In Denton, Barbara has earned many honors, including the Greater Denton/Wise County Association of Realtors President’s Award, Women’s Council of Realtors Gold Rule Award, Realtor of the Year and Associate of the Year. In addition, she is active in various civic and charitable organizations, including serving as former chairman of the board of the Denton Chamber of Commerce and serving four years on the Denton Planning and Zoning Commission.

Barbara has nearly 30 years of experience in the real estate business, and this recent award is a testament to her professional accomplishments and her hard work. She is married to Benny Russell, and they have two daughters and four grandchildren.

And Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I also did not pay tribute to the late Mary Claude Gay, a prominent realtor in Denton and associate of Barbara’s. Mary Claude’s contributions to her profession also have been significant, and she, too, was very influential in Denton’s community life.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Barbara Russell and Mary Claude Gay for their accomplishments and for their contributions to their community. The Texas Association of Realtors could not have selected a more giving and devoted Realtor of the Year. Barbara Russell is a class act and is the epitomy of the type of leadership and professionalism that bring respect and admiration for her profession.

As we adjourn today, and as we leave the floor of the House of Representatives for the last time this century, let us do so in respect and appreciation for the “Texas Realtor of the Year”—Barbara Russell.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2116, VETERANS MILLENNIUM HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS ACT

SPEECH OF
HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2116. This bill makes a number of important changes to veteran’s health care programs.

For example, the legislation would make comprehensive reforms to improve access to veterans’ health care include requiring the VA to increase home and community based options for veterans needing extended care; requiring the VA to provide nursing home care to certain veterans through 2003; establishing means to enhance revenues for the VA; lifting the six-month limit on VA adult day health care; authorizing the VA to enhance mental health care services; and establishing a pilot program to make contract arrangements for assisted living services.

Although the calendar year indicates that we honor these men and women on Memorial Day and Veterans Day, I believe that we should pause everyday to thank them for their sacrifice. The collective experience of our 25 million living veterans encompasses the turbulence and progress America has experienced throughout the twentieth century. This nation’s veterans have written much of the history of the last hundred years. They have served this nation without reservation or hesitation during its darker moments.

Their unwavering devotion to duty and country has brought this nation through two World Wars and numerous costly struggles against aggression. From World War I to the Gulf War, America’s veterans have been leading this nation against those who have threatened the values and interests of our nation.

Only today are the accomplishments and sacrifices of our veterans being fully appreciated by historians and the public. These genuine heroes have often been ignored and denied their proper place in America’s melting pot. We need to remember that America owes these men and women the best it can offer because they have given us the best they could when America was in need.

Mr. Speaker, I am fortunate to have The Houston Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center located in my congressional district.

Having just celebrated fifty years of service to the veterans in the Houston community, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on H.R. 2116 and care for the men and women who have borne the battle.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is important not only because it provides for the needs of our veterans today but because it sends an important signal to the men and women serving our nation in places like Bosnia, Kosovo, Germany, Korea, Japan and other far off places around the world. That message is simple, that when you serve our nation, we will answer the plea of President Lincoln “to care for him who shall have borne the battle.”

I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on H.R. 2116 and care for the men and women who have borne the battle.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN DORRENBACHER—A GREAT AMERICAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS
OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I wish to take this moment to recognize the remarkable life and significant achievements of a leading civic servant, John Dorrenbacher. Tragically, John died in his home Monday, November 8, 1999. While family, friends and colleagues remember the truly exceptional life of John, I, too, would like to pay tribute to this remarkable man.
For the last 18 years, John ran the computers and books for the Colorado Republican Party. In his time at the party, he was a pioneer of the mailing list. In the earliest days of computers, he mastered integrating information to create better mailing lists. With this advancement, those who John served were able to do targeted mailing, therefore better contacting constituents and ultimately, better serving the people. There may not be a Colorado Republican in legislative or statewide office today who wasn’t helped by a mailing list generated by John. Amazingly, John managed to serve in very different Republican roles. In addition, he once served as Boulder County GOP chairman.

Although his professional accomplishments will long be remembered and admired, most who knew him well will remember John Dorrenbacher, above all else, as someone who loved his country and had a deep faith in our democracy. It is clear that the multitude of those who, like me, have come to know John as a friend will be worse off in his absence. However, Mr. Speaker, I am confident that, in spite of this profound loss, the family and friends of John Dorrenbacher can take solace in the knowledge that each is a better person for having known him.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. DAISY BATES

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to with a great sense of twoness—one as an African American and another as an American to honor death of my mentor and friend, Mrs. Daisy Bates. Yesterday, last Friday, she died prematurely as we honor Congressional Gold Medals to the men and women, known as the Little Rock Nine, that she shepherded into Central High School against the will of a racist Governor and white neighbors. She worked for many years in the NAACP and with the Democratic National Committee to educate and register voters. In 1987, the City of Little Rock paid tribute to her work by naming an elementary school in her honor. Her life is a celebration of progress and shows us how man in his quest for justice, is determined and cannot be deterred. Her sacrifices to tear down the walls of prejudice and injustice through education and voter registration will go ahead, whether we accept it or not. Daisy Bates’ life, along with the life of other Civil Rights Movement heroes, showcases how overcoming racism in this country has become one of the greatest adventures of all time. But, it is an adventure that must be overcome.

Today as I lift up Daisy Bates, I acknowledge that there is new knowledge to be gained, new rights to be won for the progress of not just African Americans, but all Americans. Whether this country likes it or not, there will come a day when the position of preeminence for the United States will not rest on the human rights it has obtained for others across the world, but the rights and dignity she has bestowed upon her own citizens.

Our forefathers made certain that this country would ride the first waves of the industrial revolution, the first waves of modern invention, the first waves of nuclear power, and the first waves of equality under the law. Unfortunately, we have not yet ridden the wave for equal justice and must struggle to once again be a part of it and lead it. The eyes of the world now look unto us for the banner of freedom and peace.

So, today, as I honor my mentor for her work and undying courage, I challenge my brothers and sisters across the world to begin establishing their lives, like Daisy Bates as instruments of knowledge and understanding.

IN HONOR OF THE SOKOL GREAT CLEVELAND'S NEW ATHLETIC FACILITY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce the grand opening of the Czech Cultural Center of Sokol Greater Cleveland's new athletic, a state-of-the-art expansion to the historic Bohemian National Hall. After considerable planning and construction, the new facility opening this month will provide a variety of health, fitness, leisure, and cultural activities for everyone in the community. In the tradition of the American Sokol Organization, the Czech Cultural Center of Sokol Greater Cleveland's new athletic facility will provide Cleveland citizens with the opportunity to strengthen both their physical and mental character allowing them to enhance their celebration of life and vitality. With membership open to the community, this new facility is sure to provide Cleveland citizens with an opportunity to cultivate a harmonious and total person.

The Czech Cultural Center of Sokol Greater Cleveland is Cleveland's new athletic facility promises to be a popular place for fitness enthusiasts who will enjoy the volleyball, gymnasium, cardio-conditioning area and strength training center. Additionally, the facility will serve as a center for community development where both young and older generations can display their abilities and knowledge in dance and gymnastic performances. In short, the health and quality of life for everyone in Cleveland will improve greatly with the opening of this new facility.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in recognizing dedication of the Czech Cultural Center of Sokol Greater Cleveland for building this new athletic facility for the benefit of the Cleveland community.

EXPRESSING GRAVE CONCERN REGARDING ARMED CONFLICT IN NORTH CAUCASUS REGION OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION

SPEECH OF
HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 206. This resolution expresses the views of the Congress urging all parties involved in the conflict, to cease the indiscriminate use of force against civilian population in Chechnya. In addition this measure calls on all sides in this conflict to enter into a constructive dialogue under the auspicious of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. This group was successful in brokering a settlement to end the 1994–1996 war.

Mr. Speaker, this region as once before experienced the horrors of war. As the 1994–1996 Russo-Chechen war resulted in the massive use of force against civilians, causing immense human casualties, human rights violations, large-scale displacement of individuals, and the destruction of property. In recent months this conflict has been renewed as forces in Chechnya have mounted armed incursions into the Russian Federation of Dagestan and have committed bombing in Moscow.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress must insist that all parties in this conflict resolve this situation peacefully, with complete respect to the human rights of all the citizens of the Russian Federation. We must also insist that all parties commit themselves to allowing humanitarian assistance to the victims caught in the middle of this conflict.

I urge my colleagues to lend their support and the considerable weight of this body on all sides involved in this conflict.

HONORING DON SCOGGINS

HON. RALPH M. HALL
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today in recognition of Don W. Scoggins, president of the Texas Eastman Division of Eastman Chemical Company in Longview, Texas, who is retiring this year after 37 years of service at Texas Eastman. Mr. Scoggins joined Texas Eastman in 1962 as a Mechanical Engineer in the Plastics Laboratory. He has served as a supervisor, assistant supervisor, assistant to the general superintendent, senior mechanical engineer, and assistant superintendent of various divisions at Texas Eastman. He also served Eastman Chemical in Kingsport, Tennessee, in a variety of capacities before returning to Texas Eastman as director of Administration. He was named manager of Operations in 1989, became a vice president in 1990 and was named president in 1998. Mr. Scoggins received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Texas and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Texas. He serves on the Texas Chemical Council's Board of Directors and on the Board of Trustees at Good Shepherd Medical Center.

Texas Eastman's influence on economic development and community causes in Longview has been enormous, and the employees and administrators at Texas Eastman—like Don Scoggins—have played a significant role in those accomplishments. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Don Scoggins for his contributions to Texas Eastman Division and to his community—and to wish him well in his retirement.

We are especially privileged in that Don's mother and father live in my hometown of Rockwall. They are, like Don, strong and loved members of the First Methodist
INTRODUCTION OF TWO BILLS TO REDUCE TAXES ON SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

HON. JERROLD NADLER
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with Representative Nita Lowey to announce the introduction of two bills to reduce taxes on Social Security benefits. The first bill would repeal the 1993 tax increase on Social Security benefits. I have always opposed this provision, and I believe that it is now time to repeal this tax on our Nation’s seniors.

The 1993 economic plan imposed additional taxation on the benefits of single social security recipients with incomes over $34,000, and on married recipients with joint incomes over $44,000 by including, in each case, 85 percent of Social Security benefits in taxable income. At the time, proponents of the tax increase said it was necessary to reduce to deficit. Remember the atrocious national debt had risen from $800 billion in 1981 to more than $4 trillion in 1993. The annual deficit, which was almost $300 billion a year in 1992, was projected to increase to $500 billion a year later in the decade. We passed a tough economic plan, the economy improved, and the deficit was eliminated.

I believed it was unfair to tax seniors on their social security benefits to reduce the deficit, and, therefore, I joined with Representative Nita Lowey in offering a bill which would have repealed the provision immediately and taken other steps to reduce the deficit. We demonstrated that you could still reduce the deficit without increasing taxes on social security benefits. Now that 6 years have passed, the deficit has been transformed into a deficit without increasing taxes on social security benefits. Now that 6 years have passed, the deficit has been transformed into a deficit without increasing taxes on social security benefits. Now, as a result, more and more people are having to make tough choices to pay their social security benefits taxes. This is unfair and unnecessary. So, this second bill would require the 1993 level to be adjusted on an annual basis to take account for the rise in the cost of living. I am hopeful that we can build strong bipartisan support for this legislation and work together to ease the tax burden on our Nation’s seniors. I urge all of my colleagues to support these two tax cut measures.

THE TRAGEDY OF THE S.S. “LEOPOLDVILLE”

HON. RONNIE SHOWS
OF MISSISSIPPI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to take a minute to tell my colleagues and the American People about a pitch-black night on Christmas Eve in 1944 during one of the darkest hours of World War II. A Belgian troop transport, the S.S. Leopoldville, was sunk by a German U-Boat, taking the lives of 802 American soldiers. The Leopoldville was part of a crossing of the E.E. and Channel for the Battle of the Bulge. 2,235 American Soldiers were being carried to this historic battle.

The Leopoldville was torpedoed and sunk 5½ miles from Cherbourg, France. The result was a horrific loss of lives—almost one-third of the 66th Infantry Division was killed. 493 bodies were never recovered from the cold and murky waters of the English Channel. Most of the soldiers who died were young Americans, from 18 to 20 years old, barely out of High School. These young men came from 16 out of the 48 states that were part of the Union at that time.

Sadly, this tragic story has been a mere footnote in the history books of World War II. Their efforts to preserve and sustain Democracy must be remembered. Their lives must not be vainly forgotten.

Today, I ask my colleagues and all Americans to join me in remembering and honoring those who gave their lives that we might be free today. The young men aboard the S.S. Leopoldville, those who perished and those who survived, were part of an American force that advanced Democracy and forever changed the world. They went because their country called. They sacrificed because their way of life was threatened. They rose to incredible heights of courage because their faith and resolve mandated no less.

My friend and fellow-Mississippian, Sid Spior, was on the S.S. Leopoldville. Mr. Spior, after the direct torpedo hit, lowered himself in the freezing water by a rope. And for three hours he floated and waited for help. The water was freezing and he nearly died. He was 19 years old then. Today, he and other survivors often gather to remember and commemorate their fellow Americans who died. I am in awe of these men. And I want Sid and all of them to know of my admiration and respect.

These young men, forever part of our national memory, must be honored. We must never forget. I salute the survivors of the S.S. Leopoldville and I honor the memory of those who gave their lives.

INTRODUCTION OF EXPEDITED RESCISSION LEGISLATION

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today that will give the President an important tool to control spending by identifying low priority and wasteful spending that can be eliminated. The legislation I am introducing today, known as modified line item veto or expedited rescission legislation, would strengthen the ability of Presidents to identify and eliminate low-priority budget items with the support of a majority in Congress.

Under this legislation the President would be able to single out individual items in tax or spending legislation and send a rescission package to Congress. The President would have the option of earmarking savings from proposed rescissions to deficit reduction by making the resulting tax caps be reduced by the amount of the rescissions. Congress would be required to vote up or down on the package under an expedited procedure. Members could offer motions to remove individual items from the package by vote if their motion was supported by fifty members. The spending items would be eliminated or the tax item would be repealed if a majority of Congress approves the rescission package. If the rescission bill is defeated in either House the funds for any proposed rescission would be spent or the tax item would take effect.

This legislation embodies an idea which many Members, both Democrats and Republicans, have worked on for several years. Dan Quayle first introduced expedited rescission legislation in 1985. Tom Carper and Dick Armey did yeomen’s work in pushing this legislation for several years. On the Democratic side, Tim JOHNSON, Dan Glickman, Tim Penny and L.F. Payne were particularly effective advocates of this legislation for years. Numerous Republicans, including Lynn Martin, Bill Frenzel, Gerald Solomon, Harris Fawell and others made meaningful contributions to expedited rescission legislation as it has developed.

Thanks to the efforts of these and other members, the House overwhelmingly passed expedited rescission legislation in the 102nd Congress. In the 103rd Congress, John SPRATT and Butler Derrick worked with me to refine the legislation. This revised legislation was passed by the House in 1993. In 1994, Representatives JOHN KASICH and Tim Penny joined the effort and helped pass a strengthened version of this legislation. And then, Representatives Bob WISE, Rob ANDREWS and others have advocated this approach. Today, I am joined by David Minge, Rob Andrews, Collin Peterson, Marion Berry, Max Sandlin, Ralph Hall and Allen Boyd in introducing this legislation.

We have heard a lot of talk about eliminating waste and pork barrel spending, but little serious action to actually eliminate pork barrel spending. In fact, the appropriations bills passed by the House includes hundreds of earmarks for spending items that were not requested by the administration and have not been subject to hearings or review. Senator John McCain has identified more than $14 billion of spending items buried in appropriations
bills that have not been subjected to the proper review. Other private organizations have identified even more earmarked spending in the appropriations bills passed by Congress which they believe can be eliminated. Instead of subjecting these spending items buried in the appropriations bills to scrutiny, the Majority has proposed to cut or contain the board spending that would cut good programs just as much as we cut low priority and wasteful programs.

Forcing votes on individual items in tax and spending bills will bring a little more accountability to the budget process. I hope that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who are serious about controlling spending and eliminating wasteful spending and special interest tax breaks that cannot withstand public scrutiny, will join me in cosponsoring this legislation.

**Summary of Expedited Rescission Legislation**

The legislation would amend the Budget Control and Impoundment Act of 1974 to require Congress to consider presidential rescissions of appropriations or tax items by a majority vote.

The President could propose to cut or eliminate individual spending items in appropriations bills or to repeal targeted tax breaks (tax breaks which benefit a particular taxpayer or class of taxpayers, except benefits based on demographic conditions). These rescissions would be required to submit proposed rescissions of tax items within ten days of signing the tax bill. Proposed rescissions of spending items could be submitted at any time during the fiscal year.

The President could propose that the discretionary spending limits be reduced by the proposed rescissions of tax items within ten days after the rescission bill is sent to the President for approval. Upon Presidential signature, the bill would be sent to the Senate for consideration, or the tax provision would take effect.

If a bill rescinding spending or eliminating a tax item is sent to the President for his signature, the President could propose that the disapproval of the rescission bill be subject to a vote of the Congress. This disapproval vote shall be taken on the rescission bill in the Senate. The bill may not be amended on the floor, except that 50 House members can request a vote on a motion to strike an individual rescission from the package.

If the President’s rescission package is approved by a simple majority of the House, the bill would be sent to the Senate for consideration under the same expedited procedure. Fifteen Senators may request a separate vote on an individual item.

If a simple majority of the House or Senate would approve a rescission proposal, the funds for programs covered by the proposal would be released for obligation in accordance with the previously enacted appropriations, or the tax provision would take effect.

If a bill rescinding spending or eliminating tax benefits is approved by the House and Senate, it would be sent to the President for his signature. Upon Presidential signature, the spending items in the rescission package are reduced or eliminated, or the tax items in the rescission package are repealed.

**Tribute to Frances L. Murphy II**

**HON. ELEANOR HOMES NORTON**

**OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frances L. Murphy II, publisher and editor of the American newspaper, and a great lady who has had major responsibility for this great asset to the city of Washington and the communities surrounding it. Her hard-hitting editorials and well written stories provide the local African American community with news and information that cannot be obtained elsewhere. She has trained and nurtured many young journalistic talents, who have taken what they learned at the AFRO to institutions as diverse as the NAACP, the W.E.B. DuBois Institute, and African Americans on Wheels magazine.

Ms. Murphy’s grandfather, John H. Murphy, Sr., founded the AFRO in 1892. Her father, Dr. Carl Murphy, was editor and publisher of the AFRO-American Newspapers from 1918 to 1956. Ms. Murphy did not start at the top. She learned her business inside out, starting as a library assistant, and moved up the ladder to reporter, then editor, magazine editor, and managing editor before becoming publisher.

In addition to her work as publisher of the AFRO, Ms. Murphy has spent much of her time as an educator. She started in the Baltimore schools in 1958, where she stayed until 1964, when she took her first position in higher education at Morgan State College. Until 1989, she held various teaching positions at University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Buffalo State College, and Howard University. Her students rated her a top professor, and said, as others have said about her journalism, “She is tough but fair.”

Ms. Murphy is well known for her contributions to her community, having served as a member of the National Board of Directors of the NAACP and of the Board of Trustees of both the State Colleges of Maryland and the University of the District of Columbia. She is the president emeritus of the Search Committee and president of the African American Civil War Memorial Freedom Foundation. She also is an active member of St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, where she is a member of the flower guild, a lector, a member of the Search Committee and president of the Episcopal Church Women. All this from a woman who has been a distinguished journalist and publisher and managed, as well, to raise three children, and now to be grandmother to fourteen grandchildren, and great-grandmother to two.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Murphy and her accomplished family are a quintessential family of honor for the model life and career of Martha Stewart would say. I would say, it is a very good thing.

**Summary of Expedited Rescission Legislation**

The legislation would amend the Budget Control and Impoundment Act of 1974 to require Congress to consider presidential rescissions of appropriations or tax items by a majority vote.

The President could propose to cut or eliminate individual spending items in appropriations bills or to repeal targeted tax provisions (tax provisions which benefit a particular taxpayer or class of taxpayers, except benefits based on demographic conditions).

These rescissions would be required to submit proposed rescissions of tax items within ten days of signing the tax bill. Proposed rescissions of spending items could be submitted at any time during the fiscal year.

The President could propose that the discretionary spending limits be reduced by the proposed rescissions of tax items within ten days after the rescission bill is sent to the President for approval. Upon Presidential signature, the bill would be sent to the Senate for consideration, or the tax provision would take effect.

If a bill rescinding spending or eliminating a tax item is sent to the President for his signature, the President could propose that the disapproval of the rescission bill be subject to a vote of the Congress. This disapproval vote shall be taken on the rescission bill in the Senate. The bill may not be amended on the floor, except that 50 House members can request a vote on a motion to strike an individual rescission from the package.

If the President’s rescission package is approved by a simple majority of the House, the bill would be sent to the Senate for consideration under the same expedited procedure. Fifteen Senators may request a separate vote on an individual item.

If a simple majority of the House or Senate would approve a rescission proposal, the funds for programs covered by the proposal would be released for obligation in accordance with the previously enacted appropriations, or the tax provision would take effect.

If a bill rescinding spending or eliminating tax benefits is approved by the House and Senate, it would be sent to the President for his signature. Upon Presidential signature, the spending items in the rescission package are reduced or eliminated, or the tax items in the rescission package are repealed.

**VETERANS DAY**

**HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI**

**OF ILLINOIS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to bring to the attention of my colleagues, seven outstanding Veterans Day essays. They tell their stories. They tell their thoughts. They tell their feelings. They tell their lives. They tell the American people that was not so far in the past was the Viet- nam War. It has been called one of the most painful periods in our his- tory. But, America says, ‘‘We can do it. We can do it. We can do it.”

Many brave men and women have given their lives in war for our country. One that was not so far in the past was the Viet- nam War. The veterans of this war must be especially honored for their valor and loyalty at the most crucial time in American History.

This war was difficult for Americans because of the casualties and of the cost. In 1973, the United States government had agreed to stop fighting in Vietnam. When
many soldiers returned from the hardships during the war, seeing friends or relatives die in battle, many Americans did not support them and many soldiers felt very unappreciated. Veterans are now beginning to be recognized by other foreign war heroes. Veterans gather at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC to place gifts and signs that signify their respect for our country. These soldiers and their families gave their lives for us and for the cause of freedom. May each and everyone be honored for eternity.

**WHAT VETERANS DAY MEANS TO ME**

(By Amanda Lally, Grade 7, St. Jane de Chantal Elementary School)

Veterans Day is a very important holiday in our country. It honors all of those who are living and those who have died while serving with the US armed forces in times of war. We owe so much to those brave men and women who fought for our freedom and protected our country.

I am very proud to have family members who have served for our country. My great-grandfather and his World War II service was captured by the enemy and became a prisoner of war, but he survived and came home. My great-uncle fought in the Korean Conflict. They were both proud to serve our country.

Without all of these brave men and women, where would our country be? They put their life on the line for all of us. We should not only honor our veterans on this commemorative day, but every day, because without our armed forces there would be no peace or freedom.

To all of the people who have served for our country, you make me feel proud to be an American.

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**WHAT VETERANS DAY MEANS TO ME**

(By Jennifer Gename, Grade 8, St. Jane de Chantal Elementary School)

In my opinion, I think it is only fair to have a day to honor the men and women who risked their lives to uphold the benefits and principles of our country. They worked hard to uphold our nation’s belief in freedom, and they did every day of recognition.

Although Veterans Day is probably not one of the most publicly mentioned holidays, it has great meaning towards my family and me. My grandfather served in World War II, and thankfully survived unharmed. He, and all the other men, worked day and night in the midst of shootings, killings, and pain. They didn’t know if they would ever get through a day, let alone survive until the end of the war. If this sort of endurance doesn’t deserve a holiday, then I don’t know what does. These men did so much for our country, so that everyone would be able to lead happy, safe lives.

So, to me, Veterans Day is a very important holiday, because it helps people realize what others went through to help the nation.

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**VETERANS DAY**

(By William Matuszak, St. Rene Goupil Elementary School)

Veterans Day is a time to remember and honor men and women who have served in the Armed forces. This holiday is celebrated on November 11.

Veterans Day is important to me for many reasons. Both my grandfathers have served in a war. One served in World War II and the other in the Korean Conflict. It is not only important to me, but to everyone, because many families have served in armies and other countries. One has fought for their country in war. Veterans Day can also show people between countries, because war is over and we can celebrate that also.

Veterans Day is a very important day to all. Men and women from all over the world have fought for their countries in many different ways, and we honor them on this very day. We celebrate their accomplishments and sacrifices. Veterans Day is a great way to honor all who have died and all who are still living that have served their nation in the military. All of the men and women who are presently serving in our military that God will keep them out of harm’s way.

Mr. Speaker, I wish all of these fine authors the best of luck in their future studies.

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**COLLEGE STUDENT CREDIT CARD PROTECTION ACT**

**HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

**NEW YORK**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, on October 25, JOHN DUNCAN of Tennessee and I introduced H.R. 3142, the College Student Credit Card Protection Act. Madison Avenue and the credit card companies have convinced our college students that getting a credit card is necessary for their college experience. A few months ago, I was able to participate in a program where a student who was on probation for credit card debt was able to get it paid down.

A recent report found that one-fifth of the nation’s college students are carrying credit debts of more than $5,000. Seventy percent of undergraduates at 4-year colleges possess at least one credit card. One 19-year-old sophomore student in the Rochester, NY area who had no income recently attempted to declare bankruptcy; he had accumulated a stack of credit cards and owed the credit card companies $23,000! In Knoxville, TN, one college student ran up $30,000 in credit card debt in just 2 years. Students are snowballing into debt through the extension of unaffordable credit lines, peer pressure to spend, and financial naivete. Low minimum monthly payments and routine credit limit hikes add to the seductiveness of plastic.

Even though many students with credit cards have no income to pay off the bills, credit card companies are aggressively marketing their cards to college students. Credit card companies are using almost any tactic to draw college students into credit cards, which ruins their credit ratings before they have even entered the workforce. While many college students are adults, responsible for the debt they charge, the credit card industry’s policy of extending high lines of credit to unemployed or underemployed students needs to be examined.

This bipartisan legislation would compel credit card companies to determine before approving a card whether any prospective customer who is traditionally a full-time student, can afford to pay off the balance. This bill would limit credit lines to 20 percent of a student’s annual income without a cosigner. Students could also receive a starter credit card with a lower credit limit, allowing increases over time if prompt payments have been made. Another provision would eliminate the fine print in credit card agreements and solicitations, where fees and penalties are hidden. This print would have to be enlarged. Finally, parents would have to agree in writing to increases in the credit limit of cards which they have cosigned.

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**HONORING GORDON WOOD**

**HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM**

**OF TEXAS**

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a great deal of Texas pride to recognize an outstanding individual, Gordon Wood of Brownwood, Texas.

In today’s edition of the Dallas Morning News, the newspaper named Coach Wood, the “Coach of the Century” as part of its 100 Year of Texas High School Football series. I can think of no one more deserving. Coach Wood not only led and inspired many young people during his career but also brought great achievements to several Texas communities.

“Coach” was an important figure during the formative years of my life, and he has remained so. Early in his career, he coached in my hometown of Stamford. He led our team to two State championships, and I am proud to have been part of his early success. He went on to lead the Brownwood Lions to seven State championships and won a total of 405 games in his 43-year career.

Coach Wood is a legend in Texas not only for his coaching but for the way he has led his life. To me, that puts him in the Ranks of Tom Landry, Bear Bryant and Joe Paterno.

I wish to include in the Record a copy of the article that ran this morning in the Dallas Morning News.

This honor is a great tribute to Coach Wood and his wife, Katharine, and I know there are many folks who join me in sending them congratulations and best wishes.

[From the Dallas Morning News, Nov. 17, 1999]

**ALWAYS IN THE GAME—FOOTBALL, GORDON WOOD STYLE, STILL ABSORBS COACH OF THE CENTURY'S ESSENCE**

(Kevin Sherrington)

BROWNWOOD, TEXAS.—Gordon Wood wears hearing aids in both ears. He had a triple bypass in 1990, and five years ago a stroke took away his few holes in his memory. He’s working on his third artificial hip. He’s diabetic. A faint white web of scars runs wild over his mottled face, the vestiges of 13 skin transplants.

This is what can happen to you if you live 85 years.
He can't play golf because of the bad left hip. He won't play checkers anymore because that's what he was doing when the world started spinning, and he walked into a restroom and couldn't find his way out. A stroke, the doctors told him. A woman came to get him in the restroom and asked him to step back with his right foot. He tried to complete a step forward instead, right into the toilet.

Checkers was fun, and he was good at it, but it's not worth it if it reminds him of that. Now the only hobby he has left is football.

This is what can happen to you if you coach.

Or maybe this is what happens if you're Gordon Wood, the greatest coach in the history of Texas high school football. A Dallas Morning News panel of college coaches and sports writers chose Wood over a group that included Waco's Paul Tyson, who won four state championships in the 1920s, and Abilene's Chuck Moser, who won 49 consecutive games. Joe Golding got some consideration at Wichita Falls, as did Amarillo's Blair Cherry. Wood wasn't a hard choice, though. He won nine state championships, two at Stamford and seven at Brownwood, which in the 40 years Wood was there he arrived had won only a single district title.

He won 405 games overall, which was more than anyone else in the nation when he retired in 1985 at 71.

But, if you're looking for numbers to define Wood's greatness, you must know that he is the only coach to win 100 games in three different decades, and the only coach who won state titles in three decades, as well.

Those numbers indicate that he never lost his enthusiasm for the game, never thought he knew so much that he couldn't learn more, never won so much that he got enough of it.

Not when he retired 14 years ago.

Not even now.

The numbers say a lot about Gordon Wood. But, if you really want to know why he was so great, you only have to go to a game with him.

He is better-looking in person than in photographs. Pictures can't capture his vitality or regal posture, his warmth, his habit of extending both hands to someone in greeting, or his habit of holding on to the hand of a young person while he's talking to him. In most pictures, he looks almost sad, or, at best, blank. They couldn't be less telling. Pictures only hint at the balletic movement of a curious, inquisitive mind.

He is sitting in the press box of the stadium named after him, talking about his offense between bites of a ham sandwich.

Did you always run the Wing-T?

"I have since the war," Wood says. "I have since the war." He means World War II. He put in the offense at the counsel of Clyde "Bulldog" Turner, once called the toughest football player ever. But it was Turner's old college coach, whom he invented the offense, the same one he used at Hardin-Simmons and New Mexico State and Arizona, and in the process was the only coach ever to produce the nation's top rusher four years in a row.

"Warren Woodson was one of the greatest offensive coaches that ever was," Wood says. "Coach in the history of making players believe in themselves. He won a state championship his first all-time at brownwood, in '60. He says that, if you severely criticize a player at practice, you have to make sure you do something to build him up again.

"And it is a disease of perfectionism that drives him. He watches anxiously from a press box cubicle as the Lions play host to Joshua, a heavy underdog. He talks until a play starts and then stops talking until it's over. If the play is a success for Brownwood, he might say nothing, most likely picking up his hat and walking back. If the play favors Joshua, it might give him fits.

"Like, say, a 10-yard burst on a trap play by Joshua."

He sits down and goes back to talking about offense. He got plays everywhere. He'd see something in a college game on Saturday afternoon and put it in the game plan Sunday night.

He has spoken at so many clinics that most in coach he says seems as if he were reading it off the walls of a locker room.

"On a coach who wouldn't leave his team for a week? If you can't leave for four days, he says, "you are a poor group of coaches."

"And if you leave for four days, the kids will listen to you more when you come back." He tells a variety of other tales, finishing: "It doesn't make a dang what you line up in; it's what you do after you get there."

On his coaching philosophy: "It's not the big things that beat you; it's a million little things.

The little things might surprise you. He watched a coach in practice one day and noticed the youngsters on the practice field. He put the ball down on a yard line. Wood couldn't believe it. How often does that happen in a game? Move the ball around, he told them. If you can't leave for four days, the kids will look at where the ball is, and they might not even fumble on a long-kick off."

"He is the only assistant over elected president of the Texas High School Coaches Association, worked for him 31 of his last 38 years as coach." Southall helped run the offense. In the Wing-T, the Lions flipped the offensive line to double their number of plays and simplify Wing-T, the Lions flipped the offensive line to double their number of plays and simplify the ball down on a yard line. Wood couldn't believe it. How often does that happen in a game? Move the ball around, he told them. That's two balls they've dropped," he says.

" physicist signs a lot about Gordon Wood. But, if you really want to know why he was so great, you only have to go to a game with him.
And, nearly every week, he goes to a game. “I enjoy watching,” he says. “I really do.”

Most of the time, anyway. With five minutes left in the Josh game, he gets up to leave the press box and beat the rush. Brownwood is up, 35-6, and sitting on Joshua’s goal line.

At one of the exits, he says to hold up a second. “I see if they score,” he says. As if on cue, a Brownwood player is flagged for illegal motion.

“Aw, crap,” Wood says, and turns for the parking lot. Mistakes kill him, and always did. “I’d die if we had two or three penalties a game,” he says.

Mistakes kill him, but he says he didn’t make one by staying at Brownwood all those years. Katharine had put it in perspective earlier. “You take Tom Landry and Spike Dykes and Grant Teaff and Hayden Fry,” she said. “They’re all great coaches, but they were all just kids who played high school football in Texas.”

And Gordon Wood was a Texas high school football coach, the best ever, his peers say. Even an old perfectionist couldn’t beat that.

“I wouldn’t change anything,” he says softly, sitting in his driveway in his sensible sedan. “No.”

HONORING RONALD R. ROGERS AS HE IS INSTALLED AS GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND LODGE OF FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS IN OHIO

HON. ROB PORTMAN
OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ronald R. Rogers, a constituent, who recently became Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons for 1999–2000.

Mr. Rogers has an extensive Masonic record. He began his Masonic career as Master of Elks Lodge No. 72 in the Order of DeMolay. He received his Chavalier Degree in 1952 and was awarded the Active Legion of Honor in 1976. He became a Master Mason in Norwood Lodge No. 576 in 1972. Before becoming Grand Master, Mr. Rogers was elected Junior Grand Warden in 1986, Senior Grand Warden in 1997, and Deputy Grand Master in 1998.

A Cincinnati native, Mr. Rogers is a graduate of Norwood High School and received his B.A. from the University of Cincinnati. He worked for Clayton L. Scroggins, a management consulting firm in Cincinnati, for 35 years. Mr. Rogers is the proud father of a daughter, Robin, and the proud grandfather of a granddaughter, Leslie.

Active in his community, Mr. Rogers is a member of the Forest Chapel United Methodist Church. He has served Forest Chapel as Chairman of Finance, Chairman of Music and a member of the Administrative Board. He sang in the Forest Chapel Chancel Choir and also served as its president. Mr. Rogers is a past Area Financial Officer of United Way and past President of the Forest Park Band Boosters.

We congratulate Ronald Rogers on his position as Grand Master, and wish him every success during his tenure.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3261. I am pleased that today we will pass on suspension bipartisan fashion our satellite reform and privatization legislation, H.R. 3261. The fact that we will pass this decisively and that no one has indicated he or she will vote against this bill indicates the widespread support in the House for this legislation. It is high time to end the current cartel-like ownership and management structure of INTELSAT and Inmarsat. They must not only be privatized, they must be privatized in a pro-competitive market. We must eliminate their privileges and immunities, warehoused orbital locations or frequencies, and limit their ability to use their governmental privileges to expand their services and assets pending privatization. There is no reason for government to be providing commercial communications services. We must also replace monopoly control with competition and provide direct access in the United States to INTELSAT and Inmarsat.

As the author and manager of this legislation, I think it is important to specify what will be the legislative history for H.R. 3261. With the exception of section 641, the deletion of old section 642, the addition of section 649, and several date related changes, H.R. 3261 is identical to the bill the House passed on May 6, 1998, H.R. 1872. We have put this legislation on the suspension calendar because Members already voted for the same text by a margin of 403 to 16. Because most of the bill is identical to last year’s bill, it is unnecessary to go through the Committee hearing and report process again this year. Thus, no report will be filed with H.R. 3261. Instead, we intend that the Committee report for H.R. 1872 (See House Rpt. 105–494), the record for the legislative hearing held on November 30, 1997, and the floor debate on H.R. 1872, in relevant part, be used as legislative history for H.R. 3261.

What follows is a specific discussion of changes that have been made in H.R. 3261 when compared to H.R. 1872, which, when taken together with the H.R. 1872 legislative history discussed above, will serve as the legislative history for H.R. 3261.

Section 601(b)(1) advances the dates for the privatization of INTELSAT and Inmarsat, respectively, from January 1, 2002 to April 1, 2001, for INTELSAT, and from January 1, 2001 to April 1, 2000, for Inmarsat. The reason for this change is that it has become clear that the long transition periods provided in H.R. 1872 are no longer necessary. Both organizations have taken some steps toward a new form of privatization. For example, Inmarsat moved to end its intergovernmental status, although it still has not proceeded with an initial public offering of its stock. Moreover, the INTELSAT Assembly of Parties announced some steps which could move INTELSAT in the direction of privatization.

Section 602(a)(1)(A) and section 621(1) also have been changed to reflect the new dates set out in section 601(b)(1). Similarly, the
dates set out in 603(b) for the Federal Communications Commission to make annual findings and report to Congress on INTELSAT’s progress toward privatization have been advanced to reflect the fact that longer transition periods are not needed. Thus, the first Commission finding is required on or before January 1, 2000.

Furthermore, given the fact that over a year has elapsed since passage of H.R. 1872, the number of annual findings has been reduced from four to three, with the second finding of H.R. 1872 now included in the first annual finding. Section 603(b) set out in section 603(b)(1) of the last finding is due January 1, 2002, which is later than the April 1, 2001 date established for INTELSAT privatization. It may be appropriate to make the FCC finding date the same as the privatization date of April 1, 2001 at the next stage in the legislative process.

Finally, there have been changes in the dates by which the privatized INTELSAT and Inmarsat must conduct initial public offerings of their shares; from January 1, 2001 to April 1, 2001 for INTELSAT, and from January 1, 2000 to April 1, 2000 for Inmarsat. These changes are due to the fact that when the Commission privatization finding is required on or before January 1, 2002, according to section 624(e). Section 624 deals specifically with Inmarsat. While there already have been some changes in the Inmarsat structure and some provisions of this section may need to be adjusted, such as the reference to the Inmarsat Signatory, this section is not amendable. While Inmarsat has conducted what it deems to be a privatization, that privatization has not been conducted in a pro-competitive manner.

Section 641 of H.R. 3261 ends the monopoly of INTELSAT and access to INTELSAT market for INTELSAT signatories. The Commission is to comply with section 641, by adopting orders ensuring the full implementation of all forms of direct access as provided in section 641(a).

Section 641 of H.R. 1872 dealt with various issues raised by ending COMSAT’s exclusive access to INTELSAT and Inmarsat. We do not believe it necessary for the new section 641 to address these issues. First, given the changes at Inmarsat, and the provisions of other parts of the legislation dealing with Inmarsat, such as section 624(b), there is no need to specify direct access to Inmarsat in the new section 641. Second, it is appropriate to permit both non-investment, or contract, direct access (also known as Level 3) and investment (also known as Level 4) direct access to INTELSAT immediately upon the effective date of this legislation. All such direct access is in the public interest. It will increase competition for access to INTELSAT services and lower prices for consumers of INTELSAT services.

The Commission currently has the authority to pursue contract or Level 3 direct access. As was the case with respect to H.R. 1872, by including provisions on direct access in H.R. 3261, we do not intend to imply that there is a need to amend any provision of the Communications Satellite Act of 1962 to provide for direct contract access. There are several other differences between H.R. 3261 and H.R. 1872 in section 641 regarding direct access. First, H.R. 3261 does not provide for or specifically authorize any signatory support costs. This is a change from H.R. 1872 which permitted competition to INTELSAT signatories for support costs that the signatories would not otherwise be able to avoid under a direct access regime. Second, H.R. 3261 does not limit the ability of non-U.S. signatories of INTELSAT to provide direct access in the United States. Thus the sections of H.R. 1872 dealing with signatory fees and foreign signatories, along with section 641(1)(A)(iii) regarding carrier pass through of savings realized as a result of direct access, were deleted.

H.R. 3261 does not grant the Commission authority to impose a signatory fee or limit direct access by foreign signatories nor should the statement indicating that the Commission has authority to implement direct access be interpreted as meaning that the Commission has to the Commission the authority to impose a signatory fee or limit direct access by foreign signatories.

New section 641 also does not direct the Commission to take action on COMSAT’s petition to be treated as a non-dominant common carrier because the FCC already has acted on this petition. Furthermore, section 641(a), stating that direct access regulation would be eliminated after a pro-competitive privatization of INTELSAT or Inmarsat is achieved was unnecessary and thus was deleted.

H.R. 3261 does not include an equivalent of section 642(c) of H.R. 1872 dealing with the renegotiation of monopoly contracts, which is also known as “fresh look.” The sections of H.R. 3261 following section 641 were renumbered to reflect the deletion of old section 642.

New section 649 is intended to prevent U.S.-licensed international satellite carriers and satellite operators from gaining access to those foreign markets. The effect of Section 649 is to apply this policy to all foreign satellite operators and to do so in the United States. Exclusive market access is a critical barrier to the provision of competitive satellite services by United States companies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CONGRATULATING SOUTH GRAND PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. MARTIN FROST
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate South Grand Prairie High for winning one of 13 New American High School awards from the Department of Education. This designation recognizes South Grand Prairie’s tremendous efforts in raising academic standards and student achievement.

South Grand Prairie is a diverse high school of over 2,400 students. It reflects the changing demographics of the surrounding community, half of the student body comes from minority backgrounds. In 1996, South Grand Prairie undertook an extensive reform program to raise academic performance by the school’s “middle majority,” the large segment of the student body whose needs were not entirely being met. The high school created a full-academy model that incorporates Advanced Placement-level curricula with career-oriented programs.

Students at South Grand Prairie pursue a rigorous academic program in an area that best suits them—Business and Computer Technology, Creative and Performing Arts, Health Science and Human Services, Humanities or Law, and Math, Science and Engineering. This allows students to raise their performance by capitalizing on their interests.

South Grand Prairie has enlisted the entire community in this effort. They have formed partnerships with local businesses and area colleges. An Academic Advisory Board comprised of students, teachers, and prominent local business and industry leaders, has been formed to develop a curriculum and assessments of the program. And the Chamber of Commerce participates in the program which allows educators to understand the skills needed in the vocational areas in which they are teaching.

The results of this innovative program have been remarkable. South Grand Prairie has raised its students passage rate on Texas’ state math exam by 18 percent. South Grand Prairie students pass the state’s reading test at a 24 percent higher rate than the state average, and the school has higher SAT scores and rates of college enrollment than the state average.

Clearly, South Grand Prairie’s academic reforms have been a success, the school is highly deserving of the New American High School award. If South Grand Prairie represents the future in American education, the future looks bright indications to Principal Roy Garcia and all of South Grand Prairie’s students, faculty, and parents. Your school is a model for all of America’s high schools and you have made North Texas proud. I am pleased to be able to join South Grand Prairie officials at their White House award ceremony this Friday.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 5TH ANNUAL COVENANT HOUSE WASHINGTON CANDLELIGHT VIGIL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Covenant House Candlelight Vigil, where I will speak on Tuesday, December 4, 1999. The Vigil is a national event held every year in early December in some 20 cities across the country. The Candlelight Vigil symbolizes community hope for the well being of all our children and highlights the plight of homeless, runaway, and at-risk children.

The Vigil in Washington alone has 3,000 concerned adults and youth marching, bearing candles and flashlights in support of youth. They will march shoulder to shoulder for a quarter of a mile to the Covenant House Washington Community Services Center, setting a tone of joy, solidarity, commitment, and hope. Similar rallies are held simultaneously at Covenant House sites across the country.

Since its inception in 1995, Covenant House Washington has invested over $13 million of private funding in our youth. They have given hundreds of youth a hand up by providing food, shelter, tutoring, life skills, job training, legal representation, and positive recreational opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Covenant House Washington and their commitment to our most vulnerable young people and in recognizing the 1999 Covenant House Washington Candlelight Vigil.
HONORING THE WORK OF MIKE WOODS

HON. BART GORDON
OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mike Woods and his more than 25 years of work as city clerk for the town of Smyrna, Tennessee. Mike's tenure will soon come to an end. He has decided to retire on November 30.

As clerk, Mike has seen Smyrna grow from a small community with an annual budget of $500,000 dollars and 27 employees to being one of Tennessee's fastest growing cities with a population of more than 20,000, a current budget of more than $25 million dollars and over 300 employees.

Mike worked hard, along with former Mayor Sam Ridley, to make Smyrna the home of Nissan Motor Manufacturing U.S.A., which has almost 6,000 workers. His vision and invaluable experience have served Smyrna well, and the city has been recognized with numerous state and national awards. Mike truly exemplifies the best of public service and will be sorely missed in city government.

I have known Mike since he first began his tenure in Smyrna and consider him a close friend. He has given me lots of good advice over the years, and I thank him for that. I congratulate Mike for his admirable and distinguished career and wish him the best of luck in future endeavors.

SPEECH OF
HON. EARL F. HILLIARD
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call for increased congressional spending to continue the research now progressing to seek a cure for diabetes. This devastating disease affects every family in America—my own brother is a victim of diabetes. The results of the disease are too numerous to count, but include blindness, loss of limbs, even shock resulting at times in death. At this time in our history, the incidence of diabetes in our population appears to be increasing.

We have made many strides in the treatment of diabetes, but much more needs to be done. It is very possible that in the near future we will be able to regenerate damaged beta cells in the pancreas, the cells which normally produce insulin. Alternatively, we may soon be able to generate new beta cells; in either case, it appears we will actually be able to cure the disease.

At this point in the process, we need to make an absolute commitment to this struggle to end this deadly disease. I commit myself and my vote to increasing spending on diabetes to an amount which will be sufficient for our scientists to accomplish this high goal.

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise strongly to support this measure that recognizes a true sports hero and legend, Walter Payton.

Payton died of bile duct cancer at age 45. He is survived by his wife, Connie; his daughters, Brittany; and his son, Jarrett.

Payton stretched athleticism past the bounds of our imaginations. He bulled and wove throughout the football field with a creativity that allowed brute force and artistic expression to merge into one perfect moment.

Payton, the National Football League's leader in yards rushing (16,726) and carries (3,835), was known for his durability. He missed just one game in his 13-year career with the Bears. And during that time, he earned a Super Bowl ring. Payton retired after the 1987 season, and the Bears retired his No. 34. In the first year he was eligible for the Pro Football Hall of Fame, he was a unanimous selection.

But we cannot limit his worth to mere statistics and on-the-field achievement. Walter Payton represented sheer perseverance. Some would call Walter Payton the Cal Ripken of football. I would suggest that Cal Ripken is the Walter Payton of baseball. Indeed, Payton is the very embodiment of the term, "iron will."

His commitment to excellence and immense endurance makes his death seem all the more unbelievable. But Walter Payton did not lose his battle with liver disease. He simply ran out of time.

During an emotional, invitation-only memorial service that drew about 1,200 people, friends and family remembered Payton's practical jokes, his passion for those around him, his determination to be the best at what he did, and his generosity.

The public also had its chance to say goodbye during a ceremony at Soldier Field. Thousands of Bears fans filed into the stadium, many carrying signs in tribute and others dressed in Payton's familiar No. 34 jersey. Yet, sports aficionados are not the only members of society who claim Payton as their hero. Any American, regardless of race or gender, can identify with Walter Payton. The consummate statesman, Payton carried himself on and off the field with dignity and class. He achieved, yet, he always remained committed to his team—individuality was not his style. It is because of his gentle and caring demeanor that he truly earned his nickname, "Sweetness." He was as sweet a person in real life as he was to watch on the football field.

And as an African-American, I am proud that an African-American holds such an imposing NFL record. His rushing record shows that anyone can achieve lofty goals, regardless of race. It is a record that will stand for many years and will remain a testament to Payton's excellence.

Teammate Mike Singletary, one of five who offered a tribute at Payton's service, said if Payton saw people crying he would say: "Hold everything—I'm on hallowed ground. I'm running hills, I'm running on clouds. I'm running on stars. I'm on the moon."

"He affected so many people in a positive way, not only through athletic prowess, but through his generosity and for the way he lived his life," said Ditka, the coach of that Bears team that went 18-1. "Yeah, it isn't fair. Forty-five years on this Earth, you should be in the prime of your life. But I think it warns us that tomorrow is not promised."

We will remember Walter Payton and his famous jersey number "34" that he wore first at Jackson State and then with the Bears. We also will remember Payton in his Chicago uniform with his trademark white headband. But most of all, we will remember Walter Payton for his pleasant smile, his warmth of character, and his will to achieve.

IN HONOR OF ANDREW SHARP PEACOCK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH
OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to say farewell to a good friend and great leader, Australian Ambassador, Andrew Peacock. Ambassador Peacock will retire from his duties as the Australian Ambassador to the United States. There will be a celebration in his honor to commend him for his accomplishments and his lifetime service to his country and to the world's diplomatic corps.

Ambassador Peacock has had a brilliant career and has succeeded in every endeavor, at every level, and has done so with a joy of life. His life in public service began at the young age of 17, when he joined the Young Liberals in his native country, Australia. In just a few short years, his incredible leadership skills and great wit carried him to the position of President of the Young Liberal Movement. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Peacock became Vice-President and then President of the Victorian Division of the Liberal Party. Andrew Peacock made a great endeavor and entered Federal Parliament in 1966. As a parliamentarian, Mr. Peacock was instrumental in the nation's foreign affairs and industrial relations for almost 30 years. He redefined the Liberal Party in every level, and has done so with a joy of life.

Mr. Peacock came to the United States from Australia in February 1997 after resigning from the Federal Parliament. His accomplishments here have been immeasurable and noteworthy. Ambassador Peacock has helped preserve the outstanding relationship between the United States and our loyal ally, Australia. Recently, Australia and the United States were able to move side by side in the peace-keeping efforts in East Timor, thanks to the enviable diplomatic skills of Ambassador Peacock.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Ambassador Peacock for dedicating his life to his native land of Australia, to the cause
of human dignity, and to the cause of world peace. Not only has Ambassador Peacock proven to be a true hero in Australia but also a great friend to the American people through his great efforts as Ambassador. On a personal level, I am blessed to consider him a friend of many years, and I will miss his presence in our nation’s capital. His laugh, his charm, and spirit has touched this city in so many ways. He has had a profound effect on Australia, America, and the world. I wish him well on all of his new endeavors.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DUB HAYES
HON. RALPH M. HALL
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual and close personal friend, James W. “Dub” Hayes of Whitesboro, Texas, who died suddenly on October 3 of this year. Dub was well-known and well-liked in Whitesboro and Grayson County as a prominent community leader who genuinely cared about people. His influence will be felt for generations to come.

Dub was honored as Outstanding Citizen of Whitesboro three times—in 1965, 1978, and 1994—a testimony to the contributions he made to the life of his home town. At the time of his death he was serving as a director of the Grayson County College Foundation, treasurer of Whitesboro Citizens for Excellence in Education and a member of the Whitesboro Economic Development Corporation Board of Directors.

He was an ardent proponent of education, having served for 33 years as a Trustee of Grayson County College and as past president of the board. He served on the Board from 1965, the year the school opened until 1997.

Dub also served as a charter member of the Texoma Blood Bank Board of Directors, a member of the Grayson County Airport Board and the Texoma Regional Planning Commission, past president of the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club and Quarterback Club in Whitesboro. Dub was active in the First Baptist Church of Whitesboro, where he served for many years as deacon, treasurer and Sunday School teacher.

Dub and his brother, Ed, owned and operated a retail pharmacy business in Whitesboro for 28 years. Dub also worked as a pharmacist for 15 years at Wilson N. Jones Hospital—and throughout his working until his death as a relief pharmacist and consultant. Dub will be lovingly remembered as one of those pharmacists who was willing to get up in the middle of the night to fill prescriptions for those who were sick.

He was a member of several professional organizations, including the Grayson, Collin, Cook Pharmaceutical Association, the Texas Pharmaceutical Association, the Texas Society of Hospital Pharmacists and the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists.

Born in 1925 in Whitesboro, the son of the late James Albert Hayes and Ruth Cherry Hayes, Dub graduated from Whitesboro High School, attended North Texas Agricultural College in Arlington and received his Pharmacy degree from the University of Texas. He served his country during World War II in both the Pacific and European theaters. In 1949 he married his wife of 50 years, Ruth Helen Acker.

Dub is survived by his wife, Helen; three children, Helen Hayes Absher and husband Mark; Dr. Jim Hayes of Dallas; and Bill Hayes and his wife, Kelly; four grandchildren, Laura and Robert Gibson and Sarah and Charlie Hayes; brother, Ed Hayes, and his wife, Pat; sister-in-law Marjorie Acker Laney and her husband, Bobby; three nieces and two nephews.

Mr. Speaker, Dub Hayes was a truly great man who lived a life of devotion to his family, his community, his church, and his profession. He was a community leader who led an exemplary life—and he was loved by all who knew him. We will miss him—but his memory will be kept alive in our hearts and in our thoughts—and his legacy will continue to be felt in Whitesboro and Grayson County. Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today for the last time during this century, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying our last respects to this outstanding man and great American—James W. “Dub” Hayes.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — Extensions of Remarks
November 18, 1999

HON. WES WATKINS
OF OKLAHOMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. WATKINS. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the late D.R. Miller, known as “Mr. Circus” to those who knew him best, for his decades of service to his fellow citizens, and for his lifetime of providing laughter and fun to children of all ages.

D.R. Miller was born on July 27, 1916, in Smith Center, Kansas. But it was Hugo, the town in Oklahoma’s Third Congressional District that serves as the winter headquarters for his Carson & Barnes Circus, that D.R. called home.

D.R. Miller passed away on September 8, 1999, in McCook, Nebraska—the very town where D.R.’s father and mother took D.R. and his brother to see their first circus, on August 24, 1924.

In 1937, after numerous business ventures, D.R., his father and brother, founded the famed Al G. Kelly Miller Bros. Circus, advertised as the 2nd Largest Circus in America, and toured the U.S. for years. When Ringling Bros. abandoned big top tents for buildings in 1956, the Al G. Kelly Miller Bros. Circus became the World’s Largest Big Top Circus.

After several business and personal setbacks in the 1960s and 70s, D.R. roared back with the Carson & Barnes Circus, which grew and evolved into the 5 Ring Extravaganza that continues to entertain and amaze children of all ages.

In addition to his founding of two circuses, D.R. gave of himself to make this world a better place. D.R. served his country as a proud member of the Army’s 273rd Artillery Division during World War II. He founded the Endangered Ark Foundation, a non-profit association dedicated to the preservation and recreation of endangered animals. He established the D.R. and Isla Miller Scholarship Fund to provide scholarships to deserving Hugo High School graduates. The non-profit Showman’s Rest Trust Fund to provide plots, burials and proper markers for indigent show people.

D.R. provided countless opportunities to circus artists and fellow dreamers. He was a friend to all. In January 1999, he was inducted into the Circus Ring of Fame in Sarasota, Florida, with his wife and partner Isla Marie Miller, who preceded D.R. in passing.
D.R. Miller was an entertainer, a showman, a family man, a veteran, and a model citizen whose example of success and hard work shine like a beacon for all Americans who aspire to improve their own lives and the lives of others. D.R. Miller was believed by all who knew him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that today the House pay tribute to Mr. Circus: D.R. Miller.

A TRIBUTE TO ISRAEL POLICY FORUM
HON. NITA M. LOWEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my thanks to Israel Policy Forum.

Since its founding in 1993, IPF has been a vigorous and effective advocate for Middle East peace and Israel security. Few organizations have done so much to shape public attitude about the peace process or to educate decision-makers about the significance of American international leadership.

On November 20th, the directors, members, and friends of Israel Policy Forum will hold their second Tribute Dinner. In addition to celebrating recent progress in the Middle East peace negotiations and welcoming Prime Minister Ehud Barak, this event will also be an occasion to recognize the outstanding contributions of several remarkable individuals.

Nathan Gantcher has devoted his considerable intellect and energy to the challenges of business, education, and community service. A towering figure in the world of finance, he is widely respected for his exceptional professional skills and deep devotion to principle.

Robert Litton has contributed to remarkable range of fields, including law, real estate, entertainment, finance, and health care. His personal commitment to American-Israeli relations is evidenced by his leadership of groups as the American Jewish Congress, AIPAC, the Council on Foreign Relations, and many others.

Norman Pattiz is the founder and Chairman of Westworld One, the undisputed leader in the radio industry, with some 7,000 affiliated stations worldwide. His business acumen is matched by a powerful commitment to quality stations worldwide. His business acumen is matched by a powerful commitment to quality, to express my enormous pride in IPF's 85th Anniversary celebration at 9:30 a.m. at the church. Reverend Todorovich will begin with a liturgy, followed by a blessing of a new icon painting, and a Pasastos, or ceremony for the dead. Beginning at noon in the church's small banquet hall in Hobart, Indiana, the celebration will continue with a Pomen ceremony, a wreath laying, taps, and a service by the American Legion in honor of all veterans from St. Sava's congregation. A banquet will be served at 1:00 p.m. in the main hall in Hobart. Entertainment will be provided by Drina Tamburitsa, and Nikola Kostich will be the guest speaker at this gala occasion. Nikola Kostich is an attorney from Milwaukee and is the lead counsel for the Serbian Republic and for the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

A church of humble beginnings, St. Sava's Serbian Orthodox Church was founded in 1914 in Gary, Indiana by about 200 immigrant families. Today, it is home to 625 families. During the past 85 years, the congregation at St. Sava's has worshiped in five different locations and weathered a major disaster when one church building was destroyed by a fire. The history of the parish, from both a joyous and sorrowful perspective, will be remembered Sunday when the church celebrates its 85th Anniversary.

The church's roots go back to a group of Serbian immigrants who first formed a choir. In 1914, the choir members began meeting for church services at a hall located near 13th Avenue and Connecticut Street in Gary. By 1915, they had built and consecrated a church in Gary at 20th Avenue and Connecticut Street. In 1938, a new church was built at 13th Avenue and Connecticut Street. The congregation remained there until 1976, when the church moved to Gary Street and had services at a hall located on their picnic grounds in Hobart, while they raised money to build a new church in Merrillville. In 1983, the church broke ground at 9151 Mississippi Street in Merrillville, and in 1991, the church was completed and consecrated.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the parish family of St. Sava's Serbian Orthodox Church, under the guidance of Reverend Jovan Todorovich, as they prepare to celebrate their 85th anniversary. All past and present parishioners and pastors should be proud of the numerous contributions they have made out of the love and devotion they have displayed for their church throughout the past 85 years.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN’S FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Wisconsin’s football team. This has been an exceptional season for the Badgers in many respects.

For the second straight year, the Badgers are off to play in a major NCAA Bowl Game. The Badgers could go to the Rose Bowl, just as they did last year, or to another major bowl, depending on how other college teams fare in the closing weeks of the season. On Saturday, a beautiful and unusually balmy day at Camp Randall, the Badgers sealed their ticket to a bowl game by defeating the Iowa Hawkeyes, 41 to 3, and winning the Big Ten championship.

But securing the championship was not all that was celebrated on Saturday. Before nearly 80,000 screaming Badger fans, tailback Ron Dayne made history as he became the all-time rushing leader in NCAA Division I football. Ron Dayne has finished his collegiate career with 6,397 yards—and is the favorite for winning this year’s Heisman Trophy.

Ron Dayne’s historic record and going to a major bowl game for the second straight year are only part of the triumphant season. The whole team created this championship. It was particularly heartening to see the team come together when Coach Barry Alvarez was either coaching from his hospital bed or the coach’s box while waiting for knee replacement surgery.

The Badgers end the regular season with a 9–2 record. Congratulations to all the players, students and fans at the University of Wisconsin! I look forward to enjoying the Fifth Quarter at the bowl game. On Wisconsin!

STOPPING ABUSE OF COMPREHENSIVE OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION FACILITY PROGRAM

HON. FORNEY PETE STARK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, one of the good services in Medicare is the CORF (Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility) program, where beneficiaries recovering from an illness or operation can get a wide range of quality rehab services.

Unfortunately, there appears to be a loophole in the law allowing the establishment of “satellite” CORFs. In this scheme, doctors are getting letters offering to rent part of their office for the placement of a therapist. The rent offered is often sight-unseen and is far above what is a reasonable rental rate. It is, in my opinion, a violation of the anti-kickback laws and is a way to get referrals that greatly drives up utilization and costs for Medicare.

To stop this problem, we need to legislate. I am introducing a bill, with an effective date of today, to require that all CORF services be provided at one site. I submit a letter from the HCFA Deputy Admin-istrator on this issue and on the steps Medicare is taking to avoid fraudulent utilization in this area. The Administration is to be commended for its efforts to prevent abuse in this area—but clarifying the law will also be helpful.

Dear Mr. STARK: Thank you for your letter to the Administrator regarding contracts being mailed to doctors to open uncertified mini-Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (CORFs) in physicians’ offices. I am responding on her behalf, and I apologize for the delay in this response. You also stated that you earlier copied the Administrator on a letter you sent to the Department of Health and Human Services’ (DHHS) Office of the Inspector General regarding this matter. You are requesting that the Administrator immediately put a hold to the proliferation of these “satellite” CORFs.

I share your concern with the apparent proliferation of satellite CORFs. Based on the information furnished, the establishment of satellite facilities is consistent with section 1861(cc) of the Social Security Act (the Act). Section 1861(cc)(1) of the Act states that in the case of physical therapy (PT), occupational therapy (OT), and speech pathology (SP) services there shall be no requirement that the item or service be furnished at any single, fixed location. All other CORF services must be provided at the site of the CORF approved for Medicare participation.

It should be noted that although the Act exempts these services from the single, fixed location requirement, it does not exempt them from any of the other CORF requirements. Since the CORF must make documentation available to the state survey agency, we believe that enforcing the requirement will improve all services furnished at the CORF. Also, state survey agencies are not precluded from making visits to the off-site locations as necessary, to ensure that the CORF requirements are met.

The recent briefing on CORFs and outpatient rehabilitation facilities was held for Kevin Thurm, Deputy Secretary of DHHS. I presented the Health Care Financing Administration’s (HCFA’s) program integrity action plan based on analysis we had initiated with the HCFA Miami Satellite Office. The plan includes intensified medical review in targeted areas, education of providers and fiscal intermediaries, and increased reviews of off-site locations. I believe these interventions and the increased oversight will curb inappropriate growth of the providers.

HCFA is granted statutory authority to require that PT, OT, or SP be furnished at a single, fixed location.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL M. HASH,
Deputy Administrator.

A TRIBUTE TO BILL SHIVELY ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JIM RAMSTAD
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our nation’s best and brightest business leaders.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Shively is retiring as Executive Vice President of the nationally recognized Gelco Information Network in my Third District of Minnesota.

Bill had the vision in 1992 to bring corporate America’s soundest financial management practices to the federal government. In his book Best Practices, Bill Shively identified areas for immediate improvement and re-engineering. He targeted official business travel within government since, in the corporate world, travel is the third largest business expense behind payroll and data processing.

Mr. Speaker, in 1995 the federal government was spending over $7 billion on official business travel. Mr. Shively realized the government was spending unnecessary overhead based on the outdated business processes that governed federal travel.

The need for improvement in this arena, Mr. Speaker, was the source for Bill’s vision to create a business unit dedicated to identifying improvements and creating solutions to save taxpayer money. The vision’s underlying theme was to save taxpayer money through the implementation of re-engineered systems and processes.

Mr. Speaker, the Government Services Division of Gelco was born on March 1, 1995 and was comprised of Bill and one other employee. Since 1995, the business has grown to close to 100 employees, supporting products and services utilized today within every single federal executive agency within our government.

Bill helped the Department of Defense through the evolutionary stages of defining its vision, leading to one of the largest non-weapon-on procurement—DT’s.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Shively leaves a legacy of public service that will be long remembered. But, more important to Bill, he leaves a legacy to that is sure to inspire his family for generations to come. Despite the impact of his visionary actions around the world, Bill Shively’s No. 1 priority has been his family. Bill has been a dedicated father of three sons and a devoted husband to his wife, Betty.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Shively has done much for his country. We must take the time to pay tribute to great Americans like Bill, citizens who share their special skills to make outstanding contributions to our nation. Bill Shively may be retiring, but he has improved federal processes and driven down costs to taxpayer—truly lasting contributions that will benefit our country for generations to come.

At a time when good role models are few and far between, a time when people of integrity are needed more than ever, Bill Shively is a shining example of how to achieve success in our personal, professional and public lives.
Mr. Speaker, please join with me today to honor William Shively for all he has done to help others. We wish him and his family all the best in his retirement and in all his future endeavors.

RESIGNATION OF NATIONAL FOREST SUPERVISOR GLORIA FLORA

HON. GEORGE MILLER
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, Gloria Flora, Forest Supervisor of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in Nevada resigned last week, citing relentless "fed-bashing." Since becoming Supervisor of the largest national forest in the lower 48 just over a year ago, Ms. Flora has become embroiled in disputes over grazing, endangered species protection, and road closures. One of these disputes resulted in Elko County residents, including public officials, illegally rebuilding a forest road without federal permits, an act which in turn triggered a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service emergency listing of the bull trout. At the forefront of these disputes are extremists whose radical anti-government stance has translated into several instances of intimidation and harassment of federal land managers and acts of violence against public servants and property.

It is deeply distressing that public servants who are administering and enforcing the law are subjected to such hostile circumstances that they are forced to leave their jobs and homes. We should keep in mind that federal land managers like Ms. Flora are charged with enforcing laws passed by the Congress and entrusted with public lands and natural resources that belong to all the people of this country. For twenty years, the wise use movement in its various forms—the Sagebrush rebellion, states' rights, county supremacy—has fostered hostility and hatred toward officials enforcing the laws of Congress. Rather than perpetuating the disharmony and disdain for the government and its laws, I urge my colleagues to use their good offices to create a climate of decency and cooperation.

Mr. Speaker, while I deeply regret that Ms. Flora has chosen to resign, I sincerely hope that we take this opportunity to express our support for her and for the many Forest Service employees who share her concerns. I submit Ms. Flora's letter to her fellow employees.

OPEN LETTER TO EMPLOYEES OF THE HUMBOLDT-TOIYABE NATIONAL FOREST

November 8, 1999

There is no easy way to say good-bye to a group of hard-working, dedicated employees and friends. But the time has come when I must do just that. The best part of working on this Forest is watching each of you perform your myriad of duties. The hundreds of students who work for themselves in the outstanding land stewardship and exemplary business practices found on this Forest have become increasingly troubled by the difficult conditions that so many of us face in the state of Nevada. We now accept as commonplace unwarantted criticisms of and verbal and physical attacks on federal employees. Officers and employees at all levels of government in Nevada participate in this irresponsible fed-bashing.

The public is largely silent, watching as if this were a spectator sport. This level of anti-federal fervor is simply not acceptable. It is not like this in other places! As you know, I bitterly contrast the Intermountain West: Montana, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. Yes, there are arguments and strong feelings on both sides of policy, but they usually stay within the bounds of reason. As tensions escalate, others weigh in with their opinions and the media does in-depth investigative reporting. The sense of balance, objectivity and debate, regardless of the origin, are repudiated openly by reasonable community members. Constructive collaborative discourse are recognized as the methods to resolve complex natural resource issues. Yes, things may get heated but all people have a voice.

The attitude towards federal employees and federal laws in Nevada is pitiful. People in rural communities who do respect the law and accept responsibility for complying with it are often rebuked or ridiculed. They are compared to collaborators with the Vichy government in Nazi-controlled France. People who support the federal government or conservation efforts ask that they not be identified for fear of retaliation. When I speak against the diatribes and half-truths of the Sagebrush Rebellion, I am labeled a liar and personally vilified in an attempt to silence me. When I express concerns for Forest Service employees' safety, I am accused of inciting violence.

This is the land of America. All people have a right to speak and all people have a right to protection from discrimination. However, I learned that in Nevada, as a federal employee, I have no right to speak, no right to do your job and certainly no right to treat with respect. I could go on and on with examples of those of you who have been forced to leave public service, shunned in your communities, refused service in restaurants, kicked out of motels, just because of who you work for. And we cannot forget those who have been harassed, called before kangaroo courts, or had their very lives threatened.

It disturbs me to think that two million people in this state watch silently, or worse, in amusement, as a small percent of their number break laws and trounce the rights of others with impunity. In my view, there are elected officials who actually support these offenders. Those whose responsibility it is to help us enforce the laws passed by Congress and do our mandated jobs, always seem to have a reason why action must be postponed.

The adage of last year's Soda City is just another example of how certain elements would rather flog and ecorcise the federal government than work towards a solution. These people need an "evil empire" to attack. When a member of the United States Congress joins forces with those forces, using the power of the office to stage a public inquiry of federal employees followed by a political fundraiser, I must protest. This member and others continue to this, and on this, and on this, and on this, and I believe that it is only to keep turning the other cheek. Enough is enough. I am not promoting conflict; I am simply advocating that our agency demand fairness and common decency. It's time to speak up.

But speaking up and continuing to work here are not compatible. By speaking out, I cannot provide you, my employees, with a safe working environment. And to date, I have not been able to convince others that the current atmosphere is unacceptable and requires a proactive response. I refuse to continue to participate in this charade of normalcy. Equally troubling is our limited ability to perform the mission of the Forest Service under these conditions. As stewards for public lands, entrusted with protecting and restoring natural resources for present and future generations, we must be able to perform those functions in a collaborative and cooperative manner. The health of the land is paramount.

I am choosing to leave for my principles, for my personal well-being, and to actualize my commitment to natural resource management in a setting where respect and civil discourse is the norm. I have no definite plans and I am not seeking special treatment from the agency. I will stay at least until the end of the year to help ensure a smoother transition to new leadership.

I look forward to working closely with you. We must remain focused on your work, and I wish you all the best for your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

GLORIA E. FLORA,
Forest Supervisor.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN LANCE GOTLIEB

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER
OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding member of our community who is being recognized by the Brighton-Atlantic Unit #1671 of B'nai Brith on the occasion of its 1999 Youth Services Award breakfast.

Brian Lance Gotlieb has earned a well-deserved reputation as a tireless fighter on behalf of the youth in our community, and is rightfully honored for his achievements by B'nai Brith on this special occasion.

Gotlieb, who serves as the liaison to Intermediate School 303 and Public Schools 90, 100, 209 and 253, is currently working on different ways to protect our community's children. As a member of the District 21 School Board, he has initiated the process of identifying unsafe streets throughout District 21 to ensure the safe passage of our children. And, throughout this school year, Gotlieb will be hosting a series of Child Safety Programs that will provide parents with free copies of their children's fingerprints along with Polaroid pictures to present to law enforcement personnel in the event of an emergency.

Further, as my Deputy Chief of Staff, Brian Lance Gotlieb has served as my liaison to the Board of Education and School Construction Authority for the last three years. In addition, he is primarily responsible for the intake and resolution of constituent concerns in my Community Office located in the Sheephead Bay section of Brooklyn.

Gotlieb, who credits his late mother, Myrna, with teaching him the importance of helping others and being active in the community, created the highly successful organization Shorefront Toys for Tots in 1995. Founded in his mother's memory, Shorefront Toys for Tots has helped bring Chanukah cheer to more than 7,500 underprivileged children in the Shorefront community.

As a student at the Rabbi Harry Halpern Day School and its Talmud Torah High School Division, Gotlieb packed and delivered packages to aid needy senior citizens.
Gotlieb strengthened his bond with the Jewish community as an undergraduate and graduate student through his involvement with the Jewish Culture Foundation at New York University and B'nai B'rith Hillel at the University of Florida, where he served as a Reporter for the Jewish Student News Council.

Gotlieb served as a member of Community Board 13 and serves on its Education and Library and Youth Services committees. He also serves his neighbors as a member of the Board of Directors in Section 4 of Trump Village, and as an Executive Board member of the 60th Street artifacts project Council.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the members of the Pascack Historical Society for recognizing the achievements of Brian Lance and B'nai B'rith at the University of Florida, where he served as a Reporter for the Jewish Student News Council.

CONGRATULATING THE PASCACK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
HON. MARGE ROUKEMA OF NEW JERSEY IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pascack Historical Society on the recent restoration of its museum, and for all the work the Society has done to preserve the heritage of the Pascack Valley.

The Pascack Historical Society Museum, located in Park Ridge, New Jersey, is a wonderful collection depicting life in the region from the 18th Century through the early 20th Century. It is a popular destination for tourists and natives alike, and is a treasure-trove of archival information for scholars of local history.

Special recognition must go to a number of key individuals involved. The project was ably guided by Historical Society President Katharine P. Randall, Vice President Francesca M. Moskowitz, Secretary Ellen Kramer and Treasurer Richard Ross.

The renovation would not have been possible without the generosity of the late Ellen Berdais, a long-time member of the Historical Society who died of cancer in 1995, just after the project began. In her honor, the annex will be named the Ellen Berdais Hall. In addition, the main museum building will be named in memory of its longtime curator, Wilma Uder.

The museum is housed in the 19th century former First Congregational Church of Park Ridge. During the three-year, $275,000 renovation, the church building was substantially restored and a dilapidated barn was replaced with an 18,000-square-foot addition. Its exhibits include the facade of a country store, a turn-of-the-century parlor, and a recreation of a room from a small, Colonial-era home. Artifacts include items from the Leni-Lenape Indian tribe and early settlers used for farming, trading, and manufacturing. A machine used in making the "wampum" ornaments Native Americans once used as currency is part of the collection, along with a printing press from a local newspaper and a wooden horse used by a saddle maker.

The Historical Society was founded in the 1930s by John C. Storms, publisher of the Park Ridge Local, and was formally incorporated in 1942. A small group of area residents dedicated themselves to collecting and preserving artifacts and written accounts of Pascack Valley history, and sharing the collection through exhibits, lectures and a quarterly newsletter. The society's collection was housed in various locations until it found a permanent home in 1952 with the purchase of the church, which had been a Park Ridge landmark since 1875.

During its nearly half-century of operation, thousands of school classes, civic organizations, researchers and individuals have visited the museum and attended the Historical Society's lectures. Staffed entirely by volunteers, the museum has depended on the generosity of its members and friends for financial support.

It became obvious in 1994 that the adjacent bar—used as a meeting room, research center, storage area and workroom—was in such a dangerous state of disrepair that its demolition was ordered by the borough. With the loss of this facility, it was necessary to temporarily close the museum and begin a major fundraising campaign to rebuild. Support worked for five years to make the dream a reality.

I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in commending the Pascack Historical Society and all its members on the hard work and dedication that have preserved this American historic treasure for the benefit of all.

THE BICENTENNIAL OF MONROE, NEW YORK
HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN OF NEW YORK IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to note to our colleagues that the Town of Monro, New York, in my congressional district is currently celebrating its 200th anniversary.

With its population estimated in 1996 to be nearly 26,000, the Town of Monroe has long been considered one of the major hubs of our Hudson River valley. Within the boundaries of the Town are three incorporated villages: the Village of Monroe, which preserves for tourists and scholars a typical colonial community. The legendary showman, George M. Cohan, was a resident of Monroe. When in his declining years the classic motion picture biography of his life, "Yankee Doodle Dandy," was released, he was too ill to travel to New York City for the grand premiere. So a special screening for Cohan and his family was arranged to take place at the Mombasha Fire House. Mr. Cohan applauded the portrayal of his life story by the legendary Jimmy Cagney.

Today, as we stand on the threshold of a new millennium, the Town of Monroe and the three villages within its boundaries all look forward to the third hundred years with a sense of confidence that the challenges of tomorrow will be met.

Mr. Speaker, I invite all of our colleagues to join with me in saluting the town of Monroe, New York, on this milestone occasion.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN M. MELTZ
HON. DAVID D. PHELPS OF ILLINOIS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stephen M. Meltz on his sixieth birthday. Stephen will gather with his friends and family to celebrate this momentous occasion just after Thanksgiving. Stephen was born in Chicago, Illinois, on December 15, 1939, and married to Nadine (Greenberg) Meltz and has two sons: David and Gary. Stephen has lived in Chicago his entire life. He attended college at
the University of Chicago, receiving both his undergraduate degree in political science and his M.B.A. at the prestigious university. He also served his country proudly in the United States Army Reserve.

Stephen M. Meltz is currently the President of Stephen M. Meltz & Associates, a real estate firm located in Lincolnwood, Illinois. It is a successful business, where his clients know that the work done by Stephen's firm is both professional and honest. For the last year his son David Meltz has joined him at the firm, which now makes it truly a family business. But for all the professional success he has had in his professional life, I know that his family is his greatest sense of pride and accomplishment.

Stephen has always made the best interests of his family his primary concern. He has taken care of his wife, his children, his parents, his wife's parents and many members of his extended family with loving care. He saw to it that his children received the best educations available. He made sure that the final years of his and his wife's parents were lived with dignity and comfort. Like many fathers, his dedication to his family has sometimes gone unnoticed, but he does not care for his loved ones for accolades, but because he loves his family, for all these reasons, Stephen is a patriarch in the truest sense of the term. A pillar of integrity that all his family can lean on in their hour of need and celebrate with during times of joy.

Mr. Speaker, it is often said, that the road to the Underworld is paved with good intentions. Contrary to this premise, Stephen M. Meltz has always had honor and a strong core of moral beliefs and intentions, and his actions have always mirrored those values. Aristotle said, "In the arena of human life the honors and rewards fall to those who show their good qualities in action." Stephen's rewards are both a devout family and loyal friends who have witnessed his lifelong "good qualities in action" and will honor him over dinner on his sixtieth birthday.

Mr. Speaker, lastly, I am particularly pleased to have this opportunity to congratulate Stephen M. Meltz, on his sixtieth birthday, because his son Gary C. Meltz is a member of my staff here in Washington, D.C. Gary asked me to put into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a speech to commemorate his father's birthday. I am honored to do this for Gary and his father. I urge all my colleagues to join me now in wishing Stephen M. Meltz a happy sixtieth birthday and Godspeed.

M.D. ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I wish to bring to the attention of my colleagues and the House of Representatives a recent article about the wonderful medical advances at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas. The article tells the stories of two people, a young college student and the former Speaker of the House Jim Wright, dealing with cancer and their experiences with this once debilitating disease. Their respective stories highlight the need to support our Nation's cancer centers and highlight how medical advances can truly give Americans hope where none previously existed.

Reconstructing Lives by Mary Jane Schier—For 19-year-old James Smith, the quality of survival from cancer of the jaw is paramount in order to pursue his dream of playing professional football.

Smith is a junior majoring in health and human performance at McNeese State University in Lake Charles, LA, where he was an outstanding defensive tackle until diagnosed with a disease uncommon among teenagers. He and his family were stunned to learn in November 1998 that he had a tumor in his right mandible, the horseshoe-shaped bone that forms the lower jaw. The mandible, he knows, is the largest and strongest bone in the face.

Smith was forced to take an extended timeout from the football team to begin the biggest challenge of his young life. Upon coming to M.D. Anderson, he joined a new team whose members are nationally ranked for treating head and neck cancers.

The head coaches in the multidisciplinary treatment regimen Smith received are Dr. Helmuth Goepfert and Dr. Geoffrey L. Robb, who chair the Department of Head and Neck Surgery and the Department of Plastic Surgery, respectively. For the coaches and their specialty colleagues, the common goal centers on removing head and neck cancers and restoring optimal form and function.

Smith's surgery 3 days before last Christmas involved cutting out his diseased jaw and reconstructing the mandible with bone and tissue taken from his left leg. Although he couldn't talk or eat his favorite pizza for a while, Smith says now, "I'm getting stronger every day . . . and I'm eager to play again."

At the other end of the age spectrum is former U.S. House Speaker Jim Wright, who at age 76 also illustrates the importance of high quality in one's life.

I've always been a talker, so I was a little concerned before the surgery that I wouldn't be able to talk well enough for people to understand me," confides Wright, a Fort Worth Democrat whose 34-year span in Congress was complete in 1995.

During more than 13 hours of surgery at M.D. Anderson late March 12, Wright's cancerous right mandible, an adjacent segment of the tongue and eight teeth were removed, then a six inch piece of bone from his left leg was used to form a new jaw. Skin from his left thigh overlying the bone was also transplanted to replace part of his inside of his mouth and tongue and the external skin of his cheek. "Believe me, I feel truly blessed," Wright says in a strong and clear voice.

His gratitude is rooted in his experience by recalling how his father lost a jaw to cancer more than 30 years ago. "There was no thought then of replacing it with bone from somewhere else in the body. . . . (He) spent his last days with a facial disfigurement that was the mark then of many cancer victims," Wright remembers.

This was Wright's second bout with an oral cancer. In 1991, he had surgery at M.D. fol-

owed by radiation treatments. Since his latest extensive surgery, he has resumed most of his favorite activities, including writing a regular newspaper column and, of course, "talking with anyone who'll listen."

Intensive collaboration among head and neck surgeons and plastic surgeons in recent years has "greatly improved our ability to resect all sizes of tumors and to restore vital function and appearance as well as to extend survival," observes Dr. Goepfert, who holds the M.G. and Lillie A. Johnson Chair for Cancer Treatment and Research.

New methods developed by plastic surgeons permit reconstruction of the oral cavity safely and with increasingly good outcomes. The key to success involves transferring tissues—together with vital blood vessels and nerves—from elsewhere in a patient's body to use for rebuilding parts of the head and neck affected by cancer.

Dr. Robb explains, "The head and neck is the most difficult area to reconstruct. But through specialized Micro vascular techniques, we can move tissues, muscle, fat and bone, along with their blood supply, to use in re-shaping jaws, the tongue, and parts of the nose, ears, and throat."

Age is no obstacle for performing big reconstruc-
tive procedures so long as older patients have good blood vessels to transfer with the tissues. Regardless of age, Dr. Robb says, "Our primary aim is to restore form, contour and function to the body parts affected by cancer surgery so that patients can enjoy the highest quality of life."

For Wright, being able to talk, chew, swallow and look virtually normal is a "miracle" stemming from remarkable medical progress and his religious faith. "The good news is that cancer is conquerable" and "useful life is prolongable."

Realizing the best quality of cancer survival for Smith, however, will occur when he can return to the football field. During a recent follow-up visit to M.D. Anderson, his doctors encouraged him to continue that dream.

COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE COMPETITION AND PRIVATIZATION ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 10, 1999

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commen-
ded the distinguished Chairman of the Com-
merce Committee, Chairman BILEY, and
Chairman TAUZIN, who have worked diligently
to bring satellite privatization legislation before
the House in these last days of this Session.
This bill is an important step toward legislation
that will advance increased competition in the
global satellite telecommunications market.

When the House passed this bill last year, it
came with the firm belief that time and tech-
nology had passed by the 1962 law that cre-
ated COMSAT. In spite of the overwhelming
House support, the bill was stalled over con-
cerns raised by colleagues in the other body.
Since that time, Lockheed Martin has arrived
on the scene to buy COMSAT and make it a
normal, open company without legal immu-
ni ties or exclusive access to the Intelsat system.
This is exactly what the proponents of the Bili-
tey-Tauzin bill want and is yet another exam-
pie of the marketplace being ahead on Con-
ger.
of Justice to acquire 49% of COMSAT. Neither federal agency felt that competition or anti-trust laws were threatened by Lockheed Martin's purchase.

Now it is Congress’ turn to weigh on this issue and I believe that this bill goes to great lengths to achieve honest and fair competition in the use and expansion of the satellite communications market. I also believe that we can complete legislative action on this bill before Congress leaves this year, which I understand the Chairman has said he intends to do. But as we move toward that legislative objective, it is important that we realize that certain issues must be addressed before we can declare a victory for the private competitive marketplace.

First of all, there is the issue known as “Level IV direct access”. In effect, it would result in the forced divestiture of billions of dollars of Comsat shareholder investment in Intelsat infrastructure—investment undertaken often at the behest of the U.S. Government. Level 4 direct access simply guts the economic rationale for a private company to invest in Comsat. Indeed, that may be the rationale behind this provision: to dissuade Lockheed from acquiring Comsat. If that is the case, it would be a cynical attempt to manipulate the free market in the name of “competition.” This provision must be changed in conference. Similarly, Congress should simply repeal the ownership cap on Comsat upon enactment of final consensus legislation, rather than making it contingent upon occurrence of unrelated events as it does now.

Other outstanding differences between the House and Senate have been raised by other Members and must similarly be resolved in conference. I urge Chairman BILEY to work with Mr. DINGELL toward a consensus, notably on the privatization criteria, which serve as FCC licensing criteria, and must be made more flexible.

Again, I consider myself as a supporter of this bill. The Congress has been very shrewd in letting the telecommunications marketplace work its will towards fair competition. We should use this opportunity to continue that successful record. I urge the conferees to consider the text of the final bill as presented in this package to present to the Congress and ultimately the President.

A TRIBUTE TO FREDERICK C. MALKUS, J.R.

HON. STENY H. HOYER
OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great statesman and leader in the State of Maryland. With the death of former state Senator Frederick C. Malkus, Jr., on November 11, 1999, as well as the loss of the great patriot and a dutiful public servant.

Frederick C. Malkus, Jr. died at the age of 86, having spent all of his adult life in the service of his fellow citizens. Senator Malkus, a conservative Democrat, served in the legislature for 6 years, 12 in the House of Delegates and 34 in the Senate—before retiring in 1994. Upon his retirement, he was the longest serving State Legislator in the United States.

Born July 1, 1913, in Baltimore, Senator Malkus moved to the 380 acre Egypt Road farm, nine miles outside of Cambridge, on Maryland’s Eastern Shore where he was raised there by his aunt and uncle. He spent the past 83 years on the working farm that produced corn, soybeans, and tobacco. He graduated for Western Maryland College in 1934 and received his law degree four years later from the University of Maryland Law School. During World War II, Senator Malkus served in the U.S. Army and rose to the rank of major. He reenlisted in the Army and in 1947 won a seat in the House of Delegates.

He was, Mr. Speaker, an unforgettable individual who was a wonderful servant to Maryland and America. To know Fred Malkus was to know how deeply he cared for rural America and more specifically for the Chesapeake Bay region. Senator Malkus was at the forefront of the fight to save the Bay. Even though he was pro-business in his views, he was a great environmentalist. His legacy will no doubt live on and serve as a model for future leaders of our State and our Country.

Senior Malkus is survived by his wife of 41 years, the former Margaret “Maggie” Moorer, his son, Frederick C. Malkus III, two daughters, Margaret Elizabeth “Faby” Larcher, and Susan Moorer Malkus, and three grandchildren.

HONORING JACK A. BROWN III

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the achievements of Jack A. Brown III. Jack is a native New Yorker who was born and raised on the lower east side of Manhattan. He currently resides in my district, in the Clinton Hill section of Brooklyn. Jack has had a distinguished seven-year career with the Correctional Services Corporation (CSC). The Corporation is a private company contracted by local, State, and Federal Corrections Department to provide concrete services to the inmate population. As the Vice President of Correctional Services Community Services Division, Mr. Brown maintains overall responsibility for the day to day operations of the five New York programs. These programs, three for the Federal Bureau of Prisons and two for the New York State Department of Corrections, are designed to provide inmates with the tools necessary to successfully reintegrate back into their respective communities as self-sufficient, responsible, law abiding citizens.

Prior to his employment with CSC, Jack served as an officer in the United States Air Force’s Security Division for four years. He is a graduate of the State University of New York at Buffalo with a Bachelor’s degree in Human Services, with a concentration in mental health, and Biology. During his academic years, he gained invaluable experience in the field serving in holding positions as Psychiatrist Counselor, Chemical Dependency Counselor and Youth Counselor. In December, Jack expects to earn a double Masters degree, an MBA and a Master of Science and Economic Development, from the University of New Hampshire.

I wish Jack Brown success in his future endeavors and I commend his achievements to my colleagues’ attention.

TRIBUTE TO NATIONAL WOMAN’S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION

HON. DAN BURTON
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on November 18, 1999, the National Woman’s Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) will celebrate 125 years in existence, making it the oldest, continuing, nonsectarian Christian woman’s organization in the United States. Their motto is “For God and Home and Every Land.”

Directed entirely by women from its beginning, the WCTU has united women from various backgrounds and geographical regions in their determination to educate the world about the dangers associated with the use of alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Throughout the years, the WCTU has advocated for universal voting rights for women and minorities, the eight-hour work day, equal pay for equal work, opposition to child labor, shelters for abused women and children, and world peace. In 1945, the WCTU became a charter member of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO).

Their first National president, Annie Wittenmyer, was thanked by Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant for her work during the Civil War in organizing diet kitchens in military hospitals. Their second National president, Frances E. Willard, was honored in 1905 by having her statue placed in the Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol—the first woman and the only woman to be honored for more than 50 years. The current National president of the WCTU is Sarah Ward, a resident of the great State of Indiana, and I wish her all the best in her endeavors with the WCTU as they continue their good work for the protection of the home.

A TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER MUMMERT

HON. JERRY LEWIS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to pay tribute to Jenny Mumment, a hardworking, highly valued staff member of the Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, who is leaving November 19th after eight years to pursue her career in the private sector.

Whether she was putting in long days and endless hours working on behalf of our national defense—or struggling to look serious at the Paris Air Show—Jenny Mumment couldn’t help being her ever-positive self. She has always been a vital member of the team, doing all she can to make the defense appropriations subcommittee the best committee in the House of Representatives.

Now she has decided to leave us to seek new challenges and opportunities. But she will always be a part of our family. We know that her husband, Joe, and their four children, Joey, Kandace, Kevin and Karley, are excited about her new career. But they are very likely just as excited about the prospect of mom having a more normal work schedule.
Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in wishing all the best for Jenny in her new endeavor, and to let her know that we will miss her every day and will always be grateful for what she’s done for the Congress and our national defense.

THE BOOKER T. WASHINGTON LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE AT HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce "The Booker T. Washington Leadership Act of 1999". This legislation will establish the Booker T. Washington Leadership Institute at Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia.

Booker T. Washington is perhaps the most renowned alumnus of Hampton University. His vision championed the idea that black colleges and universities should embrace the responsibility not only to train men and women in their disciplines and trades, but to create and sustain new institutions and communities driven by the principle of service—service to God, country, and humankind.

The mission of this Institute reflects this vision. It is based on Hampton University’s fundamental premise that leadership development is best understood and achieved in the moral context of social responsibility and service to society. The Institute will be committed to the development of ethical values, interpersonal skills and the competencies that are required for effective leadership in a broad range of business, civic and political environments.

Hampton University is uniquely prepared to launch this Institute. For the past 130 years, Hampton University has promoted higher education and positive character development as the core components of effective leadership and responsible citizenship. Initially founded in 1868 to train promising young men and women to teach and lead their recently emancipated people, it has grown into a comprehensive university, offering a broad range of technical, liberal arts, pre-professional, professional and graduate degree programs. Over the past twenty years, Hampton University has doubled the student population from 2,700 to 7,000, and the average student SAT score has increased by 300 points. Forty-five academic programs have been added, including graduate degree programs in Business Administration, Museum Studies, Applied Mathematics and Chemistry, with PhD programs in Physics, Pharmacy, Physical Therapy and Nursing. Over 40% of Hampton University graduates enter graduate school within 5 years.

The Booker T. Washington Leadership Institute combines the heritage of Hampton University with the vision of Booker T. Washington, to educate young people with the knowledge, skills, insights, and positive values necessary for leading the United States into the new millennium.

Mr. Speaker, I submit the Booker T. Washington Leadership Act for my colleagues consideration.

SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING DIABETES

SPEECH OF
HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important resolution expressing our continued commitment to the fight against diabetes.

Diabetes is one of the most costly health problems in America. More than 1 out of every 10 health care dollars in the United States, and about 1 out of every 4 Medicare dollars is spent on care for people with diabetes.

The devastation caused by diabetes, however, goes far beyond the financial costs. Over 16 million Americans suffer from this chronic disease for which there is no cure. Diabetes is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States.

While over 10 million Americans know that they are living with diabetes, another 5.4 million people are not even aware that they have the disease. Many people only realize that they have diabetes when they develop a life-threatening complication like blindness, kidney disease, nerve damage, heart disease or stroke.

Early diagnosis and treatment can help reduce the risk of these terrible complications. I am pleased to note that constituents in my district have access to a number of outstanding diabetes education programs, including those at the Children’s Hospital of Wisconsin, Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center, Columbus Hospital, Froedtert Memorial Lutheran Hospital, St. Francis Hospital, St. Luke’s Medical Center, Waukesha Memorial Hospital, and West Allis Memorial Hospital. The resolution before us today recognizes the important role that these dedicated health professionals and volunteers play in the fight against diabetes.

Mr. Speaker, these health providers and their patients need our help. Improvements in technology and the general growth in scientific knowledge have created unprecedented opportunities for advances that might lead to better treatments, prevention, and ultimately a cure. Congress has a responsibility to support this critical, life-saving research. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and affirm our commitment to find a cure for diabetes.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN P. POWELL

HON. BOB RILEY
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John P. Powell, who was honored on November 14, 1999, at the official dedication of the newly named J.P. Powell Middle School in Chambers County, Alabama.

John P. Powell was born in Chambers County, Alabama, on September 13, 1912. After graduating from Florida A&M University, he began his teaching career at Langdale School in 1949. On September 24, 1954, he became the principal of the Chambers County Training School (renamed Southside Elementary School during the 1970–71 school year) and remained its principal for 27 years until his retirement on May 28, 1976. The Chambers County Board of Education by official action renamed the school, now a middle school for grades 6–8, in Professor Powell’s honor on May 19, 1999.

During his career and after his retirement, Mr. Powell was active in the Lafayette, Alabama, community. He served on the Chambers County Industrial Board and was active in the Chambers County Extension Service. His community involvement included the Red Cross, the United Givers Fund, Powell Chapel United Methodist Church, the Chambers County Retired Teachers organization and senior citizens’ groups. Even now, at the age of 87, Professor Powell is president of the Birmingham Rehabilitation Center where he resides.

In 1991, the Lafayette City Council proclaimed John Powell Day in Lafayette. In the resolution issued, Mr. Powell was commended for his community involvement and his leadership, particularly in the areas of education, industry and race relations. Now, once again, he is being recognized for what he has done to promote respect between races and the value of education for his students. Most important, however, he is recognized for his life-long commitment to public service.

I join the residents of Chambers County in thanking John P. Powell and saluting him on this special day of recognition.

CONDEMNING ARMENIAN ASSASSINATIONS

SPEECH OF
HON. PETER T. KING
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern about the violence that recently took place in Armenia. The Prime Minister and the Speaker of the Parliament, as well as other prominent Armenian politicians, were killed in a hail of gunfire on the floor of the Armenian Parliament.

Besides my deep concern and sympathy for the individuals who were brutally murdered and for their families and friends, I fear that this event could cause a delay or post-emption of the peace talks currently underway between Armenia and Azerbaijan. Thankfully, both governments have stated that the peace process will not be interrupted by this tragic event.

Armenia should step up its efforts to push the peace process along. The conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan has been going on for 11 years now, and more than 30,000 people have been killed and over a million refugees created on both sides, including over 800,000 in Azerbaijan. It is time to reach a peace agreement, and Presidents Heydar Aliyev of Azerbaijan and Robert Kocharyan of Armenia have met four times in recent months to discuss such a settlement.

As original sponsor of legislation designed to repeal Section 907 of the Freedom Support Act, I would like to draw your attention to a statement in the New York Times, that appeared on November 3, urging to loot “the ban
on giving Azerbaijan the same kind of economic assistance that it provides to all other former Soviet republics. This would serve both to recognize the risks that Heydar Aliyev, Azerbaijan’s President, has taken for peace and begin to bring about more realistic attitudes in Armenia. If we are to be an effective broker, we must adopt a balanced approach."

PERSOINAL EXPLANATION

HON. SOLOM N P. ORTIZ
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, during the following rollcall votes, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted as indicated below.

Rollcall No. 587, "yes"; rollcall No. 588, "yes"; rollcall No. 589, "yes"; rollcall No. 590, "no"; rollcall No. 591, "yes"; rollcall No. 592, "yes"; rollcall No. 593, "yes"; rollcall No. 594, "yes"; rollcall No. 595, "no".

A PROPOSAL TO GUARANTEE HEALTH INSURANCE TO EVERY AMERICAN CHILD BORN IN THE NEXT CENTURY: SEEKING IDEAS AND COMMENTS ON THE PROPOSAL

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, it is a national disgrace that 11.1 million children in the United States still do not have health insurance as we enter a new millennium.

What we have done so far has not worked. Since 1996, the numbers and percentages of children without insurance have actually crept upward. They have not yet reached a statistically significant degree of increase, but we are moving in the wrong direction.

The web of programs we pieced together in 1997, CHIP/Medicaid/transitional Medicaid, are failing to get health insurance coverage to more children.

We need to come back to this question, and find something that will work. America’s children deserve health insurance.

I have begun to develop a bill to address this problem, currently in a rough draft form, which is based on the idea that we need a simple and comprehensive solution:

We want every child in America to have health insurance.

Every child in America is issued a birth certificate and social security number at birth. Let’s automatically enroll every child at birth into a Medicare-type program; call it “MediKids.”

MediKids will be both an umbrella and a safety net for all of the other programs insuring our children, so that no child will ever fail through the enrollment cracks again, much less 11.1 million children.

Our current approach places the burden on already disadvantaged parents. State and local enrollment and welfare workers are unable to determine which families match various programs—much less process pages of forms and documentation in order to enroll children in health insurance.

Instead, I propose we do what’s right, sensible, and directly accomplishes the goal of health insurance for all of our children: (1) Enroll every child in MediKids automatically at birth; and (2) allow parents who do have other choices for a decent way to attach evidence of coverage to their tax forms, thus exempting themselves from the premiums used to finance MediKids.

Children are relatively inexpensive to insure, but this program will have a budget impact. I am developing a bill for covering the costs of this program. Ultimately, however we pay for it, we must make the stand that some things are worth spending money on, particularly in this time of unprecedented, record-breaking economic growth.

My staff and I will be refining this bill over the holiday recess. For example, we will want to adjust the MediKids program to cover the specific services which children need. As our work progresses, we will be posting our drafts on our website, http://www.house.gov/stark and we invite everyone to visit the site and offer their input.

We plan to introduce this bill at the start of the next Congressional session—the first of the new millennium. I invite all of my colleagues, and everyone in America who cares about the health of our children, to join us in developing this idea, and to co-sponsor this important effort to get every millennium baby off to a good start.

IN HONOR OF THE PANPAPHIAN ASSOCIATION AND SAVAS C. TSIVICOS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Panpaphian Association, its members, friends and special honoree, this year, Savas Tsivicos.

The Panpaphian Association was founded in 1987, by a group of Cypriot-Americans of Paphian ancestry in order to encourage and help promote awareness of the customs and traditions of the region of Paphos and Cyprus. It is a vital philanthropic organization concerned with education, the health and well-being of students from the United States and Cyprus, and the liberation of Cyprus from the Turkish invasion of 1974.

This year’s honoree, Savas Tsivicos, exemplifies the honorable characteristics of the people from Paphos. He came to the United States in 1982 from a farming community in the village of Inia to live the “American Life.” His life embodies the dreams, hopes and aspirations of thousands of immigrants who arrive in the United States to construct a decent life. Mr. Tsivicos holds a Bachelor’s Degree and MBA from Fairleigh Dickinson University and a Masters Certificate from George Washington University, where he received numerous scholastic awards and honors. Mr. Tsivicos has also become an outspoken community leader. He serves on the Ethnic Advisory Council of New Jersey and he has been elected President of the Cyprus Federa-
Mr. Speaker, too often we take a free press for granted. CPJ and this year’s honorees remind us that press freedoms are vital to the functioning of democratic government and that journalists often risk their lives to assure that the rest of us know the truth.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF CONGRESS FOR RECENT ELECTIONS IN REPUBLIC OF INDIA

SPEECH OF
HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 211. First let me thank Mr. GEJDENSON, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. HASTINGS for co-sponsoring this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, the contrasting events in India and Pakistan over a single 24 hour period speak eloquently about the new challenges and opportunities that we face in South Asia. In India, we have seen hundreds of millions of voters enthusiastically exercise their votes in a free and fair election. In Pakistan, we witnessed a military coup.

This resolution, Mr. Speaker, recognizes that the people of India have a deep and abiding commitment to democracy and it salutes them for the passion with which they choose their own destiny. No country reflects our own values more in that part of the world than does India.

It is high time we seriously begin to recognize this fact and graduate from mere platitudes to some tangible policy changes toward India.

I believe that it is time to re-examine our basic premise regarding U.S. policy in South Asia. We should abandon old paradigms and Cold War hangups and see that India, a democracy, is our natural ally in the region.

The best way to demonstrate our commitment to the people of India is by ensuring that the President travels to India as soon as possible, as the resolution urges him to do.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2116, VETERANS MILLENNIUM HEALTH CARE AND BENEFITS ACT

SPEECH OF
HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, November 16, 1999

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the final version of legislation that deals with a comprehensive and complex set of veterans’ healthcare and benefits issues.

Without question, this conference report on H.R. 2116, the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act, deals constructively with a significant portion of the substantive matters considered at length by the Veterans Affairs Committees in both the House and the Senate.

I want to recognize the efforts of Senator SPECTER, Senator ROCKEFELLER, Senator STUMP, and Ranking Member EVANS for their demonstrated leadership in crafting collaborative compromises in the most productive manner as the conference allowed.

This agreement makes significant steps forward in defining the VA’s mission in a number of critical health care areas: Extended care, emergency services, mental health services, and chiropractic treatment, to name a few. This agreement also moves in the right direction in terms of addressing the lingering need for additional national veterans cemeteries and long-term care facilities, as well as needed renovations at various VA medical centers.

This agreement also includes a provision that also provides constructive direction in the areas of veterans’ education and housing, in meeting the needs of home-less veterans, and improving the administrative structure of the court of appeals for veterans claims.

I am disappointed however, that many of the provisions that were originally included in the House version of the bill pertaining to employee and veterans organizations participation in various VA decision-making and planning practices were not made part of this final package. I also think that the conference could have produced a better work product in terms of providing strong language that speaks to the need for cost-benefit analysis, employee protections, stringent hospital closure guidelines, and heightened oversight measures throughout the entire VA network. Inclusion of such provisions would have greatly improved the agreement’s overall intentions and would have made them less susceptible to inconsistent system wide.

So in summary, while the conference agreement is not a perfect piece of legislation, it is nonetheless worthy of members’ support. And as Representative EVANS pointed out earlier, the conference agreement in many ways represents the need to demonstrate our concerted interest in reaffirming our commitment to our nation’s veterans. But as I have repeatedly stated, the most well intentioned efforts in terms of authorizing language are only as good as the amount of adequate funding that is appropriated. I have very serious concerns that next year we will find ourselves in the same vicious circle of logical debate. And the circle begins and ends with the need to have adequate resources to sufficiently support our responsibilities in meeting the needs of our veterans.

It is my hope that all members who cast their vote in support of the conference agreement will maintain their focus on veterans issues so that in the next fiscal year we can reverse the course we have been on for far too long and begin our work on matters concerning veterans with enhanced resources, not severe budgetary cuts.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL HARRY SUMMERS

HON. IKE SKELTON
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, Colonel Harry G. Summers, Jr., United States Army, died this week. In the Armed Forces and the Nation have lost a soldier and scholar, who ranks among the preeminent military strategists and analysts of this century.

As an Army officer, who began his professional life as an enlisted soldier, and later as a military analyst, author and commentator, Colonel Summers knew personally the bayonet-point reality of war and thought and wrote widely about strategic issues. He was a decorated veteran of combat in Korea and Vietnam, awarded the Silver Star and Bronze Star for Valor, and the Legion of Merit; twice awarded the combat infantry badge; and twice awarded the Purple Heart for wounds received in combat.

An infantry squad leader in the Korean conflict, he served as a battalion and corps operation officer during the Vietnam war, and later as a negotiator with the North Vietnamese in Saigon and in Hanoi. Instructor of strategy at the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, he was a political-military action officer on the Army General Staff, a member of the then Army chief of staff Creighton Abrams’ strategic assessment group, and served in the Office of the Army Chief of Staff from 1975 to 1980, before joining the faculty of the U.S. Army War College.

At the war college, Colonel Summers was at the heart of the rebirth of strategic studies in the professional military education of our Armed Forces in the early 1980’s. His book On Strategy: The Vietnam War in Context provided a critical strategic appraisal of American strategy in that war and a seminal American work in the relationship of military strategy to national policy. On Strategy has been characterized as being “about” the Vietnam war in much the same way that Clausewitz is “about” the Napoleonic wars or that Mahan is “about” 19th century naval strategy in France and England. That is, Harry Summers used the Vietnam war as a vehicle for analysis and illustration of principles of war that apply universally.

After his retirement from active service, Harry Summers continued to contribute to the professional development of the officer corps and to the development of strategic thought and military strategy as a lecturer, visiting professor, columnist, editor, and commentator.

When Harry Summers testified before the House Armed Services Committee in December 1990 before Operation Desert Storm, he reemphasized the need for clarity of purpose and the relation of means to objective as this House wrestled with the decision to go to war against Iraq and commit U.S. military forces to protect the vital interests of the United States. He appeared before the committee again as we reviewed what happened to U.S. forces in Somalia in 1994 and provided valuable insights on the relation of military force and commitment to our national objectives and commitment in that country.

Harry Summers was proudly proud of his sons and their service as Army officers and of his daughter-in-law who served as a warrant officer. A great soldier and a great patriot, this country has lost a great leader and will forever mourn his passing.
IN HONOR OF MS. JAMILA DEMBY, NCAA WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. DOUG OSE
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to acknowledge University of California All-American Jamila Demby, who was recently named NCAA Woman of the Year.

Ms. Demby, the first UC Davis athlete to earn this NCAA honor, was selected as a national finalist from among 50 state winners. Representing California, she was one of two Division II finalists.

It was a perfect ending to a perfect career at UC Davis. A seven-time All-American, Ms. Demby won eight conference championships in four years. During last year’s California Collegiate Athletic Association championships, Ms. Demby established a new UC Davis 800-meter record of 2 minutes, 10.8 seconds. In addition, she ran the final leg of the 4×400 relay team, which set a UC Davis record of 3:45.33.

In addition to her athletic achievements, Ms. Demby has been active in student and community activities. In addition to serving as a UC Davis Aggie team captain and sitting on the student-athlete advisory committee, Ms. Demby finds time to regularly visit children at the Shriners’ Hospital and tutor at local schools. In fact, her work with children has become such an influential experience that she changed her career path from advertising to serving underprivileged and underrepresented youth.

As NCAA Woman of the Year, Ms. Demby was chosen from a group of highly accomplished women. Ms. Demby will graduate from UC Davis this December with a degree in biological science. Ms. Demby is a role model for all women in California and the nation. Ms. Demby is more than worthy of this recognition.

In conclusion, I would like to congratulate Ms. Demby for a job well done.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT’S OBLIGATION TO THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN
OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill with Mr. Tauzin and the entire Louisiana congressional delegation that will bring closure to an issue that has lingered long enough concerning our home State of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, the State of Louisiana and the Federal Government have a long history of working together to develop our abundant natural resources in a cooperative manner that protects our unique habitat and spurs economic development. I am pleased that we have been able to rectify our differences when they occur in order to reach sensible and judicious decisions that foster goodwill and the efficient use of our resource base.

Mr. Speaker, there remains before this House an obligation on the part of the Federal Government to satisfy an authorization that was included in the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. This authorization was crafted to resolve a unique dispute between the State of Louisiana and the Federal Government over the development of the oil and gas resources on the Outer Continental Shelf. Unfortunately, this authorization has never been satisfied and my home state has lost literally millions of dollars as a result.

Today, I am joined by members from Louisiana, Texas, New York and Pennsylvania in introducing legislation directing the Minerals Management Service of the Department of the Interior to allow the State of Louisiana and its lessees a credit in the payment of Federal offshore royalties to satisfy the authorization contained within the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 for oil and gas drainage in the West Delta Field.

I will be brief with the history of this matter, but I feel compelled to clarify for all our colleagues why the language contained in OPA must be satisfied both out of concern for the treatment of the State and for the protection of our coastal environment.

In November of 1985, the State of Louisiana began to notify the MMS that a federal lessee was draining the West Delta Field at the expense of the State and its lessees. The Governor made this request based on the entire history of cooperative development agreements between the State and Federal government. The State sought to “unitize” the field by allocating the appropriate shares of the field’s resources to each lessee. Unitization is standard practice in cases where multiple producers share common reservoirs. Much to the State’s amazement, officials at MMS disagreed with the State and the entire Louisiana congressional delegation regarding the need and availability of relief for the State.

In order to bring some unbiased perspective to the debate, the Congress authorized an independent fact finder to review the situation and to determine if unauthorized drainage occurred and to what extent, if any, loss had been incurred. In 1988, the Congress, in the Interior Appropriations Act for FY89, authorized the Secretary of the Interior to appoint an independent fact-finder to determine if Louisiana had been drained of its gas and oil reserves and, if so, the market value of those confiscated reserves.

That independent fact finder reported to Congress in 1989 that drainage had indeed occurred and quantified the resulting loss. At that point, the congressional delegation sought and obtained an authorization of appropriations for compensation that matched the determination of the fact finder. It is important to note that during the 4-year period of study, the federal lessee continued to drain the sacred reservoir and actually continued to drain the field until the Federal wells ceased producing in 1998.

Why is that important to note? Because the State is seeking compensation only for the drainage that can be empirically determined by the fact finder’s report for those initial 4 years. All drainage that occurred for the next decade has basically been written off by my State although they would have every right to seek their share of those revenues siphoned by the Federal Government. In short, my State is knowingly leaving money on the table in order to make a good faith effort to resolve this issue.

In addition, we believe it is important to point out that satisfying this obligation in no way opens the doors to a myriad of similar demands on the Federal budget. From early on, the uniqueness of this situation was recognized when the Department of Interior wrote to then-Senator Johnston on September 19, 1991, that “To the best of our knowledge, the West Delta dispute is the only (emphasis added) situation in which the Department did not agree to unitization, or a similar joint development agreement on the Outer Continental Shelf when requested to do so by the Governor of a coastal State.” To verify that this situation is unique, the State of Louisiana thoroughly reviewed its records and has confirmed that there are no other similar cases anywhere along the OCS boundary. In fact, in that same letter the Department wrote, “The Department agrees with your understanding that Section 6004(c) of the Oil Pollution Act does not create a precedent for the payment of any funds to any parties other than the State of Louisiana and its lessees.”

As for the environmental concerns raised by the Federal government’s inappropriate action, the record is clear. In OPA 90, the Congress specifically reiterated the harmful effects of “unrestrained competitive production on hydrocarbons from a common hydrocarbon-bearing geological area underlying the Federal and State boundary.” The logic behind this language is simple. Why would we encourage the destruction and operation of more oil and gas wells in U.S. waters than are necessary? If a field can be produced with one well, having two only doubles that chances of an accident. The concept is common sense and has been at the root of all Federal and State policies for decades. I see no reason to abandon that intelligent precedent now.

Mr. Speaker, after years of waiting, my State is interested in putting this issue behind us and moving on. What makes that statement so intriguing is that is the exact line the MMS stated in a letter to the dean of the Louisiana delegation over 9 years ago when they too wrote, “We are also very interested in putting this matter behind us.”

Our legislation is simple. It will allow the State and its lessees to recover a portion of what was lost by the unauthorized development of the West Delta Field and will do so in the most benign of methods. The State and its lessees have proposed an alternative method for providing compensation by foregoing payment of federal royalties due by the lessee on other Federal leases and distributing those withholdings to the State and lessee until the federal obligation is satisfied. Upon a restitution, the lessee will resume their payments to the Federal Government. By withholding royalty payments and sharing those revenues proportionately between the State and its lessees we expect the Federal obligation will be satisfied within 2 to 3 years.

After more than a decade, it is time for the Federal government to settle this outstanding obligation and, at the same time, protect the rights of my home State. In addition, we must reaffirm that this Congress does not support policies that may well create precedents that would needlessly and recklessly endanger our coastal environments.
CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. AGNES VENETTA STANDBRIDGE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Mrs. Agnes Venetta Standbridge, who will celebrate her 100th birthday on December 20, 1999.

As a young adult, Mrs. Standbridge observed first hand the effects that both World War I and World War II had on family and friends. She saw the world turned upside down as many of her friends, neighbors and family went off to the trenches in Europe and never returned or returned scarred by injury and the nightmares of battle. During World War II, Mrs. Standbridge was a young mother raising her four children in Lemington Spa near Coventry, England. There, she and her husband, Albert Standbridge did their best to protect their children from the sights and sounds of German aircraft bombing factories in the area. During these tumultuous times she developed a quiet courage and inner strength. By the early 1950’s she would need that bravery to confront the passing of her beloved husband at a young age. She never remarried and his memory remains with her today.

Mrs. Standbridge began another memorable chapter in her life when she moved to Northern California and ultimately settled in Mountain View where she has lived for 38 years. Living in beautiful Silicon Valley, Mrs. Standbridge witnessed the world change again—in a far more positive way. The technological revolution that has occurred over the last few decades has made her world and ours, a more prosperous place than ever before.

The events of the 20th Century have had a great impact on Mrs. Standbridge’s life and she has been shaped by the relationships of those who hold her dear. Family and friendship flow through her life and have enriched her century of living. She is a great example of resilience and courage. I’m proud to represent Mrs. Standbridge and ask my colleagues to join me in wishing this extraordinary woman a very blessed and a very happy 100th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO PETER MCCUEN

HON. DOUG OSE OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, November 17, 1999

Mr. OSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a humble heart to pay tribute to a distinguished leader, a personal friend, and a true pioneer for the city of Sacramento, Mr. Peter McCuen. The city lost one of its great giants on Monday, when Peter succumbed to his third battle with cancer.

More than any other person in the last 20 years, Peter McCuen transformed the landscape of Sacramento and many of those who live in it. We can see the visual legacy he left when we drive through the Highway 50 corridor. The region’s most graceful skyscraper and its most visible ziggurat building remind us how integral he was in bringing prosperity to the city.

Peter came to Sacramento in 1980 after having successful careers as a professor at Stanford University and a hi-tech entrepreneur in Silicon Valley. He had planned on retiring in the city. But immediately after he arrived, he saw the many opportunities Sacramento had to offer. He was involved in over 100 development projects, including the Library Plaza, the U.S. Bank Plaza, the Teale Data Building, and the redevelopment of Mather Air Field. He also played a vital role in bringing major corporations like Intel and Sprint to this region, which created thousands of jobs for the people of Sacramento. His impact on the economic development of the Sacramento area is unparalleled.

But for many of us, it is not just the suburban business parks he built or the highrises he helped engineer that touched our lives. It is Peter’s unreserved generosity, canny vision, boundless energy and incomparable intellect that make him a truly unique human being.

Peter’s philanthropic efforts benefited a long list of causes and groups in the city. His renowned love of arts, education and civic organizations earned him the Regional Pride Excellence Award in 1991. He served on the advisory boards of the Cancer Center at UC Davis Medical Center and both the engineering school and the graduate school of management at UCD. He also served on the advisory board to the president of the Cal State University, Sacramento and the State’s Clean Air Partnership.

Peter had a bright vision for our city, and he tried everything in his power to fulfill that vision. Sacramento is a better place because of Peter McCuen. My heart goes out to his wife Susan, his two children, Pamela and Patrick, and the entire McCuen family. Sacramento will miss one of its true leaders.