

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DANA BENNETT

#### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Dana Bennett and congratulate her on her most recent work in authoring *A Century of Enthusiasm: Midas, Nevada 1907–2007*.

Dana Bennett is currently a PhD student of public history at Arizona State University and a Policy Analyst for the Morrison Institute at ASU. Although Dana attends school in Arizona, she remains highly connected to the state of Nevada. She recently authored, *A Century of Enthusiasm: Midas, Nevada 1907–2007* which is a follow up to her earlier book *Forward with Enthusiasm: Midas 1907–1995*. Dana Bennett is a former principal research analyst with the Nevada Legislature, a former professor in the College of Education at the University of Nevada, Reno, and has served on the Advisory Council for the National Education for Women (NEW) Leadership Nevada at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Among her list of professional accomplishments, Dana also discovered a mistake with the Nevada State Flag that stood uncorrected in Nevada for over 60 years. In 1926, Nevada Lieutenant Governor Maurice Sullivan determined that the reason for low circulation of the Nevada State flag was due to the high production cost. The flag design was changed and circulated yet never adopted by the Nevada Legislature. In 1989, Dana Bennett uncovered this mistake, which was confirmed by State Archives and Records Administrator Guy Rocha. In 1991, the 66th session of the Nevada Legislature finally corrected this mistake.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Dana Bennett. Her dedication to recording Nevada history is commendable and I wish her every continued success.

### RECOGNIZING THE NATION-STATE OF TAIWAN WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS

#### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, next year the 23 million people of Taiwan will head to the polls to vote on a referendum asking if the island should attempt to join the United Nations under the name “Taiwan.” The referendum is an opportunity for the people of Taiwan to make their collective voice heard around the world—and the world would be wise to listen.

At first blush, one would think that Taiwan’s efforts to engage the international community would be welcomed and applauded by most

everyone. After all, Taiwan is a stable, thriving multi-party democracy, with free and fair elections held at all levels of government. Having made a peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy over the last twenty years, Taiwan has demonstrated a deep commitment to liberty and human rights—earning the highest possible rating in the categories of “political rights” and “civil rights” from Freedom House last year. The island is a global hub for technological innovation, and boasts the 20th largest economy in the world.

Indeed, Americans who heard President Bush proclaim in his second inaugural address, “When you stand for your liberty, we will stand with you,” might assume that United States stands firmly behind the Taiwanese bid to join the UN, and that the Bush administration support for Taipei’s endeavor is a foregone conclusion.

But they would be wrong.

This is because the United States—like many UN member states—maintains a so-called “One China” policy. Pursuant to this irrational and outdated policy, most countries (including the United States) agree to give a wink and a nod to Beijing’s claims that Taiwan is simply a province of the communist nation, and then acquiesce when China demands Taiwan’s exclusion from international bodies like the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

Perhaps President Bush should have added a caveat to his famous proclamation: “Offer not available in Taiwan.”

Beijing argues that Taiwan’s 23 million people are ‘represented’ by the unelected government of the People’s Republic of China in international bodies—an argument that UN and WHO bureaucrats are quick to parrot. But the Beijing government routinely threatens to attack Taiwan and has deployed upwards of 1,000 missiles on its southeastern coast aimed directly at the island. So while it might be politically expedient for China to claim that they represent Taiwan, no fair-minded person (or government) could honestly be expected to believe this.

Of course, most countries realize this. While Taiwan’s government enjoys formal diplomatic ties with only around thirty nations (mostly small and impoverished nations in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa), they maintain more than 100 quasi-embassies or “Trade Offices” in nearly every country in the world. And most of these countries (including the United States) maintain a reciprocal mission in Taiwan’s Capital City, Taipei. Why? The reason is obvious: Because they all realize that the totalitarian government of China doesn’t really speak for the people of democratic Taiwan.

The fact of the matter is that Taiwan controls its own territory, dictates its own foreign policy, maintains its own armed forces, and most importantly—elects its own leaders. It has a larger population than Australia, and boasts one of the most dynamic economies in the world. Taiwan is more than qualified for membership, and eager to make a meaningful contribution.

President Bush should live up to the promise he made in his inaugural speech and support Taiwan’s bid to join the UN. Taiwan is by all measures a sovereign and independent nation—and I hope that United States and the other free nations of the world will finally muster the courage stand up and say so.

Thank you Madam Speaker.

### A TRIBUTE TO NINTH TABERNACLE’S 100 YEARS

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ninth Tabernacle Church on its 100th anniversary. The Ninth Tabernacle was established September 1, 1907 in Jamaica, New York by Prophet Williams S. Crowdy. During that time, members met at the home of Deacon Henry and St. Rachel Blount. Deacon Henry Blount presided over the services in the Borough of Queens until the Tabernacle was officially established by Elder Richard Briggs. Elder Briggs became the first local Pastor of the Ninth Tabernacle during the years 1907 to 1927.

In 1927, the Ninth Tabernacle was led by Evangelist-at-Large Nathaniel B. Nelson who established it as an icon of community service and fellowship in the Borough of Brooklyn. Previous local pastors have included: Elder James Nelson; Elder Judah N. Roberts; Evangelist Moses Farrar; and Rabbi Jesse E. Brown, Jr. The current Pastor, Evangelist Joseph R. Turner is also the Executive Leader of the international religious organization Temple Beth-el.

Since 1907, the congregation of the Ninth Tabernacle has worshiped at various locations throughout the Borough of Brooklyn. One of the most memorable locations was 590 Gates Avenue which the congregants of the Ninth Tabernacle were forced to leave due to construction of new housing. In 1974, the Ninth Tabernacle Trustees purchased a former synagogue at 85 Fountain Avenue where members began a 30-year tenure of spiritual revitalization and growth.

The Ninth Tabernacle has been a beacon of community service in the Bedford-Stuyvesant and East New York areas. They have established food and clothing donation programs; emergency services for the neighborhoods; and the Fountain Avenue Community Development Corporation, which is a non-profit social service agency that provides parental effectiveness training, computer literacy training, and workforce development initiatives to Brooklyn residents. The Ninth Tabernacle also provided emergency counseling services immediately after the events of September 11,

• 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.

2001 and continues to work with homeless shelters and substance abuse programs in New York.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the Ninth Tabernacle's 100 years of service and their selfless contributions to the residents of Brooklyn.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Ninth Tabernacle on its 100th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF HENES PARK

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the dedication of an important landmark in my hometown of Menominee, Michigan. Henes Park serves today as an important place of respite for the citizens of Menominee and an anchor of the community where local residents can enjoy the outdoors.

In 1906, local Menominee businessman John Henes paid \$1,000 for a 43-acre wooded peninsula called Poplar Point at the north end of the city's bay shore. Mr. Henes, a German immigrant and local entrepreneur, kept his plans for a public park secret for another year until he officially offered the area to the city council for use as a park and beach.

During the early 20th century, most of Menominee's shoreline was occupied by docks, lumber piles, warehouses and homes. As such, local Menominee officials were enthused by the idea of a park along the shore.

Landscape architect Ossian Cole Simonds of Chicago was hired by the newly appointed park commission to design the park. At the time, Simonds was considered a pioneer of "natural landscaping" and his design of the park employed viewpoints, paths, and buildings to frame and highlight the natural environment. There are many walkways throughout the park, some still in use and others now overgrown. The original park design placed great emphasis on providing nature trails. Simonds' design laid out eight nature trails that were named after great names from literature like Longfellow, Byron, Shakespeare and Homer. Those eight trails still exist today.

During the summer of 1907, construction on the park began as workers started building roads and cleared rocks from the beach to provide a picnic site. One of the unique elements of the park's original design was a "bog park," a piece of low ground that was selected to hold a variety of water flowers.

After a busy summer of work on the park, formal dedication ceremonies were conducted in October of 2007. The Mayor of Menominee, Charles Spies, in accepting the park for the community, commented on how local entrepreneurs contributed to the park's construction, saying, "It is very gratifying to have among us men, who by beneficent and material acts, show that the welfare, a prosperity and beautifying of our city is one of their chief desires and in which they find their great pleasure and satisfaction."

U.S. Senator William Alden Smith of Michigan was the featured speaker at the event. He described the space as, "A park that will for-

ever be the property of every man, every woman and principally every child in this city and one where beauty, recreation and rest will be synonymous. . . ."

The Menominee community immediately embraced Henes Park, extending the city's local street car line to the park. Family outings at Henes Park became commonplace among residents of Menominee. Local organizations used the park to hold various special events. Residents of Marinette, Wisconsin, Menominee's sister-city just across the river, also took advantage of Henes Park.

The community's appreciation and love of Henes Park only grew stronger through the years. In 1932, 9 years after Mr. Henes' passing, a monument was dedicated at the park commemorating the 25th anniversary of Mr. Henes donating the park to the city.

Today's Henes Park offers a swimming beach with lifeguards, a playground, picnic spots, and fine views across the bay to Door County. Behind one of the park's pavilions is a pond with lily pads, fish, and frogs. While the park has evolved since its design 100 years ago, the overall aesthetics of the original plan remain, allowing citizens to enjoy the outdoors and local environment without disturbing the natural layout of the area.

Madam Speaker, as a resident of Menominee, I am personally very fond of Henes Park. My wife, Laurie, and I regularly take long walks there and the park is home to some of our fondest memories.

Henes Park provides an anchor for the local community, a place for children and young people to play and an opportunity for local citizens of all ages to convene with nature. Perhaps most importantly, 100 years since its founding, the park remains as Senator Smith described it, the property of every man, woman and child of Menominee and a place where beauty, rest and recreation meet.

On Sunday, September 9, 2007, the citizens of Menominee will come together to show their appreciation for Henes Park and to pay tribute to John Henes for his contribution 100 years ago. On this tremendous occasion, I would ask that you, Madam Speaker, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring this park and all those who helped to design it, build it and maintain it for future generations.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES  
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
ON THE DEATH OF THE  
HONORABLE PAUL E. GILLMOR,  
A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

**HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late PAUL GILLMOR. PAUL was a gentle, compassionate man who will be missed by all of us in Congress, as well as by those in his district. Our hearts go out to Karen and his children during this difficult time.

I'm an Ohio native and before redistricting, PAUL represented my family members in Ohio.

His wife Karen served on the Heidelberg College Board of Trustees with me, and I

know all the Heidelberg family also mourns his passing. He was an ardent supporter of the college.

Please keep his family in your prayers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JULIA CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. CARSON. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, August 4, 2007, I was unable to vote on roll No. 824, 825, 826 and 833. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on roll No. 825, 826 and 833. I would have voted "no" on roll No. 824.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CLARK COUNTY  
COMMISSIONER BRUCE  
WOODBURY

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend Bruce Woodbury.

Bruce Woodbury, a native of Las Vegas, graduated from Las Vegas High School and attended the University of Utah, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude. He then attended Stanford School of Law, where he earned his J.D. and was a member of the Board of Editors of the Stanford Law Review. Bruce was appointed in 1981 to Clark County Commission District A, and was subsequently elected to his first full term the following year. He has been re-elected every four years since, and has served as the commission chairman twice.

Bruce is being honored as the 2007 Education Hero Award Recipient from the Public Education Foundation of Clark County for his dedicated work for our community. As a Clark County Commissioner, Bruce serves on the Las Vegas Valley Water District Board of Directors, the University Medical Center Board of Trustees, the Clark County Liquor and Gaming Licensing Board, the Clark County Water Reclamation District, the Henderson Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, the Las Vegas Springs Preserve, and the Las Vegas Centennial Celebration Executive Committee. In addition to his public service, Bruce currently serves as the Chairman of the Regional Transportation Commission, Chairman of the Big Bend Water District Board of Trustees, Vice Chairman of the Kyle Canyon Water District, and is a member of the Regional Flood Control District.

Bruce is a distinguished public servant who has tirelessly served our community. His efforts have helped make Clark County a better place to live. Bruce has been recognized by many as a pillar of the community and received numerous accolades for his leadership in the community. He truly represents everything that is good about public service.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Commissioner Bruce Woodbury. I would like to personally thank him for his dedicated service to our community, as well as his continued friendship and support. I certainly wish him the

best as he continues to improve the lives around him through his dynamic leadership.

CONGRATULATING MS. KRISTA  
BARTHEL

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Ms. Krista Barthel of Littleton, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Krista Barthel to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Krista Barthel and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF BRIGADIER GENERAL  
MICHAEL S. LINNINGTON

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brigadier General Michael S. Linnington originally of Cape May, New Jersey. BG Linnington, who has served as the Assistant Commandant and Deputy Commanding General for the U.S. Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, will soon leave for a new post.

BG Linnington is a graduate of the United States Military Academy. After graduation in 1980, he was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the Infantry. His early assignments included duties as a Platoon Leader, Staff Officer, Aide-de-Camp, and Company Commander at Fort Ord, Fort Riley, and the Berlin Brigade in the divided city of West Berlin. Following successive Company Commands, he attended graduate school at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, and served three years as an Instructor in the Department of Math Sciences at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York.

After Command and General Staff College in 1994, BG Linnington served in the 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) at Fort Campbell, and was selected to command 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry (AASLT) in the Republic of Korea, where he served from 1997–1999. Fol-

lowing command, he served as the 2nd ID G3, from 1999–2000.

In June 2000, BG Linnington returned to the U.S., attending the National War College with a follow-on assignment as Special Assistant to the Army Chief of Staff. In May 2002, he assumed command of the 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) in Kandahar, Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom.

From June 2002 through June 2004, BG Linnington commanded the 3d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, both in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He departed command for assignment to the Joint Staff, where he was assigned from June 2004 until July 2006. In July 2006, COL Linnington was assigned as the Assistant Commandant/Deputy Commanding General of the U.S. Army Infantry School/Center at Fort Benning, where he serves today.

In addition to his numerous military accomplishments, BG Linnington is a devoted husband and proud father of two children, Tracy, a senior in college, and Michael, a First Lieutenant assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

I am truly honored to be able to call BG Linnington a constituent. Though I wish Fort Benning and the Second District could continue to benefit from his talents for a while longer, I know he is needed and indeed will be of greater service in his new role. I wish him well in his new position. May his commitment to this country continue to bless our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO DR. THERMAN E.  
EVANS

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Therman E. Evans. Internationally recognized as "Mr. Inspiration", Dr. Evans is a rare combination of accomplished physician, ordained pastor, radio personality, academician, and business innovator. His management consultancy firm, Whole Life Associates Inc., has revolutionized health awareness in boardrooms and workplaces across America.

Dr. Evans began his medical studies at Howard University, earning his B.S. in 1966 and his M.D. credentials in 1971. From there he joined the staff of the Health Manpower Development Corporation as a physician, designing programs to expand healthcare access to disadvantaged minorities in the Washington, DC region. Throughout his career, Dr. Evans has always promoted health education and wellbeing through bold, pedagogical methods and initiatives, including a \$1 million, 15,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art fitness facility managed by CIGNA.

Today, Dr. Evans serves as the Chairman and CEO of Whole Life Associates Inc., a fount of creative solutions to promote America's health. The center directs a wide variety of educational programs ranging from public lectures to training seminars to consultancy services.

Perhaps Dr. Evans is most well-known for his riveting and inspirational lectures. He is the pastor of the Morning Star Community Christian Center, Inc. of Linden, NJ, a non-denominational parish where more than 800 active

members are inspired weekly by sermons promoting physical and spiritual health, protecting the environment, and building enduring human relationships. He also hosts "Lifeline", a weekly radio show on WHAT in Philadelphia.

Dr. Evans is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including three honorary doctorate degrees from Rust College in Mississippi, Bethune Cookman College in Florida, and Meharry Medical College in Tennessee. He also received the Distinguished Service Award as the Outstanding Alumnus of the Year in 2003 from Howard University's College of Medicine. In addition, Dr. Evans has graded countless publications with articles on a whole range of medical issues.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Dr. Therman E. Evans as a paradigm of community service and dedication.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a man who raises the level of health awareness and healthy living for all Americans.

TRIBUTE TO THE GLADSTONE  
MAJOR GIRLS ALL-STARS SOFT-  
BALL TEAM

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a group of young women from my district. The Gladstone Major Girls All-Stars softball team placed third in this year's Little League World Series and, in doing so, brought great pride to Gladstone and to all of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, U.P.

The Gladstone Major Girls softball team went undefeated in the 2007 regular season, before battling their way to be Michigan state champions. After winning the Michigan State championship, the team won the Central League Championship by defeating Poland, Ohio during the Central Regional Championship.

The Gladstone team's demeanor following its win against Poland's team demonstrated the Gladstone girls' dignity and sportsmanship. After winning the game, the Gladstone team began to take a victory lap around the outfield. As they approached the right field, where the Ohio team was gathered with their coaches, the Gladstone team pulled their seated opponents to their feet to participate in their victory lap. While the young women from Gladstone were excited to celebrate their victory, they also made a point of ensuring that their opponents could join in the celebratory run around the outfield.

After clinching their victory in Ohio, the Gladstone Major girls drove from Michigan to St. Louis, where they boarded a plane to fly to Portland, OR. In Portland, they represented the Central Region in the Little League World Series of Softball at Alpenrose Stadium.

The team enjoyed a bye in their first round of the World Series, and for their second game took on the team from Ramstein U.S. Air Force Base in Germany. The Gladstone team continued to exhibit the skill and determination they showed throughout the regular season, winning the game 15–0.

While Gladstone continued to play valiantly, they would lose 2–0 to their next opponent,

from Morristown, TN, ending Gladstone's chances to be world champions. Nonetheless, the Gladstone team can take heart that their loss was to a formidable opponent: Morristown would eventually go on to win the Little League World Series of Softball.

Despite their loss to Morristown, the Gladstone All-Stars' World Series was not quite over. In fact, the team would continue playing well. Ultimately, with a 5–2 victory over Waterford, CT, the Gladstone All-Stars secured their position as the number three softball team in the world.

Throughout their visit to Portland, OR, and their participation in the Softball Little League World Series, Gladstone's team conducted themselves with dignity and class and continued to exhibit fine sportsmanship.

When they returned last month to Gladstone, they were greeted in triumphant fashion by approximately 300 fans from Gladstone and the surrounding area. Gladstone area residents came together to show these returning young heroes the deep support the team enjoyed in the community.

Madam Speaker, in small town America, local sports are often the soul of a community. The Gladstone Major Girls' All-Stars made all of Gladstone, indeed all Michigan's U.P., proud with their efforts this season and I congratulate each of them: Alison Austin, Nicole Barteld, Jammie Botruff, Neena Brockway, Ashley Hough, Averi Kanyuh, Jordan Kowalski, Heather Sanderson, Jordan Schwartz, Nicole Sharon, and Shannon Wolf. I also congratulate the team's coaches, Andy Schwartz and John Nevala.

Madam Speaker, as the citizens of the Gladstone area celebrate these young women's achievement, I would ask that you and the entire U.S. House of Representatives join me in congratulating these young women on their winning record, their participation in the Little League World Series of Softball and, most of all, the sportsmanship and dignified demeanor they displayed in representing Gladstone and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

#### TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER DUNN

### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Jennifer Dunn. Jennifer was a role model for those of us who were fortunate to serve in Congress with her. She blazed many paths in politics for other women to follow.

Jennifer always gave of herself and was willing to reach out and help wherever it was needed.

I am so thankful she was able to enjoy a happy marriage to Keith and spend time with her family these last few years. Our hearts go out to them in their loss. Please keep the family in your prayers.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO VIDA LIN

### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Vida Chan Lin for her tireless efforts on behalf of the Las Vegas community.

Vida Chan Lin has been an outstanding member of the Asian Community in Nevada for more than ten years. She currently serves as the vice-president for both the Las Vegas Asian Chamber of Commerce and the Las Vegas Organization of Chinese Americans. In addition to these prestigious roles Vida also has the honor of being a founding member of the Nevada Asian American/Pacific Islander Leadership Council, and in 2002 she worked on the fundraising committee of the Japanese American Citizens League national convention. She has also served on the Clark County Business Development Advisory Council, and was a member of the Clark County Library District Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Advisory Committee.

Vida's positive attitude and passion for service in the Asian American community has made her a well respected leader and role model for younger generations. Members of her chapter of the Organization of Chinese Americans have characterized her as the "Queen Bee" of their growing family and state that without her, they would not be where they are today. Vida's efforts and accomplishments provide an atmosphere for others to learn and benefit from her exceptional leadership.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Vida Chan Lin. I would like to personally thank her for her dedicated service to our community, as well as for her support of the Asian Pacific Islander community in Las Vegas.

#### CONGRATULATING MS. SAMANTHA BEDINGER

### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Ms. Samantha Bedinger of Golden, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Samantha Bedinger to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Samantha

Bedinger and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

#### COMMENDING MS. MARTI THOMAS DONEGHY ON SIX YEARS OF SERVICE

### HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. CARSON. Madam Speaker, today I recognize the laudable contributions of my Legislative Director, Ms. Marti Thomas Doneghy. After nearly 6 years on my staff, and 18 years of government service, Marti will be leaving to add her energy and abilities to bolster the AARP headquarters here in Washington.

Marti joined my staff after 7 years in the Department of Energy, where she was a leader of renewable energy programs, advancing not only a responsible energy policy but also increasing the government's partnership with the energy industry and minority-owned businesses. She also worked closely with the Department of State to bring energy initiatives to communities in Africa, an important part of advancing America's image abroad.

Her knowledge of the energy issues facing this country was of great personal help to me, as renewable energy has become a leading issue of our time. Her leadership as Legislative Director was invaluable, as she worked effectively not only within my staff, but with many staffers across the Hill. Marti's acumen as a staffer came from her earlier experience on the Hill as press secretary for the Honorable Glen Browder, and from her first day in my office, she capably called upon all of her experiences to become a leader in every sense of the word.

Madam Speaker, Ms. Marti Thomas Doneghy has been an invaluable asset to both me and to this House. While I am sad to see her leave, I know that she will carry her knowledge and leadership skills throughout her career, wherever it may lead her.

Marti, I wish you all the best in your pursuits, and I thank you deeply for your many years of service.

#### IN HONOR OF ROBERT S. "BOB" BONEY

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great man, Mayor Bob Boney of Leesburg, Georgia. I am proud to be able to call Mr. Boney a friend and a constituent of the Second Congressional District of Georgia. He has dedicated most of his life to his community, and the value of his service extends far beyond the meaning contained within his current title.

For the past 17 years, Bob has served Leesburg as Mayor. However, his previous experience in business and public service made him well-equipped for the job. He served in the Marine Corps in World War II, served the state as a revenue agent from 1956 to 1966 and was a state prison warden of Lee Correctional Institute from 1966 to 1986. He retired

from the latter position with the distinguished honor of having become the longest-serving warden in the State of Georgia.

However, retirement from his job within the prison system did not slow Bob down. Four years following his retirement he launched his first mayoral campaign and won. He also never wavered in his commitment to the Leesburg Shrine Club, the Peace Officers Association of Georgia, or the many other political and public service organizations in the state.

In addition to being a great leader, Bob is a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and a member and past Layleader of Leesburg United Methodist Church.

Madam Speaker, people like Bob make my job easy, and it is my privilege to honor this man today for his dedication to Leesburg, to its citizens, to the Second Congressional District, and to the betterment of his state and Nation.

MINORITY SERVING INSTITUTION  
DIGITAL AND WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITY OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 4, 2007*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 694, the Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act of 2007. Before I go any further, I want to take this time to personally thank my colleague, RANDY FORBES of Virginia, for his longtime support and hard work on this bill.

This bipartisan bill seeks to improve technology instruction and enhance the communication network systems of minority serving institutions, many of which are located in poor, rural and isolated areas. Further, this important legislation seeks to deal with systemic disenfranchisement within minority communities by providing a means for partnership between MSIs and K-12 schools through teacher education, including the provision of preservice teacher training and in-service professional development. Under this legislation, MSIs are given an opportunity to further focus on disparities in access to quality higher education opportunities and the communities they serve.

Mr. Speaker, as public schools scramble to open for the fall term, principals and superintendents are frustrated by the stress of not having qualified math and science teachers. Just last week, the New York Times published an article entitled: Schools Scramble for Teachers Because of Spreading Turnover, and reported how tough it is to find good qualified teachers to teach science and math in low income neighborhoods. My bill, H.R. 694, will help to produce a new generation of world-class teachers of science and, mathematics and engineers.

Minority Serving Institutions play a unique role in the education of our diverse American workforce. According to a July 2005 House Committee on Science report, 21 percent of all college degrees and certificates awarded to African American, American Indian and Hispanic students are conferred by Minority Serving Institutions. Minority Serving Institutions also help underrepresented students succeed

in all disciplines, science, mathematics, and engineering in particular. For example, of African-Americans earning bachelor's degrees in science, math, engineering or the technology field in 1996, 31 percent received them at an HBCU. Similarly, Hispanic-Serving Institutions produced 20 percent of science, math, engineering or technology bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanics in 1996.

Minority Serving Institutions have special skills in serving their communities, which include large numbers of low-income or first generation college students. In fact, I am a graduate of North Carolina A&T, as are many of my colleagues here today in support of this bill are graduates of HBCUs and MSIs. Unlike other, larger institutions of higher education, MSIs typically have small or nonexistent endowments and few wealthy alumni. As a result, the ability to purchase and pay for the upkeep of the technology that will prepare these students for the workforce is especially challenging for many MSI.

Developing an educated and technologically literate workforce is an important part of our efforts to compete in an increasingly technology and information-based, global economy. Whether technology should be used in schools is no longer the issue. Rather, the current emphasis is on ensuring that technology is available and used effectively to create new opportunities.

For these reasons, I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 694, the Minority Serving Institution Digital and Wireless Technology Opportunity Act.

In closing, I want to especially thank the higher education community who over the past 8 years have tirelessly worked to make this bill become a reality. Specifically, I want to thank Dr. Michael L. Lomax of the United Negro College Fund, Lezli Baskerville of the National Association of Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, Antonio Flores of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, Gerald E. Gipp of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium, the Telecommunications Industry Association, Alcatel Lucent, and the many other advocates who have worked on this issue.

IN HONOR OF THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GEVA THEATER IN ROCHESTER, NY

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate one of my district's true treasures: The Geva Theater. For the past 35 years, the Geva Theater has been providing world-class theatrical performances to the Rochester area, as well as arts-related workshops and educational programs. From its humble beginnings of lunch-time performances in the Rochester Business Institute building, to its current two-stage home in the renovated Naval Armory, the Geva Theater has maintained a stellar reputation for creative and artistic excellence.

The Geva Theater was established in 1972 by William Sheldon and Cynthia Mason Sheldon. The theater was housed in the Rochester Business Institute. Their first performances

were a series of lunch-time plays in the fall of 1973. In 1982, Geva found a permanent home when the theater purchased and renovated Rochester's historic Naval Armory. Today, the Geva Theater Center is the home to the Elaine P. Wilson Mainstage, which produces seven shows each season and holds 552 patrons, and the Ron and Donna Fielding Nextstage, which houses a two-show season as well as Geva's other educational and interactive programs.

Theaters like Geva are increasingly important in light of studies that show the positive economic impact of arts in the community. "Arts and Economic Prosperity III", a study recently released by Americans for the Arts, found that the nonprofit arts and culture industry in the U.S. generates \$166.2 billion in economic activity every year. The arts industry creates quality jobs, generates billions in household income, and in local, state and Federal tax revenues.

Furthermore, studies like Critical Links: Learning in the Arts and Student Academic and Social Development have proved that arts education increases students' cognitive development, motivates and inspires discipline, enhances confidence and inventiveness, and hones communication and problem-solving skills.

There is no greater example of the benefits of arts organizations for local communities than the Geva Theater, which draws over 174,000 patrons annually—more than 16,000 of whom are students. The Big Theater for Little People program allows thousands of students to experience original live professional theater. For each of these performances, Geva also provides workshops for teachers and accompanying study guides to enhance the learning experience. Artists also engage in question and answer sessions with students and are available to travel to schools to continue the dialogue. This type of interactive program has helped provide Rochester-area students with unique and well-rounded arts education experience.

Through its wide variety of educational, outreach and literary programs, including Big Theater for Little People, the Geva Theater truly accomplishes its goals of enriching and deepening the theater-going experience for its audience; providing access and affordable theater to the Rochester community; developing new plays and playwrights; and nurturing the audiences and artists of the next generation. And by recruiting talented actors, directors, designers, and writers at the forefront of American performing arts from all across the country, Geva ensures that it provides its audience with the highest quality performance.

However, given all of the contributions that the Geva Theater has given the Rochester community, perhaps nothing is more impressive than the atmosphere and energy that characterize each show that graces their historic building. From meeting friends at the Geva Café, to the personable confines of the theaters themselves, it is an experience that has thrilled a generation. As Geva moves in to their next 35 years, it warms my heart to know that more generations will be privileged to enjoy the same.

EXPRESSING THANKS TO THE  
NAVAL MOBILE CONSTRUCTION  
BATTALION 18

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my welcome home greetings to the men and women of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 18 as they return from their deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. On Saturday, these sailors and their families will gather at Sacramento's Naval Operational Support Center for a homecoming celebration and I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their service.

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 18, often called NMCB 18, is made up of 14 detachments of naval reserve units from across the northwestern United States. For NMCB 18's nearly 500 members, their 9-month tour in Iraq meant time away from their families and loved ones, often at great personal sacrifice.

The battalion's motto, "We are Strong, Mighty and True; Genuine, Solid and Able to Do" summed up their mission while in Iraq. Their assignment was to build the necessary infrastructure to support forward based Marines in the Al Anbar Province. This included building hundreds of South West Asian huts to shelter over 3,500 Marines, laying 5,000 cubic yards of concrete and hauling over 33,000 cubic yards of material.

Among many things, their combined efforts helped establish nineteen combat outposts, construct eleven culvert crossings and complete 4 water wells. Across Iraq's Al Anbar Province these Seabees have installed wooden floors in Marines' tents, added air conditioning units and installed shower and bathroom trailers. Their work has made life a little bit easier for the Marines on the front lines. Each time the dedicated sailors of NMCB 18 were asked to complete a project, it was likely to be completed under the scheduled time and without a safety incident. In fact, NMCB 18 had the lowest number of safety incidents of any of the previous 6 battalions that preceded them.

Unfortunately, the realities of war hit home to the sailors of NMCB 18 on October 25, 2006 when they lost one of their own. Petty Officer 2nd Class Chuck Komppa of Belgrade, Montana died from enemy action in Al Anbar Province. Komppa was traveling between cities in order to assess the living conditions of our Marines when his convoy came under attack. I ask that all of my colleagues extend their heartfelt sympathies and sincere gratitude to his wife Delisa and their 2 children.

In a true feat of the determination, teamwork and ingenuity that characterized their time in Iraq, the sailors of NMCB 18 built a Morale, Welfare, and Recreation hut in less than 24 hours for the service men and women at Al Asad Air Base. This facility now serves as a place for rest and relaxation and allows servicemembers to call home in the privacy they deserve. Appropriately, the MWR hut was dedicated in the memory of Petty Officer Komppa.

These sailors did their job away from the safety of the more protected parts of Iraq and

by all accounts their mission was a success. In reviewing his battalion's time in Iraq NMCB Commander Dan Gould said he had nothing but "seam-bursting pride" for his sailors.

Madam Speaker, all of these sailors left their families and loved ones and placed their lives on the line for others. We owe these true citizen soldiers our thanks and gratitude. It is an honor for me to represent such fine men and women in Congress. Once again, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking them for their service. Welcome home.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DIANE  
WHITAKER

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Diane Whitaker for greatly enriching the community of Southern Nevada by serving as an exemplary role model and business-woman.

A resident of Las Vegas since 1976, Diane personifies the value of hard work. Coming from humble beginnings as a stay at home mother struggling to support her five children with her disabled husband, Diane re-entered the work force as a part time typist at the Ensign Federal Credit Union. Her determination and strong work ethic soon propelled her into a full time position at the company. Her ambition and talent was recognized and she worked her way up the corporate ladder as a teller, bookkeeper, marketing manager, human resource manager, and chief operations officer to eventually become the CEO of Ensign Federal Credit Union in 1998, a position which she has held ever since.

Diane's accomplishments as a professional are bolstered by her contributions to the Las Vegas community. She serves as a member of the local Boy Scouts of America Roundtable, and has sponsored local music festivals through Ensign Federal Credit Union.

Diane's ability to overcome the obstacles women face in the workplace while rising to the position of CEO, along with her community efforts and commitment to her family, make her an example of the realization of the American dream, coming from humble beginnings to achieve great things.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Diane Whitaker. Her contributions to our rapidly growing economy will continue to benefit our community. I wish her continued success in her career and future.

CONGRATULATING MR. JOSHUA  
BORGSMILLER

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Mr. Joshua Borgsmiller of Elizabeth, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integ-

ity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Borgsmiller to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Borgsmiller and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

A SENIOR AMERICAN CEO GETS  
THE PRIORITIES RIGHT

**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, David D'Allesandro was a very successful CEO of one of America's leading financial institutions, the John Hancock Company. Mr. D'Allesandro consistently demonstrated during his tenure as the leader of this important corporation that social responsibility and successful activity in the private sector are fully compatible. In the Boston Globe on September 3rd, he published an article that exemplifies the thoughtful and constructive approach he brought.

Madam Speaker, I believe that the most important thing we can do domestically is to demonstrate that understanding and support of a prosperous private sector is not only consistent with support for a vigorous and well funded public sector, but in fact benefits from such an approach. As he says, "If we are going to be globally competitive and continue to attain record profits in this ever-evolving competitive globalization, that same corporate America has to 'cough up' and take more financial responsibility for our greatest asset: our children and their education."

Noting the great wealth that is being created by pools of private capital America, he asks pointedly, "If there is that much money running around, why does the National Education Association report that we are facing a potential nationwide teacher shortage with more than a million teachers retiring in the near future and the need for more than 2 million teachers in the next decade? . . . Among the reasons for this turnover is inadequate pay compared to other professions with the same training requirements."

Madam Speaker, David D'Allesandro is asserting a point that other corporate leaders must understand in their own interests and in the interests of a more equitable society. I ask that this very thoughtful article be printed here because it makes such an important contribution to our national debate.

(By David D'Allesandro)

ECONOMY THRIVES, BUT SCHOOLS GO BEGGING  
Starting tomorrow, traffic in and around every major city including Boston will once again be congested due mainly to two seasonal phenomena: school buses packed with

children and cars of executives back from vacationing through the lazy days of August.

But something is different this year. Very different. The children are returning to many public school systems that are strapped for cash, and the executives are returning to businesses that are overflowing with cash.

As a capitalist, I believe in free markets, reasonable tax rates, competition, high compensation for performance and I am all for businesses being incredibly successful. But there is something disturbing—really disturbing—that while Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson recently said, “This is far and away the strongest global economy I’ve seen in my business lifetime,” our public school systems are suffering beyond comprehension.

Business, particularly large corporations and private equity funds, will spend billions each year on reinvestment in products, technology, distribution, advertising, and an endless array of tools. Yet, they are not directly assessed to subsidize their overwhelming reliance on our education system to feed them high quality, educated adults who will fuel their growth.

Their counterargument is that part of their personal and business taxes find their way back to schools. And, of course they will quickly point out “this or that” voluntary corporate public education initiative. But the growing disparity between their growth and schools’ budget problems seems particularly and fundamentally wrong.

Let us consider just a few indicators: Despite some recent credit market issues, the Dow Jones Industrial Average hit record levels over 13,000 this year. And even touched 14,000 in contrast to bottoming at less than 7,300 just five years ago. Record profits the last few years have been a big driver.

Goldman Sachs recently stated in US News and World Report: “If we and the consensus are correct, then the period 2003–2008 will have been one of the most powerful periods of economic growth globally since accurate data has been collectible for much of the world.”

Armed with hundreds of billions of dollars, private equity firms have been dominating the acquisition landscape. They have scooped up thousands of companies including many high profile ones like Hertz, Toys R Us, Neiman Marcus, Metro Goldwyn Mayer to name a few. Their capital, combined with considerable tax breaks, have created enormous wealth for these private firms.

So, if there is that much money running around, why does the National Education Association report that we are facing a potential nationwide teacher shortage with more than a million teachers retiring in the near future and the need for more than 2 million teachers in the next decade? As alarming as that is, the NEA says 50 percent of new teachers leave within five years. Among the reasons for this turnover is inadequate pay compared to other professions with the same training requirements.

Why, according to a 2007 Boston Globe examination of property tax rates in 298 Massachusetts cities and towns, has the average homeowner’s tax bill gone up 49 percent since 2000?

Why are so many communities being forced to consider overrides to improve school buildings, provide basic services, and maintain after-school and sports activities? When towns like Stoneham are almost forced to eliminate all competitive sports activities, there is something terribly wrong.

While the politicians debate options from “cheeseburger taxes,” increased highway tolls, casinos, and Governor Patrick’s new

bond debt proposals, both the federal and state governments need to rethink who are the true benefactors of our education system. In all fairness, if businesses are being properly assessed for these windfalls, then more current tax dollars should find their way to education. If not, then the government should step up and fix it.

Naturally, corporate America will say that the problem is inefficient school systems. And while that may very well be correct, most corporations are not particularly efficient either. This is primarily a diversionary tactic to shift focus away from the corporate coffers.

Corporate executives will also contend that reinvesting large profit sums in public education would not be in the direct interests of their investors. Well, they would be wrong. A highly educated American work force ready to compete with the emerging economies of countries like India and China is very much in the interests of shareholders.

If we are going to be globally competitive and continue to attain record profits in this ever-evolving competitive globalization, that same corporate America has to “cough up” and take more financial responsibility for our greatest asset: our children and their education.

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EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE PAUL E. GILLMOR, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in heartfelt sorrow to mourn the passing of the Honorable PAUL E. GILLMOR, a true friend and a wonderful statesman for the people of Ohio. I was greatly saddened when I was told the terrible news of his passing this morning. The House of Representatives has lost a hard-working leader who was a friend to many on both sides of the aisle in this chamber.

My heart goes out to his wife Karen, and their children Linda, Julie, Paul, Adam, and Connor during this difficult time. I will be keeping his memory, and his surviving family in my thoughts and prayers. I pray for his Washington, DC and Ohio Congressional staffers who have served him and the people of the 5th Congressional District of Ohio.

Congressman GILLMOR never forgot his roots and he was always a champion for the people who he represented in Congress. He won his first primary election for Congress by only 27 votes; the grit and determination that carried him to victory on that day never left him for the remainder of his service in Congress. When I first arrived to the House in 1997, I was instantly impressed with the plain-spoken gentleman from Ohio. He leaves behind a strong legacy of service to this House. I have lost a friend, and words cannot fully express my sorrow in his passing. God Bless.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE PAUL E. GILLMOR, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise with our colleagues today to pay tribute to the lifetime of public service of our late colleague PAUL GILLMOR of Ohio.

I know this House today is in shock at the devastating news of PAUL’s passing just last night. I join in expressing profound sympathy to PAUL’s family—his wife Karen, two daughters Linda and Julie, and three sons, Paul Michael, and twins, Connor and Adam. Our thoughts and prayers are with them.

PAUL, who began his 10th term in the House in January, chose a noble life of serving his country. A graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University and the University of Michigan Law School, he attained the rank of captain while on active duty as an Air Force judge advocate during the Vietnam War. Before coming to Congress as the representative of the 5th District of Ohio, he diligently served the people of Ohio for 22 years in the Ohio Senate. As a state senator, he was unanimously elected Republican leader five times, and served as president of the Senate for three General Assemblies.

Paul was a respected member of this House and friend to those on both sides of the aisle. He loved this institution and worked hard for the people of his district and for all Americans not only on national issues, but he also was unanimously elected in 2006 by representatives of the 26 NATO countries to serve as vice president of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, in remembering PAUL GILLMOR and his proud life of public service, I am reminded of the words of scripture in Matthew 25: “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

This House and this Nation will miss the service of PAUL GILLMOR. God bless you, PAUL, and God’s blessings on your family and many friends and constituents in Ohio.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. HEATHER WILSON**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, due to an illness I was unable to vote on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 and Wednesday, September 5, 2007.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall votes 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, and 853.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SHALIMAR  
CABRERA

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Shalimar Cabrera for her tireless efforts on behalf of the homeless veterans in the Las Vegas community.

Shalimar is a native of the Philippines who immigrated to Las Vegas at the age of thirteen months. Raised in Las Vegas, Shalimar began her active role in community service while attending Bishop Gorman High School and continued through her college years. She volunteered with groups such as the North Las Vegas Housing Authority's Casa Rosa Youth Program, Shade Tree, Ronald McDonald House, Clinic on Wheels, and assisting on the Sunrise Hospital pediatric floor.

Inspired by the emotional rewards of community service, Shalimar co-founded a service group at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas while working on a degree in biology. The group gave students the resources to become active in their community through various service projects and volunteer opportunities.

As a devoted advocate of community-based work, Shalimar continued to follow her passion by becoming an Outreach Specialist for the United States Veterans Initiative in Las Vegas (U.S. VETS—LAS VEGAS). Since 2003 she has worked closely with homeless veterans, addressing their needs and providing assistance and inspiration to help them abandon life on the streets. Her eagerness to go above and beyond in her service to veterans was recognized and she soon became the Las Vegas AmeriCorps Program Director for the U.S. VETS program.

Motivated by her experience working with the U.S. VETS, Shalimar applied to the Masters Program in Social Work at UNLV, which she began in 2003. In 2006 Shalimar earned her Master's in Social Work Administration and was promptly promoted to National AmeriCorps Director for the U.S. VETS program. Shalimar now oversees ten U.S. VETS AmeriCorps programs across the country which serve more than 10,000 homeless veterans each year.

Shalimar's lifelong commitment to community service endears her to the people of Las Vegas and serves as an inspiration to us all. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Shalimar Cabrera. On behalf of U.S. veterans, I would like to personally thank her for work serving those who have served the United States. I wish her continued success as she helps out those who need it most.

CONGRATULATING MR. CHASE  
BRASHER

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Mr. Chase Brasher of Littleton, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic

merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Brasher to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Brasher and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH BIRTHDAY  
OF DESMOND MPIOLO TUTU

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my full support for H. Res. 34, a bill recognizing the 75th birthday of Desmond Tutu, South African Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, and Nobel Peace Prize recipient. I thank Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE for introducing this bill to give us all an opportunity to celebrate the life of this remarkable leader.

Words alone can't express my sincere admiration for Desmond Tutu and what he has contributed to the ending of apartheid and the founding of the new South Africa. He is one person who truly embodies and exemplifies in word and deeds justice, peace, courage, humility, dignity, strength, patience, understanding, leadership, and compassion.

I truly admire Desmond Tutu for committing his life to changing South Africa and the world. One of the most oppressive eras in world history for black South Africans was living under the apartheid system. This awful system, which began in 1948, legally classified Blacks, Indians, Whites, and Colored people and called for segregation. The apartheid rules created ethnic based territories, in which those for Colored people were not equal to those for Whites. Thus, creating a nation in which Colored people, although the majority, were formally and legally justified to be oppressed, marginalized, and disenfranchised. Despite such injustice, Desmond Tutu worked tirelessly to reverse apartheid utilizing a non-violent approach. I believe his heart and soul rejoiced when apartheid was finally dismantled in 1994. His spirit is truly admirable.

Desmond Tutu has been recognized with many prestigious awards for his contribution to mankind, all of which has made the world a better place. I'm so grateful to have witnessed his life and work. I urge my colleagues to honor him by supporting H. Res. 34. I also encourage people all over the world to learn about and become inspired by his life, work, and commitment to inspire world peace.

REGARDING H.R. 1636

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1636, the United States-Poland Parliamentary Youth Exchange Program.

As Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, U.S. Helsinki Commission, I can attest to the values of such a cultural exchange. Since the end of the Cold War, the Republic of Poland has steadily grown into a close friend and ally, and, through its active participation in the OSCE, NATO, and the EU, has shown a commitment to many of our democratic values and ideals. By sending high school students to Poland for an entire year, this program will encourage international involvement at a young age and serve to strengthen the relations between our countries.

I have seen the growth that such exchange fosters and the diplomacy it promotes during my time as an annual host to Australian interns through the UNI-Capitol Washington Internship Program. Moreover, I currently have an intern in my office from London and previously have hosted young people from Germany, Finland, Denmark, and Estonia, among others. By hosting foreign students in a similar program, the United States and Poland can enhance bilateral relations, improve international commerce, encourage global consciousness, and give our young people a sense of global citizenship.

I believe the United States-Poland Youth Exchange Program will provide a unique and important bridge between our countries, especially in the arena of promoting people to people relationships that are just as key if not more so than our military and economic relationships.

I urge my colleagues to fund the United States-Poland Youth Exchange Program by supporting H.R. 1636.

HONORING MANATEE COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. VERN BUCHANAN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. BUCHANAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Manatee County Chamber of Commerce for winning the American Chamber of Commerce Executive's, ACCE, 2007 Chamber of the Year Award, the nation's only award recognizing the expanding role chambers play in strengthening area businesses and their community.

By winning this award, the Manatee chamber has demonstrated its organizational strength and success in community leadership by being the best in the nation in its category for financial and membership growth as well as making a significant impact on important community issues, including economic development, education, transportation, healthcare and cultural activities.

The Manatee chamber was also named the 2007 Florida Chamber of the Year by the Florida Association of Chamber Professionals for

the third time—making it the only chamber to have won this prestigious award more than twice.

These awards are a tribute to the knowledge, leadership skills, and management effectiveness of chamber President Bob Bartz and to the quality of the work done by the organization's staff and the spirit and involvement of its volunteers, including the chamber's officers and Board of Directors.

I congratulate the Manatee Chamber of Commerce and its members for these impressive awards. I recognize their many accomplishments, and I appreciate their successful efforts to help businesses succeed and enhance the lives of Manatee County residents.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, on Roll-call vote 806 to strike section 726 from the bill relating to the importation of prescription drugs, I voted "no". I intended to vote "aye". My vote would not have changed the result, but I want this RECORD to reflect my intention.

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#### TRIBUTE TO DENNIS KENNEDY

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, we rise to honor Dennis Kennedy upon his retirement as the Mayor of the City of Morgan Hill. The City of Morgan Hill is located in southern Santa Clara Valley, approximately 12 miles south of San Jose.

Mr. Kennedy has the distinction of being the City's first widely elected Mayor of Morgan Hill and also the longest serving Mayor overall, at an impressive four terms. By many accounts, Mr. Kennedy would have overwhelmingly won a fifth term had he not chosen to retire.

The community's decision to elect Mr. Kennedy as its first mayor was most likely based on his firm commitment to public service demonstrated through his roles as a member of the City of Morgan Hill's General Plan Task Force, Planning Commission, and his participation on the Urban Limit Line Study Commission.

In addition, Mr. Kennedy was very active in the City's Visioning Process and as a result was heavily involved in the process of constructing a new Aquatics Center, Community & Cultural Center, Centennial Recreation Center and the establishment of the local Community Health Foundation and, most recently, a County Library.

Mr. Kennedy has deep-seated roots within the community of Santa Clara County. He is a graduate of Bellarmine College Preparatory School and Santa Clara University, where he received his engineering degree.

On behalf of the constituents we represent in the City of Morgan Hill, we thank Mr. Kennedy for his commitment to public service that has lasted over 25 years.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to participate in three votes on the floor of the House of Representatives on the afternoon of September 5, 2007. I was absent in order to be present for the return to the United States Senate of my friend and colleague from South Dakota, Senator TIM JOHNSON, who has been recovering from an incapacitating brain injury.

As noted, I was not present for three votes:

The first vote was H. Res. 629, extending the condolences and sympathy of the House of Representatives to the Government and the people of Greece for the grave loss of life and vast destruction caused by the devastating fires raging through Greece since June 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

The second vote was H. Res. 508, recognizing the strong security alliance between the Government of Japan and the United States and expressing appreciation to Japan for its role in enhancing stability in the Asia-Pacific region and its efforts in the global war against terrorism. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

The third vote was H. Res. 544, expressing the sympathy and pledging the support of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of the devastating thunderstorms that caused severe flooding in 20 counties in eastern Kansas beginning on June 26, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on that question.

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#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO NICHOLAS CAPTAIN

### HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nicholas Captain, a veteran of World War II, for his exemplary service in defense of freedom and award him with the Jubilee of Liberty Medal.

On June 6, 1944 the United States and its allies embarked on the largest air, land, and sea invasion ever undertaken. This massive effort included 5,000 ships, 10,000 airplanes, and over 150,000 American, British, Canadian, Free French, and Polish Troops. During the 50th anniversary of this historic event, the French Government awarded the Jubilee of Liberty Medal to American servicemen for their participation in the Battle of Normandy.

Nicholas served in the United States Army, 148th Ordnance Motor Vehicle Armament Company in Normandy, Northern France and in Rhineland. For his heroism and valor, Nicholas received the European African-Middle Eastern Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and Victory Medal.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Nicholas Captain for his heroic service in the United States Military. His dedication to this country in the theater of war is truly exemplary. I commend the sacrifices he has made

to protect our freedoms and I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize his service. I applaud Nicholas Captain for his successes and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

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#### CONGRATULATING MR. JOSHUA BRESNICK

### HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents Mr. Joshua Bresnick of Parker, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Bresnick to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Bresnick and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

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#### RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WEST FLORIDA

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, It is a great honor for me to rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the University of West Florida.

The vision of the University is to distinguish itself as the best regional comprehensive university in America, and it has achieved that mission. Situated on 1,600 acres, UWF is the second largest main campus in the State of Florida University system and is now home to nearly ten thousand students.

UWF consists of 35 academic buildings, 21 student services facilities, 25 dormitories, 2 university village student apartment complexes and 20 plant support facilities.

The University's contributions to Northwest Florida have been numerous and extremely beneficial to understanding the area's past and helping it move into the future. The highly-regarded anthropology department has been involved in extensive archaeological research, including excavating the prehistoric archaeological site Bernath in Santa Rosa County. The department is also at the forefront of underwater archaeology, excavating shipwrecks from different centuries off the Gulf Coast.

The University's affiliations with other organizations such as the cutting-edge Institute for Human and Machine Cognition also help maintain UWF's presence as a leading institution for academic research. In addition, the Division of Criminal Justice and Legal Studies has partnered with the Santa Rosa County Sheriff's Office to offer higher education opportunities for law enforcement officers.

Over 100,000 students have passed through the University of West Florida, and more continue to do so each academic year. The last 40 years have established UWF as a regional leader, involving the community in its research and learning. I know the next 40 years will see further expansion of UWF's place as an outstanding academic institution. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize the 40th anniversary of the University of West Florida.

RECOGNIZING 100 YEARS OF SERVICE BY THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 595

**HON. JERRY McNERNEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Local 595 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers on the occasion of their 100th anniversary. IBEW was founded in 1891 and has become the largest union representing electrical workers in the United States and Canada. Local 595 was established by charter of the national IBEW on August 26, 1907, in Oakland, California. Today, Local 595 is headquartered in Dublin, California, in the district that I represent.

For the last 100 years, Local 595 has organized all of the electrical workers in Alameda County. The thousands of electrical workers, who have made up Local 595 throughout its history, have excelled in their trade while working at shipyards, motor shops, construction sites, and government facilities.

These men and women have electrified hundreds of thousands of homes, office buildings, manufacturing plants, and classrooms throughout the East Bay. Local 595 has consistently and dramatically improved the lives of its members and their families, thereby improving the communities in which they live. Local 595's apprenticeship programs have greatly improved the quality of electrical workers throughout the region, and this heightened expertise has helped to ensure Local 595 members have long careers with high wages, good pensions, and quality healthcare benefits.

Local 595 has reached out to help all working families in the East Bay through its active involvement in the Alameda County Building Trades Council and the Alameda County Central Labor Council. Local 595 has helped to build and grow communities throughout the East Bay by supporting numerous volunteer construction, scholarship, educational, and cancer research programs. For these reasons, and many others, I would like to commend IBEW Local 595 for 100 years of service to its members and to the community.

THE IRAQ REPORTS

**HON. MIKE PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, as America awaits word from our military and diplomatic leaders in Iraq early next week, it's apparent to me that many in Congress seem prepared to prejudice our progress and dismiss the report of Gen. David Petraeus even before he makes it.

Many, as was said on the House floor this morning, cite the recent GAO report as a basis for accepting retreat and defeat in Iraq. But as Fred Kagan, of the American Enterprise Institute, pointed out recently, "the mandate of the GAO report was not to evaluate progress broadly defined in Iraq; it was to determine whether the Iraqi Government had met eighteen benchmarks set by the U.S. Congress."

Kagan pointed out that the term "Anbar," actually appears only twice in the GAO report despite the extraordinary progress in the Anbar province where we have seen Sunni leadership come forward working with marines, working with the Al-Maliki government, and defeating Al Qaeda in Iraq.

The so-called "triangle of death" is so safe the President of the United States was able to land there and meet with Sunni and Shiite leaders earlier this week. It's imperative that we stand with our soldiers; wait and hear from our military and diplomatic leaders, and that we, for the purpose of freedom in Iraq, for the purpose of our national honor, we accept nothing short of victory in that nation.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES T. HEINLEIN, UNITED STATES ARMY, PRIVATE FIRST CLASS

**HON. DAVE CAMP**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. CAMP of Michigan. Madam Speaker, our Nation is sustained by men and women who so willingly risk their lives to defend our liberty and our way of life. PFC Charles T. Heinlein was one such soldier, and he gave the last full measure in service to his country and to his fellow citizens.

Today, I want to recognize on the floor of the United States House of Representatives the life of Charles T. Heinlein. In saluting heroes like Charlie, we remember him with undying gratitude. And we resolve, though we cannot repay the debt we owe him or his family, to live our lives in such a way as to be worthy of their sacrifice.

Charlie joined the United States Army to become "a better person," but it is his heroism in battling back tyranny and terror halfway around the globe that has helped build a better America and a better world. His actions on the field of duty will forever stand as a reminder that America remains the land of the free and the home of the brave.

May God keep Charlie, may God watch and comfort his family, and may God continue to grant this Nation the courage to defend life and liberty.

REMARKS ON THE ENERGY BILLS (H.R. 3221 AND H.R. 2776) CONSIDERED ON AUGUST 4, 2007

**HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3221, New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act, and H.R. 2776, Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act. I am extremely saddened that these bills, which according to the Democrat Majority were meant to "achieve energy independence, strengthen national security, grow our economy and create jobs, lower energy prices, and begin to address global warming," will in fact result in less domestic natural gas and oil production, higher taxes that are passed to consumers, and wasteful spending on duplicative government programs.

The northern Illinois Congressional district I am honored to represent has a significant manufacturing base. There are over 2,500 industries in the 16th District of Illinois. Because of this, I devote a considerable amount of my time working on manufacturing issues. I am a member of the Council on Competitiveness, a co-chair of the Manufacturing Caucus, and Chairman of the Republican Policy Committee Task Force on Manufacturing. As previous Chairman of the House Committee on Small Business, I held countless hearings on competitiveness. I travel this country and overseas studying machine tools, manufacturing efficiencies, global supply chains, manufacturing financing, intellectual property rights protection, export controls, and other important issues. I've also lectured extensively on America's need to be globally competitive. However, the devastating effect of the rising cost of natural gas to America's manufacturers, especially chemical, plastics, and advanced composites producers, is dramatic. Composite, chemical, and plastic manufacturers are more dependent on affordable and stable natural gas prices because they use natural gas as a base "feed stock." Soaring natural gas prices have challenged their competitiveness. In 2004 alone, increases in natural gas prices forced the closure of scores of chemical companies and cost roughly 100,000 high-paying jobs.

In 2005, Congress passed an energy bill that resulted in an increase of an additional 18 percent capacity in domestic natural gas production. We are now contemplating legislation that will reduce incentives for domestic production and, if past is prologue, will likely lead to a decrease domestic output and an increase dependence on imports from foreign sources. According to the non-partisan Congressional Research Service (CRS), a similar tax on oil and natural gas producers lead to a decrease in domestic oil production by as much as 1.26 million barrels between 1980 and 1986 and may have led to roughly 13 percent more in imported natural gas and oil over the same time period.

We cannot afford to travel down this path again. The Department of Energy projects that the United States will use 28 percent more oil and 19 percent more natural gas in 2030 than was used in 2005. To meet this rising demand and wean ourselves from foreign oil and natural gas, we must reduce regulatory burdens,

invest in additional refining capacity, allow environmentally sound exploration, and support the development of alternative fuels. Unfortunately, the energy bills under consideration today do none of these things.

Instead, H.R. 2776 targets this vital sector of our economy with a \$15.3 billion tax increase over ten years. It also decreases the competitiveness of U.S. firms in global markets by adding a \$3.6 billion tax increase on international oil and gas production income. Finally, it terminates a Lower Manhattan development program that will allow New York to spend \$2 billion in federal income taxes that were withheld on New York City and State employees for any transportation infrastructure project they see fit. I'm not quite certain why this provision is found in an energy bill.

To make matters worse, H.R. 3221 spends \$18.7 billion over five years on many programs that have little or nothing to do with energy independence or reducing the rising cost of energy in America. H.R. 3221 contains extraneous provisions such as new antipoverty programs, a program that authorizes \$1 billion for clean energy and efficient technologies in other countries, the creation of a brand new agency, and, my personal favorite, a section that will allow individuals to sue the federal government for damages caused by global warming. Unfortunately, I may have just described some of the less harmful provisions found in this bill because they only waste taxpayer's money.

When the bill attempts to address domestic energy production, it does this by slowing the oil shale and tar sands commercial leasing program, abrogating contracts that will force an extra \$5.5 billion for gas and oil exploration in the Gulf of Mexico, and prohibiting access to 4.2 trillion cubic feet of natural gas found in the Roan Plateau in Colorado. These additional restrictions on domestic production will lead to a shortage of supply and drive the cost of energy up so that every home and every business will have to pay far more than they are currently paying now.

Between 1999 and 2003, the United States experienced nothing less than what many considered to be the demise of American manufacturing. Our manufacturing base is recovering significantly since those days due largely to increases in productivity. But manufacturers face new and severe threats to the viability of their businesses in the United States. They face unfair foreign competition from foreign countries that do not honor their trade agreements and unfairly manipulate their currency. They face rapidly rising costs of health care. They face the largest regulatory burdens in the world. They face staggering increases in their energy costs. Please do not provide another incentive to move U.S. manufacturing overseas by raising their energy bill.

I urge my colleagues to join the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) by opposing H.R. 3221, New Direction for Energy Independence, National Security, and Consumer Protection Act and H.R. 2776, Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act, to show your support for America's manufactur-

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH  
TITUS

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Joseph Crovatt Titus, a 20-year resident of Southern Nevada.

Joseph "Joe" Crovatt Titus was born December 5, 1930 in Thomasville, Georgia. He served several years in the U.S. Air Force, including time at Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada. After settling in Trifton, Georgia he served as the director of the Tift County Building Department and ran a number of businesses. He came to the Las Vegas Valley in March of 1986 and became the director of the Department of Building and Safety for the city of Henderson, Nevada. Being a member of the International Conference of Building Officials, Joe helped to guide the enormous growth of Henderson. Known for his stories about the South and human nature, Joe himself enjoyed cooking and was zealous in his beliefs as well as generous with his possessions.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Joseph Crovatt Titus. His dedication on behalf of the local community is admirable and I applaud his efforts.

CONGRATULATING MR. ZACHARY  
BUXO

**HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Zachary Buxo of Littleton, CO, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. His outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young man.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Buxo to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Buxo and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, I regret that I had an event in Texas that could not be

rescheduled on Saturday, August 4, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on Roll Call 825, 829, 832, 833, 835, 836, 837, and 846. In addition I would have voted no on Roll Call No. 824, 827, 828, 830, 831, 834, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, and 845, but was also unavoidably detained.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH BIRTHDAY  
OF DESMOND MPIOLO TUTU

SPEECH OF

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 5, 2007*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to support House Resolution 34 and to honor the life and works of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, an ardent advocate of civil rights for all.

Archbishop Tutu became the Dean of St. Mary's Cathedral in Johannesburg in 1975, becoming the first black African to hold that position. In 1978, he went on to become the General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches (SACC), an ecumenical organization working for social justice, where Archbishop Tutu was again the first black African to hold his position. In this capacity, Archbishop Tutu performed yeoman's work in crusading for racial justice and the end of apartheid. Indeed, under Archbishop Tutu's leadership, SACC's nonviolent leadership played a pivotal role in bringing about the disintegration of South Africa's apartheid government.

In 1984, in recognition of this work, Archbishop Tutu was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, a well-deserved honor given all of his efforts. This award, though, did not signify the end of Archbishop Tutu's efforts to create a more just world. In 1986, he was elected the Archbishop of Cape Town, making him the head of the Anglican Church in South Africa and giving him an appropriately prominent platform for his message in support of equality.

After the downfall of South Africa's apartheid government, Archbishop Tutu continued to be an inspiration for us all. In 1996, President Nelson Mandela appointed him to chair South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, a body designed to probe human rights violations under the apartheid government and to reconcile the country's black and white communities. This commission created a new model for countries looking to overcome violent, discriminatory histories in peaceful ways. Archbishop Tutu later became the founding trustee of the Desmond Tutu Peace Centre, an organization dedicated to spreading peace through South Africa and the world.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu's life provides a shining example of compassion, dedication and unyielding work for justice. I congratulate Archbishop Tutu for reaching his 75th birthday and for all of his good works over the course of his life, and I commend my friend and colleague from the great state of Texas, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, for introducing this resolution.

HONORING MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE ON HIS 250TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, on September 6, 1757, 250 years ago today, a Frenchman named Marie-Joseph-Paul-Yves-Roch-Gilbert Du Motier was born. This young man, who would later be known as Marquis de Lafayette, had a profound influence on the formation of our country and on Western democratic fundamentals of freedom and human rights.

As a lifelong resident of Lafayette County, Missouri, I was pleased to draft legislation earlier this year to mark the 250th anniversary of Marquis de Lafayette's birth. The House of Representatives approved my bill on May 22, 2007, honoring, as Americans have done time and again, Lafayette's role in our nation's history.

On July 7, 2007, the French Embassy's Military Attaché, Major General Jean-Luc Delon, traveled to my hometown of Lexington, Lafayette County, Missouri, and participated in a public ceremony honoring Marquis de Lafayette. It was a distinct honor and privilege to have a representative of the French government in Missouri to discuss Lafayette's life and the important bilateral friendship he helped establish between the United States and France.

More than any one person, Marquis de Lafayette symbolizes the assistance American colonists received from Europe in the struggle for independence from Great Britain. As we celebrate his 250th birthday, I am hopeful that all Americans will take a moment to remember his legacy on the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 5, 2007, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 850: yes. On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. Rollcall No. 851: yes. On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. Rollcall No. 852: yes. On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. Rollcall No. 853: yes. On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HAROLD HIRSCH

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Harold "Harry" Hirsch, a veteran of World War II, for his exemplary service in defense of freedom and award him with the Jubilee of Liberty Medal.

On June 6, 1944 the United States and its allies embarked on the largest air, land, and sea invasion ever undertaken. This massive effort included 5,000 ships, 10,000 airplanes, and over 150,000 American, British, Canadian, Free French, and Polish Troops. During the 50th anniversary of this historic event, the French Government awarded the Jubilee of Liberty Medal to American servicemen for their participation in the Battle of Normandy.

Harry served as a Seaman in the United States Coast Guard Reserve. On June 6, 1944, he landed on Omaha Beach as part of the Normandy invasion and spent 4 hours attending to the wounded by bringing them on board the U.S.S. Bayfield which was serving as an acting hospital ship. For his heroism and valor, Harry was awarded the American Campaign Medal, Freedom Medal, European African-Middle Eastern Service Medal, and the American Combat Ribbon.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Harold Hirsch for his heroic service in the United States Coast Guard Reserve. His dedication to this country in the theater of war is truly exemplary. I commend the sacrifices he has made to protect our freedoms and I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize his service. I applaud Harold Hirsch for his successes and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, September 4, 2007, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 847: Yes. On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. Rollcall No. 848: Yes. On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill. Rollcall No. 849: No. On motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 2669.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL GRANDPARENTS' DAY

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of National Grandparents Day on September 9. In particular, I want to recognize those grandparents that have taken on the extraordinary task of raising their grandchildren. There is no more valuable contribution that any individual can make to our country than raising children in a loving home. The fact that grandparents all over the country do this despite financial and other hardships is worthy of the highest praise.

Nationwide, approximately 2.5 million children are being raised by their grandparents because their parents are unable to care for them. In Alameda County, the area of California that I represent, over 11,000 grandparents are responsible for meeting the basic

needs of their grandchildren. Without their grandparents, many of these children would end up in foster care placements usually without contact with their siblings or the support of their extended family.

Grandparents can provide the stable homes that allow children to grow and thrive. Unfortunately, many grandparents are not financially able to take on care of their grandchildren, despite their willingness to do so. The Federal Government has a responsibility to provide the resources willing grandparents need to care for their grandchildren. Our failure to do so will mean that more children enter the foster care system, are moved from place to place, and lose their family and community connections.

In the interest of full disclosure, I must state that I am the proud grandfather of eight.

President Carter created a National Grandparents Day in 1978. Nearly 30 years later grandparents still deserve our highest recognition, but they also deserve our support and assistance.

TAIWAN'S APPLICATION FOR ENTRY INTO THE UNITED NATIONS

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I support Taiwan's application for United Nations membership. Since 1971, Taiwan has had no representation in the United Nations. Its 23 million people have been deprived of their fundamental human rights. It is now time to remedy this situation.

The United Nations has persistently rejected Taiwan's application on the basis of U.N. Resolution 2758 passed in October 1971. The resolution claims that Taiwan is part of the PRC and, therefore, Taiwan's representation in the United Nations would serve no purpose. This argument is flawed since it fails to recognize the fact that Taiwan is a sovereign government with its own national flag, constitution, armed forces and is recognized by more than 20 independent nations. Even more importantly the people of Taiwan have authorized their leader, President Chen Shui-bian to express to the world the desire of Taiwan to belong to this important world body.

Madam Speaker, the people on the island of Taiwan are able and willing to contribute to the United Nations and to world peace, justice, and prosperity. Let us give Taiwan our support in its bid to be a member of the United Nations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Ms. CLARKE. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 817, I was unavoidably absent. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On rollcall No. 818, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall No. 819, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall No. 820, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall No. 821, I would have voted

"yea"; on rollcall No. 822, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 823, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 824, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 825, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 826, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 827, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 828, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 829, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 830, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 831, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 832, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 833, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 834, I would have voted  
 "nay."

On rollcall No. 835, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 836, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 837, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 838, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 839, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 840, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 841, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 842, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 843, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 844, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 845, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 846, I would have voted  
 "yea."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. DIXIE  
 SUE ALLSBROOK

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Dixie Sue Allsbrook who has voluntarily served the National Committee of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESRG) for twenty years, and serving the past five years as the Chair of the Nevada ESGR.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESRG) is a grass roots volunteer organization working with the Department of Defense. ESGR provides free education, consultation, and mediation as necessary for employers of Guard and Reserve employees. ESGR's goal is to support America's employers who share their employees with the nation to ensure our national security.

In her twenty years volunteering with the ESGR, Dr. Dixie Sue Allsbrook has served in many different areas of the organization. She began in California as an Area Chair, Ombudsman, and ultimately she served as Executive Director there. When she moved to Nevada she continued to serve ESGR as an ombudsman until she was appointed as Chair in 2002. Her amazing work in the community extends beyond that of the ESGR and includes the Equal Opportunity Board of Clark County, the Susan B. Komen Foundation, and the Wardley Charity Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Dr. Dixie Sue Allsbrook. Her commitment to supporting Nevada's Guard and Reserve through her work with the ESGR is outstanding, and I thank her for continuing efforts.

SHIFTING TOWARDS A REGIONAL  
 PRIMARY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Regional Presidential Primary and Caucus Act of 2007. This companion legislation to the work of my friends Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator LIEBERMAN, and Senator ALEXANDER reflects an effective, equitable alternative to the current system used to determine presidential primary election dates.

As we have seen with the current disputed primary date in Florida and its partisan implications, our political parties have shown that they may not be the most appropriate administrators of this vital part of the presidential election process. Other states face similar disputes as each vie to enact earlier primaries to increase their influence in the selection of presidential candidates. It is apparent that with this trend, money is gaining even more influence in politics. When candidates have less time for citizens to evaluate their merit and less time to raise necessary campaign funds, the voices of many continue to be marginalized.

We need a more equitable system. Every person in every state deserves an equal opportunity to engage the selection of presidential candidates. Unless we enact legislation to restructure this system in a non-partisan manner, we will never have a system that takes into account the true principles of democracy upon which this nation was founded. The Regional Presidential Primary and Caucus Act of 2007 is a necessary step towards more equitable elections. This legislation reflects components of a plan previously advanced by the National Association of Secretaries of State and the suggestions of chief election administrators throughout the nation.

The Regional Presidential Primary and Caucus Act of 2007 establishes four geographic regions and four regional primary/caucus dates in each presidential election year. Under the bill, beginning in 2012 and on a rotating basis during each presidential election year, states in one region will hold their presidential primary elections on the first Tuesday in March. States in the next region will hold their primary elections on the first Tuesday in April, states in the next region on the first Tuesday in May, and states in the final region on the first Tuesday of June. The order of regions will rotate in each of the four years, ensuring that all states have the opportunity to hold their primary election first in the cycle once every four presidential elections.

I call upon my colleagues of the House of Representatives to support this commonsense approach to improving the administration of presidential primary election dates.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF  
 JEANINE M. ARMSTRONG

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I ask my colleagues to join

me today in honoring the memory of my good friend, Jeanine Armstrong of Clovis, California.

Jeanine was a loving wife, mother, and a dedicated member of the community who approached her work with an upbeat attitude and spirit that was an inspiration to us all. Her passing is a sad loss for the community of Clovis and Fresno.

Jeanine is remembered by all who knew her as an active participant in the political process, the Democratic Party, and a passionate supporter of the community of Clovis, California. She is well-known for her commendable service to the public and as a champion of the arts and public television.

Jeanine worked closely with her friend, the late Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles, to secure the 1984 summer Olympic Games in California. She also organized the Youth Olympics and numerous public television projects. Jeanine served on the board of the Fresno Junior Museum, where she stressed the importance of the arts for poverty stricken populations.

Jeanine is survived by her husband for life of 52 years Harry Armstrong, their three children, Thomas, Jim and Megan; her 6 grandchildren, Kelsey Joan-Marie Armstrong, Brittney Armstrong, David Armstrong, Kathleen Armstrong, James Armstrong and Audrey Armstrong; her five stepgrandchildren, Arthur Wille, Maya Wille, Ashley Hatter, Jon Hatter and Randy Hatter; and one great-grandchild, Lynn Ann Armstrong.

My heart goes out to Jeanine's husband Harry, her family and friends. We take comfort in knowing that future generations will benefit from her vision and leadership and that her spirit continues through the lives of the people she so graciously touched.

TRIBUTE TO ERVIN JAMES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a phenomenal figure in African American history, Ervin James, the founder of Jamestown in Florence County, South Carolina. The extraordinary legacy of Ervin James's life powerfully changed the course of African American history in the South during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Ervin James's legacy richly contributed to the story of black history after the Civil War, the story of southern agriculture, and the story of community development in a time when many groups of African Americans struggled to survive.

In 1870, Ervin James bought a sizable tract of land on his own from Eli McKissick and Mary Poston near Florence, South Carolina. The transaction was formally documented in a deed recorded on January 23, 1871. James's purchase developed into more than just a family farm. During the last two decades of the nineteenth century, his tract of land grew into a small rural African American community. The community thrived for 70 years, from its establishment in 1870 until its decline in the 1940s.

The development of Jamestown is a remarkable one. Beginning with Ervin James's

original purchase, the community expanded through cooperative purchase by James's five sons, Sidney, Ellison, Eli, Fisher, and James James as well as Ervin James's son-in-law, Alonza Wright. James's five sons and son-in-law divided up the original tract of land into six twelve-acre plots for each of them to farm individually. Throughout the last decade of the nineteenth century and the first decade of the early twentieth, these six men made several cooperative purchases to increase the collective land holdings of Jamestown.

All six names appear on a deed recorded on March 26, 1891. In that year, the men bought several tracts of land from J.A. Grice and his wife Sarah E. Grice, the daughter of Eli McKissick. A subsequent deed recorded on May 29, 1891 documents the purchase of more land from Rebecca A. Gibson acting as trustee for the will of Nathan S. Gibson who owned land that bordered the James family holdings. The practice of cooperative purchase continued into the next generation of the James family. On June 29, 1915, Ephraim Ford, Eli James, James James, Robert James, Pat James, Elliott James, Mitchell James, James Wright and Betsy Williams collectively purchased land from J.R. Moody. The presence of several surnames other than James on the deed suggests that several other African American families had established themselves in the community by that time or had married into the James family. Jamestown had become a community.

Land divisions were made during the earlier years of the community to establish individual homes and tracts of land for separate families to work. Over the years, the property was passed down to the family heirs in each generation who collectively owned the land of their ancestors.

Social historian Edward Magdol asserts that owning land where family members could be reunited, live, and work together were primary concerns of freed African Americans. The community of Jamestown embodied each of these aspects. Without the dream of Ervin James, Jamestown and its powerful influence on African American history in the South would not have become a reality.

A marker was erected in Florence County, Jamestown on July 23, 2006 commemorating the extraordinary achievement of Ervin James. The marker thus reads:

FLORENCE COUNTY, 21-22, JAMESTOWN

This African American community, which flourished here for 70 years, has its origins in a 105-acre tract bought in 1870 by former slave Ervin James (1815-1872). James, determined to own his own farm instead of being dependent on sharecropping or tenant farming, bought the tract from Eli McKissick and Mary Poston. His five sons and a son-in-law later divided the tract into individual farms.

Between 1870 and 1940 Ervin James's descendants and other area families purchased additional land, creating a rural community of about 250 residents. Among its institu-

tions were the Jamestown Cemetery, dating from its earliest days; the Summerville Methodist Church (renamed Bowers Chapel), established about 1880; and the Summerville Elementary School, built in 1926.

Erected by Jamestown Reunion Committee, 2006

THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF  
LEGAL AFFAIRS REJECTED TAI-  
WAN'S BID FOR MEMBERSHIP

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) rejected Taiwan's bid for membership, according to a July 23 statement posted on the UN Chinese language website. The OLA said its decision was based on UN Resolution 2758, which recognized the UN's "one China" policy.

The UN Secretariat's rejection of Taiwan's application was reactive and hasty. It should allow Taiwan's application to be duly processed in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure of the United Nations. Also, I believe that the OLA's reference to UN Resolution 2758 as a basis for rejecting Taiwan's bid was anachronistic.

Resolution 2758 assumes that the People's Republic of China has legal jurisdiction over Taiwan. This is a dubious assertion. Taiwan has been independent of the PRC since 1949, and in recent years has had a robust political system characterized by competitive parties, active public participation and political liberty—values all Americans embrace.

It is unreasonable to claim that the PRC presumes to speak for a land and people over which it has no control. If the United Nations is founded on the principle of the equality of sovereign nations, it has no reason not to recognize Taiwan as an independent nation. On that basis it would seem that the UN must and should give Taiwan representation.

As noted, Taiwan in 2007 is free and democratic. In Taiwan, direct presidential elections have been held, political parties are proliferating and Taiwan has become one of the freest countries in Asia. As the UN claims to be the forum for resolving international differences, it should give fair and thorough consideration to Taiwan's application for membership in the United Nations and letting the 23 million people of Taiwan have due representation in that world body.

I presume that Taiwan will probably not succeed in joining the United Nations this year, but Taiwan's case is compelling. It is unfortunate that Taiwan has been treated so poorly by the United Nations. We ask the UN Secretariat to rescind its rejection of Taiwan's application and let the application go forward to the Security Council and the UN General Assembly for a vote.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARGARET  
MCMILLAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret McMillan for greatly enriching the community of Southern Nevada with a lifetime of service as an exemplary leader and businesswoman.

Margaret is retiring after having served the telecommunications industry for over 47 years. Throughout her tremendous career she served as a pioneer for women in business. In 1972 she became the first woman to hold the position of Outside Plant Engineer, a position that is now staffed approximately 20% by women. During her time as Staff Engineer of Centel in Chicago she participated in the design of the company's first fiber optics system which was run from the Las Vegas central office to the MGM Hotel and Casino. In 1979 she was promoted to Outside Plant Engineer Manager in Las Vegas where she supervised the design and installation of all outside plant facilities in the Las Vegas area.

Along with being a pioneer for women in the telecommunications industry, Margaret's immense talents and work ethic were recognized and she rose through the ranks of several companies, eventually becoming the Director of Governmental Affairs in Las Vegas for the EMBARQ Company. In that position she has been instrumental in the development of many prominent pieces of legislation, including both the state and federal versions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Margaret's accomplishments as a professional are bolstered by her contributions to the Las Vegas community. She has served two terms as president of the Nevada Telecommunications Association, is a member of the Las Vegas Southwest Rotary Club, has served as area Governor of Toastmasters International and is a member of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. Her work with these organizations has been extremely well recognized and she has been the recipient of many awards such as the Chamber of Commerce's Community Achievement Award. Margaret also received the Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow Citizen of Distinction Award in 2007. She is also listed in the book "Distinguished Women of Nevada."

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Margaret McMillan. Her aptitude and work ethic have made her a beloved fixture in the Las Vegas community and her reputation as a pioneer for professional women is well deserved. I wish her the utmost happiness in her retirement and thank her for a lifetime of service.