

The proponents of repeal are eyeing as a possible offset for its cost reductions in the bank insurance funds. Heaven help us if we ever need to draw on those funds to pay depositors should we experience a banking crisis like the S&L debacle of only a decade ago. I guess we'll leave that problem for another day.

The difficulty in finding a consensus behind a balanced budget plan will only be exacerbated by repealing the gas tax. Americans understand that.

They also understand that cheap gas means dependence on uncertain foreign sources—sources that one day may again require our sons and daughters to fight to secure.

And, most importantly, they understand that the 4.3 cent-a-gallon tax did not cause the recent price increase and that its repeal will not bring prices down.

Repealing the tax is pandering and cynical. Let's not try to fool Americans into believing otherwise.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, yesterday my flight to Washington from California was unexpectedly rerouted to Pittsburgh due to thunderstorm activity in the Washington area.

As a result, I unfortunately missed several important votes. Had I been here, I would have voted: "aye" on rollcall No. 180; "no" on rollcall No. 181; "aye" on rollcall No. 182, the gas tax repeal; and "aye" on rollcall No. 183.

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#### RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEERS OF ELK COUNTY, HONORED

HON. WILLIAM F. CLINGER, JR.

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. CLINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retired senior volunteers of Elk County in the Fifth District of Pennsylvania. I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize the 74,000 hours of service that these individuals have given to our communities.

As we celebrate Older American Month, it is fitting that we reflect on the contributions of seniors at both a local and national level. I have long believed that involvement by senior citizens in the workforce adds a unique and distinctive value to each job that is performed, person that is helped, or solution that is offered.

I applaud the hard work and determination that each of these volunteers has dedicated to serving the residents of Elk County, their efforts are an inspiration to us all. In addition, each of these individuals has paved the road for all of us who will eventually retire and in doing so continue to enhance the foundation of our communities.

Each project that they have so diligently attended to—from campgrounds to playgrounds, providing meals, making repairs, and assisting others in need—demonstrates the depth of

caring that all of the volunteers should be proud of.

It takes more than words to adequately express the difference that senior volunteers have made in the lives of so many and it is with great honor and heartfelt gratitude that I thank them for their years of kind and generous service.

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#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES J. "J.J." BIELLO

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to James J. "J.J." Biello, who is a commissioner of Cherokee County, in the Sixth District of Georgia.

J.J. is a 15-year veteran of the Atlanta Police Department having served as both a uniform officer and detective in the narcotics and robbery divisions. On April 15, 1987, J.J. walked in on a robbery in progress and found an armed robber holding a terrified girl, a gun pointed at her head. Without concern for his own safety, J.J. rushed in, courageously drawing the gunfire to himself. In an act of supreme heroism and ultimate sacrifice, he saved the life of the girl but almost lost his own. In the days ahead, J.J.'s personal courage and faith in God allowed him to survive the near-fatal injury, but he was left paralyzed from the neck down, confined to a wheelchair with limited use of his hands.

There are many ways to take the measure of a man. Some do it in feet and inches; some have him step on a scale; and others simply take a look at his bank account. It is a rare individual whose greatest measurements are of heart and courage. Such a man is J.J. Biello.

J.J. has passed through some of life's most challenging crucibles and has come out not embittered, but emboldened. After his injury, J.J. took stock of his talents and abilities to decide how he could best serve his community. Rather than seeking help from others, once again he committed himself to tireless work on behalf of others, serving as a community volunteer, a civic leader and, following the 1990 election, a Cherokee County commissioner. Through challenges that would have caused a lesser man to give up, J.J. has demonstrated unshaken faith, unparalleled courage, and unwavering commitment to his family, church, and community.

I rise today to make note of J.J.'s bravery and his selfless service to his community and his country. His courage, devotion, and dedication should be an inspiration to all Americans.

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#### FOR RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION OF AN EXTRAORDINARY STAFFER, SCOTT E. JACOBS

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of Scott Jacobs, who has been a member of my

staff for the last year and a half. Scott is leaving us on May 24, 1996, to start a new job with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

Scott came to my personal office here in Washington, DC, on a legislative fellowship. He was on loan from the Navy. With his background in the investigation of environmental crimes, he was a natural fit in my office to work on environmental and resource issues.

While many Hill staffers share the qualities of hard work and dedication that Scott possesses, Scott Jacobs has special qualities that deserve special recognition.

Often, here on the Hill, people will tell you that something is impossible rather than actually figuring out how to get it done. Scott refuses to believe "impossible" exists. He is willing to take the time and exercise the creativity needed to get the job done where other people would have given up long ago. In the face of continual opposition, Scott undertakes a process of communication and compromise that has served New Jersey, this Congress, and America very well. Due to his refusal to believe the nay-sayers, Scott serves as an example and inspiration to Members and staff alike.

I commend Scott's many accomplishments while here and fully expect that his exemplary work will continue at his new position with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

As I stand here today to recognize Scott's determination, courage, and creativity, I am sorry to lose Scott as a member of my staff. But, I wish him fair winds and following seas on his return to the Navy.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself, my staff, and all the friends Scott has made while here with us, I would like to say, Thank You, Scott, for all of your hard work.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday last, due to a family emergency, I missed rollcall votes 178 and 179 pertaining to the fiscal year 1997 budget resolution. Had I been present, I would have voted on rollcall No. 178, "no" and on rollcall No. 179, "yes." I request unanimous consent that my statement be included following the vote in the permanent record.

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#### CELEBRATING THE MANY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 22, 1996*

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, Hafa Adai. It is with great pleasure that I rise today to celebrate our Asian- and Pacific-American culture and history during Asian Pacific-American Heritage Month. By sponsoring Asian Pacific-American Heritage activities, we honor the Asian Pacific-American community and its many accomplishments. In addition we seek to