

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MR. JAMES E. WHITE

HON. THOMAS W. EWING

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. EWING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. James E. White, rural housing specialist of the USDA, rural development. Mr. White retired on May 31, 1997 after a distinguished 26-year career.

He began his Federal career with Farmers Home Administration in 1971 as an assistant county supervisor in Lincoln, IL. He was promoted to county supervisor in Golconda/Metropolis in 1975. His final career move was to rural housing specialist in the Illinois State office in 1976. Mr. White remained in that position until his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to bring the achievements of James White to the attention of my colleagues in the House, and ask that they join me in expressing our appreciation and congratulations to Mr. White for his tremendous service to the people of Illinois.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on official business on Thursday afternoon, June 19, and Friday, June 20, and had to miss rollcall votes on the floor of the House.

Had I been present on June 19, I would have voted as follows: "Aye" on rollcall votes 214, 215, 216, and 217.

Had I been present on June 20, I would have voted as follows: "Nay" on rollcall vote 219, "no" on rollcall vote 220, "Aye" on rollcall vote 221, and "no" on rollcall votes 222, 223, and 224.

CHIEF SMITH: LOYAL SERVICE TO SOUTH LYON

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a loyal and dedicated officer to the community of South Lyon in Oakland County, MI. Chief of Police Gerald L. Smith, in his 19th year of service as chief, will retire on August 26th.

After serving in the U.S. Navy from 1960 to 1963, Smith began his career in law enforcement for Waterford Township in 1964 and served until 1971.

Smith was Oakland County's senior substance abuse program coordinator from 1971

to 1979 where he worked with the County's health department to fight the scourge of drugs.

In 1979, he was appointed director of public safety and police chief for the city of South Lyon. When the Public Safety Department was dissolved in 1985, he continued to serve the community as chief.

Gerald Smith has dedicated more than 37 years of his life to protecting others. His leadership, courage and bold vision have been an inspiration not only to those who worked for him, but to the community he served.

The dedication of Gerald Smith exemplifies his committee to making South Lyon a safer place for our families. He is a loyal public servant who deserves the recognition, honors and accolades he receives.

TO A DEDICATED HERO SHERIFF RIECK KENDALL

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true hero, Sheriff Rieck Kendall of Moultrie County, IL. He is responsible for saving two young children, Timothy and Cheryl Poptlett, after they were abducted by their father from their custodial mother in July 1994.

In 1996, Sheriff Kendall discovered money that was intended for the abductor which was regularly funneled to an address in the Honduras. He contacted Honduran authorities and persuaded them to assist in the investigation. International cooperation, involving Interpol and fostered by Sheriff Kendall, led the authorities to discover that the children were living on a small island off the coast of Honduras with no electricity, running water, routine medical attention, or schooling. When word got to the children's father that the authorities were on to him, he piled them and their few belongings into a boat and headed for another hideaway. During the escape, the boat capsized. Local fishermen found the children and their father floating in the water and clinging to a gas can. Police rescued the children and arrested their kidnapper.

Truly, finding Tim and Cheryl was no easy task. Sheriff Kendall's devotion to recovering the Poptlett children involved more than following leads, but taking the time to make daily phone calls and reassuring the Poptlett family that he was pursuing their children's case. It takes a brave and dedicated man to not give up and simply go home after his other work is done. He persevered and put the Poptlett children and their family first. Mr. Speaker, because of Sheriff Kendall the Poptlett children were recovered and are home with their family.

Mr. Speaker, I want to honor Sheriff Kendall for all his valiant efforts and persistence. According to the National Crime Information Center [NCIC] there were a total of 955,252 missing persons in 1996 alone. In that same year

more than 99 percent of all missing child cases were resolved successfully. We can thank people like Sheriff Kendall for his inspiring statistic, because they refused to give up and provided support for the families who had to struggle through such terrible crises. It is an honor to represent Rieck Kendall in the U.S. Congress.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MR. MARVIN HARPER AND AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 102 OF BARNARD, MO

HON. PAT DANNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Ms. DANNER. Mr. Speaker, for the benefit of my colleagues, I would like to have printed in the RECORD the following article from the Nodaway News Leader paying tribute to Mr. Marvin Harper and American Legion Post No. 102 at Barnard, MO, for their efforts in providing Nodaway R-IV students an unique public speaking program.

[From the Nodaway News Leader, Mar. 8, 1997]

SOUTH NODAWAY FIRST GRADE STUDENTS LEARN PUBLIC SPEAKING EARLY

You're never too young to learn, especially when it comes to communication. The American Legion is helping South Nodaway R-IV students get a head start on developing their speaking skills.

Marvin Harper, who serves on the Department of Missouri Oratorical Commission for the American Legion, has created a unique program that provides young students an opportunity to speak in public.

"The point of this is to develop skills to learn how to talk in front of people," Harper told South Nodaway's first grade students.

Harper visited the class last week and discussed the American Legion and the importance of being an effective communicator in everyday conversations. Each child was then given a chance to stand up in front of the class and speak for about 30 seconds. Many of them talked about the U.S. flag, Abraham Lincoln and President Clinton.

First grade teacher Bonny Acklin believes the program is very beneficial.

"It's a good experience for them," she said. "It is different for the students to talk in front of someone else they don't know."

This is the third year Harper has conducted the program. During the first year, he worked with a few students in a pilot program. Last year, the kindergarten all had a chance to give a short speech. This year, Harper has visited both the kindergarten and first grade class.

"Hopefully we'll work right on up to the sixth grade," he said. Harper said he was not aware of any other program of this type in the United States. Later this year he will submit a report to the state oratorical commission about the effectiveness of the project.

The American Legion sponsors a national oratorical contest for high school students. Participants in that contest speak about the U.S. Constitution and can earn scholarship

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

money. Harper stressed that the project for elementary students was not a contest.

"We want to develop students so they can have effective communication skills in whatever they want to do," he explained.

Kindergarten teacher Barb Sherry said she has seen growth in the student's public speaking skills. Both she and Acklin believe the program also provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of patriotism.

"We try to teach a sense of community and respect for our country," Acklin said. "Every morning we say the Pledge of Allegiance and talk about how lucky we are to live in a free country."

Harper told the first grade students he was so impressed with their accomplishment of speaking in front of a group that they would have a party and talk about how to take care of the flag.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 20, I missed rollcall votes 221, 222, 223, and 224. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote 221; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 222; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 223; and "aye" on rollcall vote No. 224.

RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF FRED SCORALICK, INCOMING PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL SHERIFF'S ASSOCIATION

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, on June 25, 1997, the National Sheriff's Association will inaugurate Sheriff Fred W. Scoralick of Dutchess County, NY, as its new president. It is a distinct pleasure for me to join the residents of Dutchess County in recognizing my constituent Sheriff Scoralick, who has devoted his life to law enforcement.

Sheriff Scoralick first entered the law enforcement community in 1961, as a part-time deputy sheriff. Through diligence and ability, Fred Scoralick achieved the rank of undersheriff in April 1976, and, in November 1978, he was elected sheriff of Dutchess County, NY.

Sheriff Scoralick has an impressive background in law enforcement. He is a graduate of the National Sheriff's Institute. In addition, he has completed specialized training at Iona College in New Rochelle, NY, and John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Throughout his law enforcement career, he has also studied safety, management, and corrections under the auspices of the Municipal Training Council, the New York State Commission of Corrections, the New York City Police Department, and the FBI Academy.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Scoralick has brought the same dedication to the wider law enforcement community that he brings to his duties in Dutchess County. He has served as the chairman of the executive committee of the New York State Sheriff's Association. Indeed, Sher-

iff Scoralick has held every office within this organization, including president. In 1987, he was elected to the NSA's Board of Directors. Currently, Sheriff Scoralick serves as the chairman of the NSA Insurance Committee, cochairs the NSA Board and the Educational Foundation Committee, and is active on the Budget, Traffic Safety and Management Subcommittees.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Scoralick has made invaluable contributions to our community. He has succeeded in bringing new services to Dutchess County, including DARE, Youth Support, Crash Management, Arson investigation, County Wide Drug Task Force, and the Senior Citizen "Are You OK?" Service. Besides spearheading these programs, Sheriff Scoralick also oversaw the construction of a new jail.

He has repeatedly demonstrated his ability as a leader and public guardian. In 1970, he won the American Legion Heroism Medal. In addition, Sheriff Scoralick is also a past recipient of the Police Benevolent Association President's Award. In 1985, his able leadership was recognized by President Ronald Reagan. Sheriff Scoralick was the 1996 recipient of the Multi-County Community Development Corporation Award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all Members to join me in paying tribute to Sheriff Fred Scoralick. He is an exemplary public servant who has devoted his life to making his community a better place. I applaud Sheriff Scoralick's dedication and wish him continued success in his endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO FANCHER CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Clovis Unified School District's Fancher Creek Elementary for being named a 1997 California Distinguished School. The faculty and students of Fancher Creek Elementary exemplify excellence with exceptional student achievement and staff development.

The mission of Fancher Creek Elementary School is to educate all students in a challenging, disciplined, and supportive environment, enabling them to reach their potential of becoming productive citizens who will make positive life-long contributions to society.

A positive school climate is the essential factor of Fancher Creek's environment. The school's motto, *Falcons Have Pride*, sets such a tone for the students. Monthly award programs recognize students who achieve goals in academics, athletics, and cocurricular activities. Expectations are clear and consistent, and the standards for student achievement and conduct are high.

Fancher Creek has over 900 students of which 61 percent receive free or reduced lunch and 33 percent are English Language learners. The student body is composed of 23.8 percent Asian (Hmong), 32 percent Hispanic, 34.9 percent white, 8.2 percent African-American, and 0.7 percent American Indian. Despite facing cultural diversity, language differences, a high transiency rate (46.4 per-

cent), and other economic problems, Fancher Creek Elementary has maintained tough standards, as measured by the Clovis Unified School District accountability model, which is the Clovis assessment system for sustained improvement [CLASSI].

Fancher Creek Elementary received the Clovis Unified School District Exemplary School Award, the district's highest honor. This award is given for overall excellence in student achievement, school management, community involvement, and cocurricular priorities.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I pay tribute to Clovis Unified School District's Fancher Creek Elementary. The students and faculty of this school share both a care for the community and a dedication to hard work. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Fancher Creek Elementary many more years of successful teaching.

IN HONOR OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF INDUSTRY

HON. ESTEBAN EDWARD TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the city of Industry on its 40th anniversary. On Saturday, June 21, 1997, the residents and businesses of the city of Industry will join to celebrate this momentous occasion.

The city of Industry was incorporated June 18, 1957. A city devoted to the business community, its basic purpose is to provide a well organized center for industry and commerce of all types. During the last decade, the city of Industry has emerged as one of the leading industrial centers of the "Pacific Empire Industrial Corridor."

In 1990, the residential population of the city of Industry was 631. This small residential community is represented by five city council members: Mayor Tom J. Durant, Mayor Pro Tem John P. Ferrero, Councilman Lawrence Mayo, Councilman Manuel Garcia, and Councilman Dean M. Winn.

The community will pause its celebration, on Saturday, in remembrance of a dear friend and outstanding civic leader of the city of Industry. Mayor John Ferrero, 1912-96, served as mayor of the city of Industry for 39 years. His distinguished service on the city council is marked with dedication and commitment to the city of Industry.

Among Mayor Ferrero's many accomplishments during his tenure was the official public opening of the Workman House Homestead. The homestead is a testimonial to the rich history of the region. Through interpretative programs, history comes alive as visitors explore the social and cultural life of three decades, significant to the site and the Nation: the 1840's, 1870's, and 1920's.

The business community of the city of Industry is served by the Industry Manufacturers Council [IMC], originally formed as the Industry chamber of commerce in 1962. In 1970, the chamber expanded to include the IMC and retained its name. The IMC is composed of individual firms located in the city and governed by the board of directors: President William White, Vice President Boyd Clarke, Secretary

Treasurer David Perez, Director Carl Bennett, Director John Byers, Director Carl Erb, Director Tom Hoffman, and Director Howard Welch.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the city of Industry on the 40th anniversary of its incorporation and sending our best wishes to the residents and businesses of the city of Industry for many more years of continued growth and prosperity.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI CONCERT SINGERS WIN GRAND PRIZE IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the University of Mississippi Concert Singers who won their fourth international choral title in May in competition in Varna, Bulgaria. The Ole Miss Concert Singers were the only group representing the United States in the competition, which included 21 choirs from 11 countries.

In addition to winning the grand prize, a panel of international judges also gave the group a first place prize in the chamber choir category, first place in the mixed choir category, and a special award for the most innovative music interpretations.

Taking the top award in this event also qualified the group to participate in the European Grand Prize competition to be held in Italy in July 1998.

Mr. Speaker, the young men and women in this extraordinary group and their director, Dr. Jerry Jordan, deserve high praise for their accomplishments. I am placing in the RECORD a press release from the University of Mississippi which details the recent success this group has had in international competition.

OLE MISS CONCERT SINGERS WOW JUDGES, CAPTURE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

UNIVERSITY MS.—The University of Mississippi Concert Singers have done it again. The choir won its fourth international choral title, this time in Varna, Bulgaria, at the International May Choir Competition.

The Ole Miss choir, the only group representing the United States, wowed judges as they sang music in seven languages from a number of musical periods and competed against 21 choirs from 11 countries, including Italy, Portugal, Russia and the Ukraine. The competition was the conclusion to the 48-member choir's two-week, five-country tour.

A panel of international judges awarded the singers three awards in addition to the Grand Prize. The choir placed first in the chamber choir category, first in the mixed choir category (men and women) and was awarded a special prize given by the judges for the first time for the most innovative musical interpretations.

"I am measurably proud of our students and for the University that we won one of the top six choral competitions in the world," said Dr. Jerry Jordan, director of the Concert Singers and director of Choral Programs at Ole Miss. "We may come from the poorest state in the Union, but it is tremendously gratifying to have the world's top authorities in choral music judge our Southern guys and gals as the best choral singers in world competition. We hope to continue to

keep the strong choral tradition going here at Ole Miss."

The Varna win qualifies Concert Singers to compete in the European Grand Prize in Gorizia, Italy, in July 1998. The Grand Prize, the world's most prestigious choral competition for nonprofessionals, is widely recognized as the litmus test for the best singers in the world.

Concert Singers competed for the Grand Prize in 1995 as one of the winners of the six top international competitions and tied for top honors with the Japanese choir. The competition was held in Arezzo, Italy.

Concert Singer Delilah Martineau of Louisville said the competition in Varna was a test of the group's talents, skills and stamina.

"I came to win and no less," she said. "However, to win we had to reach down deeper inside than we ever had and experience the music. "We had to live through each note. It was one of the most awesome musical experiences I have ever had."

Martineau's feelings were shared by a number of the singers. Chalis Pomeroy of Dickinson, ND, said singing on an international level was a rewarding experience.

"Being able to perform music at a quality level fit for the international stage is a fantastic feeling. Winning with that music is even better," she said.

But the trip was not just about winning, said singer Shannon Quon of Moorhead.

He said the best part about the competition and the trip in general was "seeing that no matter what nationality we are, what language we speak or how wealthy or poor we are we can all come together and enjoy good music. It is amazing to see how we can touch so many people through our music."

The trip had a particular sentimental attachment for Jordan, who met Istvan Parkai, a specialist in Hungarian music whose choral direction Jordan has admired for 25 years.

"Twenty five years ago I bought some recordings of Hungarian choirs and they have been my favorites," Jordan said. "He was the person I was most honored to meet on this trip because I found that he was the director for some of those recordings I had admired for so long."

Parkai was one of the judges at the competition and cried during the Concert Singers' rendition of a Hungarian piece. Following the performance Parkai said he was touched by the choir's expression during the song.

"It was as if they were understanding not just each phrase, but every word. I have rarely heard it sung with such expression and detail from even a Hungarian choir," he said.

The cultural experiences during the 14-day trip brought to life many of the differences between European and North American life. Brian Wells of Vicksburg said, "The Europeans' love for music is one of a kind."

"We did not have to wait for the competition to be around people who appreciated music," he said. "The Europeans loved and respected us on the streets, in the airports, in the hotels, churches and anywhere we sang."

The choir is no stranger to success. In 1994, the Ole Miss Concert Singers captured the top five awards in Tours, France, where they competed against 30 choirs from 17 countries to win the judge's choice for best overall choir and the audience's top choice, among other awards.

Choir members also garnered the audience's award at the same competition in 1989, and they won the Chester Music Festival in Chester, England, in 1984. Other performances have included those at the Vatican, Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall.

Jordan has played a significant role in the choir's success and was named one of the 10

most highly recommended choral clinicians in the United States in a national survey conducted by the American Choral Directors Association. He has directed the choir for the past 17 years and made his New York City debut in Lincoln Center with the American Symphony Orchestra in 1988. Jordan is regularly featured as a guest conductor at Carnegie Hall.

TRIBUTE TO HON. ROBERT C. McEWEN, M.C.

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I inform you and our colleagues of the passing of my good friend, Robert C. McEwen of Ogdensburg, NY, on Sunday, June 15. Bob McEwen served as a Member of the House of Representatives from northern New York from 1965 until 1980. Prior to that, he served as a member of the New York State senate for 11 years. Elected to the 89th Congress, Bob McEwen first served on the Committee on Public Works and the Committee on House Administration. As he gained seniority, he served with distinction as a member of the Committee on Appropriations. At the time of his retirement, he served as the ranking minority member of its Subcommittee on Military Construction.

Bob McEwen was not the kind of man who could easily retire from public service, however. President Ronald Reagan called him back into public service in 1981, appointing him to serve as the U.S. chairman of the International Joint Commission, an assignment he undertook with enthusiasm.

I feel privileged to have occupied his seat in the New York State senate and am honored to represent today the district which he served with such distinction for so many years. Bob McEwen served in elected office for three quarters of his adult life and never lost an election. In making his retirement announcement in 1980, Bob McEwen said, "Serving in an elected office is more than a way of making a living, it is a way of life." He dedicated his life to public service and exemplified the very best traditions of this institution. He is survived by his wife, Peg, and two daughters, Mrs. Nancy McEwen Wax of Easton, CT, and Mrs. Mary McEwen Fitzpatrick of Lawrenceville, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that three members of Bob McEwen's original staff are still serving his North Country Congressional District as members of my staff, Cary R. Brick, my chief of staff; Miss Donna M. Bell, my administrative secretary, and Mrs. Joann Ellis Humphries, my caseworker and office manager, all served Bob McEwen with distinction and join me in expressing our most sincere sympathies to the McEwen family.

Mr. Brick delivered a eulogy for Bob McEwen at the interment service which was held on Friday in Ogdensburg. It spoke eloquently of the high regard in which he was held by all of those who were privileged to know him. Mr. Brick's remarks follow:

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT C. McEWEN

(By Cary R. Brick)

Thirty-seven days ago, many of us gathered at the Robert C. McEwen Customs

House, the oldest building in America occupied by agencies of the Federal government, to commemorate National Historic Preservation Week.

I was honored to have been asked to participate in that ceremony. I took the opportunity to speak about the man whose name graces the historic structure, our friend, Bob McEwen. Characteristic of Bob, he called both my wife and my mother the next day to tell him how pleased he was with the event, and being the consummate gentleman that he was, added some gracious comments that any wife or mother would want to hear about her husband or son.

He called me, as well, to thank me. I remember his words: "Mr. Brick," he said, "it is not every man who gets to hear his own eulogy, thank you for letting me hear mine. I hope I won't give you reason to change your opinion of me when the time comes."

I responded by telling him he couldn't change anyone's feelings for him!

I didn't consciously prepare those remarks of 37 days ago as a eulogy. I prepared them because I wanted Bob McEwen to hear what I, and all of his friends, thought of him. But, I guess Bob knew I would repeat some of those thoughts when the time came.

One of the displays in the Customs House notes "historic buildings serve as symbols of the patriotism and pride Americans feel for their country."

I asked then and I ask again today that we acknowledge that historic building as a permanent monument to one of Ogdensburg's most prominent native sons, a gentleman who spent more than a quarter of a century serving in legislative bodies—11 years in the State Senate and 16 in the United States Congress.

May that building which Congress determined in 1980 should bear his name always serve as a memorial to his public service. May it stand strong and with dignity and class as he did for so many years.

He served more than three-fourths of his adult life in the service of New York and the nation. Bob was an American patriot and a North Country treasure whose senior statesman status was deserved because it was earned through 16 successive victories in special, primary and general elections. There might have been 17 or 18 or more, but Bob McEwen knew when it was time to come home to stay. Today, as Bob has made his final journey, we join together to celebrate his life, his contributions and his lessons.

Bob McEwen stood as a symbol of what makes our democracy survive. He was selected by his neighbors to be their voice in government, and he met their mandate with distinction. Success came easily to him because, as several newspapers have reported in the past few days, he never forgot where he came from and who he represented. He knew his district, whether it was one county or ten. His elections took him to Albany and Washington, but he never forgot his roots.

Bob knew that when the time came for him to answer his final roll call, as a veteran and former Member of the House of Representatives, he could be interred beside some of our nation's greatest national heroes, statesmen, Supreme Court Justices and other veterans from every American war in Arlington National Cemetery. He knew that he was entitled to an interment with pomp and circumstance.

But Bob was a man of our North Country. He wanted it simple. He wanted it here.

And we honor his wishes today.

Had he let us, we could have filled Ogdensburg's largest house of worship to the rafters, and then some.

He wanted it private and brief.

And we respect his wishes today. We do so just as Bob respected the people of the North

Country—the men and women who, he liked to joke, had the opportunity to renew his employment contract every two years.

Bob McEwen reflected the best of our public servants.

His honesty, his personal integrity and high morals and love for his family, combined with his respect for others—even those who may not have shared his beliefs or character—reflect what our Founding Fathers had in mind when they created the experiment which we call the American democracy.

I ask you to join me in thinking of the Customs House on the shore of Bob's beloved St. Lawrence as a monument to his countless contributions to the North Country. There is not a community or institution in the vast landscape between Lake Ontario and Lake Champlain which has not felt the influence of Bob McEwen.

It was Bob McEwen who singlehandedly laid the groundwork for the creation of the new Fort Drum which occurred after he retired from Congress. He built the foundation upon which Dave Martin and the Army created the only military installation in the United States built from scratch since World War II.

In an April, 1985, letter to his successor he called the new Fort Drum "the project that had been my greatest hope for our North Country." At this very hour, as we pay tribute to Bob, John McHugh and his colleagues in Congress are continuing that effort by debating the 1998 defense bill which contains nearly \$25 million for additional Fort Drum development.

Bob McEwen served in the Congress during a remarkable and exciting time in American history. He went to Congress in 1965 when Lyndon Johnson was transforming John Kennedy's New Frontier into his own Great Society, creating hundreds of new social programs and expanding the role of the federal government to address every social ill. Like his neighbors back home, he supported some and opposed others. He feared that some of them could contribute to uncontrollable deficits for future generations. Time has proven him to be a man of foresight.

He witnessed the expansion of our involvement in Vietnam and stood behind our servicemen even when the tide was turning against their involvement in an endless war on the other side of the globe.

He grieved when his President lost the faith of the American people. He thought there was no greater offense than abusing the trust of the people.

Bob McEwen never served in the majority party in the Congress, but there was never any doubt that he served the interests of the majority of his constituency—which he saw as his extended family.

To his immediate family, I say we all share in your loss. You have lost a husband, father and grandfather. We have lost a friend.

To Peg, we are grateful that you came into Bob's life when you did and for being a devoted wife and partner. Illness presented many challenges to Bob in recent years—challenges which would have devastated a weaker man. Peg, you were there to provide the emotional support which allowed Bob to fight his illnesses with the same vigor that he demonstrated in every campaign. You were challenged, as well, by illness and demonstrated that there was always reason to hope for better days.

To Nancy and Mary: Bob so enjoyed your success as career women and the successes of your husbands. Having lost your wonderful mother, a warm and grand lady, you already know that the loss of a parent creates a void which can only be filled by memories.

Your father frequently talked about his father, a man from whom he drew great inspi-

ration and learned many lessons. Your father was a student of his family's heritage. I recall walking through the McEwen cemetery in the Town of Lawrence with him one summer evening and listening to him describe the life and times of each of your ancestors buried there. (To really know Bob McEwen, you had to know how to listen!)

Your father understood that the McEwen family tree has very deep roots, its branches are ever expanding, its leaves sometimes colorful, as was he, and takes its strength from the rich earth beneath it.

As you mourn the loss of your father, you will draw upon the strength of that heritage and you will find peace. You are, after all, Bob McEwen's daughters. I can think of no greater tribute to both of you.

To all the McEwen grandchildren, I say you are blessed. I hope in the years to come, as you become young adults and mothers and fathers, you will study your grandfather's career, learn from it, and if you are so inclined, emulate it in any way you can while maintaining your individuality. Whatever you do will make him proud.

Lastly, to my mentor and our friend Bob:

Speaking for all of those who were privileged to work for and with you in Albany and Washington, I thank you for allowing us the privilege of being a part of your team. We are better people for having had that honor. We're not here to say goodbye, as solemn as this moment is for all of us. We are here to remember you, to celebrate your life and to find joy in having walked the road of life with you. Our memories of you shall live forever.

We will pay tribute to you by cherishing your ideals and your principles.

May God grant that your memory ever inspire us.

And may peace and bliss be granted to you until we meet again.

A RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF THE ORDER OF THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

HON. LINDA SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, under the leave to extend my remarks in the RECORD, I include the following:

A RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF THE ORDER OF THE PATRONS OF HUSBANDRY

(By the Honorable Linda A. Smith)

Whereas membership in the Grange is synonymous with good citizenship and fraternal respect for others.

Whereas for almost 130 years the Grange has remained one of the best examples of a grass-roots, bottom-up organization, whose strength lies in the more than 3,000 local Granges in over 30 states which offer a wide range of community-oriented programs and activities for children, youth and adults, and hold regular meetings where local and national issues are often discussed. For over a century Grange halls have been community centers where residents gather for educational events, dances, potlucks, town meetings, political rallies and other meetings and have allowed Junior Grange, 4-H, FFA, scouting and Camp Fire groups to thrive; and each year tens of thousands of Grange members participate in numerous community service projects.

Whereas the Grange is one of the first major national organizations which allowed women to vote and sought the membership

and involvement of everyone in the family, and Grange members have an equal voice and an equal vote at meetings regardless of their age, sex or position within the organization.

Whereas the Grange's activities with regard to legislative action sets it apart from all other fraternities, service and family organizations, and since its earliest years, the Grange has included legislative involvement—from a strictly non-partisan position—as one of its distinctive characteristics such that all policies which the Grange fights for on the local, state and national levels are decided upon by the grass-roots membership.

Whereas the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, the National Grange, was founded in 1867, through the vision of Oliver Hudson Kelley, who recognized that farmers, because of their independent and scattered nature, needed representation and a voice at all levels of government as well as a means of coordinating social interaction, which is especially important to rural residents.

Whereas the Grange has been responsible for promoting cooperatives which had the potential of helping farmers economically; undertaken efforts to ensure that the voice of the farming community is heard by lawmakers at the local, state and national level which led to the Extension Service, Rural Free Delivery, and the Farm Credit System, among other nationally significant benefits; and has served rural America in many other ways such as championing the education of rural residents, which led to dramatic improvements in rural schools.

Be it therefore resolved the Grange should receive special recognition and thanks for its many activities, programs and functions benefitting its members, rural America and the nation as a whole;

Be it further resolved that on this day, June 23, 1997, this resolution will be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as part of the public record recognizing the civic achievements of the Grange and its membership and extending the gratitude and thanks of the nation.

VALUABLE INSIGHT ON THE MFN
ISSUE

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to submit the following into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. The first is an excellent response from the Reverend Daniel Su on extending most-favored-nation trade status to China. Rev. Daniel Su, a Chinese Christian, has lived in China and has valuable insight on the MFN issue. As Reverend Su states in his letter, "To sacrifice ourselves for the sake of principles is heroic, but to sacrifice other people for our principles is insensitive." With this letter, Reverend Su is responding to an open letter on China's persecution of Christians written by Gary Bauer, president of Family Research Council. I am submitting a letter from Mr. Bauer also. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

A RESPONSE TO THE "OPEN LETTER" BY G.
BAUER AND OTHERS
(By Daniel B. Su)

I. AN OVERALL RESPONSE:

This Open Letter as well as other anti-MFN efforts are valuable in that they remind us of the important principles such as freedom and human dignity. They enhance the public awareness of China's human rights situation thus creating more pressure on Beijing and making the message of the MFN debate even stronger. It also gives the US government greater bargaining power with Beijing. NGOs should continue to speak out; the louder, the better.

However the Letter miscalculates the overall impact if the MFN should be revoked. Revocation would create more problems than what it may solve. It defies all logics that Beijing government would turn around and improve its human rights situation if it were humiliated with its loss of MFN.

The Letter scores high in preaching moral principals, but we need to make one important distinction: To sacrifice ourselves for the sake of principles is heroic, but to sacrifice other people for our principles is insensitive—to say the least.

We all deplore the gross human rights violation in China. But the Letter does not want to address the most important question in this serious debate: Will revoking China's MFN improve or worsen its human rights situation and religious freedom? By avoiding this serious question and relying more on emotional appeal, the Letter becomes less serious and relevant.

While the views of those who signed the Letter should be respected, we also notice that many other well respected Christian leaders' names are not on it. And that in itself is a reflection of the healthy diversity among Christian leaders' opinions over the MFN issue.

II. SPECIFIC RESPONSES TO THE LETTERS' ARGUMENTS (PAGE AND PARAGRAPH NUMBERS IN BRACKETS):

[p. 1, par.2]: We may agree that many Christian leaders may not think it appropriate to voice their pro-MFN views in public, but let's not underestimate the integrity of those who do speak out. Missions leaders understand China better; that is why they tend to favor renewing China's MFN.

[p. 1, par.3]: We agree that the US should and could have engaged China in a more effective way to improve its human rights; relying on trade and other current policies is not enough. On the other hand, our ideals need to be tempered with a sense of realism. The US leverage is limited; contrary to our wishes, the US government is not able to solve all the problems of the world. After all, we live in a fallen world where all countries have fallen short of the higher standards.

[p. 1, par.4]: We should continue to be the voice for the voiceless in China despite Beijing's threats, for the persecuted find strength and consolation in knowing that we care and are speaking up for them. However, on the abortion issue, unless the US government first outlaws abortion on its own land, it has no moral authority to teach other nations how to do abortion. (The NGOs are better qualified to do the job.) The US and China differ only in how abortion is achieved, but in both cases does it not end up depriving the baby's inalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness? Let's pray for the day when the US regains its moral ground to address such issues.

[p. 1, par.5]: A serious warning should be given to those who try to exploit the plight

of Chinese Christians and make them look like the archenemy of the Beijing government. What's at stake here is the cause of Christ and

[p. 1, par.5]: A serious warning should be given to those who try to exploit the plight of Chinese Christians and make them look like the archenemy of the Beijing government. What's at stake here is the cause of Christ and the lives of many Chinese Christians! China's Christians are simple religious people who do not have a political agenda, and they despise those who try to put a political label on them. There is indeed a serious danger that the arguments made by the Letter may be sized upon by those China bashers and new hawks whose only interest is to make an enemy out of China—now that the Soviet enemy is no more—and to demand sacrifices from American people.

[p.2, par.1] With the fall of communism, it may well be the panic reaction of some elite intellectuals to suggest "strangling the baby [the church] while it is still in the manger," yet we still need to be truthful enough to acknowledge that the current Beijing government policy is only to control and contain the growing church, thus allowing for some limited freedom.

[p.2, par.2] NGOs should be commended for speaking up for the Chinese persecuted.

[p.2, par.3] Of course, things can be much worse in China—anyone who understands China knows that. Christian gatherings of worship could have been forced to close totally; those political dissidents in jail today could have been executed; dissidents could have been sentenced to 15 years instead of 5; families of the prisoners could have faced much more harassment and discrimination.

[p.2, par.4] While we protest against the inhumane treatment of Pastor Wong, we can agree that this is an exceptional case rather than the rule. We all know that technology cuts both ways. While the Chinese police become better equipped, Chinese Christians and political dissidents also benefit from having access to computers, copying and fax machines, Internet, and so on, making it difficult for police to control people.

[p.2, par.5] It sent a wrong message to Beijing and Chinese people when President Clinton declared to delink human rights concerns from the MFN. However, revoking China's MFN can only backfire.

[p.3, par.1] Let's quit making the US the model to all nations and instead take an honest look at reality. The US is part of the fallen world where we see rampant abortions, racial tension and violent crimes, partisan spirit and demogarchy in politics, divisions and scandals within the church, consumerism and hedonism in society, and alarming moral decay in culture. Christian leaders should know better than to display the US as a model. Let's make a distinction between the United States and Christian faith. The early America did share biblical aspirations for justice, equality, and human dignity, but such aspirations are Christian, not American. Though America's sins, past and present, in no way justify Beijing's abuse of power, they do help keep us humble, don't they?

III. CONCLUSION

China today is in a critical stage. It can either evolve into a more open and democratic nation or an enemy to the US. If the Soviet Union could evolve into a democracy, why can't China? Let's not be like the pessimists who say things won't change; instead, let's work to turn possibilities into realities. What's crucially needed today is for American leaders to unite in formulating a con-

sistent, comprehensive China policy that helps China get on the right track without turning it into an enemy. That is a moral obligation the leaders owe to America and America's children.

[Rev. Daniel B. Su is from China and now works in the US as the assistant to the president, China Outreach Ministries, Inc., Fairfax, Virginia]

OPEN LETTER ON CHINA'S PERSECUTION OF
CHRISTIANS

DEAR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: Recently, letters have circulated on Capitol Hill from some groups and leaders involved in missions in China. These letters urge Members not to vote to revoke China's Most-Favored Nation (MFN) trade status. They cite potential dangers to the missions if the U.S. responds to Beijing's terrible record on human rights, national security and workers' rights.

There are points of agreement between us and those missions organizations. We can agree, for example, to put no individual at risk of retaliation. We should take great care in dealing with a regime that has demonstrated its willingness to settle disagreements with tanks and with bullets in the back of the head. We can also agree that those Christians directly involved in work in China are not necessarily the ones to lead the fight against MFN. They may be too close to the situation for prudence or safety to permit open opposition to the regime.

But the letters make other arguments. They suggest that a forceful response by the United States government to what everyone acknowledges is an appalling Chinese government record would be counter-productive. We cannot accept those arguments. As deeply as we respect Christian missionaries in China and throughout the world, we must disagree with a policy which allows China's rulers to manipulate the United States of America simply by threatening reprisals against these innocent, godly people. It is a form of hostage-taking.

For the U.S. to surrender to such threats would be to assure that Beijing will use threats whenever Americans cry out against the cruelty and injustice of the communist Chinese regime. Should we all keep silent about China's massive campaign of forced abortions and compulsory sterilizations? Should we avoid criticizing China's use of slave labor in the Laogai? Should we turn aside from China's latest violations of chemical weapons agreements, including shipments to Iran of poison gas? Is the United States truly the leader of the Free World? Or are we merely the "moneybag democracy" the Chinese rulers contemptuously call us?

There is a real danger that the arguments made by some U.S.-based missions may be seized upon by those whose only interest in China is profits. Some multi-national corporations have allowed the brutal Chinese birth control policies to be run in their factories. Some have also accommodated Chinese repression by banning religion in the workplace. And some have exploited prison laborers.

We wholeheartedly support missions throughout the world, and especially in China. We think it's necessary, however, to take a clear-eyed view of the conduct of the Chinese government. While missionaries seek no conflict with the government, the reality is that China's rulers do not view Christians so benignly.

Paul Marshall, in his well-received book "There Blood Cries Out," describes the attitude of China's elites. "In 1992, the Chinese state-run press noted that 'the church played an important role in the change' in Eastern Europe and warned, 'if China does not want such a scene to be repeated in its land, it

must strangle the baby while it is still in the manger."

We are proud to note the consistent and principled stance of the U.S. Catholic Conference in opposing MFN for China. Catholics are brutally repressed in China, as are Evangelicals, Muslims and Buddhists. But the USCC has never allowed Beijing's threats to deter it from its duty to speak up for the oppressed. Nor should we.

We know that we are not on "the front line" in confronting Chinese repression. Because we have a freedom to speak out that is not granted to those on the Mainland, we must use our God-given freedom to speak out for those who cannot speak for themselves. When it is argued that the situation will be worsened if America takes action, we must ask candidly, how can it be worse for the Chinese dissidents? Our own State Department reports that all dissidents have been either expelled, jailed or killed.

We rejoice in the fact that American missionaries hold U.S. passports. We pray that a strong United States will help to safeguard our fellow Americans' lives while they do the Lord's work in China. But Chinese Christians are not so protected. For Pastor Wong, leader of 40 Evangelical churches, MFN has brought no benefits. He has been arrested four times for spreading the Gospel. The last time he was jailed, his fingers were broken with pliers. While Vice President Gore was preparing to visit Beijing in March, Chinese secret police invaded the apartment of Roman Catholic Bishop Fan Zhongliang in Shanghai, seizing Bibles and other religious articles. The move against the nation's highest Catholic prelate was clearly intended to intimidate millions of faithful Chinese Catholics. MFN has only made the Chinese police more efficient in denying basic human rights to Bishop Fan and his flock.

President Clinton's 1994 "delinking" of trade and human rights concerns has actually increased repression in China. Now, even if missionaries plant churches, the Chinese secret police can disrupt them. This view is affirmed by New York editor A.M. Rosenthal. He has written:

Knowing Washington would not endanger trade with China, even though it is mountaintop in China's favor, Beijing increased political oppression in China and Tibet—and its sales of missiles, nuclear material and chemical weaponry.

Rosenthal refers to the president as Beijing's "prisoner." Let us assure, by our steadfastness, that the rest of us do not wear such claims.

From the beginning of this debate, we have recognized that the argument over MFN is not just about what kind of country China is, it is also a dispute about what kind of country America is. We believe Americans have a moral obligation to stand up for human rights, for the rule of law and for the rights of workers. We know, from long and tragic experience in this blood-stained century, that a regime which brutalizes its own people is virtually certain to threaten its neighbors.

Sincerely yours,

Gary L. Bauer, President, Family Research Council; Ralph E. Reed, Executive Director, Christian Coalition; Rev. Richard John Neuhaus, President, Institute for Religious and Public Life; Keith A. Fournier, Esq., President, Catholic Alliance; D. James Kennedy, President, Coral Ridge Ministries; Joseph M.C. Kung, President, Cardinal Kung Foundation; James C. Dobson, Ph.D., President, Focus on the Family; Phyllis Schlafly, President, Eagle Forum; Chuck Colson, President, Prison Fellowship Ministries; Gov. Robert P. Casey, Chairman, Campaign for the

American Family; Steve Suits, South Carolina Family Policy Council; William Donohue, President, Catholic League for Civil and Religious Rights. Richard D. Land, President, Christian Life Commission; Steven W. Mosher, President, Population Research Institute; Gerard Bradley, Professor, Notre Dame Law School; John DiIulio, Professor, Princeton University; Robert P. George, Professor, Princeton University; John Davies, President, Free the Fathers; Kent Ostrander, Director, The Family Foundation (KY); Matt Daniels, Executive Director, Massachusetts Family Institute.

Rev. Donald E. Wildmon, President, American Family Association; Deal W. Hudson, Publisher & Editor, Crisis Magazine; Bernard Dobranski, Dean, Columbus Law School; Rev. Steven Snyder, President, International Christian Concern; Ann Buwalda, Director, Jubilee Campaign; P. George Tryfiates, Executive Director, The Family Foundation (VA); Randy Hicks, Executive Director, Georgia Family Council; Marvin L. Munyon, President, Family Research Institute (WI).

William T. Devlin, Executive Director, Philadelphia Family Policy Council; William Held, Executive Director, Oklahoma Family Council; William A. Smith, President, Indiana Family Institute; Thomas McMillen, Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Family Council; Michael Heath, Executive Director, Christian Civic League of Maine; David M. Payne, Executive Director, Kansas Family Research Institute; Gary Palmer, President, Alabama Family Alliance.

Jerry Cox, President, Arkansas Family Council; Dennis Mansfield, Executive Director, Idaho Family Forum; Michael Howden, Executive Director, Oregon Center for Family Policy; William Horn, President, Iowa Family Policy Center; Joseph E. Clark, Executive Director, Illinois Family Institute; John H. Paulton, Executive Director, South Dakota Family Policy Council; Mike Harris, President, Michigan Family Forum.

CENSUS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED
IN PROPER PERSPECTIVE

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, the attached editorial from the Washington Times puts the issue of how the 2000 census should be conducted in proper perspective. Considering how many administration departments have been politicized, we cannot risk having possibly millions of Americans disenfranchised because of census sampling. I submit the editorial into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

[From the Washington Times, June 12, 1997]

POLITICS AND CENSUS NUMBERS

After the fiasco involving the Clinton administration's utter politicization of the Immigration and Naturalization Service's last-minute, pre-election blitz last year to enfranchise felons and other likely Democratic-voting immigrants, is there really any wonder why Republicans fear approving this crowd's use of sampling for the 2000 census?

Sadly, New Hampshire Republican Sen. Judd Gregg was not stretching it a bit when he questioned whether Dick Morris would have a role in any population sampling conducted by this administration.

Having politicized everything in sight, from the White House Travel Office to international trade missions at the Commerce Department (which, by the way, also oversees the Census Bureau), President Clinton now criticizes the Republican Congress for "weighing [the disaster-relief bill] down with a political wish list." One provision that upsets Mr. Clinton would prohibit the Census Bureau from employing statistical sampling techniques to adjust the 2000 census, which, among other things, would be used to determine the population of states for the purpose of apportioning congressional seats and distributing federal dollars. For the first time ever, the Clinton administration wants to use sampling to adjust the "actual enumeration" that the Census Bureau obtains in 2000 from mail-in forms and subsequent door-to-door data collections, proposing only to count 90 percent of the population and apply statistical projection to the remaining 10 percent.

Everybody agrees that the census is not accurate. Supplemental research after the 1990 census revealed that about four million people, 1.6 percent of the U.S. population, were not counted. According to that sample, 2.3 percent of Asian-Americans (173,000), 4.4 percent of blacks (1.40 million), 4.5 percent of Native Americans (96,000), 5 percent of Hispanics (1.16 million) and 0.7 percent of non-Hispanic whites (1.33 million) were not counted in 1990. Contrary to popular belief, however, undercounting is as prevalent in rural areas as it is in urban areas. The Clinton administration, backed by the American Statistical Association, the Association of American Geographers and the National Academy of Sciences, argues that the use of sampling would produce the most accurate, cost-efficient census. Even the Census Bureau admits, however, that introducing sampling may simply substitute one type of error for another.

Moreover, even if sampling is more accurate, it addresses neither the political question nor the constitutional question. Politically, potentially two dozen House seats lie in the balance—meaning, for all practical purposes, majority control of the House, its agenda and all the committee and subcommittee chairmanships. Why should a Republican Congress commit political suicide by relinquishing its authority over the census to a hyper-politicized administration that has treated the Census Bureau's parent, the Commerce Department, as the Democratic National Committee's (DNC) soft-money subsidiary? The fact is that the Secretary of Commerce office has been occupied for five years by a who's who of Democratic fund-raisers: former DNC Chairman Ron Brown, California money maven Mickey Kantor and Chicago rainmaker William Daley. Looking for a place to stuff the likes of John Huang, Mr. Clinton appropriately selected Commerce.

This is hardly idle speculation. As the non-partisan Statistical Assessment Service observed recently, "[O]nce the sampling precedent is set, what is to prevent us, in principle, from lowering the actual enumeration from 90 percent to 80 percent or 70 percent or lower? . . . This creates a powerful temptation for the party in power to skew the sampling adjustment its way. The ability to 'create' or 'eliminate' millions of strategically placed citizens with the stroke of a pen introduces a potent and disturbing new political weapon . . . and a dangerous new set of political temptation."

Constitutionally, the Supreme Court only last year (*Department of Commerce v. City*

of New York et al.) confirmed that the Constitution confers wide authority and discretion upon Congress in conducting the census. The Court unanimously ruled that former Commerce Secretary Robert Mosbacher, by virtue of authority delegated to him by Congress, properly refused to adjust the 1990 census to correct its undercount. Interestingly, the Clinton administration argued on behalf of Mr. Mosbacher's use of the authority Congress had delegated to him. Now, Congress merely seeks to exercise its authority. Moreover, it is by no means certain that the Supreme Court would permit a census to be adjusted by sampling. The Constitution mandates an "actual Enumeration," and last year's Supreme Court decision did not address this issue. As a practical matter, any cost savings from sampling would be overwhelmed by a Supreme Court decision rejecting the practice.

If the Clinton administration has demonstrated it cannot be trusted to process citizenship applications of immigrants properly—heretofore a very nonpolitical undertaking—how can it be remotely trusted not to politicize "a potent and disturbing new political weapon"?

HONORING GREEK-AMERICANS

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a vital, but far too frequently unacknowledged, segment of the American mosaic: Greek-Americans.

In their short existence in this Nation as an ethnic group, they have excelled in every field that they have applied themselves. From business to the arts; from athletics to the media; from public service to education; Greek-Americans have made vital and lasting contributions to America's rich civic life.

The Pancretan Association of America represents a portion of the Greek-American community whose ancestry comes from a historic island of Crete. Throughout history, the people of Crete have valiantly fought to defend their soil, their heritage, religion, and democratic ideals against tyrannical invaders and occupiers.

True to these ideals, Cretan-Americans have proudly served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America, defending the very same principles that have guided their ancestors throughout history.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring these historic Cretan-American veterans. They have fought with courage, honor, and conviction to preserve and defend the ideals that have bound the United States and Greece in a historic partnership for peace, stability, and democratic values.

MOTHER TERESA AND THE GOLD MEDAL

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the pro-

found effect a recent event had on me. As a Roman Catholic serving in the U.S. House of Representatives, my heart swelled with pride when Congress awarded Mother Teresa the Congressional Gold Medal.

The rare ceremony took place in the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol on June 5. Without question, it was one of the most powerful events I have ever witnessed.

Of course, one did not have to be Christian to take inspiration of the moment. Believers of many faiths crowded the space to see Mother Teresa, and to be moved by her prayer for the "poorest of the poor."

The Gold Medal is no ordinary recognition. It is the highest honor bestowed by Congress, approved by bill on behalf of the people of the United States.

Leaders of both chambers and parties were on hand as Representative HENRY HYDE described the one he called a living saint. "You believe that every human being, no matter how abandoned, no matter how poor, no matter how 'useless' or 'inconvenient,' * * * is an image of the invisible God, is invested with an innate and inalienable dignity and value, and thus commands our attention, our respect, and our care, and you have poured out your life in the service to that belief."

Indeed, she has. The ministry she founded, the Missionaries of Charity, extends to 120 countries with 568 houses dedicated to the unwanted, the unclothed, and the unfed. In Calcutta alone she and her sisters have provided for the successful adoption of 8,000 children. Of the hundreds of Congressmen and Senators assembled before her, she asked only our prayers for her and her ministry.

"The more we help the poor, the more we honor God," she told us. She thanked America for the parents who have given the "gift of daughters and sons to do the work of missionaries, to serve the poor, to serve Jesus."

Instantly, my mind took me back to February 4, 1994. Mother Teresa was the keynote speaker at the annual National Prayer Breakfast. At my table were legislators from five other States and ambassadors from four foreign countries. Flanked by President Clinton and Vice President GORE, she delivered a speech that rocked Washington.

Amid her discussion of charity and the church's special preference for the poor, she quickly turned the topic, "But, I feel that the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child." A grenade of truth tossed into a room full of politicians, her remarks caused 3,000 of us to squirm in unison. I remember it as yesterday.

Then, she returned us to ease with the simplicity of her response. "Each child is created in the special image and likeness of God for greater things—to love and to be loved," she said. "I will tell you something beautiful. We are fighting abortion with adoption."

"Please don't kill the child," she begged. "I want the child. Please give me the child. I am willing to accept any child who would be aborted, and to give that child to a married couple who will love the child and be loved by the child." True to her word, her Sisters of Charity have yet to refuse a child, anywhere.

Mother Teresa is a profile in contradiction; a light in the darkness, strength among the weak, courage among fear. Standing at the seat of democracy, in the strongest nation of the world, the terms of secular power—military, economic, and bureaucratic—became tiny by her greatness.

Clearly endowed by God, the power of Mother Teresa's heart transcends the power of the world.

STATEMENT ON ALS RESEARCH,
TREATMENT AND ASSISTANCE
ACT

HON. WALTER H. CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, together with my colleague BEN GILMAN, I am today introducing the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis [ALS] Research, Treatment and Assistance Act of 1997. This bill is designated to assist individuals with ALS, encourage advances in treatment, and accelerate research support at NIH.

The terrible nature of ALS was recently brought home to me through a very close friend of mine, Tom Rogers, who is suffering from this disease. Tom has been an able and compelling legislator, and a leader in the environmental movement in Santa Barbara County. His struggle with this disease has been heroic and an inspiration to all who know him. During my campaign for Congress, Tom gave me his running shoes which he said he no longer had any use for due to the debilitating aspects of ALS. I wore those shoes through the months leading up to my election. To this day, that gesture of friendship and support has continued to be a source of inspiration for me.

While most of us know of the famed baseball star for which this disease is named, many of us are unaware of the tragic consequences of Lou Gehrig's Disease. First diagnosed over 130 years ago, ALS is a progressive, fatal neuromuscular disease afflicting 25,000 to 30,000 individuals in the United States today. Approximately 5,000 new cases are reported every year.

Victims of the disease are struck by a creeping paralysis that eventually leaves them unable to eat or even breathe. There is no cure for ALS and researchers are just now beginning to understand what kills the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord that lead to the disease's destructive effects. ALS usually strikes people in their 50's or later and life expectancy is a mere 3 to 5 years.

My bipartisan bill would waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility on the basis of disability for ALS patients. This is only fair since life expectancy following diagnosis is often shorter than the waiting period and most ALS patients will have paid into the Social Security system well before the onset of ALS.

Disabled people under age 65 are eligible for Social Security Disability Insurance and Medicare benefits. However, there is a 5-month waiting period from the onset of the disability until SSDI benefits are granted and then a further 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility. Unfortunately, since ALS patients' life expectancy is only 36 to 60 months, the 29-month waiting period leave them little time to participate in Medicare. This is unfair as most ALS patients have had productive working lives prior to onset of the disease and an estimated 17,000 of them are not age-eligible for Medicare. The cost of assisted living care and various effects of the disease can leave many patients' families financially drained. Victims of end stage renal disease, who experi-

ence a similar life expectancy as ALS patients, are granted this waiver.

The Capps-Gilman bill would provide Medicare coverage for outpatient drugs and therapies for ALS. This provision would ensure patient access to such treatments and help spur the development of new treatments for ALS. Currently, Medicare part B provides drug coverage for five other afflictions: oral cancer, clotting factors, immuno suppressives, osteoporosis, and hemophilia.

Finally, this legislation would double Federal funding of research into the cause, treatment, and cure of ALS. NIH-sponsored ALS research totaled only \$12 million in fiscal year 1996. Clearly, more must be done. Recent advances in ALS research have produced promising leads, many related to shared disease processes that appear to operate in many neurodegenerative diseases. Increased research funding for NIH can speed up work on these promising leads.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the support of my colleagues for this critically important legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO U.S. WEATHER BUREAU'S NORTH ATLANTIC PATROL

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, my fellow colleagues: I would like to call your attention to a great service rendered to this country by the men who served as civilian weather observers with the U.S. Weather Bureau's North Atlantic Patrol during the Second World War. These men significantly impacted the success of D-day, and many other battles of World War II, and yet, they have never been given the public appreciation they so richly deserve.

One of my constituents, Mr. Ray McCool, told me of these men, serving in the North Atlantic Weather Patrol aboard Coast Guard vessels, who obtained and transmitted essential weather data to Washington, DC. As a result, they made possible the preparation of weather maps used throughout the war. In fact, their long-range forecasts provided vital information needed to plan the D-day invasion. Their knowledge and talents made an enormous difference in the success of the overall mission and ultimately in an Allied victory.

Their service was not without danger and sacrifice. Under the Geneva Convention Articles of War, the rules for treating military prisoners did not apply to civilians. Therefore capture by the enemy most likely meant being treated as a spy and shot. To prevent this, they were outfitted in Coast Guard uniforms, carried as chief petty officers and enlisted into the service as "U.S. Coast Guard Temporary Reserves."

If capture by the enemy wasn't worry enough, they had the high seas and enemy ships to face. A typical mission took these men out to sea for 4 to 6 weeks at a time where they dealt with hurricanes and attacks from depth charges, U-boats, and German submarines.

To date, the United States have never fully recognized the invaluable job these civilian weather observers performed.

Today, let the record show we salute these unsung heroes and acknowledge their service

to our Nation. Further, in order to show our proper recognition, I am recommending that each local veteran's office present a U.S. flag to the family of a deceased member of this elite ensemble of men. In the face of danger and against the odds, these men stood tall and answered our country's call to freedom, and for that the United States of America is forever grateful.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall Nos. 224, 223, 222, and 221 on June 20, 1997. Had I been present and voting, I would have noted in favor of these four amendments to the Defense authorization bill, H.R. 1119.

OPEN LETTER OF SENATOR NANCY KASSEBAUM BAKER AND VICE PRESIDENT WALTER MONDALE TO THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS CONCERNING BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN REFORM

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, last week two of America's most respected and distinguished senior statespeople, Senator Nancy Kassebaum Baker and Vice President Walter Mondale, visited with several bipartisan reform leaders on Capitol Hill, including myself and several of my fellow cosponsors of the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 1997. The purpose of their visit was to discuss an open letter they wrote to the President and to Members of Congress on the topic of campaign reform. For my colleague Representative CHRISTOPHER SHAYS of Connecticut and myself, I enter Senator Kassebaum Baker and Vice President Mondale's letter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM NANCY KASSEBAUM BAKER AND WALTER F. MONDALE,
Washington, DC, June 18, 1997.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: In March, the President asked that we help in the cause of campaign finance reform. Since then we have observed closely the national discussion of this issue, which we believe is central to the well-being of American democracy. We would now like to report about our initial recommendations, with a plea, in the best interests of our political process, that the Executive and Legislative Branches commit themselves to a course of urgent debate leading to early and meaningful action.

One of us is a Republican. The other is a Democrat. We are inspired by the bipartisan efforts of Senators John McCain and Russell Feingold, and Representatives Christopher Shays and Martin Meehan, to achieve campaign finance reform. The bipartisan effort of new members of the House, led by Representatives Asa Hutchinson and Thomas

Allen, is also a foundation for hope. We are mindful that no change will occur unless there is a consensus in both parties that reform is fair to each. We also believe the imperative task of renewing our democracy requires that we all look beyond party. Guided by basic lessons from our Constitution and national experience, we must identify specific measures and commit ourselves to action where agreement is within our grasp, even as we identify other questions for further consideration.

The Constitution, in this as in all public affairs, is our first teacher. It directs that the Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech. The Supreme Court has provided substantial guidance how that command applies to campaign finance laws. Whether any of us might wish that the Court had decided particulars of prior cases differently, our national legislative task is to give full honor to its free speech decisions.

The Constitution also enshrines political democracy. One of its central purposes is to ensure that every individual has the right to participate fully in the electoral process. As Madison said of the Congress in *The Federalist Papers* (No. 52), "the door of this part of the federal government is open to merit of every description, ... without regard to poverty or wealth." Our campaign finance system must respect, and do everything it can to bolster, the constitutionally rooted primacy of individual citizens in our political democracy.

In applying constitutional values to campaign finance, we do not have to start from scratch. We have had a century of debate and legislation about several essential matters, including what we now describe as "soft money." From early in the twentieth century, federal law has prohibited contributions from corporate treasuries to federal election campaigns. Starting in the 1940s, this bar has been applied equally to contributions to federal election campaigns from union treasuries. The basic principle of these constraints, upheld by the Supreme Court, is that organizations which are granted special privileges and protections, provided by federal or state law for economic advantage, should not be permitted to leverage that advantage to cast doubt on the integrity of our national government.

In the 1970s, in response to the constitutional crisis that began twenty-five years ago this week, the Congress established limits on individual contributions to candidates and political parties, and barred large individual contributions to them that threatened to undermine governmental integrity in reality or appearance. Though it subsequently invalidated several other reform provisions of that time, the Supreme Court sustained this central element of our campaign finance law.

At the end of the 1970s, the Federal Election Commission began to erode these important protections. The Commission authorized national party committees to spend the proceeds of a new category of contributions which we now know as "soft money." This allowed previously prohibited corporate and union treasury contributions, and also unlimited contributions from individuals, to the national political parties. The theory has been that if contributions are not used directly in a federal election, federal campaign finance laws do not limit them. At first, the amounts of soft money involved were relatively small. But as happens with cracks in dikes, the power behind the breach has overwhelmed all defenses. The resulting flood of

money to the national parties and their campaign organizations now threatens the credibility of our entire electoral process.

We believe that Congress, as a matter of high priority must stop, unambiguously, all "soft money" contributions to the national parties and their campaign organizations. The Congress should also prohibit the solicitation of soft money by those parties and organizations, any federal office holder, or any candidate for federal office for the seeming benefit of others, but in truth to circumvent the prohibition of soft money to the national parties. These interrelated acts would do much to reinvent the basic concept of the Federal Election Campaign Act: that, while we must remain mindful of the political parties' needs for resources to perform their vital role in the political process, it is individuals, subject to contribution limits established by Congress, who are the heart of the system of private contributions for federal elections. The prompt end to soft money solicitations by presidential candidates, among others, would also assure that the public gets full value for its investment in publicly financed presidential elections.

A recurring observation about the 1996 and other recent federal elections is that candidates have lost control of the conduct of their campaigns. Indeed, many candidates are at risk of becoming bystanders to campaigns waged by others in the name of "issue advocacy." As a result, the accountability of the candidates for the conduct of campaigns is seriously compromised. Part of the problem is the need to sharpen definitions, that may have worked twenty years ago, to distinguish campaigning for candidates from a more general public debate of issues. Another part is the need to update the disclosure requirements of the Federal Election Campaign Act. Progress on both counts is necessary to assure that our political process achieves the substantial benefits that should result from an end of the "soft money" system.

First, it is essential that Congress establish, on the basis of the experience of recent elections, an appropriate test consistent with the First Amendment for distinguishing advocacy about candidates from the general advocacy of issues. The purpose of this test should be to identify for consistent treatment under the Federal Election Campaign Act significant expenditures for general communications to the public, at times close to elections, that are designed to achieve specific electoral results. The Supreme Court has said that Congress may regulate federal campaign activity to avoid corrupting influences or appearances. In doing so, the Congress should look at reality, not the self-applied labels of partisans. Our objective should be to assure that comparable expenditures are treated comparably.

The gains from ending "soft money" will be incomplete if money currently spent by parties is only redirected into so-called issue advertisements, including those by surrogate organizations established to circumvent campaign finance laws. A tightened, realistic definition of statutory terms will not foreclose communications to the public on behalf of the interests of business enterprises and unions even up to Election Day, under regulations evenly applied to their political action committees. It will mean that communications to the general public in periods close to elections that are designed to achieve electoral wins or losses are financed through the voluntary contributions of individuals, such as to their parties, political action committees, or candidates.

Second, disclosure is an essential tool because it allows citizens to hold candidates accountable for the means by which campaigns are financed. On election day voters can only express themselves about candidates on the ballot. Even candidates, however, may not know the true identity of entities that dominate the airwaves during the closing weeks of a campaign with electoral message patently targeted to favor or disfavor them or their opponents. Broader disclosure of the sources of financing of campaign advertisements would contribute to the robustness of political debate. It would ensure that candidates know to whom they might respond, and that the electorate knows who can be held accountable for the accuracy or demeanor of advertisements.

Additionally, we should take advantage of an electronic age in which information can be transmitted rapidly from, and updated frequently by, party and campaign officials, and made readily available to the public with equal rapidity.

No limitations and no disclosure requirements are worth much in the absence of timely and effective enforcement. Indeed, the absence of credible enforcement causes damage beyond the campaign finance laws by engendering real doubts about the application of the rule of law to powerful members of our society. The American public believes resolutely that a fundamental premise of our constitutional democracy is that high elected officials, like ordinary citizens, are subject to the rule of law, and to the timely application of it. The Congress and the President need to work together to assure the public that campaign finance laws are not pretenses.

The President and the Senate should take immediate action to assure that vacancies on the Federal Election Commission are filled by knowledgeable, independent-minded individuals who are not subject to the suggestion that they are appointed to represent political organizations. We say this because we need a clean break from the past, not to be critical of any former, present, or potential member of the Commission. It is within the President's power to accomplish this new start for the Commission, beginning today. We urge the President, in consultation with the leadership of the Congress, to name an advisory panel of citizens whose task would be to recommend highly qualified candidates for the President's consideration for appointment to the Commission, subject of course to the Senate's advice and consent.

Congress can take further steps to protect the independence of the Commission. If commissioners were limited to one term, they would have no occasion to measure the impact of their decisions on the possibility of reappointment. The independence of the Commission can also be furthered by placing its funding on a more secure, longer term basis.

The potential for deadlock inheres in the requirement that the Commission have an even number of commissioners. Because the Congress also has made the Commission the official gatekeeper to the United States courts, judicial action to resolve complaints under the Federal Election Campaign Act is impeded unless permitted by a majority of commissioners. Thus, a deadlocked Commission is an obstacle to the adjudication of meritorious claims. It is important to rely on the expertise of the Commission, but when the Commission is unable to resolve complaints, our respect for the rule of law

requires that complainants have the right to a fresh start through a direct action in the United States courts against alleged violators. The law should be amended to provide for this in the event that the Commission is unable to act because of deadlock or a lack of resources.

We have not attempted to set out an exhaustive list of reforms which may be attainable and would make a significant contribution. Other important proposals by members of Congress or students of campaign finance reform merit consideration, such as encouraging small contributions through tax credits, or providing greater resources to candidates through enhanced access to communications media or through flexibility by the parties in supporting candidates with expenditure of hard money contributions. Rather, our purpose is to illustrate that it is possible to identify and act on particular, achievable improvements, which should not be postponed or neglected. We very much encourage and support a larger debate about other changes at the federal and state levels in the manner in which political campaigns are financed. Additional changes will be essential to renewing American democracy. The enactment of immediate reforms may give us a measure of time to address other reforms, but should never become an excuse for avoiding them.

We urge that the work of the Congress over the next few months be spurred by one overriding thought: no one would create, or should feel comfortable in defending, the campaign finance system that now exists. Public cynicism about our great national political institutions is the inevitable product of the gaps that exist between our principles and the law, and between the law and compliance with it. The trend lines, also, are all wrong. If we were unhappy about campaign financing in the election of 1996, as the public is and as members of both parties ought to be, then we should anticipate with great trepidation the election of 2000, absent prompt reforms.

The challenge for this Congress is to put in place changes for the presidential and congressional election cycle that will start the day after next year's elections, a little more than sixteen months from now, to enable an election in the year 2000 in which we will have pride and the public will have confidence. Your leadership in that endeavor will serve the interests of American democracy, and command the enduring appreciation of all of us who know how needed that leadership is.

Sincerely,

NANCY KASSEBAUM BAKER.
WALTER F. MONDALE.

AN OPTION WORTH WATCHING

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, the gentleman from Texas, the Ways and Means Chairman, Mr. ARCHER, has developed a tax relief plan to help restore our Nation's Capital, the District of Columbia. I enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD an editorial from the Washington Post which, recognizing that a tax incentive plan is the sole solution to the troubles of the District, still concludes that it is an option "worth watching."

[From the Washington Post, June 11, 1997]

MR. ARCHER'S PLAN FOR THE DISTRICT

House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer's tax incentive plan for the

District has encouraged a chorus of carping from city officials who predict that the measure won't stem the middle-class exodus to the suburbs. Perhaps to their surprise, Rep. Archer agrees. "The single biggest thing that the District of Columbia needs to do," he told a press conference at the bill's unveiling, "is to create an environment that is healthy for people to live and to work and to educate their children. * * * There are no changes in the tax code that are going to be enough to accomplish that."

Rep. Archer's appraisal was both candid and realistic. The District's tax code isn't the chief reason more than 50,000 residents have fled the city in the 1990s alone. A host of problems—including poor schools, crime, broken city services and abysmal local leadership—are responsible. The District's survival will depend less on tax cuts than on a wide variety of policies and actions that directly address those ills. Fixing the school system, imposing financial accountability and management reforms in the government, improving public safety and adopting the president's plan to take over some burdensome state-level responsibilities and costs will go a long way toward creating a stable and livable city.

Tax cuts, whether they benefit the majority of residents or are focused on the city's poorest neighborhoods, aren't going to provide the city with a sustainable revenue base. Yet to dismiss the GOP tax-break proposals out of hand may be shortsighted and self-defeating too.

Businesses are leaving town, and the city is having trouble attracting new firms. Much the same applies to middle-income residents. Rep. Archer believes tax relief could become a magnet for residents and businesses in certain economically depressed areas of the city such as Anacostia, Mount Pleasant and Chinatown. Whether tax breaks would keep and attract new residents or spur investment and job creation in the District's struggling areas is an open and untested question in this city. At \$325 million in tax relief spread out over five years and targeted on about 80,000 of the city's 554,000 residents, it's an expensive gesture, if not gamble.

Control board chairman Andrew Brimmer believes the plan's economic impact would be "slight." House Speaker Newt Gingrich, on the other hand, reportedly views the D.C. tax package as a "demonstration project that Republican free-market solutions are the best way to solve the problems of our nation's inner cities." It's an experiment worth watching.

THANKS TO PHIL JACKSON AND
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
BROADCASTERS

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank those who helped the victims of the flood that hit the upper Great Plains this spring. I would especially like to point out the public service announcement filmed by Chicago Bulls coach and former North Dakotan Phil Jackson and distributed by the National Association of Broadcasters.

In the midst of the Chicago Bulls run for a fifth NBA title in 7 years. Coach Jackson took the time to film a public service announcement asking Americans to help the flood victims of his former State. Teaming up with the National

Association Broadcasters, we got the work out about this PSA, and about how broadcasters could join the flood relief effort.

While the PSA was playing in cities across the United States asking individuals to give what they could to help the flood victims, broadcasters were also becoming involved in the campaign. In Fargo, ND, a TV station's telethon raised \$1.2 million. In Minneapolis, 21 radio morning shows raised \$500,000. In Omaha, a DJ got listeners to fill a 53-foot truck with donations. While in Grand Forks, KCNN Radio continued its round the clock effort to answer any and all questions for flood victims and provide the community with the latest in local and national news affecting its listeners.

To Phil Jackson of the Chicago Bulls and to the broadcasting community I extend my thanks.

A TRIBUTE TO EUNICE KINDRED

HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Eunice Kindred, a rising senior at Tampa Preparatory School, on her first-place finish in the Congressional Art Competition for high school students of the 11th Congressional District. Her painting will be hung in the Capitol here in Washington, DC. For many students, this honor might be his or her first recognition of talent, but for Eunice, this is one addition to a long list of accomplishments within as well as outside the realm of art.

Eunice has excelled at art throughout her life, showing a unique talent for expression through canvas since age 5. She has received countless awards for her artistic abilities, at the local and national levels. Her artwork has been displayed in various exhibitions in the Tampa area; the list continues. Recently, Eunice has entered the world of business, starting her own design company. Undoubtedly she will enhance and fulfill her entrepreneurial skills to the level of her artistic skills.

Aside from these talents Eunice has the distinction of being one of the top young bowlers in the United States today. Eunice bowled a 299 game in 1992, consistently places highly in tournaments, and was recognized in 1994 as being in the top 5 percent of all young bowlers in the United States and Canada, an honor for which she received a letter of recognition from the President of the United States.

Eunice's extraordinary abilities also extend into musicianship. She is an accomplished violinist, having held the first violin chair of the Tampa Bay Youth Orchestra.

What is impressive about this young lady is the fact that despite her extensive extracurricular activities, Eunice maintains an excellent academic record; her induction into numerous honor societies is reflective of this record.

Eunice is truly an exceptional person. Her abilities run the gamut, ranging from aesthetics to athletics. Young people all across America such as Eunice embody the American spirit and will help lead the way into the 21st century. I, along with the rest of the 11th District of Florida, congratulate Eunice on her fine accomplishment.

REGARDING THE UPPER GREAT
PLAINS FLOOD OF 1997

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 23, 1997

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my appreciation to the people who have helped the disaster-stricken communities of North Dakota. Whenever a community suffers from a disaster, people often look to their local leadership to help them get through trying times and help them get back on their feet. With the blizzards and floods of 1997, local leaders in North Dakota have not only risen to the task, they've become heroes to the people they serve. Few can forget the images of Grand Forks Mayor Pat Owens working around the clock as her community suffered the worst disaster in North Dakota history. And

between working endless hours helping her city through this time and numerous trips to Washington to make a case for Federal support, she was always available to also lend a shoulder to the Grand Forks resident who needed comfort.

Many other mayors across North Dakota, Minnesota, and South Dakota showed their unshakeable commitment to the people they serve. Mayor Lynn Stauss of East Grand Forks, Mayor Bruce Furness of Fargo, Mayor Hetty Walker of Pembina, Mayor Dan Rood of Wahpeton, and so many other community leaders deserve our thanks and our praise.

When our communities needed their leadership the most, they were there for us—providing strength, courage, and leadership that has truly made a difference to the lives of the people they represent.

The flood of 1997 on the Upper Great Plains brought out the best in people as neighbors helped neighbors get through some very difficult times. People from around the country stepped forward to lend a hand and show the residents of Grand Forks that they weren't alone. I would also like to recognize the incredible help provided by the men and women of the Grand Forks Air Force Base. From acting as the mass care shelter to hosting the senior prom, the assistance from the air base to the community continues. The response activities, and now the ongoing re-

covery efforts, could not happen without those extraordinary efforts.

Other groups that contributed to the disaster far above the normal call-of-duty include the men and women who worked to restore power after the blizzard. Linemen who in some cases were wearing snowmobile helmets as they worked to restore power lines during the height of the ice storms deserve our thanks for a job well done. The thousands of volunteers who fought the flood, in some cases even while their own homes were being inundated, should be remembered for their selfless acts and hard work.

Donations poured in from every corner of the United States as the magnitude of this disaster and suffering became known. Other acts of kindness from individuals and corporations were commonplace, their generosity at times truly defying description.

At the same time, other agencies stepped forward to do their usual jobs of helping people recover. Unfortunately, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army all too often are taken for granted for the support they provide. Let me tell you that in North Dakota, and especially in Grand Forks, they are not taken for granted. They set new standards for caring and commitment.

To all those who stepped forward to help those in need I say thank you.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 24, 1997, may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 25

9:30 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Communications Subcommittee
To hold hearings on international satellite reform proposals.
SR-253

Governmental Affairs
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
To hold hearings to examine emerging fraud in the Medicare program.
SD-342

Rules and Administration
To hold hearings to examine campaign financing, focusing on whether political contributions are voluntary.
SR-301

Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to review a recent General Accounting Office (GAO) report entitled "Gulf War Illnesses: Improved Monitoring of Clinical Progress and Re-examination of Research Emphasis Needed".
SH-216

Indian Affairs
To hold oversight hearings on the Administration's proposal to restructure Indian gaming fee assessments.
SD-562

10:00 a.m.
Appropriations
District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the District of Columbia.
SD-192

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Securities Subcommittee
To resume oversight hearings to examine Social Security investment in the securities markets.
SD-538

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings on pending nominations.
SD-419

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine encryption, key recovery, and privacy protection in the information age.
SD-226

2:00 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the United States Fire Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Office of Associate Administration for Commercial Space Transportation.
SR-253

Judiciary
To hold hearings on pending nominations.
SD-226

JUNE 26

9:00 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.
SR-253

9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 783, to increase the accessibility of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.
SD-366

JUNE 26

9 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on recent administrative changes and judicial decisions relating to Section 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.
SD-406

Small Business
Business meeting, to mark up S. 208, to provide Federal contracting opportunities for small business concerns located in historically underutilized business zones, and proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Small Business Administration.
SR-428A

10:00 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to review the Global Tobacco settlement.
SD-226

Judiciary
Technology, Terrorism, and Government Information Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the threat of domestic terrorism, focusing on allegations from the recent trial of Timothy McVeigh in the Oklahoma City bombing.
SD-226

2:00 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold hearings on S. 308, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study concerning grazing use of certain land within and adjacent to Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, and to extend temporarily certain grazing

privileges, and S. 360, to require adoption of a management plan for the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area that allows appropriate use of motorized and nonmotorized river craft in the recreation area.
SD-366

Judiciary
Immigration Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposals to extend the Visa Waiver Pilot Program, including S. 290, to establish a visa waiver pilot program for nationals of Korea who are traveling in tour groups to the United States.
SD-226

JULY 10

2:00 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings to review the preliminary findings of the General Accounting Office concerning a study on the health, condition, and viability of the range and wildlife populations in Yellowstone National Park.
SD-336

JULY 23

9:00 a.m.
Finance
International Trade Subcommittee
To hold hearings with the Caucus on International Narcotics Control on the threat to U.S. trade and finance from drug trafficking and international organized crime.
SD-215

JULY 30

9:00 a.m.
Finance
International Trade Subcommittee
To resume hearings with the Caucus on International Narcotics Control on the threat to U.S. trade and finance from drug trafficking and international organized crime.
SD-215

CANCELLATIONS

JUNE 24

9:30 a.m.
Small Business
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Small Business Administration.
SR-428A

JUNE 25

9:30 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
Business meeting, to consider pending calendar business.
SR-430

JUNE 26

9:30 a.m.
Labor and Human Resources
Children and Families Subcommittee
To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of the Family and Medical Leave Act.
SR-430