

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### REMEMBERING ROBERT SIMS

#### HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. TANNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of an American veteran, a tireless public servant, an outstanding citizen and a dear friend, Mr. Robert Bell Sims. Bob will be laid to rest next month at Arlington National Cemetery.

During Bob's long and distinguished career in the United States Navy, he served as a communications officer under two Secretaries of the Navy, then as the Deputy Chief of Information for the Department of the Navy. He also served on the National Security Council and the National Defense University.

Bob retired from the Navy in 1984 at the rank of Captain but did not end his service to our nation's defense. He served in the White House as Deputy Press Secretary for Foreign Affairs and was later nominated and confirmed to the post of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs.

In 1987, Bob turned to his background in magazine and newspaper publishing, when he began fourteen years of service at the National Geographic Society. For thirty years, he was the owner and publisher of The Crockett Times. The work of his family and staff at the newspaper has long been important to Bob's hometown of Alamo, Tennessee, and indeed to all of us in Crockett County.

Bob is survived by his wife, Patricia, four children and seven grandchildren. My wife, Betty Ann, and I have long cherished our friendship with Bob and Pat Sims and are greatly saddened by Bob's passing. He will be missed. We know, however, that the legacy he leaves behind will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, please join with me in honoring the long service, dedication and friendship of Bob Sims.

### HONORING AUSTIN TOXEN

#### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a young hero in my Fifth Congressional District of Florida. Throughout our current situation in Iraq and our continued War on Terror we have had occasion to honor many heroes. Today I want to take the time to honor a very special young man who, just like our troops overseas, acted bravely and selflessly to protect the safety of another person.

This summer while playing outside with friends, Austin Toxen, a fifth-grader at Forest Ridge Elementary School in Citrus County, noticed smoke coming from his neighbor's home. Acting quickly and keenly, Austin ran into his

own home, grabbed a fire extinguisher, asked his mother to call 911, and ran into his neighbor's home to help put out the blaze.

The fire, which started in the home's kitchen, would have almost certainly quickly spread throughout the entire structure had it not been for Austin's swift intervention. Austin was able to help contain the fire to the kitchen saving the home from burning entirely. The owner, Janeen Hall, has called Austin a hero and credits him with saving her home.

According to friends and family, Austin has remained very humble about his bravery. Though many have marveled at the fact that he had the composure to act so heroically, he says he just did the right thing.

We all know that Austin's actions truly are worthy of praise and so Mr. Speaker I ask you and my colleagues to join with me in honoring Austin Toxen today. He truly is a brave young man and a fine example of courage and selflessness.

### OCTOBER AS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor October as National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Cancer is a growing and tragic epidemic that has undoubtedly touched loved ones, affecting mothers, sisters, daughters, as well as friends. The campaign emphasizes the importance of early detection of the disease through mammograms, clinical breast examination, as well as breast self-examination.

During 2003, over 211,000 new cases of breast cancer are expected to occur among women in the United States and breast cancer remains as the leading cause of cancer death in women in the United States. Alarmingly, every 2 hours, on average, a California woman dies of breast cancer.

I am honored to promote breast cancer awareness and research by urging my colleagues to reauthorize the Breast Cancer Research program for 2 more years. Millions of people have purchased the Breast Cancer Research stamp, a program that was first introduced in July 1998, generating over \$34.5 million for research and development.

The Breast Cancer Research stamp is especially important to me because my constituent, Dr. Ernie Bodai of Carmichael, CA, was the leading force behind the program. After 14 visits to Washington within 2 years, as well as spending \$100,000 of his personal savings, he succeeded, creating a leading for Breast Cancer fundraising. Dr. Bodai is the pioneer of the Breast Cancer stamp, Chief of General Surgery for Kaiser Permanente, and CEO of CureBreastCancer, Inc.

Driving through Sacramento, he can be easily detected by his car, which is adorned by its license plate—PL 105-41—the title of the pub-

lic law that made the breast cancer fundraising stamp official.

Mr. Speaker, as Members of Congress, let's do our part to protect our constituents, promote breast cancer research and education, and reauthorize the Breast Cancer Stamp program.

### HONORING FRANK BIERWILER OF SPRING HILL, FL

#### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great public servant, a charitable giver, and a selfless hero in my Fifth Congressional District, Mr. Frank Bierwiler.

Frank Bierwiler first served his community in New York for many years as a State Police Officer. Then, after a multiple sclerosis diagnosis in 1974 forced him to retire from the force, Frank Bierwiler pledged to do something good with his life.

It was a few years later, Mr. Speaker, that he moved to Florida and started Daystar Hope Center, an organization giving food, clothing, and assistance with bills to central Floridians in need.

For nearly 20 years, the center has served as an example of the power and impact of benevolence and kindness. Its doors have welcomed thousands of Floridians in need and Mr. Bierwiler's perseverance and generosity have for so long ensured that those doors stay open.

Unfortunately, after 20 years of helping so many, the Daystar Hope Center is closing.

While it is unfortunate that the center is ceasing operations, many other charitable organizations, came into existence because of the success of the Daystar Hope Center. Frank's leadership fostered these other organizations and he always worked well with them.

I want to take this opportunity today to first commend Frank Bierwiler for his work in my district and to, second, draw attention to the extraordinary things that can happen when one determined, individual pledges himself to greatness.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of my colleagues in this body to join me in honoring Frank Bierwiler and offering our sincere admiration for his work, life, and accomplishments.

### HONORING THE BRAVE FIRE- FIGHTERS OF CALIFORNIA AND THE 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DIS- TRICT

#### HON. DOUG OSE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deep sympathy to the victims of the

● 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.

fires that have been plaguing southern California this past week and even now continue to rage. I would also like to recognize the emergency assistance that has been mobilized to help the counties of Ventura, Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Bernardino. The scope of the devastation this disaster has delivered is vast. It has viciously taken at least 14 lives, destroyed over 1,500 homes, and burned over 500,000 acres of land. In addition, over 50,000 people have been evacuated from their homes.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank the men and women from my district who, where capable, have dedicated their time to helping combat the fires in southern California. Calaveras County has donated 5 fire engines along with 15 fire fighters. Amador County has donated an entire team consisting of 2 engines and nine people, including one fire chief. In addition, Solano and Sacramento Counties have each dedicated significant resources to assist in the firefighting effort, including over three fire strike teams and two trucks. These mobilizations are fighting to alleviate the impact of this disaster even as I speak. It is my sincere hope that these brave men and women will be able to safely and swiftly contain these fires. My thoughts and prayers are with them.

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#### TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

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#### HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor and congratulate the people of the Taiwan on their Double Ten: National Day. Earlier this month, on October 10, 2003, Taiwan celebrated its National Day. This special day for Taiwan is celebrated to commemorate the 1911 Wuch'ang uprising, which marked the beginning of a struggle towards political democracy.

On October 10, fireworks lighted the skies of Taiwan, and the streets were filled with large parades. This celebration is much like our 4th of July celebrations. Taiwan is a shining example of economic success and democratization. Taiwan's accomplishments are numerous, and its success is attributed to its people.

In August of this year I had the pleasure of meeting Taiwan's Vice President, Madame Annette Lu in Los Angeles. Vice President Lu is the first female vice president to serve Taiwan. She has devoted her time and efforts to promoting human rights, democracy, and technology. She has made countless contributions to the advancement of women in Taiwan. With her efforts and many other women like her, the women of Taiwan have progressed in education, business, politics, and society in general. Vice President Lu is a true dynamic democratic leader. She represents her people and her country well.

Once again, my best wishes and congratulations to the people of Taiwan on their Double Ten National Day.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PHELPS HOSPICE

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#### HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Phelps Hospice and to congratulate it on its 20th anniversary. Since 1983, Phelps Hospice has provided end of life care and comfort throughout Westchester County, NY, helping to relieve the physical, emotional, and spiritual pain of more than 2,000 patients and their loved ones.

An essential element of this care is the personalized service that Phelps Hospice provides to meet the unique needs of each patient and his or her loved ones. Working with the patient's primary care physician, Phelps Hospice develops a plan of care that matches the family's needs with the abilities of its medical director, nurses, social workers, home health aids, spiritual counselors, psychologists, nutritionists, volunteers, therapists, and bereavement counselors.

Through support groups and memorial services, Phelps Hospice has offered bereavement counseling for the families of hospice patients, as well as for members of the community.

In addition, since 2002, Phelps Hospice has provided complementary care consisting of massage, music, pet and art therapy, making it one of the first hospices in Westchester County to incorporate complementary care into its list of services.

To aid in the care of patients, Phelps Hospice has trained hundreds of selfless volunteers in the past 20 years.

And, of course, the numerous services offered by Phelps Hospice are provided to all patients regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, sexual preference, or ability to pay.

I am honored to have this opportunity to congratulate Phelps Hospice on its 20th anniversary. Westchester County is undoubtedly a better place thanks to the tireless work of its staff and volunteers. I wish them the best of luck in the next 20 years—and more—of service to our community.

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#### HONORING MARGARET "WEENIE" ROGERS GHIOTTO, BROOKSVILLE, FLORIDA'S "GREAT BROOKSVILLIAN"

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#### HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman who has for many years been an outstanding businesswoman and citizen in my hometown of Brooksville, Florida. Margaret Rogers Ghiotto, known as "Weenie" to her close friends and family, was recently honored as a "Great Brooksvillian" for her work on behalf of the community.

Aside from owning and managing Rogers' Christmas House Village and the Jennings House, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, Mrs. Ghiotto has a background in education, having taught children

about the environment and the value of trees for many years.

At a ceremony in city hall this week as part of Brooksville's Founders' Week Celebration, Mrs. Ghiotto was honored with a plaque, reception, and many kind words. This weekend she will be the Grand Marshal of the Brooksville Founder's Day Parade.

While this most recent honor is certainly a laudable one, it is not the first such accolade Mrs. Ghiotto has received. Over the years, she has been named the Hernando County Chamber of Commerce's "Citizen of the Year," AWBA's "Business Associate of the Year," and the Lions Club's "Outstanding Citizen." She even has awards named after her—the University of Florida Lambda Chi Alpha chapter gives an annual leadership award to a distinguished member, called "The Margaret Rogers Ghiotto Award" and the city of Brooksville honors businesses and individuals with the "Margaret Rogers Ghiotto Beautification Award."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues in this body join me in honoring this great woman and great citizen. We should all be so lucky as to have a Margaret Rogers Ghiotto in each of our districts.

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#### HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF HANK MASON

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#### HON. STEVAN PEARCE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. PEARCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Hank Mason of Los Lunas, New Mexico for his distinguished service to our country during the Vietnam War. Mr. Mason is a great American, and recognition for his service to our country is long overdue. I thank him for his commitment to freedom and the sacrifices he endured while serving in Vietnam.

Mason earned, but never received, several war and service medals from the United States Army for his 3 years of service, including a tour in Vietnam. Mason says he has made many attempts for more than 3 decades to receive the medals that were due to him, with no avail. On Saturday, October 25, 2003, I was proud to present Mr. Mason with the military service medals he has been waiting for more than 34 years.

We must always recognize the men and women of our Armed Forces who have valiantly defended our American values throughout our Nation's history. These remarkable individuals have helped to make America secure and have advanced the cause of freedom worldwide. By answering the call of duty, our veterans have risked their lives to protect their fellow countrymen. Individuals like Hank Mason have inspired our Nation with their courage, patriotism and dedication.

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#### INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3387

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#### HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 3387, the Veterans Health Programs Improvement Act of 2003. Mr. Speaker,

many of the provisions in the bill I am introducing with my colleague, the ranking member of the Health Subcommittee of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, are supported by the administration and have been offered to us previously in its request for draft legislation. Specifically, sections 2 through 6 of this bill are found in the draft bill, Omnibus Veterans Health Care and Benefits Act of 2003 requested by Secretary Principi on August 15, 2003.

Other provisions of this bill extend authorities or reports which already exist in law, but which are expiring. I believe it is critical that some of these activities continue to be mandated and carefully overseen by Congress.

VA has asked for the authority to provide up to 14 days of care to the newborn infants of women veterans. This allows VA to provide a more complete spectrum of care to women—particularly the younger women who are now serving in the military in record numbers. VA may, under current law, offer all maternity care, including labor, delivery and recovery, but once the infant is born, VA is forced to find other payers—often Medicaid if the mother has no other health care benefits—to finance the care of the child. The cost of providing this benefit to the newborn infants of women veterans is negligible.

VA has also asked for authority to provide certain rehabilitative services under its medical care authority. A vital part of therapy for many of VA's homeless, psychiatric, and substance use disorder recovery programs is the vocational activity. Successfully engaging in productive activity is viewed as a critical part of therapy and integral to complete rehabilitation. Although VA does offer a range of training programs, often VA must shuttle veterans between programs to meet all the veterans' needs. This makes case management difficult. Instead of allowing one person to work through job training, placement and support, veterans could be forced to work through several agencies and multiple points-of-contact adding complexity and confusion when veterans are already at a vulnerable turning point in their rehabilitation. This provision allows VA medical personnel to provide continuous care throughout vocational training.

Last year the clock ran out on special health care eligibility for herbicide-exposed veterans of the Vietnam-era and also for our Persian Gulf veterans. I spent much of my early tenure here fighting for compensation for veterans who believed their illnesses were associated with exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides. Learning from that experience, Congress gave veterans who served in the first Gulf war more of the benefit of the doubt by allowing them to be compensated for vaguely defined conditions and illnesses that are not generally related to military service, but for which they seem to be at high risk. There seems to be a pretty serious schism between what we are doing to compensate veterans and the provision of care for conditions which they believe may be associated to their service. Without this special priority, some veterans who have not previously sought VA health care, may never be able to receive it. VA wants to continue to offer priority specialized treatment to veterans in these special priorities, and I fully support them in this effort.

VA would also like to require veterans to provide information from their health insurers. Too often these private-sector payers are rak-

ing in the cost-sharing from veterans or their spouses without paying toward their VA treatment. Veterans should be willing to share this information if they are receiving care at VA facilities and their health plans should be willing to reimburse VA as the veterans' provider-of-choice. It is only fair to ask veterans to offer this information as VA continues to mull tough choices of limiting services and those it will serve.

Finally, VA also requested permission to extend its authority to provide acquired properties to homeless service providers. These partners can purchase VA-acquired properties at discounts ranging from 20 to 50 percent. Through fiscal year 2002, 188 properties have been sold to homeless providers under the program, including two that were sold to a VA medical center for the compensated work therapy program. The shelters established in these properties have provided approximately 372,000 nights of shelter to homeless veterans. The VA has also entered into 52 leases with homeless providers. Most of these were subsequently converted into sales to homeless providers. I hope that we can support VA's efforts to continue to offer these properties to homeless providers.

In addition to the VA-requested provisions, I am proposing several extensions of reports and additional authorities that I strongly believe we must continue. Congress created two advisory committees—one that advises the Under Secretary on Health exclusively about Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and one that makes recommendations for a variety of programs serving Severely Mentally Ill veterans. We have relied on the reports of these Committees to ensure Congress that these mental health programs are receiving adequate attention as VA continues to reform its health care delivery. It has become clear that since 1996, and likely before, VA has continued to pare back the resources it commits to its mental health programs. Congress is still awaiting the report due last Spring that demonstrates VA's maintenance of these programs' capacity in fiscal year 2002. These Committees serve as much needed internal spokespeople and advocates for their programs and are particularly vital in more fiscally constrained times. I am hopeful that my colleagues will agree that we continue to require the oversight of these internal watchdogs.

In addition to extending these reporting requirements, I would like to see Congress committed to allowing Vietnam-era veterans to continue to seek readjustment counseling at Vet Centers. As a Vietnam-era veteran myself, I have seen too many of my peers have significantly delayed reactions to the traumatic events of long ago. Many World War II veterans continue to struggle with the past we might have suspected they left long ago—look at how many veterans from that war had strong emotional reactions to Saving Private Ryan. As we all recall, there were unique challenges to returning home from service during the Vietnam War—a war that did not enjoy public support. While we've learned from this experience to "love the warrior, if not the war" I would like to ensure that Vet Centers remain accessible to Vietnam-era veterans who had unique adjustment challenges upon their return to service.

Finally, my bill would eliminate the sunset of authority for VA's sexual trauma counseling program currently set to expire December 31,

2004. Surveys from a few years ago continued to demonstrate that women in the Armed Services are at a high risk for sexual harassment and, even sexual assault. Sadly, it is apparent that sexual trauma will continue occurring in military service and elsewhere. VA has served as a valuable outlet to women who have believed the military and the government had otherwise abandoned them. We must ensure that VA's programs continue to exist to serve for the indefinite future.

Mr. Speaker, this bill supports proven programs that are already offering invaluable assistance to the veterans that are able to avail themselves of them. I want veterans to continue to be able to rely upon them.

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REPUDIATING ANTI-SEMITIC SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, OUTGOING PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2003*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 409 that condemns recent anti-Semitic remarks by the Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad of Malaysia.

Unfortunately, rather than openly condemn the Prime Minister for his remarks, many in the global community have remained largely silent on this issue. By not taking a stand against hateful speech, the international community is showing that it is okay for world leaders to promote bigotry and violence. By not taking a stand, members of the European Union and other world leaders are showing that other acts of hate speech will be allowed to continue without consequence.

That is why it is critical that Congress takes a stand and denounces these remarks and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. It is important that we go on record to show that this type of hatred and bigotry is unacceptable—especially by world leaders who are expected to set an example for their people.

By allowing these hateful remarks to go unacknowledged, that makes it that much more difficult to bring opposing sides together in the Middle East and puts us that much further from an eventual peace agreement.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 409.

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HONORING DR. JOHN ATANASOFF ON THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, on October 30, 31 and November 1, 2003, Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, will hold a landmark event that will be the Nation's tribute to the late John Vincent Atanasoff's 100th birthday (October 4, 2003). Dr. Atanasoff, along with electrical engineering graduate student, Clifford Berry, developed the world's first electronic digital computer from 1939 to 1942 while serving as a

physics and mathematics professor at Iowa State University. Known as the Atanasoff-Berry Computer, the invention was Atanasoff's solution to finding a better, more efficient way for his students to learn. It was the principles of his invention that changed the face of technology forever.

The university is organizing the International Symposium on Modern Computing, October 30–November 1 in celebration of his life's accomplishments. Leaders in the computing field, internationally renowned academic researchers, and college and university students from across the Nation will come together to discuss the newest technologies and research that have the potential to change the world as dramatically as did the principles that Dr. Atanasoff's invention established. Dr. Atanasoff is a recipient of the Nation's highest award for innovation, the National Medal of Technology, which was presented to him by President George Bush in 1990. Dr. Atanasoff died in 1995.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MAX BURNS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. BURNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide an explanation for my absence during votes yesterday evening.

During yesterday's votes, I was traveling back to Washington from a Congressional Delegation trip to Iraq. I appreciate the opportunity to visit our troops serving overseas and to witness firsthand the situation in Iraq. Our delegation arrived into the Washington area after votes had concluded.

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#### FREEDOM FOR DR. MARCELO CANO RODRÍGUEZ

### HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about Dr. Marcelo Cano Rodríguez, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Dr. Cano Rodríguez is a Medical Doctor. As a physician, he has chosen to devote his life and his abilities to healing the sick, mending the lame, and easing the suffering of his patients. However, as Dr. Cano Rodríguez quickly learned, easing the suffering of the Cuban people is not a goal of Castro's dictatorship.

The longer Dr. Cano Rodríguez worked within the totalitarian healthcare system, the more he noticed medical resources being taken from the Cuban people and redirected towards tourists who could pay with hard foreign currency. Dr. Cano Rodríguez, no longer able to work within a system that abandons citizens in favor of tourists, became the National Coordinator for the Cuban Independent Medical Association.

The Cuban Independent Medical Association is comprised of physicians who joined forces to set up independent clinics where equipment and drugs prescribed by doctors are distributed without charge. As Dr. Cano

Rodríguez searched for ways to make his group more effective, he approached the Cuban Commission for Human Rights and National Reconciliation for guidance. After learning of the Commission's professed goal of basic human rights, he became an important member of that group.

Unfortunately for Dr. Cano Rodríguez, his being associated with two groups who profess to work to provide the Cuban people with their basic rights and their basic medicine proved to be too much for Castro and his machinery of repression. On March 25, 2003, Dr. Cano Rodríguez was arrested in Las Tunas. The "illegal" activities cited by Castro's puppet prosecutor in the sham trial were that he visited prisoners as part of his work with the Cuban Commission for Human Rights and National Reconciliation and that he maintained ties to Doctors Without Borders. Dr. Cano Rodríguez was sentenced to 18 years in Castro's dungeons.

Mr. Speaker, I want to repeat that, Dr. Cano Rodríguez was sentenced to 18 years in Castro's gulag for visiting prisoners and maintaining ties to Doctors Without Borders.

My colleagues, every one of us should be totally appalled that a physician who attempts to aid the oppressed and heal the sick is languishing in a dungeon for his merciful actions. My colleagues, we must demand immediate freedom for Dr. Marcelo Cano Rodríguez.

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#### HONORING ALEX SPANOS

### HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to congratulate my friend, Alex Spanos, as he will soon receive the STARBRIGHT Foundation's Heart of Gold Award for his selfless efforts on behalf of children with serious illnesses and their families, and for his extensive contributions to all children and youth.

Alexander Gus Spanos was born to loving parents in 1923 in Stockton, California. In 1942, he rendered service to his country by joining the Air Army. Six years later, he wed his life-long sweetheart, Faye Papfaklis.

In 1951, Alex quit his job at the family bakery, secured an \$800 loan and bought a panel truck to start his own company, the A.G. Spanos Agricultural Catering. Soon, this new venture became the largest catering business of farm laborers in the United States. Alex began investing in real estate and, by 1956, he had become a millionaire. This allowed him to semi-retire and take on golf, in which he became a pro amateur within six years.

When changing farm labor regulations signaled the end of his catering business, Alex launched A.G. Spanos Construction. After building his first apartment complex in Stockton, California, in 1960, Alex expanded the company into neighboring states and across the southwestern and southern states. By 1977, his firm was the number one builder of apartments in the nation.

His family of businesses now includes: A.G. Spanos Construction, A.G. Spanos Development, Inc., A.G. Spanos Management, Inc., A.G. Spanos Enterprises, Inc., The Spanos Corporation, AGS Financial Corporation, A.G. Spanos Realty, Inc., A.G. Spanos Securities,

and A. G. Spanos Ventures. He also owns the Spanos Jet Center and the National Football League's San Diego Chargers.

Mr. Speaker, not only is Alex Spanos a successful businessman, but he is also a successful human being. His family has always taken center stage in his life. He and Faye enjoy the time they share with their four children and 15 grandchildren. It is telling that his companies continue to be family owned and operated, as he has shared management responsibilities with his sons, Dean and Michael.

A noted philanthropist, he has reached out to those in need and given of his resources to help whenever and wherever he could. Over the years, he has contributed to his own community and to causes around the world by donating millions of dollars to charities, churches, hospitals, educational institutions, and civic and athletic organizations.

It is fair to say that Alex G. Spanos' outlook on life is best reflected in the title of his new book, *Sharing the Wealth*. The communities and individuals he has touched throughout his life would attest to that.

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to commend this distinguished citizen for his countless acts of service to his community, California, and the country.

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#### EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO MEMBERS OF U.S. ARMED FORCES DEPLOYED IN OPERATION RESTORE HOPE IN SOMALIA IN 1993

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2003*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 291 to offer my gratitude, for myself and on behalf of the constituents of the 18th Congressional District, to the soldiers who fell and who served our country in "Operation Restore Hope."

"Operation Restore Hope" was a 1993 United Nations peacekeeping venture to restore order in the East African country of Somalia, characterized by its nomadic society. The Operation was launched with guarded optimism but went tragically awry on Oct. 3, 1993 when 18 U.S. soldiers were killed in a firefight with Somali gunmen. A decade later, the Bush Administration now contemplates taking military action against alleged terrorist groups in Somalia who might have been responsible for the tragedy.

Man-made famine prompted the massive foreign intervention in Somalia. This famine was caused by a drought made murderous by a civil war that sent gunmen across the country's most fertile agricultural areas. At the famine's peak, more than 300 people starved to death each day in hard-hit towns like Baidoa and Baardheere because militia fighters first disrupted the lives of herdsman and farmers, then stole the food aid sent to relieve their suffering. Throughout the worst of the crisis, gun-toting young militiamen looted most of the relief food as spoils of war or blocked its entry into the country through port cities by demanding extortionate amounts from aid ships waiting to dock. In order to break the famine in Somalia, we had to break the stranglehold of the gunmen and allow aid to flow unimpeded.

The 100 elite U.S. infantrymen, who tried to capture and defeat a Somali warlord in his home, suffered 70 percent casualties—a figure sadly compared to a 1965 massacre in Vietnam's la Drang Valley. So badly pinned down were the Americans in Mogadishu that they could not evacuate their wounded, including Ranger commander Lt. Col. Danny McKnight, for nine hours. The biggest problem in that situation was the thousands of young men floating around the country laying in wait for our American troops.

Since then President George Bush ordered more than 25,000 U.S. troops to intervene in Somalia in December 1992 to help stop deaths from starvation, exacerbated by clan warfare, 30 Americans died in combat and 175 were wounded. There also were six non-combat deaths, and seven soldiers were killed and one missing off the Kenyan coast in a crash this month of an AC-130 Specter gunship. In addition, about 68 U.N. soldiers were killed and 262 wounded, according to U.N. figures, making this the bloodiest peace-keeping operation since the Congo crisis three decades ago.

This situation is similar to that experienced by our troops today in Iraq. I visited the As-Sayliyah Central Command Base in Doha, Qatar on October 13, 2003 and heard the concerns of the troops from their own mouths. Leaders of the units keep a warm smile and upbeat attitude to keep their troops feeling positive despite the compound feeling of homesickness due to the failure of our government to timely relieve them and the feeling of vulnerability due to the lack of a sufficient number of trained MP's. I heard testimony about how a ground soldier watched his partner and the operator of a military vehicle get tossed out as the vehicle was thrown airborne by a land mine. "Why did you hit this mine," I asked. "It was just one of those mines that was missed in the sweep . . .," said the soldier. Because there isn't enough personnel or specialists to assign to technical tasks, unskilled or untrained technicians frequently get asked to do jobs that they have not mastered enough to guarantee the lives of those who must traverse the sands of Baghdad. He misses his wife and newborn baby dearly. Because there hasn't been a change in the personnel on the front lines in several months, many reservists and active duty servicemen and women have spent a longer time in Iraq than was promised by the Administration. May 1, 2003 was supposed to have been a day of hope and homecoming; instead, it was a sham. Some of these troops feel like "sitting ducks" out in the foreign terrain. They don't speak Arabic. They don't know Tikrit like they know their hometowns. When I asked them if they have seen any troops of other coalition nations, they responded, "what coalition troops?" They need support and they need continuous relief.

Many of the vulnerabilities that led to the death of the 18 soldiers in "Operation Restore Hope" affect our troops in "Operation Iraqi Freedom." I value the service that our troops of "Operation Restore Hope" provided, and I am honored to support this important legislation to commemorate them.

REPUDIATING ANTI-SEMITIC SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, OUTGOING PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. RAHM EMANUEL**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2003*

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise as a cosponsor and in strong support of H. Res. 409, a resolution to repudiate the Malaysian Prime Minister for racist comments harmful not only to the global Jewish community but to the advancement of peace in the Middle East and global tolerance of racial and ethnic diversity.

The speech by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to a gathering of Muslim leaders earlier this month has been described by other world leaders of democratic and free nations—including President Bush during his recent trip to Asia—as offensive and anti-Semitic. Rhetoric of this nature, which embodies age-old stereotypes, can be neither excused nor rationalized. It only serves to incite further sectarian violence and should be condemned universally.

Even more disturbing is that none of 57 national representatives attending the Organization of the Islamic Conference, including some U.S. allies, have raised their voices in protest. In fact, many demonstrated complicity in spreading this message of hate and incitement against Jews by applauding the Prime Minister's remarks. The standing ovation he received and the subsequent defense of his remarks by almost all the participants at this meeting of Muslim leaders reminds us that anti-Semitic beliefs remain prevalent throughout the world, even in moderate states like Malaysia.

I was proud to be one of 80 Members of the House who signed a letter to the Prime Minister of Malaysia condemning his remarks and calling upon him to clarify or retract his statements. I also commend the Senate for passing a resolution condemning the statement and requesting that President Bush condemn the remarks during his meeting with the Malaysian Prime Minister in Bangkok during Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit.

Mr. Speaker, we must always take a stand against hatred and bigotry by world leaders whose rhetoric threatens to make peace in the Middle East and around the world more elusive. I am pleased to be a cosponsor of this important resolution and urge my colleagues to support it today.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROTHER BENNO FOUNDATION

**HON. DARRELL E. ISSA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, October 29, the Oceanside community will celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Brother Benno foundation.

The foundation was established by Harold and Kay Kutler in 1983 based on the work of a Benedictine monk, Brother Benno Garrity, from the Prince of Peace Abbey in Oceanside,

CA. Brother Benno died in 1992 after dedicating his life to feeding the poor and homeless.

The foundation began with a small soup kitchen at 307 Minnesota Street in Oceanside. It has since grown into a ministry addressing many types of social problems in San Diego County including hunger, homelessness, and alcohol and drug addiction.

Anyone needing help can come to Brother Benno's and register for services provided by the foundation. In their 20 years of service the foundation has provided 132,000 nights of lodging, more than 434,000 articles of clothing, 18,900 blankets and medical and dental care.

On behalf of all the people whose lives have been touched by the Brother Benno Foundation I want to recognize the volunteers and support staff at the Brother Benno Foundation. Thank you for 20 years of service.

CONGRATULATING THE NEW CHAPTER OF THE COLLEGE REPUBLICANS AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

**HON. DAVID VITTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. VITTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a new organization on the Southern University campus. A new chapter of the College Republicans has been created at this Historically Black University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This is a welcome event for all Louisiana Republicans.

My heartfelt congratulations are extended to all of the members of the Southern University College Republicans, and especially club president Gene Tinner, for their hard work in founding this new organization. I am confident that this chapter will earn respect on the Southern Campus and throughout Louisiana, and become a valuable addition to the state Republican Party. I am honored to share this affiliation with such a bright group of young Louisianians from one of our great educational institutions.

My best wishes go forth to this new group for their vision and leadership, and to the Southern University campus for their support.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRAVELERS PROPERTY CASUALTY

**HON. MELISSA A. HART**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to have the opportunity to pay tribute to a leading Insurance Provider that serves Western Pennsylvania. October 24, 2003 marks the 100th anniversary of Travelers Property Casualty, a leading provider of a broad range of insurance products.

Travelers Property Casualty, located in Pittsburgh since 1903, currently employs more than 225 individuals. Travelers provides a wide range of insurance products including workers compensation, integrated disability, property, liability specialty lines and broiler and

machinery. The company is the third largest commercial lines insurer and has been rated the second largest writer of homeowners and auto insurance through independent agents.

I applaud Travelers Property Casualty for their long-standing dedication to serving the people of Western Pennsylvania and all of their insurance needs.

I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring this successful business for their 100 years of service.

TRIBUTE TO THE FRED C.  
FISCHER LIBRARY

**HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Fred C. Fischer Library of Belleville, Michigan, as it celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

Serving the residents of Belleville, Sumpter Township, and Van Buren Township, the Fischer Library was built in 1953, when the public library outgrew its space at the J.C. Pullen Furniture store, and 3 other locations.

From 1953 until 1992 the Fred C. Fischer Library remained the quaint and homey 3,500 square foot library it was built to be. Meanwhile, the population of the area grew from 12,400 to over 35,000. The library became increasingly crowded and more bookshelves were needed to accommodate the growing collection.

Thanks to contributions from the Belleville Rotary Club's Charles B. Cozadd Foundation, the Simester estate, many smaller individual contributions, federal grants, and the commitment of the City of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren Townships, the Fischer Library was able to triple the size of the library, expand its catalog to include just about everything from books to DVDs, as well as offer public internet access, and events for patrons of all ages.

The Fred C. Fischer Library continues to live up to its mandate of "making the library an attractive place for all users, young people particularly."

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in thanking the Fred C. Fischer Library for its outstanding service to the people of Michigan, and wish them well in the next 50 years.

A BILL TO CLARIFY THE TAX  
TREATMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS  
IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION

**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today to ensure that burdensome regulation does not add unnecessarily to the cost of housing.

The need for this legislation is brought about because the Department of Treasury has issued regulations to provide guidance on the definition of contributions in aid of construction, so called CIAC, as enacted under the Small Business Job Protection Act of

1996. Despite the fact that Congress specifically removed language concerning "customer services fees" in its amendment in 1996, the Department added the language back into the proposed regulation specifying that such fees are not CIAC. They then defined the term very broadly to include service laterals, which traditionally and under the most common state law treatment would be considered CIAC.

Because state regulators require all of the costs of new connections to be paid up front, these regulations will force water and sewerage utilities to collect the federal tax from homeowners, builders, and small municipalities. Because they collect it up front, the utility is forced to "gross up" the tax by collecting a tax on the tax on the tax, resulting in an over 55 percent effective tax rate.

This bill will clarify prospectively that water and sewerage service laterals are included in the definition of contributions in aid of construction (CIAC). It clarifies current law by specifically stating that "customer service fees" are CIAC, but maintains current treatment of service charges for stopping and starting service (not CIAC).

Mr. MATSUI and Mrs. JOHNSON along with many of our colleagues here in the chamber, worked hard over the course of a number of years to restore the pre-1986 Act tax treatment for water and sewage CIAC. In 1996, we succeeded in passing legislation. It was identical to pre-1986 law with three exceptions. Two of the changes were made in response to a Treasury Department request. The third removed the language dealing with "service connection fees" primarily because of potential confusion resulting from the ambiguity of the term. The sponsors of the legislation were concerned that the IRS would use this ambiguity to exclude a portion of what the state regulators consider CIAC.

As part of our efforts, we developed a revenue raiser in cooperation with the industry to make up any revenue loss due to our legislation, including the three changes. This revenue raiser extended the life, and changed the method, for depreciating water utility property from 20-year accelerated to 25-year straight-line depreciation. As a consequence of this sacrifice by the industry, our CIAC change made a net \$274 million contribution toward deficit reduction.

What is most important to keep in mind is that this unnecessary tax of over 55 percent is passed directly on to homeowners and local governments. I urge my colleagues to join with us in sponsoring this important legislation in order to ensure that American homeowners do not face further burdens.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEE STUDENT  
LOAN ASSISTANCE ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. FRED UPTON**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2003*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleagues for this needed legislation, which ensures the federal government's deep commitment to a highly trained, diverse workforce. But we should go even further. In order to best maximize federal government resources, we should encourage competition in all as-

pects of the student loan program, including consolidation loans.

In order to instill such competition, we will need to make sure that during the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, which is currently moving through the Education and the Workforce Committee, we repeal the single holder rule. I want to thank Chairman BOEHNER and Congressman MCKEON, for their efforts to keep college costs under control during consideration of this important legislation. It will be part of my commitment to them as well as Federal agencies, students and families everywhere that they can have the benefit of competition from the more than one thousand qualified lenders in the program when they consolidate their loans and, thus, allow them to take advantage of historically low fixed interest rates.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. ROBERT M.  
WATERMAN

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Rev. Robert M. Waterman for his devout commitment to his congregation and dedication to his community.

Rev. Robert M. Waterman, the son of a Pentecostal preacher, was born in Brooklyn, New York. As a young man, he was reared in Hemingway, South Carolina, and steeped in both the Pentecostal and Baptist traditions.

In 1985, he was licensed to preach by Abundant Life Tabernacle. Rev. Waterman also served as the Associate Pastor and Youth Pastor at Union Baptist Church in White Plains, New York under the pastoral guidance of Reverends Robert L. Mason and Verlin D. Williams. He began his work at Antioch on November 4, 2001, and was officially installed as the church's reverend in May of 2003. During this time, Reverend Waterman graduated from the New York Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity.

Rev. Waterman has brought many talents to Antioch including a youthful exuberance, a commitment to getting the job done, and a quiet yet ebullient spirituality. With his leadership, new seats and carpet have been installed in the balcony, an after school homework program was created, the Wednesday night bible study was revived, and a large influx of new worshippers have come to the church. Since his installation, Reverend Waterman has worked closely with the youth ministry, forming Teens United for Fellowship (TUFF). He has also established leadership classes and retreats, reinstated the Christian education department, spearheaded the purchase of a state-of-the-art sound system in the sanctuary, and revived the Antioch Community Service program for youth and seniors. He has also been instrumental in the building fund for the elevator project.

Spiritually, Reverend Waterman is known as "The Preacher of Thunder" as he encourages his congregation to know God so that hearts, and thereby lives, can be changed. His commitment to Antioch is demonstrated by his relocation to the Bedford-Stuyvesant community.

As Antioch Baptist Church celebrates its 85th anniversary, the church is stronger than

ever with the guidance and leadership of Rev. end Waterman.

Mr. Speaker, in a short time, Rev. Robert M. Waterman has already made a positive difference in the lives of the Antioch Baptist Church congregation and the Bedford-Stuyvesant community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

RECOGNIZING MATTHEW FISH FOR  
ACHIEVING THE AWARD OF  
GOLD MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Fish, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers of Northern Missouri and in earning the most prestigious award, the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the 10 years Matthew has been involved with the Rangers, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Guide and Senior Patrol Guide. He also was involved in Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship, Fine Arts Youth Department, and elected as National Scout.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Fish for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Gold Medal of Achievement.

HONORING THOMAS J. SERRA ON  
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join in paying tribute to one of Connecticut's finest school administrators and community activists. People like Thomas Serra are what make our communities strong. From his important work educating the young people of Middletown for the past 30 years to his involvement in many other settings, he has dedicated his life to public service.

I often speak of our Nation's need for talented, creative, enthusiastic teachers who are ready to help our children learn and grow. Tom Serra is just that kind of educator. Throughout his career, he has touched the lives of thousands of children—ensuring that they had the skills and tools necessary to be successful in their adult lives. Tom began as an English instructor at Vinal Technical High School where he would later take on the role of athletic coordinator. Fourteen years ago, Tom moved into administration becoming the school's assistant director and for the last six years, he has been leading Vinal as the Director.

Public education is the cornerstone of the American dream, leveling the playing field and providing every child with the opportunity to make the most of his or her talents. It is talented professionals like Tom who truly shape the leaders of tomorrow. He is dedicated to the positive development of not only our children's intellect, but their character development as well. In speaking to Tom, his remarkable commitment and dedication to his students and Vinal is undeniable and I am sure his presence will be missed.

As a lifelong resident of Middletown, Tom is deeply involved in the life of his community. In serving one term as Mayor, actively participating on the Democratic Town Committee, the City Council, the Police Commission, as well as a myriad of other municipal committees and local service organizations, he has become one of Middletown's most respected and highly-regarded leaders. I am confident that even in his retirement he will remain a strong and vocal advocate for Middletown and its residents.

Today, as Tom celebrates his retirement, I would like to express my deepest thanks and appreciation for his tireless efforts on behalf of the City of Middletown. He is a leader who is second to none, and his talent and commitment have enriched our lives. It is with great pleasure that I join his wife, Maryann; his children, Jason and Christopher; as well as the many family, friends, and community members who have gathered this evening to wish Tom many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING ST. BARNABUS  
EPISCOPAL SCHOOL

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of St. Barnabas Episcopal School in Deland, Florida for the accomplishment of being chosen as a "National No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of Excellence." St. Barnabas has been an exceptional example of how the "No Child Left Behind" program ensures that every child learns, and that no child will ever be forgotten.

Since its conception in 1982, by the United States Secretary of Education under President Reagan, the Blue Ribbon School of Excellence has identified public and private schools throughout the country that exhibit extraordinary teaching and learning techniques. The Blue Ribbon award is given to a school in recognition of exemplary performance in the fields of both education and community service. This year, the United States Department of Education recognized 176 public and 47 private schools as Blue Ribbon Schools. St. Barnabas was the only Episcopal School to be recognized for this award this year. In order to be recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School, an intense, research-based list of criteria must be met. A Blue Ribbon School must excel in all areas of academic leadership, teaching, faculty and parent involvement, student achievement levels, as well as safety and discipline levels. With standardized test scores constantly in the top 10 percent of the nation, St. Barnabas qualified by submitting their application for the National Blue Ribbon.

Founded in 1971, St. Barnabas is also accredited by the Florida Council of Independent Schools. The school has an enrollment of 344 students ranging from Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade. What makes St. Barnabas excellent is the school's drive for excellence both in and out of the classroom by stressing the growth of the student's character as well as intellect. The school focuses on academic excellence, as well as sound moral values and high self esteem. As an Episcopal School, St. Barnabas also stresses a strong relationship with God and the community in order to build well-rounded students and citizens.

On a more personal note, my grandmother, Nora Walker, was a principal, so education runs in my family. I understand the difficulties of teaching and raising young children, especially in today's society. That is why I firmly believe in the President's "No Child Left Behind" plan for education and believe it is the best course of action for our nation's schools. I am very pleased to see St. Barnabas Episcopal School following the President's plan in becoming a "No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of Excellence."

Mr. Speaker, St. Barnabas should be an inspiration to us all and I am honored to recognize them today in front of the entire Congress as pillars of the community as well as leaders in the field of education.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call no. 570, Basic Pilot Extension Act of 2003, had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

A TRIBUTE TO DR WALDABA H.  
STEWART, JR., PH.D

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Dr. Waldaba H. Stewart, Jr. for his commitment to public service and active involvement in New York's civic affairs for more than 40 years.

While Dr. Waldaba H. Stewart, Jr. is a native of Panama, he has been a vital asset to the Brooklyn community for more than four decades. Starting with the Unity Democratic Club in 1960, he worked as an Election District Captain and Campaign Manager for the late Thomas R. Fortune, Executive Member. Dr. Stewart was a diligent member of the Unity Democratic Club advising and supporting in all political elections.

In 1968, he began his own political career as a successful candidate for State Senate, where he served for four years. From 1968–1969, he served as Statewide Chairman of the NAACP Political Action and Voter Registration Committee. He was also one of the founding members of the Board of Directors of the Commerce, Labor, and County of Kings Corporation that converted the Brooklyn Navy

Yard into an industrial park. Additionally, Dr. Stewart was a member of the New York State Governor Mario Cuomo's Advisory Committee on Black Affairs and a New York State delegate to President Jimmy Carter's White House Conference on Small Business.

Dr. Stewart has been very active in ensuring a strong future for Kings County Hospital. From 1984–1990, Dr. Stewart served as chairperson of the Community Advisory Board of Kings County Hospital and a member of the Medical Board. In 1984, he began a campaign for the rebuilding and modernization of Kings County Hospital, resulting in the current rebuilding program of more than \$100 million, which was completed in 2002. In the community, Dr. Stewart has also served as the Chairperson of the Program Development Committee of the Community Advisory Board from 1980–1984, and 1991–1998.

Currently, Dr. Stewart is the director of the Southern Diaspora Research and Development Center (SDRDC), which is a non-governmental organization. The executive members, officers and all of the members of Unity Democratic Club salute Dr. Waldaba Stewart for his enduring and strong support.

Mr. Speaker, in a short time, Dr. Waldaba H. Stewart, Jr. has been a dedicated public servant for more than 40 years, demonstrating a real commitment to the community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW STAFFORD  
FOR ACHIEVING THE AWARD OF  
GOLD MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Stafford, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers of Northern Missouri and in earning the most prestigious award, the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the 11 years Andrew has been involved with the Rangers, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Guide and Senior Patrol Guide. He also was involved in Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship and Fine Arts Youth Department.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Stafford for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Gold Medal of Achievement.

HONORING THE HONORABLE  
GUIDO CALABRESI AS HE IS  
HONORED WITH THE CHARLES A.  
RAPALLO AWARD

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, It is with great pride that I rise today to join the Columbian Lawyers Association in paying tribute to one of the New Haven community's most outstanding citizens, and my dear friend, the Honorable Guido Calabresi. In recognition of his contributions, Judge Calabresi will be honored with the thirty-eighth annual Charles A. Rapallo Award.

The first Italian-American appointed to the New York State Court of Appeals, Charles A. Rapallo has served as an example to many young law professionals. Each year, the Columbian Lawyers Association, a professional organization of Italian-American attorneys, honors an individual who has demonstrated a unique commitment to the field of law. Though he has been recognized with a myriad of honorary degrees, awards, and commendations—both in the United States and abroad—the Charles A. Rapallo Award is a true reflection of the many invaluable contributions Guido has made to the judiciary and the bench.

Born in Milan, Italy, Judge Calabresi has become one of New Haven's most respected scholars in the field of Law. Graduating from Yale University, Oxford University, and Yale Law School, where he was first in his class, his impressive career has spanned nearly half a century. From clerking for United States Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black, to serving as Dean and Sterling Professor at Yale Law School, to his judicial appointment to the United States Court of Appeals—his has been a career that will leave a legacy which is sure to inspire generations to come. He has lived the American Dream.

Throughout his life, Judge Calabresi has also demonstrated a unique commitment to his community. As a professor, he continues to touch the lives of hundreds. Though appointed to the United States Appeals Court nearly a decade ago, Judge Calabresi continues to serve as a member of the faculty of Yale Law School as Sterling Professor Emeritus and Professional Lecturer. Those he has trained will go on to teach others, for his is not just a legacy of books and articles but of ideas and inspiration.

I have known Judge Calabresi for many years and consider myself fortunate to call him my friend. It is with great pleasure that I stand today to join his wife, Anne, family, friends, and colleagues in extending my congratulations to Judge Guido Calabresi on this very special occasion. Friend, teacher, public servant—he has left an indelible mark on this community and we have been fortunate to benefit from his brilliance and unparalleled generosity.

HONORING LESLIE AND RITA  
GORENFLO, 2002 ANGELS IN  
ADOPTION

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Leslie and Rita Gorenflo, my 2002 Angels in Adoption.

Every year the Congressional Coalition on Adoption asks Members of Congress for an honoree(s) from their congressional district that has made a remarkable difference in the area of adoption. Last year the Children's Home Society of Florida informed me of a very special family in Palm Beach County, the Gorenflos.

Mr. Speaker, Leslie and Rita Gorenflo have blessed the lives of six children who they have adopted. All of the children in their home have special needs, most of them medical. Rita is a registered nurse, but no longer works outside the home because she practices her nursing skills with her children. Along with giving out medication, administering tube feedings and breathing treatments, Rita hands out much love and encouragement. Les works long and hard so that Rita can stay at home to care for the children and be their advocate.

Not only is Rita a wonderful advocate for her children, she is always the first to volunteer to speak publicly to share her story and encourage others to adopt. It is not unusual to see this family's picture in the newspaper, or on television, telling the world what an honor and privilege it is to be an adoptive parent. The smiles on the faces of the children tell how blessed they are to be members of this loving family.

Mr. Speaker, November is National Adoption Month, and as our nation honors both adoptive parents and children, we salute those who have made a loving family environment for so many children. I am honored to have this wonderful family as constituents in my congressional district and I am proud to recognize them as Angels in Adoption.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 569, rule to recommit the Conference Report on H.R. 2215, rollcall No. 571, Markey motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 6, rollcall No. 572, Woolsey Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1308, rollcall No. 5731, Brown (OH) Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 1, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

A TRIBUTE TO RAUL KING

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Raul King for his success in the realty business, which has earned him the Thomas R. Fortune Business Award.

Raul King was born on March 17, 1946 in the Dominican Republic. The son of Rosa and Pedro King, and the second of five children, Raul came from modest and humble beginnings. At an early age, Raul learned the value of hard work.

He worked as a boiler mechanic on a locomotive train that would cross the town of Sanchez where he lived. In the summer of 1963, at the age of 17, Raul enlisted into the navy, earning the rank of Officer Petty Class.

In 1970, Raul made his first trip to the United States, where he arrived in New York. Once in New York he worked as a mechanic and obtained his G.E.D. at Bushwick High School.

In 1981, Raul got involved in real estate investments and through perseverance and trial and error, he became a promising real estate salesperson. By 1990, Raul obtained his license in real estate and became a licensed Realty Broker.

For the past decade, Raul has shown a passion for the realty business and he has no plans to retire.

Raul and his wife Beebis King have been married for 23 years. They now have four children and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, from humble beginnings, Raul King has come to this country and has become a successful realtor through hard work and dedication. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

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RECOGNIZING JASON BREWER FOR  
ACHIEVING THE AWARD OF  
GOLD MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jason Brewer, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers of Northern Missouri and in earning the most prestigious award, the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Jason has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the eleven years Jason has been involved with the Rangers, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Guide and Senior Patrol Guide. He also was involved in Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jason Brewer for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Gold Medal of Achievement.

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HONORING THE CLIFFORD W.  
BEERS GUIDANCE CLINIC ON  
THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join with staff, cli-

ents, and the Greater New Haven community in celebrating the 90th Anniversary of the Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic of New Haven, Connecticut. This is a milestone for a special organization.

"A pen rather than a lance has been my weapon of offense and defense; for with its point I have felt sure that I should one day prick the civic conscience into a compassionate activity, and thus bring into a neglected field earnest men and women who should act as champions for those afflicted thousands least able to fight for themselves." This passage, taken from Clifford W. Beers' *A Mind That Found Itself*, has and continues to be the guiding principle of the clinic and its staff. Since its inception in 1913, the clinic has strived to address the critical needs of the mentally ill and has expanded its mission to assist children and families who face such crises as violence, teenage suicide, drug use, homelessness, physical and sexual abuse, and the impact of AIDS on children.

Clifford Whittingham Beers, one of the first mental health advocates in America, founded the clinic as a compassionate alternative to early psychiatric institutions where the mentally ill were treated. His own battle with mental illness inspired Beers to the belief that those suffering from "diseases of the mind" would have the best chance to become healthy and productive if they received treatment and understanding in their own communities. His work and unparalleled advocacy changed the face of American psychiatry.

Today, the clinic, working with local agencies and organizations, is able to provide a multitude of programs to those most in need. The partnerships they have established allow them to provide comprehensive services to their clients—making a real difference in the lives of thousands of children and families. Just recently, I had the opportunity to visit the Clifford Beers Clinic and was touched by the story of a man whose children received care at the clinic. The pure gratitude that this man expressed to the clinic and its staff for being there for him and his family is indescribable. In building upon the vision of Clifford Beers, the clinic has been able to provide one of life's most precious gifts—hope.

Through its gift of hope, the Clifford Beers Clinic has left an indelible mark on our community and the thousands of lives they have touched. For its many invaluable contributions to our community and for all of their work on behalf of our children and families, I am proud to stand today and extend my sincere congratulations to the Clifford W. Beers Guidance Clinic on their 90th Anniversary.

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IN HONOR OF BILL AND TRICIA  
MANNING—THE 2003 ANGELS OF  
ADOPTION

**HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bill and Tricia Manning, my 2003 Angels of Adoption.

Every year the Congressional Coalition on Adoption asks Members of Congress for an honoree(s) from their district who has made a remarkable difference in adoption. This year,

Place of Hope, located in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, made me aware of a very special family in Palm Beach County, the Mannings.

Bill and Tricia Manning have been members of Place of Hope for many years. Place of Hope is a family-style community that fosters children in group homes. The Mannings caught the vision and began helping even prior to the arrival of foster children into Place of Hope's unique campus and family cottages.

Tricia is employed at Place of Hope as a Relief Cottage Parent, providing consistent weekly relief care at the Brett Harris Weinstein Family Cottage for six foster girls. She also owns her own business, and is a certified MAPP trainer for foster and adoptive families. Although her husband Bill works full-time, he also recently completed a Masters Degree and volunteers countless hours, along with their two children, at Place of Hope supporting Tricia and the efforts of Place of Hope.

When the Mannings started working with Place of Hope, they had already adopted a boy from Romania. In addition, the Mannings were foster/adoptive parents in the state of Florida. They later adopted another boy through the public child welfare system.

Bill and Tricia are always there for children in need. They continue to provide foster care, currently for two more beautiful children in need. They have hearts for children and it shows through their dedication and commitment to them. Bill and Tricia make a great team and provide a wonderful balance for each other. Bill and Tricia Manning are very appreciated for all that they do each day for hurting children within our South Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, as we recognize the month of November as National Adoption Month, I am honored to have this wonderful family as constituents in my congressional district. It gives me great privilege to nominate them as Angels of Adoption.

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A TRIBUTE TO HARRY T.  
PINCHBACK

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Harry T. Pinchback for his long-time public service and commitment to the Brooklyn community.

A descendant of P.B.S. Pinchback, the first African American to become a state governor, Harry T. Pinchback was born and raised in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood of Brooklyn. In his late teens, he moved to the Brownsville section of Brooklyn. He and his wife Peggy have been married for 45 years, and they have a daughter Angela and a grandson named Paris.

"Pinch," as he is universally known throughout Brooklyn, graduated from Alexander Hamilton High School in Brooklyn and would later attend John Jay College of Criminal Justice for two years.

Before entering public service, Pinch first pursued a career as a professional singer and then as a professional baseball player, where he played left field for the St. Louis Cardinal minor league organization.

Back in Brooklyn, Pinch joined the New York City Police Department (NYPD) in 1967. He was the first supervisor of the summer youth program for the 75th Precinct in Brooklyn, which took children on recreational and educational field trips. He was also the first supervisor of the cadet program for the 75th Precinct, which was a training program for those who wanted to enter the police force. Pinch was also the first coordinator of the school crossing guard program for the 75th Precinct.

Additionally, he risked his life on the force in several dangerous situations, working on the narcotics unit in Brooklyn and on undercover assignments throughout New York City.

Pinch was also the first African-American selected to the NYPD softball team and one of the first African-Americans selected to the NYPD football team.

After retiring from the NYPD in 1988, he returned to public service, working as a Special Assistant for Congressman Ed Towns, where he still continues to serve.

Mr. Speaker, Harry T. Pinchback has had a long and distinguished career serving the people of Brooklyn, first as a police officer and then in the Office of Congressman Ed Towns. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

RECOGNIZING KARL CULLEN FOR  
ACHIEVING THE AWARD OF  
GOLD MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Karl Cullen, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers of Northern Missouri and in earning the most prestigious award, the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Karl has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the 10 years Karl has been involved with the Rangers, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Guide and Senior Patrol Guide. He also was involved in Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship and Fine Arts Department Youth at the National Level.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Karl Cullen for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Gold Medal of Achievement.

A TRIBUTE TO REV. RICHARD A.  
HATCHER

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Rev. Richard A. Hatcher for his exemplary and distinguished service to his congregation, which has earned him the Thomas R. Fortune Pastor of the Year Award.

Rev. Hatcher was born in Slab Fork, West Virginia to the late Letcher and Eva Hatcher. In 1959, he moved to New York City where he met Susie Clarke, who after an extensive courtship would later become his wife. Their union resulted in three children, Kecia, Nicole and Richard Hatcher, Jr.

While devoutly serving in Christian fellowship at the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Rev. Hatcher received the calling to God's ministry. After intensive studies at the Manhattan Bible Institute, he became a licensed minister. Shortly thereafter, Rev. Hatcher was ordained. He furthered his education, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree from the College of New Rochelle.

Rev. Hatcher pastored at Bethenia Baptist Church for 15 years. Through his leadership and with God's blessings, the church was able to acquire adjoining property which led to the expansion and renovation of the church, including the installation of new pews, purchasing a new piano, construction of new office space, and creating a learning room for the youth and a room solely designed for prayer. The renovation also included a complete face-lift of the main sanctuary. Weekly bible study and the "Hour of Power" prayer service were instituted to further serve as a spiritual base for Bethenia's members.

Although the loss of his beloved wife, Susie, was devastating, it did not weaken his faith or commitment to his calling. On July 9, 2000, Rev. Hatcher preached his initial sermon as Pastor-Elect of Bethesda Memorial Baptist Church. Although it has been only three years, Rev. Hatcher has proved to be a spiritual leader, teacher and motivator. His accomplishments are already numerous. They include getting the day care functioning again, installing a bathroom in the daycare, enlarging the pastor's office, opening a trustee room, and establishing a music room. Marble floors have been installed in the lobby and several of the church's windows have been replaced and upgraded. The Rev. Hatcher also started a Food for Survival and Food Bank Program as well as a soup kitchen, which feeds up to 150 people.

Mr. Speaker, Rev. Richard A. Hatcher has been an exemplary pastor to his congregation, serving as a spiritual leader and teacher for the community. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEL KINCHELO  
FOR ACHIEVING THE AWARD OF  
GOLD MEDAL OF ACHIEVEMENT

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Kincheloh, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Royal Rangers of Northern Missouri and in earning the most prestigious award, the Gold Medal of Achievement.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the eleven years Michael has been involved with

the Rangers, he has held numerous leadership positions, serving as Patrol Guide and Senior Patrol Guide. He also was involved in Frontiersmen Camping Fellowship.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Kincheloh for his accomplishments with the Royal Rangers and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Gold Medal of Achievement.

A TRIBUTE TO LENA  
SCARBOROUGH-GATES

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Lena Scarborough-Gates for her commitment to the education of our children.

Lena Scarborough-Gates was born in Brooklyn, New York. She attended Brooklyn College where she received her Bachelor's of Arts Degree and Master's of Arts Degree, both in Early Childhood Education. She was accepted into the Assistant Principal's Internship program, sponsored by the Department of Education where she was awarded four supervisory licenses, Principal, Assistant Principal, Education Administrator and Early Childhood Supervisor. She began work on her doctorate degree at New York University.

Lena started her teaching career at the Emanuel Day Care Kindergarten at Emanuel Baptist Church. She then moved on to become Group Teacher at the Faith Hope and Charity #1. After a few years at Faith Hope and Charity #1, she began her career at the New York City Department of Education, Community School 21 as a kindergarten teacher. At Community School 21, she also served as a first grade teacher, Community School Coordinator and staff developer.

She furthered her professional career by moving to Public School 5 as an Assistant Principal. Later, she would become Principal of Public School 5.

Lena is a member of the Antioch Baptist Church where she serves as the chairperson of the Board of Trustees and as a member of the Antioch Music Ministry. She is a member of the Antioch Community Service Corporation and founder of Caring Educators in Action. She is also a member of the Stuy Park Lion's Club International.

Lena is a member of the Ebony Ecumenical Ensemble, which has afforded her to travel throughout the country. The Ebony Ecumenical sings as one of its featured songs, a song written by Dr. James A. Forbes, senior minister of the Riverside Church called "Love My Children." Lena, who has a passion for children, says that this song is a tribute to children everywhere.

Lena is married to James Gates and that union has been blessed with twin sons, Jaime Derrell and Jarrarie Darryl.

Mr. Speaker, Lena Scarborough-Gates has dedicated her professional career to educating our children. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable individual.

REPUDIATING ANTI-SEMITIC SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, OUTGOING PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA

SPEECH OF

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2003*

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Res. 409—Repudiating the recent anti-Semitic sentiments expressed by Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, the outgoing prime minister of Malaysia, which makes peace in the Middle East and around the world more elusive, sponsored by my good friend Representative Roy Blunt.

Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad has repeatedly crossed the line voicing offensive and inappropriate criticism of Jews. Instead of speaking about fighting terrorism or furthering peaceful cooperation, he chooses to preach hate. Mahathir's verbal attacks on Jews lent credence and legitimacy to the hateful message of terrorists.

Today the Congress will do the right thing by condemning Mahathir's remarks and by making military aid to Malaysia conditional on religious freedom, including greater tolerance of Jews.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar this afternoon complained that the religious freedom vote was an example of the United States trying to "discipline the world in their own mold."

To the Malaysian Foreign Minister, I respond, you are absolutely correct. In America a person is not judged because of who they worship and they are not persecuted by the government for believing in the wrong God. For over 200 years America has been a beacon of hope and freedom for the rest of the world. We have stood the test of time; defending the rights of the individual to pursue happiness as they choose. America has an obligation to aid nations that further peace through tolerance and freedom, Malaysia needs to understand that.

Europe and The Organization of the Islamic Conference needs to issue a strong and real renunciation of Prime Minister Mahathir's remarks. The renunciation of these hateful comments would do more to create a safe and secure world than all the hate-filled rhetoric ever will.

TRIBUTE TO DICK AND DORIS ALAIMO

**HON. JIM SAXTON**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dick and Doris Alaimo, who have been chosen as this year's recipients of the Lloyd Ritter Community Service Award given by the Volunteer Center of Burlington County, NJ.

Dick and Doris are well-known throughout southern New Jersey for their outstanding history of community service and involvement in local organizations, and have been personal friends for many, many years, during which

time we have worked together on many projects for the benefit of our community.

The Alaimos work in tandem with Memorial Hospital of Burlington County's Foundation, the Burlington County Chapter of the Boy Scouts of America and the Rancocas Valley Education Foundation. They also serve on the committee for Mount Holly Pro Day, an event which brings illustrious sports figures such as Mount Holly native Franco Harris into the limelight in effort to raise funds for local children in need, a cornerstone of much of their work through the years.

Successful in careers, business, and in life, Dick and Doris Alaimo have generously shared their success, time, money, energy and most importantly, care and concern with the community, always striving to make our hometown a better place to live and work.

It is for these reasons they have been selected to receive this prestigious award, and for these reasons I pay tribute to them today. May their legacy of volunteerism continue through their children, grandchildren, and the community they so love.

A FAIR FIGHT IN THE PHILIPPINES

**HON. TOM FEENEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends to his colleagues the October 18, 2003, New York Times op-ed by Brett Decker titled "A Fair Fight in the Philippines." I particularly note that American aid to the Philippine military has wound up on the black market or in the hands of Islamic radicals. America can't pursue its War on Terrorism by practicing the old ways of doing business.

[From the New York Times, Oct. 18, 2003]

A FAIR FIGHT IN THE PHILIPPINES

(By Brett M. Decker)

President Bush is in Manila today to visit his ally in the war against terror, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo of the Philippines. Mr. Bush has already announced some \$340 million in aid to the Philippines this year, and President Arroyo has said she plans to request additional military assistance to fight terrorism. There's only one problem with this alliance:

American aid hasn't improved the Philippine military so far, and in many ways it has benefited the Islamic militants it seeks to combat.

In August, Gen. Narciso Abaya, chief of the Philippine armed forces, made an alarming statement about the condition of his military: "I admit there is graft and corruption at all levels." A significant share of the military budget is lost to graft. Selling military hardware on the black market is another common practice. Recent raids of bases of the separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front have turned up caches of arms with Philippine military markings.

Even American assistance is siphoned away. Testimony before the Philippine Congress in the past several months revealed that American M-16's provided to the Philippine armed forces have been recovered in camps belonging to Abu Sayyaf, a band of guerrillas and kidnapers. Assault rifles, grenade launchers and other American arms have been used by Muslim radicals against Philippine troops—the very troops United States funds are supposed to assist.

American aid to help fight Islamic radicals is often offset by bribes soldiers take from terrorists to let them get away. Operatives affiliated with Al Qaeda have escaped from maximum-security military prisons, once using a helicopter.

If Washington and Manila are serious about eliminating Abu Sayyaf, the United States Special Forces should be given the assignment. The terrorist group consists of about 100 poorly trained amateurs. They would be no match for American soldiers already in the Philippines, but they are still eluding Filipino troops.

The Philippine Constitution does not allow foreign troops to wage combat missions on Filipino soil. It does, however, allow the United States to come to the defense of the Philippines if the islands are attacked. Such an action can be justified in the present case because the terrorist groups get foreign money.

The mission could win support on Capitol Hill because the situation in the Philippines is precisely what the one in Iraq is not: there is a known enemy of limited ability and numbers on a few small, isolated islands with scant local support. There is minimal risk of escalation because the country is only about 5 percent Muslim. Perhaps more important, fellow Filipino Muslims do not support Abu Sayyaf. Separatist Moros view them as a for-profit gang of thugs rather than a religious movement to defend Islam. The provincial governor of the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao ordered his security force to cooperate in the hunt for Abu Sayyaf.

Unless the integrity of arms transfers to the Philippine military can be guaranteed, which is not likely, the United States should consider cutting off military aid to the Philippines and replacing it with economic support to help develop the poor Muslim islands in the south.

There has been some success in winning local "hearts and minds" already.

After building a few roads, bridges, sewers and wells last year, American soldiers were cheered by appreciative Muslims as the troops pulled out of Mindanao. More aid for infrastructure could go a long way to soothing centuries of resentment derived from being shut out of the national economy.

A reorientation of American aid would have the added benefit of helping bolster Philippine democracy. The military has instigated coups in every administration except one since 1965. Withholding support from the Philippine brass sends the message that Washington—the nation's most important ally—expects the military to keep its hands off the civilian institutions of government.

The White House should carefully assess what course will best help stabilize one of its most reliable allies in Asia. Despite the inevitable complications, the Philippines is worthy of American assistance.

IN HONOR OF THE SILICON VALLEY MANUFACTURING GROUP'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ZOE LOFGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, Representative ESHOO and Representative HONDA and I rise to honor the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group on its 25th anniversary, an organization that has effectively advocated on behalf of the residents and businesses of California's Silicon Valley.

The Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group was founded by David Packard, who during the summer of 1977, asked a number of his fellow Silicon Valley CEOs to join him in building an organization that would create a proactive voice for Silicon Valley businesses. The formation in 1978 of the Manufacturing Group was the result of those discussions. The 33 charter members believed that business should work with the community and government to find innovative solutions to the challenges that faced their employees, including energy, transportation, education, and housing.

Today, the Manufacturing Group represents a variety of Silicon Valley businesses from software and manufacturing companies, to health care and education organizations. The 190 member-companies of the Manufacturing Group represent over 200,000 employees in the Silicon Valley.

During the quarter century since it was first founded, the Manufacturing Group has had a tremendous impact on the quality of life in Silicon Valley. They've brought leaders together to discuss the critical issues of our time and create solutions to these challenges. They've been at the forefront of the creation of affordable housing, improving and increasing transportation options, and being key players in addressing California's energy concerns. Today, member-companies do their part by conserving through increased efficiency, and working with regulators and energy companies to find solutions to the State's energy problems.

The Manufacturing Group was a key force in the creation of the Housing Trust of Santa Clara County and played a major role in the Trust being able to raise over \$20 million in its first 2 years. This funding, raised during a time when corporate donations began to wane, is an extraordinary achievement, producing housing for first-time home buyers and stands as a model in our country. With the Manufacturing Group's leadership, the Housing Trust will return the investment ten-fold and assist families to realize their dream of homeownership.

The Manufacturing Group's track record on public transportation projects in the Valley has been extraordinary. Their first major initiative was in 1984 when they launched the effort to win the approval of improvements of Highways 85, 237 and 101. The project funded by the Measure A half-cent sales tax proposal was completed ahead of schedule and under budget, and most importantly it was accountable to the people who passed it. The Manufacturing Group went on to spearhead other critical transportation measures in 1992, 1996, 2000 and 2002, all of which were successful, even after the law required a two-thirds voter approval.

With the outstanding leadership of Carl Guardino, the Manufacturing Group's President and CEO, annual forums are held to predict economic and infrastructure trends and the examination of what inhibits producing and keeping jobs in Silicon Valley.

Mr. Speaker, we are exceedingly proud of the work and the achievements of the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group. The organization has been a catalyst for important change and because of its leadership, the quality of life and the vitality of businesses have been enhanced.

We ask our colleagues to join us in saluting the Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group on its

25th anniversary and the great achievements they have brought about, making Silicon Valley known and admired around the world and a source of pride to our entire nation.

#### HONORING JOHN CALVELLI

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure for me to announce that my former Administrative Assistant, John Calvelli, is turning 40. It is hard to believe that the lanky kid I met when 19 is now older than Jack Benny always claimed to be. I guess it makes me realize that I am that much older too, although I constantly remind John that he has more grey hair than me.

I won my first primary election for Congress on September 15, 1988, the day John turned 25. I told him that evening "John, we're going to Washington together" and indeed we did. During those first months in Washington, we would sometimes walk outside, gaze at the Capitol dome and say to each other, "Do you believe we're really here?" I think that at 25, John was the youngest AA on the hill, but he rapidly turned into one of the most effective and well-liked staffers in Washington. Everybody got to know John. Even as a young person, he had what we in New York call the best "gift of gab" I ever heard. He always had that little extra something. He served as my AA for more than 11 years, and our working relationship and friendship during that time could not have been better. In fact, I often refer to John as the kid brother I never had.

During the course of my Congressional terms, John and I would often develop strategy for legislation, committee assignments, and many other things essential to a successful congressional career. We traveled cross country and overseas many times. Our first trip was probably one of the most memorable. It came that first summer in 1989, when I visited the three "I's" of New York City politics, Israel, Italy and Ireland, as well as Egypt. We came back from that trip with a picture of the Pope, stories about Egyptian fruit, grape leaves and the "Kinjedom" down in Luxor. John's complete fluency in Italian made him a great person to travel with. In fact, whenever we met Italian-speaking tour groups, in the many different countries we visited, nobody would believe that John was from New York and not from Italy.

I want to tell John that now that he is 40, one of the age categories in my newsletter this year will read, age 40 to 56, and in honor of his birthday we will talk about "Quattro formaggi" in Italian, "Political Party" in English, and the 40-hour work week being sacrosanct. I know that John's family is as proud of him as I am. His wife Maria and son John Domenico, as well as his parents Rose and John, and brother and sister-in-law Louis and Angela all share in his happiness on this special day.

John continues to remain active with many Italian American organizations, including NIAF and FIERI, a group in which he was one of the founders. John and Maria were married ten years ago at Fordham University, John's alma mater. John is an attorney by trade but

since leaving my office he has been a Senior Vice President at the Wildlife Conservation Society also known as the Bronx Zoo. To this day in Washington I get many people asking me, how is John doing?

It is a pleasure to honor John as he turns 40, and whether his future lies in politics or elsewhere I am sure that the phrase "you ain't seen nothing yet" applies to my "kid brother" John Calvelli.

#### FULL FUNDING URGED FOR HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a tremendous turning point in our country's voting rights history. One year ago today, the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), which was overwhelmingly passed with bi-partisan support, became a federal law.

The 2000 elections proved to be frustrating for both candidates and voters alike. Sadly, it highlighted issues in our voting system that needed improvement. Thanks to the leadership of the bill's sponsor, my House Administration colleague, Chairman BOB NEY, and the support of former Ranking Member STENY HOYER, we now have the foundation for a much more efficient voting system.

During the past year, this foundation has indeed started to take shape. As a result of HAVA, a program has been established to pay states to replace their punch card and lever voting machines. Last month, my home state of Connecticut unveiled a pilot project with four different types of electronic voting machines that will be used in eight towns next week on Election Day. This is a remarkable advancement for Connecticut voters, who have been using lever voting machines almost exclusively for over 50 years.

What makes HAVA so notable is that it is not solely about financial support. It takes into account the entire voting experience before, during, and after citizens enter polling places. HAVA educates voters on voting procedures as well as on their rights; makes polling places more accessible to people with disabilities; creates statewide voter registration databases that can be more effectively managed and updated; improves ballot review procedures, allowing voters to ensure that the ballots they cast are accurate; and creates provisional balloting systems to guarantee that no eligible voter is ever turned away at the polls.

On Monday, the Senate Rules Committee held a hearing to confirm the four Election Assistance Commissioners nominated by President Bush, who are responsible for implementing HAVA. One of the four nominees, Garcia Hillman was recommended by Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI, and I wholeheartedly support the Leader's selection. Garcia Hillman, has effectively handled both domestic and international issues. Her areas of expertise include nonprofit management, public policy and program development, political services, the interests and rights of women and minorities; citizen participation in the development of public policy and community affairs; and elections related issues, including voting rights.

I believe we would be hard-pressed to find someone more dedicated than Ms. Hillman to strengthening the voices of all citizens, including those who are disabled. I hope that Ms. Hillman and the rest of the nominees are confirmed by the full Senate before they adjourn for the year.

I urge full funding of the Help American Vote Act to ensure that the 2004 elections do not repeat the trouble-plagued elections of 2000. The act of voting for our government representatives is a sacred right of all Americans. It is our duty, through HAVA, to inspire them to use that right. President Lyndon Johnson most succinctly stated this duty as he spoke to Congress on March 15, 1965, to explore them to pass the Voting Rights Act of 1965: "There is no duty which weighs more heavily on us than the duty we have to ensure that right (to vote)."

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARK GREEN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from Washington on Tuesday, October 28, 2003, for official business. As a result, I was not recorded for rollcall votes No. 569, No. 570, No. 571, No. 572 and No. 573. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 569, "aye" on No. 570 and no on rollcalls No. 571, No. 572 and No. 573.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, due to an illness yesterday I was unable to vote for the following rollcall votes and I have listed how I would have voted on them if I had been present.

Rollcall 569: "Yes;" rollcall 570: "yes;" rollcall 571: "no;" rollcall 572: "no;" and rollcall 573: "no."

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, due to my participation in an International Relations Committee delegation to Iraq, I was unable to vote on rollcall 569 to 573. Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

On rollcall vote 569, the rule to recommit the Conference Report on H.R. 2115—the FAA Reauthorization Act, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote 571, the Marked motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 6—the Energy conference report, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote 572, the Woolsey motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1308—the Tax Relief, Simplification and Equity Act, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote 573, the Brown motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 1, the Medicare Prescription Drug bill, I would have voted "yes."

On rollcall vote 570, H.R. 2359—the Basic Pilot Extension Act of 2003, I would have voted "no."

The Basic Pilot Program currently enables participating employers in various industries to verify if employees are legally authorized to work in the United States. H.R. 2359 goes much further than a simple extension of the program.

In fact, this bill would enable states and local governments to use the databases to obtain citizenship and immigration status information on anyone—citizen or immigrant—for any purpose within their purview. This would expand the pilot program far beyond the context of employment and close to a national ID program with no privacy protections or safeguards against abuse by individuals within state and local governments.

This bill would also expand the availability of the program from just 6 states to all 50, without first addressing the many privacy and inaccuracy concerns in the current program. For example, the immigration databases used to verify work authorization are inaccurate and outdated. In some cases, workers with authorization have been fired because of incorrect data in the system. Moreover, some employers have inappropriately used the database to pre-screen employees, without providing an opportunity for the prospective employee to challenge the accuracy of the data.

Additionally, the House Judiciary Committee did not hold any hearings or mark-ups on the changes contained in H.R. 2359 despite the fact that this bill makes significant changes to existing law. For these reasons, I would have voted "no" on H.R. 2359, the Basic Pilot Extension Act of 2003.

I ask for unanimous consent that this be inserted into the RECORD.

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25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONS ASSOCIATION CHARITIES OF FORT MEYERS, FLORIDA

**HON. PORTER J. GOSS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Nations Association Charities of Fort Myers, Florida. This grass roots organization has been successfully meeting the needs of the poor and destitute in Southwest Florida, and for that we are grateful.

I have personally supported and followed the development of the Nations Association since its founding in 1978 by the Reverend Doctor Israel Suarez, his wife Ruth, and a small group of dedicated citizens. Israel and Ruth have unselfishly committed their lives to this labor of love, reaching out to the less fortunate in our area. They have touched hundreds of people with their kindness and caring, and they have inspired countless others to become involved in ministering to the poor.

The Nations Association provides emergency food, hundreds of hot holiday meals at Thanksgiving and Christmas for the homeless, free furniture for families in crisis, job placement services, Survival English classes, free

immigration law services, and recreational activities for disadvantaged youth and many more services too numerous to name.

The Nations Association has touched the lives of over 11 thousand individuals with only a small paid staff and 144 volunteers who provide over 7000 hours of service annually to the community. In 1990 the Association was deservedly named the 276th Point of Light by President George H. W. Bush.

After 25 years, the Nations Association is going strong—its energies dedicated to making a real difference in the lives of hundreds of families and individuals everyday. I pay tribute today to the tremendous work of Israel and Ruth Suarez and the staff and volunteers of the Nations Association. Theirs is a shining example of the true American spirit of helping others.

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TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CAPTAIN RICHARD C. YEEND, JR.

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the service and sacrifice of Captain Richard C. Yeend, Jr. Capt. Yeend was serving as the co-pilot of an HH-3E, "Jolly Green Giant" helicopter sent to rescue a Marine pilot when the helicopter was shot down over Laos on June 9, 1968. Captain Yeend was listed as killed in action/body not recovered until his remains, along with the rest of the crew, were identified and returned home in September. He was buried September 28, 2003, thirty-five years after his helicopter was shot down.

Captain Yeend was raised in Mobile, Alabama, as the second of five children. He was a member of the Air Force ROTC at Auburn University and went on to flight school. After flying B-52s for several years, he volunteered for helicopter flight school as the Vietnam conflict escalated. Captain Yeend was deployed to Vietnam in February of 1968. His service to our country is evidenced by the awards he was awarded posthumously, including the Silver Star, the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with four oak leaf clusters, and the Purple Heart.

On October 11, 2003, on what would have been his 65th birthday, hundreds gathered at the Lower Alabama Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Battleship Memorial Park in Mobile to pay tribute to Captain Yeend, a man whose heroic efforts have not been forgotten. Retired Navy Rear Admiral Jeremiah Denton, who was a prisoner of war for over seven years during Vietnam, was the featured speaker. Admiral Denton praised Captain Yeend for his service and the Yeend family for its continued devotion to their country throughout their years of hardship, waiting while their loved one's remains were unaccounted for. He praised Captain Yeend along with all the Vietnam veterans in the audience for their service and assured everyone that their efforts were appreciated by all.

Captain Richard Yeend was a man whose honor and devotion to his family and his country were seen in his daily acts of courage and his willingness to take on heroic acts. A man of great character and respect, Captain Yeend

was a leader in all aspects of his life. His siblings looked to him for guidance and support. With his remains now returned home and at rest, may they have some peace and closure and know that he will be honored for his heroic actions. His sacrifice is a tribute to everyone that fought and those who continue to fight for the betterment of others and for the spirit of freedom which so many people throughout the world still yearn for.

I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Captain Yeend and in offering our condolences to his family for their loss and their struggle through the years as they awaited his final trip home.

RECOGNIZING MR. BILL G.  
HARTLEY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a truly great American, influential leader and dear friend—Mr. Bill Hartley, Chairman of the Board and President and CEO of Southside Bank. On October 23, 2003, Texas College, in Tyler, Texas, honored Mr. Hartley for his dedicated service as a member of their Board of Trustees, and as his friend and fellow member of the Board, I honor him with this tribute today.

Bill G. Hartley was born in Mount Pleasant, Texas and attended Mount Pleasant High School. He entered the Texas National Guard in 1948 and concluded his service in 1956 with the rank of Master Sergeant.

Mr. Hartley has enjoyed a long and distinguished career in the banking industry, working first at the Guaranty Bond State Bank in Mount Pleasant, then at the Texas Banking Department in Austin, Texas. He presently serves as Chairman of the Board and CEO of the company he founded in 1960—Southside Bancshares, Inc., Southside Bank in Tyler, Texas. As Southside's, CEO—Bill expressed his support of education—and those who sought knowledge—by approving and making student loans in huge numbers—while other institutions were reluctant to do so.

Mr. Hartley is married to Billie Boyd, formerly of Chandler, Texas, and they were blessed with two children, Jane Hartley Coker and Patrick Hartley. Their hearts were broken when Patrick died. He will always be loved and remembered. Bill is affiliated with Marvin United Methodist Church and is an active participant on the Church's Administrative Committee.

Among his many professional and civic responsibilities and memberships are his positions as State Membership Chairman for the American Bankers Association, Chairman of the Texas Bankers Insurance Services Company in Austin, Texas, and Claims and Underwriting Committee Member for Bancinsure in Oklahoma City. At the local level, he serves as Director and Past President of the Tyler, Texas Chamber of Commerce, a Trustee for the R.W. Fair Foundation, Director and Executive Committee Member for the University of Texas at Tyler, Development and Council Member at the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler, Trustee and Executive Committee Member for the Texas Chest Founda-

tion, and a Development Council Member for Tyler Junior College Foundation.

Additionally, Mr. Hartley gives his time as Director of the East Texas Medical Center Regional Health Facilities and the East Texas Medical Center Regional Healthcare System, Director and Past President of the Texas Rose Festival in Tyler, Texas, an Advisory Council Member for the Patent Service Center, Inc., Director of the Smith County Industrial Development Corporation, and as Director for the Tyler-Smith County Library Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Hartley is involved with numerous philanthropic deeds, but among these, his exemplary service as a trustee and member of the executive committee of the Texas College Board of Trustees is being recognized today. He has been instrumental in bringing major gifts to the College during a very critical fundraising period, and in 1996 alone, Mr. Hartley secured more than \$600,000 for Texas College's retirement debt. It is generous efforts like these that warranted his receipt of the T.B. Butler Award—Tyler's Most Outstanding Citizen award in 1992.

Sometimes when an individual is so noted, has such a high community, state, and national profile, is sought out for support from everyone who makes a precinct race—on up to our own fine President George W. Bush—their human traits are lost in the hustle and bustle of guiding a huge and successful financial empire, serving on Boards and Committees, traversing our nation for speeches, meetings, and organizations—sometimes we miss out on the human aspect of a great one among us. Bill Hartley has always taken the time, and still takes the time, to put family first. He is a kind and loving Father to Jane, her husband Michael, and his grandson Hartley. He spent unending days and hours with Patrick during his lifetime—giving of himself, with Billie—and remembers Patrick's lifetime by organizing and supporting a trust fund in Patrick's memory. You will never say "Bill Hartley did so and so"—you always say "Bill and Billie did so and so."

As we near the end of this Congressional year—let us adjourn in honor of and in appreciation of one who fits the overused term—he's a "giver" and not a "taker." God Bless Bill Hartley and those he holds dear.

HONORING DORTA SCOTT FOR HER  
CONTRIBUTION TO THE ARKANSAS  
STATE COIN

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an exceptional artist from Arkansas's Fourth Congressional District, Ms. Dortha Scott of Mount Ida. Out of more than 9,300 entries, Ms. Scott's outstanding sketch has been selected to be used by the U.S. Mint for the Arkansas Quarter. The U.S. Mint will produce the Quarter for 10 weeks, and between 650–750 million quarters will be put into circulation across the United States.

Our Quarter incorporates several elements that truly reflect Arkansas. This is a coin that helps everyone in our nation understand why Arkansas is so proudly called "The Natural State." The background of the Quarter rep-

resents the abundance of natural resources that our state encompasses. Elements of the Quarter, including a mallard duck soaring above the water with trees in the background, symbolizes Arkansas's reputation as one of the most popular states in the country for hunting and fishing, and as a state with a high-abundance of forest land. The rice on the left side of the Quarter signifies the important role rice and other agricultural crops play in Arkansas's economy, as agriculture has historically been a way of life for so many working families. Arkansas leads the country in rice production.

The centerpiece of the Quarter is a diamond, representing the Crater of Diamonds State Park near Murfreesboro. The Crater of Diamonds State Park is not only home to the largest diamond ever to be unearthed in the United States, but is also the eighth largest diamond deposit in the world, and the only diamond mine in the world where the public can search for diamonds. The Crater of Diamonds State Park is a leading source for Arkansas pride and tourism.

I am honored that the Arkansas Quarter is one that truly showcases the state and all it has to offer. I hope that everyone will take time to reflect upon Arkansas's treasures and history, and join us in celebrating our new state coin. I am so pleased to have the opportunity to properly recognize Ms. Dortha Scott before the United States Congress for her beautiful artwork that truly depicts our great state, which will be viewed by millions of Americans as they earn and spend the Arkansas Quarter.

HONORING ELECTRIC BOAT'S  
DISTINGUISHED SHIPBUILDERS

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize 67 men and women who work at Electric Boat, in Groton, Connecticut. These individuals have worked at Electric Boat for 40 or more years and due to their length of service have earned the title: Distinguished Shipbuilder.

Kenneth Guarneri, William Ferguson, Richard Morgan, Thomas Nunes, John Prokop, Alexander Fraser, Reed Davignon, Robert Rosso, Mary Sousa, Pauline Passarello, Patricia Rossi, Walter Greenhalgh, Ernest Carrier, Paul Losacano, Fred Vocatura, Richard Sobanski, Robert Ness, Ernest Messier, Jeffrey Pritchard, Jackson Morgan, John Burbine, Denzel Andrews, Stanley Menitz, Robert Collins, Carl Kvist, Ronald Drounin, William Vaiciulis, Vincent Nadolny, Paul Terry, Larry Yering, Stephen Wells, Keith Bradshaw, John Haberek, Ralph Lodyko, Ronald Leuchner, Gerald Gent, Brent Weimer, Ronald DeCarolis, Arnold Kortick, James Welch, Richard Sears, Anthony Falcone, Norman Laroche, Robert Boyle, Donald Noel, Edward Goode, William Bak, Joseph Woycik, Richard Supernant, Janis Pike, Brian Lumnah, Alfred Malchiodi, Ronald Meadows, Edward Haik, Manuel Arruda, Donald Bartlett, John Bashaw, James Brown Jr., Everett Church, Dominic Cirioni Jr., James Cunningham, Hedrick Facas, Richard Lambert, Robert Mayor, David Matthews, Robert Panciera, and Roy Rock.

When we think in terms of national defense these are not names that spring immediately to mind. But the work they have done and the things they have accomplished over the past four decades were essential to the United States winning the Cold War.

These are the men and women who helped design and construct the submarines that kept our Nation safe and free. Today they are designing and constructing a new generation of submarines that will help America win the war on terrorism.

These individuals have truly earned the title Distinguished Shipbuilder. Over the decades, Electric Boat has rightly won a reputation for constructing the best submarines in the world. For the men and women who design and build these incredibly complex ships, unsolvable problems have proven to be nothing more than tremendous opportunities to use their knowledge and skill.

Today Electric Boat continues to provide the United States Navy with the best ships ever to go to sea. They are an integral part of America's national security strategy. As the crews of our submarines protect America's freedom and security around the globe the men and women of Electric Boat can take great satisfaction in knowing that they are essential members of our national security team.

Those who expect to enjoy the blessings of freedom must engage in the hard work of defending it. In synchronization with the men and women in the Navy, the men and women at Electric Boat engage in that demanding work—and we in this chamber and everyone all across America benefit from their labor. When it comes to Electric Boat and the business of designing and constructing submarines, price is what you pay; value is what you get.

I am proud that Electric Boat is in my district—the Second District of Connecticut—and I am proud to share the names of these tireless and dedicated workers with you. They have provided the United States Navy with the most advanced, the most stealthy, the safest and the most lethal vessels ever to go to sea. I ask you to join me in recognizing their contributions to America.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL PAUL  
D. MONROE, JR.

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous pride that I rise today to honor Major General Paul D. Monroe, Jr., the Adjutant General of the California National Guard for his 46 years of military service. He is a credit to his country and the National Guard. General Monroe's leadership and vision have brought the Guard into the 21st century and made the 22,000 soldiers and airmen under his command better prepared than ever before.

Since September 11, General Monroe has mobilized nearly 10,000 soldiers and airmen to fight in the war on terrorism, both at home and abroad. He has deployed soldiers and airmen to serve in Operation Enduring Freedom as well as in missions to secure our borders, bridges and airports.

General Monroe has also helped the Guard reconnect with the communities in California. During his tenure, the Guard has partnered with numerous agencies and organizations to provide successful anti-drug programs and youth education initiatives. The General truly understands the need to give back to the community, and he, along with the extraordinary men and women who serve under him, have made invaluable contributions to cities and towns throughout California.

Recognizing the hard work and dedication of his soldiers and airmen, General Monroe had made "member care" a top priority, working tirelessly to provide high quality services for his troops. He has also established the California National Guard as an exemplary model for diversity and equal opportunity for guard members.

General Monroe began his military career as an enlisted soldier in the U.S. Army in 1957 and joined the California Army National Guard in 1961. He has served in Infantry, Signal, and Military Police Commands, and every level of command from platoon through brigade. He has been honored with over one dozen awards for his service with our Armed Forces.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a true American hero, Major General Paul D. Monroe, Jr. I extend my best wishes to the General, his wife Laura, their two children and their three grandchildren.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, regrettably, I was not present for rollcall vote Nos. 569–573 because of a previously scheduled commitment to serve as co-chair and co-host of the National Civil Rights Museum's annual Freedom Awards Banquet in my district in Memphis. The Freedom Awards Banquet was specifically scheduled to occur weeks after the target adjournment date.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote Nos. 569, 571, 572, 573 and "nay" on rollcall vote 570.

FIFTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF  
DETONATION OF THE WORLD'S  
FIRST THERMONUCLEAR DEVICE  
AT ENEWETAK ATOLL IN THE  
MARSHALL ISLANDS

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, this week we recognize the 51st anniversary of the detonation by our country of the world's first thermonuclear device at Enewetak Atoll in today's Republic of the Marshall Islands. And as we pause to remember that event, it is also an opportune time for us to recall both the contributions of the people of Enewetak and other atolls of the Marshalls to the security of our country and world, and the difficult legacy which that and subsequent tests have left to their residents and so many others.

This story was told so well last year in an article in the Honolulu Weekly by Honolulu journalist Bev Keever entitled "Fallout: Enewetak Atoll, 50 Years Ago This Week." Subsequently recognized by the Society of Professional Journalists (Hawaii Chapter) for this work, Ms. Keever reminds us about the human impact of "Mike," as the device was known, and counsels us to remember this legacy as we address crucial foreign policy challenges today and the future.

The text of Ms. Keever's article follows:

FALLOUT: ENEWETAK ATOLL, 50 YEARS AGO  
THIS WEEK

(By Bev Keever)

[From the Honolulu Weekly, Oct. 30, 2002]

National and media anniversaries of signal events like Sept. 11 help to form the collective memory that, over time and across generations, shapes what a society remembers—or what it forgets.

An anniversary that serves as a news peg for journalists re-ignites powerful emotional connections for those who lived through the event, communication scholar Jill Edy writes, and may be even more influential for those who did not live through the event because it "creates a world they never experienced." Even more important, Edy notes, anniversary journalism "impacts whether we remember our past at all."

An un-remembered part of the U.S. past occurred 50 years ago on Enewetak atoll in the Marshall Islands, some 3,000 miles west of Honolulu. On Nov. 1, 1952, at 7:15 a.m., the U.S. government detonated the world's first thermonuclear device, code-named "Mike," the most powerful man-made explosion in history up to that time. In layperson's terms, it was the prototype for the "hydrogen bomb."

Mike unleashed a yield of 10.4 megatons, an explosive force 693 times more powerful than the atomic bomb that had annihilated Hiroshima in 1945 and the fourth most powerful "shot" of the 1,054 acknowledged nuclear tests in U.S. history. Ushering in the thermonuclear era, the Mike shot raised to a new level the capacity for mass destruction that had been inaugurated by humans with atomic weapons only seven years earlier. Because of this new dimension in the power of nuclear weapons, President Eisenhower observed in 1956, "Humanity has now achieved, for the first time in its history, the power to end its history."

The Mike shot was controversial. Debate raged within the scientific community over detonating the so-called super bomb. One camp warned that the atmospheric chain-reaction from the thermonuclear explosion would immolate the entire planet, University of Hawaii's environmental coordinator John Harrison reports. Calling such fears farfetched, those in the second camp, led by influential physicist Edward Teller, prevailed. The public was not told in advance about the shot for fear that it would influence the presidential election held just three days before. Sixteen days after the Mike shot, U.S. officials announced a thermonuclear experiment, but provided no details.

Mike was a proto-bomb; in fact, it was more like a building, Harrison explains as he studies a sepia-toned photograph of the cylindrical Mike device, about 20 feet in height and 8 to 10 feet in diameter. Weighing 82 tons and standing vertically like the shiny innards of a giant thermos bottle, the cylinder dwarfs a scrawny, shirtless man sitting in a chair, elbows cocked on his knees and staring at the ground on Elugelab island, Enewetak atoll. The cylinder is attached to large tubes to keep its contents of hydrogen fuel, liquid deuteride, refrigerated below its

boiling point of minus 417.37 degrees Fahrenheit.

More than 11,000 civilians and servicemen worked on or near Enewetak to prepare for the blast. They left Enewetak by ship before the Mike device was remotely detonated from 30 miles away. The energy from the splitting of atoms with heavy nuclei like plutonium produced temperatures on the order of those at the core of the sun that were necessary to kick-start the fusion of the liquid deuteride with other lightweight hydrogen nuclei. This fusion produced even greater energy, so much that, as physicist Kosta Tsiapis writes, "An exploding nuclear weapon is a miniature, instantaneous sun."

The Mike test vaporized the island of Elugelab. Researcher Leona Marshall Libby wrote at the time that Mike's detonation created a fireball that swooshed outward and upward for three miles in diameter and turned millions of gallons of lagoon water to steam. It left behind a 1.2-mile-wide crater and a deeply fractured reef platform. Harrison notes that in the aftermath of a subsequent, adjacent thermonuclear test—the Koa shot in 1958—the weakened seaward wall of the reef next to the Mike crater cleaved away and plummeted into the ocean depths.

#### EPIPHANY OF A "NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST"

Harrison, who lived at Enewetak for five years beginning in 1978 while serving as a UH administrator and senior research scientist there, says the destructiveness of the Mike shot defies human comprehension. He recalls the scores of times he guided his outboard motorboat across segments of the choppy aquamarine waters of Enewetak's 388-acre lagoon encircled by the 42 coral islands so pristine and lovely "they are God's gift to the entire world." His boat would slice into the shallower turquoise waters that overlay the close-in reefs and "then all of a sudden into the deeper, more cloudy waters that delineated or that filled this enormous, enormous round circle that was the Mike crater."

Each time Harrison made that journey, he says, "it changed my life." He would struggle to understand the cataclysm of that instant that had transformed an island into a massive hole in the reef. "Then and now and to the day I die," he says, "I could not, I cannot and I will never wrap my mind around the significance of that."

"There is no way that the mind can grasp that amount of force," he elaborates. "We have nothing to compare it with." Even so, once in the middle of the Mike crater, he sensed that he had experienced "the ultimate epiphany of what a nuclear holocaust is all about."

A rare snapshot of the havoc caused by the Mike shot is provided by a survey made of Enewetak by a scientific research team from the University of Washington and written up in a report archived by Harrison. The greatest radioactivity in fish was found to be concentrated in the digestive tract, followed by the liver and muscle; in rats and some birds radioactivity was concentrated in bones. Even algae that had been scrubbed with a brush and detergent retained "specks" of fallout, the report says, indicating most of the "radioactivity is actually present within the alga." Lastly, spotlighting the significance of color in absorbing the heat of the fireball, the team notes, "Birds with dark-colored feathers were burned more severely than were the white fairy terns."

A 1978 study of 476 Enewetak rats by environmental scientists from Bowling Green State University, M. Temme and W. B. Jackson, noted possible genetic effects caused by radiation. They hypothesized that radiation effects may have caused deformations in an important inherited marker of some rats—

the ridge of the roof of the mouth. The scientists described these ridges as exemplifying "expressions of genes affecting development." Since 1978, Jackson told Honolulu Weekly, follow-up studies have supported the notion of possible radiation-induced genetic effects.

#### HIDING 8,580 HIROSHIMA-SIZE BOMBINGS IN 16 YEARS

Most of the atmospheric testing on the U.S. side was conducted in the Pacific, but the full extent of these tests has become clear only in the past decade with the lifting of official secrecy. Only in December 1993 did the U.S. release information about the yield of 44 of the 66 U.S. nuclear weapons tests in the Marshall Islands.

In 1994, the most recent and comprehensive list of all 1,054 U.S. nuclear weapons tests worldwide was made public, allowing scholars to calculate for the first time the full extent of the entire U.S. nuclear testing program that ceased in 1992. These documents show that nearly three-quarters of the yield of all 1,054 U.S. nuclear tests worldwide occurred during only 82 tests conducted in the U.S.-administered Pacific Islands or over Pacific waters during the 16 years of the U.S. Pacific nuclear testing between 1946 to 1962. This prolonged secrecy, even beyond the collapse of the Soviet Union, hid for decades the yield of Pacific tests, which amounted to at least 128,704 kilotons—a destructive force equal to detonations of 8,580 Hiroshima-size bombs.

The atolls of Bikini, Enewetak and Johnston, plus Pacific waters, served as sites for nuclear weapons experiments far too powerful and unpredictable to be conducted on the U.S. Mainland. The yield of what The New York Times described as the mightiest nuclear explosion within the continental United States, which was the explosion of the first hydrogen device in Nevada in 1962, was less than 1 percent of the magnitude of the most powerful Pacific test, later disclosed as the 15-megaton Bravo shot of 1954. In serving as sites for such immense infernos, these Pacific atolls and their people sacrificed enormously for U.S. superpower status. And, they contributed to the global restraint—and the retreat from overt nuclear hostilities during decades of the most dangerous political confrontation in history, the Cold War. Recent revelations regarding the Cuban missile crisis are chillingly reflective of that nuclear brink.

Ten months after the Mike detonation, in August 1953, U.S. officials detected the first Soviet hydrogen explosion and announced the event to the world. The Eisenhower administration then set up a deliberate policy to confuse the public about the escalating order of magnitude between atomic and thermonuclear weapons. Jonathan Weisgall writes in his pathbreaking book, *Operation Crossroads: The Atomic Tests at Bikini Atoll* (U.S. Naval Institute; 1994). "Keep them confused," Eisenhower told the Atomic Energy Commission. "Leave 'thermonuclear' out of press releases and speeches. Also 'fusion' and 'hydrogen.'" The agency complied. Only decades later, in 1979, did the public learn of this obfuscation.

Six months after the Soviet H-bomb, on March 1, 1954, U.S. bomb-makers caught up by unleashing from Bikini atoll the country's first deliverable hydrogen weapon, code-named Bravo. Its 15 megatonnage made it nearly one-and-a-half times the yield of the Mike shot. Bravo was the most powerful U.S. bomb ever detonated, equivalent to 1,000 Hiroshima-sized bombs, according to U.S. government documents released in 1994. Weisgall observes, "Hiroshima paled in comparison to Bravo, which represented as revolutionary an advance in explosive power over

the atomic bomb as the atomic bomb had over the conventional weapons of World War II."

#### NUCLEAR VICTIMIZATION OF "OUR OWN PEOPLE"

Bravo also introduced the word fallout to everyday language worldwide when snow-like radioactive particles dusted 236 residents of nearby Rongelap island, 28 U.S. servicemen and 23 crewmen on a Japanese fishing trawler. In fact, the thermonuclear era produced radioactive components and fallout that encircled the globe, settling silently from the heavens. Beginning particularly with the Mike shot, "the chemical signature of our bones changed," Harrison told Honolulu Weekly. The atmospheric weapons tests that proliferated in scale with the Mike shot dispersed radioactive forms of iodine, cesium, strontium and other elements. As a result, Harrison notes, all organisms, including humans, carry the watermark of the nuclear era woven into their tissues.

The Mike shot marked an acceleration of the man-made proliferation and escalation of weapons of mass destruction. The ensuing nuclear age transformed the planet and its inhabitants. As award-winning journalist Eileen Welsome writes in her book, *The Plutonium Files: America's Secret Medical Experiments in the Cold War* (Dial Press; 1999): "The radioactive debris found its way into starfish, shellfish and seaweed. It covered alfalfa fields in upstate New York, wheat fields in North Dakota, corn in Iowa. It seeped into the bodies of honeybees and birds, human fetuses and growing children. The atom had split the world into 'preatomic' and 'postatomic' species."

Moreover, the "postatomic" species must live with the effects of the nuclear age for generations and centuries to come. Environmental radioactivity derived from some nuclear weapons components like plutonium will persist for up to 500,000 years and may be hazardous to humans for at least half that time.

Fallout and other residual radioactivity from atmospheric nuclear testing conducted by all nations have caused or will cause through infinity an estimated 3 million cancer fatalities, researchers Arjun Makhijani and Stephen I. Schwartz wrote in the monumental study, *Atomic Audit* (Brookings Institution; 1998). That number of casualties is nearly five times the 617,389 U.S. servicemen killed in World War I and II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Gulf War combined.

In 1980, a congressional oversight committee report titled "The Forgotten Guinea Pigs" concluded, "The greatest irony of our atmospheric nuclear testing program is that the only victims of U.S. nuclear arms since World War II have been our own people." The House report included in its conclusion—but only in an obscure footnote—mention of Pacific Islanders, whose ancestral homelands had sustained the most U.S. nuclear firepower.

#### A 33-YEAR EXILE

U.S. Pacific nuclear testing that began in July 1946 required U.S. officials to evacuate 170 Bikinians and 142 Enewetakese, thus transforming them into so-called "nuclear nomads," which the Bikinians remain today.

The Enewetakese, when evacuated from their homeland in December 1947, were told by a senior official, Capt. John P.W. Vest, that they would be able to return to their atoll within three to five years. Instead, for the next 33 years they were exiled on the smaller, desolate Ujelang atoll, 150 miles to the southwest.

Other official U.S. commitments made then are contained in documents once classified as top secret that Honolulu attorney Davor Pevec now uses in representing the islanders. The Enewetakese "will be accorded

all rights which are the normal constitutional rights of the citizens under the Constitution, but will be dealt with as wards of the United States for whom this country has special responsibilities," according to a memorandum from the Atomic Energy Commission attached to President Truman's Directive of Nov. 25, 1947, to the Secretary of Defense.

The 142 Enewetakese (and their descendants) on Ujelang suffered greatly because of logistical problems, inclement weather, bureaucratic negligence and the island's desolation. Even the Department of Interior, in a letter dated Jan. 13, 1978, acknowledged that during their 33-year exile on Ujelang the Enewetakese "have suffered grave deprivations, including periods of near starvation."

An anthropologist who lived among them on Ujelang and spoke Marshallese, Laurence M. Carucci, wrote that the stories of this period told to him over and over by elders focused on famine and hunger, near starvation and death from illness, poor fishing conditions, epidemics of polio and measles and rat infestation.

One Enewetak woman in her 40s told Carucci in 1978 about these difficult days. She described the stomachs of children as being "stuck out like they were bloated and you would never think they were hungry," but in fact they were. Then, she continued: "They would get hot fevers, then cold chills; hot fevers, then cold and sweaty. And then, in just a moment, they would be gone. Dead, they would never move again. Their life was gone. And, in those days, the wailing across the village was constant."

Their hardship was so severe that in 1969 they commandeered a supply ship and demanded they be returned home. Their ancestral atoll was too contaminated with radioactivity for their return, but the U.S. government did begin an extensive cleanup and rehabilitation so that on Oct. 1, 1980, some islanders returned home.

Upon their return, they found a far different atoll, a far different Enewetak. The Mike shot and 42 other detonations had devastated Enewetak so severely that more than half of the land and pockets of the lagoon today remain contaminated by radiation. The islanders who do reside there cannot live off of much of their land and must rely on imported food.

#### MOONSCAPING ENEWETAK

The Mike shot was the eighth of 43 nuclear weapons tests at Enewetak that transformed a placid atoll into a moonscape. The Enewetak people, now numbering 1,500, are still pleading with the U.S. government for \$386 million in land and hardship damages and other compensation awarded to them by an official tribunal established by the U.S. and Marshallese governments. This panel ruled in April 2000 that after serving as Ground Zero for 43 weapons tests and receiving fallout from other shots, the Enewetak atoll: Was uninhabitable on 49 percent of its original land mass, or 949.8 acres of 1,919.49 acres; was habitable on only 43 percent of its land area, or 815.33 acres; was vaporized by 8 percent, or 154.36 acres.

The lingering effects of U.S. Pacific nuclear tests are visible today in the numerous kinds of cancers and other diseases and the degraded homelands that are determined by an official panel established by the U.S. and Marshallese governments to result from the U.S. experiments of decades ago. Compensation for these damages is paid for from a \$150 million trust fund that is now too depleted to pay fully current personal and property claims. Since 1946, researchers write in Atomic Audit, the U.S. government has paid at least \$759 million in nuclear-related compensation to the Marshallese. But medical,

cleanup and resettlement costs continue to mount, and Marshallese want more U.S. funding.

The Marshallese prospects for immediate help from U.S. officials in Washington seem dim, congressional sources in Washington, D.C., told the Weekly. Enewetak's \$386 million in land claims is not included in the budget Congress is considering for the fiscal year that began this Oct. 1. Nor are funds for a medical program that in 2001 ceased to address Marshallese health needs that have been urgent enough to warrant sending a six-person delegation to Washington last month to plead with congressional leaders and staff.

Provisions of the Compact of Free Association set to expire next year are being negotiated with the Bush administration, but any agreement must then be acted on by Congress, which is soon to adjourn. Arguing that U.S. assistance provided in past agreements is "manifestly inadequate," Marshallese officials in September 2000 petitioned Congress for increased U.S. medical and other assistance to meet the mounting costs of damages to persons and property presumed to be caused by U.S. nuclear testing. That petition is still being studied by the Bush administration, and no congressional measure on it is pending.

#### FROM CRATER TO CRYPT

Much of the plutonium-contaminated soil removed in the operation to clean up Enewetak was dumped into one of the atoll's smaller craters on Runit island. This crater was created May 5, 1958, during the 18-kiloton test shot code-named Cactus. The crater, 30 feet deep and 350 feet wide, was filled with about 111,000 cubic yards of radioactive soil and other materials and then entombed beneath a dome of 358 concrete panels, each 18 inches thick. Researchers in "Atomic Audit" report that the unprecedented job, completed in 1980, took three years and about \$239 million.

Soon afterward, a delegation from the National Academy of Sciences inspected the dome and John Harrison recalls, issued a report noting the inadequacies of the dome, specifically that the predicted longevity of the containment structure was at best 300 years. Yet, the plutonium-laced debris encased in the dome will remain radioactive for 500,000 years and hazardous to humans for at least half that time.

The Runit island entombment is of special interest because a nuclear-waste crypt is now being finished 800 miles from Honolulu to bury plutonium-laced materials under a cap of coral soil at Johnston Island, where four failed nuclear-tipped missile shots in 1962 showered the atoll and waters with radioactive debris.

From test site to dump site, the Runit island crypt eerily symbolizes the legacy of the thermonuclear age that has caused the Marshallese to suffer disproportionately in adverse health, environmental and cultural conditions.

The 50th anniversary of the Mike shot and its aftermath begs for reflection from a nation so riveted on a purported nuclear threat in the Middle East and North Korea that it ignores the era of mass destruction introduced by the United States on Enewetak with the world's first thermonuclear explosion.

## INTRODUCTION OF NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR HAITI ACT OF 2003

### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 29, 2003

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 3386, The New Partnership for Haiti Act of 2003, which will help Haitians overcome the many social, economic, and physical challenges currently facing the country.

Today in Haiti only 45% of Haitians have access to safe water and 28% have access to sanitation. Seventy-six percent of Haiti's children under the age of five are underweight, or suffer from stunted growth and 63% of Haitians are undernourished. Eighty percent of the population lives in abject poverty and the unemployment rate is estimated to be around 60%.

My longstanding interest in ending the AIDS pandemic has brought focus on Haiti, with 90% of all HIV/AIDS cases in the Caribbean. As we combat global HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, maternal and child mortality, and many other life threatening diseases, we must address the long-term effect of dilapidated physical and health infrastructure and abject poverty throughout the world, including in Haiti.

My bill, the New Partnership for Haiti Act of 2003 offers a comprehensive plan for future engagement between the U.S. and Haitian Government. This legislation partners Haitians and Americans together to execute an environmentally sound approach to rebuilding Haiti. Its major provisions are aimed at developing basic sanitation, water, and other health infrastructures in Haiti.

The New Partnership for Haiti Act would bring the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to train and educate Haitians on how to rebuild, pave, and maintain roads to provide access to rural and urban areas and to health clinics. It will commission environmental impact studies for these projects, focusing on long term, environmentally sound solutions—not short term remedies.

Haiti needs assistance in addressing its long-term health infrastructure development. The most basic of these needed development challenges is water. How can Haiti begin to combat its enormous health problems without basic clean and safe water?

Haiti's water quality is life-threatening. In a study released in May of 2003, Haiti ranked last in the world for water quality. The New Partnership for Haiti Act will provide funds and expertise through USAID to partner with Haiti on rebuilding of sanitation, water purification projects, and education for Haitians on how to maintain these systems themselves in the future. This bill will help Haitians build and maintain safer, quality sewage systems and safe water delivery for both urban and rural communities.

The New Partnership for Haiti Act will start a pilot program for American Health Professionals and also Engineers who are interested in going to Haiti and helping with the development process.

It is my hope that a transfer of knowledge from U.S. professionals in the fields of health and engineering to Haitians will ensure long term development and guarantee the success

of the programs similar to the success of the Global Fund and other international initiatives. By widening the knowledge base of non-governmental organizations and professionals in Haiti, the U.S. will take advantage of a unique opportunity and obligation towards Haiti's future.

We worked together to get the humanitarian loans, which had been held up by the Inter-American Development Bank officially released on May 9, 2003. It is my hope that we can continue to push for the full release of these loans and the potential for future humanitarian grants through the IDB. I also believe we must move forward on establishing a health infrastructure for efficient delivery of these health and social sector funds.

Today I submit this legislation, and thank all of my original cosponsors: Reps. DONNA CHRISTENSEN, ELIJAH CUMMINGS, BENNIE THOMPSON, AL WYNN, DONALD PAYNE, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD, ROBERT WEXLER, JOHN CONYERS, CORRINE BROWN, and MAJOR OWENS.

I look forward to the support of my colleagues and the Administration.

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## PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

### HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to share with you the attached letter, which I recently received from the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems in support of my and my colleagues' legislative efforts to enable Americans to access prescription drugs from Canada. I would like this letter included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF  
HOSPITALS AND HEALTH SYSTEMS,  
*Montpelier, VT, September 29, 2003*  
The Honorable BERNARD SANDERS,  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Rayburn Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN SANDERS: On behalf of the hospitals in Vermont, I am writing to extend our support for your efforts to allow for the re-importation of prescription drugs from Canada. As you well know, access to safe, affordable medication is an issue for many Americans. In our rural state, patients of all ages travel to Canada to purchase FDA-approved, less expensive medications. That option should be available to all patients seeking more affordable prescription drug coverage.

Our hospitals are committed to ensuring that our patients have access to affordable, quality healthcare. We applaud your efforts and the efforts of your colleagues on this very important issue.

Sincerely,

THOMAS HUEBNER,  
*Board Chair.*  
M. BETRICE GRAUSE,  
*President & CEO.*

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, on October 28, 2003, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote nos. 569–573.

Had I been present I would have voted as follows: On rollcall 569, "yea;" on rollcall 570, "yea;" on rollcall 571, "yea;" on rollcall 572, "nay;" and on rollcall 573, "nay."

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## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 29, 2003*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, October 21, 2003, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation.

I request that the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD reflect that had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows: rollcall no. 566: "no" (on H. Res. 407); rollcall no. 567: "yes" (on the Obey motion to instruct conferees); and rollcall no. 568: "yes" (on H.J. Res. 73).

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## EXTENDING AUTHORITY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF MEMORIAL TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

### HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2003*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise to thank my colleagues for their support of the "Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site Land Exchange Act," H.R. 1616 and the bill to extend the authority for the construction of a memorial to Martin Luther King, Jr., S. 470. These bills extend the authority for and make possible the construction of a national memorial commemorating the achievements of the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his commitment to the struggle of civil rights for all Americans.

Dr. King dedicated his life to the realization of full equal and civil rights for all Americans irrespective of race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientation. He stood on the front lines in the struggle against social injustice, discrimination, and inequality, often at great risk to himself. Despite numerous death threats, Dr. King never wavered in that commitment.

Madam Speaker, the Lewis and Sarbanes bills are a win-win situation for all parties involved. The National Park Service currently owns a vacant lot that does not have any significant historic value. The City of Atlanta would like to acquire this land for the sole purpose of encouraging commercial development within its city limits. In addition, the land on which the National Historic Site Visitor Center and Museum currently sits is land-locked and lacks adequate emergency access. Exchanging this land within the Martin Luther King, Junior, National Historic Site for property in

which the National Park Service could establish easy access to the Visitor Center and Museum would be mutually beneficial to both parties. This would simultaneously resolve the National Park Service's access issue and give the City of Atlanta much needed commercial space.

Madam Speaker, once again I am proud to support both bills the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site Land Exchange Act and the bill to extend the authority for construction of the MLK Memorial. I would like to give a special thanks to my colleagues Mr. LEWIS and Senator SARBANES for their leadership in sponsoring these important pieces of legislation and in helping to keep the dream alive.

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## HONORING BILL AND SUE GROSS

### HON. CHRISTOPHER COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Orange County Department of Education to thank two outstanding individuals, Bill and Sue Gross, whose unparalleled commitment to teachers in California is an inspiration in the field of education.

Each year more than fifty public, private, and community college teachers from Orange County, California, are recognized for their outstanding contributions and dedicated efforts in the field of education. The Orange County Department of Education, led by Superintendent William M. Habermehl, coordinates the annual selection and recognition of these teachers.

During the last dozen years, the Teachers of the Year program has had the additional support and generosity of two local residents, Bill and Sue Gross. In 1991, the Grosses established the Dr. James Hines Foundation in memory of a teacher who had positively influenced Sue Gross' life. In the ensuing 12 years, through the Foundation, the Grosses have given over \$1 million in cash awards to these exemplary teachers. This year, as an added surprise, Bill and Sue Gross invited all one hundred 2003 and 2004 Teachers of the Year nominees to be their guests on a 10-day cruise to Alaska.

Orange County residents Bill and Sue Gross are champions of teaching excellence, deserving of special commendation and recognition by the Congress of the United States of America. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Bill and Sue Gross for their years of commitment to California's educators.

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## 92ND NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION OF TAIWAN

### HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 92nd National Day celebration of Taiwan. The Republic of China on Taiwan is a flourishing democracy of 23 million citizens who, like us, cherish their constitutional guarantees of freedom and human rights.

Over the years, Taiwan has transformed itself from a one-party dictatorship to a vibrant

multipart democracy. Free and fair elections are held at all levels of government—elections in which nearly 70 percent of Taiwan's citizens participate. The Taiwanese enjoy many freedoms including the right of assembly, expression and association, freedom of religion and freedom of the press. Human rights are well-established and protected. Taiwan is committed to upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights, and the Declaration and Action Program of the 1993 Vienna Conference on Human Rights.

Taiwan has the world's 12th largest economy and is the United States 8th largest trading partner. Its GDP of \$386 billion is the 23rd largest in the world. However, perhaps more impressive is the fact that only 1 percent of its population live below the poverty line. Its thriving, market-based economy has enabled it to contribute generously to international aid efforts. In the first half of 2001, Taiwan provided nearly \$700,000 through its International Cooperation and Development Program. The Republic of China-Central American Economic Development Fund has also enabled it to solidify cooperative relationships with Central American nations and reflects Taiwan's growing interest in that area.

Last year, Secretary of State Colin Powell praised Taiwan, stating that it has become "a resilient economy, a vibrant democracy and a generous contributor to the international community." He called it a "success story" for Asia and the world—words with which I heartily agree.

It is particularly important at this time to recognize and to thank nations that have been our unswerving friends for many years. We must also acknowledge those democracies that have stood as our allies. I take great pleasure in congratulating Taiwan on its National Day celebration and look forward to a continuation of our mutually beneficial relationship.

HONORING THE LIFE AND TIMES  
OF SENATOR PAUL WELLSTONE

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak about a great man, a man who died before his time, the late Senator Paul Wellstone.

On October 25, 2002, the people of Minnesota, the Senate and our nation lost a beloved colleague and humanitarian. Paul Wellstone was a man of deep convictions who cared deeply for those around him. A champion of working families, the poor, the disenfranchised, the forgotten, the voiceless, and the disabled, Paul Wellstone was a liberal Democrat in the truest sense of the term during a time when liberalism was not politically fashionable.

Mr. Speaker, Senator Wellstone took stands on issues of principle. He voted against the Resolution authorizing the use of military force in Iraq and the 1996 Welfare Reform Act. He was the only Democrat to vote against the Democratic version of the estate tax repeal; opposed the Administration's national missile defense program and was against permanent normal trade relations with China. Paul

Wellstone was not ashamed of voting his conscience, even if this meant that he would often stand alone. For this, Senator Wellstone won the accolades of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, as the son of immigrant Russian Jews, Paul Wellstone believed in the promise of America. Prior to his entry into the United States Senate, this plain-spoken man was a devoted and beloved associate professor of political science at Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, where he taught for 21 years. And although diagnosed with a mild case of multiple sclerosis, Paul did not let it incapacitate him. He continued to fight for those issues dear to his heart: affordable universal health care, mental health parity, family leave, veterans affairs, and environmental protection.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly blessed to have known Paul Wellstone. On that fateful day 1 year ago on October 25, 2002, I lost a beloved friend and colleague and the world lost a fearless and selfless public servant and tireless advocate for justice. He has left a deep void in this institution and is truly missed. He is often remembered for a particular saying—that "people yearn for a 'politics of the center', not 'the center' so widely discussed by politicians and pundits in Washington, but, rather, a politics that speaks to the center of people's lives." On this 1-year anniversary of the death of this courageous and principled man I urge my colleagues to commit themselves to his legacy and fight for the things to which Paul Wellstone dedicated his life. I know I will.

A TRIBUTE TO CHIEF OF POLICE  
ELVIN G. MIALI ON THE OCCA-  
SION OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. CHRISTOPHER COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding official of the city of Fountain Valley, California. Chief of Police Elvin G. Miali has devoted almost four decades of his life in service to his community and to his country. Chief Miali has excelled in his many law enforcement assignments over the years beginning in the city of San Gabriel and culminating in the city of Fountain Valley.

The experience, commitment and professionalism which Chief Miali brings to the leadership of a major law enforcement organization is highly respected and commended by his peers throughout Orange County and the State of California. Setting high standards for himself and all his department personnel and staff, he is known for achieving exceptional results under the most demanding of situations. The trademark of his leadership is "first class, the first time, every time."

Chief Miali began his law enforcement career on February 27, 1967, with the city of San Gabriel, California, where he rose through the ranks and achieved the position of Captain. During this time his assignments included the Detective Bureau for 12 years, six of which dealt with robbery and homicide. In August 1986, he was selected Chief of Police for the Fountain Valley Police Department. His community contributions during 17 years as Chief of Police include active efforts to combat drug abuse, child abuse, and drinking and

driving, as well as promoting charitable efforts such as helping underprivileged children at Christmas. Before it had a name, Chief Miali introduced the Community-Oriented Policing philosophy.

A most distinguished police officer with an undergraduate degree in Police Science, a master's degree in Public Administration, and a graduate of the POST Command College and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Program, Chief Miali is known throughout Fountain Valley and Orange County as one of the city's principal ambassadors.

Chief Miali, together with his wife Charli and their two children, Elvin and Carla, are proud citizens of Fountain Valley, a city which can rightfully look to Chief Miali for making its motto "A Nice Place to Live" happen every day.

Mr. Speaker, as Chief Miali completes his 36 years of devoted public service in law enforcement, and sets his course for new and ever challenging community involvement, I am sure my colleagues will join me in saluting him and thanking him for the exemplary job "well done"—for Fountain Valley, for California, and for America.

SYRIA ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

**HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Syria Accountability and Lebanese Sovereignty Act. This important legislation takes a strong and decisive stand against international terrorism. It also demonstrates the firm resolve of the United States in opposing those who support terrorism or provide funding and safe harbor for its perpetrators.

Syria continues to be a major sponsor of international terrorist groups, and has been listed by the State Department as a sponsor of terrorism since the inception of the terrorist list in 1979. Numerous terrorist groups, including Hamas, Palestinian Islamic Jihad, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, and at least seven more, have headquarters in Damascus. In addition to offices, these groups maintain training camps and other facilities on Syrian territory. Hizballah, referred to as the "A-team of terrorism" by Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage, operates in areas of Lebanon occupied by Syria and receives supplies from Iran through Syria. In doing so, Syria is in clear violation of UN Security Council Resolution 1373 which directs all states to "refrain from providing any form of support" for terrorism. Furthermore, their attacks on Israel, launched with the acquiescence of the Syrian government, harm innocent civilians and risk leading to a wider regional war.

In addition to its harboring of international terrorism, Syria's 20,000 strong occupation force has continued to occupy Lebanese territory, denying Lebanon its independence and political sovereignty. This occupation has also prevented Lebanon from fulfilling its obligation under UN Security Council Resolutions 425 and 520 to deploy its troops to southern Lebanon. As a result, southern Lebanon is under the control of the terrorist group Hizballah,

which has positioned thousands of katyusha rockets opposite Israel's northern border.

During our recently concluded campaign in Iraq, Syria aided the regime of Saddam Hussein, allowing arms and military equipment to be transported across the border into Iraq. When Baghdad fell, a number of high-ranking Iraqi officials from the defeated regime were sighted transiting through Syria and it is continuing to permit "volunteers" and others to enter Iraq for the purpose of attacking and killing Americans.

These actions are not those of an ally nor are they the work of a nation friendly to the United States. As we work toward a more stable and peaceful Middle East, we must be clear that nations that support terrorism will be held accountable. This legislation is clear in its intent and accomplishes just that.

I urge its full support and its immediate passage.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. STEPHEN  
TWITTY

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lt. Col. Stephen Twitty, who led the only infantry battalion—1,000 soldiers strong—in the initial attack on Baghdad, Iraq, this past April. His 15th Infantry Regiment of the 3rd Battalion was fearless in the face of the heaviest fighting of the campaign and successfully completed their mission.

Lt. Col. Twitty witnessed casualties among his troops, and continued to lead his soldiers through the perils of suicide bombers, snipers, rocket-propelled grenades and a variety of other dangerous assaults. Later he had to keep his troops focused on their mission after the death of NBC reporter David Bloom, who was embedded with his regiment. He faced many potentially fatal situations by being on the frontline of American servicemen. As a result of his gallantry, he received the U.S. Army's third highest medal, the Silver Star, and is most likely on his way to becoming a colonel.

Lt. Col. Twitty is a native of Chesnee, SC, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from South Carolina State University in Orangeburg, my alma mater, where he will serve as a grand marshal of this year's Homecoming Parade. He is in good company among the military ranks of SCSU graduates. The University currently has four alumni who are generals on active duty, one of whom was just named Commanding Officer of Fort Jackson.

Lt. Col. Twitty later received a master's in public administration from Central Michigan University. He has been stationed in both Belgium and Germany but now resides in Fort Stewart, GA.

This tour of duty isn't Lt. Col. Twitty's first time in combat. He is a veteran of Operation Desert Storm, in which he was a member of the first infantry division to cross the Kuwait-Iraq border into enemy territory. He has also received decorations like the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star for his service to his nation in the most trying of situations. His interests in the military date back to his experiences in

South Carolina State's Reserve Officer Training Corps. He now has aspirations to attend the Army War College next year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in commending Lt. Col. Stephen Twitty for his extraordinary dedication and his exemplary military service. He is an inspiration to the soldiers he commands and the next generation of soldiers to follow.

NATIONAL BREAST CANCER  
AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, this year an estimated 40,000 mothers, sisters, daughters, friends and loved ones will die of breast cancer, and more than 210,000 new cases will be diagnosed. Throughout the month we have remembered those that have fallen victim to this disease, celebrated those who have survived it, raised awareness about the progress we've made, and called on scientists to aggressively continue the search for a cure.

Today, Democrats and Republicans, men and women alike are on the House floor to say—while we have made progress, further gains require a sustained commitment to expanding the national investment in cancer research, prevention, treatment, and outreach programs.

It is hard to believe, but when I was first appointed to the Appropriations Committee in 1991, the Federal government was spending just \$133 million on breast cancer each year. That investment has increased dramatically—to more than \$1.3 billion—between spending at the National Institutes of Health and Department of Defense.

This is remarkable, but all of the research in the world won't make a difference unless it is put into practice. That is why we must continue to invest in the Centers for Disease Control's Breast and Cervical Cancer screening program and better mammogram training and oversight to improve radiologists' ability to interpret mammograms.

We must also ramp-up efforts to find new and superior ways to detect breast cancer and study the relationship between breast cancer and the environment.

Mr. Speaker, I believe, while the government cannot cure cancer, it can put the resources in the hands of scientists who will. Together—along with advocates, survivors, scientists, and doctors—we can go the distance and stop this disease.

TITLE II—COMPACTS OF FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

SPEECH OF

**HON. DIANE E. WATSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2003*

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, President Clinton gave me the privilege to represent the

American people as Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia. I have a deep respect for the Island nations, and I am pleased that we have passed the new compact legislation out of the House.

Although most of the contentious issues in the compact have been addressed, the funding allocated for education concerns me. The RMI and FSM children have only just begun to benefit from the establishment of an integrated education system. I am very pleased to know that authorization for educational programs is included in the bill.

In my former profession of teaching I have witnessed the impact of early structured education. Young students are much better equipped to enter the educational system when they are exposed to education at an early age. The educational appropriations that Chairman REGULA has offered to support is critical to keep effective programs in place.

I also strongly support those provisions in this compact that provide for continued Pell grant eligibility for the FAS. It will bolster the ability of the FAS to cultivate education. The elimination of Pell grant assistance would have decimated the college system in the FAS altogether. A large portion of the operating funds for the College of Micronesia are obtained through Pell grants.

One other important area that I would like to point out is the reinstatement of FEMA assistance. It has been placed back into the Compact for infrastructure purposes and major catastrophes. USAID is not equipped to deal with all of the problems that arise on small islands nor do they have the ready response to help in a timely fashion. As we move forward with our unique relationship with the FAS I hope the U.S. Congress will be supportive and receptive to the needs of our friends.

In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to understand the importance of the FAS. I support this bill and look to endorse the final product as the other body considers the Compact.

HONORING GEORGE S. POFOK

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of George S. Pofok, upon the occasion of his retirement from Cleveland Public Power (CPP).

George Pofok has spent the last 30 years in service to the city of Cleveland. Mr. Pofok started his career as an electrical engineer, and rose to become company's commissioner.

During Mr. Pofok's tenure as the commissioner, from 1985–1995, he was able to initiate one of the most productive periods of growth for Cleveland's power. He helped build the customer base from 50,000 to 80,000, as well as increasing the company's revenue to \$130 million per year. These strategies have left a legacy of high growth for the company, and low costs to customers. Since 1985, customers of Cleveland Public Power have saved more than \$320 million.

Mr. Pofok leaves a great legacy, none more important than the continuation of the tradition and strengthening the exercise of public power in the city of Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of George S. Pofok

for his dedication to Cleveland Public Power, and the welfare of the city of Cleveland.

HONORING CHIEF EDWARD J.  
CHAVEZ

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Edward J. Chavez who is retiring as the Chief of Police for the city of Stockton, California. It is truly an honor to recognize all of his achievements as a dedicated law enforcement officer in our community. He has served the people of my district with integrity and he will truly be missed.

Chief Chavez has shown his dedication to serving our community and our country in countless ways. As a member of the U.S. Air Force from 1962–1970, Mr. Chavez demonstrated this very commitment.

Through hard work and a commitment to furthering his education, Mr. Chavez earned a Bachelor of Arts from California State Univer-

sity, Sacramento, a Master of Science from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and graduated from the prestigious Federal Bureau of Investigation Academy.

In 1973, Chief Chavez became a police officer and his prestigious career began. As a leader in the Department, Edward Chavez rose through the ranks to become a Captain and Deputy Chief of Police in 1990, and finally to become the Stockton Police Department's Chief of Police in 1993. As a role model to law enforcement officials, Chief Chavez has served the city of Stockton with the utmost respect and honor for residents and coworkers alike.

Not only has Chief Chavez been a leader to the Stockton Police Department, but has served his community by being a member of over twenty civic and professional organizations. He has been affiliated with the Board of Trustees for Humphreys College School of Law, Stockton Rotary, Hispanics for Political Action, Greater Stockton Chamber of Commerce, International Association of Chiefs of Police, California Peace Officers Association, and on the selection committee for the Stocktonian of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, the city of Stockton has been greatly strengthened by the effort and dedicated service of Chief Chavez. I ask my colleagues to help honor Chief Edward J. Chavez today for his service to this great Nation. It is a privilege to represent him, and to call him my friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 30, 2003*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, on October 17, 2003, I submitted a personal explanation for rollcall votes No. 553–No. 561. In that personal explanation, I inadvertently listed incorrectly how I would have voted on rollcall No. 558, rollcall No. 560 and rollcall No. 561. I respectfully request that the RECORD now reflect how I would have voted on the following rollcall votes:

Rollcall No. 558—“yes”; rollcall No. 560—“no”; and rollcall No. 561—“yes.”