to reach its full potential, to guarantee the future viability of the Seaway, and to continue the economic development of the Great Lakes region.

The bill I am introducing today, the Binational Great Lakes-Seaway Enhancement Act of 1999, developed in concert with the Honorable Joe Comuzzi, a dear friend of mine and a member of the Canadian Parliament whose

district (Riding) is adjacent to mine, would establish the foundation, create the conditions, and provide the resources to permit the system to achieve its full potential. The bill would authorize the creation of a binational authority to operate and maintain the Seaway. It would also provide for the establishment of a non-federal credit facility to offer financial and other assistance to the Seaway and Great Lakes maritime communities for transportation-related capital investments.

Specifically, the legislation would establish a binational governmental St. Lawrence Seaway Corporation by combining the existing, separate U.S. and Canadian agencies that operate each country's Seaway facilities. It would require the Corporation's top management to run the Seaway in a business-like manner. It would transfer Seaway employees and the operating authority of Seaway assets to the Corporation. It would provide labor protection for current U.S. Seaway employees, whether or not they transfer to the Corporation. It would offer incentives for employment and pay based on job performance. It would set forth a process for the Corporation to become financially self-sufficient. At the same time, it would provide the United States with ample oversight authority over the Corporation.

Through merger of the two national Seaway agencies into a single binational authority, we could eliminate duplication and streamline operations. Improved efficiency would reduce

government's cost of operating the Seaway. Moreover, a unified Seaway agency would reduce regulatory burden and help cut the sailing time of ships through the system. This latter efficiency improvement would positively affect the bottom line of Seaway users. All of these efficiencies would make the system a more competitive and viable transportation route for international commerce.

The Great Lakes and the Seaway should be considered as an integrated system in maritime transportation. Improvements to the Seaway infrastructure alone would not be sufficient to deal with the efficiency and competitiveness problems facing the Great Lakes-Seaway system. On the contrary, improvements to the Seaway could stress the capacity of ports on the Great Lakes. A comprehensive approach is necessary to address the system's investment needs.

My legislation, therefore, would provide for the establishment of a Great Lakes Development Bank. It would outline in broad terms the structure of Bank membership. To ensure no taxpayer liability, this legislation would prohibit the United States and the St. Lawrence Seaway Corporation from becoming members of the Bank. It would specify eligible projects for financial and other assistance from the Bank. It would define the forms of such assistance. It would require recipients of Bank assistance, states or provinces in which such recipients are located, contractors for projects financed

with Bank assistance, and localities in which such contractors are located to become Bank members to broaden the Bank's membership base. It would establish an initial capitalization level for the Bank, and would provide as U.S. contributions \$100 million in direct loan and up to \$500 million in loan commitments that could be drawn upon to meet the Bank's credit obligations. It would set interest on U.S. loans to the Bank at rates equal to the current average yield on outstanding Treasury debts of similar maturity plus administrative costs to preclude taxpayer subsidy to the Bank. It would allow the United States to call loans to the Bank if the Bank is not complying with the objectives of this legislation and would provide specific limitations on United States' liability to protect our interests.

Mr. Speaker, my legislation is intended to make the Great Lakes-Seaway system a more efficient, competitive, and viable transportation route. Such a system will enable our manufacturers to bring their goods to the world market at reduced cost, making their products more competitive in the global economy. This is a sensible bill; it is a good-government bill. We should all support it. I will be sending out a Dear Colleague letter seeking co-sponsors for the bill. I hope Members will offer their support and join me in moving this legislation forward. This proposal should be enacted this year.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 24, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 28

2 p.m.
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings on issues relating to the trafficking of women and children in Europe and the United States.
2226, Rayburn Building

3 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the nomination of John David Holum, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Arms Control and International Security, Department of State.
SD-419

JUNE 29

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 161, to provide for a transition to market-based rates for power sold by the Federal Power Marketing Administrations and the Tennessee Valley Authority; S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; and S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry.
SH-216

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, focusing on arts education and magnet schools.
SD-430

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on fire preparedness by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service on Federal lands.
SD-366

JUNE 30

9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, focusing on facilities.
SD-430

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 438, to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation; to be followed by a business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SR-485

Rules and Administration
To hold oversight hearings on the operations of the Architect of the Capitol.
SR-301

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings on S. 646, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide increased retirement savings opportunities; S. 741, to provide for pension reform; S. 659, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require pension plans to provide adequate notice to individuals whose future benefit accruals are being significantly reduced; and other related proposals.
SD-215

2 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the United States Forest Service Economic Action programs.
SD-366

JULY 1

9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Employment, Safety and Training Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the proposed Work Investment Act.
SD-430

Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to establish the American Indian Educational Foundation.
SR-485

Energy and Natural Resources
To resume hearings on S. 161, to provide for a transition to market-based rates for power sold by the Federal Power Marketing Administrations and the Tennessee Valley Authority; S. 282, to provide that no electric utility shall be required to enter into a new contract or obligation to purchase or to sell electricity or capacity under section 210 of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers by promoting competition in the electric power industry; and S. 1047, to provide for a more competitive electric power industry.
SH-216

10 a.m.
Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, Restructuring and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the federal food safety system.
SD-342

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on the role of sanctions in United States national security policy.
SD-419

2 p.m.
Foreign Relations
East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine United States policy towards Hong Kong.
SD-419

JULY 14

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold joint oversight hearings on the General Accounting Office report on Interior Department's trust funds reform.
Room to be announced

JULY 21

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 985, to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.
SR-485

JULY 28

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 979, to amend the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act to provide for further self-governance by Indian tribes.
SR-485

AUGUST 4

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 299, to elevate the position of Director of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services to Assistant Secretary for Indian Health; and S. 406, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to make permanent the demonstration program that allows for direct billing of medicare, medicaid, and other third party payors, and to expand the eligibility under such program to other tribes and tribal organizations; followed by a business meeting to consider pending calendar business.
SR-485

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.
Veterans Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.
345 Cannon Building