

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF MR. DANIEL J. EDELMAN

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to pay tribute to one of the true pioneers in the field of public relations, Chicagoan Daniel J. Edelman.

For nearly a half-century, Dan Edelman has made major contributions to advance the visibility of and respect for the public relations profession. Mr. Edelman has been a pioneer in the public relations community, across this country and around the globe. The firm he created, Edelman Worldwide, today employs more than 1800 people globally and is the only remaining global independent public relations concern still owned by its original founders.

Known as the Father of the "media tour," Mr. Edelman has driven constant innovation and creativity within his company and the public relations world; his firm became the first in the business to establish an Internet presence, and conducted the first cyber-newscast.

In recognition of this leadership, Dan Edelman was recently awarded the Public Relations Society of America's highest individual honor, the Gold Anvil. And in honor of his significant professional, community and philanthropic contributions the Chicago City Council formally proclaimed February 16, 2000 as Daniel J. Edelman Day in the City of Chicago. In an unveiling ceremony on Friday, March 3, a section of St. Clair Street was named Honorable Daniel J. Edelman Way.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, as is reflected in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, I was granted a leave of absence for Wednesday, March 8, 2000.

I insert for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the way in which I would have voted had I been present. The votes are as follows:

Roll Call Vote 29—H.R. 1827—On rollcall vote 29, Pascrell would have voted "aye."

Roll Call Vote 30—H.R. 2952—On rollcall vote 30, Pascrell would have voted "aye."

Roll Call Vote 31—H.R. 3018—On rollcall vote 31, Pascrell would have voted "aye."

Roll Call Vote 32—S. Con. Res. 91—On rollcall vote 32, Pascrell would have voted "aye."

Roll Call Vote 33—H.J. Res. 86—On rollcall vote 33, Pascrell would have voted "aye."

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE BEAVER COUNTY CHARTER

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Beaver County, Pennsylvania, which is celebrating the Bicentennial of its Charter Day on Sunday, March 12th, 2000.

From an early Native American settlement at Logstown to the opening of the world's first commercial nuclear power plant at Shippingport, Beaver County people and places have had important roles in the growth and development of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the United States. Independence and westward expansion were helped by Legion Ville and Fort McIntosh; its rivers and rich agricultural lands made the area an attractive place for early settlers; modern commerce and industrialization were nurtured at Old Economy Village; and the glass, steel, and chemical industries brought thousands of immigrants from across the country and around the world to work in the mills and build vital, prosperous communities.

These new Beaver Countians brought with them amazingly diverse ethnic, religious, and cultural traditions that they maintained and shared with their new friends and neighbors. They built houses of worship and fraternal clubs, started festivals and musical groups, married, grew neighborhoods, and reared families that began to live the American dream. Its list of famous statesmen, jurists, educators, musicians, athletes, servicemen, and scientists is true testament to hard work, commitment, and perseverance that is the heart and soul of Beaver County.

I congratulate Beaver County and its residents on this wonderful day. They are justly proud of their history and achievements. I salute the Bicentennial Committee for organizing and hosting these festivities and hope that every citizen enjoys this day and reflects upon the many who came before them and accomplished so much.

NUMMI REDESIGNS TOYOTA TRUCK

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call attention to the unique creativity of the employees at the New United Motor Manufacturing Incorporated (NUMMI) plant in Fremont, California, and congratulate them for the assembly-line inspired innovation that brought the Toyota Tacoma Stepside pickup truck into production.

In the world's auto industry, new design ideas traditionally come from the corporate

headquarters and its design team, to the engineering team and sales team, and then to the actual manufacturing plant and the people who really build the cars. But the Toyota Tacoma Stepside pickup truck is different. In this rare instance the innovation for the new product came from the manufacturing plant, the company then worked in collaboration to enforce its accomplishment. United Motors broke away from a long-standing tradition and demonstrated that input and innovation from various levels of the plant, working as a team, can be influential and successful in generating new ideas.

NUMMI has long been a model of innovation and creativity. It has a marriage of the GM and Toyota companies that has brought the highest quality, innovative autos to the American market. New United Motors Manufacturing Incorporated was started at a closed GM plant in 1984, and the joint bi-national effort was a major step in helping resolve the U.S.-Japan trade tensions of the 1980's. The plant has been in operation for 15 years, adding billions to the California and national economy.

In addition to its economic success, United Motors has been an asset to the Fremont community since its establishment in 1984, providing jobs for well over 4700 employees and giving continual support to social programs around the community. United Motors has been particularly recognized for their community service efforts in offering grant support to non-profit organizations. United Motors also supported the school district partnership program that has helped the Fremont School District with its program of educational renewal. Other achievements also include awards for environmental achievement (1990), Company of the year (1994 and 1995) by the California Water Pollution Control Association and the J.D. Power and Associates Silver Plant Quality Award (1999).

Congratulations to the team members and UAW local 2244 at NUMMI for their latest innovation, for keeping jobs in Fremont, and for once again showing real hands-on innovation and teamwork.

TRIBUTE TO VALENTINE BURROUGHS, JR., SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DIRECTOR OF MINORITY AFFAIRS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Valentine Burroughs of Camden, South Carolina, an outstanding public servant and friend who passed away suddenly last weekend. Valentine Burroughs was that rarest of individuals who always placed the interests of others before his own. He felt strong duty to help maintain his community,

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

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

focusing his talent and energy on helping people.

Val served tirelessly in the Executive Office of South Carolina's Department of Transportation and other divisions of improve overall opportunities to ethnic minorities, women and individuals with disabilities.

Val exhibited strong leadership and he ably represented the interests of fellow coworkers and local residents. He worked with the Human Resources Office to develop a recruitment strategy to identify and attract minorities and women in underutilized professions, with an emphasis on the engineering career field. He proved his dedication and excellence to the community by providing outstanding support to research efforts of the Legislative Black Caucus, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU), and rural communities. Val has undertaken special projects including research special transportation initiatives for Native Americans.

He administered the implementation of the HBCU Partnership Program with South Carolina State University and Benedict College, the Summer Transportation Initiative Program, the Cooperative Education/Intern Program, the Eisenhower Transportation Fellowship Program and the Garrett A. Morgan Technology and Transportation Futures Program.

He was named the agency's Americans With Disabilities (ADA) Coordinator, and the Urban Youth Corps Program Statewide Coordinator for which he leaves an indelible legacy. The Youth Corps Program which began in 1994 now employs over 690 youth throughout the state of South Carolina.

When Val was named as the transportation department's Director of Minority Affairs in 1990, he stated, "I view this is one of the most challenging positions in the agency because of the uniqueness of the highway construction industry and because of the economic importance of minority firms participating". But he had faced tough challenges before. Fresh out of school and armed with a degree in Sociology from St. Augustine College in Raleigh, N.C. he moved to Washington, D.C.'s troubled inner-city. He began working as a counselor for the Neighborhood Youth Corps, helping the disadvantaged find jobs and offering them alternatives to crime. His community service included Directors of the Triangle Ministry Community Program, the Mission/Congress Heights Youth Service Center and the Mission of Community Concern, Inc.

In 1976, Val moved back to South Carolina to work in the office of Governor James B. Edwards under I. DeQuincey Newman, who was director of the Division of Rural Development, and later became the first Black South Carolina senators since post-reconstruction. There he assisted rural communities through workshops, training programs and resource development. Val remained in Rural Development through the first term of Governor Richard Riley before assuming the position of project information coordinator for the South Carolina State Family Development Authority, an agency that sets up tax-deferred bond programs to assist farmers in building agricultural facilities.

In 1987, Val came to the Office of Planning and Program Development in the Division of Motor Vehicles, previously the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation where he served continuously until his untimely death last Saturday.

To Valentine Burroughs, community and public service wasn't an option. It was a re-

sponsibility and an honor. Whenever neighbors or coworkers called upon him, Burroughs was always there. There aren't enough Valentine Burroughs in our communities and his absence will be greatly missed.

I extend my deepest condolences to Val's wife, Audrey and their two children. To them Val was a loving husband and father, to me he was a friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in a tribute to Valentine Burroughs for his selfless dedication to his community and country.

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER
PETER C. SCARPELLI

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a remarkable man, Peter C. Scarpelli of Nutley, New Jersey. Peter is being honored because of his years of community service. It is only fitting that we gathered here in his honor, for he epitomizes caring and generosity of spirit.

Commissioner Scarpelli is a member of the Nutley High School Class of 1955. He also attended Davis and Elkins College in Elkins, West Virginia where he studied Business Management. In addition Peter studied Management Skills Training at Rutgers University's Newark campus. Scarpelli also majored in Construction Design at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Rutherford, New Jersey.

Peter has always been an active and involved leader. He has been the President of Meadowlands Landscaping Inc. since 1969, a company which specializes in property maintenance. A hard working and dedicated individual, Scarpelli is President of two other firms. He heads both P. Scarpelli and Son, Inc., a building construction and property management company and Jo-Lee Garden Center of Belleville, New Jersey, a full service garden center of which he is also Treasurer. Peter is also the Vice President of Interior Plant Design, where he is responsible for the installation and maintenance of interior decorative plants.

The early years of his life instilled in Peter the attributes necessary for him to become a stellar force in the community. It was the small steps in the beginning of his career that taught him the fundamentals that would make him the role model that he is today.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, Peter Scarpelli joined the Nutley Board of Commissioners in 1983. Since that time he has served as the Director of the Department of Public Works, and has been elected to five consecutive terms. From 1983 to 1988 he undertook the supervision of the Code Enforcement Department. His responsibilities included the supervision of the inspectors of buildings, electric and plumbing. Peter also provided appointments to the Construction Board of Appeals.

On the Nutley Board of Commissioners, Peter Scarpelli is a member of the Nutley Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. He has also served as the Superintendent of the Nutley Weights and Measures Department.

Peter continually touches the lives of the people around him. He is a member of numer-

ous civic and community service organizations. These include the Nutley Elks 1290, American Legion, Knights of Columbus 6190, Amfrens, Nutley Italian American Club, Nutley UNICO, Nutley Republican Club, Third Half Club Republican County Committee and the Kiwanis Club of Nutley. He is also the President of the Columbian Club and is the Nutley Family Service Bureau Charity Ball Chair.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Peter's family, friends, the township of Nutley and the State of New Jersey in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Peter C. Scarpelli.

GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE
REPORT ON THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS: GARMENT
AND TOURIST INDUSTRIES PLAY
A DOMINANT ROLE IN THE COM-
MONWEALTH'S ECONOMY

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I want my colleagues to be aware of a revealing report issued last month by the General Accounting Office on the economy of the Northern Mariana Islands. The report's findings confirm the development of a healthy and diversified economy in our newest American territory in the Western Pacific that is not a drain on the U.S. taxpayer. However, these findings are contrary to past information by the Administration on which Congress has relied in considering changes in federal law [GAO's February 2000 report to Congressional Committees: "Northern Mariana Islands: Garment and Tourist Industries Play a Dominant Role in the Commonwealth's Economy" (GAO/RCED/GGD-00-79)].

This GAO report sheds new light on the economy of the Northern Marianas and the flaws of prior reports by the Administration. The findings reinforce the need for the federal government to affirmatively support, and not hinder or undermine, efforts of the public and private sectors of the Northern Marianas to improve and maintain economic self-sufficiency, and at the same time, enforce federal labor, safety, and equal employment opportunity laws.

Since I became Chairman of the Committee on Resources in January 1995, we have conducted extensive oversight investigations and hearings on worker conditions, the violation and enforcement of federal laws, and the Administration's agenda for the islands. I will continue to press for maximum public awareness of the real conditions in the Marianas public and private sectors and efforts of the federal and local governments.

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has been constituted under federal law as a local constitutional government for the primary benefit of the people of the Marianas as well as the United States as an example of democratic self-governance. There is, therefore, a careful balance that must be maintained between the respect of the wishes of the local government and enforcement of the civil and human rights that Americans hold as sacrosanct. Those decisions should be based on sound information, not subjective

political agendas of the government or some private entity. For that reason, one of the most difficult aspects of Congressional oversight over these very important and often sensitive civil and human rights-related matters, has been the lack of credible information by the very executive branch agencies tasked with the responsibility for enforcement of federal laws. Throughout those oversight efforts, the Administration has given the Committee voluminous testimony and information about the Marianas. Fortunately, the GAO has now completed this independent report as mandated by the 1999 Omnibus Appropriations bill.

The two main industries in the Northern Marianas are the tourist and garment industries. The Department of Interior has questioned the benefits of the Islands' garment industry. Interior has issued several studies concluding that the local garment industry—and foreign labor—has an adverse fiscal impact on the Northern Marianas, findings hotly contested by the Northern Marianas' government and business sectors. Both sides have testified before my Committee to present their points of view, but for the first time an independent and unbiased government agency has looked into the Northern Marianas economy. The GAO looked specifically at the economic impact of the two dominant industries—garment and tourist; tax contributions by the local garment industry; and local government revenues as compared to other territories.

GAO found "the garment and tourist industries are the driving forces of the CNMI economy." The two sectors account for a about 85 percent of the Commonwealth's total economic activity and represent—directly and indirectly—four out of every five jobs in the Northern Marianas. Critically important to the debate is the GAO's finding that "the local resident population * * * has benefited, economically, in the form of higher incomes and better employment opportunities, from the growth in the garment and tourist industries, and from the presence of foreign workers." GAO concluded that without the garment and tourist industries "the CNMI economy could not have grown to its current size and complexity."

Significant number of foreign workers are brought into the Northern Marianas to supplement the existing workforce. The Department of Interior and several Members have criticized the use of these foreign workers, stating that the foreign workers have taken employment opportunities from local residents. Yet GAO concluded that there was no support for Interior's claim. GAO determined that the "garment and tourist industries are dependent on foreign workers for much of their workforce because the labor pool of local residents, even including those currently unemployed, is insufficient to support an economy the size and scope that exists in the CNMI." Changes in the Northern Marianas ability to use foreign labor to supplement its current labor pool or legislation that would adversely impact either of these industries could have severe impacts on the Northern Marianas' economy, "causing job losses among local residents and revenue losses to the CNMI government," the report stated. Several legislative proposals exist that would do just that, and I am opposed to them.

The GAO also criticizes a 1999 Interior Department study that found that the garment industry had a net negative impact. "[T]he Interior study is methodologically flawed because it understates the contributions made by the

garment and tourist industries to the CNMI economy and overstates the impact of these industries and their workers on the need for government services and infrastructure." The GAO determined, however, that the Northern Marianas is more self-sufficient fiscally than other territories. It also found that the Northern Marianas generates more of its government revenues locally—about 87 percent—than all other U.S. territories and all levels of government in the U.S., a remarkable fact.

Finally, the study showed that the garment industry contributes significantly to the local economy, directly contributing about \$52 million, or 22 percent, of the government's \$234 million budget in 1998. It determined that the Northern Marianas garment industry proportionally pays more in taxes and fees than the U.S. garment industry. That is, the garment industry in the Northern Marianas taxes and fees represented about 5 percent of their gross receipts between 1993 and 1998, whereas the U.S. garment industry overall paid only 3.3 percent of their gross receipts in taxes and fees.

During a hearing last September, my Committee heard reasoned warnings from business and government leaders about the potential impact of certain legislative initiatives to eliminate local control of immigration, to remove duty-free access, or to increase the minimum wage on the "vulnerable" economy of the Northern Marianas. GAO's study underscores those warnings and this body should consider carefully the potential adverse impact of any legislation on the frail economy of the Northern Marianas—or the economies of any of our territories.

I will continue to insist on full compliance with federal laws, advocate heightened federal-territorial mutual cooperation in multiple areas, and support local and private sector initiatives to manage the economy and advance self-sufficiency. I strongly encourage my colleagues to review the GAO report, "Northern Mariana Islands: Garment and Tourist Industries Play a Dominant Role in the Commonwealth's Economy" (GAO/RCED/GGD-00-79) which is available to the public through the Government Printing Office and also the world wide web: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/r200079.pdf>.

IN MEMORY OF LILLIAN BAKER
WOODWARD

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a woman who for almost five decades captivated readers with her poignant and charismatic writing as a columnist in three local newspapers. Lillian Baker Woodward passed away on November 16, 1999 at the age of 95.

Born on January 17, 1904 in Seattle, Washington, Lillian majored in journalism at the University of Oregon where she met, fellow journalism student and future husband, Donald Woodward. Married in 1926, Donald and Lillian Woodward led a traditional life with Lillian as a homemaker and Donald in the real estate business. In 1948, the couple moved to Moss Landing where they established a fuel dock,

marine supply store and boat brokerage business. As "one of the real true pioneers of Moss Landing" (Phil DiGirolamo, Phil's Fish Market), Lillian captured the lives of the local people as well as chronicled the ending of the Monterey Bay's sardine era through industry changes and impacts on the community. After Donald's death in 1962, Mrs. Woodward continued to write and publish prolifically throughout the remainder of her life.

Lillian Woodward was much more than a local journalist, described as "force that held the [Moss Landing] community together" (Monterey County Herald, 11/17/99), Mrs. Woodward touched everyone near and far who read her chronicle. She will be sorely missed by the many people who were privileged to know her both personally and through her writing. Lillian is survived by two sons, Donald and Richard; a daughter, Virginia W. Stone; and many loved grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

TRIBUTE TO MR. GREGORY
KOMESHOK

HON. BILL PASCHELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PASCHELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a well-respected member of New Jersey's Polish-American community, Gregory Komeshok of Passaic, New Jersey. Greg has been elected the 1999 Grand Marshal for the 63rd Annual Pulaski Day Parade because of his years of community service. It is only fitting that the Central of Polish Organizations has chosen him, for he epitomizes the spirit of caring and generosity of spirit and embodies pride in his heritage.

Mr. Komeshok, a member of the Passaic High School class of 1965, went on to receive a Bachelors Degree in Industrial Technology and a Masters Degree in Administration and Supervision from Montclair State University.

Greg has always been a community leader. At 26, he was the youngest ever to hold the position of Democratic Party Chairman for the City of Passaic, New Jersey. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1976. Furthering his belief in civic participation, Greg was elected to the Passaic County Board of Chosen Freeholders, the county's legislative body. The time spent working as a Passaic County Freeholder, and eventually Freeholder Director, instilled in Greg the attributes necessary for him to become a stellar force in the community.

This native of Passaic has many experiences as an elected and appointed official. In 1978, then New Jersey Governor Brendan Byrne appointed him Commissioner of the North Jersey District Water Supply.

Known for his keen mind, Greg Komeshok is a respected and industrious leader in education. Greg assumed the role of an elementary school principal for nine years, and was also an adjunct professor at Kean University. Greg currently serves as the Supervisor of Career and Alternate Education for the Passaic Board of Education.

Greg continually touches the lives of the people around him. In 1978, he established English classes for immigrants at Holy Rosary

Church, and later in 1986, at St. John Kanty Church. As General Chairman of St. John Kanty Church, he helped to raise over \$1 million for the construction of a new Parish Center. He is the standard bearer for the Passaic Boys' and Girls' Club, and was the recipient of the organization's "Passaic For the Kids" service award. Also, the Pulaski Association of Police and Firemen honored Greg as Citizen of the Year.

An active and involved leader, Greg Komeshok is a past President and Life-Member of the Holy Rosary Young Men's Club of Passaic. He is a Charter Member of St. John Kanty Sports and Athletic Association. Mr. Komeshok is also a perennial Chairman of the Holy Rosary Palm Sunday Communion Breakfast. In addition, he is a baseball Coach for the Clifton Hawks, Babe Ruth, League, Clifton General League, and is the President and General Manager of the Wayne Spartans American Legion Baseball Team.

The son of Emily Rzepecki and John Komeshok, Greg spent his formative years at Holy Rosary R.C. School in Passaic. Greg's family includes his wife Susan and his two sons Kevin and Christopher.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Gregory's family, friends, the Central of Polish Organizations, the Polish-American Community and the community-at-large in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to society of Gregory Komeshok.

TRIBUTE TO MARTIN "TRADER JOHN" WEISSMAN

HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, for nearly half a century, a landmark known throughout the world has stood in Pensacola, Florida. This landmark is not a bronze statue, a marble sculpture, or a breathtaking vista, but rather an unofficial monument to the service of the men and women in the United States Navy. The monument is none other than the world famous "Trader John's Tavern and Blue Angels Museum" founded and operated by Pensacola's own Martin "Trader John" Weissman.

Since 1953, "Trader John's" has been a favorite among aviators, military personnel, and celebrities. It was a place for young Naval flight students to relax and a place for veterans to share old war stories. For many men and women in the service that were stationed far from home, it provided a sanctuary where they could make new friends. What brought these thousands of patrons to this humble establishment wasn't the extensive collection of Naval aviation memorabilia, but rather the persona of the man known as "Trader John."

Mr. Martin Weissman and his wife Jackie moved to Pensacola in 1952. In 1953, the Weissman's took over a dilapidated bar and eatery on South Palafox Street and renamed it "Trader John's." The name stuck, and Mr. Weissman became known as "Trader John."

Over the next 50 years, this gentleman distinguished himself not only through his community service and his successful business, but also through the reputation he earned as an untiring booster of the Navy's Flight Dem-

onstration Team, the Blue Angels. In 1997, he was named the Blue Angels honorary flight leader.

"Trader John's" fatherly way and irresistible charm provided the much-needed support for many homesick aviators. Retired Vice Admiral Jack Fetterman described Trader John as having "unqualified love." Adding "he was a caring guy who never said a bad thing about anybody."

Mr. Speaker, on Friday, February 18, 2000, Martin "Trader John" Weissman was taken from us. But his legacy and memory will live on in the hearts of the thousands of Naval Aviators who trained in Pensacola and when the Blue Angels fly their homecoming show there this year, I'm sure "Trader John" will be watching from above.

TESTIMONY OF DIANA W.H. CAPP

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, on February 15, 2000, I was pleased to introduce my constituent, Diana W.H. Capp, at a Resources Committee hearing concerning the funding of environmental initiatives and their impacts on local communities. Her testimony follows:

Madame Chairman, Committee Members, thank you for this hearing. I'm Diana White Horse Capp, from Ferry County, Washington—4.6 million acres—in the Kettle Mountains, 7200 people. I'm Chairman of the Upper Columbia Resource Council. Madame Chairman, history shows the elite gain power by pitting the masses against each other. Our Constitution, based on the Iroquois Great Law of Peace, is intended to prevent this.

Elite foundations now funnel their wealth to environmental groups who pit the masses against each other. Rural Americans are condemned as savages just as Natives once were. Rural Natives and Whites work in the same occupations. Our welfare is connected. The South half of my county is Colville Reservation. On the North Half, Colvilles and other Native descendants live in peace with Whites. The community is intermarried. We cannot afford the division these foundations instigate.

The environmental elite use Native people. They preach about Tribal Rights and promise to restore justice. Yet they do little for Native people but use them as poster children to buy the clout of Treaty Rights in their lawsuits. Local activists courted favor on the Reservation and Colville Indian Environmental Protection Alliance emerged. This is a foundation grant handled by Native recruiter Winona LaDuke of Minnesota to fight people like me in Ferry County. (See page 2) LaDuke's webpage says the Colville group she funds is opposed to gold mining on the Reservation. (pg 3) But this article says that group lobbied the Tribal Council to oppose Crown Jewel Mine. (pg 4) Madame Chairman, the Crown Jewel Mine isn't on the Reservation—it's 30 miles away, minimum. This kind of deception smears the Tribe's name. Political upheaval rocks the Reservation and some Tribal members want the FBI to step in.

These foundations use environmental groups to destroy rural cultures. Our county is crippled by their attacks on timber, mining, and ranching. Jobs are scarce. Our children feel hopeless—the elite have raped their

future. These grants target Ferry County with \$105,000 just to silence the so-called "incivility" of people like me concerned with human rights. (pg 5) These are grants to Environmental Media Services! They're headed by Arlie Schardt—Al Gore's former Press Secretary!

Slick media activists hound urbanites, screaming that rural cultures destroy the planet, when in fact we feed and shelter them. The 1998 National Wilderness Conference announced its plan for Wilderness designation of the Kettle Mountain Range—Ferry County is the Kettle Range. Their millions wage a high-dollar war for Wilderness in Ferry County along with local Kettle Range Conservation Group. (pg 6) Our county is beautiful. They covet this beauty enough to rape our culture: We don't want them to squeeze us out. This cultural genocide must be acknowledged. That's why the Kootenai Tribe joins Idaho's fight against more Wilderness. (pg 7) This petition by Bret Roberts of Ferry County Action League is signed by many area residents opposed to more wilderness.

Federal insiders reshape policy to destroy rural cultures. This map shows some of the plans to push us out. Colville National Forest's Public Affairs Officer took vacation time to picket for more Wilderness. Pacific Biodiversity Institute boasts that government agencies request their wilderness maps. (pg 8) This Wilderness Society map is part of a local Forest Service Plan. (pg 9) This environmental group's grant says their lynx study will be used by the Forest Service. (pg 10) This job notice (pg 11) even says Nature Conservancy biologists write policy on Indiantown Gap Military Reservation—adding salt to the wound.

You see, government troops forced my Mother's people out of Indiantown Gap in 1932. I don't want that happening to my children, too! Madame Chairman, this juggernaut must be stopped.

SENIOR CITIZENS' FREEDOM TO WORK ACT OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 1, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5, the Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act.

As the Representative of Florida's 10th Congressional District, which is home to one of our nation's largest population of seniors, I have consistently supported legislation to eliminate the unfair earnings limit placed on seniors. In fact, one of the first bills I introduced as a member of this body was an act to repeal the Social Security earnings limit.

This outdated law discourages older Americans from working during their golden years, and penalizes the most experienced workers in our nation at a time when many small businesses are searching for qualified employees. The earnings limit unfairly taxes older Americans and at the same time hampers an economy already limited by a lack of workers. I firmly believe our nation will only benefit from the skills and experience of older employees, and this House should welcome their contributions to society and the economy.

Mr. Speaker, the earnings limit is an insult to the dignity of all seniors who wish to continue to work and receive their Social Security

benefit. So many retirees want the freedom to work and support themselves. Many want to supplement their incomes in order to increase their standard of living. Others need to work in order to offset the high cost of prescription drugs. Regardless of the reason, seniors who wish to continue to work should be able to do so without being penalized, and I am proud that today the House is taking action to eliminate this unfair roadblock that stands between older Americans and their desire to continue working.

Mr. Speaker, it is time to repeal this antiquated law and restore freedom to older Americans everywhere.

SUPPORT AFRICAN AMERICAN
WORLD WAR II VETERANS

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, most people do not realize that African Americans were central contributors to the allied victory in World War II and served in numeric proportion to their presence in the population. Over 1.2 million African American men and women served in the Armed Forces during the war. Unfortunately, over the decades, the popular culture of major films and books fail to acknowledge. A few efforts have been made to tell the story of a small number of the participants such as the HBO film on the Tuskegee Airman. However, in the mainstream of Americana African American World War II veterans are ignored and bypassed.

To make sure these brave men and women don't pass before their sacrifices are recognized, I am asking for your support of the "Day of Honor 2000" project. The "Day of Honor 2000" project is an organized effort to provide a national city by city special event honoring African American World War II veterans. It is undertaken to provide some measure of clear public acknowledgment and appreciation of the sacrifices of a generation who served America under some of the most trying conditions experienced by any group of Americans in World War II. Day of Honor activities includes an appreciation reception with local African American World War II veterans who will make remarks on behalf of their comrades present and fallen. These veterans will be presented with Oral History Collection Kits which will be used to record their individual stories for future generations. These oral histories will be transcribed and forwarded to major museums focusing on World War II history. The reception also includes a premier screening of the critically acclaimed documentary film "The Invisible Soldier: Unheard Voices." The "Day of Honor 2000" project will culminate with a major event in Washington, DC on May 25th.

If you have any questions or would like to sign on to the bill, please contact Nick Martinelli in my office at 225-0123.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
CHARLES S. JOELSON

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a distinguished gentleman and the former Representative from my district, Charles S. Joelson of Paterson, New Jersey. It is only fitting that we recognize him, for he epitomizes caring and generosity of spirit.

Charles Joelson was a man of diverse talents. In his early years he demonstrated scholarship. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa with a Bachelors of Arts degree from Cornell University in 1937. Later, he graduated from Cornell Law School in 1939.

Charles had always been an active and involved leader. He was an Ensign in Naval Intelligence during World War II. Furthering his belief in civic participation, Chuck mastered the Japanese language. The time spent in the Navy instilled in Charles the attributes necessary for him to become a stellar force in the community. It was the small steps in the beginning of his career that taught him the fundamentals that would make him a role model to the people that he served.

Known for a questioning mind and an ability to get things done, Chuck Joelson returned to law and politics after the war. First he served on the Paterson City Council. Then he became Deputy Attorney General of New Jersey. During the fifties he specialized in criminal law, and became a Prosecutor in Passaic County. Eventually, he became the Director of Criminal Investigation in the State Department of Law and Public Safety in Trenton. In 1960, Chuck led a successful campaign to become the United States Congressman for New Jersey's Eighth District.

His Congressional tenure lasted for nine years. During his final term, he decided to leave Washington, so he asked Governor Hughes to appoint him to the Superior Court. The Governor quickly appointed him, and Charles spent fifteen years on the bench. He held a judicial position in the Chancery Division, as an assignment Judge in Passaic County. He then served his final years as a justice on the Appellate Division in Hackensack, New Jersey, where he demonstrated his writing skills before retiring in 1984.

As the inheritor of the Joelson family legacy, Charles followed his father and Uncle into public service. His father, Judge Harry Joelson, was an advocate for the working people. His Uncle, Dr. Samuel Joelson, exemplified generosity and the love of humanity.

Chuck continually touched the lives of the people around him. He championed needs in education, civil rights and legislation in the workplace. One of the five term Congressmen's greatest achievements was a 1969 piece of legislation that saved thousands of school libraries. His legislation appropriated \$1 billion for public school libraries, remedial programs and guidance counseling.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, Chuck's family, friends and the State of New Jersey in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of Charles S. Joelson.

HONORING CHAVIS NEWMAN-
KEANE OF ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and honor a young Alaska student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in his community. Chavis Newman-Keane of Anchorage, Alaska has just been named one of my state's top honorees in The 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Chavis Newman-Keane is being recognized for his hard work and dedication in implementing an entertainment program called "Musical Smiles" to cheer up elderly residents of two-assisted living facilities. He has volunteered his time by conducting a piano recital every week and has recruited other musicians to join in his program.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Mr. Newman-Keane are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, was created by the Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. In only five years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with nearly 75,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

Mr. Newman-Keane should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Mr. Newman-Keane for his initiative in seeking to make his community a better place to live, and for the positive impact he has had on the lives of others. He has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. His actions show that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARTHA
BURNS

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Martha Burns, a good friend and

community leader who is planning to step down from her duties as a Member of the Board of Trustees, Co-Chair of the Parent/School/Youth Task Force, and Director of Parent Training with the Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati. Martha has been invaluable to the Coalition.

In 1996, Martha attended a meeting at Sycamore High School regarding teenage drug abuse and efforts to get parents involved in a new organization being formed to address the problem—the Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati. Martha went home that night and made the decision with her husband, Bruce Burns, to get involved in the effort to prevent teenage drug use in our community.

Martha has been the Coalition's hardest working volunteer. She and Bruce were trained as facilitators of our Parent-to-Parent program and began recruiting others to do the same. As the Director of Parent Training for the Coalition, Martha coordinated Parent-to-Parent training classes throughout Greater Cincinnati. To date, over 4,000 parents in 30 school districts have been trained in how to talk to their kids about the dangers of substance abuse and how to recognize signs that a child may be in trouble. Most recently, Martha has worked to bring the parent training classes into the workplace.

Martha's work and contributions to the community do not, however, end with the Coalition. She also volunteers at the local library, is Secretary of the local Boy Scout troop, teaches Bible classes, and is an Officer and Board Member of the Sycamore High School Parent Teacher Organization.

Martha's efforts with the Coalition have helped literally thousands of local parents to learn more about how to keep their kids drug-free. And, it is not a stretch to say that her work has saved the lives of children in our area. Her selfless dedication to the cause of fighting drug use in our community makes her a true hero. We will miss Martha as a Board Member, Co-Chair of the Parent/School/Youth Task Force, and Director of Parent Training, but look forward to continuing to work with her as a Coalition volunteer in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MERRILL COOK

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 26, 27, and 28, I asked to be excused because of intestinal surgery. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO DAVID BRYON COLE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a distinguished musician, David Bryon Cole of Passaic, New Jersey, who is being feted today because of his remarkable talents and legacy. It is only fitting that Passaic High School rename its music suite for David, for he epitomizes a strong spirit and never forgot from where he came.

David Bryon Cole was born to Sandra Cole-Turner on June 3, 1962 in Johnson City, Tennessee. He attended elementary there for a short while before his family moved to Passaic. Once in New Jersey he continued his education, and went on to graduate from Passaic High School in 1980. During high school, David's main pursuit was music. It was at this time that he proved himself to be a remarkable pianist, soloist, accompanist and arranger.

David, always an active and involved musician, learned much of his skill in the church. One of the most influential teachers in young David's life was the Reverend Roberts of the First Baptist Church in Nutley, New Jersey. David's nascent talents began to flourish under the Pastor's tutelage. The time spent working with Reverend Roberts instilled in David the attributes necessary for him to become a stellar force in the music industry. It was the small steps in the beginning of his career that taught him the fundamentals that would make him a role model to scores upon scores of people worldwide.

David Cole has had a varied career, which has taken him to the top of the charts. His professional career included working with the group Two Puerto Ricans, a Black Man, and a Dominican. David was also the accompanist for the Weather Girls. In addition, David performed as a dance club keyboardist and it was in a club in New York where he met his future partner Robert Clivilles.

David and Robert combined their talents and dreams to establish C+C Music Factory. This productive union spawned many other groups including Seduction, Soul System and Trilogi. In addition to contributing to C+C Music Factory, David completed many projects for some of the largest and most influential recording companies in America. He was known to be one of the best producers, and his skills were widely sought after.

This native of Tennessee, who later moved to New Jersey, found fame and fortune around the world. C+C Music Factory worked with London's famed Ministry of Sound and produced projects in Japan.

David continually made his mark on the music world by writing and producing songs for some of the best-known recording artists of our time. These legendary artists include Aretha Franklin, Whitney Houston, Mariah Carey, Chaka Khan, Luther Vandross, Donna Summer along with many others.

In 1993, David and his partner Robert received a Grammy for Album of the Year. They received the award for their contributions as producers of one of best-selling soundtrack albums of all time, "The Bodyguard." In total, C+C Music Factory won twenty-eight awards including five American Music Awards, five Billboard Awards and two MTV Video Music Awards. The world lost a truly remarkable man when David passed away on January 24, 1995.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the City of Passaic, David's family, his friends and me, in recognizing the outstanding achievements in the areas of music and production of David Bryon Cole.

HONORING TANYA EWING OF
JUNEAU, ALASKA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and honor a young Alaska student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. Tanya Ewing of Juneau, Alaska has just been named one of my state's top honorees in The 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Ms. Tanya Ewing is being recognized for her hard work and dedication in implementing Teens Against Tobacco Use (TATU) program. She has volunteered over four years of her time in educating young people on the dangers of smoking and helping to reduce the rate of teen smoking in Alaska.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Ewing are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, was created by The Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. In only five years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with nearly 75,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

Ms. Ewing should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Ms. Ewing for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

CELEBRATING THE WOMEN OF
LEWISTON/AUBURN

HON. JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. BALDACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call my colleague's attention to a dinner being

held next week in the Lewiston/Auburn communities of Maine. The event, "Celebrating the Women of L/A," will honor women who have touched the lives of others in their communities.

For decades, the women of Lewiston and Auburn—like those throughout Maine, the nation and the world—have raised children, served as caregivers, worked inside and outside the home, and volunteered their time and talents. They have maintained a strong and quiet foundation for our families that has nourished us all. The celebration will recognize all that women bring to families and our community.

Those submitting nominations were asked to briefly describe what it was about the nominee that made her such a special and important part of the community. Here are a few examples:

"Life has not been a cakewalk for you, nor was life meant to be. However, each challenge you faced was met with the steadfast determination to overcome and survive and never to succumb. All of this has given rise to a woman who now lives life to the fullest, to a mother who loves her children insurmountably and to a co-worker who leads by example and a steadfast desire to accomplish."

"You are extremely special to me because you have every quality that I would like to have when I myself become a mother. You are caring, loving, kind, strong (emotionally), strict (when necessary), good cook, helpful, and most of all being independent and such a hard-worker. I admire you for all these things."

"She is an ordinary woman, who did an extraordinary job raising five children, after the accidental death of her husband. . . . She has never, ever complained, always with a smile. She has 'Looked to the sun and the shadows have fallen behind.'"

"I would like to honor this woman today because if I could be half the woman she is, my life would be full."

"She gently pushes me forward with my personal growth. . . . I want her to know that she touches my life in a very special way. . . . She has helped me to learn to love myself. In return, I am learning to love others."

"Plain and simple, she represents what a good leader should be."

These are but a few examples of the testimonials received on behalf of the honorees. They speak to the importance and influence that these women have had on their families, colleagues, and communities.

I am proud to have the opportunity to pay tribute to the following Women of L/A here in the House of Representatives. The Honorees are Marcia Akers, Carol Arone, Lucinda Athertone, Susan Breau, Joan Collins, Rebecca Cutler, Clare Darcy, Jackie D'Auteuil, Julie D'Auteuil, Rachel D'Auteuil, Katherleen White Fallon, Julia Hixon, Dawn Humason, Debra Leigh Humason, Elizabeth Kennedy, Geneva Kirk, Mary Martin, Susan Nichols, Sister Jeanne Nicknair, Lillian O'Brien, Mary O'Leary, Claire Ouellette, Cindy Palmer, Helene S. Perry, Barbara Robertson, Maca Roddy, Linda Rolfe, Donna Steckino, Kaileigh Tara and Dottie Perham Whittier.

These 30 women are all extremely deserving of this recognition, and I congratulate them as they are recognized for their effort in the home, in the workplace and in the community. I know that they are also representative of many other women throughout the commu-

nities and as we honor them, we also look around at the many other women who have made positive differences in L/A. I offer my thanks and best wishes to all the women of L/A for making Lewiston and Auburn such a strong and vibrant community.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BLESSED HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Blessed Hope Missionary Baptist Church, located in Houston, Texas.

Almost 50 years ago, Rev. Jesse E. Green first sought to hold a revival in Wallisville Garden Addition. With the counsel of Brother James Anderson and assistance from the Noble Smith family, a meeting place was found at 3741 Colvin Street.

On May 1, 1950, the first services were held at this location. With 19 congregants in attendance, Rev. Green preached, appropriately enough, from John 1:15 with the theme "Jesus Turns on the Lights." With the support of ministers from across the Greater Houston area, the week-long revival services were a success.

On May 10, Rev. T.T. Anderson of Beaumont, Texas, called a special meeting of those who had attended the revival and organized a church with the temporary name of "The Wallisville Garden Station." Bros. Anderson and N. Smith were elected deacons, with Bro. Anderson also elected Sunday Church School Superintendent. Sister M. Anderson became Mission President, and Rev. Green was officially elected Pastor of the congregation.

One week later, a permanent name for the church was selected and the Blessed Hope Missionary Baptist Church was officially born. Over the first 20 years, the church prospered, growing to include not only the original building, but many additions as well. In 1970, the membership decided that a new building was necessary, and so on March 7, 1971, Blessed Hope moved into its second official home.

Again, the church was blessed with growth, both spiritually and numerically. On August 7, 1993, Rev. Green proudly led the congregants into the third home for the church, where services are still held today.

As they celebrate both the new millennium and 50 years of praising God, the members of Blessed Hope reflect on the past and look ahead to the future. Rev. Jesse E. Green, founder, longtime pastor, humble servant, and good friend, has been called home by our Lord. The new pastor, LaKeith D. Lee, and the congregation have worked hard to pay off the church mortgage, honor Rev. Green with a new library building, and have completed a Youth Education Building. Further, Blessed Hope has managed to expand its ministry to include outreach, education, evangelism and young adults, just to name a few.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the members of the Blessed Hope Missionary Baptist Church on their successes over the first 50 years, and look forward to the many more years of good works and holy worship to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE MILLS CORP.

HON. BILL PASCARELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PASCARELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of an organization which has added much to the rich history of the State of New Jersey that is being feted today because of its many years of service and leadership. It is only fitting that we gather here in honor of the Mills Corp. based in Arlington, Virginia to recognize its years of commitment and service to people from the State of New Jersey and throughout the nation.

The Mills Corp. is a special company because it trains and hires unemployed people who are able and willing to work. This company is one of 12,000 businesses nationwide participating in the Welfare to Work Partnership begun in 1997. This nonprofit partnership works to help people move from welfare to good jobs without encroaching upon any current workers. Mills Chairman and CEO Laurence Siegel stated the company's objective for this program, "We need to institute programs to assist individuals who live under conditions that typically make employment difficult to achieve."

In November of 1999 during his "New Markets Initiative Tour," President Clinton cited one company as a leader and role model for this program, the Mills Corp. He noted that the Mills Corp., a board member of the Welfare to Work Partnership, has shown the way for other businesses to make this idea work in New Jersey. The Mills Corp. has already had success with its Jobs Initiative program in other states. Katy Mills, the first of its five Jobs Initiative prototypes, opened in Houston, Texas on October 28, 1999. This mall has already hired 200 employees.

The Meadowlands Mills Mall, planned for Carlstadt, New Jersey is the project where the Mills Corp. has incorporated the Welfare to Work program in New Jersey. The company plans to train and hire scores of low-income Newark residents to work at the facility. This program is patterned after Mills' other initiatives that have been successful throughout the nation.

Additionally, The Mills Corp. remains committed to their new employees. This dedication includes a remarkable pre-employment training and a career development center at the mall. The center will provide retention and career advancement services. In this spirit, the President stated, "The Mills Corporation made a \$1 million commitment towards pre-employment training and career development center on-site at the Meadowlands Mills Mall, which will provide job retention and career advancement services for all mall employees," during his visit.

Mills is a company with a long and storied history of community involvement. The company funds children's sport teams, public school computer labs, health fairs and high school safety programs. In addition, Mills has underwritten the development of environmental education curriculum in public schools with the Smithsonian Institute.

The accomplishments of the Mills Corp. and its leadership in the Welfare to Work Partnership are contributions to society of the highest order. It has made a commitment to the workers and citizens that stand to be left behind in

the strongest economy in American history. We should all be proud to congratulate the company for this critical investment in humanity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the friends and employees of this outstanding company and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of the Mills Corp.

HONORING JASON REDMOND OF
SOLDOTNA, ALASKA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and honor a young Alaska student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in his community. Jason Redmond of Soldotna, Alaska has just been named one of my state's top honorees in The 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Redmond is being recognized for his hard work and dedication in organizing a free public bicycle system for residents of his town who do not drive or own their own bicycles. He has volunteered his time by getting out into his community and making a difference in people's lives.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Mr. Redmond are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention, The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, was created by The Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. In only five years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with nearly 75,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

Mr. Redmond should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Mr. Redmond for his initiative in seeking to make his community a better place to live, and for the positive impact he has had on the lives of others. He has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. His actions show that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

IN MEMORY OF LARRY MICHELS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a local entrepreneur and community personality whose leadership and innovation profoundly affected all who knew and worked with him. Mr. Larry Michels passed away on November 8, 1999 at the age of 68.

Born in Chicago, Illinois on January 17, 1931, Larry was the founder and genius behind Santa Cruz County's largest high-tech enterprises, Santa Cruz Operation. Launched with his son and current Chief Executive Officer, Doug Michels, out of a small Victorian house in Santa Cruz's downtown periphery, the father and son team's visionary approach and determination created Santa Cruz Operation into a business of 1,200 fiercely loyal employees. The company found a niche in the high-tech industry by placing the Unix operating system on Intel-based computers which propelled Santa Cruz Operations to the forefront of the Unix software movement.

Described as a passionate and dynamic leader who inspired the "loyalty and admiration of many employees," (Doug Michels, SCO CEO) Larry resigned his position in 1992 and retired to Evergreen, Colorado where he soon returned to his entrepreneurial roots taking an active role in launching and developing startups as well as re-engineering existing companies. It is a combination of Larry's natural talent and creative genius, his vivacious and dauntless personality as well as his hard-working and determined spirit that makes him such a memorable and respected member of the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in recognizing the valuable contributions of Larry Michels whose leadership in our community has profoundly impacted and influenced the many who were privileged to know and work with him through the years. The products of Mr. Michels' genius continue with us today through his homegrown company, Santa Cruz Operations. Mr. Larry Michels will be missed and his years of achievement and innovation will not be forgotten. Larry is survived by his companion, Geri Snyder; sons, Doug, Jordan and David Michels; daughter, Dia Michels; sister, Barbara Michels; former wife, Loni Michels; and seven grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING THE BUTLER COUNTY
BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. RON KLINK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. KLINK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the citizens of Butler County who celebrate their community's 200th birthday this year. At noon on Sunday, March 12, two minutes of church bell ringing will commence in churches throughout the county. The celebration will continue throughout the day with speeches and events along a "whistle stop" tour in several other communities in the county.

Butler County is a thriving part of Western Pennsylvania with some of the fastest growing areas in the region and in the state. Agriculture and industry coexist in this community providing jobs and opportunities to the hard-working families who call Butler their home. With its beautiful state parks and gamelands, Butler County attracts visitors from all over the state seeking to enjoy the forests and lakes that make this area of Pennsylvania so unique.

On my many trips to Butler County I have received nothing but good wishes from the people of this community. Their support has been invaluable to me during my years in Congress, and I will never forget their kindness.

Once again, I urge my colleagues to rise and recognize the citizens of Butler County on this truly momentous occasion. Their commitment to family and community spirit represent the finest qualities of the Fourth Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO CHIEF JAMES K.
PASQUARIELLO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of an outstanding Fire Chief and a valued member of my community, James Kenneth Pasquariello of Paterson, New Jersey. Jim is being honored tonight by the Northern New Jersey Council of the Boy Scouts of America. It is only fitting that we are gathered here in his honor, as he is named Boy Scout's "Man of the Year," for Jim defines caring and generosity of spirit.

Chief Pasquariello, a member of the Passaic Valley High School class of 1963, found his calling at Passaic County Community College in Paterson. It was there that he received an Associate Degree in Fire Science Technology. Jim also possesses a Fire Official license from the Bureau of Fire Safety of the State of New Jersey.

Jim's time spent working in the fire safety has instilled the attributes necessary for him to become the stellar positive force in the community he has now become. It was the small steps in the beginning of his career that taught him the fundamentals that would make Jim a role model to the firefighters he now leads.

Known for his ability to get things done, Jim Pasquariello was appointed to the Paterson Fire Department on August 1, 1968. He was promoted to Captain on August 1, 1980. On February 19, 1998 Jim attained the rank of Battalion Chief. Always respected and well liked, he continued to rise within the department. When Jim became Deputy Chief on June 3, 1994 he assumed command of Tour Number 3 as Shift Commander. Only three short years later, Jim reached the pinnacle of his fire service career when he was promoted to Chief of the Paterson Fire Department on October 31, 1997. During his distinguished career of 31 years of service, Jim has served in numerous fire companies in various capacities. In addition, he has been cited on three occasions for conduct above and beyond the call of duty.

As the Chief of the Paterson Fire Department, Jim Pasquariello is a member of six professional associations: the Paterson Firefighter's Association, the International Association of Firefighters, the New Jersey Deputy Fire Chiefs' Association, the New Jersey Career Fire Chiefs' Association, the Passaic County Mutual Aid Association and the New Jersey Firefighter's Relief Association. Chief Pasquariello also serves on the Eighth Congressional District Public Safety Advisory Board, the New Jersey Department of Personnel Advisory Board and is a member of the Passaic Valley B.P.O. Elks Lodge #2111.

A native of Paterson, Jim was born on October 13, 1945 at Paterson General Hospital to James, Sr. and Cecilia. On January 15, 1966, Jim married his sweetheart, the former Marsha Helene Smith at Our Lady of Pompeii R.C. Church in Paterson. Jim is the father of three lovely daughters, Janine Brownley, Virginia and Suzanne.

On a personal note, Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not say for the record that as the former Mayor of the great City of Paterson, New Jersey, I had the distinct privilege of working closely with Jim Pasquariello on a regular basis. He was and still is the epitome of devotion and professionalism. More than all this, however, I am proud to call Jim my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Jim's family and friends and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service to the community of James Kenneth Pasquariello.

HONORING REBECCA DICKISON OF
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and honor a young Alaska student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. Rebecca Dickison of Anchorage, Alaska has just been named one of my state's top honorees in The 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Ms. Dickison is being recognized for her hard work and dedication in collecting new and used books and organizing a reading corner for children at the Intermission Crisis Nursery. She has volunteered her time to bring happiness and joy to those in need.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Dickison are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention, The Prudential Spirit of

Community Awards, was created by The Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. In only five years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with nearly 75,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

Ms. Dickison should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Ms. Dickison for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

THE NEED FOR A NATIONAL
DIALOGUE IN KAZAKHSTAN

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, last December President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan was in Washington for the annual meeting of the U.S.-Kazakhstan Joint Commission. The purpose of these meetings, which are held alternately in the United States and Kazakhstan, is to promote political and economic cooperation between our two countries. The United States side regularly presses the government of Kazakhstan to improve its human rights record and to undertake much-needed political and economic reform.

Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that in December U.S. officials pressed the Kazakh participants because of serious American concerns about the sham parliamentary elections which were held last October, increased corruption, and an increase in abusive action taken against opponents of President Nazarbayev's increasingly repressive government.

Prior to last December's meeting and in an apparent move to blunt the expected pressure from the United States, President Nazarbayev issued a statement on November 4 saying that he was ready to cooperate with the political opposition and that he would welcome the return to Kazakhstan of former Prime Minister Akezhan Kazhegeldin, the exiled leader of the principal opposition party.

On November 19, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Kazhegeldin responded to President Nazarbayev by calling for a "national dialogue" to examine ways to advance democracy, economic development and national reconciliation in Kazakhstan. Similar national dialogues have met with success in Poland, South Africa, and Nicaragua. Mr. Kazhegeldin pointed out that convening a national dialogue would be an ideal way to initiate cooperation between the opposition and the government.

Unfortunately, President Nazarbayev has reacted with stony silence to Mr. Kazhegeldin's proposal. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, this is not the first occasion when Mr. Nazarbayev has reneged on his promises or taken actions that undermine democracy and economic reform in Kazakhstan. He has reneged on a pledge he made in November to ship oil through the proposed Baku-Ceyhan pipeline. He continues to refuse to settle investment disputes with foreign companies that have lost millions of dollars because the government failed to honor its commitments. He arranged to have a kangaroo court convict an opposition leader for having the temerity to criticize Mr. Nazarbayev's government.

Even more troubling and more threatening to our national security, an investigation and trial in Kazakhstan have failed to find anyone responsible for the delivery last year of 40 MIG fighter aircraft from Kazakhstan to North Korea.

Mr. Speaker, the Administration must stop turning the other cheek every time Mr. Nazarbayev commits another outrage. The cause of freedom, democracy, and economic reform will continue to suffer in Kazakhstan unless the Administration strongly supports the national dialogue along the lines proposed by Mr. Kazhegeldin and takes action to press the government of Mr. Nazarbayev to stand by its commitments.

It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that the Administration should also insist that the government of Kazakhstan make a minimum of one hour per week available for use by the opposition. In a country where the government still controls the media, this is a minimum for democracy to have any hope at all to develop along democratic lines. We also ought to insist that the democratic opposition be permitted to provide a printing press to replace those that have been confiscated by the government.

Mr. Speaker, the shocking lack of democracy in Kazakhstan and deliberate government actions and policies that have restricted political and economic reform are a matter of great importance to the United States. It is essential that the Administration press Mr. Nazarbayev to take remedial steps quickly.

INTRODUCTION OF A HOUSE RESOLUTION TO RESTORE THE UNITED STATES ASSAY COMMISSION

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to announce my introduction of a House Resolution designed to re-authorize the creation of the United States Assay Commission.

The Assay Commission was established in 1792, and operated uninterrupted until 1980 when it was finally abolished. During that time, it was the oldest continually operating committee in the federal government and brought in individuals to maintain oversight over a narrow aspect of the executive branch.

Originally authorized as part of the nation's first Mint Act of April 2, 1792, the purpose of the Assay Commission was to examine the nation's coins on an annual basis and certify to the President, Congress, and the American

people that gold and silver coins had the necessary purity, the proper weight, and necessarily, value.

Among the earliest members of the Assay Commission, statutorily, were Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe and Alexander Hamilton. Starting about 140 years ago, some members of the general public were invited to participate, and when the Coinage Act of 1873 was passed, it codified that the President had the authority to appoint members of the Assay Commission from the general public at large. That practice continued for more than a century, though after 1970 there were no longer silver coins to review when their production was discontinued.

By the time that the Assay Commission was abolished in the Carter Administration as part of the President's re-organization project, it no longer had any valid function; the nation did not produce gold or silver coinage, whether of a circulating or of a commemorative nature.

Starting in 1982, the Mint again began producing contemporary commemorative coinage from .900 fine silver. By 1984, gold commemorative coins for the Olympic games were added, and since then the U.S. Mint has produced and sold hundreds of millions of dollars worth of gold, and silver commemorative coinage. Since 1986, the Mint began producing gold, silver and platinum bullion coins which are widely traded the world over.

Mr. Speaker, in the mid-1980's, lacking the outside oversight previously provided by the Assay Commission, a problem was discovered in one of the Mint's bullion products. It appears, from the records, that some fractional gold eagle coins (those weighing less than ounce) did not have the proper fineness or weight in gold. This caused a serious marketing problem in the Far East, and confidence in this uniquely American product went by the wayside.

Today, the United States Mint is a business that, were it privately-controlled, would constitute a Fortune-500 corporation. The monetary bulk of this product—not the circulating coins—are gold, silver, and platinum.

With the re-emergence of U.S. produced gold, silver and platinum coins, I understand that an Ad Hoc group of former presidential appointees, all former Assay Commissioners, has suggested that it is time to restore Assay Commission oversight of the U.S. Mint. I share this Ad Hoc group's belief that the Mint's operations will only be enhanced by restoring the historic role played by the Assay Commission.

Mr. Speaker, an article advocating the restoration of the annual Assay Commission written by Fair Lawn, New Jersey Mayor David L. Ganz, recently appeared in *Numismatic News*, a weekly coin hobby periodical. I would ask that this article be reprinted, in full, in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

I urge my colleagues to help me re-authorize the Assay Commission by cosponsoring the legislation that I have introduced today.

[Article appearing in *Numismatic News* (Weekly), October 5, 1999]

TIME TO CONSIDER REVIVING THE ASSAY COMMISSION

(By David L. Ganz)

Let me set the stage. A quarter century ago this past February, Richard Nixon was in the final throes of his star-crossed Presidency, though no one yet suspected that Watergate was about to become his ultimate downfall and lead to probable impeachment.

American coinage of 1974 was devoid of silver, and private gold ownership had been illegal since 1933, except for rare and unusual gold coin of that era or earlier, unless the Office of Domestic Gold & Silver Operations gave a rarely sought, seldom-granted license to acquire the particular specimen. As Washington hunkered down for a difficult winter storm, the White House press office was reading a press release that would surprise many for the number of Democrats and other non-supporters of President Nixon that were to be listed—not the so-called Enemy's List, but actually a designation to public service.

The weeks before had been trying for the applicants, many of whom had written letters, sent resumes, asked political contacts for a personal boost, responded to background checks that were initiated by government staff, followed up by security agencies interested in potential skeletons that could prove embarrassing to the White House if found in a presidential appointee.

First inklings of what was to transpire probably came to most individuals in the form of a telephone call on Friday, Feb. 8 from Washington, asking if the prospect could be available for official travel the following week on Tuesday. Arrangements were strictly on your own, as were virtually all of the associated expenses in traveling to Philadelphia.

What this preparation was for was the Trial of the Pyx, the annual Assay Commission, a tradition stretching back to 1792, and at that time, the oldest continually operating commission in the United States government. First of the commissions, which were mandated by the original Coinage Act of April 2, 1792 were deemed so essential to the confidence of the public in the national money that section 18 of the legislation directed that the original inspectors were to include the Chief Justice of the United States, the Secretary and Comptroller of the Currency, the Secretary of the Department of State, and the Attorney General of the United States.

This was neither a casual request nor one that was considered so unimportant an aide could attend. The statute is explicit: this who's who "are hereby required to attend for that purpose", meaning that in July of 1795, chief justice John Jay, Secretary of State Edmund Randolph, Treasury Secretary Alexander Hamilton, Attorney General William Bradford may have gathered. In the Jefferson Administration, consider this remarkable group: Chief Justice John Marshall; Secretary of State (and future president) James Madison; Secretary of the Treasury Albert Gallatin; Attorney General Caesar Rodney might all have been there.

By 1801, the statute had been amended to add the United States District Judge for Pennsylvania as an officer at the Annual Assay, and by the time that the Act of January 18, 1937 was approved, the cabinet officials and the Chief Justice were omitted in favor of the U.S. District Court Judge from the Eastern District of Pennsylvania (the state having been divided in half for judicial purposes), other governmental officials, and "such other persons as the President shall, from time to time, designate for that purpose, who shall meet as commissioners, for the performance of this duty, on the second Monday in February, annually. . . ."

Flash forward to 1974. The call comes from Washington. A trek begins to Philadelphia, where it has begun to snow. Dozens of people from all across the country come to serve on the Assay Commission, all traveling at their own expense. Starting in the midst of the Truman Administration, a serious numismatist or two had begun to be appointed. Some who assisted the government in some numismatic or related matter were similarly

given the honor. Among the early appointees: Max Schwartz (1945), the New York attorney who later became ANA's legal counsel; Ted Hammer (1947), John Jay Pittman (1947), Adm. Oscar Dodson (1948), and Hans M.F. Schulman (1952).

Some came by air (from California); others drove. I came by train, on Amtrak's Metroliner, leaving from New York's Penn Station and arriving an hour and a half later at Philadelphia's station by the same name. Those who came in February, 1974, gathered off Tuesday evening, Feb. 12, at the Holiday Inn off Independence Mall, and unlike years when there were only one or two lobbyists, this was a banner year. (I almost did not attend; having started law school just three or four weeks before, I had to petition the Dean of the School to permit the attendance lapse and honor the presidential appointment).

My classmates, as we have referred to ourselves over the succeeding quarter century, included some then and future hobby luminaries: Don Bailey (former officer of Arizona Numismatic Association), John Barrett (Member of several local clubs), Dr. Harold Bushey, Sam Butland (Washington Numismatic Society V.P.), Charles Colver (CSNA Secretary), David Cooper (CSNS v.p.), George Crocker (S.C.N.A. president), Joe Frantz (OIN Secretary), Maurice Gould (ANA governor), Ken Hallenbeck (past President, Indiana State Numismatic Assn.). Also: Dr. Robert Harris, Jerry Hildebrand (organizer World Coin Club of Missouri), Richard Heer, Barbara Hyde (TAMS Board member, sculptor), Philip Keller (past president of the American Society for the Study of French Numismatics), Reva Kline (member of several upstate New York coin clubs), Stewart Koppel (past president, Aurora, III. Coin Club), Charles M. Leusner (Delaware Co. Coin Club).

Rounding out the Commission: Capt. Gary Lewis (past president of Colorado-Wyoming Numismatic Association), Fred Mantei (past president Flushing Coin Club), Lt. Col. Melvin Mueller (member of many local and regional clubs), James L. Miller (COINage Magazine publisher), John Muroff (Philadelphia Coin Club member), and Harris Rusitzky (Rochester Numismatic Association member). I was also a member (law student and former assistant editor, Numismatic news).

This rather remarkable group of men and women, the White House and Mint joint announcement announced, were appointed by the President "from across the nation. . . . The 25 Commissioners, working in such varied fields as medicine, dentistry, law, engineering, forestry research and the military, share a common interest in coins and the science of numismatics."

Early in its history, and indeed, into the first half of the 20th century, the appointees were either political themselves, or politically connected. Ellen (Mrs. Irving) Berlin, Commissioner 1941, was one example; Mrs. Norweb (1955) was another. So was Sen. H. Willis Robertson (1962), chairman of the Senate Banking Committee and father of television evangelist and presidential hopeful Pat Robertson. William Ashbrook, a member of Congress from Ohio who sponsored the legislation chartering the ANA in Congress, served six times between 1908 and 1920. Albert Vestal, a member of Congress from Indiana, served consecutively from 1920-1925. There were many other Congressmen and Senators through the years, as well.

I recall meeting in the lounge of the Holiday Inn and suggesting my old friend Maury Gould to be the chairman of the commission. The fix was already in: the California delegation had already agreed, and lobbied other members, to elect Barbara Hyde to that honor.

The work that we did was largely honorific, but there was a brief moment when some of us thought that the actual results of an assay were under-weight—which mint officials regarded as calamitous, and of sufficient importance to re-weigh the parcel in question. (It passed the test, and as was the case in most years, pro forma resolutions prepared by mint staff were signed by all of the commissioners). But that does not say that the description of the work done by the Assay Commission remains irrelevant. To the contrary, unlike 1974 which examined the nonprecious metal coinage of 1973, today there are silver, gold and platinum bullion coins, and numerous commemorative coins, and related items that circulate the world-over.

There is accountability within the Mint, but at present, the Mint's primary accountability is to Congress, and to the coinage subcommittee in the House, and the larger Senate Banking Committee on the other side of Capitol Hill. If there is a problem, it remains largely unknown to the public at large, except in case of acute embarrassment.

In April, 1987 for example, the U.S. mint was accused of having grossly underweight fractional gold coins—a move that nearly scuttled the entire effort of the program to market into the Far East. The Assay Commission having been abolished in 1980, there was no voice of authoritative reassurance, for the mint denied that there was even a problem—when it was clear that the fractionals had not been properly assayed and were lightweight in their gold content.

Abolition of the Assay Commission came in two stages. In 1977, President Jimmy Carter declined to name any public members to the Commission, ending a practice of more than 117 years duration. The F.T. Davis, director of the General Government Division of the President's Reorganization Project, got into the act. "We are conducting an organizational study of the Annual Assay Commission," he wrote me on Sept. 6, 1977. "The study will focus on possible alternative methods of carrying out the functions of the Commission."

I prepared a memorandum for Davis at his request, answering several specific questions, careful to take no position on its continued validity. Earlier in the year, in a major law review article proposing a "Revision of the Minting & Coinage Laws of the United States" which was published in the *Cleveland Law Review*, I had essentially concluded that it was a political choice to decide whether or not to continue the two-century old commission. Davis asked if the mission of the Assay Commission was essential. I replied "More aptly, the question is whether or not assaying of coins is essential. The answer is an unqualified yes to that." Indeed, the Mint regularly conducts assays of its coin product as a means of assuring quality. (The 1987 foul-up was an administrative problem; the gold coins were assayed and came up short, but a decision was made to circulate them, anyway). Davis also asked what the function of the Commission should be in the succeeding two years if it was continued. I suggested that the law be "rewritten to provide for compositional analysis of all subsidiary coinage plus the dollar coin".

The die was already cast, however, and the Carter Administration (having already declined to name public members) simply let the Assay Commission wither away until, in 1980, it expired with the passage of Public Law 96-209 (March 14, 1980). The irony is that only a short time later, the Mint was once again producing precious metal coinage.

As the new millennium is on the verge of commencement, a movement initiated by former commissioners (most of whom are

members of the Old Time Assay Commissioner's Society, OTACS for short), has talked about proposing revitalization of this old commission. There are reasons why it could succeed, and some why it should.

There are a number of reasons why the Assay Commission ought to be reconstituted, and any proposal to do so will require a legislative initiative in Congress. Toward that goal, I was asked by an ad hoc advocacy group to try my hand at it.

If you've got an interest in the Assay Commission, perhaps you'd care to send a note to your Congressman or Senator (U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C. zip for the House 20515, Senate 20510) with a copy of this article, and the draft legislation. You can encourage them to do the rest.

TAX CREDITS FOR THE UNINSURED DON'T WORK UNLESS YOU HAVE INSURANCE MARKET REFORMS: CREDITS HELP THE YOUNG, DO LITTLE FOR OLDER WORKERS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 8, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, a lot of Members are talking about refundable and non-refundable tax credits to help the uninsured.

Their bills don't work, unless they accompany the proposals with insurance reforms and make the tax credit adequate to help the uninsured who are, overwhelmingly, the nation's poor and near-poor.

On January 27th, a number of Members announced their intention to introduce a bill to provide a refundable tax credit of \$1,000 per individual and \$2,000 per couple for use in the purchase of health insurance. It does not appear their bills will include insurance reform.

As the attached tables show, that would be nice for a 25 year old individual or couple without children, and might help some 35 year olds, but after that, these tax credits mean less and less for people who are uninsured and middle aged.

The credits would also have a tremendously different impact depending on where one lived. In the Los Angeles market, they would cover most of the cost of a younger person, but a much smaller percentage in Northern Virginia.

The reason most people are uninsured is that they are low-income, working poor, who have to choose between keeping the car running so they can get to work, versus health insurance which they might need, but God willing, won't absolutely need. Unless the subsidy for the insurance is very high, individuals facing the need for food, fuel, and clothes for themselves and their kids will not buy health insurance. That's why these tax credit schemes will not work unless we cover almost all of the cost of a decent policy in an area.

Second, the use of health insurance rises as one ages. That's why insurance for older workers is, of course, more costly. If the credit doesn't keep pace with that fact, or unless we move to community rated insurance reforms, the credits will not help people when they are most likely to need help.

The Jeffords-Breaux proposal fails to do that, except for the very youngest in the very safest types of jobs.

WHAT DOES PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE COST?

I asked my staff to conduct a brief study using health insurance quotes from the Internet. The results prove why tax credits without insurance reform are a waste of time. I urge Members interested in the tax credit approach to consider the types of reforms included in H.R. 2185.

INTERNET SAMPLING OF HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY

On average the American family is estimated to pay \$5,700 for health insurance premiums, a large share of the income that is needed to maintain the family household. In general, a tax credit of only \$2,000 will not be able to cover the costs that a poor family will need to provide affordable health care insurance. The survey conducted shows that both of the tax credits, one for individuals and one for families, falls short of eliminating the need for guaranteed health coverage for the poor.

In more than 90% of the survey, we found that the tax credits would still leave each near poor individual or family with a large balance left to pay. In Fairfax County a 25 year old couple with 2 children after a \$2,000 credit is still left with a \$1,400 bill to pay, while in Alachua County (Gainesville) Florida the bill is almost \$2,000. Even in rural Colfax, Nebraska within the same age bracket, there is still a balance that needs to be met. Couples without children face the same problem in that the range of balances run from full coverage for a 25 year old Nebraska couple to an almost \$500 balance for the same 25 year old couple in Alachua County, Florida. For a single, 25 year old male living in either Rural Nebraska or Fairfax, Virginia, the \$1,000 credit will cover his health coverage in full. However, for men over the age of 35 and women of all ages (in all four counties examined in this survey) the individual tax credit leaves a range of balances from \$32 (25 year old female in California) to \$3,570 (60 year old female in Florida).

As you get older, the price of health coverage steadily increases. For example in Los Angeles, Calif. the yearly premium rates that have been quoted for a 35 year old single man have nearly doubled once the individual has reached the age of 60 (\$1,284 versus \$2,184 per year). In the three remaining counties, yearly rates have tripled on average from \$1,300 to \$3,700 from age 35 to 60, respectively.

In only six out of 120 scenarios mapped out (30 quotes for each state) did this proposed tax credit eliminate the burden of health costs. That means only 5% of the time did the tax credit insure a poor individual or family. Given this data, then these proposed tax credits will only guarantee help to 2.2 million of the 44 million uninsured Americans, not the 21.9 million that is being estimated by the drafters of this bill.

This survey was conducted using an Internet access program called Quotesmith.com. Quotesmith generated quotes for health insurance rates based upon the type of individual or family entered. This survey looked at how much standard health coverage would cost for individuals, couples, couples with children, and retired persons around the country. The criterion for the health insurance premium was a \$250+nearest deductible and any policy that pays 80% or more after the deductible has been met. Note these are quotes off the Internet. They are not actual purchases of policies, and do not reflect any increases in rates caused by medical underwriting. In many cases we can expect that the final quote will be higher.

Premiums were studied for individuals who lived in Fairfax County, Virginia; Alachua County, Florida; Los Angeles County, California; and rural Colfax County, Nebraska.

The occupations were that of a pilot, architect and retired person, while the ages of the individuals ranged from 25 to 60 years of age.

As stated earlier a \$1000 tax credit for an older individual is simply not enough. There is no way that such a working poor individual can come close to affording private, individual health insurance, without having to decide whether to forgo basic needs.

The \$2,000 tax credit that this bill is proposing for families is even more unrealistic.

In not one instance does this credit eliminate the problem of cost. The lowest rate for a family with two children is \$205 per month, while the tax credit offers only \$167 per month leaving a gap of about \$38 per month.

What also becomes very apparent is the fact that as one gets older the premium rates are rising. Therefore, a single 25 year old male can expect to spend about \$100 a month on health insurance, whereas a 60 year old

man can expect to pay about \$250 a month or \$3000 a year for his insurance! Once again how can a tax credit of only \$1000 provide any relief for the near poor?

MEDICAL INSURANCE RATES

The following medical insurance rates are based upon: \$250 plus nearest deductible. After deductible, policy pays 80% or better.

The lowest rates available:

Age	Architect male single (month/yearly)	Pilot female single (month/yearly)	Architect male couple (monthly/yearly)	Pilot female couple w/2 kids (month/yearly)	Retired male non-smoker (month/yearly)	Retired male smoker (month/yearly)
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA						
25	\$79/\$948	\$174/\$2,088	\$95/\$1,140	\$280/\$3,360	\$79/\$948	\$102/\$1,224
35	100/1,200	224/2,688	140/1,680	330/3,960	100/1,200	136/1,632
45	139/1,668	294/3,528	174/2,088	400/4,800	139/1,668	195/2,340
55	222/2,664	422/5,064	219/2,628	528/6,336	175/2,100	310/3,720
60	270/3,240	489/5,868	242/2,904	595/7,140	270/3,240	378/4,536
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA						
25	82/1,032	174/2,088	86/1,104	269/3,228	86/1,104	86/1,104
35	107/1,284	204/2,448	107/1,284	335/4,020	107/1,284	107/1,284
45	131/1,572	255/3,060	131/1,572	384/4,608	131/1,572	131/1,572
55	161/1,932	299/3,588	161/1,932	416/4,992	161/1,932	161/1,932
60	182/2,184	338/4,056	182/2,184	437/5,244	182/2,184	182/2,184
COLFAX, NEBRASKA						
25	68/816	137/1,644	91/1,092	205/2,460	68/816	78/936
35	95/1,140	177/2,124	118/1,416	251/3,012	95/1,140	104/1,248
45	140/1,680	243/2,916	150/1,800	317/3,804	142/1,704	156/1,872
55	211/2,532	346/4,152	196/2,352	427/5,124	223/2,676	249/2,988
60	273/3,276	452/5,424	251/3,012	569/6,828	273/3,276	313/3,756
ALACHUA, FLORIDA						
25	97/1,164	207/2,484	130/1,560	331/3,972	97/1,164	105/1,260
35	130/1,560	276/3,312	162/1,944	408/4,896	130/1,560	131/1,572
45	192/2,304	390/4,680	214/2,568	521/6,252	192/2,304	192/2,304
55	307/3,684	597/7,164	299/3,588	701/8,412	307/3,684	307/3,684
60	381/4,572	697/8,364	346/4,152	829/9,948	381/4,572	388/4,656

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 9, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 10

9 a.m.
 Energy and Natural Resources
 Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on S. 1892, to authorize the acquisition of the Valles Caldera, to provide for an effective land and wildlife management program for this resource within the Department of Agriculture. SD-366

Armed Services
 Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2001 for the Department of Defense and the Future Years Defense Program, focusing on the Service's infrastructure accounts and Real Property Maintenance Programs and the National Defense Construction Request. SR-232A

MARCH 15

10 a.m.
 Veterans' Affairs
 To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
 345 Cannon Building

MARCH 21

9:30 a.m.
 Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 To hold hearings on regulating Internet pharmacies. SD-430

Appropriations
 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine issues dealing with Alzheimers Disease. SH-216

10 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Federal Communications Commission and

the Securities and Exchange Commission.
 S-146, Capitol
 Environment and Public Works
 Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on General Services Association's fiscal year 2001 Capital Investment and Leasing Program, including the courthouse construction program. SD-406

Appropriations
 Legislative Branch Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Secretary of the Senate, and the Sergeant at Arms. SD-116

10:30 a.m.
 Indian Affairs
 To hold hearings on S. 2102, to provide to the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe a permanent land base within its aboriginal homeland. SR-485

2 p.m.
 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
 Housing and Transportation Subcommittee
 To hold oversight hearings on HUD's Public Housing Assesment System (PHAS). SD-628

MARCH 22

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Interior Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2001 for the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. SD-124

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings on the nomination of Susan Ness, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission. SR-253

Indian Affairs
 To hold hearings on the nomination of Thomas N. Slonaker, of Arizona, to be Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of the Interior. SR-485

10 a.m.
 Veterans' Affairs
 To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the Vietnam Veterans of America, the Retired Officers Association, American Ex-Prisoners of War, AMVETS, and the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs.
 345 Cannon Building

Governmental Affairs
 To hold hearings on Department of Energy's management of health and safety issues surrounding the DOE's gaseous diffusion plants at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Piketon, Ohio. SD-342

2:30 p.m.
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Science, Technology, and Space Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine recent program and management issues at NASA. SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources
 Water and Power Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on H.R. 862, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to implement the provisions of the Agreement conveying title to a Distribution

System from the United States to the Clear Creek Community Services District; H.R. 992, to convey the Sly Park Dam and Reservoir to the El Dorado Irrigation District; H.R. 1235, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into contracts with the Solano County Water Agency, California, to use Solano Project facilities for impounding, storage, and carriage of non-project water for domestic, municipal, industrial, and other beneficial purposes; S. 2091, to amend the Act that authorized construction of the San Luis Unit of the Central Valley Project, California, to facilitate water transfers in the Central Valley Project; H.R. 3077, to amend the Act that authorized construction of the San Luis Unit of the Central Valley Project, California, to facilitate water transfers in the Central Valley Project; S. 1659, to convey the Lower Yellowstone Irrigation Project, the Savage Unit of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, and the Intake Irrigation Project to the appurtenant irrigation districts; and S. 1836, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hyroelectric project in the State of Alabama. SD-366

MARCH 23

9:30 a.m.
 Appropriations
 VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the Environmental Protection Agency. SD-138

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 Public Health Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on safety net providers. SD-430

10 a.m.
 Appropriations
 Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2001 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the Department of Commerce, and the Securities and Exchange Commission. S-146, Capitol
 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
 To hold oversight hearings on the Monetary Policy Report to Congress pursuant to the Full Employment and Balanced Growth Act of 1978. SH-216

MARCH 28

9:30 a.m.
 Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 Communications Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine the current state of deployment of hi-speed Internet technologies, focusing on rural areas. SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 Children and Families Subcommittee
 To hold hearings on child safety on the Internet. SD-430

Appropriations
 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee
 To hold hearings to examine issues dealing with mind body and alternative medicines. SD-192

- Small Business
To hold hearings to examine the extent of office supply scams, including toner-
phoner schemes. SD-562
- 10 a.m.
Appropriations
Transportation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the imple-
mentation of the Driver's Privacy Pro-
tection Act, focusing on the positive
notification requirement. SD-192
- MARCH 29
- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending
calendar business; to be followed by
hearings on S. 1967, to make technical
corrections to the status of certain
land held in trust for the Mississippi
Band of Choctaw Indians, to take cer-
tain land into trust for that Band. SR-485
- Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of the Interior. SD-124
- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider pending
calendar business. SD-430
- Energy and Natural Resources
Business meeting to consider pending
calendar business. SD-366
- 10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of Defense, focusing on Air
Force programs. SD-192
- Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings on meeting the chal-
lenges of the millennium, focusing on
proposals to increase the efficiency and
effectiveness of the Federal Govern-
ment. SD-342
- MARCH 30
- 9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-
committee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of Housing and Urban Develop-
ment. SD-138
- Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, and
Education Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the Na-
tional Institutes of Health, Depart-
ment of Health and Human Services. SD-124
- Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 882, to strengthen
provisions in the Energy Policy Act of
1992 and the Federal Nonnuclear En-
ergy Research and Development Act of
1974 with respect to potential Climate
Change; and S. 1776, to amend the En-
ergy Policy Act of 1992 to revise the en-
ergy policies of the United States in
order to reduce greenhouse gas emis-
sions, advance global climate science,
promote technology development, and
increase citizen awareness. SD-366
- 10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings on medical records pri-
vacy. SD-430
- APRIL 4
- 9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the Bu-
reau of Indian Affairs and Office of the
Special Trustee, Department of the In-
terior. SD-138
- APRIL 5
- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 612, to provide for
periodic Indian needs assessments, to
require Federal Indian program evalua-
tions. SR-485
- 10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of Defense, focusing on Army
programs. SD-192
- APRIL 6
- 9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-
committee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of Veterans Affairs. SD-138
- APRIL 8
- 10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of Defense, focusing on med-
ical programs. SD-192
- APRIL 11
- 9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Interior Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of Energy. SD-138
- 10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings on S. 282, to provide
that no electric utility shall be re-
quired to enter into a new contract or
obligation to purchase or to sell elec-
tricity or capacity under section 210 of
the Public Utility Regulatory Policies
Act of 1978; S. 516, to benefit consumers
by promoting competition in the elec-
tric power industry; S. 1047, to provide
for a more competitive electric power
industry; S. 1284, to amend the Federal
Power Act to ensure that no State may
establish, maintain, or enforce on be-
half of any electric utility an exclusive
right to sell electric energy or other-
wise unduly discriminate against any
consumer who seeks to purchase elec-
tric energy in interstate commerce
from any supplier; S. 1273, to amend
the Federal Power Act, to facilitate
the transition to more competitive and
efficient electric power markets; S.
1369, to enhance the benefits of the na-
tional electric system by encouraging
and supporting State programs for re-
newable energy sources, universal elec-
tric service, affordable electric service,
and energy conservation and efficiency;
S. 2071, to benefit electricity con-
sumers by promoting the reliability of
the bulk-power system; and S. 2098, to
facilitate the transition to more com-
petitive and efficient electric power
markets, and to ensure electric reli-
ability. SH-216
- APRIL 12
- 9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S. 611, to provide for
administrative procedures to extend
Federal recognition to certain Indian
groups, and will be followed by a busi-
ness meeting to consider pending com-
mittee business. SR-485
- Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-
committee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the Cor-
poration for National and Community
Service, Community Development Fi-
nancial Institutions, and Chemical
Safety Board. SD-138
- 10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of Defense, focusing on mis-
sile defense programs. SD-192
- APRIL 13
- 9:30 a.m.
Appropriations
VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Sub-
committee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the Na-
tional Aeronautics and Space Adminis-
tration. SD-138
- APRIL 26
- 10 a.m.
Appropriations
Defense Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed budget es-
timates for fiscal year 2001 for the De-
partment of Defense. SD-192

SEPTEMBER 26

POSTPONEMENTS

APRIL 19

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the Legislative recommendation of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building

MARCH 15

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on the proposed Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

SR-485

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be followed by hearings on S. 611, to provide for administrative procedures to extend Federal recognition to certain Indian groups.

SR-485