

coach builders who annually manufacture fewer than 10,000 vehicles from this onerous tax.

I urge my colleagues to join me in providing this tax relief for small businesses by cosponsoring this legislation.

A DISTINGUISHED CAREER OF
ACHIEVEMENT

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, the quality of health care that people receive is most directly related to the skills and manner of the people providing the care. A kind word, a reassuring look, or a friendly touch can do as much to help speed along a person's recovery as can any medicine. The patients at Bay Medical Center have had the good fortune to have the professional leadership of more than 1,200 employees by Dorothy Watrous, the Vice President of Patient Care, who is retiring after seventeen years of service.

During her time at Bay Medical, Dorothy Watrous has been credited with instituting many successful programs. She implemented Primary Care Nursing and Nursing Career Ladders, which have earned national praise as innovative and effective efforts. Dorothy has worked to provide educational opportunities for employees of the Center. She has also given back to the nursing profession through her work in developing an annual nursing scholarship program through Bay Medical Center for qualified students in the community.

One of the most important actions on her part was to develop a flexible scheduling program that accommodated working mothers. Given the demands that medical staffs face, the ability to deal with the realities of family needs helped to provide a happier staff that could only make patients feel even better about the responsiveness of their care. She also provided strong encouragement to employees to pursue further education and move up to positions of greater responsibility.

Having received both her Bachelor's and Masters of Science degrees in nursing from the University of Michigan, Dorothy Watrous went on to serve within the U.S. Public Health Service. She also has participated in many community service projects, including the Board of Directors for the Bay County Women's Center, and the Allocations Committee of United Way of Bay County. She also is the Vice Chairperson for the Board of Directors for Bay Medical Education, and on Advisory Committees for Bay-Arena Skill Center, Delta College, Saginaw Valley State University, and Great Lakes Junior College. She is an active member of the Bay City Presbyterian Church and Choir, the Saginaw Torch Club, and the Bay YWCA Week Without Violence Committee.

Mr. Speaker, when an individual does so much for her profession and for her community, that person deserves to be lauded. While her day-to-day presence will be missed, her efforts and initiatives will certainly continue to be of benefit to people for years to come. I ask you and all of our colleagues to join me in thanking Dorothy Watrous for her years of dedication, and in wishing her the very best for her retirement and all that lies ahead.

SENDING BEST WISHES TO
MARYBETH SCARPONE

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I am sad to report that Marybeth Scarpone, a staff assistant who serves the residents of New Jersey's twelfth congressional district in my Freehold office, has announced that she is leaving the office. Marybeth has been a joy to have in the office. She has always been cheerful and pleasant. She greets constituents with a bright, happy smile putting them at ease. Her caring nature is evident by the numerous letters of gratitude we receive from constituents whom she has helped.

Marybeth grasped new challenges in her life with enthusiasm and exuberance, from the art competition and the women's forum to the youth council. All have been successful events thanks in part to the efforts of Marybeth. Today, my district office is decorated with the artwork of those students who were runner ups in this year's competition.

Often, Marybeth would go beyond the call of duty and we will not only remember her for her happy, beaming demeanor but for the rash of poison ivy after a beach cleanup and the way she looked after chaperoning the 4-H high school essay contest winners on their trip to D.C.—a day that started at 5:00 a.m.

Once in a while you could catch her spending her lunch hour in our conference room with baskets and gardening gloves, caring for the beautiful plants that brighten up our bay window.

Someone else may one day occupy Marybeth's desk but no one can occupy the place in our hearts that she has found. We will miss her very much and we wish her a future of success and happiness.

IN SUPPORT OF BRAIN INJURY
RESEARCH

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, Traumatic Brain Injury, known as TBI, is the number one killer and cause of disability among young people in the United States. It claims more victims than breast cancer, prostate cancer and AIDS combined, yet it receives little attention from Congress, the media and the medical community.

It is time that Congress demonstrate its commitment to head injury patients and expand our efforts to treat and cure brain injuries. Each year, more than 2 million Americans are involved in an incident which results in head injury. Approximately 100,000 victims die and 500,000 will require hospitalization.

Traumatic brain injury can strike anyone and leave devastating results. Trauma to the head can result in significant impairment to an individual's physical, psychosocial and cognitive functional abilities. TBI affects the victim's whole family both emotionally and economically and often results in immense medical and rehabilitative expenses. The direct and indirect costs of TBI are \$25 billion per year.

In 1996, Congress passed the Traumatic Brain Injury Act which authorized the NIH to expand research studies and establish innovative programs regarding traumatic brain injury. We must now provide the NIH with sufficient funding so that exciting new research, such as regeneration, can reach the clinical stage and give victims and their families new hope.

I urge my colleagues to support NIH brain injury funding so that we can help save Americans from the devastation of Traumatic Brain Injury.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
CONCERNING THE CHATTAHOOCHEE
NATIONAL RECREATION
AREA

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 1998

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced a bill, H.R. 4141, to modify the boundaries of the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area to protect the lands, waters, and natural, cultural, and scenic resources along the Chattahoochee River.

Expansion of the Chattahoochee National Recreation Area will provide additional recreation opportunities for citizens, will protect and preserve the endangered Chattahoochee River, and will be accomplished through support and funding from federal, state, local, and private entities.

The Chattahoochee River, ranked as one of the ten most endangered rivers in the country provides the drinking water for the Atlanta metropolitan area and almost half of the population of Georgia. One of the major concerns to our river is the imminent threat of development. Runoff from construction and the overdevelopment of areas surrounding the forty-eight mile stretch of the river north of the city have resulted in pollution silt, and sediment build-ups. This bill authorizes the creation of a greenway buffer between the river and private development to prevent further pollution from continued development, provide flood and erosion control, and maintain water quality for safe drinking water and for the abundant fish and wildlife dependent on the river system. Protecting this valuable resource is vital to the future of the state of Georgia and what I consider to be one of the most important things that I can do in my public career.

The massive influx of people—more than 400,000 since 1990—into the Atlanta metropolitan area has not only endangered the river, but has also dramatically increased the need for recreational areas. The Chattahoochee River is currently one of the most visited recreation areas in the country. At the rate of growth expected in this area, the demand for parks will only increase. Visitor enjoyment will be enhanced by increased acreage and by adding land-based links between existing units of the national recreation area. This additional land will be welcomed in a city with a lack of public parks and green spaces.

This greenway project will serve as a model for future conservation efforts. Public and private cost sharing will ensure local involvement in the expansion of the park boundary. Federal appropriations provided in this proposal will be matched by funding from the State of