

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

VA PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT IN PERIL

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with you my concern with a letter I recently received from the Department of Veterans Affairs. As Chair of the Subcommittee on Health of the Committee of Veterans' Affairs, I am deeply concerned by any action that threatens the well-being of those Americans who have laid their lives on the line for our country.

I know that many of my colleagues have signed on to a bill that promises to help senior citizens better afford their medicines. I refer to H.R. 664, which would extend favorable government prices for prescription drugs to retail pharmacies serving the Medicare population. Although this may sound like a win-win proposition, there would be some very big losers, namely, the nation's veterans.

The letter I received from Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D., Acting Under Secretary for Health of the Veterans Administration reads, in part: We believe enactment of H.R. 664 would increase VA's annual pharmaceutical costs by \$500 to \$600 million.

This could put the health of millions of veterans at risk because the VA would have to make up for those increased expenditures either by denying veterans needed medicines or by cutting back on other health care services. Our veterans deserve better than that.

The purpose of this speech is not to pit veterans against seniors. Rather, it's to suggest that H.R. 664 is not the way to help either of these groups. It would extend price controls to more than 40 percent of the pharmaceutical marketplace. And price controls, throughout their long and dismal history, have never solved anything. Instead, they've created shortages, delays and rationing, which we simply can't afford in health care.

We owe a debt to veterans and I intend to see that the debt is paid in full. We also have an obligation to help senior citizens gain better access to the benefits of modern medicines. Seniors deserve more from their Members of Congress than the false promise of cheap drugs through price controls. In a word, they deserve coverage. We need to roll up our sleeves and get to work on legislation that would expand coverage options for seniors while protecting the well-earned health benefits of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, I insert this letter for the RECORD.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS,
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, August 11, 1999.

Hon. CLIFF STEARNS,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Health, Committee on Veterans' Affairs, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in response to your letter on the impact on the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) of H.R. 664, which

would extend favorable government prices for pharmaceuticals to the Medicare population.

We are very concerned that this proposed legislation would have an indirect, negative impact on VA pharmaceutical budgets. Section 3(c) of the bill would force covered outpatient drug manufacturers to sell to Medicare-affiliated pharmacies at the lower of the Medicaid reported best price or the "lowest price paid for [the drug] by an agency or department of the United States". The latter benchmark would include not only low Federal Supply Schedule (FSS) and FSS Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA) prices negotiated by VA for the Government, but also large volume committed use national contract prices obtained by VA and/or Department of Defense (DOD) in head-to-head competitive procurements. Perhaps most importantly, the "lowest price paid" benchmark would include many Federal ceiling prices (FCPs) already imposed on manufacturers by the Veterans Healthcare Act of 1992, Section 603 (Public Law 102-585; 38 U.S.C. 8126).

By way of further information, through many recent inquiries by drug manufacturers regarding this bill, we have been informally informed that manufacturers may no longer offer lower-than-FCP prices to VA and DOD in BPA and national contract negotiations. They may also invoke 30-day cancellation clauses in FSS contracts and BPAs, to the extent allowed by Public Law 102-585, which would force Government healthcare agencies to buy drugs in the open market at much higher retail prices or AWP (average wholesale prices).

In summary, we believe enactment of H.R. 664 would increase VA's annual pharmaceutical costs by \$500-600 million. We would be pleased to discuss this matter further with you. If you have additional questions, please contact me or Mr. John Ogden, Chief Consultant for Pharmacy Benefits Management, at 202.273.8429/8426.

Sincerely,

THOMAS L. GARTHWAITE, MD,
Acting Under Secretary for Health.

TRIBUTE TO DIETER SCHMIDT—A TIRELESS ADVOCATE FOR CLOS- ER GERMAN-AMERICAN RELA- TIONS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dieter A. Schmidt, Director of the Institute for Foreign Relations of the Hanns Seidel Foundation of Munich, Germany. Mr. Schmidt is a true friend of the United States and a longtime force for stability and cooperation in Europe.

One of Mr. Schmidt's most lasting accomplishments has been his leadership of the Franz Josef Strauss Symposium, a highly regarded international conference on foreign and security policy. The Symposium—which will be held for the twentieth time later this year in Munich—has provided a platform for senior American officials and Members of Congress

to meet and discuss with their German counterparts perspectives on critical issues relating to Germany and European affairs.

For the past two decades, this outstanding forum has provided an excellent opportunity to consider and evaluate the dramatic changes that have taken place in Central Europe—the fall of the Berlin Wall, the end of the Cold War, the enlargement of NATO, and the changing nature of international institutions in the post-Cold War era. Dieter Schmidt's guidance—from helping to establish the Symposium in 1979 to chairing its meetings and working tirelessly to bring together policy makers on both sides of the Atlantic—has provided a critical forum for leaders of both of our countries to meet, to build strong personal relationships and to create greater mutual understanding and cooperation.

Throughout his career, Schmidt has time and time again worked to strengthen German-American relations. In 1957, as a young officer, he attended an exchange program at the United States Military Academy at West Point. In 1968, Schmidt returned to the United States for CBW warfare training at Fort McClellan, Alabama. After his military career, he became the international secretary of the Christian Social Union Party. In that capacity, Schmidt played a key role in the founding of the International Democratic Union (IDU), a worldwide association of Christian Democratic and conservative political parties. For many years now he has served as a member of the Committee for International Affairs of the IDU, where he was instrumental in expanding the organization to include American participation.

In 1981, in his capacity as Director of the Institute for Foreign Relations at the Hanns Seidel Foundation, Dieter Schmidt initiated a series of annual conferences to educate congressional staff about the German and European political processes. In the past eighteen years, these extremely valuable conferences have involved the participation of almost two hundred Congressional staff members, and they have provided the participants with a much broader and more meaningful understanding of Germany and of America's other key allies and partners in Europe.

Mr. Speaker, as we mark the twentieth gathering of the Franz Josef Strauss Symposium, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the remarkable contributions of Dieter Schmidt to the close ties between Germany and the United States. His efforts merit our great appreciation and our respect.

RECOGNIZING MR. RAMON GONZALES AND THE "MIRACLE ON WEST 31ST STREET"

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Ramon Gonzales, a generous man of limited means who works hard

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

to ensure that the Spirit of Christmas touches all of South Tucson's children.

Twenty-nine years ago, Mr. Gonzales held a neighborhood Christmas party for his own children and a few of their friends. Because the party was so successful and appreciated, he gave another one the following year and every year since. Throughout the years, the celebration has radiated from Mr. Gonzales' small stucco house and onto West 31st Street. Now, on the day of the party, the street is blocked off and there are refreshments, balloons, clowns, mariachi music, piñatas, face painters, live radio broadcasts, and presents.

During the festivities, Santa Claus arrives to hand presents out to the children, sometimes in a red fire truck and other times in a helicopter. However he arrives, children, parents and volunteers alike thrill to the renewal of Christmas magic and the promise of a better tomorrow. Because of the happiness the celebration generates, Tucson's residents have come to call it the "Miracle on 31st Street." This year's event is expected to benefit approximately 4,000 local children, who undoubtedly will have a memorable Christmas because of Mr. Gonzales' kindness and compassion.

Mr. Gonzales, a former sheet metal worker now on disability, works all year to organize and develop resources for the Christmas Eve celebration. Always modest, Mr. Gonzales insists that "It's the volunteers that make the party," and he, along with 200 other volunteers, works tirelessly to ensure the success of the annual event. Many of the volunteers are Mr. Gonzales' union friends, and he has been praised by his union president, who said "I wish we all could be as selfless and as giving as Brother Gonzales." Volunteers also come from businesses, radio stations, friends, neighbors, nonprofit groups, and government agencies who enjoy generating positive feelings for the children and within the volunteer corps.

Although many of the children who come to the party are from low income families who may not have another Christmas celebration, Mr. Gonzales welcomes all children to join in the festivities. He understands that childhood dreams are nurtured through a caring community that transcends the individual's situation and emphasizes positive concepts: sharing, love, involvement, generosity, and kindness. The block party on West 31st Street in South Tucson has become a beacon for those ideals.

I commend Ramon Gonzales for his dedication and personal sacrifice that has generated so many positive emotions and wonderful memories for thousands of children. He is an outstanding model for our nation of one person truly making a difference. May his energies and commitment continue for many years to come.

PROMOTING HEALTHY HEARTS
AND HEALTHY LIVES: DEAN
ORNISH, M.D.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to pay tribute to Dr. Dean Ornish, a man who has dedicated his career to building healthier

lives. Dr. Ornish is considered by many as the leading authority on the effects of diet and lifestyle on health and well-being. His groundbreaking research has resulted in the discovery that comprehensive changes in diet and lifestyle can reverse even severe coronary heart disease without drugs and surgery. Dr. Ornish has produced valuable research that can empower individuals and build healthier communities. He is a talented, dedicated researcher whose work must not go unappreciated or unnoticed.

Dr. Ornish is the founder, president and director of the non-profit Preventive Medicine Research Institute in Sausalito, California, where he holds the Bucksbaum Chair. He is Clinical Professor of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco, and a founder of the Center for Integrative Medicine at the university. Dr. Ornish received an M.D. from Baylor College of Medicine, was a clinical fellow in medicine at Harvard Medical School and completed his internship and residency in internal medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

Dr. Ornish is the author of five best-selling books, including New York Times bestsellers: Dr. Dean Ornish's Program for Reversing Heart Disease; Eat More, Weigh Less; and Love & Survival. His research and writings have been published in the Journal of the American Medical Association, The Lancet, Circulation, The New England Journal of Medicine, the American Journal of Cardiology, and elsewhere. A one-hour documentary of his work was broadcast on NOVA, the PBS science series, and was featured on Bill Moyers' PBS series, "Healing & The Mind." His work has been featured in virtually all major media; he was on the cover of the March 16, 1998, issue of Newsweek magazine.

Dr. Ornish has received several awards, including the 1996 Beckmann Medal from the German Society for Prevention and Rehabilitation of Cardiovascular Diseases, the U.S. Army Surgeon General Medal, and the 1994 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award from the University of Texas, Austin. He is listed in the Dictionary of International Biography, Who's Who in America, and in Men of Achievement. He was recognized as one of the most interesting people of 1995 by People magazine and by LIFE Magazine as one of the 50 most influential members of his generation.

Mr. Speaker, I have great admiration for Dr. Dean Ornish. He is truly a remarkable individual whose outstanding research and effective programs have improved the overall quality of life for many people. His proven research on behavior modification has the potential to revolutionize the way modern medicine approaches heart disease. Dr. Ornish's promotion of healthy hearts and healthy lives is an inspiration for all Americans.

HONORING WILLIE AND VERONICA
ARTIS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am very honored to rise before you today to acknowledge the achievements and contributions to the

Flint, Michigan community of a wonderful couple who have cultivated a successful business partnership, as well as a life partnership. On Tuesday, October 19, members of the Charles Stewart Mott Community College Foundation will gather and, in the spirit of Minority Business Month, will honor Mr. and Mrs. Willie and Veronica Artis of Genesee Packaging, Inc.

It was in 1979 that Willie Artis and Buel Jones founded Genesee Packaging. Using an opportunity granted from minority business programs sponsored by General Motors, Artis and Jones ventured into business together and reached over one million dollars in revenue within the first year. In the 1980's, once again due to the benefit of General Motors, the company expanded with Genesee Corrugated, Inc. Now, instead of creating the packaging, they were manufacturing the materials to create the packaging as well.

Following the retirement of Buel Jones, Willie Artis began overseeing daily operations of the companies. The companies, which eventually merged, served to be profitable, not only to its owners, but to the community as well. Currently, Genesee Packaging employs nearly 300 people in three plants throughout the Flint area. The company constantly serves as one the city's strongest economic resources.

As Willie Artis can claim to over 28 years of experience in the packaging field, his wife, Veronica can claim an equal amount of experience in the business administration field. After obtaining an education from such schools as the University of Wisconsin, Dartmouth, and Harvard, Veronica began a noted work history with Ameritech, holding positions including District Training Coordinator, Personnel Manager, Marketing Manager, and Purchasing Manager. Veronica joined Genesee Packaging in 1989 as Vice President of Administration, and currently sits on the company's Executive Staff.

Mr. Speaker, not only will the Mott College Foundation celebrate the contributions of Mr. and Mrs. Artis, but, to further establish the impact they make on Flint residents, the evening will also mark the creation of a scholarship in their name. I am pleased to be witness to all they have done on a corporate level, and what they have done in serving as positive role models for young people. I ask my colleagues in the 106th Congress to join me in congratulating Willie and Veronica Artis. Together they have made our community a better place.

TRIBUTE TO CENTRAL BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 100th Anniversary of the Central Baptist Church in Willisville, Illinois.

As this millennium is nearing an end, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the history of small towns and cities which have committed themselves to their communities. Many churches and religious institutions have been the source of providing American citizens with comfort and strength during troubled times. In my congressional district, one church in particular has provided this type of example. For

the past one-hundred years, community members of Willisville, Illinois and other neighboring communities have been gathering to worship and honor their religion in what is known as the first Free Baptist Church in Illinois.

The history of the church is instructive. At the request of A.J. Rendleman of Campbell Hill, Illinois, the first formal meeting to establish the Free Baptist church was convened on Sunday, July 30th 1899 at precisely 3:30 p.m. Soon after on October 24th, the first Free Baptist Church was formed. Today, this church is a reminder of the dedication and the desire to reach a higher goal. One hundred years after the first official sermon, we find ourselves honoring an institution that has withstood diversity as well as achieved a great sense of unity within the community.

While the Central Baptist Church has not witnessed significant change in the past 100 years, the building itself was rebuilt in 1917 due to a tornado that destroyed the old structure. The bell that used to hang from the church, now sits in front of the building. The name was changed from the Freewill Baptist Church to Central Baptist Church, but its ideals have remained the same. Members gather for Bible studies mid-week, an annual Baptist camp in conjunction with the Southern Illinois University, and many other youth camp activities. On Saturday, October 20th, 1999, church officials and other members of the community plan to bury a time capsule in tribute to the history of the church, as well as to promote future years of prominence.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to honor the Central Baptist Church and wish it continued success as it enters another century and continues to provide the citizens of Willisville with spiritual growth, unit and guidance.

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ITALIAN CEMETERY AND MAUSOLEUM OF COLMA, CALIFORNIA

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the 100th Anniversary of the Italian Cemetery and Mausoleum of Colma, California. This institution has made a significant contribution to the Italian-American community of the Bay Area, and I want to recognize the institution and pay tribute on this centennial observance.

The Italian Cemetery serves as dignified resting place for Italian-Americans. To date, some 50,000 individuals have been laid to rest in this beautiful location, and many of these are prominent Italian Americans who have played a leading role in the growth and progress of our area.

Mr. Speaker, the Italian Cemetery is not only a distinguished burial ground, but it is also a place of beauty to which the entire Bay Area looks with pride. The cemetery contains some of the most beautiful and architecturally acclaimed mausoleums that have been built throughout our entire nation.

The Italian Cemetery was first used in 1899, one year after it was established by La Societa Italiana Di Mutua Beneficenza, the oldest continuous Italian organization in the

United States. After more than 75 years of service to the community, the Italian Cemetery became a nonprofit corporation, with the goal of maintaining the cemetery for future generations.

The Italian Cemetery's service to the Italian community of California is commendable and deserves our recognition and commendation. I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Italian Cemetery and Mausoleum on its 100th anniversary.

COMMEMORATION OF ROBERT H. GODDARD'S "ANNIVERSARY DAY"

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of Robert H. Goddard's self-proclaimed "Anniversary Day." Robert Hutchings Goddard, referred to as the "Father of Modern Rocketry," was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1882, graduated from South High School in 1904, and attended Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 1908.

In 1911, Goddard received his doctorate at Clark University and subsequently became a professor of physics there. Through experimentation, Goddard discovered that liquid fuel was more efficient than solid fuel. Soon thereafter, in 1926 he successfully launched the world's first liquid fuel rocket in Auburn, Massachusetts, a feat comparable in history to that of the Wright brothers' flight at Kitty Hawk. Goddard is also credited with learning how to control rocket flight, and equipping rockets with parachutes so that they could land safely.

October 19, 1999 marks the 100th anniversary of an event that gave purpose to Goddard's life. On October 19, 1899, at the age of 17, he climbed a cherry tree in his Worcester backyard and experienced a vision of space travel that would consume him for the rest of his life. This resolve was noted in his diary each year thereafter as "Anniversary Day," in memory of the day that focused his purpose in life.

Mr. Goddard, himself, was quoted as saying "the dream of yesterday is the hope of today and the reality of tomorrow." I urge all my colleagues to join me in recognizing this ideal, and Robert H. Goddard as the "Father of Modern Rocketry."

COMMENDING THE NOAA CORPS

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the recent activities of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Corps). Also known as "America's Seventh Service," the NOAA Corps is composed of a cadre of about 250 commissioned officers. Officers of the Corps have served our nation for decades with their unique scientific and engineering skills.

The dedicated scientists, engineers, and officers of the NOAA Corps serve with expertise and dedication throughout the nation, and in

remote locations around the world. For example, NOAA Corps pilots fly hurricane research aircraft, providing critical weather prediction information. Recently, the NOAA corps flew repeated missions into the eye of Hurricane Floyd as it battered the Mid-Atlantic Coast. These officers gathered data which was critical to predicting the strength and path of the destructive hurricane. NOAA Corps aviators fly many of these missions each and every hurricane season.

Following the tragic disappearance of the aircraft piloted by John F. Kennedy, Jr., the NOAA Corps provided critical support in the search and recovery efforts. From July 17th through July 23rd, the officers and crew of the NOAA Ship RUDE worked around the clock to assist in the mission to recover the downed plane. With its side-scan sonar capability, the NOAA Corps ship was instrumental in locating the wreckage of the aircraft.

In recent months, the NOAA Corps has participated in the Sustainable Seas Expedition (SSE) project. From April through mid-September, the NOAA Ships *McArthur* and *Ferrel* served in a cooperative program with National Geographic to study NOAA's National Marine Sanctuaries in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, and in the Gulf of Mexico. The purpose of the SSE is to explore, document, and provide critical scientific data on America's coastal waters, and to develop a strategy for the conservation and restoration of the nation's marine resources. NOAA's ships will participate in the five-year project, using new technologies to pioneer deep exploration of the extensive marine sanctuaries.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending the hard-working men and women of the NOAA Corps for their superb leadership and dedicated service to the nation.

EXPATRIATE LEGISLATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman BOB MATSUI and I are introducing legislation to prevent tax avoidance through the device of renouncing one's allegiance to this country. I am pleased that my colleagues Messrs. GEPHARDT, BONIOR, STARK, COYNE, LEVIN, McDERMOTT, KLECZKA, LEWIS of Georgia, NEAL, McNULTY, DOGGETT, TIERNEY, FRANK of Massachusetts, BROWN of Ohio, LUTHER, and VENTO are joining us as cosponsors of this legislation.

I understand that our motives for introducing this legislation will be attacked. Therefore, I want to leave no question about why we demand an effective response to the tax avoidance potential of expatriation.

Citizenship in this country confers extraordinary benefits. Our citizens are able to enjoy the full range of political and economic freedoms that our government ensures. With the benefits of citizenship comes the responsibility to contribute to the common good.

This country is fortunate in that it can depend on the voluntary compliance of its citizens to collect its taxes. In that respect, we are unique in the world. The willingness of our citizens to continue voluntarily to comply with

our tax laws is threatened when very wealthy individuals can avoid their responsibility as citizens by turning their backs on this country and walking away with enormous wealth.

I reject any suggestion that our bill is a form of class warfare or motivated by class envy. It is true that our bill will affect only very wealthy individuals. Only very wealthy individuals have the resources necessary to live securely outside the borders of this country as expatriates. Closing a loophole that only the extraordinarily wealthy can utilize is not class warfare. It is a matter of fundamental fairness to the rest of our citizens.

Opponents of effective reform in this area have gone so far as to suggest that those reforms would be inconsistent with our nation's historic commitment to human rights. I strongly disagree. The individuals affected by the bill are not renouncing their American citizenship because of any fundamental disagreement with our political or economic system. These individuals simply refuse to contribute to the common good in a country where the political and economic system has benefited them enormously. Some opponents have gone so far as to compare the plight of these wealthy expatriates to the plight of the persecuted Jews attempting to flee Russia. That argument is worthy of contempt. Our bill imposes no barrier to departure. Indeed, most expatriates have physically departed from this country before they renounce their citizenship.

For reasons that continue to puzzle me, there was bitter partisan dispute in 1995 over this issue. The partisan nature of that debate obscured the fact that there was a genuine bipartisan consensus that tax avoidance by renouncing one's American citizenship should not be tolerated.

The dispute during 1995 involved an argument over the appropriate mechanism to be used to address tax-motivated expatriation. The Clinton Administration, the Senate on a bipartisan basis, and the House Democrats all supported legislation that would have imposed an immediate tax on the unrealized appreciation in the value of the expatriate's assets. The House Republicans supported a provision that imposed a tax on the U.S. source income of the expatriate for the 10-year period following expatriation. Armed with revenue estimates from the Joint Committee on Taxation that showed their version as raising more money, the House Republicans prevailed and, in 1996, enacted their version of the expatriation legislation.

A recent article in *Forbes Magazine* summarized the effect of the 1996 legislation as follows: "It ain't workin'." Although the law appears to be draconian on its face, there are plenty of loopholes. In the first quarter of 1999 alone, a grandson of J. Paul Getty; a son of the shipping magnate Jacob Stolt-Nielsen; and Joseph J. Bogdanovich, the son of the Star-Kist mogul, took advantage of those loopholes. The article suggests that many other expatriates deliberately have lost citizenship without formally renouncing it, believing that was a simple way to avoid the 1996 Act.

The 1996 legislation made several modifications to ineffective prior law expatriation provisions. It eliminated the requirement to show a tax-avoidance motive in most cases and eliminated one simple method of avoiding the rules, involving transfers of U.S. assets to foreign corporations. There were many other ways of avoiding those rules such as delaying

gains, monetizing assets without recognition of gains, and investing indirectly through derivatives. Those techniques were left untouched.

The 1996 legislation made no serious attempt to prevent the avoidance of the estate and gift taxes, even though expatriation has been described as the ultimate technique in avoiding estate and gift taxes. Bill Gates, one of the wealthiest individuals in the world, has approximately \$90 billion in assets. If he were to die or transfer those assets to his children by gift, the potential liability would be substantial. If Bill Gates were to expatriate, he could immediately make unlimited gifts in cash to his children without any gift tax liability. If he expatriated ten years before he died, his entire \$90 billion stake in Microsoft could be transferred to his heirs with no income tax or estate tax ever being imposed on that accumulation of wealth.

Chairman ARCHER recently sent a letter to the staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation requesting a study and report on the 1996 expatriation legislation. I welcome that letter as an implicit recognition that the Congress should return to the issue of tax motivated expatriation. However, I believe the time for study has passed. In 1995, the Joint Committee on Taxation issued an unprecedented 140-page report on this issue. The Chief of Staff of the Joint Committee on Taxation testified at length on this issue in several congressional hearings. Further studies now only will be used as an excuse for delaying action on this issue. That delay will provide a window of opportunity for those considering tax motivated expatriation. It is time for the Members of Congress, not their staff, to make decisions and take action on this issue.

Following is a brief summary of my bill.

SUMMARY OF BILL

The bill would impose a tax on the unrealized appreciation in the value of an expatriate's assets. The amount of that tax would be determined as if the expatriate has sold his assets for their fair market value on the date that he expatriates. To the extent that those assets are capital assets, the preferential capital gains tax rates would apply.

The bill exempts the first \$600,000 (\$1.2 million for a married couple) of appreciation from the tax. It also exempts U.S. real property interests and interests in retirement plans.

The expatriate would be provided an election to defer the tax with interest until the property is sold.

The bill would eliminate the ability to avoid estate and gift taxes through expatriation by imposing a tax on the receipt by U.S. citizens of gifts or bequests from expatriates. The new tax would not apply in circumstances where the gift or bequest was otherwise subject to U.S. estate or gift taxes. In addition, the new tax would be reduced by any foreign estate or gift tax paid on the gift or bequest.

The bill would eliminate the ability to expatriate on an informal basis. It would require a formal renunciation of citizenship before an individual could avoid tax as a U.S. citizen.

Generally, the bill would apply to individuals formally renouncing their citizenship after the date of action by the Committee on Ways and Means. The provisions designed to prevent avoidance of estate and gift taxes would apply to gifts and bequests received after such date.

TRIBUTE TO LES HODGSON

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Les Hodgson, of Brownsville, Texas, who won an award from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) on September 27 and will be in Washington, DC, tomorrow to receive his award.

Les Hodgson is being noted for his volunteer work to save the Kemp's Ridley sea turtles. Les was named Volunteer of the Year as a recipient of the 1999 Walter B. Jones Memorial and NOAA Excellence Awards for Coastal and Ocean Resource Management. Walter Jones was a colleague of ours here in the House, and he chaired the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee in the early 1990s when I was a member. I am very proud of Les for the very important environmental work he does in volunteering to help save Kemp's Ridley sea turtles.

Les is a widely-respected and hard working man. Camping with his dad when he was young instilled a healthy respect for the environment that surrounds us. As co-owner of a shrimping business, his volunteer work to save the Kemp's Ridley sea turtles is very unique. He spends his own time and money patrolling the South Texas beaches to find turtle nests during nesting seasons. Additionally, he has used his relationship with other organizations, such as the National Fisheries Institute (NFI), of which he is past president and the Texas Shrimp Association, to successfully supplement support for these conservation efforts.

In 1996, Les helped Ocean Trust, a nonprofit research and education foundation that protects ocean resources, get access to the turtle camps to produce a film on the Kemp's Ridley. In 1997, he began building a camp at Tepehaujes, the 2nd-largest nesting beach north of Rancho Nuevo. He persuaded the NFI Shrimp Council to donate \$30,000; Les himself purchased building materials and donated labor from his company, and organized the volunteers.

When the camp was dedicated, Les stood in the back, crediting the people he persuaded to help make this a reality. When Ocean Trust named him The Outstanding Steward in Marine Conservation in Los Angeles, typically, Les was unable to personally accept the award since he was leading a group of turtle project officials to Mexico. Les is indeed the man for this high honor.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the everyday excellence in our communities who labor to leave this world in a better shape than when we began. Please join me in commending Les Hodgson for his unselfish efforts to better the environment.

SALUTING PATIENT APPRECIATION DAY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with the Genesee County Medical Society

in paying tribute to patients around the country. The Genesee County Medical Society, a dedicated group of doctors in my district, recently passed a resolution designating the third Tuesday of October "Patient Appreciation Day." I applaud their desire to reciprocate the appreciation patients have for doctors and I join them in calling on other doctors to take a moment to recognize their patients.

When patients go to visit their doctors, they are generally sick and vulnerable. It is comforting for all of us who have been patients to know that the trust and respect that patients have for doctors goes both ways. As medical technology evolves, it is particularly reassuring to know that doctors appreciate the human element of care as much as we do.

On this Patient Appreciation Day, I hope you will join me and the Genesee County Medical Society in paying respect to the deep doctor-patient bond.

HONORING THE PRIME MINISTER OF ARMENIA, VASKEN SARKISSIAN AND DZOVINAR SARKISSIAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor His Excellency Vasken Sarkissian, the Prime Minister of Armenia. Mr. Sarkissian visited the United States Capitol earlier this month on the occasion of the birth of his niece, Dzovinar Sarkissian, on October 11, 1999.

I want to congratulate the proud parents of Aram Sarkissian and his wife Arine, along with grandparents, Zavena and Gretta Sarkissian.

Prime Minister Sarkissian is the former Defense Minister of Armenia.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Aram and Arine Sarkissian for the arrival of their child Dzovinar Sarkissian and I thank Prime Minister Vasken Sarkissian for making a visit to our nation's Capitol. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing the Sarkissian family many more years of good health and success.

KNOW YOUR CALLER ACT OF 1999

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to prohibit telephone marketing companies, when making solicitation calls, from using any method to block or circumvent a recipient's caller identification service. The Know Your Caller Act of 1999 will provide much needed consumer protection for telephone subscribers who also pay for caller identification services. I urge my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this bill.

At all times of the day, but especially after work, during dinner, inevitably the telephone rings and our activities are interrupted to answer the telephone to hear an unsolicited telemarketer trying to sell you some product. You may politely explain you are not interested and ask the person to please identify on whose

behalf they are soliciting so you can request to be placed on their do-not-call list and the next thing you know the person hangs up the telephone and you are unable to identify which company has invaded the sanctity of your home. To combat and filter out these "nuisance calls" and tactics people pay a monthly fee to subscribe to a caller identification service. It is a disgrace that some companies can block a subscriber's caller identification service.

I have received many letters from my constituents who have subscribed to a caller identification service and they are outraged that telephone solicitors can deliberately block their service. Let me quote one of my constituents "I have been receiving numerous telephone calls from unidentified numbers. I have caller identification service on my private telephone line, but the calling numbers are not displayed. I think it is intolerable and it constitutes a flagrant violation of my rights. I pay for a telephone line and caller identification service to avoid the hassles of telemarketing solicitations, but I do not feel I am getting my money's worth."

Mr. Speaker, in closing, this legislation would provide much needed consumer protection from telemarketing solicitors who block caller identification devices. People with a caller identification service should be able to identify telephone solicitors and have the ability to telephone them back to request to be put on their do-not call list. This bill would require telephone solicitors to display their name and a working telephone number on caller identification devices and prohibit the use of any method to block or alter such a display.

THE BAYS CASE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring an issue to this House's attention. I would like to make public an article on the BAYS case. To the consternation of Argentine officials, the Buenos Aires Yoga School (BAYS) affair is assuming a rising profile on the sparsely populated plains of U.S.-Argentine relations. More than 50 Democratic and Republican House members have now sent letters to President Menem asking him to halt in the persecuting of the literary and social organization. The 300-strong group, which includes some illustrious intellectuals, has shrunk from a peak membership of 1,000 due to the unremitting harassment it has suffered at the hands of the authorities.

For six years, the case has been enmeshed in Argentina's stygian court system, which has been classified by several international business groups as being among the world's most corrupt. Six years ago, when the case first broke, the local press saw BAYS as an Argentine version of Jonestown, even though not a single reporter bothered to closely investigate any of the specious charges lodged against it. Argentina's journalists now see this as a pot-boiler performance which many have come to regret. After a first wave of tabloid journalism faded, a code of silence descended on the case until recently, when several young BAYS members, with no budget, came to Wash-

ington and proceeded to work Congress in search of the justice they were denied in their native country. President Clinton has now written two letters on the case, expressing his concern over the apparent malfunctioning of proper legal procedures. He has also asked that the U.S. embassy in Buenos Aires "encourage Argentine authorities to respond fully to congressional correspondence on this matter."

BEWITCHED AND BEWILDERED

The BAYS case was originally presided over by Judge Mariano Bergés from December 1993 until November 1995 when, after a short interregnum, it was taken over by Judge Julio Cesar Corvalán de la Colina. As a result of these excesses, Bergés was brought before the Argentine Congress' Impeachment Committee on charges of non-professional behavior involving 138 irregularities and several serious crimes regarding BAYS alone. Radical Party members on the committee supported Bergés, which startled many observers wary of the Party's corruption problems stemming from the Alfonsín-led Radical government of the 1980s. But, in spite of its delegation's stance, the entire Impeachment committee moved to indict Bergés for abuse of power and failure in his public duties. He insisted that BAYS had "cast a spell on him," and then withdrew from the case. Although no ultimate action was taken, the case eventually was handed over to Corvalán, who now presides.

DR. CORVALÁN, PSYCHIATRIST

Instead of applying responsible jurisprudence in the BAYS case, Judge Corvalán grossly compounded his predecessor's malfeasance. Engaging in flagrant misuse of his powers, Corvalán emulated the worst practices of the Stalinist era by condemning BAYS members on grounds of poor mental health, without considering due process. Corvalán, who was appointed to the bench under the Argentine military junta (and maintained his position due to Alfonsín's intervention), declared the two BAYS members "mentally incompetent," and awarded legal custody over them to their long-estranged mothers. His ruling was upheld by an Appellate Court, even though the psychological exams of the BAYS defendants were administered by a court-appointed forensic team, and showed them of sound mind. These mental health specialists also established that one defendant has been sexually abused by her family. If this wasn't Argentina—a country featuring daily scandals—it would be inconceivable that a judge, ignoring expert testimony and with no concrete evidence, would award custody of a 27-year old woman to the very person who she previously had charged with sexual depravity. After being armed with such powers, the mother promptly filed a bondage suit against BAYS in the name of her daughter. After a recent mission to Argentina by the Council on Hemisphere Affairs, the members expressed their concern in a letter to President Clinton: "The Delegation found many legal and judicial irregularities. . . ." Argentine human rights organizations have begun to denounce the anti-BAYS actions committed by judicial officials.

Nobel laureate, Adolfo Perez Esquivel found that Corvalán's ruling on BAYS "begs to be investigated," and the famed Mothers of Plaza de Mayo concluded that he had violated Article 16 of the International Treaty on Civil and Political Rights. The Grandmothers of the Plaza de Mayo maintained that Corvalán's actions "are similar to those committed against

citizens during Argentina's dirty war. . . ." Corvalán's removal from the BAYS case has been requested before the Council of Magistrates, a new institution that evaluates judicial impropriety and instances of corruption. The case is now being heard by its "Accusation Commission," headed by Radical Representative Cruchaga. Thus, the case was destined to be dismissed, but due to the persistence of Council member Miguel Angel Picchetto, who argued that the charges against Corvalán must be heard, Cruchaga announced that because of the "international interest" in the case, a hearing would be held. The petition for relief filed by the BAYS defendants has been warmly supported by, among others, the distinguished physicist and human rights figure Dr. Federico Westerkamp, the Argentine League for the Rights of Man, and members of the Argentine House Human Rights Commission.

The proceedings against Corvalán are attracting wide dissemination because challenging the judge's multiple transgressions is seen as an important milestone in Argentina's laborious struggle to earn the emblems of an authentic democracy and to somehow neutralize judicial and political corruption.

HONORING THE TOWN OF
GRAFTON

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure today to rise to honor the heroism of the people of the Town of Grafton in the wake of the Fisherville Mill fire that struck the town on the night of August 3, 1999.

The Fisherville Mill has always been a significant historic site. It was considered to be a fine example of late 19th century industrial architecture. A longtime site of textile production, Fisherville mill was one of three such mills in the area built during the first third of the nineteenth century. The mill remained vibrant through the nineteenth and into the twentieth century until the onset of the Great Depression.

However, in recent years the mill, which once employed 700 workers, became slated for EPA clean up due to chemical pollution. And even after the fire, the Central Massachusetts Economic Development Authority, which currently owns the site, plans to pursue clean-up efforts at the site.

As many as 250 firefighters and over 100 support personnel responded to the scene, including crews from Ashland, Auburn, Foxboro, Holliston, Hopedale, Hopkinton, Leicester, Marlboro, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Oxford, Sherborn, Shrewsbury, Southbridge, Sutton, Upton, Uxbridge, Westboro, and Worcester as well as the State Forestry Department and a crew from Providence, RI. Together they courageously worked along side their brothers from Grafton to subdue the blaze, the likes of which Grafton has never before seen and hopefully never will again.

Mr. Speaker, we often see communities come together in the wake of great disasters. However, seldom have I seen such an outpouring of support as I have in the town of

Grafton. If it had not been for the valiant efforts of fire fighters from around the Commonwealth quite possibly the entire town may have burned to the ground. It is therefore my great honor to recognize the bravery and courage of everyone in Grafton—firefighters, police, community and business leaders, as well as ordinary citizens for their response which should make all of us proud.

HONORING GAIL FREEMAN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise before you today to pay tribute to Mrs. Gail Freeman, the Illustrious Commandress of Oman Court No. 132. The Daughters of Isis, Ancient and Accepted Free Masons, based in Flint, Michigan, will honor Mrs. Freeman at their annual Commandress Ball on October 23, 1999.

Gail Freeman began her education at Jefferson Elementary School in Detroit, and after moving to Flint, attended Bryant Junior High School, and eventually graduated from Flint Northwestern High School. She attended Baker School of Business and Charles Stewart Mott Community College, where she constantly sought courses designed to enhance her position and ability in the business field.

Gail soon began a career with Michigan Bell, now known as Ameritech, one that spanned over 26 years. During this time, she has held positions such as Supervisor of Building Services, Clerk to the Public Relations Manager, and Network Services Representative. She currently holds a position as a Customer Service Representative for the Customer Care center in Ameritech's Saginaw office. She also works as a realtor for ERA Real Estate, where she has distinguished herself as a member of the company's Million Dollar Club, for her outstanding sales. She has been recognized for stellar achievement in both of her occupations.

As a member of Oman Court No. 132, Gail has a long history of leadership, leading up to her current position as Illustrious Commandress. She has served as Grand Loyal Lady Ruler of the Michigan State Grand Assembly, and has served as their treasurer for the last nine years. Outside of the group, Gail continues her role of community leader. She has served as a Girl Scout Troop Leader, president of the Merrill Elementary School Parent Teacher Council, and works with local "Adopt A Child" programs. She also finds time to volunteer and work with the sick and shut-in.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my fellow Members of Congress to join me in honoring the Illustrious Commandress, Mrs. Gail Freeman. Her devotion to making this nation a better place to live should reinforce our strong commitment to our communities. We own a debt of gratitude to Gail, her husband James, and their two daughters.

HONORING ROBERT AND DOROTHY HAKENHOLZ ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor two longtime residents of Overland Park, Kansas, Robert and Dorothy Hakenholz, who have dedicated their lives to God, country and family. Robert and Dorothy recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their two daughters and their families from Iowa and Oklahoma.

Dorothy and Robert, or "Bob" as he is known to family and friends, were married on September 23rd, 1939, in Sioux City, Iowa. Bob began working for Standard Oil in 1934. The former Dorothy Lindberg worked outside the home as a telephone operator during the early years of their marriage.

In 1944, Bob left his young family to serve on the U.S.S. LST 896 during World War II where he served as Motor Machinist's Mate, Third Class. Meanwhile, Dorothy kept up with her work at the telephone company and raised her young daughter Carol with the help of her mother. After surviving, with his shipmates, two typhoons near Okinawa, Bob was discharged at the end of the war.

Happily reunited, Bob and Dorothy continued to raise Carol, and soon welcomed a second daughter, Janet, to the world. Bob's work with Standard oil eventually moved the family from Iowa to Overland Park in 1962 where he worked until his retirement in 1977. Both Bob and Dorothy proceeded to serve in retirement as community volunteers. Bob also worked as a manager of field personnel during the 1980 United States Census.

Bob and Dorothy are proud grandparents of four grown grandchildren, continue to live in Overland Park, Kansas, and remain active members of Faith Lutheran Church in Prairie Village, Kansas. Bob also remains committed to working on his golf handicap.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Bob and Dorothy on a remarkable 60 years of marriage.

MAINTAIN UNITED STATES TRADE
[MUST] LAW RESOLUTION

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I have joined 200 of my colleagues as cosponsor of the Maintain United States Trade [MUST] Law Resolution. This bill is about more than steel. It is about the over 290 products from 59 different countries that are being dumped on open markets.

All American products, such as steel, agricultural goods and manufacturing items are currently protected under the antidumping and countervailing duties laws. However, some countries would like to open debate on these laws. Opening these rules to renegotiation could only lead to weakening them, which would in turn lead to even greater abuse of the world's open markets, particularly that of the United States.

When the World Trade Organization's Ministerial Conference meets Seattle on November 30 through December 3, a new round of trade negotiations will be held. The MUST resolution will request that the President and his trade representatives refrain from renegotiating international agreements governing anti-dumping and countervailing measures.

The President must not participate in any international negotiation in which antidumping or antisubsidy rules are part of the negotiating agenda. He should also not submit for congressional approval agreements that require changes to the current antidumping and countervailing duty laws and enforcement policies of the United States. Above all, he must enforce antidumping and countervailing duty laws vigorously in all pending and future cases.

The MUST resolution has wide bipartisan support from Members from 37 States from every region of the country. Already, successful antidumping cases have been filed on behalf of producers of industrial goods, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, advanced technology products, agricultural goods, and the American steel industry.

No longer can we stand idly by as more and more workers face unemployment lines and uncertain futures. Foreign governments are shielding their industries from the fallout of the Asian financial crisis—it is time we stood up for our own. We must fight for American jobs. I urge the House leadership to bring the Maintain United States Trade [MUST] Law Resolution to the floor as soon as possible.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, due to a delay in getting to the House floor, I missed House rollcall vote No. 494, on agreeing to the conference on the FY 2000 defense appropriations. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

COMMEMORATING THE OPENING OF SHORELINE BANK

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of Shoreline Bank in Shoreline, Washington. On Friday, October 15th, I was honored to attend a ribbon cutting celebration to commemorate the opening of Shoreline Bank. This bank is truly the symbol of a vibrant, thriving community because when individuals recognized the need for a new bank, they came together to form Shoreline Bank. Shoreline Bank will serve local customers and businesses to help provide economic growth within the neighborhood.

Community banks, like Shoreline Bank, are the lifeblood of our communities. Just as local grocers know the buying habits of their regular customers, community banks understand the financial needs of their community. I am proud

to have this community-based financial institution in the 1st Congressional District. I am sure that they will be a beneficial addition to the city of Shoreline.

I invite my colleagues to join me in saying: Welcome to the neighborhood, Shoreline Bank.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE J.E. DUNN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I take great pride in recognizing the J.E. Dunn Construction Company. This year they celebrate 75 years of excellence as one of Kansas City's most established and respected builders.

In 1924, John Ernest Dunn founded the family owned business of constructing residential homes in our community. Today, the third generation of Dunns lead the company in its numerous high profile projects and generous civic contributions. For 75 years, the Dunns have etched the Kansas City skyline, and built a reputation of integrity and concern for the people in our region. This anniversary marks their outstanding dedication to building relationships and developing our community.

J.E. Dunn Construction Company is made up of construction companies in Oregon, Colorado, Minnesota, Texas, and Missouri. In our own greater metropolitan area the Dunns have been instrumental in the building of the Stowers Institute for Cancer Research, the renovation of the historic Muelbach Hotel and Union Station, and the impressive coiled design of the Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints Temple in Independence. In addition to these projects, the Dunns employ over a thousand people in Kansas City who have worked on the International Sprint Campus, the Charles Evans Whittaker Federal Courthouse where my Fifth District Office is located, and a number of hospitals including Children's Mercy, the Lee's Summit Hospital, and Saint Luke's.

Beginning with John Ernest Dunn, the entire Dunn clan continues to practice the tradition of serving others. William H. Dunn, Sr., his sons, and scores of his extended family play important roles in the social development of our region. The Boy Scouts of America, the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, and the Partnership for Children have benefitted from their involvement. The Dunn family participates on several boards and organizations like the United Way, the Salvation Army, the Nelson-Atkins Museum, Rockhurst University, and many other worthy causes.

In celebration of this significant mark, I am honored to recognize their efforts and legacy. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Dunn family and the entire Dunn organization for 75 years of service to the community and fine craftsmanship left to signify the standard they have set.

NATIONAL DAY FOR TAIWAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take this occasion to extend my best wishes to the leaders in Taiwan on their National Day and my sympathies to all quake victims' families on their tragic losses. May President Lee Teng-hui and other leaders guide Taiwan through this difficult period. Much of the daily activities in Taiwan has been disrupted because of the quake; the loss of human lives and economic damages are so staggering that will take Taiwan years to fully recover from this catastrophe.

Despite all the hardships facing Taiwan today, I am confident that Taiwan will quickly recover its losses and rebuild an even stronger Nation, given Taiwanese resilience and industry.

WILLIAM H. AVERY POST OFFICE

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 12, 1999

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of H.R. 2591, legislation designating the United States Post Office located on Elm Street in Wakefield, Kansas, as the "William H. Avery Post Office." Let me commend Congressman MORAN for sponsoring this legislation which is an appropriate honor well deserved by the recipient.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vicki and I have enjoyed our friendship with Governor Avery over the past several years, and we are both excited that this honor is being bestowed upon a great public servant and good friend who has always placed the people of the great State of Kansas first.

When I think about the tremendous reputation Governor Avery still enjoys, I think about the moniker given to a past politician: The Happy Warrior. You cannot talk to Bill without feeling his zest for life and his indomitable spirit. It is not unusual to see Governor Avery at an event in Kansas, shaking hands, kissing babies and talking about the latest Republican strategy. Sometimes a few of us in this esteemed Body get tired and frustrated. At those moments I think of Governor Avery, his quick smile, his knowing wink, his kind words, his all-encompassing heart. Always smiling, always moving, always hopeful of the future, but respectful of the past. Governor Avery is truly Kansas's Happy Warrior.

Mr. Speaker, I realize that at times the floor of the House can be partisan, and with your indulgence I am going to add to that partisan flame, just a bit. There is one memory I will always cherish, and it occurred in January 1995. I was a new Member of Congress, full of hope, a little overwhelmed, and flush anticipation of the job ahead.

I had some friends and family in my office and in came Governor Avery. He came up to me and shook my hand, and told me why he had traveled back to D.C. You see Governor Avery is also appropriately called Congressman Avery. He served in this House from

1955–1965. He related to me that when he won his election in 1954, he thought he would be entering a Republican Congress, but he soon learned that the Democrats had regained the majority. Congressman Avery was destined to serve all his tenure in the minority. He always felt a little jilted by history, and that is why he wanted to be on the floor of the U.S. House when the gavel passed. At that moment I realized how fortunate I really was to be entrusted with a job representing the Fourth Congressional District of Kansas, and I realized just how historic a shift in Congress can be.

Mr. Speaker, I hope Governor Avery is enjoying the beautiful Autumn evening back home in Wakefield, Kansas. I want to thank him for all his words of inspiration, his dedication and his enduring attitude. When the history of Kansas is written, it will be as kind to Governor Avery as he has been to anyone who has had the good fortune to know him.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to be able to call Governor Avery my friend and to help recognize him this day for the many accomplishments he has provided the people of Kansas and this great country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained during roll-call votes 505–508. Had I been present I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote 505, 506, 507, and 508. I would ask that the RECORD reflect these votes.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF FRANK GARRISON

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Frank Garrison, on the eve of his retirement as President of the Michigan State AFL–CIO. Frank is truly one of our finest public servants in Michigan, having first been elected AFL–CIO President in 1986. As all who have ever met Frank know, he is a man who has devoted his life to helping Michigan's working men and women improve their lives.

Frank was born in 1934 in a small town in Indiana. His family, like so many others, was destitute and jobless as a result of the Great Depression. And so it was with gratitude that they named Frank after one of our country's greatest presidents, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who created the Works Progress Administration [WPA], which allowed Frank's father to work, and helped get the family back on its feet. Frank has said he has always taken great pride in his namesake. I believe that he has certainly lived his life, like his namesake, with the purpose of helping America's working families—a goal, Mr. Speaker, that I believe is one of the most honorable of all goals.

In the early 1950s, Frank came to Michigan to find a job. He found one at General Motor's

Steering Gear plant in Saginaw, a city I am proud to represent today in Congress. Shortly thereafter, he joined UAW Local 699 and, in 1955, Frank married Ms. Dora Goodboe. Later, he was drafted into the Army, and served two years before returning to his job at the Saginaw Steering Gear plant in 1956.

Frank refers to the next event in his life as a true “turning point”. A fellow UAW Local 699 member invited him to hear a speech by the legendary Walter Reuther. Frank says he was spellbound with Reuther's deep commitment to the labor movement, and that Reuther instilled in Frank a purpose: To help ordinary working people band together and improve their lives. From that moment on, Frank has certainly been committed to doing precisely that. He ran successfully for office in UAW Local 699, and later went on to serve as Alternate Committeeman, Committeeman, Shop Committeeman, Local Union Vice-President and Financial Secretary.

He went on to a variety of appointments and positions: UAW International Representative, Community Action Program (CAP) Coordinator for Region 1D, UAW lobbyist and Legislative Director, and Michigan CAP Director. He was appointed in 1982 as Executive Director of Michigan UAW–CAP, a position he held until his election as President of the Michigan State AFL–CIO in 1986. Frank went on to be one of the longest-serving presidents, and was re-elected in 1987, 1991, and 1995.

Frank's contributions and work on behalf of Michigan's working men and women are legendary and real. They do indeed reflect Frank's great commitment to the labor movement and his belief that it is a tool to effect great change in this country. Michigan's working families will always be grateful for Frank Garrison's work, for he selflessly gave of himself to make their lives better. For that, Mr. Speaker, I say he is truly worthy of a name shared with our former President, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Frank has been blessed with a supportive and caring family—his wife Dora, their three daughters, seven grandchildren and great-grandchild. He has worked hard his entire life on behalf of others, and it is my hope that during his retirement, Frank will work just as hard to enjoy these years with his family and many friends. Mr. Speaker, I now invite you and our colleagues to offer your congratulations to Frank Garrison, and your most sincere wishes for a very happy and productive retirement.

M.G. VALLEJO, FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Ms. SANCHEZ. Mr. Speaker, I insert the following for the RECORD:***HD***M.G. VALLEJO, Friends and Acquaintances

(By Galal Kernahan)

When the Senate and the House of Representatives approved an “Act for the Admission of California into the Union” on September 9, 1850, its “Birth Certificate” had been reviewed and found in order, whereas, the people of California have presented a constitution and asked admission into the Union, which constitution was submitted to

Congress by the President of the United States.

1999 is American California's Constitutional Sesquicentennial. Forty-eight elected delegates met in Convention in Monterey and finished their work September 12, 1849. That work was approved in California-wide voting on December 13, 1849.

What follows is a glimpse of the human side of how this remarkable bilingual, multicultural state charter came into being. Chief source for the discussions and actions of the Monterey Convention one hundred and fifty years ago is an official 477-page account of what happened. Called “Browne's Debates,” it was published in English and in Spanish. It was bound in Washington, D.C., in 1850, in order to be properly presented together with the California Constitution to the U.S. President and appropriate officials.

The seal of the State of California is more than a little strange. It centers on a seated lady. At her feet a Grizzly bear munches grape clusters. Considering the relative scale of things, that is one huge woman! Grizzlies average 500–600 pounds and can top out at almost twice that. It looks like a dumpy dog compared to her.

Well California is vast. And as First Assistant Secretary Caleb Lyon explained to our 48 Constitutional Forefathers, Saturday, September 29, 1849, in Monterey's Colton Hall schoolhouse: “She (the goddess Minerva . . . spring full grown from the brain of Jupiter) is introduced as a type of the political birth of the State of California . . .” In other words, we jumped straight into being a State without spending any time in Aunt Sam's womb as a Territory.

And the bear? . . . emblematic of the peculiar characteristics of the country.”

Monterey-born Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo well knew those peculiar characteristics. Bears could be mean: bullying, armed, irregular “Bear Flaggers,” meaner. They locked him up and mistreated him. He facetiously suggested that, if the bear had to remain in the Seal, it should “be represented as made fast by a lasso in the hands of a vaquero.” The idea lost by five votes.

The convention was crawling with ambitious cub lawyers. They averaged from four months to a year or two in California. They were impressed with the symbolism—the miner with his rocker, ships on the waters, snow-clad peaks of the Sierra Nevada. “Eureka” (found it!) was a nifty motto too.

On Friday, October 12, 1849, after a traditional official thank-you to Chairman Robert Semple (like Vallejo, another 42-year-old from Sonoma), they trooped over to pay respects to California's Military Governor Brigadier General Bennett Riley. Before parting for San Joaquin, Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, San Francisco, Sonoma, Sacramento, Santa Barbara, and San Jose, they partied away the night. Each chipped in \$25 for an historic blow-out, a real two-violinguitar fandango. A 31-gun cannon salute heralded what would be American's 31st State . . . eleven months later.

On leaving next day, Henry Hill and Miguel de Pedroena wondered if printed copies of California's “Birth Certificate” would reach their remote San Diego district before people voted. Not to worry. Ratification carried 12,872 to 811 on a rainy November 13, 1849.

The most important thing the Constitution proved is that CALIFORNIANS BUILD THEIR STATE TOGETHER. They have from the start.

That doesn't mean it was a September Song in rustic Monterey in 1849. Delegates connived, bickered, blathered, were or became friends . . . or enemies. California diversity—as it always can—made the Convention work well enough for good things to happen.

The issue of slavery was tearing the United States apart. Furies, that would explode in

Civil War more than a decade later, spun across a continent like dust devils. Patience of men, who differed, dwindled. Some brought short-fused tempers to California's backwater capital.

A twenty-six-year-old, Henry Tefft, born in Washington Country, N.Y., was a Wisconsin resident before he reached California three months shy of the Convention. He managed to be elected a delegate from San Luis Obispo. Attorney James McHall Jones, 25, was born in Scott County, Kentucky, and lived in Louisiana before he began a similarly brief residency here. He came representing San Joaquin.

Jones was sure Theftt insulted him in convoluted argument about voting apportionment, but the animosity ran deeper than that. It quickly escalated towards the point-of-honor stage that would make a duel unavoidable.

Others acted automatically to head off tragedy. While they raised parliamentary questions about who, if anyone, should apologize to whom, Latino delegates muddled things further by announcing, "The question appears to be respecting certain English words, which we do not understand. We desire to be excused from voting." Tempers cooled. (An anti-dueling Constitutional provision passed later . . . delinked from the incident by a few days.)

At Monterey, the summed lives of seven Californios totaled 293 years. Add the twelve years' residency of Spain-born Miguel de Pedroena, and this aggregated to 305. The other 40 delegates had been logged 154 California years between them all. Five were foreign-born. John Sutter, 47, from Switzerland, operated the sawmill where the gold was discovered that started the rush. The remaining 35 grew up in States of the North and South. Regional hangups were reflected in their comments. Where would an extended Mason-Dixon line divide California? Or the Missouri Compromise boundary?

The Wilmot Proviso had been like a pole thrust in American wasps' nest. In 1846, before President James Polk warred with Mexico to take half its land, he bargained to buy it. Pennsylvania Representative David Wilmot tried to tie a string to money sought from Congress. He twice persuaded the Lower House to condition appropriation on the commitment that "neither slavery nor involuntary servitude shall ever exist in any part of said territory." The U.S. Senate stalled the first try by adjourning before the bill could come before it; on the second, it passed its own message without any anti-slavery language.

In the 1848 Treaty of Peace, the U.S. paid \$15 million for California and what became the American Southwest. Word of the stymied Proviso had ricocheted around the country by then with States and communities lining up for or against. It echoed in distant Monterey. While Utah and New Mexico became territories, California entered the Union as a Free State in 1850. It was thanks in part to another deal by "Great Pacificator," Senator Henry Clay, the same legislator who pulled the Missouri Compromise out of a hat a quarter century earlier.

Colton Hall rhetoric was, by today's standards, gratingly racist. Though not without their defenders, African-Americans and Native Americans were trashed. There was nasty talk about Chileans, Native Hawaiians, and Australians drawn by the discovery of gold. In San Francisco, they risked being lynched.

Transplanted Northerners and Southerners at Monterey knew each others' arguments by heart. They said much but no longer heard much. Theirs were dialogues of the deaf. Californios nudged everyone a bit off bal-

ance. There was language. Debate on land tenancy took an idiotic turn for Vallejo when he misheard "freeholders" as frijoles (free-HO-les, beans). There was culture. Courtliness and gente-de-razon class consciousness seemed Southern, but their color-free views sounded downright Northern.

A Santa Barbara Californio explained, "Many citizens of California have received from nature a very dark skin. Nevertheless, there are among them men who have heretofore been allowed to vote, and, not only that, but to fill the highest public offices. It would be very unjust to deprive them of the privileges of citizens merely because nature had not made them white . . ."

When is black-and-white not black and white? With 16 months in California, Virginia-born Monterey Delegate Charles T. Botts, 40, claimed, ". . . no objection to color . . . I would be perfectly willing to use any word which would exclude the African and Indian races . . ."

A Californio gift to our Original Constitution makes a married woman's property her own. It seemed a novel, somewhat daring idea to transcontinental newcomers, but Convention Secretary Henry Wager Halleck, 32, reasoned thus: "I am not wedded either to the common law or the civil law, nor as yet, to a woman; but having some hopes that some day or other I may be wedded . . . I shall advocate this section in the Constitution. I would call upon all the bachelors in this Convention to vote for it. I do not think we can offer a greater inducement for women of fortune to come to California . . ."

The Convention interpreter must have smiled. William Hartnell landed, a young English merchant, in sleepy Monterey in 1822. He married Teresa a De La Guerra daughter. Already multilingual, his Spanish became flawless. They had 18 children.

There was contention about the new State's boundaries. Some argued California encompassed everything just taken from Mexico and stretched to Montana and Colorado. Tennessee-born William Gwin, 44, was recently of Louisiana. Not yet three months on the Pacific Coast when he arrived at the Convention representing San Francisco, he predicted: "I have no doubt the time will come when we will have twenty states this side of the Rocky Mountains. When the population comes, they will require that this state shall be divided."

Some immediately visualized one-for-the-South and one-for-the-North and . . .

Jose Antonio Carrillo (at 53 the oldest man there) came to the Convention toying with the idea California might be split at San Luis Obispo to leave the southern part a Territory. He changed his mind. Now he remembered that, when he was alcalde (mayor) of Los Angeles, he had seen Spanish maps that bounded California with the Sierra Nevada line on the east.

About a fourth of the delegates made three-fourths of the speeches. Yet you can still sense the presence and influence of the not-so-talkative ones. With few exceptions, they prevailed on big issues.

1999 marks the Sesquicentennial of California's Original 1849 Constitution, our U.S. ticket of admission. Diversity worked. CALIFORNIANS BUILD THEIR STATE TOGETHER! Even greater diversity works today. It is our ticket to the world.

HONORING JAMES EMERSON
DENNIS

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Rev. James Emerson Dennis for his 66 years of service in the ministry. His endurance and tremendous strength over the years is a testimony to the success of his efforts addressing the needs of his congregations and community.

Rev. Dennis was seven years old when he accepted Christ and was baptized by his father at St. Paul Baptist Church. He was a young man of 24 when he was called to the Ministry, preaching his first sermon at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Baileysville, Texas where Rev. R.A. Sharp presided as Pastor.

Rev. Dennis was married to the late Hester Lee Williams Dennis on September 27, 1931. He is the father of four children: Ann M. White of Sea Side, California, Mayme D. Gardner of Kenner, Louisiana; James E. Dennis of Lake View Terrace, California; and the late John Williams Dennis. In February of 1934, Rev. Dennis was ordained at Harlem's Chapel, B.C. where he pastored eight years. Later he was called to Bethlehem Baptist Church in Hammond, Texas, where he pastored for four years.

Rev. Dennis' most enduring stint of service—an impressive 50 years—was spent preaching at Mt. Rose Baptist Church in Brenham, Texas. From September 4, 1946 to March 31, 1997 he ministered to generations of families and neighbors who benefitted from his wisdom and faith. During that half century of service, Rev. Dennis amassed a wealth of accomplishments for his community. The present Church Edifice Mt. Rose M.B.C., Brenham, Texas was built under his administration. He also founded and organized the Brenham Cemetery Association.

While Rev. Dennis' religious and spiritual obligations have always been paramount, as a community leader, he has undertaken his civic duties with the utmost seriousness and passion, serving on several boards and organizations. His love for his fellow man and desire for social justice was evidenced by his organization of the Brenham Chapter of the NAACP. He was a Bible Lecturer and Secretary for the Lincoln District Association for 20 years, as well as Executive Vice Moderator. He was Chairman of the Congress of Christian Workers of Texas. Rev. Dennis preached in the Lincoln District Association's State Congress, State Convention, and National Baptist Convention. He served as a Member of the Faith Mission Board of Directors in Brenham, Texas and President of the Washington County Ministers Association. He was also President of the Washington County Lions Club and the Brenham Civic Club.

As an instructor, Rev. Dennis continues to share his gifts and experiences with those who seek knowledge and guidance. He teaches at Christian Bible College and A.P. Clay Theological Bible College in Kenner, Louisiana, and at the Union Theological Seminary in New Orleans. Rev. Dennis is presently a member of Christian Unity Baptist Church in New Orleans, Louisiana where Rev. Dwight Webster is Pastor.

Rev. Dennis is a true hero of his community and a faithful servant of God. His 66 years of service in the ministry is a testament to the power of faith and to a life of good deeds and public service. He has been honored with several awards, including the Man of the Year Award from the Washington County Chamber of Commerce and a Special Award for Years of Devoted Service to the Ministers Conference Prairie View A&M University in 1987 and 1992. Numerous other Certificates of Recognition include those from President Bill Clinton and Gov. George W. Bush. It is appropriate that the Citizens Committee for Retirees and Unsung Heroes will be honoring Rev. Dennis on November 17, 1999. On October 31, 1999, Houston's New Faith Church, pastored by Dr. T.R. Williams, will honor Rev. Dennis with celebrations during both morning worship services.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his 66 years in the ministry, Rev. Dennis' intelligence, enthusiasm, and integrity has served his congregations well. He brings a tireless energy, an unflagging drive, and a passionate caring to each of his endeavors, whether it's as a Pastor, a civic officer, or friend. His contributions to the ministry and his energy in addressing the needs of his congregations and surrounding community are truly commendable.

ROFEH INTERNATIONAL HONORS
DR. SUMNER SLAVIN AND MR.
ALLEN RODMAN

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased once again to call the attention of my colleagues to the excellent work that is performed by ROFEH International in Brookline, Massachusetts, and to join with ROFEH in recognizing two outstanding individuals, Dr. Sumner Slavin, and Mr. Allen Rodman, for the work they do in the context of ROFEH.

ROFEH is sponsored by the New England Chassidic Center, and owes its creation and its ongoing inspiration to the Grand Rabbi Levi Horowitz, widely known as the Bostoner Rebbe.

Rabbi Horowitz, in addition to his religious scholarship, is a leader in the field of medical ethics, and he is widely respected for his work in this area. And when I talk of Rabbi Horowitz's work in the medical ethics area, I speak not simply of intellectual activity, but of practical efforts, exemplified by Project ROFEH. This important activity brings people from all over the world to Boston so that they can benefit from the outstanding level of medical knowledge and skill which is available in Boston to a degree greater than almost anywhere else in the world. As we know, good medical care has two parts—the first of course being the existence of high quality care; but the second being access to that care, which is, sadly, very unevenly distributed. ROFEH International does an excellent job in extending access to people who would not have it otherwise, and I salute Rabbi Horowitz and his colleagues for this work. Indeed, I use this occasion to publicize this effort in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD not simply because it is worthy of recognition, but because it is even more

worthy of emulation, and I hope through this means to stimulate some interest in this notion because it is an activity that could be repeated elsewhere. And I know that Rabbi Horowitz and his colleagues would be glad to share with others if asked what they do and how it could be replicated.

This year, on November 7, the annual dinner of ROFEH and the New England Chassidic Center will take place, and at that time, the 1999 Man of the Year award will be presented to Allen Rodman.

Mr. Rodman is a leading member of the Bar in Malden, Massachusetts, and among his other distinctions, he has been a strong supporter of the work of the New England Chassidic Center—work which stretched through five generations of his family. The family affiliation is particularly strong through his mother, Cecile, who is a close friend of Rabbi and Rebbetzin Horowitz. In his 45 years as a member of the Bar, Mr. Rodman has undertaken notable legal efforts, including important work in asbestos litigations, and in the extremely significant class action litigation launched against the tobacco companies five years ago.

The Lillian and Harry Andler Memorial Award will be given on that day to Dr. Sumner Slavin. Dr. Slavin and his family similarly have a long association with the Rebbe, and he has been very active in the work of the New England Chassidic Center. His distinguished medical career has been marked by a number of awards, and he is now representing the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center on the Executive Council for the new Harvard Medical School Program in Plastic Surgery. He has been recognized for his expertise in the important and sensitive area of breast reconstruction and has been a leader as well in the efforts to combat lymphedema, a condition that causes swelling in the limbs after cancer treatment. Dr. Slavin and Mr. Rodman are leaders in their respective professional fields, and leaders as well in contributing to the great work of the New England Chassidic Center and Project ROFEH. The honor they receive from these very distinguished institutions is a high one, and reflective of their willingness to work hard for the welfare of others. I am glad to join in pointing to them, and to ROFEH International as examples of the way in which citizens can reach out to others in need.

CONGRATULATING PFIZER, INC.
ON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDWARD A. PEASE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. PEASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pfizer, Inc. on its 150th anniversary and to applaud the company for its many innovations in the ever-important pharmaceutical industry. Pfizer's products, which treat a variety of diseases and conditions, are now available in 150 countries. The company also has thriving consumer healthcare and animal healthcare divisions. The history of Pfizer is one of adventure, risk-taking, confident decision-making, and the saving of countless lives around the globe. It's the story of a small chemical firm founded in Brooklyn, New York, which, over 150 years, has become one of the

world's premier pharmaceutical enterprises. Pfizer now employs close to 50,000 people in 85 countries, including 278 employees in its Terre Haute, Indiana, animal health research facility, which lies in my home district. Through the hard work of employees at these facilities, Pfizer offers its worldwide livestock and companion animal customers one of the broadest product lines in the industry.

Cousins Charles Pfizer and Charles Erhart emigrated to the U.S. from Germany in the mid-1840s. In New York City, the young cousins combined their skills and founded a small chemical firm in 1849. Charles Pfizer & Co. improved the American chemical market by manufacturing specialty chemicals that had not been produced in the U.S. The company made many important discoveries and marketed popular and effective drug treatments in its first 75 years. Union soldiers used Pfizer drugs extensively during the Civil War.

However, Pfizer's real emergence as an industry leader was the result of a daring risk taken by Pfizer executives in the 1940s. In 1928, when Alexander Fleming discovered the germ-killing properties of penicillin, he knew that the drug could have a profound medical value. Yet, Fleming could not find a way to mass-produce the drug. In 1941, following new discoveries relating to this "wonder drug," Pfizer executives put their own stocks at stake and invested millions of dollars in order to find a way to mass produce penicillin. Eventually, they succeeded. The breakthrough came just in time to send penicillin to the frontlines of World War II.

From then on, Pfizer evolved into an international leader in the pharmaceutical industry, opening facilities around the globe and developing new and effective antibiotics to combat deadly infectious diseases.

Pfizer has spent a great amount of its resources on research and development, an approach that has rewarded the company and its customers with many successful and effective drugs. Pfizer today is renowned as one of the world's most admired corporations for the many contributions it has made to our society. I applaud Pfizer on its 150th anniversary and for its continued efforts to make this nation and the world a healthier place.

THE SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AT
JOLLY MILL PARK

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, as members of Congress we often address the need in this chamber to improve the spirit of volunteerism or the spirit of community to meet local needs. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to call attention to a group of dedicated people in the Seventh Congressional District of Missouri who demonstrate the impact of that spirit.

For almost 150 years, Jolly Mill near Pierce City has been a fixture in Southwest Missouri. Located on the first road from Springfield to Oklahoma, the three story mill has served as a grist mill, a distillery, and a resupply point for wagon trains and stagecoaches. It survived two skirmishes in the Civil War and the burning of its surrounding settlement by bushwhackers. It continued as an enlarged flour

mill though it could not attract a railroad line. However it could not survive as an operating mill forever, finally closing its doors in 1973.

But that is not the end of the story. A group of citizens decided that it was essential to save this heritage landmark for future generations. They did not turn to government for federal grants or lobby to have the site added to the state park system. Like good Ozarkers they knew they could do the job themselves. Using local donations they bought the mill and 32 surrounding acres to form the Jolly Mill Park and formed the Jolly Mill Park Foundation.

The Foundation has an ongoing commitment to protect the history and heritage of rural Missouri. Not only have they restored the mill to its condition at the turn of the century. Nevertheless, they have also moved and restored a 90-year-old iron bridge and a one room school house built over a century ago.

The park, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is a gift from the Foundation to the community. Its visitors can make their way to the old limestone slab foundation and hand-hewn and pegged framing timbers of the old mill to relax, reflect and to better understand the lives of those who settled there and developed the area.

Mr. Speaker, today I offer my appreciation and that of all my colleagues for the spirit of volunteerism and community that characterize the unselfish dedication of the Foundation and its many members over the last 16 years to preserve this singular part of the history of Newton County and Southwest Missouri.

HONORING THE WHITE BEAR LAKE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the White Bear Lake Police Department in my district for their reception of the 1999 Community Policing Award. Chosen from among hundreds of nominations from around the world, The International Association of Police Chiefs unanimously selected the White Bear Lake Police Department for their innovative approach to community problem-solving.

The White Bear Lake Police Department is distinguished for several programs designed to connect citizens to the law enforcement community. Programs such as Triad, the Police Academy, the Citizen Crime Prevention Committee, and a police partnership with the city's schools educate all citizens from age 5 to 95 in police prevention issues.

Recognizing the value of police officer involvement in the community, the White Bear Lake Police Department assigned every police officer to a specific neighborhood. This led to a greater sense of familiarity and understanding between local residents and the department. Law enforcement's successful approach to community policing provides a positive example for all neighborhoods across the nation.

The hardworking men and women of the White Bear Lake Police Department are another reason why White Bear Lake is a safe and great place to live. It is with heartfelt pride

and admiration that I congratulate them on winning the distinguished 1999 Community Policing Award.

I have included, for my colleagues review, an article which appeared in the White Bear Press, a local community newspaper. This article outlines the White Bear Lake Police Department's achievements and success in the international competition.

WHITE BEAR POLICE ARE "TOP COPS" IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

(By James C. Pittman)

The White Bear Lake Police Department has received the 1999 Community Policing Award from the International Association of Police Chiefs.

"We are very proud of this award," said Police Chief Todd Miller. "I think it is great recognition for everyone in the department and those in the community who help us."

White Bear Lakes was selected from hundreds of law enforcement agencies worldwide for their dedication to community policing programs. Four other U.S. departments were also selected. The International Association of Police Chiefs, in association with ITT Industries Night Vision, will feature the five winning departments as part of a "Best Practices In Community Policing" presentations.

Miller, who has been chief here for the past six years, said it is the department's philosophy to involve officers in the community. Those citizen-involved programs have been successful, he said.

They include Triad, which involves senior citizens in police prevention; the Police Academy, which graduates citizens who want to have greater understanding of police techniques; and the Citizen Crime Prevention Committee. In addition, there is a police partnership with the schools. He also emphasized that every police officer is assigned to specific neighborhoods.

Miller, a "scorer" in the competition in past years, said the association looks at problem-solving skills by police and citizens within a community.

He said the association judges were especially impressed with the department's work on the speeding issue, which they said was a well-organized attempt to implement a community policing policy.

Miller said he was told that the White Bear Lake Police Department was the unanimous decision of the committee that evaluated the departments. "And it was the first time that we entered the awards competition," he said.

The award will be presented at the police chiefs' annual conference Nov. 3 in Charlotte, N.C.

"The winning departments successfully demonstrated that community policing is proactive and effective policing, requiring a new way of thinking about and approaching community problem-solving," said Gary Kempfer, Missouri director of public safety. Kempfer serves as the chairman of the International Association of Police Chiefs Community Policing Committee.

The outstanding five departments represent five categories, based on population. The White Bear Lake Police Department was selected in the population category of 20,001 to 50,000 residents.

Each demonstrated a significant change in their approach to crime, from reactive to proactive. Departments divided communities into individual zones and dedicated officers to patrolling the same neighborhoods daily.

Other police departments chosen for the award represent Clearwater and Jacksonville in Florida; New Haven, Conn.; and Beaufort, S.C.

A preliminary panel of 14 judges and a final panel of six police chiefs reviewed hundreds

of nominations from the United States and six foreign countries, including Australia, Ireland and Germany. The first panel selected the top 32 nominations. The final panel reviewed the 32 nominations to select five winners and 14 finalists.

With more than 17,210 members in 112 countries, the International Association of Police Chiefs is the world's oldest and largest non-profit organization of police executives from international, federal, state and local agencies of all sizes.

TRIBUTE TO ADOLPH KULL

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Adolph Kull of Mattoon, Illinois. Today, a celebration will mark Mr. Kull's retirement from the Mattoon Coca-Cola bottling plant where he has worked for 75 years. He was hired by Coca-Cola on June 1, 1924, and worked there until August 31, 1999, when he retired. Mr. Kull's long-term commitment can not only be seen in his work, but also in his 60-year marriage to Victoria Kull, which has produced three wonderful children: Mark, Linda and Anita. I am sure his entire family, along with the entire Mattoon community, could not be more proud of Adolph's dedication, hard work and loyalty.

Perhaps success in the bottling business is genetic, because Adolph was not the first Kull to persevere in bottling. His father, a German immigrant, first started in the bottling business in 1891 in Murphysboro, Illinois. He started bottling Coca-Cola in 1904, and in 1928 he acquired the Mattoon Coca-Cola Bottling Company. There, Adolph began sorting bottles and doing odd jobs throughout the plant until the year following his graduation from high school when he began his job as a delivery driver in 1933. He worked as a delivery driver for 12 years, during which time the plant and the business continued to grow, even through the Depression. Mr. Kull claims that during the Depression, "everyone could still afford a Coke." When his father passed away in 1956, Adolph became President of the company, and was President until 1982 when the company was sold. Adolph was 68 when he sold the company, an age when many people are either comfortably retired or comfortable with the idea of retirement. However, Adolph's love for the business was still strong and Adolph took a job as a line supervisor until his retirement earlier this year.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Kull's life is an example of the long-held American ethics of hard work and loyalty. I know that he will be sorely missed by everyone at Coca-Cola, where his presence has become a 75-year tradition. However, I am also sure that Adolph will enjoy his retirement spending time with his family and restoring the antique automobiles that he loves so much. I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Adolph on many years of excellence, and in wishing him the best of luck in this new phase of his life.

THE AMERICAN-UKRAINIAN YOUTH ASSOCIATION'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the American-Ukrainian Youth Association's 50th Anniversary and to wish them success at the Jubilee Banquet-Dance to be held at the Palmer House on October 23, 1999 in Chicago, Illinois.

The American-Ukrainian Youth Association—Mykola Pavlushkov branch—in Chicago is the largest such organization in our city and seeks to provide activities for children and young adults in the areas of culture, sports, civics and summer camp programs in its summer camp in Baraboo, Wisconsin.

The Pavlushkov branch was formed on October 2, 1949 by young Ukrainian immigrants who arrived after World War II. In fact, many of these young immigrants arrived from German "displaced persons" camps. Upon arrival in the United States, this group wished to continue the work they did in Europe as members of the Ukrainian Youth Association ("SUM") and renewed their SUM activities in their new communities.

A central component of the SUM ideology is the concept of self-enlightenment, a concept that has been successfully incorporated into the existence of the Chicago branch. They are proud to follow the path of self-enlightenment through mass meetings of the membership as well as the promotion of the cultivation of Ukrainian culture and arts.

I want to congratulate the "50th Anniversary Committee" and Chrystya Wereszczak, President of the American Ukrainian Youth Association on the occasion of this important milestone and wish them continued success.

GLOBAL BUSINESSWOMEN'S DAY

HON. JENNIFER DUNN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, since I was first elected in 1992, I have had great pleasure in witnessing the tremendous growth of women in business. Women now are starting businesses at twice the rate of men and employing more than all of the Fortune 500 companies worldwide.

In my home State of Washington, there are 188,400 women-owned businesses, including part-time firms, employing 509,800 people and generating \$61.6 billion in sales.

As Co-Chair with Congresswoman LORETTA SANCHEZ for the Congressional Circle for the Foundation for Women Legislators, I am pleased to designate Tuesday, October 19th as Global Businesswomen's Day. We are proud to make this proclamation on the historic occasion of the Business Women's Network Global Summit in Washington, DC. It is an honor to salute the 1,500 delegates who have come from 97 countries around the globe and 47 states spanning the United States. Thanks to the Business Women's Network for focusing on diversity; the theme of

the summit on October 19th is One America, One World.

Recognizing the importance of businesswomen and the BWN Global Summit, we are honored to show congressional recognition of the Global Business Women's Summit. How fitting it is that it is also National Business Women's Week. This proclamation salutes these women from across the globe who are symbols of hard work, dedication, and success in the new millennium.

In partnership, the Businesswomen's Network and the National Foundation for Women Legislators have created a strategic alliance: 2000 by 2000. The goal is to connect 2,000 elected women to work in partnership with 2,000 business leaders by the year 2000. Such a partnership between women legislators and women business owners has never been established. Yet businesswomen are the engines that empower women legislators. Think of the synergy—businesswomen and women legislators working hand-in-hand toward the common goal of empowering women everywhere.

Another major thrust of the summit is using cutting-edge technology to create more business for more women across more borders. By connecting globally, women can grow their businesses in new markets regardless of the size of their company. Fostering free and fair trading practices worldwide is particularly important in my home State of Washington, where nearly one in three jobs are trade dependent.

TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Taiwan's National Day. The Republic of China on Taiwan marked its National Day on October 10, 1999. Taiwan is a model democracy, representing progress, both economic and political. It has successfully weathered the Asian financial crisis and achieved notable political reforms in recent years. In terms of its relationship with the Chinese mainland, President Lee Teng-Hui has said on many occasions that he seeks peace and unification with the mainland under the principals of freedom, democracy, and equitable distribution of wealth.

As I extend my best wishes to President Lee and the people in Taiwan, I also wish to express my condolences to all those families that have lost loved ones to the September 21 earthquake that hit the island, especially the central part of the island. My prayers are with those families that have been affected by the quake.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the people of Taiwan for their spirit of liberty, support for democracy and their strength to ensure hardships.

A TRIBUTE TO JAMES "BIG DADDY" CARSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to honor the "home going" of Mr. James "Big Daddy" Carson. Coach Carson passed away suddenly last week due to complications from an earlier surgery.

Coach Carson was the head football coach at Jackson State University (JSU) from 1992 through the 1998 season and has been a member of the coaching staff since 1977. Truly, Coach Carson has been a corner stone of the JSU program. After his appointment to head coach, Carson led the Tigers to a 54-25-1 career record, including two Southwestern Athletic Conference Championships (1995 and 1996). Coach Carson's teams have made three trips to the NCAA Division 1-AA playoffs.

A native of Clarksdale, Mississippi, Carson is a 1963 graduate of Jackson State. He lettered four years as an offensive guard and nose tackle for the Tigers, receiving honorable mention NAIA All America in 1962. He was inducted into the JSU Sports Hall of Fame in 1989.

While at Jackson State, Coach Carson helped to mold the careers of many past and present professional football players. Among those players, is Hall of Fame inductee, Walter Payton. Coach Carson will be truly missed.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2684, DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 14, 1999

Mr. HILL of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today, I grudgingly voted for the Conference Report for Veterans Administration and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations, H.R. 2684, but I still think Congress could have done better for our veterans. I voted for H.R. 2684, despite the fact that it did not include the \$3 billion increase in veterans health care that veterans say they need. Unfortunately, there was no way left to improve this bill.

I am still very concerned about how this year's budget will affect veterans. Earlier this year, the VFW (Veterans of Foreign Wars), DAV (Disabled American Veterans), PVA (Paralyzed Veterans of America) and AMVETS stated in their Independent Budget and in testimony before the House Veterans Affairs Committee that the VA needed a \$3 billion boost in health care funding to provide adequate care. The American Legion requested a slightly smaller, but still substantial, increase in veterans health care funding, as well.

I agree with many of my colleagues who believe the original Clinton Administration request for VA health care funding was way too

low. It essentially maintained the existing funding level. And although the House VA/HUD Appropriations bill did include a one-year, \$1.7 billion increase in veterans health care, it fell well short of what veterans groups say is needed.

I voted against the House version on this VA/HUD Appropriations bill because defeating it would have given House members another opportunity to find the money needed to properly fund veterans' health care. Unfortunately, the Senate did not offer a higher funding level and the conference committee settled on the smaller increase.

I voted for this bill, but I know we can do better. In the future, I hope we will listen to the veterans and work together to better address our veterans' most pressing needs. They deserve it.

TRIBUTE TO TROOPER JAMES SAUNDERS

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Washington State Patrol Trooper James Saunders, who was killed in the line of duty on October 7th while making a routine traffic stop in Pasco, Washington. The suspect in this case is a violent illegal alien who has a long criminal record.

Trooper Saunders leaves behind a small child and a wife expecting a second child. No words can express the sorrow they feel right now. I pray that God will become their strength as they begin the healing process.

As facts emerge in this case, the question we must ask ourselves is how can we stop tragedies like this. The suspect in the case had been deported three times by the U.S. Border Patrol in the past three years and this summer he was held in jail in Pasco awaiting a November trial on a cocaine charge. Instead of remaining in jail until trial, he was released on bond. There has been a lot of finger pointing over who is to blame for not placing the suspect on immigration detention, which is the standard procedure for violent criminal aliens, and while this should be investigated, it will not bring back Trooper Saunders. It is clear that this case shows how bureaucratic mistakes aren't just bureaucratic when crimes are committed and lives are lost. Our region is sensitive to this problem. An Omak police officer was killed in the line of duty just two years ago by a suspect who was an illegal alien.

Mr. Speaker, we must learn from this tragedy to prevent future acts of violence. I believe this case highlights three problems that need to be addressed.

First, legal immigration and border enforcement are two very separate functions of the Federal Government. Under our current system, the Border Patrol reports to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Cooperation between INS and Border Patrol needs improvement. I support the approach offered by Chairman Harold Rogers to reorganize the INS into two different agencies within the Department of Justice: immigration services and immigration enforcement (or border patrol). This reorganization will empower both divisions to successfully fulfill their respective mis-

sions. Bureaucratic overlap and miscommunication should not be the cause of illegal aliens having easy access to our country.

Second, the Border Patrol needs more agents. Unfortunately, the Clinton Administration has not advocated for more resources and personnel for this department. There was bipartisan criticism earlier this year when President Clinton did not request funding for an increase of 1,000 Border Patrol agents for fiscal year 2000. Border communities are significantly impacted by this short-sighted decision. My home state of Washington recently had 6 agents detailed to the Arizona border because they need more agents to interdict illegal aliens and illegal drugs there. Overall, 204 Western region agents have been detailed to the Arizona border at a cost of \$1.8 million per month. Arizona may need more agents, but that should not come at the expense of other regions. If we had an increase in the total number of agents, there would be no need to detail agents elsewhere. Northern Border Patrol sectors should be given an increase in Border Patrol personnel. This fact is important because the Spokane sector, which is located in my District needs, 15 agents and 2 support personnel just to get to "critical operation level." The Spokane sector has 350 miles to cover and under the current staffing level they are only able to monitor 6 percent of the border on a regular basis. The loss of 6 agents will have an impact not just in border monitoring, but in criminal detention. Overstretched staff will be less able to visit local jails to ensure criminal aliens are not released back into the streets to commit more crimes, which apparently is part of the problem involving the situation that led to the shooting death of Trooper Saunders.

Our American border with Canada and our northern airports need additional agents as well. Eastern Washington streets are facing a significant increase in methamphetamine, heroin and marijuana use. Reports indicate that as America's southern border is reinforced, foreign drug producers are increasingly using Canada as a smuggling gateway between foreign drug producers and the United States. The Border Patrol recently interdicted the largest seizure of methamphetamine precursors in the history of our region. I am concerned that detailing of agents to the southern border will result in more drugs coming across our northern border.

Finally, the shooting of Trooper Saunders is another example of how illegal immigration and the drug trade are becoming more violent and police officers are being threatened. 104 law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty this year, 4 in the last two weeks, and many of these deaths can be attributed to the drug trade and illegal immigration. Law enforcement officials in my district tell me that street officers are finding that drug dealers and illegal aliens are more heavily armed and willing to use violence to evade detection and apprehension. Many veteran officers are choosing to retire because the streets have become too violent. This Congress has made great strides to provide more resources for law enforcement departments, but we should do more. The Bulletproof Protection Act signed into law last year has helped provide small and rural departments with life-saving vests for their officers. Vests should be standard equipment for every police officer,

but unfortunately many departments do not have the resources to provide them. The Local Law Enforcement Block Grant has also given departments the ability to better tailor their programs according to the needs of their community rather than to an arbitrary Department of Justice grant requirement.

Mr. Speaker, we can and should do more to prevent violence against police officers. I hope the death of Trooper Saunders will be met with action and efforts to secure our borders and protect our law enforcement services.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent Thursday, October 14, 1999, and Monday, October 18, 1999, and as a result, missed rollcall votes 500 through 508. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 500, "yes" on rollcall vote 501, "yes" on rollcall vote 502, "no" on rollcall vote 503, "no" on rollcall vote 504, "present" on rollcall vote 505, "yes" on rollcall vote 506, "yes" on rollcall vote 507, and "yes" on rollcall vote 508.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK SULLIVAN

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, the community of Ferndale lost a good friend and a dedicated public citizen when Patrick Sullivan passed away on October 2, 1999.

Patrick Sullivan was a life-long resident of Ferndale. Beginning in 1957, he worked his way up through the ranks in the Ferndale Police Department, first serving as patrolman, and then rising to detective, sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and ultimately achieving the rank of Chief. As Chief of Police, he was responsible for bringing intense training and professionalism to the Department; he was called a "cop's cop." He retired from the department after 35 years of dedication and devotion to the safety and well-being of his fellow citizens.

After his retirement as Chief, Patrick Sullivan served one term as a Ferndale Councilman, and then as security director of Ferndale Schools. Regardless of the position he held, Patrick Sullivan was a larger-than-life man.

His brother, Joe, who succeeded him as Chief, said it best, "Patrick was like an M and M—hard on the outside, and soft on the inside." He has an extraordinary interest in kids—always there for them when they got into trouble, helping them find their way in his tough but caring approach. His cottage up north was open to hundreds of youth who otherwise would not have been able to have a vacation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in sending our condolences to Patrick Sullivan's wife Glenda, his son, Kevin, his brothers and sisters and his four step grandchildren. Patrick Sullivan will indeed be missed by all of

us privileged to know him and the hundreds whose lives he directly impacted with his friendship and warmth of personality.

RECOGNIZING TWO DOG NET

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Two Dog Net, a unique Internet environment designed specifically for children. It features a complete security system providing educational and entertaining children's content, secure email, games and more. Two Dog Net is the gateway to The

Children's Internet, a collection of over a million pre-approved Internet pages accessed through Two Dog Net's "kid friendly" search engine.

Two Dog Net is based in Northern California. Its mission is to become the dominant Internet portal for children ages 3–14 and their families, by featuring the unique combination of security, educational programming and compelling animation and sound. The company developed its patent-pending Safe Zone Technology which provides safe browsing for children Internet users.

Two Dog Net has an award winning creative team that knows how to produce educational and entertaining content that children love. Two Dog Net uses animation and sound to captivate young users. The Company was de-

veloped by educators, who applied the Two Dog Net educational standards to all aspects of the development process. Two Dog Net will also be accessible in two languages including Spanish, Portuguese and French.

The content of Two Dog Net is both personalized and age-specific. Children can get their name on their home page, and a special greeting on their birthday. Each age group offers fun and innovative themes for kids to choose from, making it fit their individual personalities.

Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Two Dog Net for their child-safe Internet environment. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Two Dog Net many more years of continued success