Chief Administrator of Alma High School, in Alma, Michigan, Richard has promoted and maintained a solid system of education for eight-hundred students and eighty faculty over the past six years. Prior to his position at Alma High School, Mr. Chambers fulfilled several roles as principal, and business associate for many great institutions throughout Michigan. Certainly, his participation with groups such as the local rotary club, the Michigan Department of Education Review Committee, the North Central Association evaluation team, and the National Association of Secondary School Principals, demonstrate the strong and influential leader Mr. Chambers is within his community. With a successful career beginning in 1964—when he started as a high school teacher and interim principal—Richard has enriched the lives of thousands of students.

Based in a small town of roughly ten-thousand citizens, Alma High School has been selected a Class B, Michigan Exemplary School. Of the eight-hundred students who attend classes at Alma High School, 75 percent are expected to continue their education at some level of a post-secondary institution. This multitude of success is a direct result of Dick’s interaction with his students and faculty. Today’s society invests incredible merit in school to work hard and the broad curriculum offered at Alma High produces great incentive for post-secondary education.

Much of the success of today’s public school system depends on strong leadership from both teachers and the administration. The honor of “Principal of the Year” establishes a sense of security for the community to know such a special person is leading their school. This is the type of leader every school district needs. Alma High School is blessed to have a strong and influential leader Mr. Chambers as their Principal. I know the parents, students, and faculty associated with Alma High School, join me in recognizing Mr. Richard Chambers for his outstanding accomplishment.

THE BAHÁ’ÍS IN IRAN

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about recent reports that the government of Iran has executed a member of the Bahá’í faith, and imprisoned and condemned others to death solely because of their religious beliefs. In addition, reports suggest that Iranian officials arrested 32 Bahá’í teachers in a crackdown against those who are Bahá’ís.

The recent execution of Mr. Ruhollah Rowhani for proselytism is the first execution of a Bahá’í in six years and, unfortunately, it was accompanied by the death sentence of other Bahá’ís. Just last week, two of these sentences had their death sentence confirmed. Mr. Sirus Zahabi-Moghadam and Mr. Hedayat Kashfuhl Najafabadi were arrested in the fall of 1997 for holding meetings for religious “family life.” Reports reveal that after no legal representation at secret trials at the beginning of 1998, the two men were sentenced to death.

Unfortunately, there are other Bahá’ís in similar situations.

Mr. Speaker, the government of Iran must be held accountable for violating the fundamental human right of religious liberty for the Bahá’ís and other religious minority believers in Iran. If the leadership of Iran desires to play a role in the international community, they must uphold religious liberty and all fundamental human rights for all people.

I, along with other Members of Congress, Senators, and the American people will be watching closely to see whether or not the Iranian government protects the rights of its people, or continues to blatantly violate international human rights norms.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE FRANK PIOMBO

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 9, 1998

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today before the House to celebrate the life of a most distinguished citizen and incomparable friend, the retired Superior Court Judge Frank Piombo, who passed away peacefully at his home in Redwood City, California, on September 21, 1998. A Memorial Mass was held at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church in Judge Piombo’s presence.

Born and reared in San Francisco, Frank Piombo was a resident of Redwood City for 51 years, making the Bay Area his lifelong home. For this decision we, the residents of San Mateo County, are very grateful because we shall forever remember the contributions he made both to our community and our country. To his country, Frank gave years of dedicated and courageous service. During World War II, he served in the 100th U.S. Infantry, earning a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart.

To his community, Frank Piombo devoted himself to a career in public service. He was a Deputy District Attorney for San Mateo County, as well as City Attorney for the City of Millbrae. In 1971, he was appointed a Municipal Court Judge, and later that year Governor Ronald Reagan elevated Frank Piombo to the Superior Court.

His devotion to the community extended beyond his judicial duties. He was active in the Elks, the Eagles, and the Sons of Italy. He was known for contriving some of the best practical jokes on scores of people and these stories are now legendary. His love of card games was a well established fact, and he was known to show up at a moment’s notice for a game.

Nothing in the world meant more to Frank Piombo than his family. He was married for 47 years to the love of his life, Lydia, and they were blessed with five children: Lee, Robert, Nancy, Susan and Jan, as well as ten magnificently blessed grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Frank Piombo’s life was a beautiful combination of deep pride in his Italian-American heritage, patriotism rooted in the Constitution and the law, his great faith which gave him guidance and unwavering belief in the beatitudes, and love of the family which was unparalleled. His gift to me was our friendship and I shall treasure this all my life. I ask that the entire House honor this good and faithful citizen because of how he lived and who he was. Frank Piombo was the best of America.

A 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE TO IRENE AND AL DALPIAZ

HON. JERRY LEWIS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, my colleague Mr. Ney and I would like to bring to your attention today the 50th wedding anniversary of our dear friends, Irene and Al Dalpiaz of Dover, Ohio. Al and Irene will mark the occasion during a special celebration with their children and grand-children next weekend in Medeira Beach, Florida.

Irene Sikora and Albert Dalpiaz were married on October 2, 1948 at St. Mary’s Church in Dover, Ohio. From their meeting at a dance, Al and Irene knew they shared a special bond. Irene was the oldest of eight daughters and, in the early days of their courtship, usually had a difficult time getting rid of her sisters when Al would come calling. From the beginning, they were the perfect couple. Unfortunately, the wedding photographer forgot about their wedding and only showed up at the end of their ceremony. Ironically, Al and Irene spent their honeymoon in Washington D.C.

Al and Irene’s first son, Larry, was born in 1954. Seven years later, the family moved to Dover, Ohio and their favorite (and only) daughter, Elaine, was born. Kevin was born four years later. Al was the co-owner of Tusco Service where he was a genius installing and repairing air conditioning and refrigeration units. In those days, especially, that was a bonus; their home was the first on the street to have central air conditioning. Al left Tusco in the 1970’s and worked at Cummins Diesel until his retirement in the late 1980’s. After a stint of being a full-time mom, Irene returned to work as a secretary at Dover Public Schools in the late 1970’s. The Dalpiaz family was, and remains, a very tight-knit family. Family summer vacations to the Smokey Mountains, Daytona Beach and Myrtle Beach were very common. Like most Italian families, “la famiglia Dalpiaz” was tremendously dedicated to those things in their life that meant the most to them—spending time with grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins as well as their commitment to work, school, the needy, and the Catholic Church.

That commitment is extra special today as it relates to their grandchildren, Anthony and Gabriel. For many years, Al and Irene have also looked out for those less fortunate and to this day provide the most needy in Tuscarawas County with food and clothing. In short, they have made a special commitment to showing their family and those around them with love.

While Al and Irene are officially retired, one would not know it from watching them. Like
many people half their age, these two are always on the go. In recent years, they have traveled to Hawaii, England, Scotland, Florida, and their favorite destination, Las Vegas. In all of our days, we have rarely seen a Catholic woman like Irene with such a serious affliction of our days. We have rarely seen a Catholic woman like Irene with such a serious affliction. Al also enjoys spending time at the local Elks Lodge and VFW Hall in Dover.

Mr. Speaker, we ask that you join us and our colleagues in recognizing the 50th anniversary of these two very special people. Al and Irene Dalpiaz are among the kindest people we know and it is only fitting that the House of Representatives pay tribute to them today.

AUTHORIZING THE COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY TO INVESTIGATE WHETHER SUFFICIENT GROUNDS EXIST TO IMPEACH WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SPEECH OF HON. MAJOR R. OWENS OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 1998

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the historic vote to launch an impeachment inquiry I have joined with the overwhelming majority of Democrats to vote for an alternative compromise. This action has allowed us to avoid destructive fragmentation and continue our united leadership of the majority of Americans. At the end of this statement I will attach my original position on this matter which remains as my present position. We are dealing with sins, not high crimes and misdemeanors. Government should not invade the jurisdiction of religion and the clergy.

Leadership for a difficult and thorny national situation is the challenge faced by minority Democrats who can do nothing to completely halt the abuses of the Republican majority. Despite the Democratic alternative, an impeachment process that is highly partisan and vicious will go forward. But now the Republicans can never say that they have bipartisan support. Joining with fellow Democrats I voted for an alternative compromise in order to continue the process of cementing our position with that of the majority of Americans. I wanted to personally just say no; to drop the impeachment inquiry. Reluctantly I left the highest ground; however, the Democratic compromise call for time limits and scope limits on the Judiciary Committee process still represents high ground. On October 8th the record will show that Democrats sacrificed some credibility in order to contribute to a resolution, and enough tomatoes to feed the entire tire state. In fact, Al has shared seeds with us both and his reputation continues to grow. He also enjoys spending time at the local Elks Lodge and VFW Hall in Dover.

Mr. Speaker, we ask that you join us and our colleagues in recognizing the 50th anniversary of these two very special people. Al and Irene Dalpiaz are among the kindest people we know and it is only fitting that the House of Representatives pay tribute to them today.

MARTIN ARMY COMMUNITY HOSPITAL EARNS HONOR

HON. MAC COLLINS OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my congratulations to the Martin Army Community Hospital at Fort Benning, Georgia on the announcement of its third “Accreditation with Commendation” by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, an honor bestowed upon only the finest hospitals in the nation. It is also the only hospital in the U.S. Army Medical Command to receive this acknowledgment for three consecutive tri-annual surveys.

Martin Army Community Hospital (MACH) was named in honor of Major General Joseph I. Martin, MC, a pioneer in field medicine and medical military education and training. The hospital has served the Fort Benning/Columbus community since 1955, and provides quality care to approximately 9,000 inpatients and 585,000 outpatients. MACH’s principal customers are active duty and retired members and their dependents who are eligible beneficiaries for DOD health services.

Receiving “Accreditation with Commendation” is a significant achievement, one that recognizes exemplary performance and commitment to providing quality care. Fort Benning is fortunate to have as inseparable a facility as MACH serving its community. I congratulate Martin Army Community Hospital on its continual excellence.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK RIGGS OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. RIGGS. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House of Representatives on Monday, October 5, 1998 and Tuesday, October 6, 1998 and consequently missed several votes. Had I been present, the following is how I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 480: Yea.
Rollcall No. 481: Nay.
Rollcall No. 482: Yea.
Rollcall No. 483: Yea.
Rollcall No. 484: Yea.

CELEBRATING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA’S NATIONAL DAY

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHHEY OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. HINCHHEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the Republic of China’s National Day.