

attention to this vital ethnic group and its continuing work and efforts in support of the democratic principles of this country and its commitment to the improvement of the quality of life in the United States.

The first German immigrants arrived at Penn's landing in Philadelphia in 1683. They had been invited to come to the New World by the William Penn, and arrived under the leadership of Daniel Pastorius, to settle in Germantown in Pennsylvania. They proved indeed to be valuable assets to their new homeland. The achievements of German immigrants are legion. Famous names like Carl Schurz, Baron von Steuben, Levy Strauss, John Jacob Astor, Peter Zenger, and more recently Albert Einstein and Henry Kissinger are testimony of Germany-American industriousness, loyalty and contributions.

Congratulations to all Americans of German descent on this important day.

RECOGNITION OF THE ALEXANDER  
MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR  
AWARD

**HON. DAVID E. BONIOR**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 1999*

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the March of Dimes 1999 Alexander Macomb Citizens of the year. Beginning in 1984, a group of leading Macomb county citizens instituted the "Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year" award. The award was named after General Alexander Macomb, the county's namesake, who was a hero of the War of 1812, repelling a superior invading force at Lake Plattsburgh, NY, which kept the United States borders intact. Since the inception of the award, over \$500,000 has been generated for the Macomb County March of Dimes.

The Alexander Macomb Award is presented annually to deserving individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions and commitment to improving the quality of life in his/her community, the county and the State of Michigan. One of the three to be honored is attorney, mother and community activist Deborah O'Brian, Esq. Mrs. O'Brian has been active in the city of St. Clair Shores through her local parade committee, the Miss St. Clair Shores Scholarship Pageant, and the Little Miss St. Clair Shores Pageant. She helped plan, raise funds for, the cohost the St. Clair Shores Cops for Kids Telethon, which raised more than \$35,000 in support of kids 12 and under. Mrs. O'Brian participated in the Prosecutor in School Program of the 40th District Court in 1998-1999 and is involved with the Kiwanis Club's "Say No to Drugs" program. In addition to her civic commitments, she uses her legal expertise to help others through the Macomb County Bar Association Pro Bono Services.

I am proud to join the March of Dimes in honoring Mrs. Deborah O'Brian, as a Macomb County Citizen of the year.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT. 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 8, 1999*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Department of Veteran Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, as the daughter of a veteran, I rise in support of the Filner amendment to increase veteran's medical care by \$1.1 billion.

This amendment would designate these funds as emergency—making it possible to provide vital health care to hundreds of thousands of veterans without cutting any other essential programs.

This amendment is about national priorities—if the bill passes without this amendment, our veterans will truly find their lives, and their health, in real states of emergency. We must do what's right.

Our nation owes our veterans a tremendous debt. These courageous men and women sacrificed everything—whether in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, or the Gulf War—to ensure the freedom and opportunity that we so often take for granted. It is our responsibility to repay our veterans for the tremendous burdens that they bore and the sacrifices that they made to ensure peace and freedom for this country.

I urge my colleagues to fulfill our commitments to our veterans. Vote for \$1.1 billion in emergency funds for veterans' medical care. Vote for the Filner amendment. Do what is right.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 1999*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I was absent and unable to vote due to my recovery from heart surgery on August 5, 1999.

August 5, 1999:

I would have voted in favor of the Hall amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 380).

I would have voted against the Bass amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 381).

I would have voted in favor of the G. Miller amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 382).

I would have voted against the Hayworth amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 383).

I would have voted in favor of the Tauzin amendment to H.R. 2760 (rollcall No. 384).

I would have voted against the Kucinich amendment to H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 385).

I would have voted in favor of the motion to recommit H.R. 2670 with instructions (rollcall No. 386).

I would have voted against passage of H.R. 2670 (rollcall No. 387).

I would have voted against ordering the previous question for consideration of H.R. 2684 (rollcall No. 388).

I would have voted in favor of agreeing to the Conference Report on Legislative Branch Appropriations Act (rollcall No. 389).

TRIBUTE TO CAMP ARROWHEAD

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 1999*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleague, Mr. IKE SKELTON, to pay tribute on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the oldest continuously operating Boy Scout Camp west of the Mississippi River. Camp Arrowhead, located east of Marshfield, Missouri, was begun the summer of 1924, just 14 years after Scouting came to America and only 8 years after this body, the Congress of the United States, chartered the Boy Scouts of America.

I know my colleagues join with me in commending the vision of men like area Scout Executive Allen C. Foster, and organizations such as the Springfield Rotary Club, the Marshfield Merchants Club and the Commercial Club of Springfield which played key roles in the creation of this camp. I doubt those leaders in 1924 could envision microwave ovens, color televisions, the Internet, or jet aircraft, but they could envision a place where dedicated volunteers would help boys grow into young men with character and a commitment to community. And they knew how to translate their vision into reality.

Over 75 summers, tens of thousand of campers have carried out the traditions of Camp Arrowhead where boys developed into leaders, and adults returned to encourage other young scouts to grow as they had been encouraged by others. The impact of Camp Arrowhead is found in friendships, skills and character among a broad range of people in the Ozarks and around the world.

Camp Arrowhead as we see it today with 600 acres of facilities serving the needs of 1,500 scouts and adults each summer could not exist without the continued active support of Scouters and supporters of Scouting around the area. The countless hours of service and dedication by hundreds of volunteers each year ensure that this camp will continue its mission for years to come.

"Do Your Best" is more than just the Scout Motto. For those who have attended Camp Arrowhead, it is the moving force behind why they come as scouts, why they lead as adults, and why they serve as volunteers.

From the Seventh Congressional District and from this Congress, I offer this commendation to all of those involved for a job well done for the past 75 years with a heartfelt hope that their efforts will continue for at least another 75.