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. 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 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN DORIN, MAYOR OF THE YEAR

HON. JOSEPH M. McDADE
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, October 9, 1998

Mr. McDade. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a public servant whose devotion to his community is renowned, Mayor John Dorin of Montoursville, Pennsylvania. Mayor Dorin was unanimously named by the Association of Mayors of the Boroughs of Pennsylvania as the tenth recipient of the Outstanding Mayor Award.

John Dorin has accomplished much in the 16 years he has served as mayor of Montoursville Borough. A leader in the true sense of the word, Mayor Dorin has been able to bring together service organizations, business people and citizens to undertake and complete necessary community projects. He was centrally involved in organizing the Montoursville Chamber of Commerce, Montoursville Crime Watch, the DARE program, and Montoursville Senior Citizens Organization.

In 1996, Montoursville suffered through a tragic loss of family, friends and young people in the crash of TWA Flight 800, which carried members of the Montoursville High School French Club and their chaperones on an educational trip to France. As news of the crash reached Montoursville, Mayor Dorin quickly came forward to help the families of the victims. He tirelessly advocated on behalf of the families to get information and services, and helped coordinate the efforts of the community and the school district as Montoursville mourned and coped with the tragedy.

Mayor Dorin has always been ready and willing to help his neighbors, and his long and successful tenure as mayor has been marked by compassion, leadership and efficiency. His selection as Pennsylvania Outstanding Mayor is well-deserved, and is endorsed by the Montoursville Borough Council and the Borough’s police chief, school superintendent, and borough secretary.

Mr. Speaker, Mayor John Dorin has touched the lives of many people in Montoursville and in Pennsylvania’s 10th Congressional District. I ask that you and your colleagues join me in congratulating John Dorin on being selected as Pennsylvania Outstanding Mayor, and in commending him for his shining example of citizenship and public service.

IN HONOR OF LOUIS ANTHONY TRANGEHSE

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, the 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 Tranghese’s are equally proud of their six grandsons and three granddaughters.

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.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE GERARD S. LOPEZ

SPEECH OF
HON. NORMAN SISISKY
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 6, 1998

Mr. SISISKY. Mr. Speaker, JERRY S OLOMON 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 S OLOMON 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 S OLOMON is one of the most highly respected American participants.

And this is coming from members of parliaments 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 S OLOMON 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 S OLOMON 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.