

We in this Congress have taken great strides towards balancing the Federal budget, restraining an intrusive government, and limiting military interventionism. These are noble goals. Though yet to be fully attained, they are within the reach of this Congress and will benefit men and women alike.

The continuing struggle to balance the budget through the judicious restraint of Federal spending is fraught with implications for women's rights. Successfully balancing the budget will provide the following benefits for women and all Americans:

It is going to create 6.1 million new job opportunities in the early part of the 21st century. The best way to promote opportunities for women is to create an economy which can accommodate all those who wish to work.

A balanced budget would also bring a 2 percent decline in interest rates. Women would have easier access to home, business, and education loans, thereby increasing their economic and educational opportunities.

A balanced budget would definitely mean that we would have a future free of debt. We as mothers would bequeath to our children a future of greater opportunity and a government of increased virtue and vitality.

We in this Congress have labored mightily to scale back the size and scope of an overly intrusive government. With the restraint of government comes an increase in liberty and enterprise. Excessive regulation is the bane of the individual entrepreneur.

The Republican Party has vigorously championed the elimination of needless bureaucratic obstacles for private enterprise. In an increasingly competitive job market women can only benefit from an environment which encourages the creation of small business. Government must step out of the way of the women entrepreneur.

By opposing the overtly and overly interventionist policies of the Clinton Administration, we of this Congress have done our best to keep our troops home and their families together. The deployment of United States soldiers to Bosnia serves no American interest and needlessly puts the lives of our young men and women, in jeopardy. The women who have been sent to Bosnia have had to leave their families, their husbands, their children behind. The women whose husbands have been deployed are left with added financial and parenting responsibilities. Restraining foreign intervention is good for women and good for our country.

Mr. Speaker, as we take time to reflect upon the contributions of women throughout history, let us not diminish their legacy by concentrating narrowly upon the ideological agenda of a few. Those great women who came before us struggled for equality of opportunity, not the equality of result. They struggled for increased liberty, not the security bestowed by government.

We in the Republican Party are the rightful inheritors of this noble legacy.

Our efforts to promote individual liberty mirror those wonderful women's struggles for freedom of opportunity. Let us act worthy of them by continuing to fight for a much brighter future, one in which the strength and dignity of women are allowed to flourish in an atmosphere of liberty and abundance.

HONORING OFELIA LOZANO AS WOMAN OF THE YEAR FOR CALIFORNIA'S 34TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. TORRES] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] and the gentleman from California [Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD] for calling this special order tonight to honor women and the contribution of women to the Nation of America.

Mr. Speaker, today I have the distinct privilege and honor of naming longtime Pico Rivera resident and community activist Ofelia Lozano as the 34th Congressional District's Woman of the Year.

Since moving to Pico Rivera 39 years ago, Ofelia has unselfishly given of her time and energy to a myriad of causes which have made our city a better place to live and the future a better place to grow up.

She has been a member of the Pio Pico Women's Club for the past 25 years, serving as its president and vice president.

She has also been active with the Pico Rivera Christmas Basket Committee, an exemplary organization committed to distributing food to the needy, to seniors and to a number of youth athletic teams.

But perhaps her most noted contribution has been her untiring efforts on behalf of North Park Middle School and its nationally recognized and award-winning marching band. In the band's early years, it was Ofelia Lozano who raised much needed funds to permit the band to compete, and now that the band has been selected to play in next year's Rose Bowl game and the Rose Bowl parade, it is Ofelia Lozano who again has committed countless hours to helping the band meet its goal of raising the \$10,000 that it needs to play in that parade.

Mr. Speaker, Ofelia Lozano is not only worthy of this recognition but most importantly deserving of it. She is a true friend and an ardent supporter of the youth of Pico Rivera. She indeed exemplifies the modern woman, the activist, the mother, who is out there struggling on behalf of all the duties that she has, yet she has time to give to her community, to her city, to the children of our city and to this Nation. Indeed, I congratulate her.

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. LOWEY].

HONORING AMY PAULIN AS WOMAN OF THE YEAR FOR NEW YORK'S 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues the gentlewoman from California [Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD] and the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Ms. DELAURO] for organizing this tribute to women from around the country who have made extraordinary contributions to their communities.

I am here to honor an outstanding constituent, Amy Paulin of Scarsdale, NY. Amy, like myself, the mother of three children, has dedicated herself to the women and families of Westchester County. In fact, Amy was selected the 1995 Woman of the Year by a coalition of women in my district.

The list of Amy's community activities fills pages and in each role she has epitomized the concept of citizenship.

Amy was president of the League of Women Voters for 3 years. While Amy was president, the league registered 2,000 voters, and issued nonpartisan Voters Guides to 85 percent of the voters in Westchester County. In addition, the league sponsored debates for political candidates and was actively involved in shaping local legislation.

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One of the highlights of Amy's presidency was her success at urging the creation of the Westchester County Board of Legislators Task Force on Families. When Amy realized that no board committees addressed women and children's issues, she brought it to the attention of the chair of the county board. Then, Amy led a successful lobbying effort that convinced the board that such a task force was indeed necessary. Amy is currently the only citizen-member of the task force, which just released a very important report on Westchester County's response to child abuse.

In addition to Amy's superb work with the league, she sits on the board of: The Westchester Children's Association, the Westchester Women's Agenda, the YWCA of White Plains, the Westchester Coalition for Legal Abortion, the UJA-Federation Scarsdale Women's Campaign, and the Scarsdale Middle School P.T.A.

As you can see, Amy's commitment to women and families is very serious. Westchester County has benefited from her tireless efforts on behalf of our families. I am honored to have the opportunity to honor Amy Parlin as Woman of the Year.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. YATES] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mr. YATES addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

HONORING KATHARINE HOUGHTON HEPBURN DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. SEASTRAND). Under a previous order of

the House, the gentlewoman from Connecticut [Mrs. JOHNSON] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I first want to commend my colleagues for the attention they have brought to Women's History Month. Their hearings, seminars, and legislative measures have focused much needed attention on women—their health, their reproductive rights and the need for gender equity in class and on the courts. I am pleased to be a part of tonight's activity saluting extraordinary women from our districts and from around the world.

I rise today to salute Connecticut's Katharine Houghton Hepburn, one of the earliest advocates for gender equity in education and reproductive rights for women. Her name may sound familiar for other reasons as she was the mother of actress Katharine Hepburn. But not enough is known about her own achievements. Orphaned at 14, it's been said that her mother's dying words to her were "get an education"—and she did, entering Bryn Mawr's Class of 1899 at the age of 16.

She obtained degrees in chemistry and physics—precisely because those were the subjects she most dreaded, and later earned a master's degree in art history from Radcliffe.

After college, Katharine Houghton married a prominent Connecticut doctor and became a determined suffragist and an outspoken birth control advocate. Her opposition was formidable. Connecticut State obscenity laws at the time made it illegal to mail any information on birth control and it was even a crime for doctors to distribute birth control information or tell anyone where it might be obtained. In a 1941 interview, Houghton said that when she confronted Connecticut State Legislators with the birth control issue, they were embarrassed and terrified. "They nudged each other like schoolboys," she said, "but after ten years of it, they got used to us." And one can only imagine what her neighbors of upscale Fenwick, CT, thought of her views. Houghton once said that they were worried her campaign to make birth control available for all women would only lead to their corruption. She responded by saying:

We are not trying to produce immorality * * * we are trying to explain the use of human intelligence to control human nature.

At the same time, her work on behalf of the suffragist movement continued. And in 1920, right after the 36th State gave women the right to vote, Connecticut Democrats approached Houghton and asked her to run for the U.S. Senate. Connecticut had not yet ratified the 19th amendment, though, so she continued with the task at hand. As her daughter's fame grew, so did her own and in 1933, she led a procession of women up to Capitol Hill to push for a bill that would have permitted physicians to distribute birth control information. Among the marchers—Margaret Sanger and Amelia Earhart.

Houghton worried that her activities would harm her daughter's burgeoning acting career. But Katharine Hepburn strongly supported her mother's work. "I detest the newspaper's reference to her as Katharine Hepburn's mother," she said, "My mother is important. I am not." Let's all remember Katharine Houghton's importance today. She fought for women when the country, her State, and even her own neighborhood, were opposed to her causes. But she continued on for decades for most of her life—inspiring women and creating an America that would make good on her promise of equal opportunity and equal justice for all.

Madam Speaker, I would like to yield now to my friend and colleague from North Carolina [Mrs. EVA CLAYTON].

Mrs. CLAYTON. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding to me, and thank my colleagues who have arranged this special tribute to women.

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate Women's History Month, I think of the numerous contributions women have made to make this world a better place to live.

When I look at the First Congressional District of North Carolina, I find an extraordinary woman, a woman who is a fine example of womanhood who has dedicated her life to improving the lives of others. She has taken on many difficult tasks, oftentimes sacrificing herself and spending her own money to improve the lives of others.

She is a living legend in North Carolina. She is Mrs. Alice Ballance, a mother, a grandmother, and businesswoman.

Her commitment to her family and community has made her stand head and shoulders above the masses. She is many things to many people, but above all she is a champion of the disadvantaged and children.

"Miss Alice" as she is affectionately known around Bertie County in the First Congressional District of North Carolina, has proven again and again her commitment to being a model citizen. "Miss Alice" has maintained close ties to her community, church, and family, and has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of the poor and disadvantaged citizens of her county. She organized and established child and adult care for the children and seniors of her county.

Her activism dates back to the civil rights era of the sixties. She has testified before the U.S. Senate on behalf of North Carolinians and founded the People's Program on Poverty to assist the needy citizens of Bertie County. She has been recognized by several national and regional organizations for her many community activities.

Mr. Speaker, today I salute a woman who is part of our rich and proud history in North Carolina. A woman whose contribution to our society has made North Carolina a better place to live.

She is the essence of leadership, the epitome of statesmanship, and the em-

bodiment of selflessness and commitment.

More importantly, she is not afraid to fight for her principles and to stand up for her beliefs. Pride, achievement, and success are her watchwords. Alice Ballance has paved the road of opportunity for women like me and I am happy to name her North Carolina's First Congressional District, Woman of the Year.

HONORING HELEN RUDEE AND ELIZABETH TERWILLIGER DURING WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California [Ms. WOOLSEY] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, first of all I would like to thank my colleagues and good friends for organizing this Women of the Year special order as part of our Women's History Month celebration.

Madam Speaker, I come to the floor of the House this evening to honor two outstanding women, Helen Rudee and Elizabeth Terwilliger, from the Sixth Congressional District of California.

When talking about Helen Rudee, it is hard not to sound repetitive because Helen Rudee was the first in just about everything she has done. Helen was the first woman president of the Santa Rosa Board of Education. She was the first woman on the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. And she was the board's first chairwoman. In addition to her outstanding record in elected office, Helen raised four children and participated in just about every volunteer organization in Sonoma County.

This year, Helen is the recipient of the Konocti Girl Scout Council Jewel of a Woman Award for sharing her leadership skills with other young women in our community. It is truly fitting that we recognize Helen during Women's History Month. Helen Rudee is a woman who has made history, and she continues to make history.

I am also proud to honor Elizabeth Terwilliger, a real life trail blazer, who in 1991 was the recipient of President George Bush's Points of Light Award.

Long before environment became a household word, Elizabeth Terwilliger pioneered environmental education in Marin County. Now in her eighties, she continues to lead children, teachers, parents, and grandparents on hiking, canoeing, and bicycling adventures 6 days a week.

Mrs. Terwilliger's tireless commitment to our environment has inspired other volunteers to form the nonprofit Terwilliger Nature Education Center. Where every year, over 65,000 San Francisco Bay Area children enjoy the spectacular beauty of Marin County's trails, marshes, and beaches because of the Terwilliger Center.

Again, it is my great honor to recognize Helen Rudee and Elizabeth Terwilliger as 1996 Women of the Year. They have left an indelible mark on