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 for gambling on the nickel slot machines! Al tells me the reason he and Irene enjoy their travel so much is because they are casually spending their kids’ inheritance. Al, himself, has a tremendous reputation and has made local headlines for his marvelous garden where he produces garlic, parsley, lettuce, beans, and enough tomatoes to feed the entire state. In fact, Al has shared seeds with us both and his reputation continues to grow. He also enjoys spending time at the local Eiks 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 Delpiaz 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 CONSIDER THE IMPEACHMENT OF 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 bi-partisan 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 state.

In the end, our leadership guidance message was: “limit the scope and limit the time.” The vital business of the country is waiting.

PREVIOUS STATEMENT RELEASED ON SEPTEMBER 8, 1998

As a member of Congress I am sorry that there is an escalating hysteria that may lead to the religious lynching of a great president. President Clinton has gone further than he should have been asked to go in offering a public statement about his intimate personal life. In view of the fact that absolutely on one has charged that a national security issue is involved in this matter, all further government inquiries should be dropped. The nation has in no way been placed at risk. Certainly nothing took place which touched on bribery, treason, or high crimes and misdemeanors. For those who continue to expand their detailed probe and to pass judgment through the prism of their hypocritical Victorian values, we concede their right to wallow in their “Peyton Place” preoccupations. There is, however, a profound difference between crimes and sins. It is of utmost importance that we acknowledge and support the spirit of our Constitution which discourages the state from investigating private morality and affirms the right of every American, even the President, to separately negotiate his sins with his God.

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 L. Martin, MC, a pioneer in field medicine and medical military education and training. The hospital has served the Fort Benning/Columbus communities 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.

The current 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 incredible a facility as MACH serving its community. I congratulate Martin Army Community Hospital on its continued 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. HINCHEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the Republic of China’s National Day,
I wish to offer my congratulations to her people and her leaders. Taiwan has had a remarkable record of accomplishment in recent years, and deserves recognition as a model for other nations and our thanks for its constructive partnership with our nation.

Taiwan is a model for other nations in two ways especially. First, it is living proof that democracy works. Not only were the current leaders of Taiwan elected in free and fair elections, but they have not flinched from the most difficult moments emerging democracies face: turning over offices to others when their own party lost. They have not only allowed open competition for office, but have promoted open discussion of the full range of issues facing their nation. Despite intense pressures, they have insisted that the people of Taiwan have the right to determine their nation’s future.

Second, Taiwan is a model of a stable economy. Just two years ago, it was grouped with other Asian nations with successful economies. Today, it stands virtually alone, while those other nations are in turmoil.

Unfortunately, however, when Taiwan’s example and its assistance could be most beneficial to the world community, it continues to be isolated from that community. Restoration of its membership in the United Nations would end that isolation. It would make sense to invite Taiwan to be a full and willing partner in our international activities. Now more than ever we especially need its economic resources and expertise in dealing with today’s crises, and I am convinced that its Asian neighbors and other developing nations could benefit greatly from its counsel.

I also hope that the leaders of mainland China will have the wisdom to learn from Taiwan’s example, and to see that democracy works. We must also let them know that aggression and coercion, whether implicit or explicit, do not work.

I wish also to take this occasion to congratulate President Lee Teng-hui on his accomplishments as the Republic’s leader, and his success in steering his country through difficult economic and political waters. As we all know, President Lee is an alumnus of Cornell University in my district in Ithaca, New York. The people of Ithaca were delighted to have him as a guest, and would all be delighted to see him again.

Finally, I would like to thank Stephen Chen for his service as Taiwan’s chief representative in Washington. Those of us who have had the honor and pleasure of meeting Mr. Chen and working with him appreciate his service in maintaining and improving the bridge between us and his country.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE LOUIS ANTHONY TRANGHES
HON. RICHARD E. NEAL
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing my friend, Louis Anthony Tranghese, who is retiring after 49 years with the Construction and General Laborers’ Local Union No. 999 in Springfield, Massachusetts. A leader in his profession, a devoted family man, a friend to many Louis has served his community with pride and distinction. On Friday, October 16, 1998, a testimonial dinner will be held in his honor, ”is a tribute long overdue.”

Born and raised in the historic South End of Springfield, Louis Tranghese learned at an early age the importance of organized labor in our society. At age 14, he watched as his father Carlo, Arthur Coia and James Merloni played active roles in a newspaper strike. It was a defining moment, and from that point Louis knew that he wanted to dedicate his life to the concerns of working men and women. In 1948, he graduated from Technical High School and soon joined Local Union No. 999. It was the beginning of a remarkable career that would last a half-century. From his humble start as a waterboy to Business Manager, a position which he held for over twenty years, Louis Tranghese became a leader in an organization he cared deeply about. He was always proud to call himself a laborer.

While Louis was busy with his professional career, he also found time to start a family. In 1956, he married the former Judie Monette, his wife and partner of nearly 40 years. The couple had four daughters: Carla, Gina, Lisa and Trisha who today own and operate the Dance Connection in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts. The Trangheses are equally proud of their six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all the Members of the United States House of Representatives to join me in offering our sincere gratitude to Louis Tranghese. His service, dedication and commitment to the Local Union No. 999 has been extraordinary. He has been a reflection of what is best about America. As he prepares to retire, let us wish him health, happiness and nothing but the best in the years ahead.

IN HONOR OF LOUIS ANTHONY TRANGHES
HON. NORMAN SISISKY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, JERRY SOLOMON has been a friend of mine for a long time. We are not friends because we always agree with each other. We don’t. Where we do agree is that JERRY SOLOMON has a rock solid commitment to national security.

There have been many times over the last few years when I have gone to him, as the Rules Committee chair, on critical national security issues. He has stood up for our young men and women in uniform every single time. And I have also had a chance to travel with him overseas.

We have both played a part in the North Atlantic Assembly, the parliamentary arm of NATO.

I have attended North Atlantic assembly meetings for 15 years, and I can assure you JERRY SOLOMON is one of the most highly respected American participants.

And this is coming from members of parliament throughout Europe. Believe me, one thing I’ve learned over the years is: our counterparts in Europe have high standards and long memories.

Their respect for JERRY SOLOMON is built on many years of experience in government and diplomacy.

In a world where the most valuable common currency is one’s word, one’s integrity, and one’s honor, JERRY SOLOMON is a very wealthy man.

He has been a pillar of fairness. He has been a staunch advocate of national security.

And he will be hard to replace.

My wife and I wish JERRY and his wife the very best as they begin the next stage of their life together.

I am honored to have served with you, and even more honored to have you as a friend.