

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING BONNI GAYLE
TISCHLER

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the end of an era in law enforcement when Bonni Gayle Tischler, the highest ranking woman to ever serve this country in federal law enforcement, leaves the United States Customs Service to pursue other opportunities in private industry. Industry's gain is truly our loss.

Ms. Tischler, the Assistant Commissioner for Field Operations at Customs and the first woman to ever hold that position, began her career at the National Republican Congressional Committee. But politics did not quench her thirst for adventure so, in 1971, she became one of the first women to become a United States Sky Marshall. In 1977, Ms. Tischler became one of the very first women to become a federal agent with the Customs Service, working undercover in the Miami based "Operation Greenback," an innovative anti-money laundering program established by the United States Department of Treasury. Playing roles ranging from a crooked executive to the madam of a brothel, Ms. Tischler, by her example, proved that law enforcement and the public were the beneficiaries of strong, smart women cops.

During the Administration of President Ronald Reagan, Ms. Tischler became the first woman in the federal government to head a law enforcement field office when she took over as Special Agent in Charge in Tampa Florida. While in Tampa she oversaw the investigation into the Bank of Credit and Commerce International, the largest money laundering investigation of its kind. Her work not only gained her attention in Washington, but also resulted in a contract put out on her life.

Named, in 1997 to oversee 4,500 agents and investigative personnel at 152 field offices throughout the world, she became the first woman to become the Assistant Commissioner for Investigations at Customs. During her tenure she had responsibility for the largest money-laundering probe in U.S. history, "Operation Casablanca," and "Operation Cheshire Cat", also the largest-ever international child pornography and exploitation case among many others.

In June of 2000, Ms. Tischler was tapped to head Customs Office of Field Operations, by far the largest segment of the Customs Service, with over 13,000 employees, a \$1 billion dollar budget, 300 Ports of Entry and all Customs Management Centers and Field Laboratories.

The National Center for Women and Policing has honored her with its prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award for her work as a mentor to thousands of other women who have followed her footsteps into law enforcement careers.

Perhaps, however, her biggest challenge was personal. Bonni Tischler is a breast cancer survivor.

Today, the sight of a woman in a police uniform is not at all uncommon. This is partly due to the fact that Bonni Tischler was never an armchair feminist. While other adventuresome young women of her generation pursued careers as lawyers or businesswomen, Bonni Tischler was on the firing range, mastering the use of a gun. She marched on a different road to a different drummer and we are all better off because of it. For thousands of women today, and a countless number in the future, Bonni Tischler not only broke the glass ceiling, she shattered it, and in doing so she changed the face of federal law enforcement forever.

COMMENDING EFFORTS OF JOHN
KEATING, JOE SAPERE, AND
JERRY SUGGS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the efforts of three men, John Keating, Joe Sapere and Jerry Suggs. These three gentlemen are now embarked upon a bicycle ride across America, having begun June 8 in Newport Beach, CA with anticipated completion in Jamestown, VA on the 21st of July, the anniversary of the "Americans with Disabilities Act" (ADA). What is most extraordinary about this journey Mr. Speaker is that each of these gentlemen is an amputee.

John Keating, age 40, is the son of a former U.S. Defense attache and is the father of three sons. Joe Sapere, age 61, is a retired Air Force Colonel and a recent amputee. Jerry Suggs, 68, is retired from our U.S. Navy.

The reason for this trip, Mr. Speaker, is to demonstrate that life does not end with amputation, but can include high-intensity activities such as bicycling and skydiving. These men are visiting rehab facilities along the way and giving encouragement to those who have felt constrained. One young lady they have met was a tennis player and had given up the sport when she lost a leg. They convinced her to take up the racquet again and start playing.

As a Physician and Congressman, I honor these gentlemen for their efforts and invite others to learn more about these activities on line at www.amputees-across-america.com.

CONGRATULATING TASHIANNA
AVERY, MAHOGANY WILLIAMS,
AND WILLIAM HARRIS

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my heartfelt and enthusiastic

congratulations to the team of Tashianna Avery and Mahogany Williams for placing first in the junior division of the National African-American History Challenge. I also wish to recognize William Harris, the team alternate, for all of his efforts in helping the team of Avery and Williams win this competition.

The first-place team of Avery and Williams won the distinguished Hayling Cup at the 100 Black Men of America's National African-American History Challenge in Orlando, FL in June. Before receiving the distinguished Hayling Cup, Avery and Williams won first-place in the junior division of the fifth annual African-American History Challenge in Indianapolis, IN.

These three young people are an excellent example that through dedication, commitment, diligence, and hard work one can accomplish great things. This extra-ordinary team has shown the people of Indiana what it means to work hard to accomplish a goal.

Mr. Speaker, to Miss Avery, Miss Williams, and Mr. Harris, congratulations on your first-place win, and continue to aspire to achieve great things.

The people of Indianapolis are very proud of you.

TRIBUTE TO MS. DELAINIA
HOFFACRE

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor Ms. Delainia Hoffacre, teacher of visual arts at Brea-Olinda High School, for her unflagging commitment to the creative development of her students and her outstanding record of service in advancing the cultural arts in the city of Brea.

A lifetime supporter of the arts, Ms. Hoffacre is an accomplished artist with an emphasis in drawing. Incorporating her passion for art in her professional career, Ms. Hoffacre began teaching high-school level visual arts after completing her Bachelor of Science degree in Art Education at Ohio State University. During her more than sixteen years with the Brea-Olinda Unified School District (BUSD), Ms. Hoffacre has been instrumental in the development and coordination of the district-wide elementary-level arts curriculum, Artology, and has initiated the first Advanced Placement (AP) in Studio Art program. Moreover, her classroom instruction is dynamic and effective, evident by the many awards her students have earned at local art competitions, particularly in my Artistic Discovery competition.

In addition to her outstanding professional accomplishments, Ms. Hoffacre has contributed much of her free-time to enhancing the arts within the community and her impact has been dramatic. Serving as an appointed member of the Brea Cultural Arts Commission

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

since its inception, Ms. Hoffacre helped initiate the Art in Public Places program, the Brea Fest, featuring "A Taste of the Arts," and the Brea Children's Theater, all of which continue to be popular community events. She is affiliated with the Brea Art Association and the Brea Gallery and is highly regarded among artists and community members alike for her impeccable eye for fine art.

In a time when the quality of America's educational system has become the object of national criticism and debate, it gives me great pleasure to highlight the positive contributions of exceptional teachers like Ms. Hoffacre, who not only give of themselves in the classroom, but also set an example in the community for students to emulate. Far too often, the critical role that teachers play in the development of our nation's youth is overlooked, and in some cases, even discounted. However, today it is my hope that all Americans will join me in commending Ms. Hoffacre and teachers across the nation for their unfailing dedication, persistence, and commitment to providing students with the tools necessary for their success.

Again, I would like to congratulate Ms. Hoffacre on these accomplishments and thank her for her contributions to her students and the community.

MEDICARE MODERNIZATION AND
PRESCRIPTIONS DRUG ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to this rule and in opposition to H.R. 4954, the Medicare Modernization and Prescription Drug Act of 2002.

Tonight we are voting on legislation that represents the most drastic change in Medicare since the program was enacted in 1965. With this drastic change, one would assume there would be an open and honest rule that would allow Members to consider and vote on various legislative proposals. Unfortunately, for millions of seniors utilizing Medicare, this is not the case. Democrats have been denied the opportunity to present their plan to America's seniors. What is left is a bad bill, with no amendments, leaving no chance to make it better. Once again, the Republican Leadership of the House of Representatives has presented Members with the option of voting for a benefit that doesn't do enough, or voting for nothing at all.

The current bill includes provider reimbursements and has been endorsed by doctors and hospitals, but this bill does not provide adequate benefits to those seniors who really need it. Under the proposed bill, Medicare beneficiaries would be eligible to enroll in the drug program paying a premium estimated at \$35 per month and a deductible of \$250 a year. For drug expenditures between \$251-\$1000 the beneficiary would pay 20 percent and the government would pay 80 percent. For drug costs \$1001-\$2000, the program and enrollees would split the cost 50-50. Now comes the unbelievable part, for expenditures between \$2000 and \$3700, the enrollee would have to pay out of his own pocket. That's

right—there is a \$1700 gap where the seniors are left with the burden. As a result, nearly half of all seniors will fall into the gap and be forced to pay the full cost of their medications.

If we are going to give seniors a benefit, it needs to be a meaningful one that actually provides coverage. Seniors need a benefit in which they can afford their drugs and do not have to worry about their medications being covered. In addition, there should be one bill that will address the problems with Medicare reimbursement and provider payments and another that will focus solely on the needs of seniors. The bill before us is a combined version of reform—done in order to secure votes and pass. The Republicans have catered to the needs of various industries in order to pass their bill—knowing that this is the only way this proposal could stay alive. This is an insurance plan that cannot work. This legislation would rely on private insurance companies and health plans to cover the costs of the drugs. In particular, the bill before us allows insurers to refuse to participate and allows them to control costs at the expense of patients' welfare. No insurance program can work unless it attracts premiums from people who will not use the service. Those premiums are used to offset the cost associated with those beneficiaries whose drugs cost more than their premiums. This plan is doomed to failure because there is no way premiums can cover costs—especially when it is geared toward the senior population. The end result unfortunately is those seniors without insurance will still be unable to afford prescribed medicines and those seniors with insurance will continue to pay high premiums or co-pays for their insurance—ultimately changing little and helping very few.

If we in Congress are serious about strengthening Medicare for future generations, we need to invest in our seniors and Congress needs to be prepared to spend the funds necessary to provide a suitable prescription drug program. If the federal government can afford a \$273 billion farm bill and an \$800 billion bill making the estate tax permanent, I think we owe it to our seniors to find the money to provide a prescription drug benefit. The federal government has a responsibility to ensure that Americans who contribute to the Medicare program during their working years will have dependable, equitable, and affordable health coverage when they retire or become disabled regardless of their income or health status.

Mr. Speaker, the Democrat's intended to do that. We intended to come to the floor and present a proposal that would lower drug prices, guarantee coverage and enable seniors to get their medicines at the pharmacy of their choice. Since we have been denied a fair chance to present our proposal I cannot support this rule or the proposed bill and I urge my colleagues to vote no on both.

A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, across Kansas, combines and harvest crews are wrapping up another wheat harvest. This year, the harvest story is not about the wheat being

cut, but about the wheat that should have been cut—wheat destroyed by drought and wheat plowed into the dry ground. Where there has been wheat to harvest, low yields are evidence of the ravages of drought. While farmers see harvests come and go every year, this one will certainly not soon be forgotten. Unfortunately, this year it's the dry weather and failed crop that will be remembered.

Last year drought took a heavy toll on Kansas. This year will be far worse. In Kansas, almost a million acres of wheat have been abandoned—an area larger than the state of Rhode Island. In southwest Kansas, the driest area of the state, as much as 90 percent of the wheat planted was lost to drought. This translates into a loss of over \$277 million in farm income this year. After last year's dismal crop, few thought things could get worse. But Kansas farmers now have \$277 million less than last year to pay their bills and to care for their families.

Behind the millions of dollars lost from the agricultural economy are real people. I am contacted daily by farmers and ranchers hurting from last year's drought, whose difficulties have been compounded by this year's losses. In Hugoton, farmers have seen less than an inch of rain in the last year, and cracks in the earth run several feet deep. Here, there is not even enough moisture to replant failed crops. In Rolla, where the federal grassland is being closed due to drought, ranchers are selling the cattle herds they have spent a lifetime building. All across western Kansas, ranchers are liquidating herds, as the little grass that was there has been grazed to the ground.

For the last 2 years, farmers in drought-affected areas have worked tirelessly, only to come away with less than what they started with. Crop insurance alone cannot relieve the cash flow crisis of these farm families. The need for assistance is greater, and more urgent, than it was a year ago. Farmers and ranchers need help to compensate for this natural disaster.

These are tough times in farm country, and we cannot close our eyes to the severity of this drought or the magnitude of its consequences. A dark cloud is hovering over the future of many producers in western Kansas; unfortunately, that cloud holds no rain. Without disaster assistance, this year, some farmers may simply dry up and blow away.

CONCERNING RISE IN ANTI-
SEMITISM IN EUROPE

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the House on its unanimous support of H. Res. 393, Concerning the rise in Anti-Semitism in Europe.

Last month ground was broken in Boston at our Holocaust Memorial for a Liberators' Memorial. Survivors had long urged that tribute be paid to the American and Allied soldiers who fought and died to defeat the Third Reich. It is a fitting memorial and it inspires us to defend life, liberty, and justice for all persons.

I am troubled, however, that it has become necessary to defend human dignity and religious liberty in Europe, in Western Europe, in

the twenty-first century. Anti-Semitic outrages have taken place in many countries in the European Union. Some have been shameful, like the desecration of cemeteries and synagogues. Some have been brutal assaults that maimed or blinded their victims. Some have been tragedies averted: Molotov cocktails tossed at schools or synagogues that failed to ignite the buildings. We should not trivialize the horrors of the past by foolish comparisons. These are not attempts at systematic genocide.

Nonetheless, bigotry cannot be too often or too forcefully condemned. This resolution calls on the governments of Europe to protect their Jewish citizens and to promote understanding and reconciliation among all persons. Such moral leadership is essential and, sadly, it has been lacking.

The political geography of these attacks has been particularly disturbing. In the first four months of this year, forty-three anti-Semitic episodes were reported in France. In the same period, Germany had nine and Ukraine, where the Babi Yar massacre took place, five. In Moldova, close to the anniversary of the 1903 Kishinev pogrom, there was only one. In Slovakia also, only one: gravestones defaced on Hitler's birthday.

France taught Europe to think in terms of liberty and equality. Its Declaration of the Rights of Man and the Citizen proclaimed: "Men are born and remain free and equal in rights." Its revolutionary traditions shaped the Universal Declaration of Human Rights whose first article reads: "All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights." That important moral voice needs to be heard once more.

When France was convulsed over an injustice done to one Jewish officer, Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, Emile Zola wrote a Letter to France: "your most illustrious children have fought . . . given their intelligence and their blood to fight intolerance . . . return to yourself, find yourself once more." I ask that France heed Zola now.

No nation is without prejudice. We all fall short of perfect civility. None of us, unflinchingly, treats all our fellow citizens as we should. It is essential, nonetheless, that all democracies invoke our shared principles.

I know that every criticism of United States policy is not an expression of "anti-Americanism." Nor should this resolution be seen as anti-European. In condemning anti-Semitism, we remind European democracies of their own ideals.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I missed rollcall votes Nos. 283 and 284. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall No. 283—"yes", rollcall No. 284—"yes".

IN HONOR OF DR. LES ADELSON, A
LEADER IN EDUCATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen of California's 27th Congressional District, Dr. Les Adelson. Dr. Adelson has served as Superintendent of the South Pasadena Unified School District for nine years and has been a positive force in my Congressional District and in the field of education for much longer.

Dr. Adelson's career in education has spanned over thirty years. He began his service with the South Pasadena Unified School District over thirteen years ago as Director of Instructional Services, and in 1992 he was made Assistant Superintendent and a year later was appointed as Superintendent. During his tenure as Superintendent, he has made a positive impact on the policies of the school district, and has also received such honors as Superintendent of the Year in Los Angeles County, as well as local, State, and Parent-Teacher Association service awards.

Dr. Adelson has been a faculty member of the Special Education Department at California State University, Northridge for eighteen years, and a faculty member in the School Management Program at the University of California, Los Angeles. Dr. Adelson has also contributed much to his community through his volunteer work with the Rotary Club of South Pasadena and the City of Hope.

Les is now leaving the South Pasadena School District to take the position of Superintendent of the Moreland School District in San Jose County.

Dr. Adelson will be greatly missed in the South Pasadena community for all that he has done as an educator, an administrator, and as a man dedicated to public service. At this time, I ask all Members to join me in extending congratulations to Dr. Adelson for all that he has given to the community of South Pasadena and wish him continued success in his new endeavors.

HONORING REVEREND DAVID ARIAS

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great public servant and a remarkable spiritual leader—Reverend David Arias. Ordained to the priesthood just over 50 years ago on May 31, 1952 in Barcelona, Spain, Reverend Arias has served the Christian community with distinction as Auxiliary Bishop of Newark, Regional Bishop of Hudson County, Vicar of Hispanic Affairs for the Archdiocese of Newark, and Pastor of St. Joseph's of the Palisades Church.

As a voice of comfort and reason, Reverend Arias has committed himself to the church and provided guidance and wisdom to those in his congregation and community. Anyone who has ever known Reverend Arias knows full well that his heart is filled with love, compassion, and faith.

As a pillar of our community, Reverend Arias opened the Catholic Hispanic Center in Union City, was named head of the Spanish Cursillo Movement, and has written seven books including *Spanish Roots in America* and *Spanish Cross in Georgia*.

Yet Reverend Arias's record of service, numerous appointments, and accomplishments are only part of what makes him so remarkable. Anyone who has had the pleasure of his company or the opportunity to work by his side, knows that his eloquence, intellect, and dignity have made him a model leader for his congregants and a venerable advocate for the people of his community.

I wish Reverend Arias and his family all the best. We thank him for his service and commitment to our community and to the people of the great State of New Jersey.

MARKING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATORY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), based in Golden, Colorado, on the occasion of its 25th anniversary. As the Department of Energy's premier laboratory for renewable energy and energy efficiency research and development, NREL has played a critical role in advancing our knowledge and technical ability to integrate power from renewable resources into our nation's energy supply.

On July 5, 1977, NREL opened its doors. Created as the Solar Energy Research Institute, it began its work during an energy crisis, with a mission to make renewable energy a viable national energy option.

NREL has succeeded in its mission, and it continues to make remarkable strides. For a modest investment in renewable energy research and development over the last two decades, the price of wind energy has dropped from 30 cents/kWh to between 4–6 cents/kWh, mostly due to past research at NREL. Photovoltaic modules have lowered their cost by nearly a factor of ten, while the cost of solar systems has been reduced by 50 percent in the last decade. Biomass ethanol has decreased its cost per gallon from roughly \$4.00 fifteen years ago to \$1.20 today due to research at this laboratory. Commitment to cooperative research and development with laboratories, universities, and the private sector has led to ground-breaking technology improvements that are now beginning to make their way into the market in nearly all renewable energy technologies.

NREL's work has earned it many awards over the last 25 years. Among them are 31 R&D 100 awards, the most per researcher of any Department of Energy laboratory.

But NREL does more than good research. I have always been particularly impressed by NREL's dedication to its community in Colorado. A good example of this dedication: As a way of celebrating the laboratory's anniversary, NREL's employees chose to build an energy-efficient home for Habitat for Humanity. NREL's managing partners are funding the project, and NREL employees and their

friends and families will contribute 3,000 volunteer hours to build the house.

So NREL has a great deal to celebrate on this anniversary. As NREL Director Richard Truly remarked earlier this year, the goal of the anniversary activities is not only to call attention to NREL's great achievements, but also to recognize NREL's 1,000-plus employees, to remind stakeholders how NREL's efforts helped them achieve success, and to announce that there will be much more to come from NREL in the next 25 years.

And there must be much more to come. With total world energy use expected to double by the year 2025 and quadruple by 2100, it is clear that NREL has an increasingly important role to play in transforming the way we think about and use energy.

As co-chair of the Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Caucus in the House, I have consistently supported NREL's vision for a sustainable energy future. I look forward to sharing in NREL's future successes.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO HARRY C. BRADFORD ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to Harry C. Bradford. Harry is completing an exemplary career with the Department of Health and Human Services, and after forty-five years of dedicated service Harry entered into retirement on June 28, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, Harry began work with the former Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1972, and, over the years, has risen through the ranks to his current position serving as Director of the Division of Payment Management, Financial Management Service, and Program Support Center for the Department of Health and Human Services. On his way to the directorship, Harry served as an Operating Accountant, Branch Chief of Governmental and Tribal Payments, and the Division of Payment Management.

Harry has proven his skills as an effective leader and organizational manager. In 1996 Harry assumed control of the federal government's largest centralized grant payment system, the HHS Payment Management System. During fiscal year 2001, the system was used to disburse over \$217 billion dollars to over 23,000 recipient organizations throughout the country. Through Harry's diligent efforts, the Payment Management System has been selected by the Chief Financial Officers Council to serve as one of only two grant payment systems for the entire federal government.

Harry has been recognized for his diligent service and unselfish commitment to developing a sound system of fund disbursement and exceptional customer service. Among his numerous awards and recognition, Harry has received the U.S. Treasury Award for Distinction in Cash Management, HHS Office of the Inspector General Award for Outstanding Efforts in Cash Management. Then in 2000, Harry was awarded the HHS Program Support Center's highest award, the Premier Customer

Service Award, which he dedicated to his staff for their diligent efforts.

Harry will be enjoying his retirement at his home in Upper Marlboro, Maryland with his wife and two children. He plans to pursue his many hobbies as well as continue his involvement with local church and community activities.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Harry C. Bradford. Our federal service agencies and the American people are better served through the diligence and determination of public servants, like Harry, who dedicate their lives to serving the needs of others. I am confident that Harry will continue to serve his community and positively influence others around him. We wish him the very best on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO THE ST. CHARLES BORROME0 PARISH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the St. Charles Borromeo Parish and to commemorate over 125 years of service to the community of DuBois, Illinois.

The church's doors opened for mass on December 16, 1877, and ever since it has served as a cornerstone for religious growth throughout southern Illinois. They have spent 125 years preaching the word of Christ in DuBois and making a difference in the lives of countless individuals.

To such people as Father Melvin Vandeloo and his congregation, the motivation lies not in recognition, but rather in the good deeds themselves. Their purpose is far greater than any message my words could possibly relate. Yet, on this special day, I think it is appropriate that they are recognized for their efforts. In a time when we must come together as a nation, the members of St. Charles Borromeo Parish strive to set an example for all to follow.

To the people of the St. Charles Borromeo Parish, thank you for your unrelenting devotion to the Lord's work over the past 125 years; and may God grant you the opportunity to continue spreading His word for many years to come.

HONORING MAJ. GEN. GERALD F. PERRYMAN

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Maj. Gen. Gerald F. Perryman, Jr. on the occasion of his retirement from his position as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Warfighting Integration, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, DC. General Perryman entered the Air Force in 1970 through Texas A&M University's ROTC program. During his distinguished career he commanded the Air Force's Peacekeeper missile squadron during its transition from the Minuteman weapon system, and led

the 91st Missile Group to win the 1994 Omaha Trophy as the best of U.S. Strategic Command's Air Force and Navy ballistic missile units. The general has commanded a missile wing and space wing. He also commanded 14th Air Force and was Component Commander of U.S. Air Force space operations within U.S. Space Command. As Commander of the Aerospace Command and Control, intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Center, General Perryman was responsible for integrating command and control, and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance for the Air Force to improve the ability of commanders to create desired effects in the battlespace. The general has served as a missile combat crew commander in the Minuteman and Peacekeeper weapons systems, and as a space warning crew commander.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend General Perryman on the occasion of his retirement from a distinguished military career.

RECOGNITION OF DAVID SAFAVIAN

HON. CHRIS CANNON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, on July 11th, David Safavian will be sworn in as the Chief of Staff for the Administrator Stephen Perry at the General Services Administration. President Bush has made a wise choice, I know.

Prior to accepting his new position, David was my Chief of Staff in Washington DC. In that role, he demonstrated the dedication to public service that I wish all Federal employees had.

David never let partisanship get in the way of sound public policy. He is a leader who never forgets that only through teamwork do things get accomplished. And even though he was not born in Utah, he learned the culture, and as a result, was adopted by the Beehive State.

Theodore Roosevelt once indicated that a man who never failed is someone who never did anything. David took challenges head on, fully knowing that failure was possible. Yet he was able to keep his eye on the ultimate objective: helping the people of Utah's Third Congressional District and the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, we remain good friends, and I will miss David's counsel. But my loss is the Administration's gain. And for that, I could not be more pleased.

CONCERNING RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM IN EUROPE

SPEECH OF

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 2002

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 393. I would like to thank my colleague from New York, Mr. Crowley for introducing this resolution and for his leadership. This legislation calls for the governments of Europe to protect the safety and

well-being of their Jewish communities and cultivate an atmosphere of cooperation and reconciliation among Jewish and non-Jewish residents. The resolution urges them to act quickly to respond to the escalating violence against Jews in Europe.

In the past 18 months, there has been a significant rise in anti-Semitic attacks on Jewish people and Jewish institutions in Europe. Not since the end of World War II have we seen so much anti-Semitic violence throughout Europe. Many European leaders continue to shrug off the violence as an episode in the Mideast conflict and not a reflection of a serious problem closer to home.

In the wake of this wave of anti-Semitic violence, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) surveyed 2,500 people from 5 European countries and the results were shocking. The survey found that nearly a third of Europeans harbor some traditional anti-Jewish views, while 62% believe the recent violence against Jews is the result of anti-Israel sentiment. The survey goes on to find that 30% of Europeans believe that Jews have too much power in the business world and nearly 1 in 4 say Jews don't care about anyone but their own kind.

In no European country is there a greater concern than in France. It has been reported that French Jews fear for their safety if they walk down the street in Paris wearing yarmulkes. In April, the Maccabi Jewish soccer team was practicing in Paris and was attacked by French youths with baseball bats. One Jewish youth was severely beaten. According to the ADL survey, only 14 percent of French respondents say they are "very concerned" about recent violence against Jews. Additionally, more than a third of French respondents say they are "fairly unconcerned" or "not at all concerned" by the increasing amount of anti-Semitic violence.

The festering intolerance has manifested itself through attacks on synagogues and other Jewish institutions. The seeming failure to properly speak out against these attacks brings into question the commitment of some to stamp out this wave of anti-Semitism. We in the United States must take a firm stand on this issue today. Neglecting the problem of anti-Semitism is unacceptable. I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution and send a message to Europe and the rest of the world that the United States will not sit by silently as anti-Semitism rears its head on the streets of Europe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall No. 283, on H.R. 4609, Rathdrum Prairie Spokane Valley Aquifer Study Act, had I been present I would have voted "yea," on rollcall No. 284, H.R. 4858, on H.R. 2643, Fort Clatsop National Memorial Expansion Act, I would have voted "yea," on rollcall No. 285, the Langevin Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 3295, the Help America Vote Act of 2002, I would have voted "yea," on rollcall No. 286, H.R. 5063, the Armed Services Tax Fairness Act, I would have voted "yea," on rollcall No. 287, H.J. Res. 393, Con-

cerning anti-Semitism in Europe, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF ARAPAHOE COUNTY SHERIFF PATRICK SULLIVAN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the work of Arapahoe County Sheriff Patrick Sullivan who has chosen to retire after 19 years of service to his community, and his country.

For the past 40 years, since he was a Littleton police officer and dispatcher, he has shown an unwavering devotion to "serve and protect." In 1979, he joined the Arapahoe County sheriff's office as a patrol division commander. In 1983 he was named as the undersheriff and six months later appointed to the position of Arapahoe County Sheriff after the death of his predecessor Ed Nelson who suffered a heart attack. Sheriff Sullivan went on to win four popular elections and although he is still eligible for one additional term under Colorado's term-limit laws, he has chosen to serve as the security director of Cherry Creek School District.

During his tenure as sheriff, Arapahoe County has grown from a relatively sparsely populated area of rural Colorado to a thriving suburb consisting of more than 500,000 and he has done an excellent job of dealing with the problems that arise with such rapid growth.

He has served admirably and with distinction since being appointed in June, 1983. Sheriff Sullivan was named Sheriff of the Year by the National Sheriff's Association, during the 2000 election cycle, he was the Law Enforcement Chairman for the Colorado George W. Bush for President Committee and a member of the Law Enforcement Coalition for the Republican National Committee Victory 2000. He received the Valor Award by the Kiwanis Club of Littleton and was named one of the 10 "Outstanding Men of the Decade" by the Littleton Times newspaper as well as "Man of the Decade" by the Littleton Sentinel Independent. He received the Anti-Defamation League's Civil Rights Award, and was instrumental in discussions concerning Homeland Defense from the perspective of local law enforcement.

It has been an honor to work with Sheriff Sullivan, particularly when difficult and tragic events in my district required the cool-minded consideration of experienced members of the law enforcement community. Pat Sullivan represents the best our country has to offer and in his retirement, I look forward to his continued friendship.

TRICKY ACCOUNTING

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. Paul. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting into the RECORD an article from yesterday's Finan-

cial Times written by Jude Wanniski which properly identifies our policy of fiat money as the underlying cause of most of our current market concerns as well as the true source of the worst sort of "tricky accounting" now occurring in the United States.

While Mr. Wanniski and I may not exactly agree on definitional issues relative to deflation and the gold standard I believe that he is completely accurate in his assessment of the approach leading to the tremors we have witnessed recently in the markets and throughout our economy. I strongly commend this article to my colleagues.

[From the Financial Times, July 9, 2002]

ACCOUNTING MISERY IS DOWN TO LACK OF A GOLD STANDARD

(From Mr. Jude Wanniski)

Sir, Martin Wolf's "Rescue plan for capitalism" (July 3) begins with the observation that "the trickiest question in capitalism is how precisely companies can be controlled". Perhaps—but the question becomes trickiest in a capitalist system with a floating unit of account. The floating dollar is at the core of the problem in the US today.

The simple reason for the accounting miseries now surfacing with Enron and WorldCom et al is that we are not on a gold standard—and for the past 30 years have been struggling through inflations and deflations.

The US Savings & Loan crisis of the 1980s was the result of inflation, which made it impossible for creditors to recover their assets. An S&L needs a gold footing so it can borrow short and lend long.

When those who made the worst loans faced bankruptcy, they made riskier and riskier loans, trying to make up for the losses. Those who were caught went to jail. Those were caught went to jail. Those who survived then benefited from the deflation that followed, where customers were required to give the S&Ls more in real terms than they had borrowed.

This is what has happened in the current monetary deflation, which has emerged over the past five years, with gold falling from \$383 to as low as \$253, now at \$310. For the economy to recover, gold would have to be at \$350—and it cannot get there as long as the Federal Reserve is not (and has no means) to target gold. At the margin, those debtors who could not pay their debts juggled the books, hoping for economic recovery that was promised by the Bush tax cuts and the Greenspan interest rate cuts, neither of which can solve the monetary deflation.

When the recovery did not come, the jugglers at Enron and WorldCom and so on had to come clean. It is something like the otherwise honest bank teller promising to return the cash as soon as his luck improves at the race track.

Note that the gold price has been in decline these past few weeks. This, I believe, is the result of the lower risks of political terrorism, as there has been progress towards diplomatic solutions in the Middle East and on the subcontinent. When there is increased risk of doing business, there is less demand for dollar liquidity; and if the Fed does not drain it off, the gold price rises. When the risk declines there is more demand for liquidity and if the Fed does not supply it, the gold price falls.

This is a nonsensical way to manage a domestic monetary regime, let alone a global capitalist system. No amount of new rules and accounting procedures can keep pace with such monetary turbulence in the unit of account.

Unless the US takes the lead in re-establishing a dollar/gold foundation to the world economy, it will have to be done elsewhere.

Both Europe and Greater China have the economic mass required to anchor the world monetary system to their currencies, as the UK once did.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I very much regret that I was unavoidably detained and unable to vote on rollcall No. 278, the motion to commit S. 2578, on June 27, 2002. Had I been present, you may be assured that I would have cast my vote in opposition. My beeper did not work.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS RESEARCH CORPORATION ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2002

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Department of Veterans Affairs Research Corporation Accountability Act of 2002."

In 1988 Congress enacted Public Law 100-322, the Veterans' Benefits and Services Act, which included a provision that gave the VA the authority to establish nonprofit research corporations. This was done to provide a flexible funding mechanism for the conduct of approved research at medical centers. Prior to giving VA this authority any funding received from private sources such as pharmaceutical companies was placed in a General Post fund. However, it became virtually impossible to track the funding stream. There was no way to identify the source of the funding, nor how the money was being spent. The impetus behind establishing the research corporations was to create an accounting mechanism whereby the VA would submit to Congress an annual report on the number and location of corporations established and the amount of contributions made to each such corporation. Unfortunately, these reports have turned out to be nothing more than ledger sheets with numbers with little or no detail.

Earlier this year, my Subcommittee held a hearing on VA Research Corporations and we heard from the VA's Assistant Inspector General for Auditing that during the years 1994 through 1997, that his office published three reports that identified the need for stricter accountability and oversight with regard to the administration of funds by the Veterans Health Administration research corporations. For instance, in 1994, the IG audit of a million dollars of the \$3.6 million in expenditures spent at three research corporations and identified approximately \$625,000 that was spent on salaries of medical residents, staff travel not clearly related to research or administration. Funds were also spent for non-research related conferences, honorary gifts, awards, entertainment, other than non-research expenditures. This one but one example of how money can be misspent when in this case the corporation is not held accountable.

Under current law, the VA nonprofit research corporations are required to provide Congress with an annual report summarizing their activities and accomplishments. These reports have turned out to be nothing more than bare bones financial statements. The legislation I have introduced today amends section 7366 of Title 38 of the United States Code to require each VA corporation submit a detailed statement that includes the corporation's operations, activities, and accomplishments during the preceding year to the Secretary of the VA by not later than March 1 of each year. The report should include the amount of funds received along with the source of funding; and an itemized accounting of all disbursements. Those corporations with funding in excess of \$300,000 must obtain an audit of the corporation for that year, corporations with funding totaling less than \$300,000 must obtain an audit every three years. These audits must be conducted by an independent auditor and shall be performed in accordance with generally accepted Government auditing standards.

The VA's Inspector General will be required to randomly review audits to determine whether or not they were carried out in accordance with the auditing standards outlined in the legislation. My bill would also extend the life of the corporations by providing authority to establish such corporations until December 31, 2006.

The VA has made tremendous contributions in the field of medical research. I think we all recognize the many accomplishments made by the VA in discovering new drug therapies and developing medical devices that have benefited not only veterans but all Americans. For instance, the VA invented the implantable cardiac pacemaker, developed the nicotine patch, performed the first successful liver transplant, and the development of the first oral vaccine for smallpox.

It is not my intention to prevent VA research from continuing to make great strides as it has in the past, but we must ensure that all research funds are directed with focus and accountability.

LYNDA SCOTT EVERETT

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a special lady who is not only a constituent, but a close personal friend, Lynda Scott Everett. On July 11, 2002, Lynda will receive the Texas Council of Community MHMR Centers' "Betty Hardwick Best of Texas Award" for her long and distinguished record of service and commitment to providing the citizens of Texas with the best possible mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse services. Lynda is only the second person to receive this distinguished recognition.

Concerned about the quality of care her son, Andy, who suffers from autism and mental retardation, was receiving, Lynda became a tireless voice for those who could not speak out for themselves. She began her volunteerism for the mentally disabled as a consultant for the Tri-County MHMR in Montgomery County, Texas. She was then ap-

pointed to the Board of Trustees in 1989 and continued her fight for better services, stronger rights, and additional funds for more effective medications for those who are disabled. Lynda's presence was quickly felt as she attended hearings, meetings and conventions in order to improve the lives of individuals with mental disabilities, as well as their families. Her work expanded her cause across the state of Texas when she was appointed by Governor George W. Bush to the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation in 1999.

As part of Lynda's efforts to help the mentally disabled, she also has been a member of the Texas State Autism Task Force, served on the Montgomery County United Way Campaign Cabinet, as a Board member of the Texas Council of Community MHMR Centers and the Mental Health Association in Texas, as well as being president and co-founder of the Citizens for the Developmentally Disabled.

While Lynda was also a recipient of the Montgomery County Women of Distinction Award from 1997-1999, I am personally grateful for her role as a key, and indispensable member of my first U.S. congressional campaign committee.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Lynda Scott Everett on her hard work and dedication to the mentally and physically disabled on behalf of the eighth Congressional District of Texas. She not only is an exemplary Texan, but an exemplary American with a wonderful heart and inspiring courage. As Cindy Sill, Executive Director of the Tri-County MHMR, who nominated Lynda for the "Betty Hardwick Best of Texas Award" said, "She began her journey into advocacy and volunteer work to help her son, but quickly expanded her focus and has spoken for countless individuals whose voices are often not heard or ignored. . . . She makes a difference in countless lives throughout Texas."

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF GRACE VIGNEAU

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Grace Vigneau of East Hartford, Connecticut, who is celebrating her 90th birthday. Grace is a fellow Mayberryite whose enthusiasm and good will shine through in all she does. Her continued involvement and energy make the Energizer Bunny pale by comparison.

The impact Grace has had on our community in East Hartford is sizable and her accomplishments numerable. She was an original organizer of the Mayberry Village Social and Athletic Club and provided many years of outstanding service to the Democratic Women's Club. She is also a prime mover behind the "Golden Girls," a group of women that includes my mother who have been friends for years and remain nearly as active as they were when they first met. One of their main goals is community involvement, which Grace exemplifies. I must admit, I would not be standing here on the floor of the House today without the support of Grace and the Golden Girls.

Grace is known not only for her community service, but also for her competitive spirit in my annual charity bocce tournament. For the past eleven years, Grace has displayed a superior level of skill and sportsmanship on the bocce court. No tournament would be complete without Grace's ever-present smile and humor.

Even at 90 years of age, Grace maintains her high energy level and the organizing skills that made her such a leader. I would not be surprised if the phrase "growing old gracefully" was created to describe Grace Vigneau. She is loved by family and friends for her infectious enthusiasm, good will, and caring ways. Therefore, I ask my colleagues to rise with me today and celebrate the 90th birthday of Grace Vigneau and wish her continued health and happiness for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call Nos. 283, 284 I would have voted "aye."

WATER RIGHTS IN CALIFORNIA

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the following editorial was written by my fellow colleague from California, Representative GEORGE MILLER. It was published in The Los Angeles Times on June 20, 2002 under the title, "Dammning the Money Stream of the Water Profiteers."

I commend Representative MILLER for eloquently addressing the issue of water rights in California. I support the conviction that California's water belongs to all Californians. We should not allow big agribusiness to profit off antiquated government subsidies at the expense of California's water-strapped communities and family farms.

The following is a reprinted version of Mr. MILLER's editorial:

[From the Los Angeles Times, June 20, 2002]
DAMMING THE MONEY STREAM OF THE WATER PROFITEERS

(By George Miller)

Californians who recently learned a very expensive lesson about futures trading from Enron Corp. may soon get a second dose of market manipulation, this time courtesy of the federal government.

Instead of watching out for the water needs—and pocketbooks—of taxpayers, the Department of the Interior may soon sign long-term water contracts that provide multimillion-dollar windfalls to agricultural corporations at the expense of cities and consumers.

A hundred years ago, Congress made a bargain with farmers in the dry West: Taxpayers would subsidize dams, canals and water to promote settlement and irrigate family farms. In return, farmers would have to repay only a fraction of the true cost of the investment. The subsidies were locked into long-term contracts that the Interior Department signed with water districts promising to deliver millions of acre-feet.

Yet for decades, some reclamation beneficiaries in California's Central Valley have been farming the taxpayers as much as the land.

Huge companies maneuvered to capture the multimillion-dollar subsidy intended for family farmers, leading Congress to close the loopholes and reduce the subsidies that encourage overuse of water resources.

Now the original water contracts are expiring, and Interior must negotiate new contracts under much tighter terms dictated by a historic 1992 water reform law. Given the growing demand for water throughout the state, some of these giant farm operations have a new scheme for enriching themselves at public expense: Instead of using subsidized water for growing crops, they want to sell some of their government-provided water back to the government—or to water-short cities or farms—for huge profits.

Bennett Raley, who is in charge of the federal water program at the Interior Department, approves. "We believe in the free market," Raley says. "It's their water." Well, actually, it isn't "their" water.

The water originates in the mountains and the rivers of this great state. It belongs not to any particular contractor or farmer but to all the people of California, who paid for its development, storage and delivery with costly subsidies. The Interior Department's customers enjoy the use of the water only because of their contracts with the government, and those contracts now need to be renegotiated.

The government signed contracts to provide subsidized water for food and fiber production, not to award a public resource to a particular group that could convert it into an annuity for personal profit. If there is a market in California for \$1,000 an acre-foot—and there is—why would any responsible federal official sign a 25-year contract to sell water to farming concerns that will resell it for a profit of 800% or 1,000%?

If the water market is that healthy, why shouldn't the taxpayers, who built and subsidized the projects in the first place, get to sell the water for a large profit?

If the contractor's intent in signing a new contract is merely to market a portion of the water, then, learning from the Enron example, we should not be concentrating public resources in the hands of a few private individuals.

Yet farming interests, many with longstanding ties to the Bush administration, are pressuring federal officials to sign new contracts that deliver them control of vast amounts of water.

Water is already an overcommitted resource in California, with competing interests divided among cities, agriculture, industry and the environment. Global warming has raised concerns of diminished Sierra snowpacks and runoffs in the future, which would reduce our ability to fill our reservoirs.

Surely this is not the time for responsible government officials to commit water to one group of contractors and force the rest of the state to cut deals that enrich private interests from the sale of public resources.

Doesn't it make sense for Raley and his co-workers at the Interior Department to use great caution in deciding how much of the public's subsidized water to include in those new contracts, instead of promising vast volumes that irrigators will turn around and resell—perhaps even to the government—at a huge profit?

It's not their water, Mr. Raley, unless you give it away.

WILLIAMS SISTERS AT WIMBLEDON

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Serena Williams on her impressive win at Wimbledon. Over the holiday weekend, Serena beat her older sister, Venus, to win her third grand slam title but her first Wimbledon title. I congratulate the two sisters on a great match.

Serena said she gained a lot of momentum from her French Open win, and it showed. In the end, Serena won in straight sets. With the win, Serena became the first woman to win the French Open and Wimbledon back-to-back since Steffi Graf in 1996.

The next day, the two sisters teamed up to win the Wimbledon Doubles Title over French Open champions, Paola Suarez and Virginia Ruano Pascual. While the weather did not look great, the skill these young ladies displayed certainly was. It was an entertaining match, but in the end the Williams sisters proved too strong for their opponents. They won 6-2, 7-5. With that win, the sisters' 2002 Wimbledon record was 19 wins and 1 loss. The one loss came when Venus lost to Serena in the Singles Finals.

Serena now is ranked number one in the world. Venus, who previously was ranked first, is now second. They are quickly becoming the most dominant figures in tennis. They are extremely skilled, they can hit both forehands and backhands with pinpoint accuracy. And their serves are clocked at well over 100 mph.

Venus and Serena enter each match well-prepared and confident, but the sisters always handle themselves with grace. What is perhaps most telling about them, though, is their love for each other. Even after battling it out on the tennis courts for nearly two hours, Venus said, "Serena is my sister and I'm really happy she won, especially her first time. I would have loved to have won. At the same time, I'm so happy for her."

These young ladies are true competitors, but also great individuals. Again, I would like to congratulate Serena on her win this past Saturday. I wish both of them, Serena and Venus, the best of luck in upcoming tournaments.

SAN MATEO SCHOOL STUDENTS DISCUSS WHAT THE AMERICAN FLAG STANDS FOR

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 10, 2002

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues six of my constituents who have been selected winners in a very important essay contest. The six were authors of first, second, and third place winners in an Americanism essay competition for school children in grades 5 and 6 and in grades 7 and 8.

This contest was designed to promote and encourage patriotism. The theme for this year's competition was "What the Flag of the

United States Stands For." The competition was sponsored by lodge No. 1112 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks in San Mateo, California. I want to commend the Elks for their public-spirited effort in sponsoring this competition in order to foster a spirit of patriotism among the young people of our country.

The two first place winners were Julian Zhukivsky from Park Elementary School and Salone Kapur from Borel Middle School. The second place winners were Michael Kruger of Abbott Middle School and Martin Rofael of Bayside Middle School. The third place winners were Robert Gill of St. Timothy School and Brian Dunn of St. Gregory School.

Mr. Speaker, I commend these outstanding students for their excellent essays and for their thoughtful expressions of patriotism. After the events of September 11th, the flag has become a heightened symbol of our national unity and pride.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that these six excellent essays be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to read them.

FIRST PLACE WINNER (GRADES 7 & 8): SALONE KAPUR WHAT THE AMERICAN FLAG STANDS FOR

On June 14, 1777, the Continental Congress passed an act to establish an official flag for America. Today, the American Flag is eminent in all public places. The flag means a significant amount in people's lives.

The American flag is a symbol of our nation's unity, and is a source of pride and inspiration for all its citizens. We all come from different backgrounds, but here, we all unite and belong in one big family.

SECOND PLACE WINNER (GRADES 7 & 8): MARTIN ROFAEL OUR FLAG

What does the flag of the United States stand for? We always stand and salute, but some of us don't know what it represents. Our flag has a tremendous story. On July 4, 1776 the Continental Congress declared the 13 colonies free from the British to be the United States of America.

The fifty stars on our flag represent the fifty states. The white color on the flag represents purity and innocence. The blue background color on the flag represents vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

The 13 stripes on our flag represent the first 13 colonies. There are seven red stripes and six white stripes. The red color represents hardiness and valor.

Some flags have fringe, which resembles honorable enrichment. Also some flags have a gold trim which has no meaning.

That is what the flag of the United States of America means. It has awesome and tremendous meaning.

THIRD PLACE WINNER (GRADES 7 & 8): BRIAN DUNN THE MEANING OF THE FLAG

The flag represents many different things. The stripes represent the 13 original colonies and the stars represent the fifty states. It also represents our freedom, our religion, and the freedom to express however we feel. To the people in the United States the flag represents peace, love, courage, bravery and freedom. The flag is an inspiration to all of those who see it to be all that they can be. It also represents opportunity, the opportunity to succeed and become successful at whatever you want to be. But, most of all, the American flag represents the greatest country ever to inhabit this earth.

FIRST PLACE WINNER (GRADES 5 & 6): JULIAN ZHUKOVSKY THE AMERICAN FLAG

I think the flag of the United States stands for liberty and justice for all. We are all

equal and have the same rights. We are made of many cultures and religions. We are united and we are one nation under God.

I think the white stripes on the flag stand for the purity of ideals. The red stripes on the flag stand for the blood of the people who fought in the war for independence in 1776. The stripes together stand for the original thirteen colonies that gave birth to the fifty states with their name of glory.

The fifty stars on the flag stand for the fifty states of our country. They are like bright stars glistening high above in the sky. Our country's flag will shine forever with those stars. Today, after the terrorist attack on September 11th, thousands of Americans have put up their American flags. They did it to show the world that we still stand for liberty and justice for all.

SECOND PLACE WINNER (GRADES 5 & 6): MICHAEL KRUGER WHAT THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES STANDS FOR

The United States flag stands for freedom, justice, equality, hope and faith. The freedom to live wherever you want to live and be free. Freedom also allows us the freedom of speech to say whatever we want. Justice is to be held accountable for the laws of our country and to be treated fairly. Equality is for all people to be treated equal. The faith in people to keep our country free. The flag also gives me hope and faith for my family, country and myself. When I see the United States Flag I feel very proud and lucky to be living in America. Everything on the American flag means something. There are thirteen stripes, seven are red and six are white. There is a blue box in the upper corner with fifty stars in it. The stripes represent the thirteen colonies and the stars represent the fifty states.

THIRD PLACE WINNER (GRADES 5 & 6): ROBERT GILL WHAT THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES STANDS FOR

To me and for a lot of other Americans the flag is a symbol of peace. There have been some difficult times but our flag will always stand for peace. I think it stands for the peace because it also stands for a peaceful country. That flag stands for the people who love it. Everybody should know it as a sign of peace and justice.

The flag also stands for being united and having liberty. When people say "united we stand" they don't mean just Americans, they mean everybody. Everybody does or should know that. The flag is more than just something that waves in the air, it's something we should cherish. The American Flag stands for you and me, and everyone else in this country and everyone who loves it too.

As you can see the flag stands for peace, justice, liberty, and our rights. That's why I'm proud of it!

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, July 11, 2002 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 16

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the Administration's plans to request additional funds for wildland firefighting and forest restoration as well as ongoing implementation of the National Fire Plan.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine livestock packer ownership issues.

SD-562

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the proposed Department of Homeland Security issues.

SD-430

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Semi-Annual Report on Monetary Policy of the Federal Reserve.

SH-216

Environment and Public Works

Judiciary

To hold joint hearings to examine new source review policy, regulations, and enforcement activities, with respect to clean air.

SD-106

Finance

To hold hearings to examine homeland security and international trade issues.

SD-215

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigations computer hardware problems from 1992 to 2002.

SD-226

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine the state of property restitution in Central and Eastern Europe for American claimants.

334, Cannon Building

JULY 17

10 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the protection of Native American sacred places.

SR-485

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 2394, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require labeling containing information applicable to pediatric patients; S. 2499, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish labeling requirements regarding allergenic substances in food; S. 1998, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 with respect to the qualifications of foreign schools; proposed legislation authorizing funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant; and the nomination of Richard H. Carmona, of Arizona, to be Medical

Director in the Regular Corps of the Public Health Service, and to be Surgeon General of the Public Health Service. SD-430

Judiciary
Constitution Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S.J. Res. 35, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to protect the rights of crime victims. SD-226

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine economic outlook issues. Room to be announced

10:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To resume hearings on the Treaty Between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on Strategic Offensive Reductions, Signed at Moscow on May 24, 2002 (Treaty Doc. 107-08). SD-419

2 p.m.
Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Mark W. Everson, of Texas, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget. SD-342

JULY 18

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the effectiveness and sustainability of U.S. technology transfer programs for energy efficiency, nuclear, fossil and renewable energy, and to identify necessary changes to those programs to support U.S. competitiveness in the global marketplace. SD-366

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings to examine proposed legislation to approve the settlement of water rights claims of the Zuni Indian Tribe in Apache County, Arizona. SR-485

10:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine Food and Drug Administration regulation of tobacco products. SD-430

2 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on proposed legislation to ratify an agreement to regulate air quality on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation. SR-485

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 1865, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds in the State of California as a unit of the National Park System; S. 1943, to expand the boundary of the George Washington Birthplace National Monument; S. 2571, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resources study to evaluate the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Rim of the Valley Corridor as a unit of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area; S. 2595, to authorize the expenditure of funds on private lands and facilities at Mesa Verde National Park, in the State of Colorado; and H.R. 1925, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Waco Mammoth Site Area in Waco, Texas, as a unit of the National Park System. SD-366

JULY 24

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine mental health care issues. SR-418

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 1344, to provide training and technical assistance to Native Americans who are interested in commercial vehicle driving careers. SR-485

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the measuring of economic change. 311, Cannon Building

JULY 25

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Public Lands and Forests Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 2672, to provide opportunities for collaborative restoration projects on National Forest System and other public domain lands. SD-366

JULY 30

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on proposed legislation concerning the Department of the Interior/Tribal Trust Reform Task Force; and to be followed by S. 2212, to establish a direct line of authority for the Office of Trust Reform Implementations and Oversight to oversee the management and reform of Indian trust funds and assets under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, and to advance tribal management of such funds and assets, pursuant to the Indian Self-Determinations Act. SR-485

JULY 31

9:30 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine the Report of the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security. SD-215

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings to examine the application of criteria by the Department of the Interior/Branch of Acknowledgment. SR-485

AUGUST 1

10 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings to examine the Secretary of the Interior's Report on the Hoopa Yurok Settlement Act. SR-485

2 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings to examine problems facing Native youth. SR-485