

site who have been responsible for all underwater recovery operations. In particular, I wish to commend the Navy's divers for their heroic work in some of the most difficult working conditions imaginable. Despite working at depths of over 100 feet, in water in which visibility is measured in inches instead of feet, these Navy divers have logged some 1,300 hours—the equivalent of 54 straight days—searching a 25 square mile patch of ocean floor. These divers are directly responsible for the recovery of nearly half of the victims as well as for the majority of the wreckage salvaged thus far.

I would also like to commend the men and women of the Coast Guard who were involved in the search, rescue, and recovery operation immediately following the crash. Specifically, I wish to recognize those workers who arrived at the crash site within minutes of the explosion to begin searching for survivors. Working tirelessly, Coast Guard personnel recovered victims and pieces of the aircraft throughout the night and the following days. In subsequent weeks, Coast Guard workers have conducted surface recovery operations, centralized search planning, as well as regional environmental operations. In the 2 months since the Flight 800 explosion, the Coast Guard has searched over 3,100 square miles of the ocean's surface, recovering more than half of the victims from the water in the process.

Finally, I would like to recognize the NTSB for its candor, honesty, and tenacity in conducting the investigation effort. The men and women of the NTSB have done an admirable job of keeping the victims' families and the American public well informed of the status of the recovery effort and crash investigation.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in extending a heartfelt thanks to these exemplary men and women for the time and effort they have selflessly dedicated to the recovery effort. I commend them for a job well done.

As a final note, I would like to recognize Mr. Henry Allen, who correctly pointed out to me that Congress has not yet credited the Navy, Coast Guard, and NTSB personnel working in this investigation for their work. Mr. Allen lost his son and grandson in the TWA crash, but his unselfish and caring character allowed him to ask me to recognize the hard work and dedication of these personnel even in his time of need. I'm proud to serve men like Mr. Allen, and my thoughts, prayers, and condolences are with him and his family.

NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES ACT OF 1996

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT A. UNDERWOOD

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 1996

Mr. UNDERWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise in favor of H.R. 3217, the National Invasive Species Act of 1996. This bill would reauthorize funds for the Brown Tree Snake Control Program which seeks to reduce the adverse effects of the nonindigenous brown tree snake to Guam as well as prevent the spread of the species to other outlying areas.

Brown tree snakes have long been identified as the cause of Guam's diminishing bird population and the extinction of some of the is-

land's native species. Due to the lack of natural predators and to the ideal environment Guam provides for the propagation of the snakes, the brown tree snake has continually wreaked havoc on Guam's wildlife. If this present trend continues, we can soon expect the extinction of more of Guam's native birds and the introduction of this pest to snakeless areas such as Hawaii.

Controlling the snake population on Guam is the best approach towards wildlife preservation. In a misguided attempt to save Guam's birds, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has imposed a wildlife refuge in the hopes that such a refuge would reverse the trend of a diminishing bird population. This notion is flawed at best. We know for a fact that the nonindigenous brown tree snakes must be taken out of the habitat in order for birds to thrive. Guam supports saving its endangered species but this must be done through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service controlling the brown tree snake population and not by them acquiring more land. After all, a wildlife refuge would only serve to gather the island's remaining bird species in an area that could easily be overrun by the brown tree snake. In a couple of years, this proposed bird sanctuary would surely be nothing more than a snakepit taken right out of an Indiana Jones movie.

The funds reauthorized by H.R. 3217 offer an alternative that imposes the least burden on Guam's limited resources and gives Guam's birds the best chance at survival. Providing for the development of programs to control the snake population also spares Guam's neighbors from the devastation brought about by the brown tree snake. Let us not allow harmful nonindigenous species to take over our fragile ecosystems. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3217.

LACK OF HEALTH INSURANCE— HIGHER DEATH RATE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, health insurance for everyone isn't just a nice idea, it is a matter of life and death. The data is clear. In 1982, the State of California terminated Medi-Cal benefits for the State's 270,000 medically indigent adults. Some 186 of these adults were then enrolled in a study to examine the effects of this action on the health of these individuals. A comparison group was also established. Within 6 months of termination of health coverage, five individuals died compared to zero deaths for the comparison group. After 1 year of the study, seven individuals from the group whose Medi-Cal benefits had been terminated had died compared to one death in the comparison group.

Investigation of the circumstances of death suggest that lack of access to care played a part in at least four of the deaths in the medically indigent group. At least four deaths that could have been prevented if these individuals had health insurance. And now this Congress is preparing to adjourn without having adequately addressed one of the greatest problems facing our Nation: the lack of health insurance for everyone. How many more people will have to die before we decide to commit ourselves to this problem and find a solution?

Another study used data from 17 hospitals to examine outcomes for patients admitted with pneumonia. Self-pay patients were six times more likely to die with in the hospital compared to those with insurance. A national study determined that the probability of an in-hospital death for uninsured patients was 1.08 to 1.32 times higher than for privately insured patients in 15 of 16 age-sex-rate cohorts.

In another study, a representative cohort of the U.S. population was followed for up to 16 years. The study hypothesis in this case was that a lack of health insurance is causally related to a higher mortality rate, because of decreased access and lower quality of care. Not only is this hypothesis in accordance with the results of previous studies, but it also agrees with the conclusions of our own former Office of Technology Assessment in a report issued in 1992.

Furthermore, the study found that lacking insurance is associated with subsequent higher mortality independent of our risk factors.

INDEPENDENT OF OTHER RISK FACTORS

In one of the same studies mentioned above, fully 68 percent of the study's participants in the medically indigent group reported a specific episode in which they had not obtained care that they believed they needed; of those patients, 78 percent listed the cost as a reason for not obtaining care. We cannot let this problem escalate into a national tragedy of even greater proportions.

The numbers are alarming. The evidence is clear. As members of a civilized society, I would hope that the next Congress has the courage to deal with this issue.

For those who share my concerns, I invite you to reference the following sources:

(1) Lurie, N., Ward, N.B., Shapiro, M.F., Brook, R.H., "Termination from Medi-Cal: does it affect health?" *N Engl J Med.* 1984; 311: 480-484.

(2) Lurie, N., Ward, N.B., Shapiro, M.F., Gallego, C., Vaghaiwalla, R., Brook, R.H., "Termination of medical benefits: a follow-up study one year later." *N Engl J Med.* 1986; 314: 1266-1268.

(3) Weissman, J.S., Epstein, A.M., "Falling Through the Safety Net: The Impact of Insurance on Access to Care." Baltimore, Md: Johns Hopkins University Press; 1994.

(4) Franks, P., Clancy, C.M., Gold, M.R., "Health insurance and mortality: evidence from a national cohort," *JAMA.* 1993; 270: 737-741.

OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST CHRYSTE GAINES IS HONORED

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to give recognition to a Dallas unsung heroine, Chryste Gaines, a 1996 Olympic Gold Medalist. Ms. Gaines propelled the team to its victory as the first leg of the 4100 women's relay.

Chryste Gaines' fruitful track career began as she set many personal and team records in the State of Texas. She has also received a gold medal at both the world championships 4100 relay and at the Pan Am games in the 100-meter dash. In addition, she has brought

home many medals from the World University Games, NCAA indoor and outdoor meets, grand prix, and world indoor championships. Furthermore, Ms. Gaines has run on the U.S.A. Pan Africa Team and the U.S.A. versus Great Britain Team.

Not only is Ms. Gaines exceptionally talented in track and field, she has also excelled in her academic studies. She graduated valedictorian of South Oak Cliff High School in 1988 and went on to Stanford University to obtain a bachelor of science degree in psychology. Ms. Gaines is a member of the alpha Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

I wish to extend my congratulations to Chryste for your outstanding performance. We hope to see you in the year 2000 at the Olympics in Sidney, Australia.

GLENS FALLS' VOLUNTARY ACTION CENTER TURNS 25

HON. GERALD B.H. SOLOMON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. SOLOMON. Mr. Speaker, this fall will mark the 25th anniversary of the Voluntary Action Center, a truly remarkable organization located in my hometown of Glens Falls, NY.

For a quarter century, the center has helped thousands of needy folks every year. Each year, the center delivers nearly 100,000 Meals-on-Wheels in Queensbury and Glens Falls, helps thousands of families at Thanksgiving and Christmas, counsels hundreds of troubled persons on its Crisis Line and Teen Line, assists homeless families find emergency lodging, helps frail seniors perform simple household tasks so that they can maintain their independent lifestyle, places hundreds of court-referred clients in community service programs, and collects food for local food pantries. And by the way, that list is not exhaustive!

Mr. Speaker, I cannot tell you how much respect and admiration the surrounding communities have for the Voluntary Action Center. This group embodies effective compassion. It represents all that is good in America: service, voluntarism, pride in community, and a concern for fellow man.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to reiterate my congratulations to the center on its 25 years of service to the communities of Glens Falls and Queensbury. I hope and pray that the center continues to provide its invaluable work well into the next century. The Voluntary Action Center proves every single day that Americans have not lost their desire and willingness to lend a helping hand. Voluntarism, I am proud to note, is alive and well in Glens Falls, NY.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOBY ROTH

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the House approved H.R. 2579, the U.S. National Tourism Organization Act. Due to the speed

with which the bill moved through the House, Congressman BOB FRANKS of New Jersey and Congressman FRANK MASCARA of Pennsylvania were unable to be added to the list of cosponsors.

I would like to recognize their support and thank them for their desire to cosponsor H.R. 2579.

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF JOSEPH U. MAINO

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I bring to the attention of the U.S. House of Representatives and this Nation the retirement of Sheriff Joseph Maino, an outstanding member of the law enforcement community in my northern Michigan congressional district. I also have the opportunity to relay to you and the Nation the many contributions Marquette County Sheriff Joseph U. Maino has made to his community, fellow officers, and the State of Michigan.

Sheriff Maino was born and raised in Negaunee, MI, where he attended St. Paul's School. Following graduation, he served his country by enlisting in the U.S. Army. In the military, he spent 3 years in the military police stationed in California and later in France. Upon leaving the service in 1967, he joined the Marquette County Sheriff's Department in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Sheriff Maino quickly worked his way up through the ranks, first to sergeant and then undersheriff. In 1976, at age 34, the people of Marquette elected him sheriff and he became one of the youngest law enforcement officials in the State of Michigan to guide a law enforcement agency. Presently, Sheriff Maino is serving his 20th year as sheriff marking him the second longest active serving sheriff in the State of Michigan.

Sheriff Maino has worked diligently over the past two decades to enrich his community and educate them on the dangers of drinking and drug use. During his first year in office, Sheriff Maino implemented the Narcotics Enforcement Team for the County of Marquette. In 1987, he pioneered the first DARE program for the Upper Peninsula. In addition, he served as executive director of the Upper Peninsula Substance Enforcement Team during the outbreak and victory over the dangerous drug "CAT." Presently, Sheriff Maino is the project director for Marquette County Team Voice which teaches young people about the lethal combination of drinking and driving.

Sheriff Maino has not only been an asset to the Marquette County, but also to the State of Michigan. He has been an active member of the Michigan Sheriff's Association, serving as president in 1981-82. He is a member of many other community service organizations including: The U.P. Children's Coalition, United Way, Kellogg Youth Initiatives Partnership, U.P. Law Enforcement Officer's Association, Marquette County Chief's Association, U.P. Law Enforcement Development Center, Public Safety Institute, Marquette General Hospital Mental Health Advisory Board, Alger-Marquette Human Services Coordinating Body, and the Central U.P. Planning and Development Criminal Justice Committee.

The Marquette County Sheriff's Department has earned several awards under the leadership of Sheriff Maino. They have received the National Recognition for Public Service Award for drunk driving enforcement, a resolution of tribute from the State of Michigan for its drug enforcement activities, and obtained over \$4 million in grants from local, State, and Federal sources to better serve and protect the citizens of Marquette County.

In addition to his dedication to the public sector, Sheriff Maino is a proud husband and father. His wife Jean was also born and raised in Negaunee and graduated from Negaunee High School. Jean is active in the Negaunee Booster Club & Iron Range Hockey Association. In addition, the Maino's son, Ryan, has been involved in community athletics including basketball, baseball, football, and hockey. A family of avid sports fans, they enjoy, fishing, hunting, and Joe's passion for horseshoes.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Joseph U. Maino will be retiring from the Marquette County Sheriff's Department on December 31, 1996. As a former city police officer and a Michigan State Trooper, I have had the honor of working with and personally knowing Sheriff Maino. He is one of the fairest, honest, and dedicated law enforcement professionals I know and I wish to thank him for all he has accomplished during his career. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of northern Michigan, the State of Michigan, and the Nation, I would like to extend best wishes for an enjoyable retirement to Marquette County Sheriff Joseph Maimo.

HONORING DON GLENN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE AFL-CIO

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 1996

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Don Glenn on the occasion of his retirement from the AFL-CIO after dedicating his entire adult life to the labor movement.

Don was hired as an AFL-CIO field representative in 1967. He was instrumental in establishing statewide central labor council conferences both in Wisconsin and California. He also assisted the Los Angeles Orange County Organizing Committee [LAOCOC] with organizing workshops, think tank sessions, and organizing projects.

Before joining the AFL-CIO field staff, Don served in the U.S. Army for 2 years, and was a member of the Meatcutters Union, the Structural Ironworkers Union, the Railroad Union, and the Steelworkers Union.

When he was a steelworker, he became a steward. He then took a position as an organizer, and worked as a negotiator and servicer for 6 years for a joint council in Chicago, which included several unions. Among them were the Distillery Union, and the Laborers International Union. Production Workers Union, Sheetmetal Workers Union, and the Laborers International Union. During this time he also attended Roosevelt University, and successfully completed a 4-year course in labor leadership.

Prior to completion of his studies, AFL-CIO Regional Director Dan Healy interviewed and