

years. The 341 year old residence was originally built by Abraham Riker, who was awarded at least 120 acres by Peter Stuyvesant in the area then known as Bowery Bay. Later, it was expanded by Abraham Lent, a grandson of Abraham Riker. The home has remained largely untouched by the growing metropolis around it because the cemetery in the property is protected by law.

A new chapter for the Riker Estate began in 1960 when Michael Smith, a frequent visitor to the house, noticed its quaintness, but also the necessity of restoring the site. The house was declared a landmark in 1966, the same year Michael moved in. He was able to purchase the property in 1975, though his restoration work was far from finished. In 1979, Michael and Marion shared their second date at the house and continue to share their love with each other and the Riker Estate to this day.

Mr. Speaker, the Smiths continue to devote themselves to projects on the property over the years, including building a gazebo behind the house to commemorate their wedding where they renewed their vows in 1993. The couple looks forward to living and taking care of each other, as well as the historical house they share together for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in recognizing this special couple and the outstanding job they have done bringing back to life a home and a special part of New York City's past that will continue to thrive for years to come.

THE JANE VORHEES-ZIMMERLI MUSEUM GALA HONORING PHILLIP DENNIS CATE'S SILVER ANNIVERSARY AS DIRECTOR OF THE MUSEUM

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 1995*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on the afternoon of Saturday, April 29, 1995, a gala in New Brunswick, NJ, will celebrate Phillip Dennis Cate's 25 years as director of the Jane Vorhees-Zimmerli Museum.

Mr. Speaker, Phillip Dennis Cate deserves to be recognized for outstanding work in the field of museum studies. Mr. Cate attended Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, graduating in 1967 as an art history major and as a Henry Rutgers scholar. Using his experience as director of the art gallery at Rutgers, Phillip Dennis Cate has been able to create one of the foremost collections of art within the State of New Jersey.

Under direction of Mr. Cate, the Jane Vorhees-Zimmerli Museum has been transformed from a well-kept local secret into a renowned museum that hosts a multitude of eclectic exhibits. Some of these exhibitions include French 19th century graphics, American and European art, children's literature, and the most recent addition of the Norton and Nancy Dodge collection of nonconformist art from the Soviet Union.

Phillip Dennis Cate seized on the opportunity to make the Jane Vorhees-Zimmerli Mu-

seum a prominent resource center for the art world. Without Mr. Cate's ambition and training, the Zimmerli would probably not have reached such a level of respect and admiration.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor for me to pay tribute to Mr. Phillip Dennis Cate, to look back on his accomplishments of the past 25 years and to look forward to the great work yet to come.

EAST HARTFORD HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR AND BAND

**HON. BARBARA B. KENNELLY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 1995*

Mrs. KENNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding group of students from my district, the East Hartford High School Choir and Band. They have been selected to represent the State of Connecticut in the 50th anniversary commemoration of World War II to be held in Washington at the end of April.

Inspired by the leadership of choir director, Mr. Leo Sayles and band director, Mrs. Kathy Neri, these students have earned a statewide reputation for excellence. Soon the entire Nation will recognize them as one of the premier high school musical groups in the country.

As we commemorate the end of World War II, I am especially pleased that so many young people will participate in the Washington event. History has many lessons to teach us—it is important for the leaders of tomorrow to learn from the heroes of yesterday. East Hartford High's participation is important not only because it will add to the ceremony, but because it will leave a lasting impression on these students, their teachers, parents, and friends.

I salute the East Hartford High School Choir and Band. They will be excellent ambassadors for the State of Connecticut.

TRIBUTE TO BOB SLADE

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 1995*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and an exemplary man, Bob Slade, who is retiring, after serving 18 years as a teacher in the Escanaba area public schools and 16 years as a representative for the Michigan Education Association in the central Upper Peninsula.

Bob Slade received a bachelor's degree from Northern Michigan University, a master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and did postgraduate work in labor law at the University of Michigan.

Bob Slade taught physics, physical science, math, and driver education at Escanaba area high school. During Bob's career as a teacher, he was twice awarded the Outstanding Teacher Award.

Always placing the needs of others before his own, Bob was rewarded for his dedicated

and professional service by being recognized by the Escanaba City Council for assisting at the scene of an auto accident in which a youngster was seriously injured.

Bob was also honored by Mead Paper Corp. for serving on the original citizens committee which instituted the MEAD science essay contest for high school students in the areas of biology, chemistry, math, and physics.

He is strong when strength is needed, and possesses a sense of humor when things are too serious. Always dignified, he helps others before himself. He will be remembered by his friends and family for his good sense of humor and his interest in politics.

Mr. Speaker, it is not only my hope, but all Escanaba's, that Bob will continue to enjoy the fruits of his labor starting with his retirement party, April 8, 1995. A man of great character, his achievements and contributions remain unparalleled. We can never adequately express our gratitude for his tireless service. I would like to express my deep pride and admiration in having such a fine citizen in my district. A citizen that my wife and I can call our friend and our teacher. Congratulations Bob, and best wishes.

CONTRACT WITH AMERICA TAX RELIEF ACT OF 1995

SPEECH OF

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 5, 1995*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1215) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strengthen the American family and create jobs:

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Chairman, I urge defeat of this rule. Republicans have boasted that they have reformed the process. It is anti-reform to bypass a committee of jurisdiction. It is worse than that when you do so in order to take people's retirement in order to fund a tax cut.

The American public regards its retirement as sacred, and this House has treated Social Security as sacred. Well, this is these folks' Social Security. You have used the contract time and time again as a metaphor. This is the Federal workers' contract. You asked them and forced them to choose between two systems in 1986. They chose. It is irrevocable for them, but you want to change the rules for yourselves in a tax cut. That is wrong.

It is a tax cut nobody wants except Republicans in this body. How many times, how many ways do Americans have to say it? Deficit reduction, deficit reduction. It is bad enough to give a tax break to the rich; it is shameful to do it by taking money from the retirements of middle-income workers.