

IN MEMORY OF RONALD H. BROWN, SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer some thoughts on the tragic passing of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown. I would first like to convey my sincere condolences to his family: his wife Alma, and his children Tracey and Michael.

As I survey his life it is difficult not to be impressed by the richness and breadth of Ron Brown's accomplishments. It is the quintessential American story. He rose from modest beginnings in Harlem to the pinnacles of law, politics and government. Secretary Brown's life was an affirmation that in America a man of imagination, talent and determination could succeed.

His joy in serving as Secretary of Commerce was infectious. His dedication to helping young Americans aspire and succeed was genuine. And his commitment to serve his country was a constant throughout his life.

His smile, hopefulness and generosity will be missed.

HONORING THE SMYRNA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Smyrna Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM G. HOUSTON

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the distinguished service of William G. Houston, an educator who has served the Lake Shore Central School District as Superintendent for over 30 years, on the occasion of his retirement.

Over those 30 years, William Houston dedicated his life to the enhancement of the Lake Shore District, and proved himself to be extraordinarily available to his faculty, staff, parents, and most importantly, students.

Considered the Dean of Superintendents in Western New York, William Houston's 30 year commitment to the same district far exceeds all others in Western New York, as well as most Superintendents throughout the entire State.

Throughout his tenure with Lake Shore Central, William Houston has established himself as an institution synonymous with academic commitment, rugged independence, insight and vision, hard work and dedication, and community involvement.

With retirement comes many opportunities, several personal, many professional. May he meet every opportunity with the same enthusiasm and vigor and which he demonstrated throughout his brilliant career; and may those opportunities be as fruitful as those in his past.

Mr. Speaker, today I join with the Houston family, his colleagues, friends, the Lake Shore School District, all of us who have served as educators, and indeed, the entire Western New York community, to honor Superintendent William Houston for his dedication, hard work, and commitment to our community and its education.

JIM GILLIS PAYS DIVIDENDS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, managing other people's money demands a trustworthy, intelligent and sensible person. Not only is he or she responsible for shareholders' money, but for their well-being and livelihood. John Gillis is such an individual, who fulfills this responsibility with enthusiasm and dedication.

John Gillis, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors of the United Bay City Credit Union is retiring after serving 6 years as Vice Chair and 9 years as a member of the Board. He also served on the Asset/Liability Management, Building, and Personnel Committees. Prior to serving on the Board, John served for 7 years on the Credit Committee and served as its Chairman.

John spent tireless hours in these volunteer positions and performs his duties above and beyond the call of duty. His willingness to take on additional tasks and his 100 percent attendance record are extraordinary. John's keen awareness of his responsibility to keep the credit union strong matched well with his ability to speak with conviction rather than convenience.

The United Bay City Credit Union has over 16,000 members. The Board is charged with the tremendous responsibility and challenge of overseeing all activities of the credit union, including how to invest assets and watching out for shareholders' interests. John is a truly dedicated board member who always puts the credit union members first. His leadership and commitment will be sorely missed.

A lifelong resident of Bay City, John graduated from Handy High School. He started working for General Motors Powertrain when it was Bay City Chevrolet and is a valuable employee. An avid golfer, John will now have a little more time to practice his swing.

John could not have achieved these accomplishments without the support of his loving family including his wife, Kay, and their three children, Kevin, Matthew, and Amy.

John Gillis represents the spirit of volunteerism and community service which makes our country one of the greatest Nations in the world. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing John Gillis and wishing him well in his future endeavors.

THE PRESIDENT'S LEGACY OF DEBT

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, under President Clinton's spending policies, the national debt will increase by more than \$1.1 trillion—rising from \$4.1 trillion in January 1993 to \$5.2 trillion in December 1996. By failing to balance the budget in 5 years as he promised, this legacy of debt means higher mortgage, car and student loan payments for working families.

My Republican colleagues and I have put the brakes on out-of-control Federal spending. We have cut Government beyond targets set by the budget resolution—this means a savings of \$23 billion to the hard working American taxpayer. We have terminated hundreds of wasteful government programs and provided offsets to pay for disaster assistance. Since January, 1995, when Republicans gained control of Congress, my colleagues and I have saved taxpayers \$43 billion.

These numbers are proof that we are doing what we promised the American people—we are committed to balancing the budget in 7 years. While the President fights to maintain the status quo and bloated bureaucracies, my colleagues and I are fighting to relieve the American taxpayer.

My Republican colleagues and I support policies that help America's hard working families earn more and keep more of what they earn. This ensures they will have more time to do more for themselves, their children, their church, and their community.

IN HONOR OF CERRITOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Cerritos