

The economic problems of the elderly affect women in disproportionate numbers because women tend to have lower pensions benefits than men. Pension policies have not accommodated women in their traditional role as family caregivers. Women move in and out of the workforce more frequently when family needs arise making it more difficult for them to accrue pension credit.

Consequently, Social Security is especially important for women. Women are heavily reliant on Social Security, and since its inception, Social Security has often been the only income source keeping women from living out their days in poverty.

Social Security has worked for women; it is a system where every worker pays in, and every retired worker receives a pension that she can count on. Social Security has worked for women because workers who earn less receive a larger proportion of their earnings in benefits than those who earn more.

Women must play an important role in shaping Social Security for the future. Social Security reform must be assessed in terms of impact on women, the majority of Social Security recipients. A Social Security system that works well for women, will benefit all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, celebrating Women's History Month highlights the accomplishments of women and the need to open new doors in the future. But this special month would be meaningless if women's needs are forgotten during the rest of the year. We must continue to increase the workplace opportunities for women, which will benefit Americans in every corner of every state, as we face the economic challenges of the 21st century.

CONGRATULATING THE MARIPOSA  
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TRACK AND  
FIELD TEAM

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mariposa High School girls track and field team, the Lady Grizzlies. Upon the completion of the 1998 season, the Lady Grizzlies secured their fourteenth consecutive Southern League championship. This sets an all-time record for girls track and field in the State of California.

During their streak, no opponent has posed a true threat to the Mariposa team. In 1985, the Lady Grizzlies won their meet with a score of 100, outdistancing their closest competitor by 24 points. In the 13 seasons since, they have more than doubled the score of the second-place team on 10 occasions. To add to the accomplishments of the Lady Grizzlies from 1985 to 1998, their relay teams have won 24 of the available 28 league championships, and their athletes have won 120 out of 186 possible individual league titles. Among the team members from 1990 to 1997, 8 members of the Lady Grizzly team have gone on to compete in track and field on the college level.

Since 1985, the year this winning streak began, the number of teams in the Southern

League has fluctuated between 6 and 10 squads. Also in that time, Mariposa has seen 5 different head coaches, 3 principles, and 4 district superintendents. The stability the Lady Grizzlies have maintained throughout these 14 years is a testament to the dedication of the athletes, as well as to the encouragement they have received in the community.

Mr. Speaker, the Lady Grizzlies of Mariposa High School have performed exceptionally throughout the last decade and a half. They have illustrated the virtues of dedication, tenacity, and team work. I encourage them to continue on this path, and wish them the best of luck in the future. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Mariposa Lady Grizzlies track and field team.

CAMP-PRICE DRY CLEANING ENVIRONMENTAL  
TAX CREDIT ACT

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 1999*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today, Rep. DAVE CAMP and I are introducing the Camp-Price Dry Cleaning Environmental Tax Credit Act, legislation which would provide an incentive for dry cleaners to transition to environmentally friendly dry cleaning technologies. Under this legislation, dry cleaners would be able to take a 20-percent tax credit on the purchase of technologies that substantially reduce risks to public health and the environment.

The Federal Government can and should help accelerate the transition to technologies that meet our criteria for greater energy efficiency, or greater protection of public health and the environment. If we really want the private sector to move toward greener and healthier technologies, and if we don't want to simply rely on new regulation to do it, the simplest, most effective method is through targeted tax incentives. President Clinton has proposed this type of approach for equipment that helps reduce energy consumption, and I think it is also appropriate for equipment that helps protect human health and the environment.

We are just beginning to see the possibilities of what technology can accomplish for environmental protection. Environmental technology promises to mend the rift that has too often arisen between environmental protection and economic development. It will make reducing pollution easier and cheaper, and it will itself become an engine for growth in our economy.

I am pleased to join with my colleague on this initiative and look forward to working with him to achieve its passage.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. CONSTANCE MORELLA**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 24, 1999*

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, during this Women's History Month, I'd like to tell you

about Johnnie Carr, Daisy Bates, and Diane Nash, three women of color who helped shape America.

How many of you know these women and how their work contributed to the greatest social revolution of our time?

The role of black women in the civil rights movement has largely been overlooked by historians. Yet, black women throughout the South organized protests, strategized, rounded up volunteers for marches and sit-ins, raised money, registered voters—and put their lives on the line.

This network, which crisscrossed cities, towns, and rural areas across the South, provided the underpinning for Dr. King's organization.

The famous Montgomery bus boycott of 1955–56 that put Dr. King in the nation's spotlight for the first time was started by and sustained by women, who put their reputations, their lives, and their jobs on the line. Women organized carpools through their churches and found funds to help support those who had been fired because of their participation in the boycott.

Johnnie Carr of Montgomery helped bail out Rosa Parks who had triggered the boycott when she refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. Mrs. Carr helped organize that famous boycott and went on to organize the Montgomery Improvement Association and the struggle to desegregate life in Montgomery.

During the course of the boycott that lasted for 382 days, Johnnie Carr arranged for church and private carpools to carry people to their jobs and helped clothe and feed those who had been fired or blacklisted because of their support of the boycott.

Mrs. Carr told the Chicago Tribune in 1994,

We focused on segregation in every phase of life. We were willing to risk bodily harm and even death. . . . The bus company personnel did so many things to intimidate us, but we stood firm in refusing to ride the segregated buses. People walked together in the pouring rain, holding hands and singing.

The boycott was a success, and ultimately, the U.S. Supreme Court declared segregation on Alabama's buses to be unconstitutional.

Daisy Bates story is set in Little Rock, Ark., where she was a leader in the fight to desegregate the city's all-white Central High School. She and her husband ran the Arkansas State Press Newspaper and were active in the local chapter of the NAACP. Daisy Bates was the "coordinator" of the nine children who were selected to attend Central High School, starting on September 4, 1957.

Many of you, if you are old enough, will remember watching events unfold in black and white on your TV sets. On September 3, the Governor of Arkansas, Orval Faubus, ordered the National Guard to surround the school to prevent the nine students from entering the school. His actions were, of course, in direct violation of the 1954 Supreme Court ruling that outlawed "separate but equal schools."

"The parents [of the black children] were justifiably afraid for their children's safety," Bates told the Chicago Tribune. "But we felt that we had to risk everything. . . ."

A mob lying in wait for the arrival of the children tried to lynch 15-year-old Elizabeth

Eckford. On September 23, they tried again to enter the school, succeeded but had to leave because of the threatening mob outside. Bates demanded that President Eisenhower intervene and violence spread throughout the city.

The President dispatched 10,000 members of the National Guard and the 101st Airborne division and Central High was integrated.

Although Daisy Bates "won," it was not without a great price. She and other local NAACP leaders were arrested and she and her husband lost their newspaper business when they refused to cave-in to the demands of advertisers that she dissuade blacks from applying for admission to Central High School.

Diane Nash grew up on Chicago's South Side and in 1959 went off to Nashville to attend Fisk University, one of our nation's leading historically black colleges. "There were no restaurants in downtown Nashville where black people could sit and eat in an unsegregated manner, and only one movie theater, where we were relegated to the balcony," Nash told a Chicago Tribune reporter in 1994.

She began attending workshops on non-violence and soon found herself involved in lunchcounter sit-ins that eventually spread across the South. Beginning on New Year's Day 1960 in Greensboro, N.C., and Nashville, the civil rights activists targeted the lunch counters of Woolworth's Walgreen's and Kresge's and other local restaurants. By that summer, Nashville became the first city in the South to desegregate its lunch counters. Another victory for nonviolence—and good organization.

Nash went on to help form the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) and in 1961 helped to organize the first Freedom Ride from Birmingham, Ala., to Jackson, Miss., in which blacks and whites rode the bus together in violation of state laws.

"Riders were beaten repeatedly at the various stops, and buses were set ablaze," Nash later recounted. "The riders were considered so dangerous that many gave sealed letters to be mailed in the event of their deaths."

Nash went to jail for her efforts to integrate interstate bus travel and went on to serve on a Presidential committee that made recommendations for what was to become the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

History teaches us many things, but the most important lesson we can learn from Johnny Carr, Daisy Bates and Diane Nash and their struggle for civil rights is that through courage, commitment, and a willingness to work together, each and every one of us can overcome our most difficult and sometimes seemingly insurmountable challenges.

Let me close with an excerpt from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s last sermon, the one he gave in Memphis on April 3, 1968, the night before he was murdered:

Let us rise up tonight with a greater readiness. Let us stand with a greater determination. And let us move on in these powerful days, these days of challenge to make America what it ought to be. We have an opportunity to make America a better nation. . . .

In this House of Representatives I am pleased to serve with 13 women of color who are also helping to shape our great America.

Working together, we can envision and realize that America.

REMARKS ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, last week a man was forced to mourn the loss of his wife, not once, but twice in one week.

After believing that he had buried his wife Michaelle—who was one of the victims of the ill-fated boat of Haitian refugees that sunk off the coast of Florida March 5—Mr. Edner Doirin was informed that the morgue originally gave him the wrong body. So he had to endure a second burial to lay his wife to rest.

This is tragic in itself. But what makes it intolerable is that Mr. Doirin's wife should never have had to be buried at all.

She should be alive and well. Instead, she is one of the many victims of an illegal smuggling operation that treats human beings like cargo.

The March 5 disaster that left as many as 40 people dead is one of the most historically deadly smuggling incidents ever off of our South Florida shores.

And it came on the heels of a similar tragedy in mid-December, when as many as 13 people drowned in another illegal smuggling attempt.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is clearly on the brink—again—of an illegal immigration crisis. In the short period between January 1 and March 10, there have been a total of 45 illegal landings, 31 interdictions and 34 identified smuggling activities, resulting in over 400 illegal alien entrants by sea.

These are part of an effort by smugglers to take advantage of desperate, innocent people living in rapidly deteriorating conditions in Haiti, Cuba, and other impoverished or politically repressive countries.

We have heard the Clinton Administration say that it is "doing everything it can" to address this situation and that—even after this recent tragedy—there is no need to change its policies or to target additional resources.

I strongly, strongly disagree.

I do not believe that this Administration has truly committed itself and the resources that Congress has given it to adequately addressing the problem of illegal immigration and alien smuggling.

President Clinton has reportedly ignored his own immigration officials. He also has ignored the 1996 law that we passed in Congress that both provided funding and required that 1,000 new Border Patrol agents be hired each year from 1997 to 2001.

They call this decision to intentionally ignore the law a decision to—quote—"take a breather."

Recently, INS Commissioner Doris Meissner testified before a Senate subcommittee that the Administration decided to "take a breath-

er"—and say no—when she and Attorney General Reno both requested funding for the 1,000 new agents.

And while the Administration is "taking a breather," people are drowning off the coast of Florida.

What angers me even more is to see my own state of Florida becoming the weak link and the focal point of current illegal smuggling efforts.

While the number of immigration control agents has more than doubled during the past five years—to over 8,000—Florida hasn't seen an increase of agents in 10 years.

In Florida, 52 Border Patrol agents are trying to stop an estimated 12,000 illegals who come into Florida by sea each year. Because of their few numbers, the Border Patrol and Coast Guard together are only able to catch a mere 10% of them.

Not only are there huge gaps in our Border Patrol, but the mechanisms designed to nab the illegal aliens that slip in are also failing.

The INS has now decided to change their enforcement tactics and has suspended most surprise workplace inspections that would identify illegal workers and the employers who hire them.

These once-successful tactics are not only being eliminated in Florida, but across the country. And the switch sends a clear message to illegal aliens and smugglers that they're OK unless they get caught committing a crime.

I think it's unbelievable that our enforcement standards are going down just when illegal immigration is on the rise.

Florida Governor Jeb Bush wrote to Attorney General Reno following our most recent tragedy requesting additional efforts. I would like to call upon the Clinton administration to honor his requests:

He is asking—and I am asking—for:

More effective intelligence operations to detect immigrant smuggling—The recent tragedy was detected by commercial ship, not U.S. intelligence.

Greater interdiction efforts along the U.S. coast. More deaths could be prevented if boats of illegal immigrants were stopped at sea.

Increased federal resources to make the prevention of immigrant smuggling a top priority, with an increased focus on South Florida.

Expanded holding capacity for the Krome detention facility located in Miami-Dade county so that officials will be able to detain larger numbers of illegal aliens after raids.

The creation of a federal task force to focus on smuggling.

An aggressive public information campaign directed at smugglers.

Mr. Speaker, people are dying—dying just short of Florida's shores, of America's shores. The responsibility for preventing these tragedies lies solely with the Administration, who has been given the way by Congress to act—but apparently not the will.

I strongly urge President Clinton to mount an aggressive, relentless effort to put a stop to the insidious problem of illegal immigrant smuggling once and for all . . . before more lives are lost.